

Review of representation arrangements for the 2025 elections - initial proposal

File No.: CP2024/04609

Item 10

Te take mō te pūrongo Purpose of the report

1. To:
 - i) resolve the council's initial proposal for representation arrangements for the 2025 elections
 - ii) agree the process for hearing submissions on the initial proposal
 - iii) agree the content of the consultation documents on the regional structure of local boards.

Whakarāpopototanga matua Executive summary

2. Auckland Council's representation arrangements must be reviewed this year. The outcome will apply at the 2025 elections and the 2028 elections (unless the council chooses to conduct another review for the 2028 elections).
3. The process in the Local Electoral Act 2001 (the Act) requires the council to make its initial proposal, by resolution, which is then publicly notified for submissions. After considering submissions, the council resolves its final proposal, which is also publicly notified, with any appeals, objections and proposals that do not comply with the 10 per cent rule, being forwarded to the Local Government Commission to make the final decision.
4. The council must publicly notify its initial proposal within two weeks of making the resolution and has eight weeks following the close of submissions to publicly notify its final proposal. Within those eight weeks, the council must hear submitters, consider submissions and resolve its final proposal. Local boards will be able to provide feedback.
5. Auckland Council has the most complex representation arrangements in New Zealand, with one governing body and twenty-one local boards. Because of the effect on both Governing Body and local board electoral arrangements, the Governing Body requested the Joint Governance Working Party ("Working Party"), which comprises both Governing Body and local board members, to develop recommendations for an initial proposal for consideration by the Governing Body.
6. The Working Party's recommendations for the council's initial proposal were reported to the Governing Body meeting on 30 May 2024. Following agreement in principle on the changes to be made, the council's draft initial proposal for representation arrangements for the 2025 local elections is attached as Attachment A.
7. The Governing Body meeting on 30 May 2024 also discussed recommendations for a local board reorganisation plan. The meeting decided to not consult on a specific local board model for 2025 but instead resolved *"to undertake, alongside the representation arrangements consultation for 2025 local elections, an initial public consultation process on the regional structure of local boards, ahead of a later public consultation on a full local board reorganisation proposal to implement for the 2028 local elections."* This report presents the consultation documents on the regional structure of local boards for agreement.

8. At its meeting on 26 September 2024 the Governing Body will consider all submissions and resolve its final proposal. The Act requires the council to provide every submitter a reasonable opportunity to be heard. This report recommends the Governing Body confirm the process for the hearing of submissions. The Governing Body previously resolved the Joint Governance Working Party would hear submissions. Other options could include the full Governing Body or a small committee of Governing Body members.

Ngā tūtohunga Recommendation/s

That the Governing Body:

Representation Review

- a) whai / adopt the Auckland Council's initial proposal for representation arrangements for the 2025 local elections in Attachment A of the agenda report, for public notification in accordance with the Local Electoral Act 2001
- b) whakaae / agree Part One of the supporting material (Attachment B of the agenda report) relating to the initial proposal for representation arrangements
- c) whakaae / agree Part One of the feedback form (Attachment C of the agenda report) containing the questions relating to the initial proposal for representation arrangements
- d) tautapa / delegate to the Joint Governance Working Party the responsibility and power under section 19M (3) of the Local Electoral Act 2001 to hear and consider oral submissions and make recommendations to the Governing Body on its initial proposal

Regional structure of local boards

- e) whakaae / agree Part Two of the supporting material (Attachment B of the agenda report) that supports the questions on the regional structure of local boards.
- f) whakaae / agree the questions feedback form (Attachment C of the agenda report) seeking public feedback on the regional structure of local boards:
 - i) Do you feel knowledgeable about what local boards are and what they do?
 - ii) Do you think council should review the current structure of local boards?
 - iii) If you think council should consider changing the local board structure, which geographic area do you think is best for a local board to represent? (3 options)
 - iv) Do you have any other feedback about how you and your community can be represented through local boards and the governing body?
- g) tautapa / delegate to the Chief Executive or nominee the ability to make minor changes to reflect the decisions of this meeting or to correct errors or improve presentation.

Horopaki Context

- 9. The full context for the representation review was reported to the Governing Body's meeting on 30 May 2024. This included the previous resolutions of the Governing Body and the legislative framework.
- 10. The Governing Body previously delegated to the Working Party the development of the council's initial proposal. Their recommendations were reported to the meeting on 30 May 2024. The Governing Body discussed these recommendations and resolved, in principle, the changes to be included in the initial proposal.

Previous engagement

11. Early engagement on the representation review initial proposal and a potential reorganisation of local boards took place during February and March 2024 as overseen by the Working Party. Early engagement included workshops with elected members and provided an opportunity to test initial thinking with mana whenua, mataawaka entities, advisory panels and a range of community organisations.
12. This engagement was intended to provide a sense of public views on potential changes to the governance structure. This was designed to be at a high level to inform ongoing discussions about communities of interest and what effective representation means to the community.
13. Feedback on retaining the current ward structure including rural representation was largely supportive. It was felt that wards were better able to ensure all parts of Auckland would be considered during regional decision-making, it would allow a local connection with members and would better enable diversity amongst Governing Body members.
14. Feedback on the need for rural and island representation as unique communities of interest was almost universally supported. It was felt that their needs would be overlooked or drowned out if they were merged with more populous urban areas.

People's Panel Survey

15. As part of the early engagement on the representation project, a People's Panel survey was conducted to provide a snapshot of community views about Auckland's governance model. The survey was circulated on 27 February to panel members with a goal of at least 1000 responses. 1227 received when it closed on 3 March.
16. Feedback showed that knowledge of local boards and the Governing Body is low. Only one in five respondents feel knowledgeable about their local board and the Governing Body (20 per cent and 18 per cent, respectively). This compares with three in five (58 per cent) who feel they are knowledgeable about the NZ Government.
17. Perceptions of local boards and the Governing Body are fairly low but those who are more knowledgeable about how decisions are made, are more likely to have favourable perceptions.
18. More respondents supported (42 per cent) than opposed (26 per cent) the proposal to reduce the number of local boards although a third were undecided.
19. Overall, 24 per cent felt that the existing ward structure works well but only 15 per cent supported councillors being elected regionally.
20. Data from this survey informed the May 2024 Governing Body report but for completeness, the full analysis of the survey is provided in Attachment D.

Tātaritanga me ngā tohutohu Analysis and advice

21. The initial proposal (Attachment A) reflects the following changes to current arrangements that were agreed in principle at the meeting of the Governing Body on 30 May 2024.

Ward boundary/representation changes

22. Governing Body arrangements include 20 councillors elected from current wards with the following changes (see Attachment A 'draft initial proposal' for maps):
 - i) all ward boundaries will be aligned with local board boundaries, including in the isthmus, except for the Eden Terrace area which is currently in the Waitemātā Local Board area and Albert-Eden-Puketāpapa ward and which will remain as such (to comply with the 10 per cent rule)

- ii) the boundary between the Albany and North Shore wards will move such that the Bayview area is included in the North Shore Ward and the boundary aligns with the local board boundary along Sunset Road
 - iii) where there is a minor boundary change for a local board the relevant ward boundary will be aligned with the new local board boundary unless stated otherwise.
23. These changes result in all wards complying with the 10 per cent rule except for the North Shore Ward which has a variance of -13.70 per cent. The decision to not comply is based on recognising the Sunset Road ridge as a historically strong community boundary. The variance could be made to comply with the 10 per cent rule by including all of Unsworth Heights in the North Shore Ward however this would join the Unsworth Heights community north of the Sunset Road ridge with communities south of the Sunset Road ridge, such communities currently being separated by the ridge. It would also lead to misalignment of the ward boundary with the local board boundary. The council is required to align ward boundaries with local board boundaries as far as is practicable.

Local Board representation changes

24. The current representation arrangements for local boards are retained except for the following changes (see the attached draft initial proposal for maps):
- i) the subdivisions in the Rodney Local Board will be:
 - A) North Rural, 2 members
 - B) South Rural, 2 members
 - C) Warkworth, 2 members
 - D) Kumeū, 2 members
 - E) Dairy Flat, 1 member
 - ii) the total number of members on the Howick Local Board will increase from 9 members to 11 members. The subdivisions will be:
 - A) Howick, 3 members (no change)
 - B) Pakuranga, 3 members (no change)
 - C) Botany, 2 members (changed area)
 - D) Flat Bush, 3 members (new subdivision)
25. These changes result in subdivisions in all local boards complying with the 10 per cent rule except for the following local boards. The attached draft initial proposal sets out the reasons for the decisions on non-compliance:
- i) Rodney Local Board
 - ii) Hibiscus and Bays Local Board
 - ii) Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board
 - iii) Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board
 - iv) Franklin Local Board

Local board minor boundary changes

26. Boundary between Upper Harbour and Devonport-Takapuna local boards:
- i) all of Saunders Reserve will be in the Upper Harbour Local Board area.

27. Boundary between Kaipātiki and Upper Harbour local boards:
- i) the boundary will run along Sunset Road where it currently runs behind houses
 - ii) a parcel of land in the vicinity of Kereru Reserve will become part of the Upper Harbour Local Board area
 - iii) the residential area of Bayview that is north of Glendhu Road will go to the Kaipātiki Local Board area
28. Boundary between Puketāpapa and Maungakiekie-Tāmaki local boards:
- i) all of Taumanu Reserve to lie within the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board area.

Public consultation requirements

29. The Local Electoral Act 2001 (LEA) requires councils to follow a prescribed process within certain timeframes when undertaking a review of the representation arrangements. The proposed process and dates are provided below.

Action	Required timeframe	Planned timeframe
Resolution of initial proposal	By 31 July 2024	27 June 2024
Public notice of initial proposal	Within 14 days of resolving initial proposal	8 July 2024
Public consultation	Period of no less than 1 month	8 July – 8 August 2024
Hearings	-	2 – 13 September 2024
Resolve final proposal	-	26 September 2024
Public notice of final proposal	Within eight weeks of close of submissions	3 October 2024
Receive objections or appeals to final proposal	Period of no less than 1 month	3 October – 3 November 2024
Forward objections or appeals to the Local Government Commission for final determination	As soon as practicable but no later than 1 December 2024	4 November 2024
Final determination on proposal from the Local Government Commission	No later than 11 April 2025	-

Public consultation material

30. At its meeting on 30 May 2024 the Governing Body did not agree to consult on local board reorganisation for the 2025 elections but resolved:
- whakaae / agree to undertake, alongside the representation arrangements consultation for 2025 local elections, an initial public consultation process on the regional structure of local boards, ahead of a later public consultation on a full local board reorganisation proposal to implement for the 2028 local elections.*
31. The questions that are provided in recommendation e) and contained in Attachment C are the end result of two meetings with Elected Members; one a workshop of the Governing Body, and the other at a meeting of the Joint Governance Working Party.

32. There have been mixed views about the wording of these questions, the numbers of questions and whether questioning the public, even in a general way is the right thing to do now that the reorganisation of local boards is not going ahead. The common theme however, is that questions should be aimed at a very high level.
33. The consultation material (supporting information and feedback form) have been provided under 'Part One: Representation review initial proposal' and 'Part Two: Current local board structure' for ease of determining what will be included in public consultation and what will not be. As discussed in this report, public consultation is required for the representation review initial proposal.
34. Staff acknowledge the generally low level of understanding of Auckland's shared governance model and what local boards are and do. Staff envisage civic education opportunities through this consultation process, particularly leading into the local government elections awareness campaign for 2025.
35. The draft consultation material aims to both contribute towards civic education goals and provide sufficient information for a person wishing to make a submission on either the representation review initial proposal or the regional structure of local boards. The material overview is provided in the table below and found in Attachments A, B, and C.

Document	Content
Representation review initial proposal (Attachment A)	• Current arrangements • Proposed changes to wards and local boards • Maps of proposed changes
Supporting information (Attachment B)	• Overview and existing arrangements • Part One: Representation review initial proposal - Understanding representation reviews - Feedback and next steps • Part Two: current local board structure - Auckland Council in the past, present, and future
Feedback form (Attachment C)	• Overview and proposed changes • Part One: Representation review initial proposal questions • Part Two: current local board structure questions

36. The supporting information and feedback form will be translated into Te reo Māori, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Samoan, Tongan, Hindi, and Korean. A video summary of the consultation material will be provided in New Zealand Sign Language.

Public consultation overview

37. In line with the Local Electoral Act requirements, the scale of proposed changes to representation, and the drive for civic education through this opportunity, the public consultation plan will involve the following:
- regionwide consultation
 - one month consultation period
 - a combination of online and in person regionwide events. Targeted sessions in affected areas

- iv) targeted marketing campaign and information sessions in areas with proposed changes
- v) digital engagement via the 'AK Have Your Say' webpage and online information webinars
- vi) marketing campaign to aid civic education and encourage participation in consultation
- vii) engaging with community partners where possible for diverse communities
- viii) targeted engagement stream with Māori
- ix) libraries, local board offices and service centres will have consultation material summaries available in all languages (English, Te Reo Māori, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Korean, Hindi, Samoan, Tongan).

Hearing of submissions

38. The Local Electoral Act 2001 requires that for any person who makes a submission on the council's initial proposal the council must ensure that person is given a reasonable opportunity to be heard by the council.
39. There will be submitters who will wish to exercise their right to be heard.
40. At its meeting on 27 April 2023 the Governing Body resolved (resolution GB/2023/68):
whakaae / agree that the council's initial proposal for representation arrangements for the 2025 elections is developed by the Joint Governance Working Party as follows:
 - i) *the Joint Governance Working Party will develop Auckland Council's initial review of representation arrangements after seeking feedback on issues and options from the Governing Body and local boards, then make recommendations to the Governing Body for the Governing Body to formally resolve its proposal for public notification for submissions.*
 - ii) *the Joint Governance Working Party will conduct the hearing of submissions and report its findings to local boards and the Governing Body before the Governing Body makes the final statutory resolution on any representation changes, which will then be publicly notified for objections and appeals.*
41. Prior to the meeting on 30 May 2024 there was a possibility that the Governing Body would want to be fully involved in the hearing of submissions since one of the consultation topics would have been the reorganisation of local boards. Consultation on a specific model of local boards for implementation for the 2025 elections is not now proceeding. Oral submissions will be invited on the matter of the representation review only.
42. The Governing Body is asked to confirm its preferred arrangements for hearing oral submissions. The body which hears submissions, if not the full Governing Body, would deliberate following the hearing of submissions and make recommendations back to the Governing Body for final decision.
43. Options for hearing submissions could include:
 - i) the Joint Governance Working Party (as previously resolved by the Governing Body)
 - ii) the full Governing Body
 - iii) a committee of the Governing Body set up for the purpose of hearing submissions, for example comprising the mayor, deputy mayor and six councillors.

Climate impact statement

44. The changes to electoral boundaries do not impact on climate.

Council group impacts and views

45. There are no impacts on the council group during the community consultation stage. The implementation of changes at the end of the review process will affect GIS and other map-based areas that need to show electoral boundaries.

Financial implications

46. There are costs associated with undertaking public consultation on the representation review initial proposal. The estimated total cost is \$170k, broken down at a high level below.
- \$30k for work undertaken by community partners to reach diverse communities
 - \$30k for marketing and communications campaign
 - \$30k on translations and print and distribution of consultation material
 - \$14k on analysis of the feedback (depending on volume received)
 - \$66k for the review of representation arrangements including mapping costs charged by LINZ.

