

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Submissions](#)
Subject: Transfer Opiki + Tokomaru to PNCC
Date: [REDACTED]

Submissions close 7th April 2021? Why am i just getting the info today 7th April 2021, did i miss something?

[REDACTED]
Do not require speaking time.

Q1 Oppose completely.

Q2 P.North.

Q3 refer Q1.

Q4 Horowhenua.

Q5 Competent ones.

Q6 No not at all.

Commission to consider:

Distribution of rates on all sectors, upcoming rates increases, irresponsible debt levels proposed, lack of Audit Office report as at this date, suspect underhanded attempt to introduce some form of Capital Value rates using the Horowhenua system as an excuse.
Eric Constantine.

Submission Form

Closing date for submissions
7 April 2021

The Local Government Commission is seeking feedback on a request to transfer Opiki and Tokomaru from Horowhenua District into Palmerston North City. Your feedback is important to help inform decisions on next steps including, whether to proceed with a reorganisation plan.

How to send your submission

Online: surveymonkey.com/r/762DCMZ

Email: Complete this PDF form, save to your device or PC and email to submissions@lgc.govt.nz

Post: The Local Government Commission, PO Box 5362, Wellington 6140

Your submission will be published on the Commission's website but without your contact details.

Your name:

Lewis Rohloff

Where you live:



Your email, residential or postal address:



Please indicate if you wish to speak at a Commission hearing:

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please provide a contact phone number



Question 1:

Do you support the requested boundary alteration?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Why?

I believe the people residing in Opiki and Tokomaru are reasonably sophisticated and enjoy incomes significantly higher than those bedeviling households elsewhere in the district. They might well have higher expectations for the future of their communities. By committing future rates to Palmerston North they can expect improved council services to a higher standard than can be afforded by Horowhenua with its policy of funding small scale infrastructure by cross-subsidy from the seriously deprived urban centres like Levin.

Question 2:

Do you feel more connected with Palmerston North or the Horowhenua, including Shannon and Levin?

☐ Palmerston North ☐ Horowhenua

Why?

Not applicable

Question 3:

Is the suggested southern boundary at Kingston Road, and part of Okuku Road, in the right place?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Why?

Not applicable

Question 4:

Which territorial local authority is best able to represent Opiki and Tokomaru residents and property owners?

☐ Horowhenua District Council
☒ Palmerston North City Council

Why?

It has superior economic resources, and a sustainable rating base.

Question 5:

What services do you want to receive from local government?

Infrastructure, consistent with the variable characteristics of the communities where we live, funded by a rating model reflecting the proportions of capital value within guiding parameters of, affordability for households.

Question 6:

Are you satisfied with how your council uses the revenue that it gets from rates, fees and user charges?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Why?

Because ever since 1989 amalgamation the economic viability of Levin has seriously deteriorated.

Please tell us about anything further you would like the Commission to consider in its decision on the requested boundary alteration.

Please see written addendum.



7 April 2021

***Submission to Local Government Commission
in support of the application for
Opiki and Tokomaru
to become part of Palmerston North.***

**Statement of
Submitter's Qualification and Interests**

As the 'submitter' I am the 'owner/occupier' of a modest 1960 bungalow in the Playford Park area of Levin township. This has been my home continuously from 1982 to the present day.

Born in Whanganui in 1937 I moved with my family at an early age and grew up in the Hutt Valley suburb of Taita. My secondary education was gained at Hutt Valley High School, leaving in 1952 to commence employment in the 'job rich' import substitution production plants then dominating the Hutt Valley economy.

By the early 1960's I had progressed to a junior management role in the New Zealand arm of a British-based, world leading safety-glass producer. At that time the Government driven 'Group Housing Scheme' was well advanced and in combination with government's National Regional Development programme, potential Hutt Valley 'first home' buyers were encouraged to relocate to either Invercargill, Levin or Whangarei on the promise of cheaper houses and plentiful, light manufacturing, employment.

My employer, in 1964, encouraged me to move with my family to Whangarei where they had invested in establishing a 'heavy industrial' sheet glass production unit.

By 1982 my children had begun to move away from Northland in their own search for paid employment and my wife and I decided to move closer to our Hutt Valley connections by relocating to Levin. During these past 40 years my main contribution to my community has been as a voluntary advocate with the Grey Power organisation for whom I act as Local Government spokesperson.

I am a life member of Grey Power New Zealand Federation. During a little more than the decade leading up to my retirement earlier this year I have been primarily responsible for advocacy related to maintaining New Zealand Superannuation.

Hopefully, these brief comments will indicate my reasonably 'informed' understanding of local government, smaller district, representation realities on the one hand and, perhaps more importantly, my personal empathy with the real life experiences and vulnerable financial circumstances of so many of my peers, particularly those resident in Levin.

I accept I am not a primary 'effected person' in this immediate re-organisation request but in the longer term, the economic viability of Horowhenua is not demonstrated. Therefore, it is for the dependent ageing people of our communities and younger low to middle income households of Levin, Foxton, Foxton Beach and other 'urban localities' that I offer my observations.

Just as a significant number of people in Opiki and Tokomaru now consider it timely to seek a future with Palmerston North, with the attendant publicity and, the longer term 'economic' and 'representation' implications of any approval of the requested boundary change; many residents in Levin and its satellites might rapidly see their future more assured by future allegiance to Kapiti Coast. Foxton and Foxton Beach to Manawatu.

As a resident of Levin I look to the Commission to recognise my community's vulnerability and decide on a re-organisation outcome which will deliver us affordability and prioritised representation¹ that has been denied us by successive Horowhenua administrations.

Horowhenua's unfavourable Economic Indicators

On the following pages I have charted a number of relevant statistics:

- Median Household Income Comparisons (1)
- Median Personal Incomes (Horowhenua's 'small areas')
- NZ Deprivation Index 2018 (Horowhenua 'small areas')
- Median Household Income Comparisons (2)



Lew Rohloff

¹ Local Government Act 2002, Section 10 and Local Government (Community Well-being) Amendment Act 2019, sections 6(1) and 6(2).

Issue – Strategic Realities

There can be no doubt that the significantly greater financial resources of Palmerston North can better support the future development of Opiki and Tokomaru.

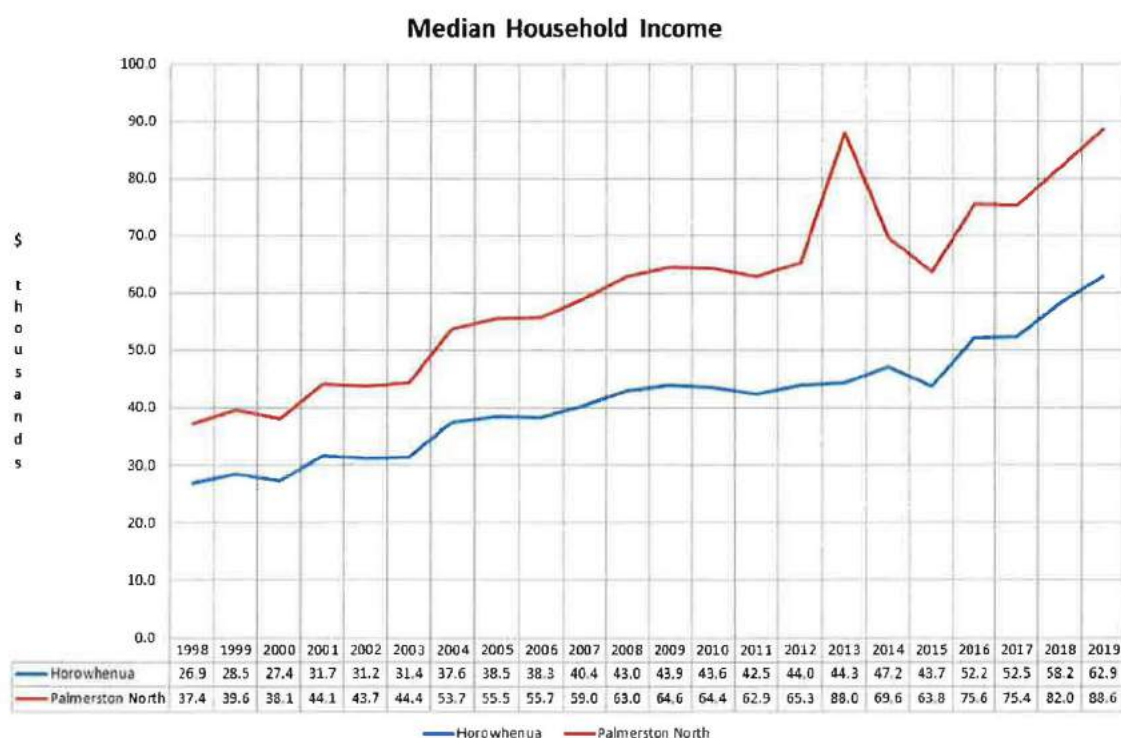
Contrary to the submission of Horowhenua District Council who assert that retention of Opiki and Tokomaru within their district “will be better for ratepayers elsewhere in the Horowhenua District;” Levin, the largest concentration of ratepayers within the district would be relieved of part of its present, unsustainable, obligation to subsidise infrastructural provision in the smaller communities of Horowhenua.

