

I hereby give notice that an ordinary meeting of the Howick Local Board will be held on:

Date: Thursday, 21 March 2024
Time: 12.00pm
Meeting Room: Howick Local Board Meeting Room
Venue: Pakuranga Library Complex
7 Aylesbury Street
Pakuranga

Howick Local Board

OPEN AGENDA

MEMBERSHIP

Chairperson	Damian Light
Deputy Chairperson	Bo Burns
Members	Katrina Bungard
	David Collings
	Bruce Kendall
	John Spiller
	Mike Turinsky
	Adele White
	Peter Young, JP

(Quorum 5 members)

Matt Fletcher
Democracy Advisor

15 March 2024

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Representation project – issues specific to the Howick Local Board

File No.: CP2024/02083

Item 19

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose of the report

1. To provide feedback on representation project issues that are specific to the Howick Local Board.

Whakarāpopototanga matua

Executive summary

2. The representation project comprises the review of representation arrangements for the 2025 elections, which the council is required to undertake, and the development of a reorganisation plan that reduces the number of local boards.
3. A report on both these matters is being presented to all local boards and is on the same agenda as this report.
4. This report deals only with those matters that are specific to the Howick Local Board. The key issue is the non-compliance of subdivisions with the 10 percent rule which applies to a representation review. This report presents alternative options to correcting the non-compliance.
5. At a recent workshop local board members noted that the name of the local board is identical to the name of one of its subdivisions. This report provides the opportunity for the board to convey a proposal for an alternative name if that is its wish.

Ngā tūtohunga

Recommendation/s

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) Receive the update on the result of public consultation on the matters that are discussed in this report.
- b) Provide feedback on which option it prefers for addressing the non-compliance of the Botany subdivision with the 10 percent rule.
- c) Provide feedback on its preference, if any, for changing the name of the Howick Local Board.

Horopaki

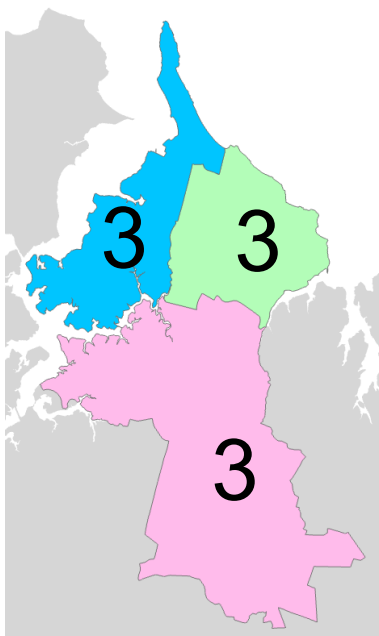
Context

6. One issue raised in this report relates to the review of representation arrangements for the Howick Local Board for the 2025 elections..
7. The Local Electoral Act 2001 requires that subdivisions provide for effective representation of communities of interest and that they also comply with the rule that the population per member within a subdivision does not vary from the average population per member for the whole local board by more than 10 percent.

8. A council may decide to not comply with the requirement for population per member to not vary by more than 10 percent from the average, if complying would compromise effective representation of communities of interest by:
 - dividing a community of interest or
 - joining communities with few commonalities of interest.
9. A decision to not comply is referred to the Local Government Commission for their determination.
10. The population table for subdivisions in the Howick Local Board is as follows:

Local board	Pop (2023)	Mbrs	Pop per mbr	Diff from quota	% diff
Howick Local Board Area					
Pakuranga Subdivision	43,100	3	14,367	-3,144	-17.96
Howick Subdivision	44,000	3	14,667	-2,844	-16.24
Botany Subdivision	70,500	3	23,500	5,989	34.20
Total	157,600	9	17,511		

11. The statistics are a 2023 estimate of residential population that is based on the 2018 census. The Botany Subdivision varies from the average (“quota”) by 34.20%, being under-represented (the subdivision needs less population).
12. There is an excess of 5,989 population per member in the Botany subdivision, being an excess of 17,967 population over three members. That is a significant number to transfer out of the Botany subdivision to bring the percentage difference from the quota to zero. A total of around 12,500 would need to transfer out of Botany to bring the percentage difference from quota down to 10 percent.
13. A map of current subdivisions is as follows:



Tātaritanga me ngā tohutohu Analysis and advice

14. In order to address non-compliance, the Botany subdivision needs to lose population by extending the Howick or Pakuranga subdivisions into the Botany subdivision. Alternatively it might achieve compliance by adding members, which reduces the ratio of population per member within the subdivision.