Risks and mitigations

47. In accordance with the Act, people may appeal or object to the council's final proposal, with the risk that the Local Government Commission might not uphold all parts of the council's proposal.
48. The mitigation to this is ensuring all decision-making is robust.

Tauākī whakaaweawe Māori

Māori impact statement

49. The Governing Body has not included Māori representation in its representation arrangements for 2025. It has resolved instead:

That the Governing Body:

- a) *whakaae / agree that further work is required to determine the appropriate arrangements for Māori representation on Auckland Council, including in discussion with Māori and the Auckland public, and request that this be considered by the Joint Governance Working Party and reported back to the Governing Body by 31 December 2024.*

(Resolution GB/2023/195, 26 October 2023)

Ngā whakaaweawe ā-rohe me ngā tirohanga a te poari ā-rohe

Local impacts and local board views

50. Many of the changes impact on local boards and in some cases have been requested by local boards.
51. Local boards received reports for their feedback at their March meetings. Their feedback was reported to the Governing Body meeting on 30 May 2024. They will have another opportunity to consider formal feedback before the Governing Body decides the council's final proposal.

Ngā koringa ā-muri

Next steps

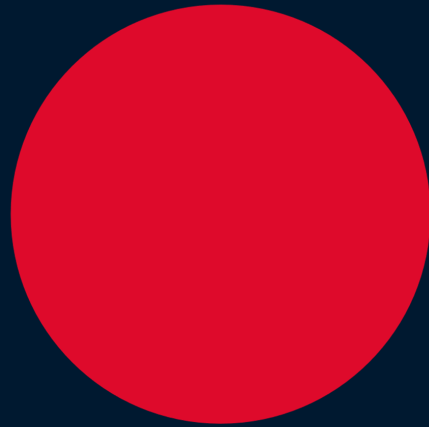
52. Following the Governing Body resolving the council's initial proposal, it will be publicly notified for submissions. The full process is described in the body of this report.

Ngā tāpirihanga Attachments

No.	Title	Page
A	Auckland Council Initial Proposal for Representation Arrangements for the 2025 Elections	
B	Consultation material - supporting information	
C	Consultation material - feedback form	
D	People's Panel survey analysis	

Ngā kaihaina Signatories

Author	Warwick McNaughton - Principal Advisor
Authorisers	Rose Leonard - Manager Governance Services Anna Bray - Acting Director - Governance and CCO Partnerships Phil Wilson - Chief Executive



Representation review initial proposal DRAFT

Auckland Council

27 June 2024



aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Initial proposal for representation arrangements for the 2025 elections

On 27 June 2024, the council reviewed its representation arrangements as it is required to do under legislation and resolved that the following proposal apply to the Auckland Council Governing Body and local boards for the local elections on 11 October 2025.

Please refer to the supporting material document for more information on what a representation review is and why we are consulting with the public.

Legal requirements

Communities of interest

Section 19T of the *Local Electoral Act 2001* requires that the arrangements proposed by the council provide for effective representation of communities of interest.

Fairness of representation

Section 19V of the *Local Electoral Act 2001* requires that the population that each member represents in a ward must not vary from the average across the whole of Auckland by more than 10% unless particular community of interest considerations justify otherwise. The same rule applies to subdivisions in local board areas for those local boards that have subdivisions.

Alignment of ward and local board boundaries

Section 19T of the *Local Electoral Act 2001* requires that so far as is practicable, ward boundaries coincide with any local board area boundaries.

Governing Body (councillors, wards and their boundaries)

To ensure rural community representation, the number of members of the Governing Body will be based on one councillor representing about 85,000 people resulting in 20 councillors, in addition to the mayor. This is equivalent to the current number of councillors.

The council proposes that the 20 councillors are elected from 13 wards to effectively represent communities of interest.

Wards will be based on the communities of interest that applied for the 2022 elections, except for those wards which have changes to their current boundaries as shown in the following table and Map 1.

Ward	Changed from 2022?	Population (2023)	Members in each ward	Pop. per member	Diff from average	% diff from average
Rodney Ward	No	81,000	1	81,000	-5,965	-6.86%
Albany Ward	Yes	191,390	2	95,695	8,730	10.04%
North Shore Ward	Yes	150,110	2	75,055	-11,910	-13.70%
Waitākere Ward	No	187,000	2	93,500	6,535	7.51%
Waitematā and Gulf Ward	Yes	94,050	1	94,050	7,085	8.15%
Whau Ward	No	86,300	1	86,300	-665	-0.76%
Albert-Eden-Puketāpapa Ward	Yes	163,720	2	81,860	-5,105	-5.87%
Ōrākei Ward	Yes	86,130	1	86,130	-835	-0.96%
Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Ward	Yes	84,100	1	84,100	-2,865	-3.29%
Howick Ward	No	157,700	2	78,850	-8,115	-9.33%
Manukau Ward	No	185,800	2	92,900	5,935	6.82%
Manurewa-Papakura Ward	No	186,700	2	93,350	6,385	7.34%
Franklin Ward	No	85,300	1	85,300	-1,665	-1.91%
Total		1,739,300	20	86,965		

For maps of these wards please refer to Appendix B, Maps 1 to 3

Changes to wards from the 2022 elections and the affected communities of interest

Central Auckland wards: Waitematā and Gulf, Ōrākei, Maungakiekie-Tāmaki, and Albert-Eden-Puketāpapa

Before the 2019 elections, the representation in the Waitematā and Gulf Ward exceeded the average population per councillor by 43.74 per cent. The population of the Waitematā and Gulf Ward was reduced by moving the boundary between the Waitematā and Gulf Ward and the Ōrākei Ward. This change had a flow-on effect on the boundaries between the Ōrākei and Maungakiekie-Tāmaki wards, and Maungakiekie-Tāmaki and Albert-Eden-Puketāpapa wards, causing their boundaries to no longer align with local board areas.

Current population estimates now allow for adjustments to these ward boundaries in central Auckland so that ward and local board boundaries can align again, while still ensuring fair representation within the 10 per cent variation rule.

These changes will mean:

- the communities in Parnell, Newmarket and Grafton, currently in the Ōrākei Ward and Waitematā Local Board area, will return to the Waitematā and Gulf Ward
- parts of Ellerslie and St Johns communities, currently in the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Ward, return to being part of the Ōrākei Ward

- part of a community close to Royal Oak and Onehunga, currently in the Albert-Eden-Puketāpapa Ward, returns to the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Ward.
- the community in Eden Terrace, south of the motorway, is in the Albert-Eden-Puketāpapa Ward and the Waitematā Local Board area but does not change to avoid central Auckland wards not complying with the fairness of representation rule.

North Shore and Albany wards

The council proposes to enlarge the North Shore Ward to include an area around Bayview, reducing non-compliance with the fairness of representation rule. It will also move to run along Sunset Road. These changes align the North Shore and Albany ward boundary with boundary changes to Upper Harbour and Kaipātiki local boards.

Further alignment with local board boundaries

The section below on minor changes to local board boundaries leads to additional minor adjustments in ward boundaries to ensure they stay aligned with those local board boundaries.

Non-complying wards

The North Shore Ward currently does not meet the fairness of representation rule, with a -13.82 per cent variance. This proposal slightly reduces the variance to -13.70 per cent.

To comply with the fairness rule, the ward would need to include a selection of areas currently in the Albany Ward (for example, south Greenhithe, Unsworth Heights and areas north of Centennial Park). However, the council considers all areas apart from Bayview have a community of interest with the Albany ward and should not be split. In deciding to not comply with the fairness rule, the council notes that the Sunset Road ridge forms a strong community boundary.

Local boards (subdivisions and their boundaries)

Local board communities of interest

This review only changes the boundaries of electoral subdivisions within local board areas, not the local board boundaries themselves. Minor changes to local board boundaries are allowed if the population shift meets the limits set by regulations.

The council proposes that the representation arrangements for the 21 local boards in the 2025 elections be based on the communities of interest used in the 2022 elections, except for the changes to subdivisions that are listed in the following table.

Local board subdivisions	Changed from 2022?	Pop (2023) ¹	Memb ers	Pop per member	Diff from average	% diff from average
Rodney Local Board subdivisions (Map 4)						
North Rural Subdivision	New	16,690	2	8,345	-646	-7.19%
South Rural Subdivision	New	17,050	2	8,525	-466	-5.18%
Warkworth Subdivision	Yes	20,390	2	10,195	1,204	13.39%

¹ Population statistics are provided by Statistics NZ and distributed to councils by the Local Government Commission. They are a 2023 estimate based on the 2018 census.

Kumeū Subdivision	Yes	24,790	3	8,263	-728	-8.09%
Dairy Flat Subdivision	No	9,560	1	9,560	569	6.33%
Total		80,960	9	8,991		
Hibiscus and Bays Local Board subdivisions						
Hibiscus Coast Subdivision	No	64,800	4	16,200	1,563	10.67
East Coast Bays Subdivision	No	52,300	4	13,075	-1,563	-10.67
Total		117,100	8	14,638		
Albert-Eden Local Board subdivisions						
Ōwairaka Subdivision	No	50,200	4	12,550	125	1.01
Maungawhau Subdivision	No	49,200	4	12,300	-125	-1.01
Total		99,400	8	12,425		
Maungakiekie-Tāmaki subdivisions						
Maungakiekie Subdivision	No	32,100	3	10,700	-1,314	-10.94
Tāmaki Subdivision	No	52,000	4	13,000	986	8.20
Total		84,100	7	12,014		
Howick Local Board subdivisions (Map 5)						
Pakuranga Subdivision	No	43,100	3	14,367	39	0.27
Howick Subdivision	No	44,000	3	14,667	339	2.37
Botany Subdivision	Yes	27,840	2	13,920	-407	-2.84
Flat Bush Subdivision	New	42,660	3	14,220	-107	-0.75
Total		157,600	11	14,327		
Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board subdivisions						
Papatoetoe Subdivision	No	60,700	4	15,175	1,361	9.85
Ōtara Subdivision	No	36,000	3	12,000	-1,814	-13.13
Total		96,700	7	13,814		
Franklin Local Board subdivisions						
Waiuku Subdivision	No	16,350	2	8,175	-1,308	-13.80
Pukekohe Subdivision	No	41,800	4	10,450	967	10.19
Wairoa Subdivision	No	27,200	3	9,067	-417	-4.39
Total		85,350	9	9,483		

Changes to local board subdivisions from the 2022 elections and the affected communities of interest

The initial proposal includes changes to subdivisions in two local board areas to better represent those communities. Map references are in Appendix B: Representation review maps.

Rodney Local Board

The Wellsford Subdivision currently has a variance of -22.63% which needs to be corrected.

Council proposes a different arrangement of subdivisions to better reflect the shared interests of rural communities (Map 4). Members of a rural community identify as belonging to a rural community, share similar council services and have similar issues that require representation.

The Warkworth and Kumeū communities will still have representation, but the areas have been reduced in size to match urban and future development zones around these centres. The Dairy Flat Subdivision remains as is.

The rest of the Rodney Local Board area has two new rural subdivisions – North Rural and South Rural.

Howick Local Board

The Botany Subdivision has a variance of 34.20% which needs to be corrected to ensure fair representation. The subdivision will be split into a smaller Botany Subdivision with two members and a new Flat Bush Subdivision with three members.

This recognises the population growth in southern part of the local board and provides better representation for the Flat Bush community. The total number of members on the Howick Local Board will increase from nine to 11, which is consistent with the number of members on local authorities with similar populations (Map 5).

Non-complying subdivisions

The council has decided that the representation arrangements for the following local boards should not comply with the rule for fairness of representation.

- **Rodney Local Board**

This proposal adjusts existing subdivisions but there is still a small non-compliance in the Warkworth Subdivision. This subdivision has been reduced in size considerably already and compliance with the rule on fair representation would require reducing its size further. The council believes this would have a detrimental effect on communities of interest.

- **Hibiscus and Bays Local Board**

The non-compliance is very minor. To achieve compliance, the East Coast Bays Subdivision needs to gain population and the Hibiscus Coast Subdivision needs to lose population.

However, the boundary between them is in a rural area and a large geographical shift is needed to transfer the required number of people. This would take the boundary close to the Whangaparaoa Peninsula, splitting communities of interest that should remain in the Hibiscus Coast Subdivision.

- **Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board**

The non-compliance is very minor. To achieve compliance the Maungakiekie Subdivision needs to gain population.

It is bounded by the Southern Motorway except to its south where there are industrial and residential areas.

The council considers the residential area has a community of interest with the Tāmaki subdivision and including it in the Maungakiekie subdivision would split this community of interest.

- **Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board**

To achieve compliance, the Ōtara Subdivision needs to gain population.

The boundary between the Ōtara and Papatoetoe Subdivisions is a very strong one in the form of the Southern Motorway. The Ōtara Subdivision would need to extend from Ōtara over the motorway into Papatoetoe.

The council considers that this would split communities of interest within the Papatoetoe Subdivision and result in joining unrelated communities.

- **Franklin Local Board**

To achieve compliance, the Waiuku Subdivision needs to gain population. The adjacent Pukekohe subdivision needs to lose population.

The Waiuku Subdivision is largely rural and achieving a transfer of the required number of people would need a large geographical change to the boundary.

Options for extending the Waiuku Subdivision boundary include moving its boundary close to Pukekohe to include communities that associate with Pukekohe or moving the Waiau Pa community into the Waiuku Subdivision. Waiau Pa's physical connections are primarily to Pukekohe, Drury and the motorway.

The council considers that either option would split communities of interest.

Minor changes to local board boundaries

When doing a representation review, the council can include minor changes to local board boundaries in the proposal to address minor issues.² There are limits to the number of people³ who would be affected through a local board minor boundary change.

The initial proposal includes the following minor changes to local board boundaries. All map references are found in Appendix B: Representation review maps.

1. The boundary between the Upper Harbour and Devonport-Takapuna local boards is changed so that all of Saunders Reserve is in the Upper Harbour Local Board area (Map 6).
2. The boundary between Kaipātiki and Upper Harbour local boards will run along Sunset Road (Map 7).

² Section 19JAA of the Local Electoral Act 2001 and clause 141 of the Local Electoral Regulations 2001

³ Under the Local Electoral Regulations 2001 (clause 141), a minor local board boundary change is limited to either 2.5 per cent of the population of the local board area that has smaller population or 2000 residents (depending on which is the lower number).

3. The boundary between Kaipātiki and Upper Harbour local boards near Kereru Reserve is changed so that Lot 3 DP 142477 (R 14 Kereru Grove) becomes part of the Upper Harbour Local Board area (Map 7).
4. The boundary between Kaipātiki and Upper Harbour local boards is changed to include the residential area of Bayview north of Glendhu Road in Kaipātiki, noting that meshblocks* will need to be adjusted to avoid affecting any reserve area in the Upper Harbour Local Board area (Map 7).

*meshblocks is a term used by Statistics NZ and is a unit of measurement for population data. Boundaries must align with meshblocks.
5. The boundary between the Puketāpapa and Maungakiekie-Tāmaki local boards is changed such that all of Taumanu Reserve lies within the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board (Map 8).

More information

You can view supporting information for the council's proposals for representation arrangements for the 2025 elections on our website at [akhaveyoursay.nz](https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/akhaveyoursay)

Information is also available at libraries and service centres.

Any queries regarding the council's proposal should be directed to representationreview@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Submissions are invited

The council invites anyone with an interest in the proposed representation arrangements to make a written submission on the council's representation proposal.