Chart No. 1.

Palmerston North and Horowhenua
Comparison – Median Household Incomes
1998 – 2019

Source:

Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment
Regional Economic Indicators



Issue – Affordability (1)

Average rates levied by Local Authorities across New Zealand are equivalent to 2% to 3% of median household incomes.

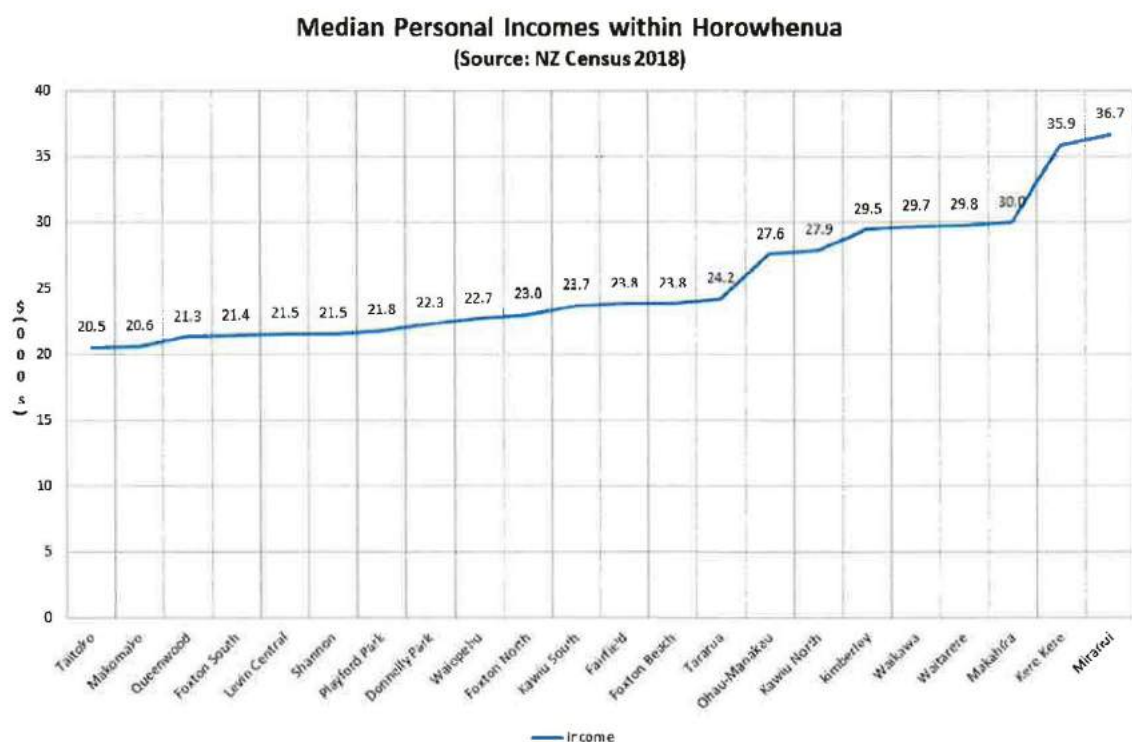
In Horowhenua, the rates on a modest 1960's bungalow (CV \$385,000) equate to 14% of the net weekly superannuation entitlement of a single person living alone and 8.0% of a couple in similar income circumstances.

Of all the communities contained within the Horowhenua District, Levin and its satellites are bedevilled with the worst aggregation of economic hardship. In stubborn denial of this long-standing reality Horowhenua District Council has maintained its policy of effectively surcharging Levin, Foxton, Foxton Beach and Shannon so that the costs of servicing smaller areas, business and rural property might be reduced.

Chart No. 2.

Income Distribution
Within Horowhenua District

Source:
NZ Census 2018



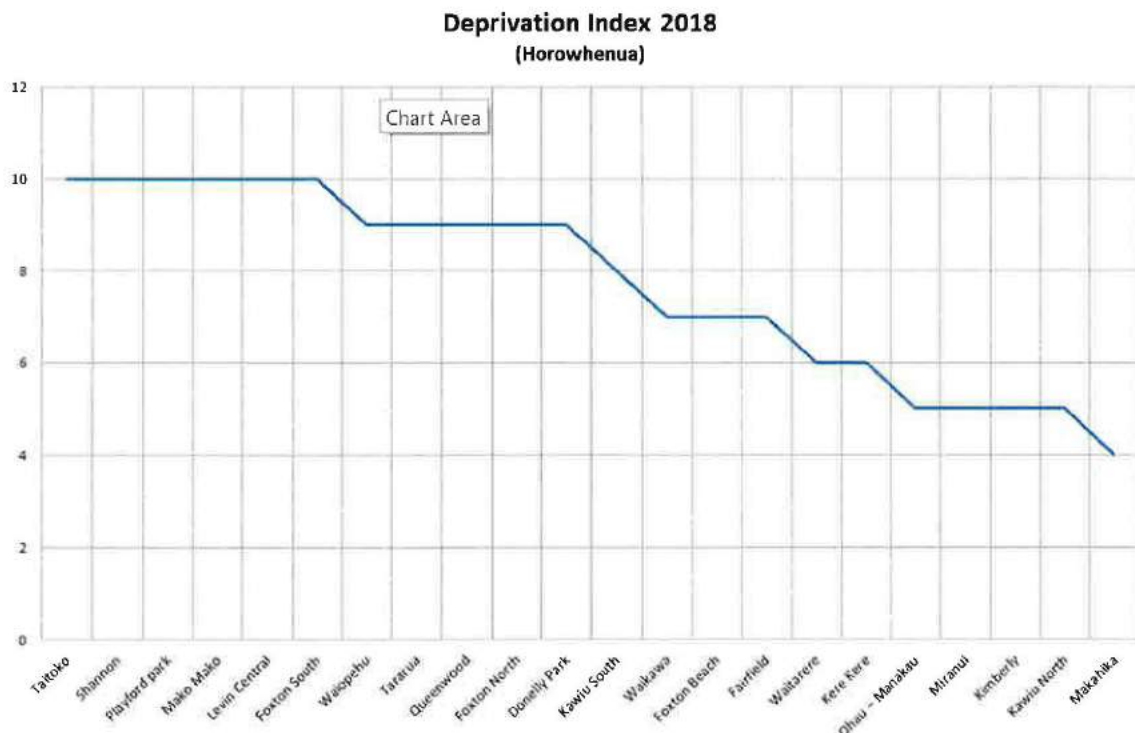
Issue – Affordability (2)

An additional demonstration of how the lower socio-economic areas of Levin, have been disadvantaged by having to subsidise outlying small areas is available in the NZ Deprivation Index.

The policy of allocating extra-ordinary, high ratio 'Rates to Household Incomes' indicated elsewhere in this submission lead to excessive diminishment of discretionary spending power. Thus, 'consumer demand' the basic driver of a healthy economic environment is effectively frustrated by the rating model maintained by Horowhenua District Council.

Chart No. 3.

Source:
Otago University of New Zealand



Issue - The Underlying Priority

Should the 'simple issue' i.e. permitting Opiki and Tokomaru to align with Palmerston North: where the effected people work, shop and find their recreation then attention to the 'under-lying priority' of determining Levin's future will be initiated. Indeed, in the event of an 'unjust' decision to refuse the present application a community driven petition to dis-establish the Horowhenua District is a distinct possibility.

It is preferable that 'the Commission' in collaboration with Horowhenua District Council combine their existing resources to examine this need in an inquisitorial and non-combative environment.

The similar profile of Household Incomes in Horowhenua to that of its 'more affluent' neighbour Kapiti Coast suggest the incorporation of Levin within Greater Wellington Region will prove beneficial to all parties.