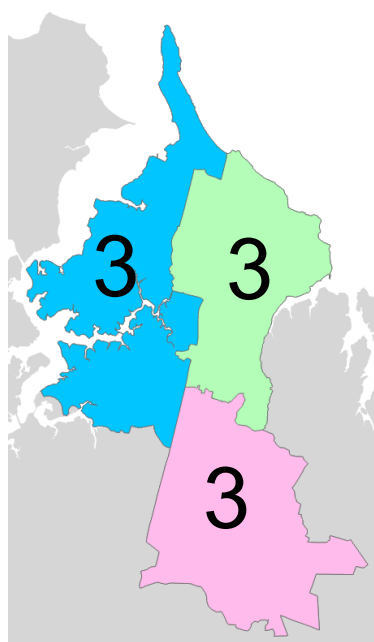
Option 1 – add two members to the Botany subdivision

15. If two members are added to the Botany subdivision, without any boundary changes, the subdivision complies. The population table is as follows:

Subdivision	Pop (2023)	Mbrs	Pop per mbr	Diff from Quota	% diff
Pakuranga	43,100	3	14,367	39	0.27
Howick	44,000	3	14,667	339	2.37
Botany	70,500	5	14,100	-227	-1.59
Total	157,600	11	14,327		

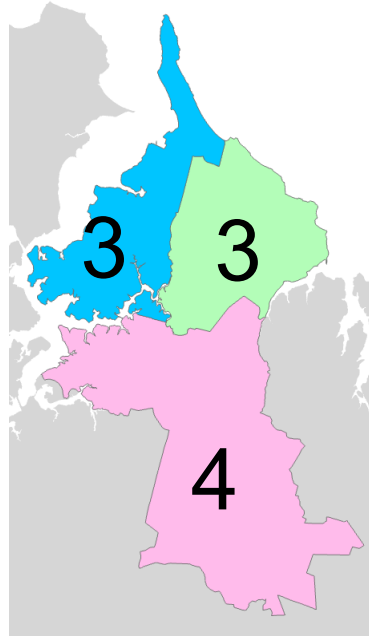
Option 2 – shrink the Botany subdivision boundaries

16. This retains 9 members but adjusts boundaries to address non-compliance. There are a number of ways that changes could be made to the Pakuranga and Howick subdivisions. The following map illustrates the degree of change that would be required. The Howick subdivision extends past the Botany Town Centre and the Pakuranga subdivision extends to the Howick Local Board southern boundary west of Te Irirangi Road.



Option 3 – combination: increase members and adjust boundaries

17. This increases the number of members by only one and makes a smaller adjustment to boundaries. The Pakuranga subdivision is extended to take in Burswood. The Howick subdivision is extended at its southern-most point to Ti Rakau Drive.

