

WORKSHOP MATERIAL

Date of Release: Thursday, 27 April 2023

Workshop: Future for Local Government

Date: Wednesday, 15 February 2023

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Review into the Future for Local Government

Workshop for our submission on the Draft report 15
February 2023



Thriving and resilient Tasman communities

Today's workshop:

- Background to the Panel's Draft report
- Summary of the Report
- Discussion on Council's draft submission
- Next steps



Te Arotake i te Anamata
mō Ngā Kaunihera
Review into the Future for
Local Government

Draft report
October 2022

He mata whāriki, he matawhānui



Background to the Report

April 2021: independent review of local government announced



Jim Palmer
Chair



Penny Hulse



Antoine Coffin



Gael Surgenor



Brendan Boyle

The Review aims to identify how our system of local governance needs to change

The five Review Panel members

Background to the Report

The Review focuses on local governance, meaning:

the system by which communities are governed – in essence, who makes decisions, how they are made, and who the decision-makers are accountable to. In any place or community, local governance can involve many decision-makers including central government, local authorities, hapū/iwi and Māori organisations, business and community organisations, and others.¹

The Panel will produce 3 reports:

1. An **Interim report** – [released](#) Sept 2021
2. This **Draft report** – [released](#) October 2022
3. A **Final report** – due June 2023





Summary of the Report

The Panel signaled **five key shifts**:

1. Strengthened local democracy
2. Authentic relationships with hāpu/iwi and Māori
3. A focus on wellbeing
4. Genuine partnership between local and central government
5. More equitable funding

These shifts underpin this Report and are the proposed outcomes of the reforms



Summary of the Report

Key themes

- Revitalising citizen-led democracy
- A Tiriti-based partnership between Maori and local government
- Allocating roles and responsibilities in a way that enhances wellbeing
- Local government as a champion and activator of wellbeing

Summary of the Report

Key themes

- A stronger relationship between central and local government
- Replenishing and building on representative democracy
- Equitable funding and finance
- System design, system stewardship and support



Summary of the Report



- The Panel is seeking feedback on the 16 focusing questions and 29 recommendations in the Report.
- They also invite any other thoughts on the future for local government
- The Panel presented the Report to the Council in December 2022 and answered your questions
- Consultation closes Feb 28 2023