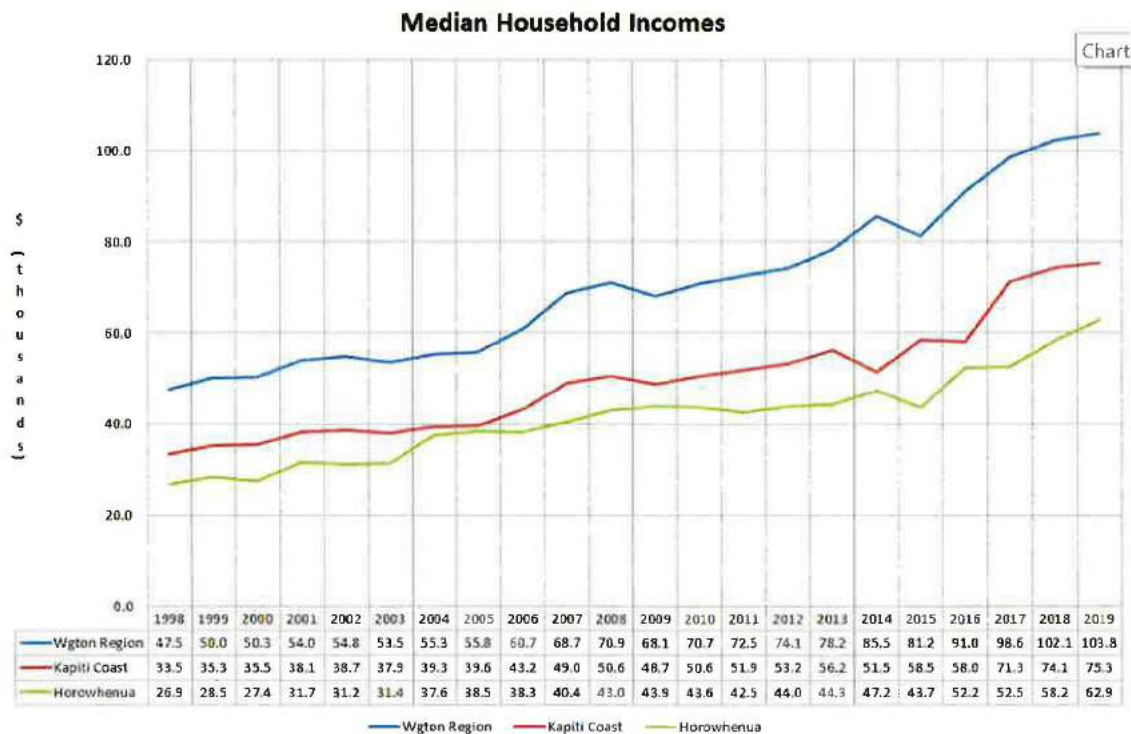
Chart No. 4.

Median Household Incomes

Comparison - Wellington Region, Kapiti Coast and Horowhenua.

Source:

Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment
Regional Economic Indicators.



Submission Ends

#132

COMPLETE

Collector:

Web Link 1 (Web Link)

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Page 1

Q1

No

Do you support the requested boundary alteration?

Q2

Do you feel more connected with Palmerston North or the Horowhenua, including Shannon and Levin?

Horowhenua,

Why?:

As a resident of a village i do not want to be part of a city where i will not have an elected council member to represent me.

Q3

No

Is the suggested southern boundary at Kingston Road, and part of Okuku Road, in the right place?

Q4

Which territorial authority is best able to represent Opiki and Tokomaru residents and property owners?

Horowhenua District Council,

Why?:

Historically Tokomaru has been part of horowhenua and i feel that Palmerston North will have no interest in a village on their boundary.

Q5

What services do you want to receive from local government?

core infrastructure,recycling,roading.

Q6

Are you satisfied with how your council uses the revenue it gets from rates, fees and user charges?

No,

Why:

Too much spent on what i call wish list projects when basic infrastructure needs capital expenditure. In this regard Palmerston North is worse.

Q7

What is your name?

Edmund John MOORE

Q8

Where do you live?

[REDACTED]

Q9

What is your email adress?

[REDACTED]

Q10

No

Do you wish to speak about your submission at a Commission hearing?

Q11

Respondent skipped this question

If you wish to speak at a Commission hearing, please provide a contact phone number.

#133

COMPLETE

Collector:

Web Link 1 (Web Link)

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Page 1

Q1

Do you support the requested boundary alteration?

Yes,

Why?:

I have little or no interaction with the levin community I pay over \$2000.00 per annum in rates and only get our gravel road spasmodically maintained badly. we get no rubbish collection, we get no water supply, we get no waste water reticulation. we do not ever go to levin, let alone use any council facilities

Q2

Do you feel more connected with Palmerston North or the Horowhenua, including Shannon and Levin?

Palmerston North,

Why?:

I work in Palmerston North, I use the council facilities frequently, I do all of my business in Palmerston North. I own property in Palmerston North and therefore I am a Palmerston North Ratepayer Both of my children were schooled in Palmerston North

Q3

Is the suggested southern boundary at Kingston Road, and part of Okuku Road, in the right place?

Yes,

Why?:

I feel the Shannon community gravitate more to the Horowhenua District council services

Q4

Which territorial authority is best able to represent Opiki and Tokomaru residents and property owners?

Palmerston North City Council,

Why?:

Most Tokomaru and Opiki residents use Palmerston North Businesses for their goods and services, and the Palmerston North council and government organisations. Most of our children are schooled in Palmerston North at intermediate level and above.

Q5

What services do you want to receive from local government?

1. Our gravel road maintained properly, or sealed
2. rubbish collection and recycling to be paid for out of rates

Seeking your feedback on a request for Opiki and Tokomaru to become part of Palmerston North City

Q6

Are you satisfied with how your council uses the revenue it gets from rates, fees and user charges?

No,

Why:

The Horowhenua district council uses our tokomaru and opiki rates to subsidise the levin community.

Q7

What is your name?

dave jonasen

Q8

Where do you live?

[REDACTED]

Q9

What is your email adress?

[REDACTED]

Q10

No

Do you wish to speak about your submission at a Commission hearing?

Q11

If you wish to speak at a Commission hearing, please provide a contact phone number.

[REDACTED]

#134

COMPLETE

Collector:

Web Link 1 (Web Link)

Started:

Last Modified:

Time Spent:

IP Address:

Page 1

Q1

Do you support the requested boundary alteration?

Yes,

Why?:

WE HAVE RECENTLY MOVED HERE FROM P/NORTH CITY AND LOVE IT HERE, ONCE WE A INCLUDED IN THE MANAWATU DISTRICT WE WOULD BENEFIT HUGELY FROM THE INFARSTRUCTURE THEY HAVE, AND YES WE HAVE A BUSINESS IN P/NORTH CBD AND EMPLOYMENT IN THE CBD DO ALL OUR PURCHASING FROM THERE, SO YES IT'S A DEFINATE YES FROM US.

Q2

Do you feel more connected with Palmerston North or the Horowhenua, including Shannon and Levin?

Palmerston North,

Why?:

YES ABSOLUTELY AS I EXPLAINED IN MY PREVIOUS ANSWER.

Q3

Is the suggested southern boundary at Kingston Road, and part of Okuku Road, in the right place?

Yes,

Why?:

AS WE ARE NEW TO THE AREA I FIRMLY BELIEVE IF THAT'S WHERE THE MAJORITY OF RESIDENTS BELEIVE IS CORRECT THEN I HAVE TO AGREE.

Q4

Which territorial authority is best able to represent Opiki and Tokomaru residents and property owners?

Palmerston North City Council,

Why?:

WE HAVE HAD NO PROBLEMS AT ALL IN THE PAST WITH PNCC, SOME 16 YRS THAT WE HAVE BEEN IN THE MANAWATU.

Q5

What services do you want to receive from local government?

ALL SERVICES CURRENTLY SUPPLIED BY PNCC.

Seeking your feedback on a request for Opiki and Tokomaru to become part of Palmerston North City

Q6

Are you satisfied with how your council uses the revenue it gets from rates, fees and user charges?

Yes,

Why:

THERE ARE HUGE COSTS AND I'M A FIRM BELEIVER THAT IT'S A USER PAYES AT ALL COSTS NOW MORE THAN EVER.

Q7

What is your name?

CAREY JAMES

Q8

Where do you live?

[REDACTED]

Q9

What is your email adress?

[REDACTED]

Q10

Do you wish to speak about your submission at a Commission hearing?

No

Q11

If you wish to speak at a Commission hearing, please provide a contact phone number.

Respondent skipped this question

Please accept this as my submission on the proposed boundary change between Horowhenua District Council and Palmerston North City Council in relation to the communities of Tokomaru and Opiki.

I would like to speak to the submission.

Firstly, I and my family fully support the proposed changes.

Our family moved to Tokomaru in 2004 from Levin. Whilst we associate and recognise with Tokomaru as our centre we actually live within the Opiki mesh block.