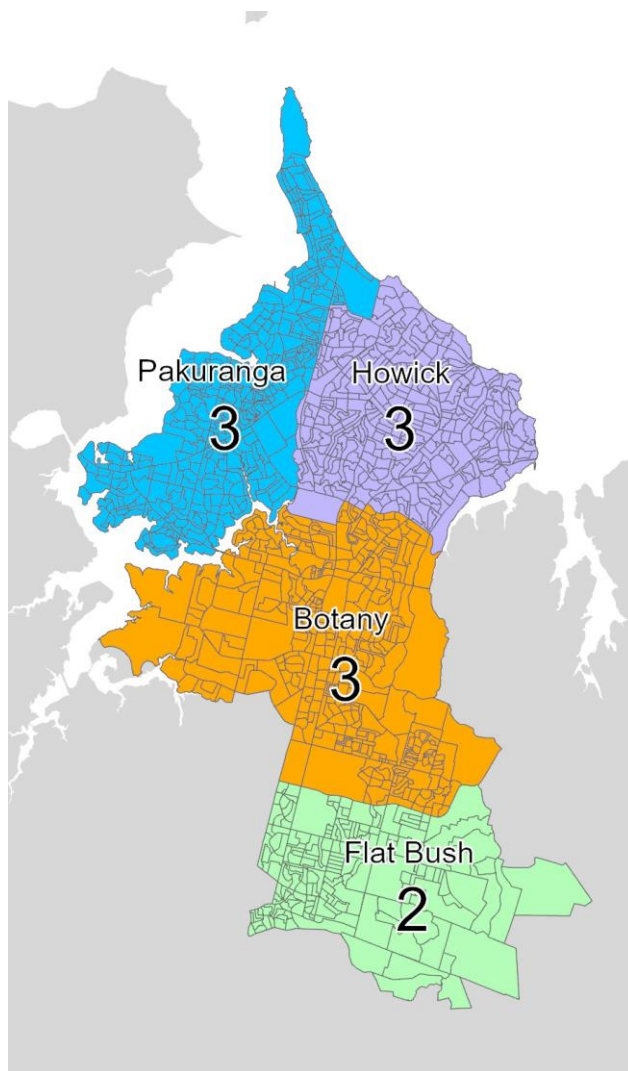


Option 4 – add members and split the Botany subdivision

18. This option increases the number of members in the current Botany subdivision to five members, as for Option 1, and splits the subdivision into two separate subdivisions – a smaller Botany subdivision with a Flatbush subdivision to its south. With five members total there are two sub-options:
- (i) Option 4a: Botany has 3 members and Flatbush has 2 members
 - (ii) Option 4b: Botany has 2 members and Flatbush has 3 members

Option 4a – Botany with three members and Flatbush with two members

19. The following map illustrates this option:



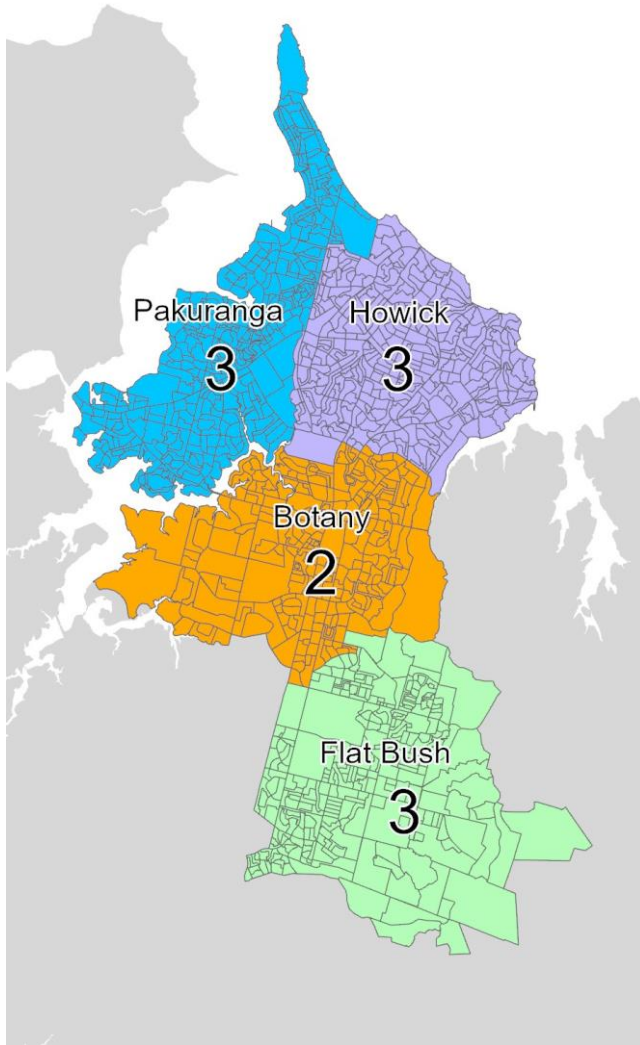
20. The population table is:

