



LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION
MANA KĀWANGATANGA Ā ROHE

Media Release
27 May 2010

**COMMISSION CONSULTS ON PROPOSAL TO TRANSFER THE WAIHI
BEACH WARD AREA FROM WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY DISTRICT TO
HAURAKI DISTRICT**

The Local Government Commission is calling for submissions on a proposal for the transfer of responsibility for the Waihi Beach Ward area from the Western Bay of Plenty District to the Hauraki District.

If the Commission decide to proceed with the proposal, it also has scope to transfer the Waihi Beach Ward area from the Bay of Plenty Region to the Waikato Region.

The proposal was initiated by a petition signed by over 10% of the electors living within the area of the Waihi Beach Ward. The affected councils referred it to the Commission for consideration and decision-making.

Further information about the proposal, including a consultation guide and a map can be viewed at the Commission's website: www.lgc.govt.nz (click on the 'proposals' link).

Submissions may be made on any matter relevant to the proposal, including –

- whether or not the proposal should proceed (with or without modifications)
- the advantages and disadvantages of the proposal compared to the status quo
- whether the Waihi Beach Ward area should also be transferred from the Bay of Plenty Region to the Waikato Region.

The closing date for submissions is Tuesday 27 July 2010.

After the closing date for submissions the process is as follows:

- The Commission gives the submissions received to the “representative of electors” (a representative of those who signed the petition) and provides the opportunity for the representative to withdraw the proposal.
- If the proposal is not withdrawn the Commission consults with the affected and adjoining local authorities, the representative of electors, relevant government agencies, affected Māori organisations and those other people and organisations who have made submissions. This would be done at a hearing or hearings in the affected areas.
- The Commission may carry out other investigations and inquiries so that it has enough information on which to make a decision.
- The Commission then decides whether to issue a draft reorganisation scheme (based on the proposal or on a modification or variation of the proposal) or to not proceed with the proposal.
- If the Commission issues a draft reorganisation scheme it invites submissions on the draft scheme. The scheme includes the detail of how a proposal would be implemented.
- The Commission considers submissions received on the draft. It then decides whether to issue a final reorganisation scheme based on the draft scheme (with or without modifications) or to decline to proceed with the scheme.
- If the Commission issues a final scheme it would be implemented by an Order in Council signed by the Governor-General.

Media inquiries:

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