Having lived and participated within the community over this time it is clearly evident that we, not only as a family but a community focus and gravitate to Palmerston North, (PN). Work, schooling, medical, cultural, social, shopping, sporting, service provision are all primarily if not exclusively sourced through PN. A report commissioned by Horowhenua District Council (HDC) approximately 4 years ago highlighted that at least 85% of this part of the districts economic activity was outside of the Horowhenua, primarily PN. (If memory serves I believe it was conducted by Sense Partners in approx. 2017, unfortunately I cannot locate a copy the actual report.)

In response to specific questions put forward in commission response document.

We feel more connected to PN, Levin is an administrative centre by default rather than choice. Shannon does not rate as a centre of community activity or focus.

In relation to the proposed boundary locations I would consider this would be reflected by individuals as it is they that can report on community of interest. The use of mesh blocks and natural features is also another consistent method. In our case the boundaries seem appropriate.

I was active in the local community association for several years and could spend considerable time talking about our working relationship and interactions with HDC.

In my opinion HDC act as a city but within a rural scattered catchment. This was acceptable for many years but with increasing central govt. requirements and local ambitions which did not necessarily reflect the whole district. A result of this has been an uneven focus that leaves the wider district contributing significantly to centralised services that are regularly unobtainable or inappropriate. Efforts to mitigate cost or improve local services have had some impact but the results are negligible and come at disproportionate cost. In short it lacks equity. I would however point out that council has in recent years made attempts through establishing community plans and such to include and reflect wider inputs, this is too new to be able to report on accurately. I personally see it more as an attempt to "ring fence" communities and constrain them within the plans as they fit council philosophy.

Despite being an active vocal community council have not yet seen fit to consult locally.

Much has been made of the cost of our water and wastewater requirements. I was closely involved in our water treatment upgrade and am currently a member of the waste water community oversight group. Firstly we need to qualify only a small portion of the proposed area is covered by these services <40%. The bulk are self-served via bores, local supply or standalone septic systems. The water plant and storage has been upgraded and it is a new water source consent that is required, I am unaware of any accurate cost proposals put forward at this stage. I do not foresee this being an expensive exercise. The publicly touted cost associated with the water upgrade were and are grossly exaggerated.

The waste water treatment is another matter and this may have significant cost but to date there is insufficient data or proposals to determine what this will actually cost. Efforts have concentrated upon getting a short term consent approved so that this evaluation can proceed. HDC have sourced a significant grant from central Govt for the purchase of land for treated effluent disposal, the land has already been purchased. As a member of this oversight group I would be sorely disappointed if we were not being kept informed.

As a community our single greatest hurdle with HDC has been to be recognised as a discreet element within the district. I have described to council, councillors and any that will listen that HDC has for many years treated settlements and farmers with systemic institutionalised neglect and oversight. Whilst the bulk of population may live in Levin we should not have to suffer this tyranny of the majority.

It is important to note that we have not sat back and criticised from the side-lines but have actively participated and engaged with council to try to achieve equity. Community members have participated in numerous council initiatives, forums and process's whether it be submissions and lobbying to publicity and advocacy. We were regular participants in annual plan, long term plan process also specific action groups with the aim to boost our profile, consideration and achieve local results. In short the effort required was excessive to returns and in my opinion council process is not designed to cater to the disparate nature of the District. This is changing somewhat but is concentrated on those areas that fit councils growth and development strategy. Unfortunately we don't fit within this proposed future, so are side-lined.

Shortly after the filing of this application we had a demand that we withdraw the application or face a freeze of all and any positive activity from council. A common response was we get nothing now so have nothing to lose. Shortly after this the local community association went into hiatus and no formal relations have taken place since. I personally disagree with the hiatus as I believe that the current proposal is the single most important event in this area for many years. Localised and discreet activity has obviously continued but no concerted activity.

Representation, the current representative system and ward structure in HDC penalises and disenfranchises Miranui Ward, all other wards have multiple representatives Miranui has one. This sole voice is not only isolated by numbers but by the area it represents, rural, lifestyle, settlement. Whilst this can be seen as comparative to Kere Kere and Waiopahu the nature, composition and proximity underscore significant differences. Calls for a change to the representation system were dismissed. The opportunity to participate within an STV environment is welcomed as whilst we appreciate our relative size the fact that we need to be considered is welcomed as opposed to current.

It should also be noted HDC in primarily rests in Opiki electorate whilst Tokomaru/Opiki/Shannon fall into Rangitikei.

Our community is quite different from that of the wider Horowhenua district with greater in work percentage, higher incomes, and more self-employed, younger age demographic with a significantly higher child and youth portion. Our demographic is closer to that of PN.

In closing there are a couple of points I would like to make. If we were to use the criteria as set out in the act regarding community of interest this application is a no brainer, but it appears we have the Commission acting as an agent of Local Government not community.

Secondly the failure to set out methods and means for determining the relative proportioning of financial settlement is completely lacking. As a "shareholder" in HDC we have rights to know what

the implications to us of any change are. To deny economic consideration for a proposal such as this, is short-sighted and fails the applicants initially and neglects interested parties.

Peter Ward

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Local Government Commission

Submission Form:

Submission 136

Opiki-Tokomaru Boundary Change Application.

Closing date for submissions 7 April 2021

Your name:

Christine Toms

Where do you live:

[REDACTED]

Your email, residential or postal address:

[REDACTED]

Do you wish to speak at a Commission hearing?

Yes

If yes please provide a contact phone number:

[REDACTED]

Question 1:

Do you support the requested boundary alteration?

Yes.

Why?

I am part of the Opiki-Tokomaru (Tokopiki) Boundary Change Group. My late husband Arthur Toms and I lived in Tokomaru village for nearly 10 years until he died in September 2020.

We began preliminary investigations with Palmerston North City Council and the "Affected Area" (then Opiki/Tokomaru) in October 2017. We were referred to another volunteer/amalgamation proposal group in Opiki, who had already begun this process. The Boundary Change Group was formed in early 2018, with the late Arthur Toms, Clive Akers, Ken Anderson, and Jim Fordyce.

Establishing Community of Interest was the priority Local Government Commission requirement in the Boundary Change proposal and Application dated 5 October 2018. Over 300 Electoral-Role verified signatures of support for the proposal were obtained from Opiki and Tokopiki residents and ratepayers, collected in July 2018, i.e. substantially more than the legislation's 10% requirement. These were all submitted to the LGC.

On 29 November 2018 the Local Government Commission accepted the Boundary Change Application for Assessment.

On 16 December 2019 LGC CEO Donald Riezebos confirmed the Boundary Change Application was still current, according to new Reorganisation legislation which came into being in July 2019:

"We believe that the new process to the Tokomaru-Opiki application applies because it falls within the criteria set out in clause 20 of Schedule 1AA of the Local Government Act 2002. Schedule 1AA can be found at this link: <http://legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2002/0084/latest/DLM6241709.html>"
Therefore the Application remains an essential and valid element of the Boundary Change proposal dated 5 October 2018.

Other legal avenues involved in the PNCC/Boundary Change group process:

Boundary Change meetings held in July 2018 in Opiki and Tokomaru, attended by nearly 200 people in total from Opiki and Tokomaru, were independently chaired by Rangitikei MP Ian McKelvie. Strategy manager finance Steve Paterson attended those public meetings to answer questions on rates comparisons. As a result, more than 300 people gave their signatures of support for the Boundary Change at those meetings and subsequently.

The Boundary Change group was invited to take part in some meetings at PNCC, including a meeting with lawyer John Anabel who gave the group a copy of the 1989 Palmerston North City Council boundary map which included Tokomaru at the time. It was stated that Tokomaru was absorbed into Horowhenua "to make up the numbers (for that District)." Mr McKelvie said in hindsight this was for the people of Opiki and Tokomaru to decide. It was also a wrong decision to include Opiki and Tokomaru in the Horowhenua District due to the community of interest already established with Opiki/Tokomaru and Palmerston North and the greater distance to Levin. Military personnel from the Linton Army Camp in PNCC often buy homes in Tokomaru (and Opiki). The group met with strategy manager finance Steve Paterson to consider rates comparisons. Both Council officers were professional and helpful to the group and the public at the time.

Covid-19 Regional Lockdowns:

In all future regional Covid-19 lockdowns, as there will be, Opiki and Tokomaru residents and ratepayers, school children and employers/employees, students etc. will have to obtain permits to go to their normal places of work, school, medical and all other facilities in Palmerston North – and return. Or travel to Levin for all these facilities!

Rates: In conjunction with PNCC Steve Paterson's advice in 2018 and again in August 2020, rates comparisons would advantage Opiki and Tokomaru settlements in Palmerston North City rather than the significantly higher-rated Horowhenua District Council; confirmed by Steve Paterson on both occasions.