Subdivision	Pop (2023)	Mbrs	Pop per mbr	Diff from Quota	% diff
Pakuranga	43,100	3	14,367	39	0.27
Howick	44,000	3	14,667	339	2.37
Botany	41,790	3	13,930	-397	-2.77
Flat Bush	28,710	2	14,355	28	0.19
Total	157,600	11	14,327		

Option 4b – Botany with two members and Flatbush with three members

21. The following map illustrates this option:

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22. The population table is:

Subdivision	Pop (2023)	Mbrs	Pop per mbr	Diff from Quota	% diff
Pakuranga	43,100	3	14,367	39	0.27
Howick	44,000	3	14,667	339	2.37
Botany	27,840	2	13,920	-407	-2.84
Flat Bush	42,660	3	14,220	-107	0.75
Total	157,600	11	14,327		

Effective representation of communities of interest

23. Each of the options addresses the non-compliance of the Botany subdivision with the 10 percent rule. The board needs to consider which option best provides for effective representation of communities of interest. It is important to note that it is not just a matter of identifying communities of interest but determining effective representation of communities of interest.

24. The Local Government Commission has published guidance on the concept of “community of interest”. Essentially a community of interest has three dimensions:
- (i) A perceptual dimension – do people feel they belong to the area?
 - (ii) A functional dimension – do people use the services in the area?
 - (iii) A political dimension – will people in the area, and their needs and issues, be effectively represented at the decision-making table if representatives are elected by electors of this subdivision?
- 25.
26. There has been considerable population growth in the Botany subdivision, compared to Howick and Pakuranga, since inception in 2010. The population table when the local board was established in 2010 was as follows:

Subdivision	Pop (2010)	Mbrs	% diff
Pakuranga	41,900	3	-1.9
Howick	42,700	3	-0.1
Botany	43,600	3	2.0
Total	128,100	9	

27. At its workshop the board carefully considered the options of expanding the Howick and Pakuranga subdivisions without increasing the number of members. Members expressed concern that any proposed new boundaries for Pakuranga and Howick would compromise the communities of interest associated with those subdivisions. Boundaries would extend to areas where residents would likely not identify with Howick or Pakuranga.
28. Given the growth in population in the Botany subdivision members considered that effective representation of communities of interest would be better achieved by increasing the number of members. They also considered that the Botany area to the north of the subdivision and the Flatbush area to the south of the subdivision would be enhanced by having separate representation. In terms of the Local Government Commission guide – residents in these areas would identify with those areas and would have different interests that would benefit from separate representation at the decision-making table.
29. The Howick Local Board has been consulting with the public on the options relating to increasing the number of members and the results of the consultation will be provided to the board prior to the meeting.

Name of the Howick Local Board

30. At a recent workshop local board members noted that the name of the local board is identical to the name of one of its subdivisions. The board might wish to recommend a name change. This has also been the subject of consultation.

Tauāki whakaaweawe āhuarangi Climate impact statement

31. The options being considered in relation to the representation review do not impact on climate.

Ngā whakaaweawe me ngā tirohanga a te rōpū Kaunihera Council group impacts and views

32. There is no impact on the council group.

Ngā whakaaweawe ā-rohe me ngā tirohanga a te poari ā-rohe Local impacts and local board views

33. This report provides an opportunity for the board to provide feedback to the Joint Governance Working Party and the Governing Body on issues relating to the representation review.

Tauākī whakaaweawe Māori Māori impact statement

34. The issues being considered largely do not impact on Māori differently to other members of the community. It is noted that the board might consider a name change and that the original name applied to the local board by the Local Government Commission was Te Irirangi. This was overturned by Parliament.

Ngā ritenga ā-pūtea Financial implications

35. There will be costs associated with LINZ producing official maps of boundary changes. For the 2019 review this was around \$12,000 total for all changes. These costs are met by the representation project.

Ngā raru tūpono me ngā whakamaurutanga Risks and mitigations

36. There is the risk that the Governing Body's final proposal will be appealed to the Local Government Commission, in which case the Commission will make final decisions after receiving submissions.

