



# Local Government Commission

Mana Kāwanatanga ā Rohe

Bernie Wanden  
Mayor - Horowhenua District Council  
[mayor@horowhenua.govt.nz](mailto:mayor@horowhenua.govt.nz)

## Local Government Commission

Māna Kāwanatanga ā Rohe

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28 May 2021

Dear Mayor Wanden

### **Outcome of investigation into the request to alter the boundary of Horowhenua District**

The Commission has decided to not adopt a reorganisation plan for Opiki and Tokomaru to join Palmerston North City and to complete our investigation into the related request for a boundary alteration.

We reached these decisions because our investigation identified that the requested alteration would not meet the range of criteria that must be considered under clause 12(2) of Schedule 3 of the Local Government Act 2002. A copy of our decision is enclosed.

Our investigation identified a need for Opiki and Tokomaru residents to be provided with clear and timely information about what assets and services are planned and provided by the Horowhenua District Council and how they are funded. We also identified an opportunity for the Horowhenua District Council and Palmerston North City Council to work together to explore ways to enhance local government services in Opiki and Tokomaru.

We agreed, pursuant to clause 9(1) of Schedule 3 of the Local Government Act 2002, to recommend that the Horowhenua District Council provides clearer information to residents on its assets and services in Opiki and Tokomaru and how these are funded. We also agreed to recommend that both Councils work together to explore ways to enhance local government services in Opiki and Tokomaru.

We are interested in your Council's response to these recommendations and wish to receive updates by 30 November 2021 and 31 May 2022. Please provide the updates to the Commission's Chief Executive, Penny Langley ([penny.langley@dia.govt.nz](mailto:penny.langley@dia.govt.nz)).

Any questions about the Commission's decision on the requested boundary alteration and its related recommendations should also be directed to Ms Langley.

Yours sincerely



**Sue Piper**  
Lead Commissioner

Encl.      Decision on adopting a reorganisation plan for a boundary alteration between  
Horowhenua District and Palmerston North City

Copy:      David Clapperton, Chief Executive, Horowhenua District Council,  
[davidc@horowhenua.govt.nz](mailto:davidc@horowhenua.govt.nz)

Sue Hori Te Pa, Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive and Mayor  
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