During the past 10 years rates on our modest home in Tokomaru have risen well over 120% for sparse and minimal services and no upgrades in the township. The known toxic (bacteria) town supply B-grade drinking water for Tokomaru took a petition to Parliament to achieve, without which the community would have suffered the same fate as Hastings in 2016, i.e. seven deaths and 5,000 injured. Local roads have been woefully inadequate and neglected for decades – or until the Boundary Change Application, when a few roads around Opiki have received upgrades.

Whereas, residential rates in Levin and Foxton have either declined or maintained their position, with all amenities e.g. transport, shops, Council offices, cinemas, sports, swimming pools and all schools on the doorstep.

No school buses travel from Opiki or Tokomaru to Levin. So why are we still in Horowhenua?

Iwi involvement:

Ngati Raukawa hapu Ngati Turanga lodged an Alternative Application with the Local Government Commission on 15 May 2019. Further discussion on 8 June 2020 with iwi pushed back on the Boundary Change Application, citing cultural interests and a campaign to expand Rohe should the Application succeed. However, in my view iwi-acknowledged strong relationship and partnership with and on behalf of the Horowhenua District Council is the reason for this pushback; namely to support and endorse the HDC's negative stance against the Tokopiki Boundary Change.

Alternative Application: *"Ngati Turanga currently has good working relationships with Horowhenua District Council, and it is on this basis we propose the following alternative application (option 2). Etc."*

- HDC's primary "partnership" relationship and engagement with iwi proved neither entities were prepared to adhere to the Commission's "no interference/influence" policy to avoid pre-empting public decision.
- As previously discussed, "Tokopiki" is a portmanteau word briefly translated as "walking" and "stick." No offence was intended to iwi, but rather to emphasise the journey the two small rural communities are making in this Boundary Change proposal.
- It is understood from submissions that the primary reason for both Councils' lack of support for the Boundary Change proposal is iwi interests.

It could be therefore further understood that PNCC and HDC have blamed the iwi Alternative Application as scapegoats in their reasons to decline the Boundary Change proposal and Application; whereas pressure on iwi partnerships from Horowhenua District Council are the more likely cause and outcome, as their Alternative Application states/confirms.

Council involvement

Palmerston North City Council:

PNCC representatives made it clear from the outset that, according to the Local Government Commission, the Council was not permitted to engage in discussion regarding the Boundary Change proposal/Application "which may influence the Affected Area" (Opiki/Tokomaru public).

At the 13 October 2021 Opiki meeting a Commissioner advised the public that the PNCC mayor and staff had been invited to the meeting. However, on questioning PNCC representatives it was clear they had not been specifically invited, the Horowhenua District Council mayor, CE, councillors and staff who turned up to the

meeting in a busload, where the mayor spoke for 25 minutes on behalf of HDC why the Boundary Change should not proceed – when he knew he was not permitted to do so. He also discredited the Application's late author Arthur Toms, who had died "suddenly and unexpectedly" three weeks earlier, in the HDC mayor and that Council's blatant attempts to disrupt the Boundary Change process. The Application was valid. The mayor then handed out hard copies of his speech to members of the public, on behalf of Horowhenua District Council primarily to discredit and influence the Application and Boundary Change process. So much for the Commission's "no-influence" policy, but no measures were taken against HDC.

Contrary to PNCC's debate to on 7 April 2021 that they didn't have enough information about the Affected Area (Opiki/Tokomaru), it is clear the details and Boundary Change Application had been posted on the Commission's website from the outset. They may have been hamstrung by the Commission's "no influence" policy but that didn't stop HDC. PNCC representatives knew the Boundary Change proposal and Application and the reasons why Opiki and Tokomaru ratepayers and residents wanted to leave Horowhenua District Council from Council officers who attended the various meetings; not only because rates in PNCC would be overall considerably cheaper, but because community of interest is paramount. All our business, schooling, medical entertainment, shopping, work, etc. is done in Palmerston North.

To say these small communities are not disadvantaged by driving the necessary shorter distance to Palmerston North, yet having to pay their rates/belong to Horowhenua District, falls far short of any comprehension. Again, this is not a plausible scapegoat to decline the Boundary Change Application.

Horowhenua District Council:

Both PNCC and HDC acknowledge the woeful lack of HDC infrastructure and facilities for Opiki (non existent) and Tokomaru (B-E grade infrastructure) in their submissions. The LTP 2021-41 still does not feature any updated works proposed for Opiki and Tokomaru, there was no work plan for the 2018-38 LTP and none since. So why do they think we need to leave HDC, when the Tokopiki northern boundary has been neglected for so long and continues to be so?

From the outset, Horowhenua District Council failed entirely to observe the Commission's protocols to "keep out of debate" in the process regarding the Boundary Change Application. Division became increasingly apparent in the Opiki/Tokomaru communities, where concessions were granted to certain entities opposed to the amalgamation; and those for the Boundary Change were generally ignored or stricter and unnecessary rules applied in some other cases. Again, this has no place in credible Local Government structure, but rules don't appear to apply to HDC.

At the 13 October, 2020 Opiki meeting the Horowhenua District mayor was granted 'speaking rights' and spent the first 25 minutes discrediting the Application's late

author Arthur Toms, who had died “suddenly and unexpectedly” three weeks earlier. This was a blatant attempt by the HDC mayor in that Council’s bid to disrupt the Boundary Change process. The Boundary Change Application was valid. The mayor then handed out hard copies of his derogatory speech to members of the public, on behalf of Horowhenua District Council, primarily to discredit and influence the Application and Boundary Change process. So much for the Commission’s “no-influence” policy, but no measures were taken against HDC. There was again overwhelming support for the Boundary Change at the meetings on 13 October 2020, but the result was recorded as “divided.” This was untrue.

In May 2019 HDC CE David Clapperton redacted a paragraph concerning a Local Government Requirement regarding governance in the Boundary Change Application. Mr Clapperton had no authority to do this.

On 24 May 2019 he said in an email: “As for the redaction in the released Boundary Change Application I make no apology for that. I considered that redaction necessary.” The Commission reinserted the redacted paragraph in the Application. Mr Clapperton did not “redact” any material in their HDC-partnership/negative stance with the iwi Alternative Application.

Mayor Wanden’s public speech objecting to the Boundary Change Application on behalf of Council on 13 October, 2020, at Opiki. *(All quotes are verbatim.)*

Application: “... HDC has a history of providing minimal services in Tokomaru and mostly none in Opiki, frequently citing lack of money.”

HDC mayor: “There is no evidence to support this statement and as you will see below there has been significant capital spending in the area and ongoing activity spending is planned for the years ahead.” ... “At no time have the residents of this area been deprived of any core services.”

Application: “We expect HDC will object to this proposal.”

HDC mayor: “At no stage have we taken a public stance on the matter ...”

Application: “There may be objections on the grounds of loss of rates revenue.”

HDC mayor:

- “While any loss of revenue for Council would not be ideal, it is clear that for the amount of rates that is collected in that area the residents receive excellent value for money.”
- “It is also clear that financially HDC could be significantly better off in the long run if we were to lose this area from our current boundaries.”
- “Financially HDC would be better off if the Tokomaru/Opiki area was not within our boundary especially if we are compensated fully by PNCC for the assets that we have here.”

Application: *Re Community of Interest, Opiki and Tokomaru have all schools, work, medical, education, services, social/entertainment activities in Palmerston North.*

HDC mayor: “While we acknowledge the proximity of Palmerston North to the area we do not believe it is materially relevant to whether Tokomaru and Opiki are included in the Horowhenua or not ...” and “**There is no appetite on our part to**

proceed any further with the proposal.”

HDC mayor: “The Commission has stated that this is proposed change is not one that involves a major change in the structure of Local Governance. It affects a relatively small geographic area and is small scale.” ... “Bernie Wanden, District Mayor, 13 October 2020.”

Other issues included in the HDC submission stated that the toll call from Tokomaru to HQ in Levin was now abolished “because everyone has cell phones these days.” The Consultants’ failed ability to determine that phone calls and other incorrect details in the document are still expensive, and not everyone has cell phones, was further undermined by the Council’s contact details on its website which stated on 31 March 2021: “Freephone (Tokomaru only) 0508 949 4909.”