**This is the last chance to have our say
on the Review**

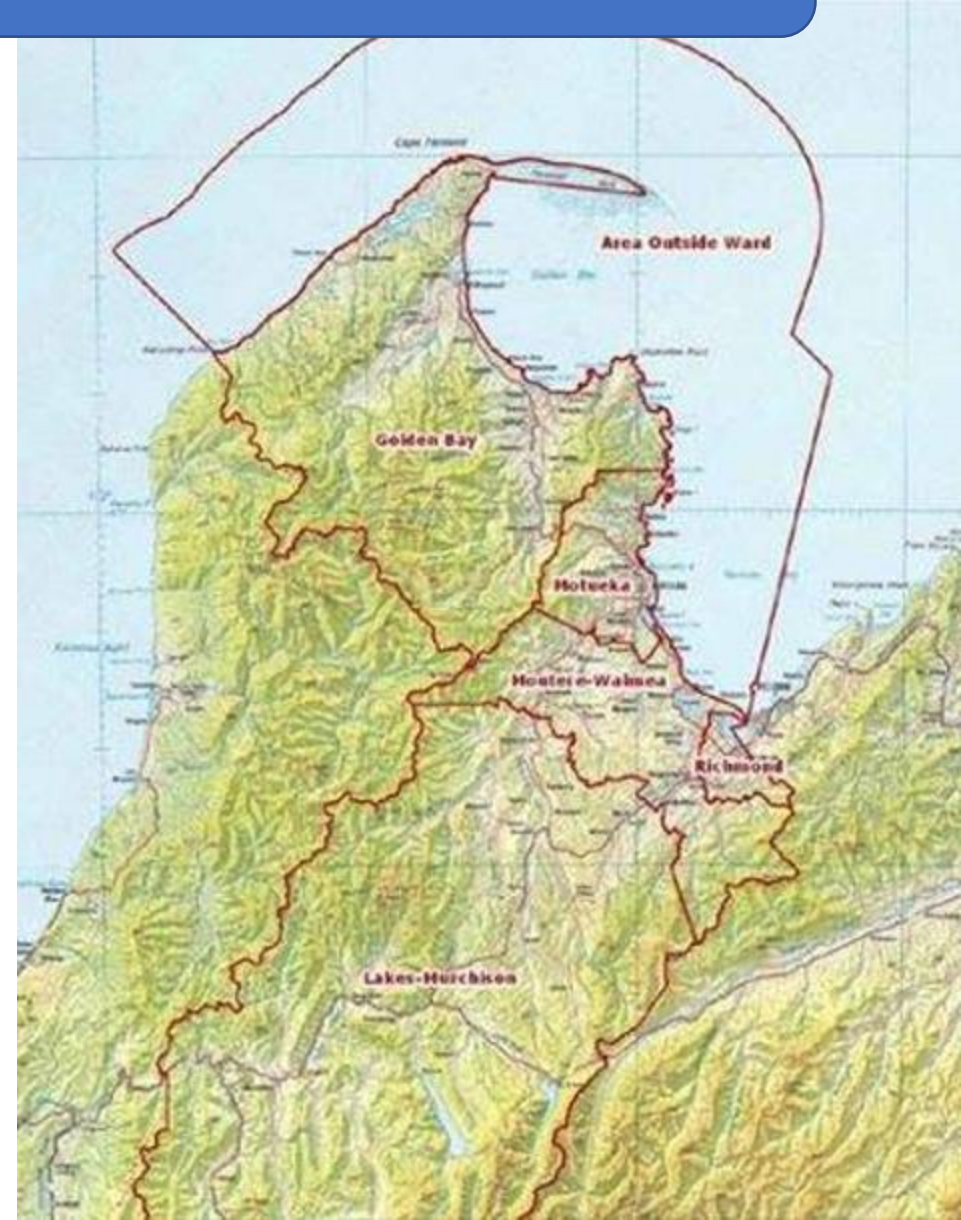
Draft submission

Staff have prepared a draft submission, informed by:

- The last Council's **March 2022 presentation**, prepared in response to the Panel's Interim report.
- Your **discussions in December 2022** with the Panel on this Draft report.

We are seeking your guidance:

- Have we missed anything?
- What do you want to highlight/emphasize?
- What to exclude/remove?
- Any recommendations you want to support/oppose



Draft submission

The submission focuses on key areas where we will have an impact

Our Tasman ... Future Tasman

Our strengths and challenges, concerns and opportunities, and what successful reform is for us – keeping local government, local

Setting the path for the future of local governance

The relationship with central government, current system limitations, governance models that could work for Tasman

Empowering iwi and our communities

Subsidiarity, the role of local government, citizen-led and representative democracy, reframing the local governance-Māori relationship, local dynamics

Funding and financing

A more equitable approach, co-investment for wellbeing, new funding mechanisms and review of the rating system

The search for a perfect outcome should not negate embracing opportunities for a better system

Our Tasman ... Future Tasman

Thriving, resilient Tasman communities ...

- Local knowledge and voice is important to our communities
- The pace of change and size/scale of challenges impacts local wellbeing
- Our unitary model makes it easier for our community to interact with us

Keeping local government, local

- We are bold, engaging, inspiring and add value to our communities
- We collaborate with others to achieve community outcomes
- The Council and iwi are active partners, making decisions together

It is time for the courage and confidence to make bold changes

Setting the path

- The central government system also needs reform
- The unitary model is (currently) a strength
- Limited by resourcing challenges, complex operating environment and rigid legislative requirements
- Explore combined authority model for regional collaboration

Tweaks to LG alone won't be sufficient to meet the challenges ahead

Empowering iwi and our communities

- Subsidiarity must underpin system design
- Cautious of deliberative and participatory D-M models
- Capacity/capability pressures constrain Council and iwi/Māori abilities to partner effectively

Local governance needs strong place-based leadership



Funding and financing

- Fairer allocation and equitable funding system-wide
- No more unfunded mandates set by central government
- A bigger funding toolkit with new funding mechanisms
- Enable decision-makers to make the best use of limited resources
- Less complexity of the rating system

Co-investment for wellbeing is crucial

Next steps

For the submission:

- Incorporate your views
- Circulate for final comments
- Mayoral signoff
- Submit to the Panel by Feb 28
- Provide the final submission at the 23 March Full Council Meeting

For the Review:

- The Panel will review all feedback
- Final report due with the Minister in June 2023
- No requirement for the Minister to act on the report