You may make your submission:

- by using the online form on council's website
- by email to: representationreview@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz
- by post to:

Auckland Council Representation Review
Freepost Number 190198
Private Bag 92300
Victoria Street West
Auckland 1142

In your feedback, please indicate if you wish to speak about your submission and ensure we have your contact details. The law requires us to offer each submitter a reasonable opportunity to be heard as part of the representation review process.

Submissions must be received by no later than 4pm, Thursday 8 August 2024.

Appendix A: Current arrangements

Governing Body councillors

Ward (current boundaries)	Pop (2023)	Members	Pop per member	Diff from average	% diff from average
Rodney Ward	81,000	1	81,000	-5,965	-6.86
Albany Ward	191,600	2	95,800	8,835	10.16
North Shore Ward	149,900	2	74,950	-12,015	-13.82
Waitākere Ward	187,000	2	93,500	6,535	7.51
Waitematā and Gulf Ward	79,800	1	79,800	-7,165	-8.24
Whau Ward	86,300	1	86,300	-665	-0.76
Albert-Eden-Puketāpapa Ward	165,400	2	82,700	-4,265	-4.90
Ōrākei Ward	87,600	1	87,600	635	0.73
Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Ward	95,200	1	95,200	8,235	9.47
Howick Ward	157,700	2	78,850	-8,115	-9.33
Manukau Ward	185,800	2	92,900	5,935	6.82
Manurewa-Papakura Ward	186,700	2	93,350	6,385	7.34
Franklin Ward	85,300	1	85,300	-1,665	-1.91
Total	1,739,300	20	86,965		

All local boards

Local board	Pop (2023)	Members	Pop per member
Rodney Local Board	81,000	9	9,000
Hibiscus and Bays Local Board	117,200	8	14,650
Upper Harbour Local Board	74,500	6	12,417
Kaipātiki Local Board	91,300	8	11,413
Devonport-Takapuna Local Board	58,600	6	9,767
Henderson-Massey Local Board	131,400	8	16,425
Waitākere Ranges Local Board	55,600	6	9,267
Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board	1,050	5	210
Waiheke Local Board	9,420	5	1,884
Waitematā Local Board	86,700	7	12,386
Whau Local Board	86,300	7	12,329
Albert-Eden Local Board	99,500	8	12,438
Puketāpapa Local Board	61,100	6	10,183
Ōrākei Local Board	86,200	7	12,314
Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board	84,100	7	12,014
Howick Local Board	157,700	9	17,522
Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board	89,200	7	12,743
Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board	96,700	7	13,814
Manurewa Local Board	110,900	8	13,863
Papakura Local Board	75,800	6	12,633
Franklin Local Board	85,300	9	9,478

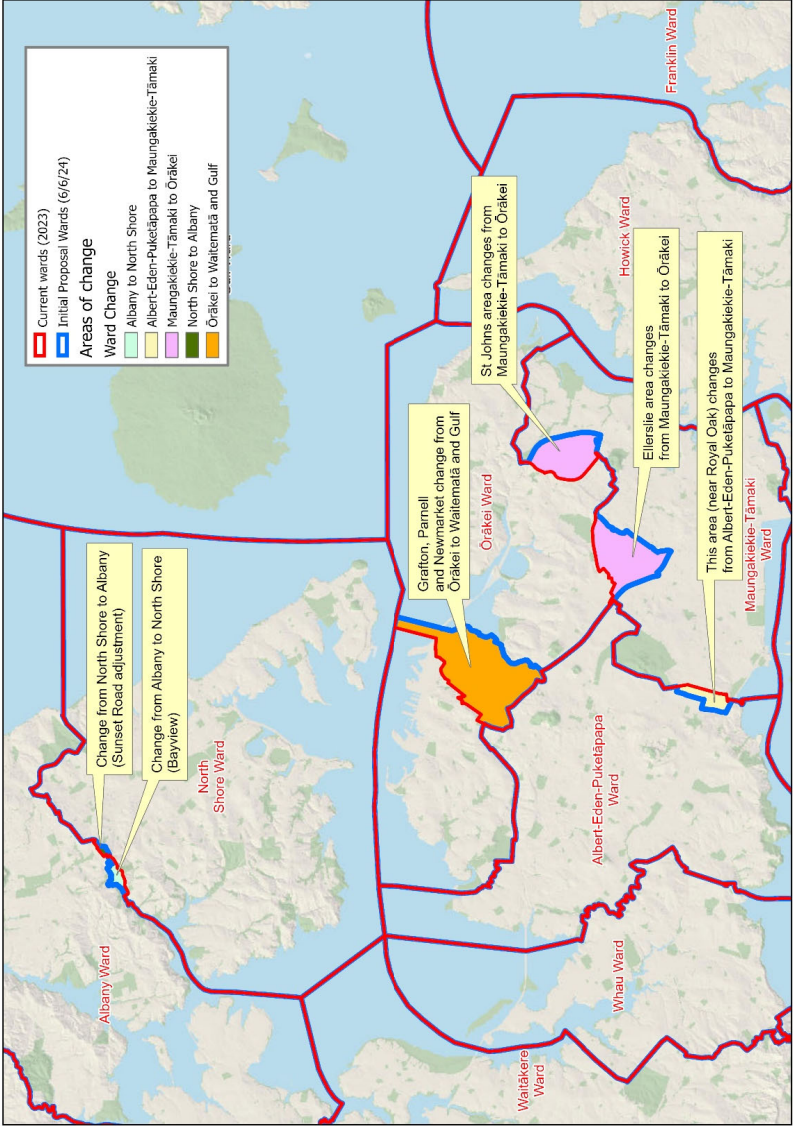
Local board subdivisions

Local board	Pop (2023)	Members	Pop per member	Diff from average	% diff from average
Rodney Local Board subdivisions					
Wellsford	6,960	1	6,960	-2,036	-22.63
Warkworth	23,600	3	7,867	-1,129	-12.55
Kumeū	40,900	4	10,225	1,229	13.67
Dairy Flat	9,500	1	9,500	504	5.61
Total	80,960	9	8,996		
Hibiscus and Bays Local Board subdivisions					
Hibiscus Coast	64,800	4	16,200	1,563	10.67
East Coast Bays	52,300	4	13,075	-1,563	-10.67
Total	117,100	8	14,638		
Albert-Eden Local Board subdivisions					
Ōwairaka	50,200	4	12,550	125	1.01
Maungawhau	49,200	4	12,300	-125	-1.01
Total	99,400	8	12,425		
Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board subdivisions					
Maungakiekie	32,100	3	10,700	-1,314	-10.94
Tāmaki	52,000	4	13,000	986	8.20
Total	84,100	7	12,014		
Howick Local Board subdivisions					
Pakuranga	43,100	3	14,367	-3,144	-17.96
Howick	44,000	3	14,667	-2,844	-16.24
Botany	70,500	3	23,500	5,989	34.20
Total	157,600	9	17,511		

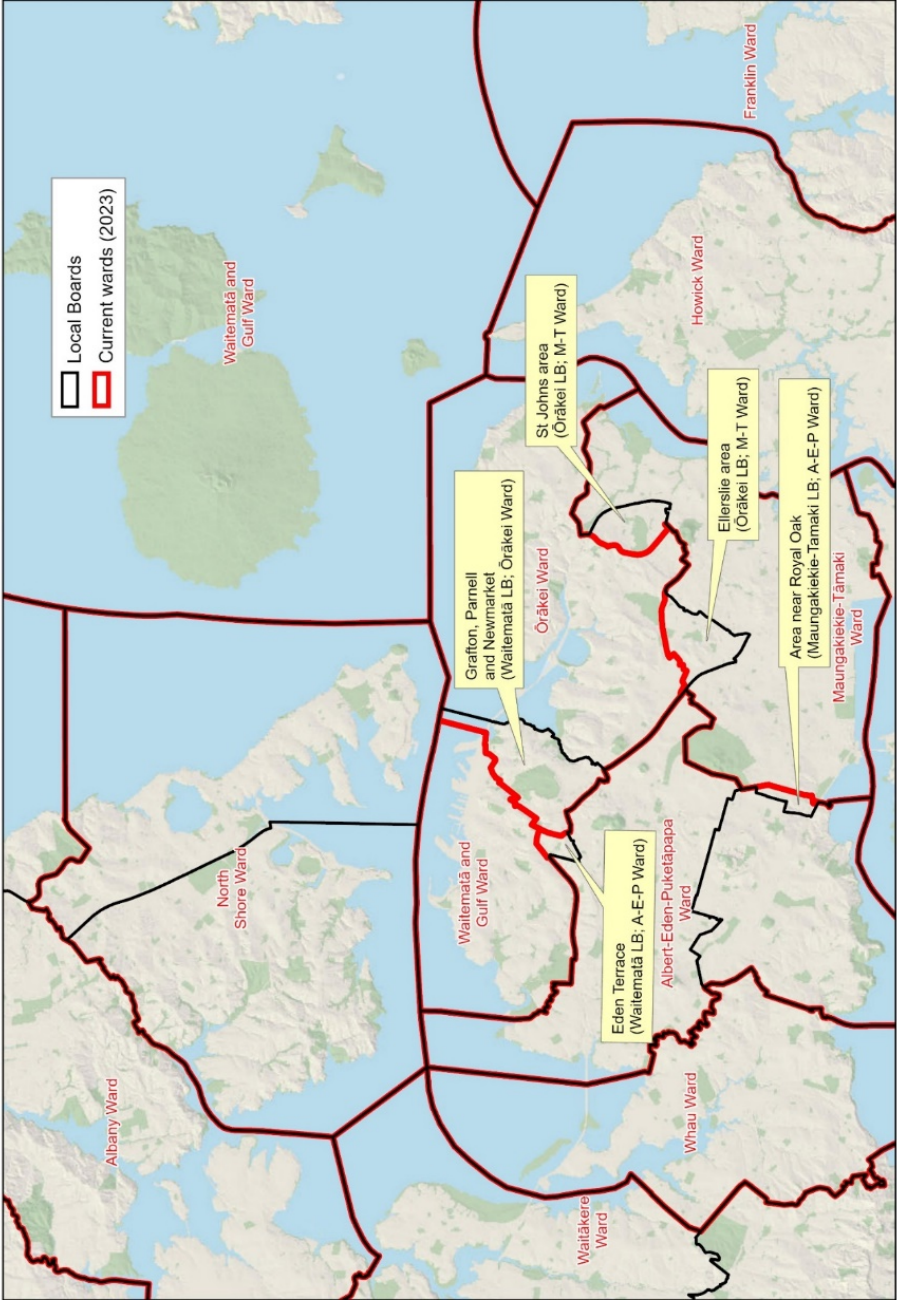
Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board subdivisions					
Papatoetoe	60,700	4	15,175	1,361	9.85
Ōtara	36,000	3	12,000	-1,814	-13.13
Total	96,700	7	13,814		
Franklin Local Board subdivisions					
Waiuku	16,350	2	8,175	-1,308	-13.80
Pukekohe	41,800	4	10,450	967	10.19
Wairoa	27,200	3	9,067	-417	-4.39
Total	85,350	9	9,483		

Appendix B: Maps – initial proposal

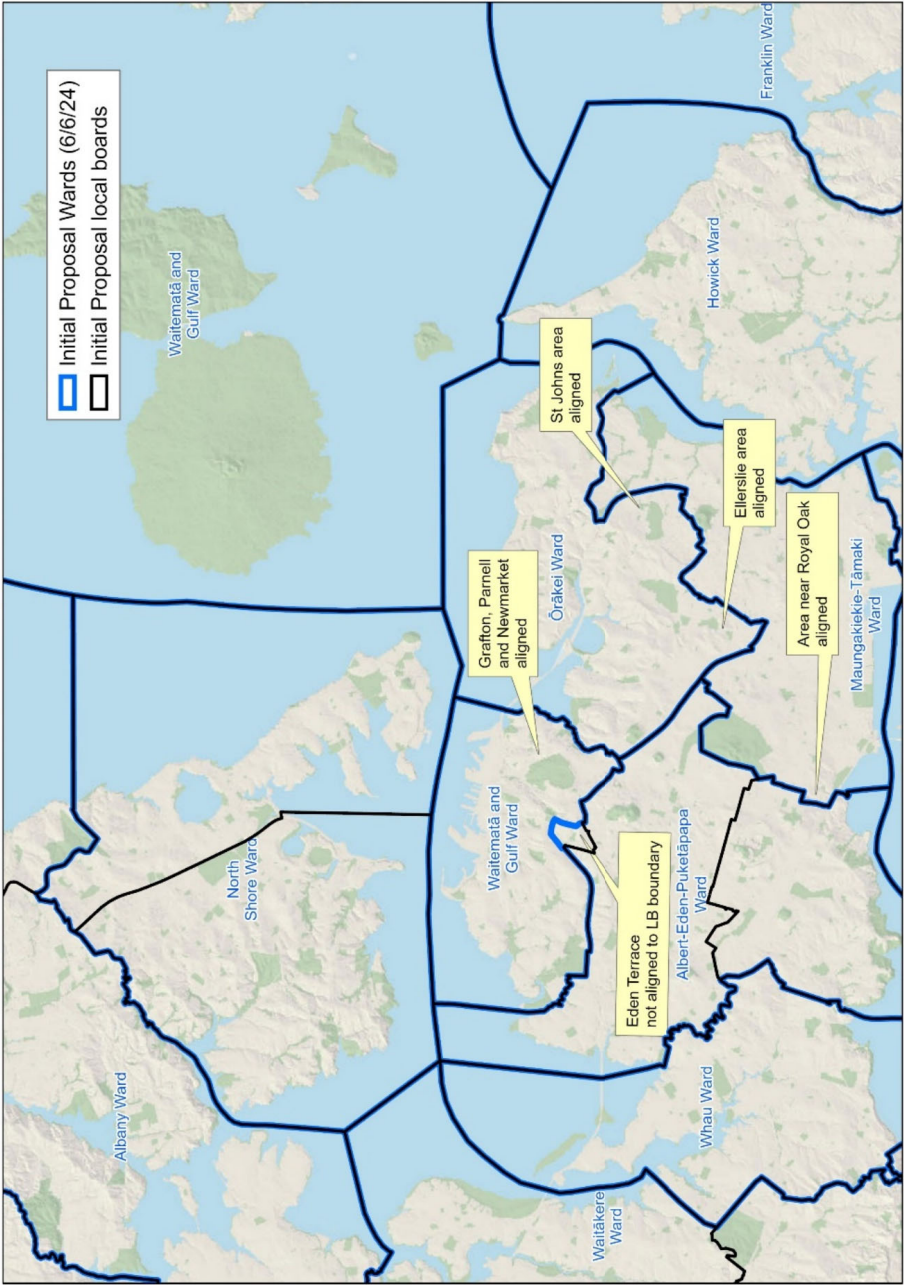
Map 1: Governing Body wards – current and proposed wards. This shows what is changing.