Local Government Commission involvement:

It is highly regrettable that the Commission has in my view conducted a wilfully disingenuous and overt lack of transparency in its processes regarding the Boundary Change proposal and Application. Even without Covid-19 restrictions, the proposal was plagued with procrastination around the Commission’s proposed meetings and acknowledged “delays.” Commissioner Piper at the 19 February 2020 meeting apologised to the Boundary Change group, saying the proposal “would be next cab off the rank,” which even around Covid-19 was untrue. Particularly because the proposed amalgamation was “insignificant” in Local Government terms (confirmed by mayor Wanden’s speech at Opiki on 13 October, 2020). Although meetings with iwi took place immediately after Level 1 was introduced on 8 June 2020, nothing happened for the Boundary Change until 13 October, 2020, when it was clear the proposal would be declined. Incorrect statements and other issues included:

- Rates comparisons were incorrectly **twice** published in the Commission’s Consultation Document.
- Horseshoe Bush is in Tokomaru, not Opiki.
- The video/audio of the 13 October 2020 meeting supposedly admitted to the Commission’s website “didn’t work.” Therefore no record was available of that meeting, other than an independent audio from a member of the public.
- Although requested, the Commission declined to end the Horowhenua District mayor’s long and abusive speech on behalf of Council against the late Arthur Toms and the Boundary Change process and Application, until after 25 minutes.
- There was overwhelming support for the Boundary Change at the meetings on 13 October 2020, but HDC put the result as “divided.” This was untrue.
- Requirement for registration prior to public meetings, then no requirement for same.
- Commission suggested meetings could be Zoom for the whole communities, until the Boundary Change advised that many people in the Affected Area (including Horowhenua and Palmerston) may not be computer literate. Zoom meetings were cancelled.

- Councils PNCC and HDC were encouraged by the Commission to make their submissions public on 31 March and 1 April, well before the community submissions' deadline of midnight on 7 April, 2020, and thereby **directly influencing "Affected Area" voters** in accordance with Councils' decisions and contrary to the Commission's non-influence directive.
- HDC published public participation regarding their submission to the Commission on 26 March 2021, which was abandoned just prior to the meeting. The outcome of their "debate" then already publicly known, only 10 people turned up to the meeting. The unsurprising proposal against the Boundary Change took 12.5 mins to approve, one councillor against.
- After Councils' submissions were notified on 23 March and 1 April 2021, the Commission asked the Boundary Group to network that people who had already made submissions "could change their mind," make additions/alterations to their submissions, or change them completely. They only needed to contact the Commission. This implies that those "Affected Area" submitters who had made supportive Boundary Change submissions to the Commission could/would change them to the published negative responses.
- Former HDC mayor Brendan Duffy is currently chairman of the Local Government Commission.
- Mr Duffy continues to live in Levin, Horowhenua District, and has maintained personal and business relationships with councillors, officers and staff. Although he recused himself from the Boundary Change process, it is not believable that Mr Duffy has refrained from influencing the outcome.
- Mr Duffy was found guilty by chief ombudsman Peter Boshier in 2018 of illegally instigating the tampering/quarantining of the public's emails to Horowhenua District Council from 2010-2016.
- Mr Duffy was made Local Govt Commission temporary Commissioner in 2017 and later LGC chairman. In my view should have been offered another appointment (and not chairman MidCentral DHB).
- The shabby, contradictory and biased process conducted by the Local Government Commission regarding the Tokopiki Boundary Change proposal and Application is no credit to this Government agency and the people it had pledged to serve in Opiki and Tokomaru.
- The process to continue submissions until deadline at midnight on 7 April, 2021, could be consequently unacceptable.
- In view of both Councils' submissions to decline the proposal prior to the Commissions' community submissions' deadlines, the process to continue with hearings on 21 April 2021 is also disingenuous and unacceptable.
- If neither Council approves the Tokopiki Boundary Change, not for any plausible reason so far seen, Opiki and Tokomaru communities have been left in limbo.
- In my view, as seen in the similarity between Councils' submissions and HDC speeches, there has been collusion between the Local Government Commission, Palmerston North City Council and the Horowhenua District Council – to the detriment of the people of Opiki and Tokomaru.

This entirely flawed Boundary Change process discredits the Local Government Commission and both Horowhenua District and Palmerston North City Councils. The Boundary Change Group has done its utmost to fairly and lawfully represent the people of Opiki and Tokomaru, whose interests they have continued to value; unlike the manipulative and underhand circumstances we have subsequently witnessed in the official process.

Question 2:

Do you feel more connected with Palmerston North or the Horowhenua, including Shannon and Levin?

Palmerston North.

Why?

Close proximity, community of interest. Because we do all our shopping, medical, schools, work. The Commission has confirmed by electronic data that we spend most of our money in Palmerston North rather than Levin. If there is a Regional Lockdown, we will need to be attached to PNCC not HDC.

Question 3: Is the suggested southern boundary at Kingston Road and part of Okuku Road in the right place?

Yes.

Why:

Because public opinion decided this.

Question 4:

What territorial local authority is best able to represent Opiki and Tokomaru residents and property owners?

Palmerston North City Council.

Why?

Because they have a greater rating base and can provide better governance and infrastructure.

Question 5:

What services do you want to receive from local government?

Better governance, infrastructure, footpaths, lights, public transport.

Question 6:

Are you satisfied with how your council uses the revenue that it gets from rates, fees and user charges.

No. The rates-take from Tokomaru and Opiki far outweigh the services and upgrades provided in these localities. I am told that Opiki is the highest-rated land base in NZ. Farming, irrespective of climate change pushback, is still the primary industry.

I have provided the Commission with substantive reasons why the Boundary Change should proceed and the results of a contentious and biased process.

#137

COMPLETE

Collector:

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Q1

Do you support the requested boundary alteration?

Yes,

Why?:

I have known people in Tokomaru area since I was at university. Back in the '80s, even, a colleague was quite clear that even as a child he and his school-friends identified with Palmerston North as the orientation for their prospects and future study, and eventual work.

Q2

Do you feel more connected with Palmerston North or the Horowhenua, including Shannon and Levin?

Palmerston North,

Why?:

It is seen as a far easier focus for shopping, travel arrangement, and extended matters to do with postage, domestic & business. I.e., setting up a P.O. Box is seen as more natural and convenient if it is placed in PN.

Q3

Is the suggested southern boundary at Kingston Road, and part of Okuku Road, in the right place?

Yes,

Why?:

It would seem so. At the placement 3 Km north of Shannon, seems a logical pick considering lay of the land and communicating roads.

Q4

Which territorial authority is best able to represent Opiki and Tokomaru residents and property owners?

Palmerston North City Council,

Why?:

In terms of human geography, most farming is serviced and supplies to PN area, or so my colleague informs me.

Q5

What services do you want to receive from local government?

Those of: road, drainage, curb-care management, postage.

Q6

Are you satisfied with how your council uses the revenue it gets from rates, fees and user charges?

No,

Why:

The squeaky wheels in the more southern part of Horowhenua tend to get the oil. Costs here are viewed minimally; which is probably a gain rather than a burden for PNCC, nest-pas?

Q7

What is your name?

A MOORE

Q8

Where do you live?

[REDACTED]

Q9

What is your email address?

[REDACTED]

Q10

No

Do you wish to speak about your submission at a Commission hearing?

Q11

Respondent skipped this question

If you wish to speak at a Commission hearing, please provide a contact phone number.

#138

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Q1

Do you support the requested boundary alteration?

Yes,

Why?:

On balance the Tokomaru community is far more connected to Palmerston North than Levin. It would be easier to visit the council in PN as I work there although rumours suggest the Horowhenua council building service is apparently easier to deal with.

Q2

Do you feel more connected with Palmerston North or the Horowhenua, including Shannon and Levin?

Palmerston North,

Why?:

We work there, shop there and go to church there. Tokomaru and Opiki are the only Horowhenua based schools in a mainly Palmerston North based cluster of schools. Our boys went to Tokomaru school and then to secondary school in Palmerston North.

Q3

Is the suggested southern boundary at Kingston Road, and part of Okuku Road, in the right place?

No,

Why?:

Seems very close to Shannon which is definitely Horowhenua. Secondary school bus only goes to Palmerston North from Kaihinau Rd. Perhaps Opiki / Makerua Rd junction is better place.

Q4

Which territorial authority is best able to represent Opiki and Tokomaru residents and property owners?

Horowhenua District Council,

Why?:

Debatable - neither is likely to pay much attention to an outlying area. The apparent reduction in rates when moving to PN is unlikely to be maintained in medium term.

Q5

What services do you want to receive from local government?

Basic infrastructure e.g. good roads

Fast sensible issuing and monitoring of resource consents.

Seeking your feedback on a request for Opiki and Tokomaru to become part of Palmerston North City

Q6

Are you satisfied with how your council uses the revenue it gets from rates, fees and user charges?

No,

Why:

The council has too many responsibilities and does not seem to have the finances to do anything well.

Q7

What is your name?

Tony Mackereth

Q8

Where do you live?

[REDACTED]

Q9

What is your email adress?

[REDACTED]

Q10

Do you wish to speak about your submission at a Commission hearing?

No

Q11

If you wish to speak at a Commission hearing, please provide a contact phone number.

Respondent skipped this question

#139

COMPLETE

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Q1

Do you support the requested boundary alteration?