Ngā koringa ā-muri Next steps

37. The board's feedback will be reported to the Joint Governance Working Party and then to the Governing Body.

Ngā tāpirihanga Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

Ngā kaihaina Signatories

Author	Warwick McNaughton - Principal Advisor
Authoriser	Victoria Villaraza - Local Area Manager

Howick Local Board

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Howick Local Board held in the Howick Local Board Meeting Room, Pakuranga Library Complex, 7 Aylesbury Street, Pakuranga on Thursday, 21 March 2024 at 12.01pm.

TE HUNGA KUA TAE MAI | PRESENT

Chairperson	Damian Light	
Deputy Chairperson	Bo Burns	Via electronic link until 3.07pm
Members	Katrina Bungard	Via electronic link until 12.59pm
	David Collings	Until 3.02pm
	John Spiller	
	Mike Turinsky	
	Adele White	
	Peter Young, JP	

TE HUNGA KĀORE I TAE MAI | ABSENT

Member	Bruce Kendall
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19 Representation project – issues specific to the Howick Local Board

Resolution number HW/2024/24

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member A White:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **note the complexity of elected representatives providing feedback on the system that has elected them. While efforts have been made to consult with members of the public, it is a complex issue and not everyone understands the role of the Local Board.**
- b) **receive the update on the result of public consultation on the matters that are discussed in this report, as tabled in the final minutes under Attachment A, and:**
 - i) **acknowledge and thank members of the public who provided feedback during the informal engagement period, in particular the Flat Bush Ratepayers and Residents Association who co-hosted a public meeting.**
 - ii) **acknowledge and thank staff for their efforts to provide an opportunity to gain informal feedback into this important discussion in a limited timeframe.**
- c) **provide the following feedback to address the non-compliance of the Botany subdivision with the 10 percent rule. The Board:**
 - i) **note that Flat Bush is a significant community of interest that deserves recognition and representation. Its recent and rapid growth has created different challenges and opportunities to the more established area of Botany.**
 - ii) **do not support Option 1 (add two members to the Botany subdivision)**
 - A) **this had limited support from the public.**
 - B) **this does not address the communities of interest that exist in Flat Bush.**
 - C) **may create a risk of one subdivision having significantly more influence than others.**
 - iii) **do not support Option 2 (shrink the Botany subdivision boundaries)**
 - A) **this does not address the communities of interest that exist in Flat Bush.**
 - B) **this would effectively eliminate the Botany community of interest and have a negative impact on their representation.**
 - iv) **do not support Option 3 (combination increase members and adjust boundaries)**
 - A) **this does not address the communities of interest that exist in Flat Bush**
 - B) **this would have a negative impact on the communities of interest within Botany.**
 - v) **do not support option 4a (Botany with three members and a new subdivision for Flat Bush with two members).**
 - A) **strong support from the public, especially those in the Botany area.**
 - B) **recognise the new and established communities of interest within the Flat Bush area.**
 - C) **request staff explore an alternative boundary that doesn't divide the Ormiston community of interest through Ormiston Road.**
 - vi) **support option 4b (Botany with two members and a new subdivision for Flat Bush with three members).**
 - A) **strong support from the public, especially those in the Flat Bush area.**
 - B) **recognises the new and established communities of interest within the Flat Bush area.**
 - C) **does not split Ormiston community of interest through Ormiston Road.**
- d) **provide the following feedback for changing the name of the Howick Local Board. The Board:**
 - i) **note the long historical connection of the Howick name with the local area.**

- ii) note that there is confusion within the community in regard to the Local Board area due to the connection to the town centre and subdivision of the same name.
- iii) note that the name Howick was supported through numerous public petitions in 2010, although the population has grown by nearly 30,000 residents (23 per cent increase) with changing demographics.
- iv) note that changing the name of the Howick Local Board will incur considerable costs
- v) do not support a change of name at this time but will continue to consider options and engage with the public on the possibility.

CARRIED

Warwick McNaughton – Principal Advisor Governance was in attendance virtually to speak to this item.

Attachments

- A 21 March 2024, Howick Local Board: Representation project – issues specific to the Howick Local Board - Representation Project Consultation Memo