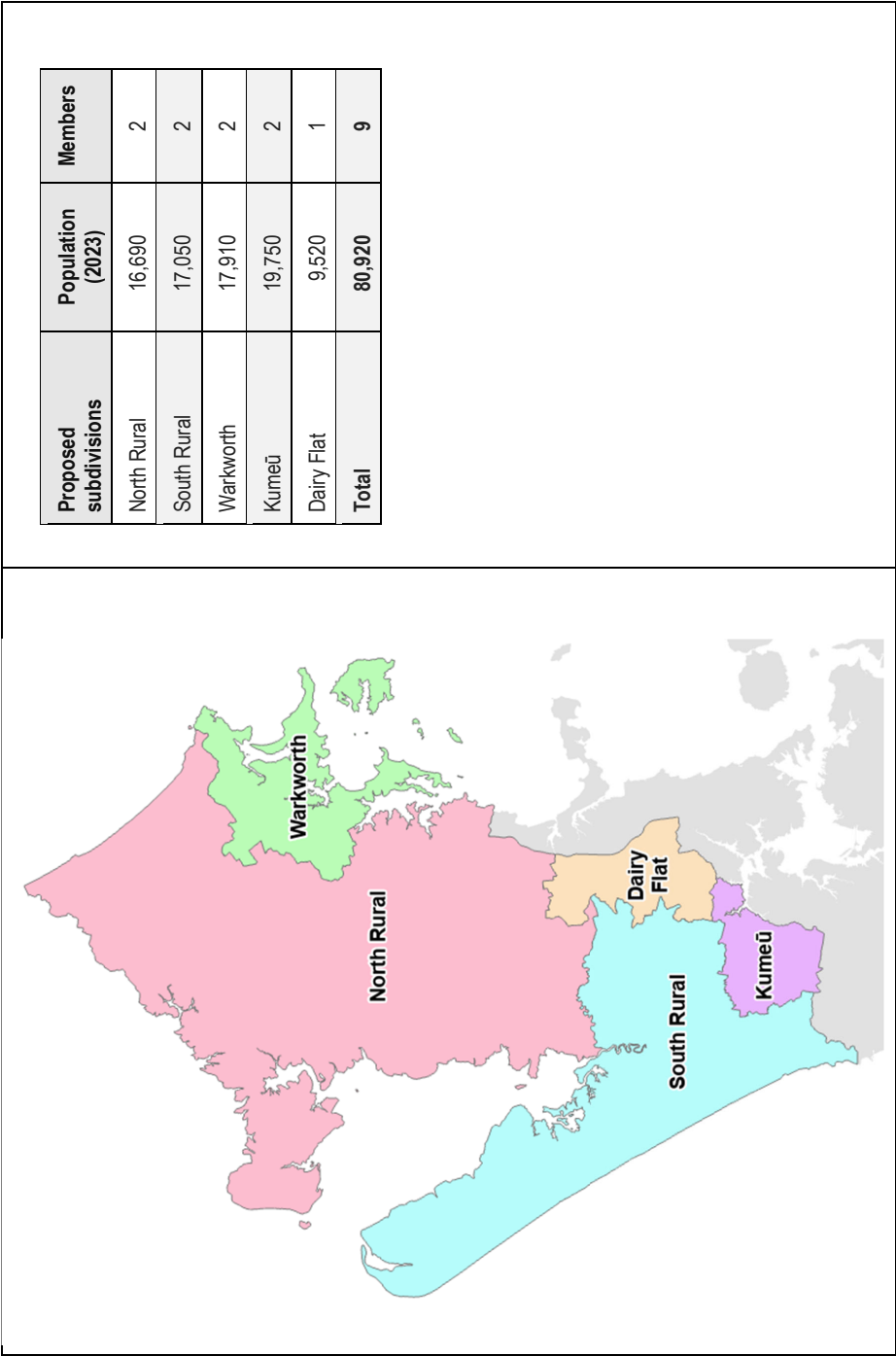
Map 2: Governing Body wards – showing alignment between current wards and current local boards



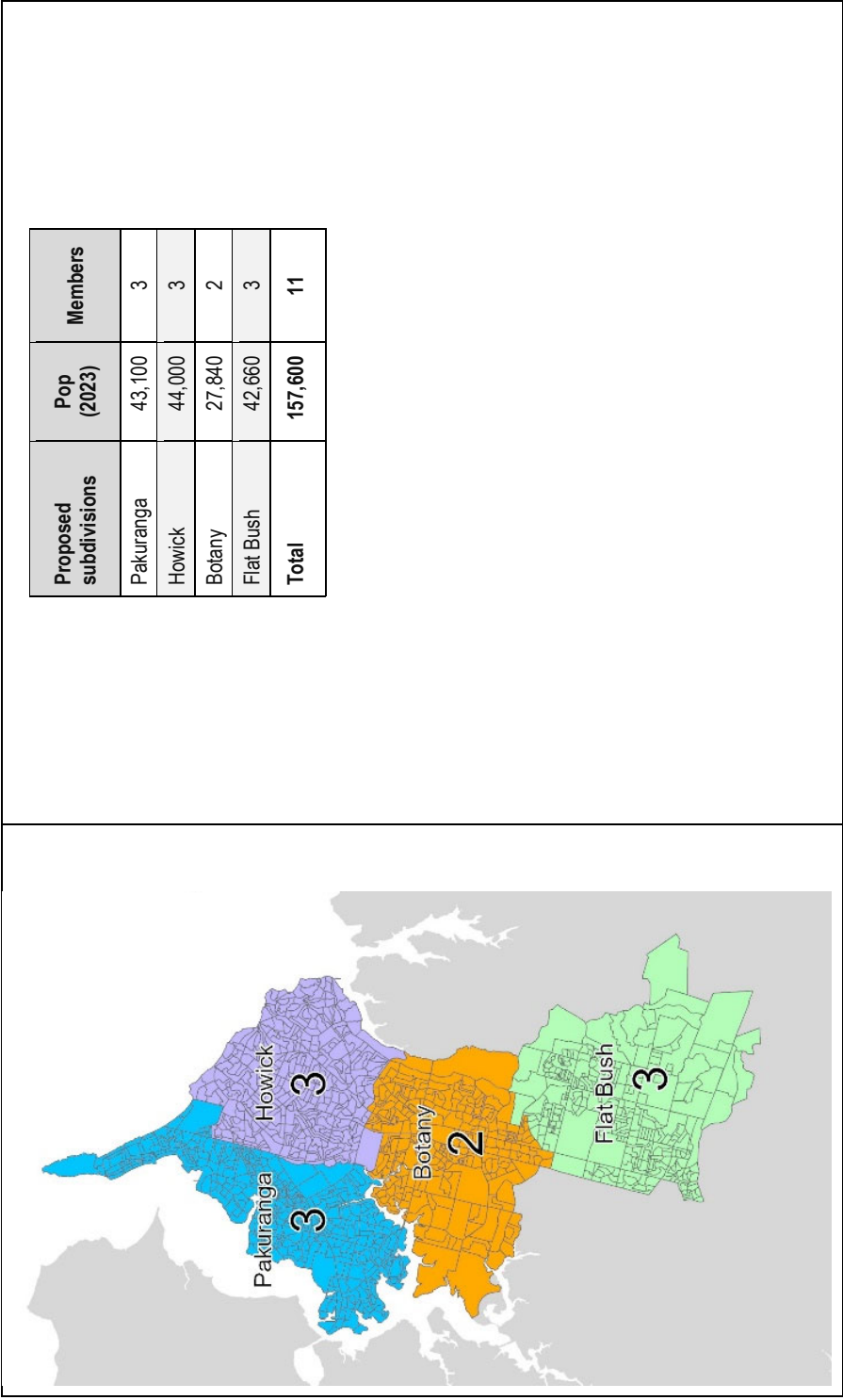
Map 3: Governing Body – showing alignment between proposed wards and proposed local boards



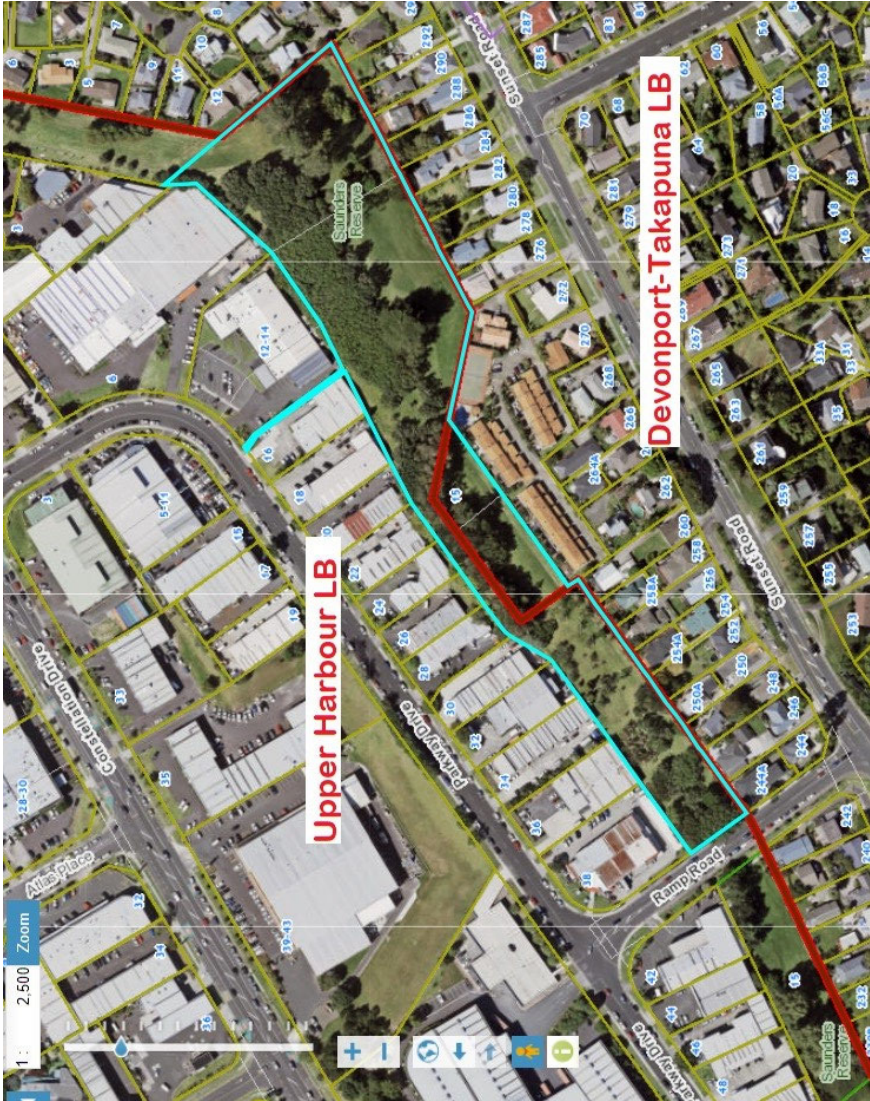
Map 4: Rodney Local Board subdivisions



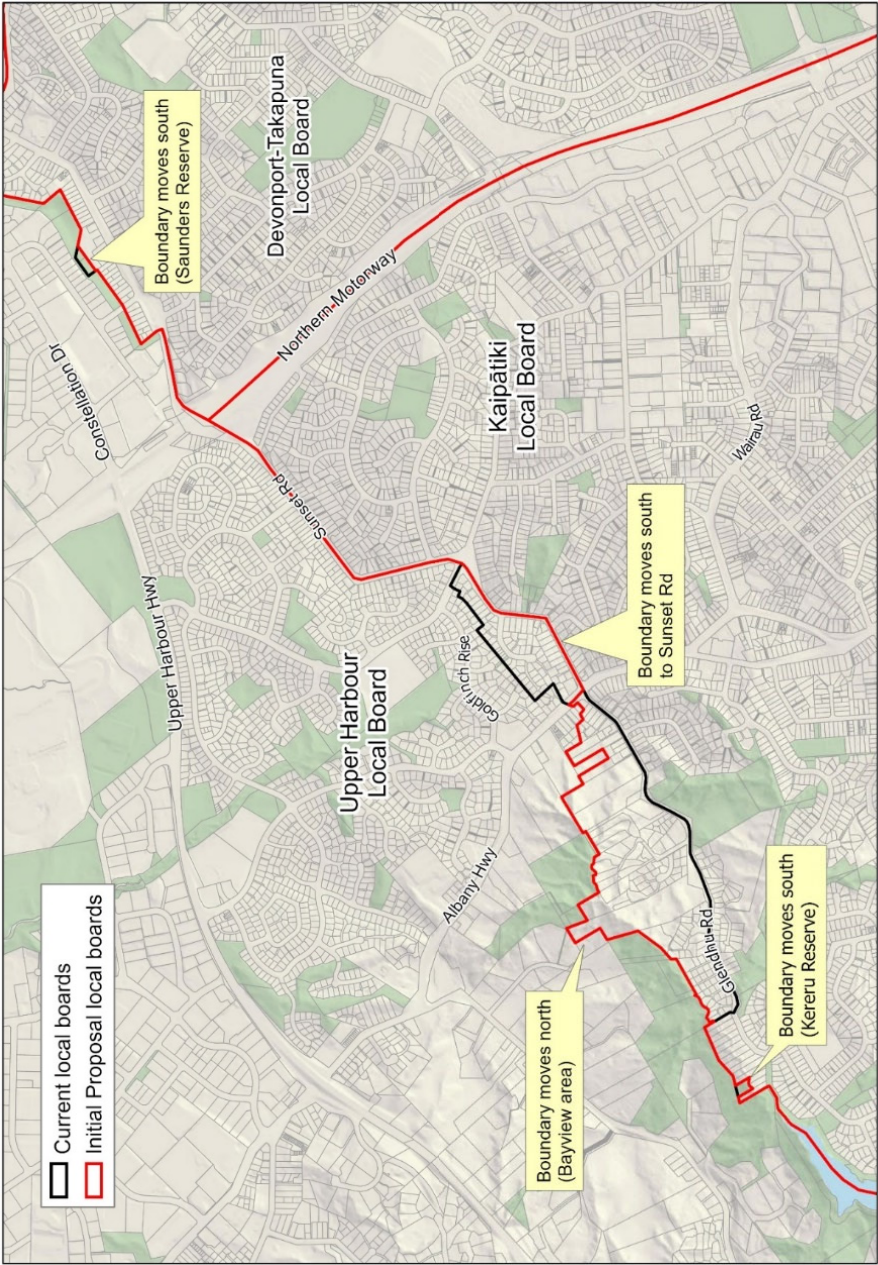
Map 5: Howick Local Board subdivisions



Map 6: Boundary change – Upper Harbour and Devonport-Takapuna Local Boards



Map 7: Boundary changes – Upper Harbour and Kaipātiki Local Boards



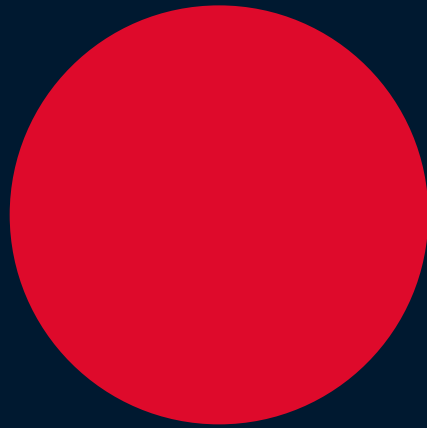
Map 8: Boundary changes – Puketāpapa and Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Boards
Details of the final boundary in this area need to be confirmed with Statistics New Zealand and LINZ.



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How we represent you

Supporting material



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How we represent you

Overview of proposed changes to Auckland Council's Governing Body and local boards

Every six years, Auckland Council must review representation arrangements to ensure they are fair and effective and are keeping pace with Auckland's growth. This review includes the Governing Body, and local boards. Our last review was in 2018 for the 2019 local government elections.

We also want to know what you think about making changes to the local board structure in the future.

How Auckland Council is currently set up

The Local Government (Auckland Council) Act 2009¹ states that both the Governing Body and local boards share responsibility and democratic accountability for Auckland Council's decision-making.

Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland is divided into 13 wards², each represented by councillors elected by Aucklanders living in those wards. Currently, there are 20 councillors. The mayor is elected by all voters in Auckland. The mayor and councillors make up the Governing Body which collectively acts in the best interests of all Aucklanders.

