



LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION

Media Release

24 July 2003

Commission agrees to Tauranga District Council becoming a City Council

The Local Government Commission has approved a request from the Tauranga **District** Council to be called the Tauranga **City** Council.

Under the new Local Government Act, which came into force on 1 July 2003, a district council can apply to the Local Government Commission to become a city council. The Commission assesses each proposal against the following criteria. The district must -

- (a) have a population of not less than 50,000 persons
- (b) be predominantly urban
- (c) be a distinct entity and a major centre of activity within the region.

The Commission found that the Tauranga District easily met these criteria and has decided that the application should be approved. It will be referred to the Minister of Local Government for preparation of an Order in Council, which will give legal effect to the name change.

This is the first request of it's kind to be approved under the new Act which significantly simplifies the whole process.

Media inquiries:

Donald Riezebos
Chief Executive Officer
Local Government Commission

Ph: 04 494 0576

Fax: 04 495 7287