No,

Why?:

At this stage of the process - no I don't support the requested boundary alteration. There are several reasons for my response:- (1) Local Body Councils should be looking for more visionary solution - a 30 yr plan should be seeking the potential amalgamation of several Councils (being PNCC, Manawatu District Council, Horowhenua District Council) the reduction of overall costs would have a sound financial impact. One Council - one cost. Its called efficiency. All 3 Councils are dealing with very similar issues - Nature Calls, Infrastructure, Roothing, Housing, Development, Economic benefits, growing populations, transport, rail links etc. Instead of attempting to carve off small sections from Council to Council with a huge cost to ratepayers - think about the bigger picture, the bigger economic impact, the sustainable environmental issues, embracing new business, the transport linkages. (2) PNCC need to concentrate on the biggest financial implication of Nature Calls and get this 'right' rather than waste resources on a small boundary alteration. Nature Calls is a major issue which affects all ratepayers and particularly the rural sectors, horticulture and manufacturing sectors. (3) To remove valuable ratepayers through a boundary alteration from Horowhenua District Council at this stage is a 'kick in the guts' for a growing area and the gateway with the new expressway. All Councils want to see growth in economies and businesses, in populations and in opportunities - removing existing ratepayers from the equation is just not a sensible step to take (4) The restructuring of the RMA will have a heavy impact on Councils across the country and in light of the 'housing shortage' and the RMA changes - local body need to set this as a priority way before changing boundaries

Q2

Do you feel more connected with Palmerston North or the Horowhenua, including Shannon and Levin?

Palmerston North,

Why?:

Difficult question - as we do business in Palmerston North, Horowhenua, Shannon and Levin - so we have connections with all regions and small towns. They all have unique businesses and offer a variety of services and products, they are all within good travelling distances. We also do business in Feilding, Rongotea and Ashhurst - as well as outside of the region.

Q3

Is the suggested southern boundary at Kingston Road, and part of Okuku Road, in the right place?

No,

Why?:

I don't think there has been much thought gone into the location of southern boundary - more consultation.

Q4

Which territorial authority is best able to represent Opiki and Tokomaru residents and property owners?

Horowhenua District Council,

Why?:

At this stage I believe HDC have planned financially for the above residents and property owners - they have representatives at the Council Table and are very connected with the issues in both areas. HDC is in a growth mode and is a very desirable location for business and residential opportunities.

Q5

What services do you want to receive from local government?

It is important that if you offer one ratepayer a service then you have to offer all ratepayers the same. Recycling is one example - this service is not offered or available for all PNCC ratepayers but are charged on their rates for it - so how will this be any different with a basically rural ratepayer group. if you are charged on your rates for a particular service and you do not receive that service - should the ratepayer be charged??\

Rubbish collection is another item that is not available even though we pay PNCC rates - we privately pay for a company to collect our rubbish - is that equity or fair for all ratepayers?

It is difficult to make a wish list - as these all have a reflection on rates.

Q6

Are you satisfied with how your council uses the revenue it gets from rates, fees and user charges?

No,

Why:

There have been in the past a lot of 'undisclosed' or 'secretive' deals that the PNCC have done behind closed doors and transparency of information has been questioned. The most recent increase in a project of \$1.4m (with one tender for the project) is just not acceptable and not the way to run a business. Every year rates increase - there needs to be some questions asked 'is this a want or a need' when making annual plans and budgeting forecasts.

Q7

Respondent skipped this question

What is your name?

Q8

Respondent skipped this question

Where do you live?

Q9

Respondent skipped this question

What is your email adress?

Q10

No

Do you wish to speak about your submission at a Commission hearing?

Q11

Respondent skipped this question

If you wish to speak at a Commission hearing, please provide a contact phone number.

#140

COMPLETE

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Q1

Yes

Do you support the requested boundary alteration?

Q2

Palmerston North

Do you feel more connected with Palmerston North or the Horowhenua, including Shannon and Levin?

Q3

Yes

Is the suggested southern boundary at Kingston Road, and part of Okuku Road, in the right place?

Q4

Palmerston North City Council

Which territorial authority is best able to represent Opiki and Tokomaru residents and property owners?

Q5

What services do you want to receive from local government?

Apart from the obvious usual services ratepayers have a right to, a commitment to improvements and willingness to listen and hear residents concerns would be appreciated

Q6

Are you satisfied with how your council uses the revenue it gets from rates, fees and user charges?

No,
Why:

I have owned a home in Tokomaru for over 3 years and have visited Levin a total of 3 times in that time, yet I am in Palmerston North daily. I don't feel that Tokomaru is considered and appreciated as part of the Horowhenua council, the mayors comments leading up to this submission have made it clear that concerns have not been listened to. A basic example of rates not being used satisfactorily is in the lack of footpaths in our community and road safety concerns not always fixed in a timely manner

Q7

What is your name?

L Morris

Q8

Where do you live?

[REDACTED]

Q9

Respondent skipped this question

What is your email address?

Q10

No

Do you wish to speak about your submission at a Commission hearing?

Q11

Respondent skipped this question

If you wish to speak at a Commission hearing, please provide a contact phone number.

Submission Form

Closing date for submissions

7 April 2021

Submission 141

The Local Government Commission is seeking feedback on a request to transfer Opiki and Tokomaru from Horowhenua District into Palmerston North City. Your feedback is important to help inform decisions on next steps including, whether to proceed with a reorganisation plan.

How to send your submission

Online: surveymonkey.com/r/762DCMZ

Email: Complete this form and email a scanned copy to submissions@lgc.govt.nz

Post: The Local Government Commission, PO Box 5362, Wellington 6140

Your submission will be published on the Commission's website but without your contact details.

Your name:

Beryl Persson

Where you live:



Your email, residential or postal address:



Do you wish to speak at a Commission hearing:



Yes



No

If yes, please provide a contact phone number:

QUESTION 1: Do you support the requested boundary alteration?



Yes



No

Why?

It is our place of more
business & work contact

QUESTION 2: Do you feel more connected with Palmerston North or the Horowhenua, including Shannon and Levin?



Palmerston North



Horowhenua

Why?

- Shop there
- attend church there
- use their library
- " " swimming complex
- used to work there - now retired for 30 yrs

- family life there
- plan to retire there

QUESTION 3: Is the suggested southern boundary at Kingston Road, and part of Okuku Road, in the right place? ☐ Yes ☐ No *No opinion*

Why?

QUESTION 4: Which territorial local authority is best able to represent Opiki and Tokomaru residents and property owners? ☐ Horowhenua District Council ☐ Palmerston North City Council

Why?

QUESTION 5: What services do you want to receive from local government?

*possibly rubbish collection,
but I'm not too worried - I've chosen to live in the
country and there are just less services here*

QUESTION 6: Are you satisfied with how your council uses the revenue that it gets from rates, fees and user charges? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Why? *very little seems to be spent in our local area*

Please tell us about anything further you would like the Commission to consider in its decision on the requested boundary alteration.

Submission Form

Closing date for submissions

7 April 2021

Submission 142

The Local Government Commission is seeking feedback on a request to transfer Opiki and Tokomaru from Horowhenua District into Palmerston North City. Your feedback is important to help inform decisions on next steps including, whether to proceed with a reorganisation plan.

How to send your submission

Online: surveymonkey.com/r/762DCMZ

Email: Complete this form and email a scanned copy to submissions@lgc.govt.nz

Post: The Local Government Commission, PO Box 5362, Wellington 6140

Your submission will be published on the Commission's website but without your contact details.

Your name:

HUGH MOLETA.

Where you live:



Your email, residential or postal address:



Do you wish to speak at a Commission hearing:



Yes



No

If possible.

If yes, please provide a contact phone number:



QUESTION 1: Do you support the requested boundary alteration? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Why?

OWN PROPERTY

OPIKI,

LIVED IN OPIKI 65 YEARS, HAD VIRTUALLY NO ASSOCIATION WITH LEVIN AT ALL, NEVER USED ANY H.D.C. SERVICES OTHER THAN DUMP (USER PAYS). ALL BUSINESS DONE IN PALMERSTON NTH

QUESTION 2: Do you feel more connected with Palmerston North or the Horowhenua, including Shannon and Levin? ☒ Palmerston North ☐ Horowhenua

Why?

ON PALM NTH TELEPHONE EXCHANGE,

SHANNON + LEVIN A TOLL CALL.

MAIL DELIVERY FROM PALM NTH.

ALL SERVICES (TRADESMEN ETC) COME FROM PALM NTH.
ALL ENTERTAINMENT (MOVIES, SPORTS ETC) IN PALM NTH.
ALL SECONDARY SCHOOLING IN PALM NTH.