The Governing Body handles all regional decisions, establishes strategies, policies, and plans, sets the rates and allocates funding for the local boards.

We also have 21 local boards³ responsible for making decisions specific to the communities in their geographic areas. Each local board consists of five to nine elected members, totalling 149 members across all boards.

Local boards create local plans to guide their decision-making and actions over their three-year terms. These plans outline the vision, strategic priorities, outcomes, projects and initiatives that reflect the aspirations and priorities of their communities.

These boards look after local libraries, parks and community centres, events, environmental protection and community grants. In addition, they contribute to regional plans and decisions made by the Governing Body.

Did you know?

Some people know that their local pools and leisure centres are managed by local boards. But what about being at the beach? After a swim you head into the changing room and then use the communal barbeque at the nearest park? Things like changing rooms and public parks are assets managed by local boards.

The current representation arrangement for Auckland Council is in Appendix A.

¹ <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2009/0032/latest/DLM2044909.html>

² <https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/about-auckland-council/how-auckland-council-works/governing-body-wards-committees/wards/Pages/default.aspx>

³ <https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/about-auckland-council/how-auckland-council-works/local-boards/Pages/default.aspx>

Part One: Representation review initial proposal

Understanding representation reviews

A representation review is about:

- deciding how many councillors we have, how they are elected and which areas (wards) they represent
- deciding how many wards we have and where they are on the map
- looking at local board subdivisions, where they are needed, and their boundaries (subdivisions are smaller areas within local boards to ensure effective representation for all communities)
- minor changes to local board boundaries.

The process requires the council to first develop an initial proposal for the review and then to seek public views on that proposal. The initial proposal is the one described in this material.

The act contains three important requirements councils must adhere to for a representation review.

1. Communities of interest

Section 19T of the act requires the council to provide effective representation for communities of interest.

What is a community of interest?

Community of interest is a way to describe groups of people who share common characteristics or bonds. The LGC describes them as:

- perceptual – a sense of belonging to a clearly defined area or locality
- functional – the ability to meet with reasonable economy the community's requirements for comprehensive physical and human services (reasonable economy means providing the community's needed services without unnecessary or excessive spending)
- political – the ability of the elected body to represent the interests and reconcile the conflicts of all its members.

In simpler terms, they are groups of people who feel connected to a place, can get the services they need there, and are well-represented by their leaders.

This means we must consider where communities of interest are and align representation arrangements with them as much as possible.

2. Fairness of representation

Under section 19V of the act, we must follow a rule for fair representation that aims to ensure the elected representatives for each ward represent a relatively similar number of people (within 10 per cent of the average). This rule also applies to subdivisions within local boards.

For example: under the council's initial proposal, there will be 20 ward councillors to represent 1,739,570¹ electors. Under the fair representation rule, the population that each councillor represents must be within the range of 86,965 +/- 10 per cent (i.e. between 78,269 and 95,662).

There are some cases where complying with this rule would not be best for communities within wards or local boards. We can choose not to comply with the rule if it would mean splitting communities of interest.

The initial proposal includes one ward and four local board subdivisions that do not comply with the fair representation rule. The reason for non-compliance is provided are outlined in the Non-complying wards and Non-complying local board subdivisions sections.

3. Requirement for ward and local board boundaries to align

Section 19T of the act states that ward boundaries must align with any local board area boundaries as much as possible.

The initial proposal includes ward boundary adjustments to fix those areas where local boards and wards are not aligned.

We want your feedback on

- Our proposed adjustments to ward and local board boundaries

What can't be changed?

Some aspects of how Auckland is represented cannot be changed through this consultation because they are either required by law or have already been decided by the council. These include:

- holding a representation review at least once every six years⁴
- ensuring representation is based on population ratios (which means that each representative serves a similar number of people)⁵
- shared decision-making between the Governing Body and local boards⁶
- between five and 12 elected members for each local board⁷
- Māori representation on the Governing Body or local boards.⁸

When these changes would take place

We will first decide if the initial proposal above need any changes in response to public feedback. If they do, we will make these changes and publicly notify the final proposal.

Objections or appeals to the final proposal will be open between 3 October and 3 November 2024. If any are received, they will be submitted to the Local Government Commission (LGC) alongside the final proposal, so it can make a decision in time for the 2025 local government elections. If no objections or appeals are received, the proposals will be implemented for the 2025 local government elections.

⁴ [Local Electoral Act 2001, section 19H](#)

⁵ [Local Electoral Act 2001, section 19V](#)

⁶ [Local Government \(Auckland Council\) Act 2009, section 7](#)

⁷ [Local Government \(Auckland Council\) Act 2009, section 11](#)

⁸ [Governing Body decision in October 2023 on Māori seats for Auckland Council that further work is required](#). This means that Māori representation on Governing Body will not be in place for the 2025 local elections. Māori representation on Auckland Council's local boards is not allowed under the current law.

⁴ Footer

Part Two: Current local board structure

It has been 15 years since Auckland Council was established. Auckland Council has 21 local boards with 149 elected members, each focused on addressing issues specific to their communities. The current structure ensures that decisions are made at a local level, catering to the unique needs of each area.

When Auckland Council was formed, the number of boards was set to balance the desire for local decisions against the cost and complexity of having too many local boards. While the current structure supports localism (that is, local representatives making decisions that reflect the views and needs of their local communities), a streamlined structure might improve overall council efficiency and resource allocation.

We want to know how well you think the current local board structure represents you and your community, and if you have any ideas for improving it.

Auckland Council in the past, present, and future

How we got to where we are now

It has been 15 years since Auckland's local government became a unitary council, combining eight urban and rural councils into one. Before this, each local council operated independently, resulting in varied service quality, resource distribution, and community engagement, slowing problem-solving for Auckland as a whole.

These significant changes followed the Royal Commission on Auckland Governance⁹, established in 2007. The Commission conducted extensive research with communities, academics, and professionals, and delivered their findings. Their goal was to recommend the best local government model for Auckland to ensure value for money, regional wellbeing, and support for national goals.

In 2009, the Royal Commission recommended creating one unitary council (now Auckland Council) and six smaller local councils. They tested two other models for greater local representation but concluded that having 20 local councils would be too many, too expensive, and likely to result in poorer services.

The Government, on direction from the then Minister of Local Government, decided instead to establish 20 - 30 local boards to better accommodate local preferences and voices. The Local Government Commission settled on 21 local boards, as detailed in the Local Government (Auckland Council) Act 2009¹⁰, and this model has been maintained since.

Local government in the New Zealand context

In 2021, the government announced an independent review of local government to look at how New Zealand's system of local democracy and governance needed to evolve over the next 30 years to better serve our communities.

The Future for Local Government Panel's (the Panel) recommendations (see He piki tūranga, he piki kotuku¹¹) includes 'a redesign of councils' operating models, new approaches to leadership, and new council structures' to respond well and quickly to the increasing challenges communities are facing today.

The Panel found that with the global financial situation, councils are under pressure due to reducing resources and growing expectations to support communities with their needs which range from climate

⁹ <https://gg.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2021-06/RC%20142%20Auckland%20Governance.pdf>

¹⁰ <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2009/0032/latest/DLM2044909.html>

¹¹ <https://www.dia.govt.nz/Future-for-Local-Government-Review-Documents>

Item 10

change and increasing inequity to infrastructure deficits and low social cohesion (that is, having strong social relationships based on trust, mutual obligations, and respect within a community).

The limited focus and complicated structures of councils makes change difficult, slow, and reduces opportunities to make an impact for communities. It found that the current system of local government is not resourced or set up to support communities to face significant challenges over the next 30 years.

The Panel recognised the benefits in combining similar structures to share economies, expertise and resources, but also supported the importance of wellbeing needs of local communities – ‘keeping the local in local government’.

We want to know how well you think the current local board structure represents you and your community, and whether it effectively delivers local representation.

Attachment B

Appendix A: Current arrangements

Governing Body

Ward (current boundaries)	Pop (2023)	Members	Pop per member	Diff from average	% diff from average
Rodney Ward	81,000	1	81,000	-5,965	-6.86
Albany Ward	191,600	2	95,800	8,835	10.16
North Shore Ward	149,900	2	74,950	-12,015	-13.82
Waitākere Ward	187,000	2	93,500	6,535	7.51
Waitematā and Gulf Ward	79,800	1	79,800	-7,165	-8.24
Whau Ward	86,300	1	86,300	-665	-0.76
Albert-Eden-Puketāpapa Ward	165,400	2	82,700	-4,265	-4.90
Ōrākei Ward	87,600	1	87,600	635	0.73
Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Ward	95,200	1	95,200	8,235	9.47
Howick Ward	157,700	2	78,850	-8,115	-9.33
Manukau Ward	185,800	2	92,900	5,935	6.82
Manurewa-Papakura Ward	186,700	2	93,350	6,385	7.34
Franklin Ward	85,300	1	85,300	-1,665	-1.91
Total	1,739,300	20	86,965		

All local boards

Local board	Pop (2023)	Members	Pop per member
Rodney Local Board	81,000	9	9,000
Hibiscus and Bays Local Board	117,200	8	14,650
Upper Harbour Local Board	74,500	6	12,417
Kaipātiki Local Board	91,300	8	11,413
Devonport-Takapuna Local Board	58,600	6	9,767
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Waiheke Local Board	9,420	5	1,884
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Whau Local Board	86,300	7	12,329
Albert-Eden Local Board	99,500	8	12,438
Puketāpapa Local Board	61,100	6	10,183
Ōrākei Local Board	86,200	7	12,314
Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board	84,100	7	12,014
Howick Local Board	157,700	9	17,522

Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board	89,200	7	12,743
Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board	96,700	7	13,814
Manurewa Local Board	110,900	8	13,863
Papakura Local Board	75,800	6	12,633
Franklin Local Board	85,300	9	9,478

Local board subdivisions

Local board	Pop (2023)	Members	Pop per member	Diff from average	% diff from average
Rodney Local Board subdivisions					
Wellsford	6,960	1	6,960	-2,036	-22.63
Warkworth	23,600	3	7,867	-1,129	-12.55
Kumeū	40,900	4	10,225	1,229	13.67
Dairy Flat	9,500	1	9,500	504	5.61
Total	80,960	9	8,996		
Hibiscus and Bays Local Board subdivisions					
Hibiscus Coast	64,800	4	16,200	1,563	10.67
East Coast Bays	52,300	4	13,075	-1,563	-10.67
Total	117,100	8	14,638		
Albert-Eden Local Board subdivisions					
Ōwairaka	50,200	4	12,550	125	1.01
Maungawhau	49,200	4	12,300	-125	-1.01
Total	99,400	8	12,425		
Maungakiekie-Tamaki Local Board subdivisions					
Maungakiekie	32,100	3	10,700	-1,314	-10.94
Tamaki	52,000	4	13,000	986	8.20
Total	84,100	7	12,014		
Howick Local Board subdivisions					
Pakuranga	43,100	3	14,367	-3,144	-17.96
Howick	44,000	3	14,667	-2,844	-16.24
Botany	70,500	3	23,500	5,989	34.20
Total	157,600	9	17,511		

Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board subdivisions					
Papatoetoe	60,700	4	15,175	1,361	9.85
Ōtara	36,000	3	12,000	-1,814	-13.13
Total	96,700	7	13,814		
Franklin Local Board subdivisions					
Waiuku	16,350	2	8,175	-1,308	-13.80
Pukekohe	41,800	4	10,450	967	10.19
Wairoa	27,200	3	9,067	-417	-4.39
Total	85,350	9	9,483		

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How we represent you

Feedback must be received by **4pm, Thursday 8 August**.

Every six years, Auckland Council must review representation arrangements to ensure they are fair and effective and are keeping pace with Auckland's growth. This review includes the Governing Body, and local boards. Our last review was in 2018 for the 2019 local government elections.

How Auckland Council is currently set up

Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland is divided into 13 wards, each represented by councillors elected by Aucklanders living in those wards. Currently, there are 20 councillors. The mayor is elected by all voters in Auckland. The mayor and councillors make up the Governing Body which collectively acts in the best interests of all Aucklanders.

We also have 21 local boards responsible for making decisions specific to the communities in their geographic areas. Each local board consists of five to nine elected members, totalling 149 members across all boards.

Why do changes need to be made?

Currently, some councillor wards do not meet the requirement that elected representatives must represent a similar number of people (within 10 per cent of the average). *This is called the 'fair representation' rule.* This rule also applies to subdivisions within local boards.

Council is also required to make sure that the election of members provides effective representation of communities of interest. In simple terms, communities of interest are groups of people who feel connected to a place, use the same services, and who have similar issues that require representation at the decision-making table.

What are we proposing?

Through our representation review, we propose maintaining the current number of wards and councillors, while making adjustments to ward boundaries, especially in the North Shore, Albany, and central Auckland areas. We also propose changes to some local board subdivisions.

More information on the current arrangements and why we are asking for your views on changes can be found in the consultation document¹.

What happens next

Council will review feedback on the representation review initial proposal, make any necessary changes, and notify the public of the final proposal. Objections or appeals to the final proposal will then be accepted. If none are received, the proposal will be implemented for the 2025 elections.

We strongly encourage you to read the consultation document² before answering any of the following questions.

¹ Hyperlink to the consultation material

² Hyperlink to the consultation material

We encourage you to give feedback online at [akhaveyoursay.nz](https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/feedback), or you can:

Scan and Email your completed form to:	Post your completed form to:
representationreview@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz	Auckland Council Representation Review
	Freepost Number 190198
	Private Bag 92300
	Victoria Street West
	Auckland, 1142

Your details

Your name and feedback will be included in public documents. All other personal details will not be made available to the public.

First name: _____ Last name: _____

Email or postal address: _____

Your local board or suburb: _____

Are you providing:

☐ Your **personal** feedback

☐ Feedback as the official representative of an **organisation**

Organisation name: _____

These questions are optional but will help us understand which groups of the community are engaging with us.

What gender are you?

☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Another gender: _____

What age group do you belong to?

☐ Under 15 ☐ 15-17 ☐ 18-24 ☐ 25-34 ☐ 35-44

☐ 45-54 ☐ 55-64 ☐ 65-74 ☐ 75+

Which ethnic group(s) do you feel you belong to? (Please select as many as apply)

☐ Pākehā/NZ European ☐ Māori ☐ Cook Islands Māori

☐ Samoan ☐ Tongan ☐ Indian

☐ Chinese ☐ Southeast Asian ☐ Korean

☐ Other (please specify): _____

Important privacy information

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our privacy policy (available at [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy](https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy) and at our libraries and service centres) and with the Privacy Act 2020. The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.

Would you like to subscribe to any of the following (tick all that apply):

- ☐ People’s Panel – to take part in council surveys
- ☐ OurAuckland – your weekly guide to what’s happening in Auckland
- ☐ Auckland Conversations – free public events, offering ideas, inspiration and action for world-class cities

You can also visit AK Have Your Say at [akhaveyoursay.nz](https://www.akhaveyoursay.nz) to find out about, or register to receive regular updates on, consultation activities happening across Auckland

Your feedback (all questions are optional)

Part One: Representation Review initial proposal

1. Overall, what is your opinion of the changes outlined in the representation review initial proposal³?

- ☐ Support
- ☐ Do not support
- ☐ Other
- ☐ I don’t know

Tell us why

Changes to wards from the 2022 elections

2. We are proposing some minor changes to the following ward boundaries.

Central Auckland wards: Waitematā and Gulf, Ōrākei, Maungakiekie-Tāmaki, and Albert-Eden-Puketāpapa.

Before the 2019 elections, the Waitematā and Gulf Ward had 44 per cent more people per councillor than average. To address this, the boundary between the Waitematā and Gulf Ward and the Ōrākei Ward was adjusted, which affected other ward boundaries and caused misalignments with local board boundaries in five areas across four wards.

Current population estimates now allow for realigning most of these boundaries to ensure fair representation, except for Eden Terrace. Moving Eden Terrace back to the Waitematā and Gulf

³ Hyperlink to the representation review initial proposal

Ward would lead to non-compliance with population variation rules. The remaining boundary adjustments are shown in Map 3.

North Shore and Albany wards.

The council proposes to move an area around Bayview currently in the Albany Ward to the North Shore Ward to reduce non-compliance with the fairness of representation rule and move an area to its east from North Shore to Albany Ward to align with minor changes to local board boundaries (5B, 5C and 5D below). With these changes the boundary between the Albany and North Shore wards will fully align with local board boundaries (maps 1 and 7).

For more information, see the representation review initial proposal for changes to wards from the 2022 elections⁴.

2A. What is your opinion of the proposed changes to the *Central Auckland wards* (map 1)?

- ☐ Support
- ☐ Do not support
- ☐ Other
- ☐ I don't know

Tell us why

2B. What is your opinion of the proposed changes to the *North Shore and Albany wards* (map 1)?

- ☐ Support
- ☐ Do not support
- ☐ Other
- ☐ I don't know

Tell us why

⁴ [Hyperlink to the representation review initial proposal](#)

Changes to local board representation from the 2022 elections

- 3. We are proposing changes to subdivisions in two local board areas to better represent those communities.**

Rodney Local Board:

The Warkworth and Kumeū communities will still have representation, but the areas have been reduced in size to match urban and future development zones around these centres. The Dairy Flat subdivision stays the same as it currently is.

The rest of the Rodney Local Board area has two rural subdivisions – a North Rural subdivision and South Rural subdivision.

Howick Local Board:

To ensure fair representation the Botany subdivision will be split into a smaller Botany subdivision with two members and a new Flat Bush subdivision with three members. The total number of members on the Howick Local Board will increase from nine to eleven.

For more information, see the representation review initial proposal⁵ for changes to local board subdivisions from the 2022 elections.

3A. What is your opinion of the proposed changes to the proposed Rodney Local Board subdivision (map 4)?

- ☐ Support
- ☐ Do not support
- ☐ Other
- ☐ I don't know

Tell us why

3B. What is your opinion of the proposed changes to the proposed Howick Local Board subdivision (map 5)?

- ☐ Support
- ☐ Do not support
- ☐ Other
- ☐ I don't know

⁵ Hyperlink to the representation review initial proposal

Tell us why

Non-complying subdivisions

We propose minor noncompliance with the ‘fair representation’ rule for certain local boards to avoid splitting established communities. Achieving compliance would require significant geographic changes, which could disrupt community ties and create impractical boundaries, especially in areas divided by natural or infrastructural barriers.

For more information, see the representation review initial proposal for non-complying local board subdivisions⁶.

4. Do you have any feedback on the proposal to maintain some subdivision arrangements that are currently not compliant with the rule for fairness of representation?

Local board boundaries

5. We are proposing some small changes to local board boundaries.

We propose minor changes to local board boundaries across the Devonport-Takapuna, Upper Harbour, Kaipātiki, Puketāpapa and Maungakiekie-Tāmaki local boards to better align community areas and reserves.

For more information, see the representation review initial proposal for minor changes to local board boundaries⁷.

- 5A. We are proposing that Saunders Reserve, currently split across Devonport-Takapuna and Upper Harbour Local Boards, will be fully in the Upper Harbour Local Board (maps 6 and 7). What is your opinion of this proposal?

☐ Support

⁶ Hyperlink to the representation review initial proposal

⁷ Hyperlink to the representation review initial proposal

- ☐ Do not support
- ☐ Other
- ☐ I don't know

Tell us why

5B. We are proposing to move part of Kereru Reserve, currently split across Kaipātiki and Upper Harbour Local Boards, to the Upper Harbour Local Board (map 7). What is your opinion of this proposal?

- ☐ Support
- ☐ Do not support
- ☐ Other
- ☐ I don't know

Tell us why

5C. We are proposing to shift the section of the Upper Harbour / Kaipātiki boundary that lies between Caribbean Drive and Albany Highway southwards, so it follows a road boundary (map 7). What is your opinion of this proposal?

- ☐ Support
- ☐ Do not support
- ☐ Other
- ☐ I don't know

Tell us why

5D. We are proposing to align Bayview, currently split across Upper Harbour and Kaipātiki Local Boards, to the Kaipātiki Local Board (map 7). What is your opinion of this proposal?

- ☐ Support
- ☐ Do not support
- ☐ Other
- ☐ I don't know

Tell us why

5E. We are proposing to align Taumanu Reserve (Onehunga), currently split across Puketāpapa and Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Boards, to the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board (map 8). What is your opinion of this proposal?

- ☐ Support
- ☐ Do not support
- ☐ Other
- ☐ I don't know

Tell us why

Part Two: The current local board structure

It has been 15 years since Auckland Council was established. Auckland Council has 21 local boards with 149 elected members, each focused on addressing issues specific to their communities. The current structure ensures that decisions are made at a local level, catering to the unique needs of each area.

When Auckland Council was formed, the number of boards was set to balance the desire for local decisions against the cost and complexity of having too many local boards. While the current structure supports localism (that is, local representatives making decisions that reflect the views and needs of their local communities), a streamlined structure might improve overall council efficiency and resource allocation.

We want to know how well you think the current local board structure represents you and your community, and if you have any ideas for improving it.

We strongly encourage you to read the consultation document⁸ if you would like more information on the current structure.

6. Do you feel knowledgeable about what local boards are and what they do?

- ☐ Very knowledgeable
- ☐ Quite knowledgeable
- ☐ Not very knowledgeable
- ☐ Not at all knowledgeable
- ☐ I don't know

Tell us more

7. Do you think council should review the current structure of local boards?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I don't know

Tell us why

⁸ [Hyeprlink to consutlaiton material](#)

8. If you think the council should consider changing the local board structure, which geographic area do you think is best for a local board to represent?

- ☐ A suburb
- ☐ A group of suburbs (cluster)
- ☐ A larger area, like West Auckland or North Shore
- ☐ Other

Tell us why

9. Do you have any other feedback about how you and your community can be represented through local boards and the governing body?

Need more room? You can attach extra pages.



Auckland Council's Governance Structure People's Panel Survey Final Report

March 2024



Methodology

Survey invites
were sent to
12,932 panel
members via
email

10%*
(n=1,268)
finished the
survey
*this is a typical response
rate

Fieldwork:
27 Feb 24
to
Mar 4



Sample Profile

The survey sample was skewed towards Aucklanders who are female, older (those aged 30+), and European.



BASE: All respondents (n=1,269)



Results summary

SUMMARY

Knowledge of local boards and the Governing Body is low:

- Only 1 in 5 respondents feel knowledgeable about their local board and the Governing Body (20% and 18%, respectively). Compare this to 58% who feel they are knowledgeable about the NZ Government.
- When council's decision-making structure was explained to respondents only 24% of respondents rated themselves as having been knowledgeable about who makes what decisions at council.

Perceptions of local boards and Governing Body are fairly low – but knowledge is key:

- Those who are knowledgeable of how decisions are made at Auckland Council are more likely to have favourable perceptions of their local board and the Governing Body
- Those from smaller local boards are more likely to agree that their local board understands local issues (49%).

	Local Boards Total % agree	Governing Body Total % agree
Understands local issues (LB) / issues facing Auckland (GB)	41% (56% among 'knowledgeable' respondents)	34% (47% among 'knowledgeable' respondents)
Takes action on local issues (LB) / Auckland issues (GB)	28% (41%)	22% (32%)
Provides opportunities for you to have your say about local issues (LB) / about shaping Auckland (GB)	23% (37%)	25% (38%)
Provides enough information for you to have your say	18% (28%)	20% (32%)
Makes the right decisions	17% (28%)	11% (17%)

There is keen appetite to learn more about Elected Representatives:

- 3 in 5 respondents would like to learn more about their Elected Reps (63% for local boards, and 60% for the Governing Body)

SUMMARY

Local board proposed changes:

- More respondents support (42%) than oppose (26%) the proposal to reduce the number of local boards, although a third (32%) remain undecided (rated 'neutral' or 'I don't know').

Support for proposed local board changes (total 42% support):

- *Feedback suggests that the main reasons for support are reductions in cost, complexity, and less competing interests.
- Local Boards that aren't proposed for amalgamation are more supportive (47%). Support is highest in Rodney (68%), Howick (53%), and Franklin (49%) local boards.

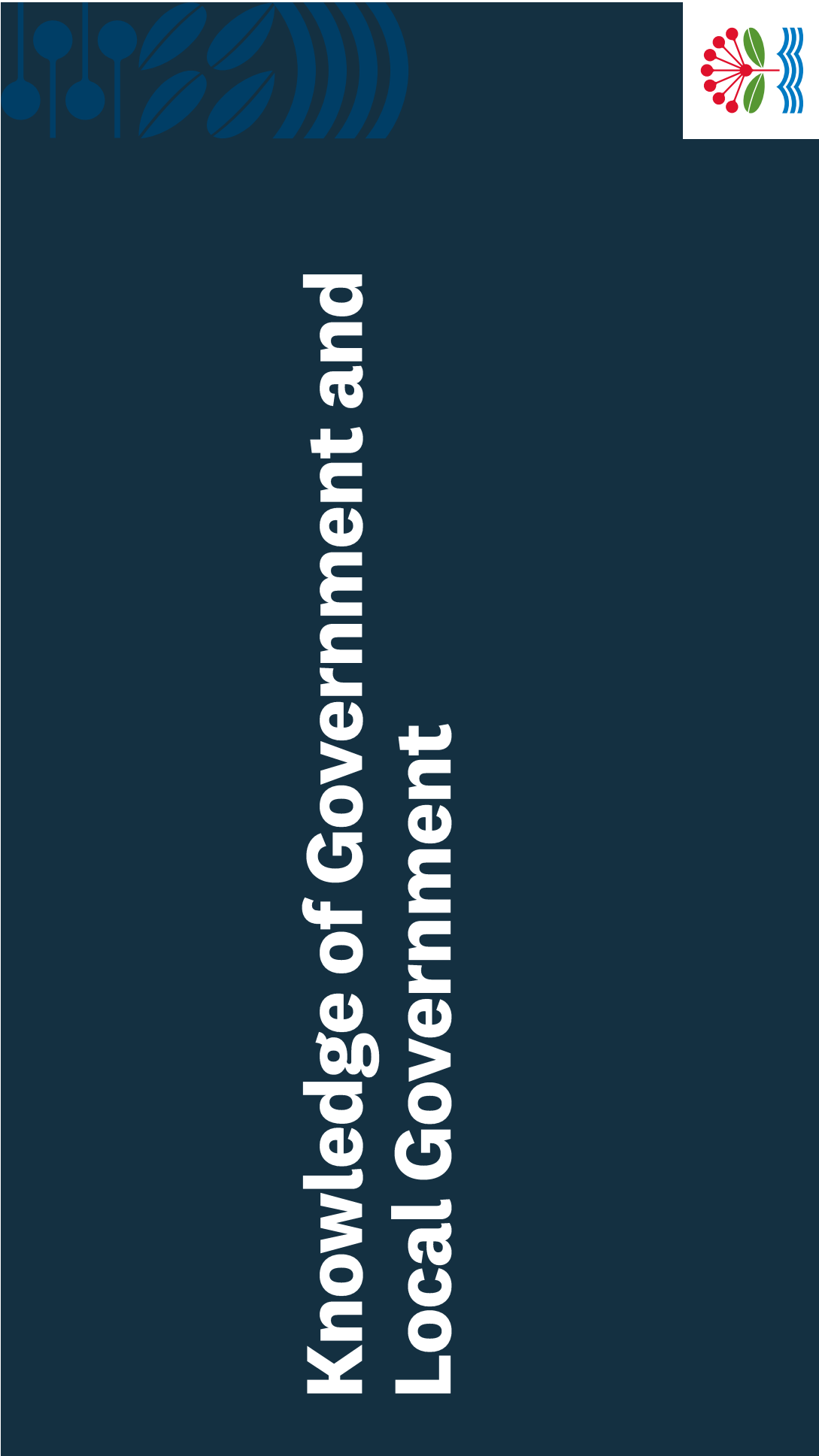
Opposition to local board changes (total 26% oppose):

- *Feedback suggests the main reasons for opposition are reductions in understanding and responsiveness to local issues, and impacts on community engagement and effective representation. There are also concerns that many boards proposed for merger are too different, or that one merged board may dominate the other.
- Local boards that are proposed for amalgamation are more opposed (32%). Opposition is highest in Ōtara-Papatoetoe (44%) and Waitākere (40%) local boards.

Ward proposed changes:

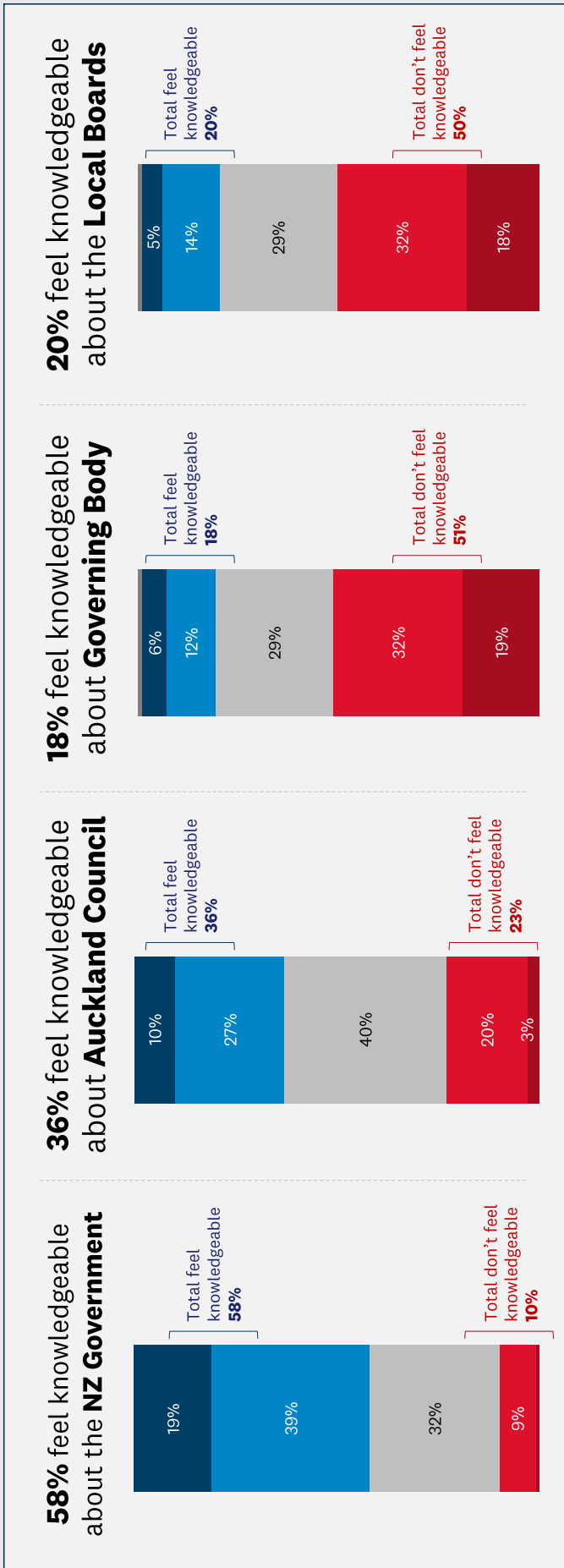
- Overall, 24% feel the existing ward structure works well. Those who are 'knowledgeable' about council decision making are more likely to agree that the existing ward structure works well (38%).
- Only 15% support councillors being elected regionally. Those from central wards Waitematā (21%) and Albert-Eden (19%) are the most supportive areas. The key reason for support is a more regional focus.
- Reasons for opposition include a loss of community connection and consideration of local needs, and stronger potential political party influence.