QUESTION 3: Is the suggested southern boundary at Kingston Road, and part of Okuku Road, in the right place? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Why? LEAVE COMMENT TO THOSE ON BOUNDARY.

QUESTION 4: Which territorial local authority is best able to represent Opiki and Tokomaru residents and property owners? ☐ Horowhenua District Council ☒ Palmerston North City Council

Why? CLOSER FOR A START.
15KMS (10 mins) TO P.NTH.
30 KMS (25 mins) TO LEVIN.

QUESTION 5: What services do you want to receive from local government?

ACCESS TO SERVICES
LIBRARY SWIMMING POOL ETC
ROADS MAINTAINED.

QUESTION 6: Are you satisfied with how your council uses the revenue that it gets from rates, fees and user charges? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Why? RATING SYSTEM IN H.D.C. LAND BASED.
RURAL AREAS OVERCHARGED COMPARED TO
LEVIN + FOXTON WHERE MOST SERVICES PROVIDED.

Please tell us about anything further you would like the Commission to consider in its decision on the requested boundary alteration.

SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL BENEFIT (ESPECIALLY RURAL)
TO BE PART OF P.N.C.C.

Submission Form

Closing date for submissions

7 April 2021

Submission 143

The Local Government Commission is seeking feedback on a request to transfer Opiki and Tokomaru from Horowhenua District into Palmerston North City. Your feedback is important to help inform decisions on next steps including, whether to proceed with a reorganisation plan.

How to send your submission

Online: surveymonkey.com/r/762DCMZ

Email: Complete this form and email a scanned copy to submissions@lgc.govt.nz

Post: The Local Government Commission, PO Box 5362, Wellington 6140

Your submission will be published on the Commission's website but without your contact details.

Your name:

Duncan Campbell

Where you live:



Your email, residential or postal address:



Do you wish to speak at a Commission hearing:



Yes



No

If yes, please provide a contact phone number:

QUESTION 1: Do you support the requested boundary alteration? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Why? I believe that remaining in Horowhenua is best for Opiki & Tokomaru.

When the boundary change meeting was held in 2018 Horowhenua had a very dysfunctional council. Since last Local Body election the new council is very positive and well lead.

QUESTION 2: Do you feel more connected with Palmerston North or the Horowhenua, including Shannon and Levin? ☐ Palmerston North ☐ Horowhenua

Why?

Neither. All the businesses our farming operation relies on are based in Feilding

QUESTION 3: Is the suggested southern boundary at Kingston Road, and part of Okuku Road, in the right place? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Why?



QUESTION 4: Which territorial local authority is best able to represent Opiki and Tokomaru residents and property owners? ☒ Horowhenua District Council ☐ Palmerston North City Council

Why?

Horowhenua has a greater mix of rural and urban rate payers

QUESTION 5: What services do you want to receive from local government?

road maintenance

QUESTION 6: Are you satisfied with how your council uses the revenue that it gets from rates, fees and user charges? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Why?

Please tell us about anything further you would like the Commission to consider in its decision on the requested boundary alteration.



Submission Form

Closing date for submissions

7 April 2021

Submission 144

The Local Government Commission is seeking feedback on a request to transfer Opiki and Tokomaru from Horowhenua District into Palmerston North City. Your feedback is important to help inform decisions on next steps including, whether to proceed with a reorganisation plan.

How to send your submission

Online: surveymonkey.com/r/762DCMZ

Email: Complete this PDF form or scan a hardcopy and email to submissions@lgc.govt.nz

Post: The Local Government Commission, PO Box 5362, Wellington 6140

Your submission will be published on the Commission's website but without your contact details.

Your name:

G. CLARIDGE

Where you live:



Your email, residential or postal address:



Do you wish to speak at a Commission hearing:



Yes



No

If yes, please provide a contact phone number:

QUESTION 1: Do you support the requested boundary alteration? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Why? ECONOMY OF SCALE - LONG TERM LEVIN NEEDS TO BE ABSORBED BY KAPITI, THE THINKING OF SOME HOC COUNCILLORS AND PAID STAFF TOWARDS DEBT CURRENT AND PROPOSED IS SHOCKING. IT SHOWS LACK OF ACUMEN IN BUSINESS AND HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR ^{TOO} LONG. HOC SHOULD BE WARY OF DEVELOPMENT FUNDING. HOC IN 2006 TRIED THIS BEFORE, STARTING

QUESTION 2: Do you feel more connected with Palmerston North or the Horowhenua, including Shannon and Levin? ☒ Palmerston North ☒ Horowhenua

Why? AT APPROX 4000-60 / HOUSE RISING TO APPROX 20000-60 PER HOUSE. ONE RESULT WAS BUILDING IN LEVIN GROUND TO A HALT. BUILDERS OUT OF WORK. DEVELOPMENT FUNDING WAS WITHDRAWN IN 2015 FROM THE PLAYLIST - TOO LITTLE TOO LATE TO AVOID THE PAIN THAT IT HAD HELPED CAUSE. I AM HOPING THAT THE FIGURES AND DATES I HAVE QUOTED ARE SOMEWHERE NEAR THE
TTO ↓

QUESTION 3: Is the suggested southern boundary at Kingston Road, and part of Okuku Road, in the right place? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Why? No / South boundary would be better at Kara Stream / Less cutting of farms in half and no shared road maintenance on Okuku and Kingston Roads.

QUESTION 4: Which territorial local authority is best able to represent Opiki and Tokomaru residents and property owners? ☐ Horowhenua District Council ☒ Palmerston North City Council

Why? My farm business sources almost all inputs and services from PN City for feeding. Bigger better selection and expertise to call on for advice and as a family the above for three generations.

QUESTION 5: What services do you want to receive from local government?

No1 Supply of high quality water and quality disposal of waste water for cities and places like Tokomaru.

No2 Responsible fiscal management.

QUESTION 6: Are you satisfied with how your council uses the revenue that it gets from rates, fees and user charges? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Why? WASTAGE OF FUNDS. ONE EXAMPLE IS COMPULSORY 80 KPH SIGNS ON ALL LOCAL ROADS.

I THOUGHT YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO DRIVE TO THE CONDITIONS.

Please tell us about anything further you would like the Commission to consider in its decision on the requested boundary alteration.

ACTUAL. THE COMMISSION COULD CHECK THIS AND WHILE THERE ARE AT A LITTLE CHAT TO THE AUDIT DEPT ABOUT DEBT LEVELS OF HOD WITHOUT GO AWAY EITHER. WHO FORSAW IN USA NOT THAT LONG AND THE FORCLOSURES AND BUISE PRICES FALLING BY $\frac{2}{3}$ DURING A FINANCIAL CRISIS.

Submission Form

Submission 145

Closing date for submissions
7 April 2021

The Local Government Commission is seeking feedback on a request to transfer Opiki and Tokomaru from Horowhenua District into Palmerston North City. Your feedback is important to help inform decisions on next steps including, whether to proceed with a reorganisation plan.

Online: surveymonkey.com/r/762DCMZ

Email: Complete this PDF form, save to your device or PC and email to submissions@lgc.govt.nz

Post: The Local Government Commission, PO Box 5362, Wellington 6140

Your submission will be published on the Commission's website but without your contact details.

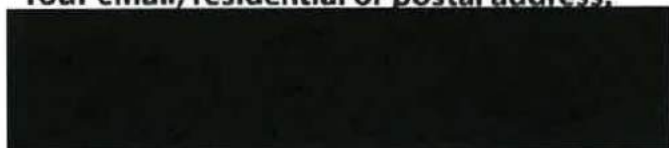
Your name:

P4C NOARO

Where you live:



Your email, residential or postal address:



Please indicate if you wish to speak at a Commission hearing:

☒ Yes

☐ No

If yes, please provide a contact phone number

N/A

Question 1:

Do you support the requested boundary alteration?



Yes



No

Why?

Question 2:

Do you feel more connected with Palmerston North or the Horowhenua, including Shannon and Levin?

☒ Palmerston North ☐ Horowhenua

Why?

for groceries etc
we shop in P.Nth &
our farm requirements are
purchased in P.Nth ie
tractors, Trucks, implements,
etc. Also Doctors Dentists etc

Question 3:

Is the suggested southern boundary at Kingston Road, and part of Okuku Road, in the right place?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Why?

Question 4:

Which territorial local authority is best able to represent Opiki and Tokomaru residents and property owners?

☐ Horowhenua District Council
☒ Palmerston North City Council

Why?

Question 5:

What services do you want to receive from local government?

? Roading
maintenance.

Question 6:

Are you satisfied with how your council uses the revenue that it gets from rates, fees and user charges?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Why?

We have no services
at all from Horowhenua
District Council

Please tell us about anything further you would like the Commission to consider in its decision on the requested boundary alteration.