* Feedback sourced from stakeholders and members of the community (including the People's Panel)



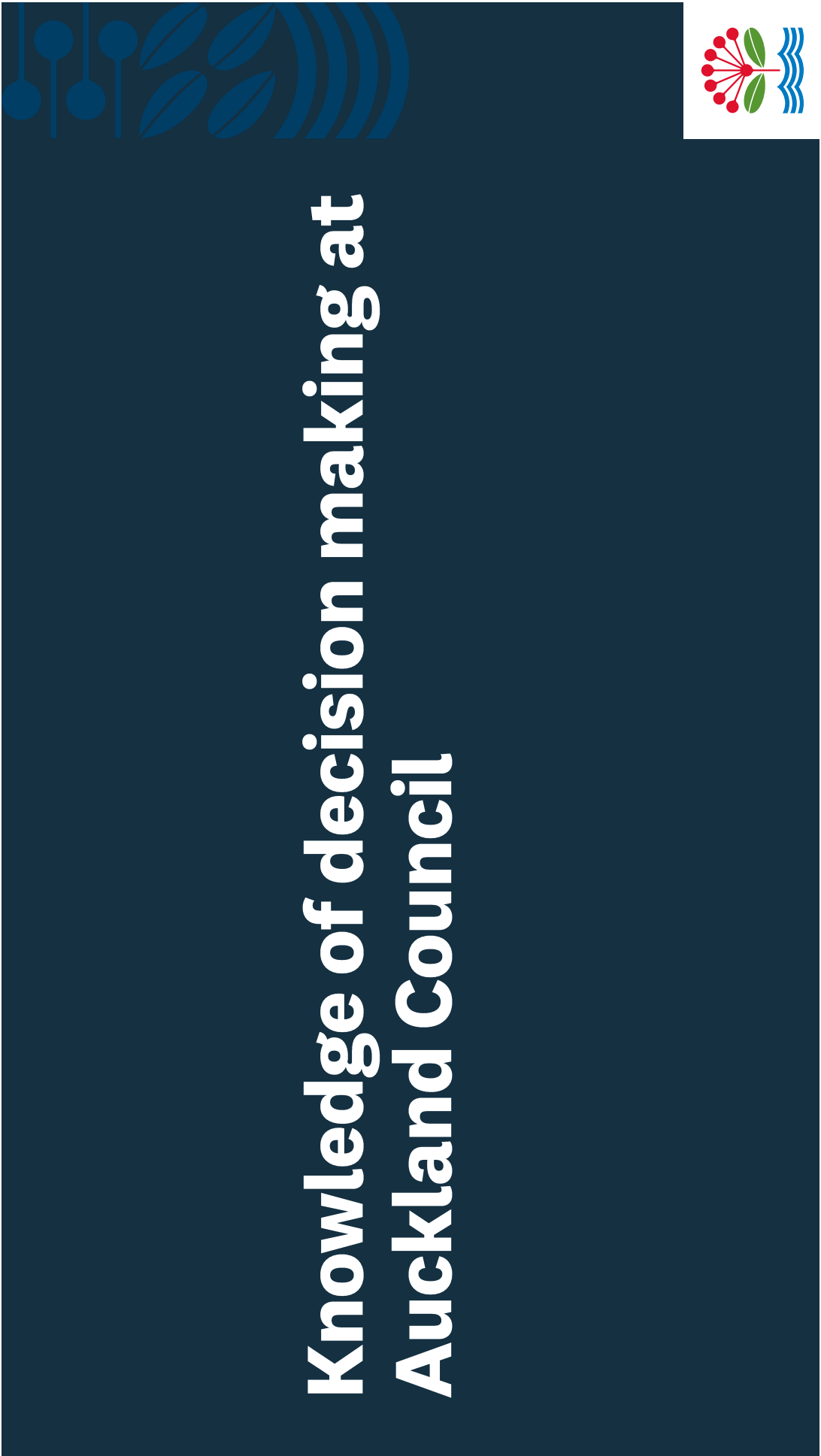
Knowledge of Government and Local Government

The majority (58%) of respondents feel knowledgeable about the New Zealand Government, they feel less knowledgeable about Auckland Council overall (37%). 1 in 5 or less feel knowledgeable about local boards (20%) and the Governing Body (18%).



BASE: All respondents (n=1,269)
Q: First we'd like to ask about your knowledge of Government and Local Government. How much, if anything, do you feel you know about...

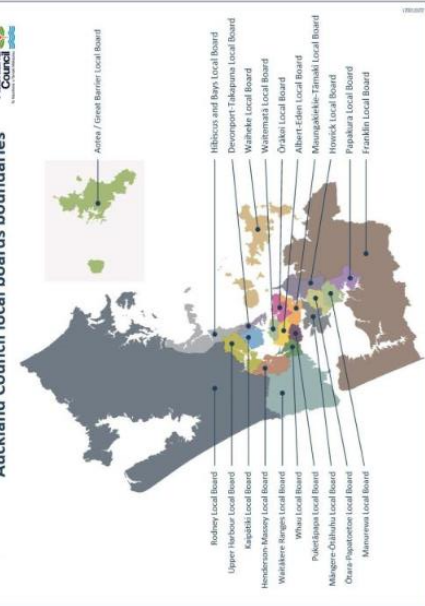




1) The Governing Body

Our 21 local boards look after **local communities**, they take care of the matters that are **important to their local communities**. Each local board has between

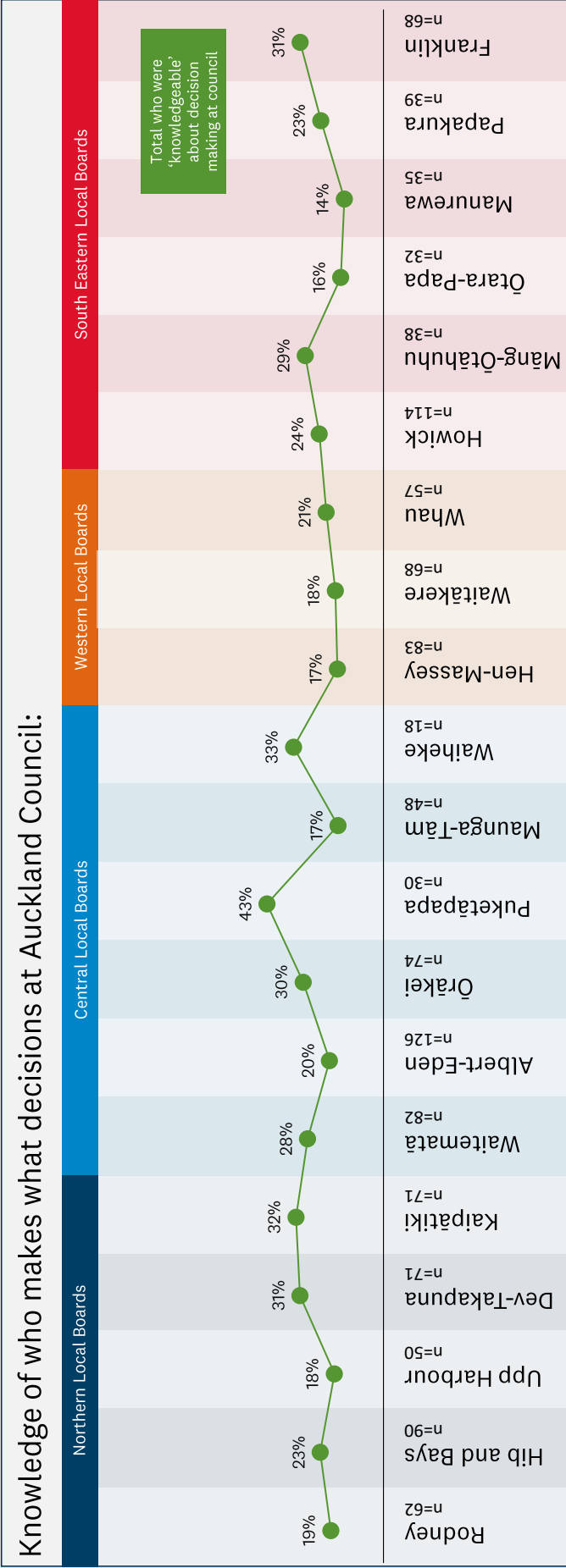
- five and nine members representing their area.



(Examples of what local boards do deciding on local board plans, looking after local libraries, parks, and community centres, local events, environmental protection, and community grants, inputting into regional strategies, policies, plans, and bylaws, and community engagement, consultation and advocacy)

... they then rated their knowledge of decision making

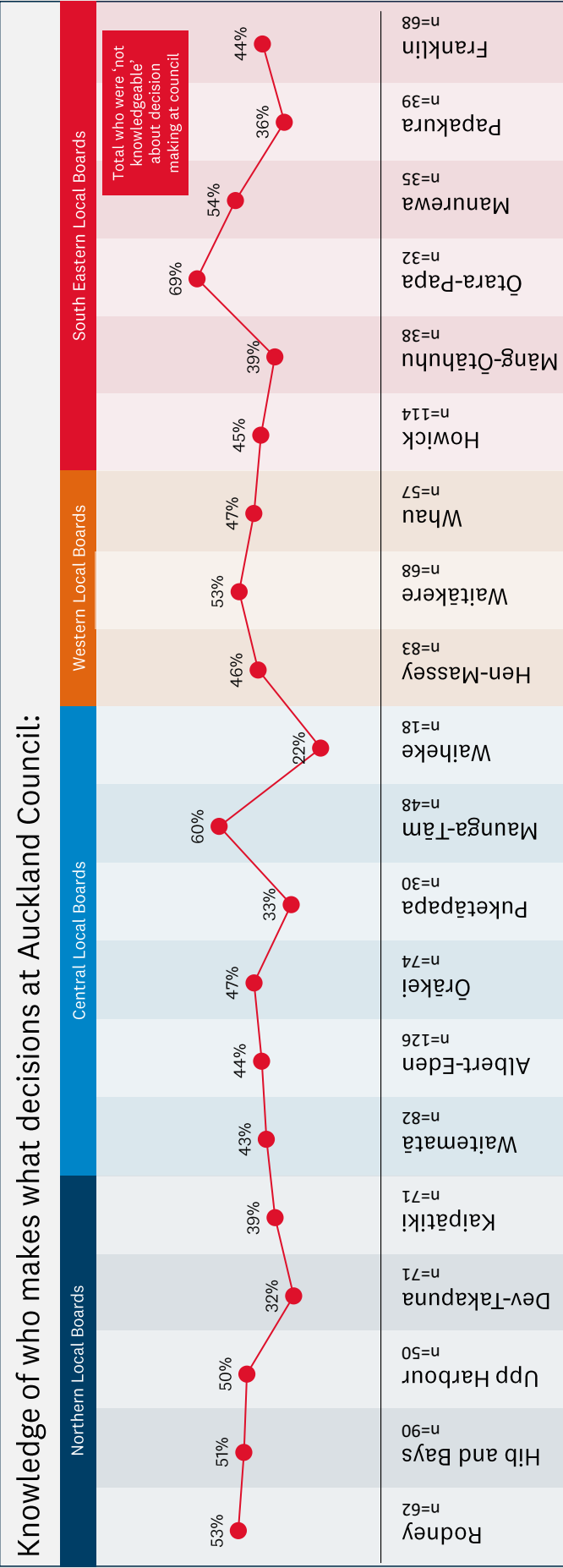
Overall, 24% were knowledgeable about decision making at Auckland Council. Knowledge was highest among those in Puketāpapa (43%), Waiheke (33%), Kaipātiki (32%), Devonport-Takapuna (31%), and Franklin (31%).



BASE: All respondents (n=1,268)
Q: Before today, how knowledgeable were you about who makes what decisions at Auckland Council?

46% were not knowledgeable about decision making

Respondents from Ōtara-Papatoetoe (69%) and Maungakiekie-Tāmaki (60%) local boards were more likely to say they were not knowledgeable.



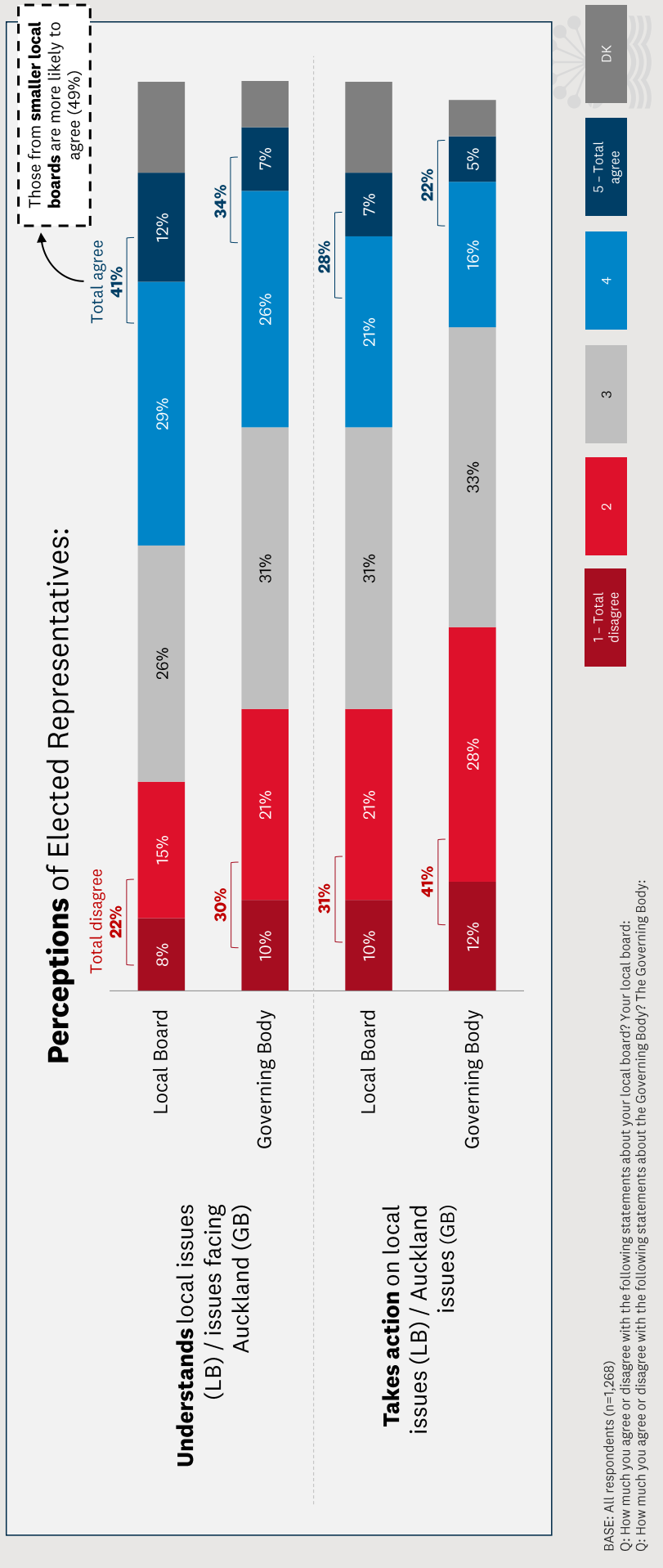
BASE: All respondents (n=1,268)
Q: Before today, how knowledgeable were you about who makes what decisions at Auckland Council?



Perceptions of the Governing Body and local boards

Overall perceptions of elected representatives

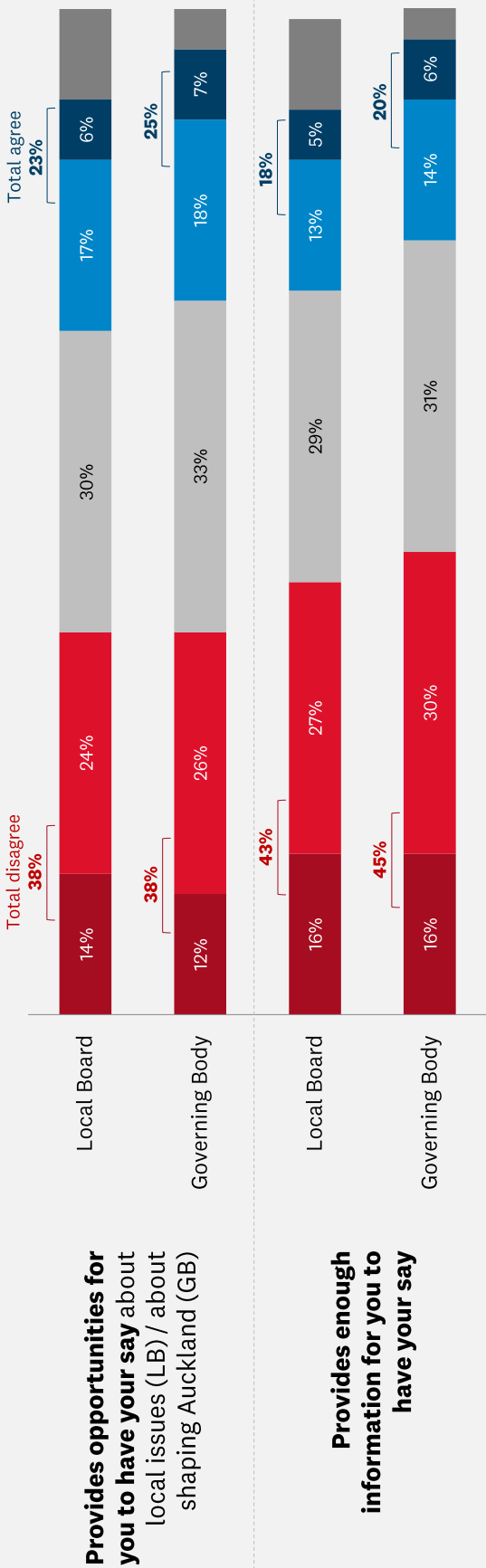
Respondents perceive that local boards better understand the issues and takes more action on them than the Governing Body.



Overall perceptions of elected representatives

More respondents disagree than agree that elected representatives provide opportunities for them have their say, and enough information to have their say.

Perceptions of Elected Representatives:

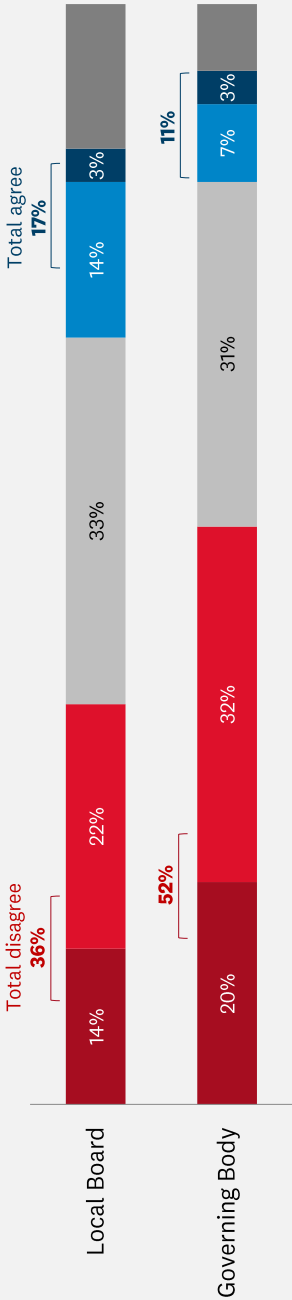


BASE: All respondents (n=1,268)
Q: How much you agree or disagree with the following statements about your local board? Your local board:
Q: How much you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Governing Body? The Governing Body:

Overall perceptions of elected representatives

Very few respondents agree that elected members make the right decisions.

Perceptions of Elected Representatives:



BASE: All respondents (n=1,268)
Q: How much you agree or disagree with the following statements about your local board? Your local board:
Q: How much you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Governing Body? The Governing Body:

Knowledge is key

Those who were knowledgeable of how decisions are made at Auckland Council are more likely to have favourable perceptions of their local board and the Governing Body.

Lowest agreement %

Average agreement %

Highest agreement %

Perceptions of local board by knowledgeable levels:

	Before today, how knowledgeable were you about who makes what decisions at Auckland Council?		
	Total Unknowledgeable about how decisions are made at council (1+2) n=581	Total Neutral about how decisions are made at council (3) n=376	Total Knowledgeable about how decisions are made at council (4+5) n=304
Agreement that your local board...			
Understands local issues	29%	49%	56%
Takes action on local issues	19%	33%	41%
Provides opportunities for you to have your say about local issues	13%	27%	37%
Provides enough information for you to have your say	10%	22%	28%
Makes the right decisions	11%	18%	28%

Perceptions of Governing Body by knowledgeable levels:

	Before today, how knowledgeable were you about who makes what decisions at Auckland Council?		
	Total Unknowledgeable about how decisions are made at council (1+2) n=581	Total Neutral about how decisions are made at council (3) n=376	Total Knowledgeable about how decisions are made at council (4+5) n=304
Agreement that the Governing Body...			
Understands issues facing Auckland	24%	38%	47%
Takes action on Auckland issues	15%	24%	32%
Provides opportunities for you to have your say about shaping Auckland	19%	25%	38%
Provides enough information for you to have your say	12%	22%	32%
Makes the right decisions	8%	11%	17%

BASE: All respondents (n=1,268)
Q: Before today, how knowledgeable were you about who makes what decisions at Auckland Council?
Q: How much you agree or disagree with the following statements about your local board?
Q: How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Governing Body?

Local board perceptions by local board

In general, perceptions towards local boards are highest among respondents in Waiheke, Puketāpapa, and Kaipātiki, Māngere-Ōtāhuhu, and Papakura local boards. Perceptions are lowest among those in Maungakiekie-Tāmaki, Upper Harbour, Waitematā, and Ōtara-Papatoetoe.

Agreement that ‘Your local board:’

	Total	Northern Local Boards					Central Local Boards					Western Local Boards			South-Eastern Local Boards					Franklin	
		Rodney	Hib and Bays	Upp Harbour	Dev- Takapuna	Kaipātiki	Waite- matā	Albert- Eden	Ōrākei	Puketa- papa	Maunga- Tām	Waiheke	Hen- Massey	Waitāke- re	Whau	Howick	Māng- Ōtāhuhu	Ōtara- Papa	Manurew- a	Papakur- a	
Understands local issues	41%	50%	44%	36%	49%	54%	30%	34%	43%	57%	19%	78%	35%	51%	30%	42%	45%	28%	37%	49%	46%
Takes action on local issues	28%	34%	27%	18%	27%	41%	18%	25%	38%	50%	8%	61%	27%	37%	25%	29%	39%	16%	23%	36%	21%
Provides opportunities for you to have your say	23%	27%	20%	10%	23%	27%	13%	19%	26%	47%	15%	56%	19%	22%	23%	24%	34%	9%	26%	31%	24%
Provides enough information for you to have your say	18%	21%	18%	10%	20%	25%	13%	17%	19%	27%	6%	44%	14%	19%	9%	18%	29%	9%	14%	26%	16%
Makes the right decisions	17%	19%	13%	12%	14%	27%	9%	13%	19%	27%	6%	33%	20%	19%	14%	18%	26%	19%	20%	26%	13%
	n=1,268	n=62	n=90	n=50	n=71	n=71	n=82	n=126	n=74	n=30	n=48	n=18	n=83	n=68	n=57	n=114	n=38	n=32	n=35	n=39	n=68

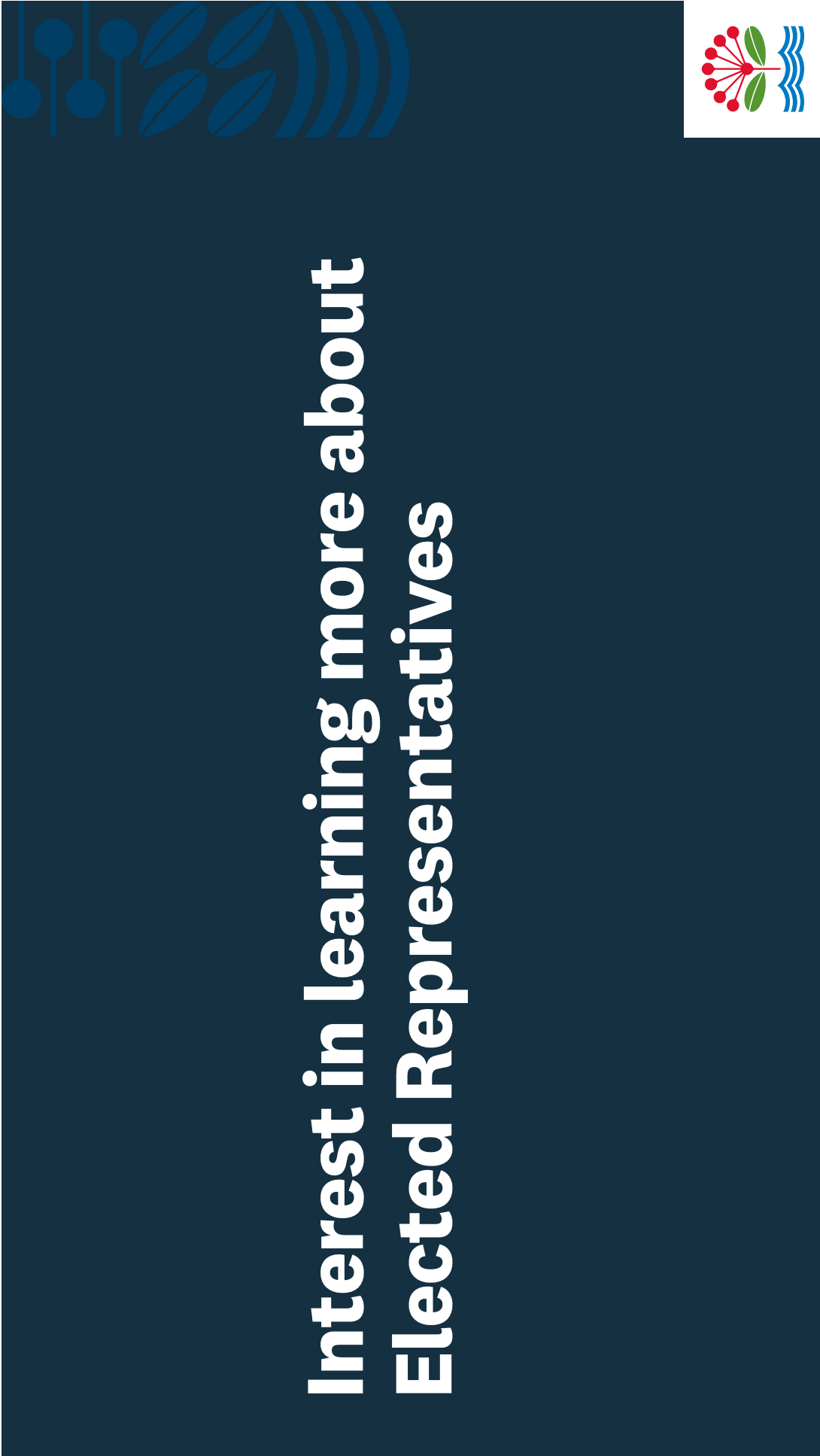
BASE: All respondents (n=1,268)
Q: How much you agree or disagree with the following statements about your local board?

Governing Body perceptions by ward:

In general, perceptions towards the Governing Body are highest among those in Rodney, Albert-Eden-Roskill, and Manuvera-Papakura wards. Perceptions are lowest among those in Maungakiekie-Tāmaki, Waitākere, and Franklin wards.

Agreement that ‘The Governing Body:’														Lowest agreement %	Average agreement %	Highest agreement %
	Total	Northern Wards			Central Wards			Western Wards		South-Eastern Wards				Franklin	Manuvera-Papakura	n=68
		Rodney	Albany	North Shore	Waitemata and Gulf	Albert-Eden-Roskill	Ōrākei	Maunga-Tam	Waitākere	Whau	Howick	Manukau	Manuvera-Papakura			
Understands issues facing Auckland	34%	32%	31%	34%	37%	34%	41%	33%	30%	33%	34%	33%	35%	31%		
Provides opportunities for you to have your say	25%	31%	25%	25%	30%	23%	23%	21%	23%	32%	25%	30%	29%	22%		
Takes action on Auckland issues	22%	24%	20%	25%	18%	26%	23%	10%	18%	25%	24%	23%	23%	18%		
Provides enough information for you to have your say	20%	23%	21%	21%	19%	23%	18%	17%	17%	16%	20%	24%	23%	18%		
Makes the right decisions	11%	15%	12%	9%	8%	15%	7%	4%	11%	11%	11%	10%	19%	4%		
	n=1,258	n=62	n=138	n=141	n=105	n=155	n=74	n=48	n=151	n=57	n=114	n=70	n=75	n=68		

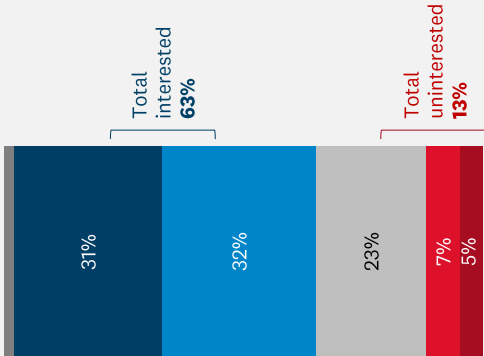
BASE: All respondents (n=1,268)
Q: How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Governing Body?



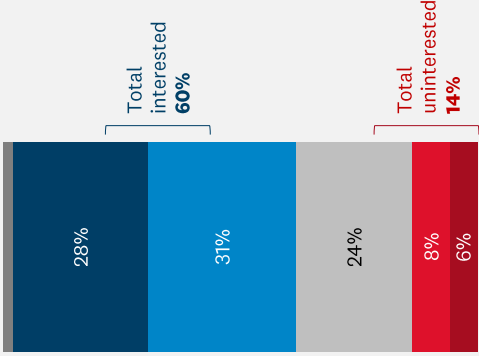
Interest in learning more about elected representatives

63% of respondents are interested in learning more about their local board, and 60% are interested in learning more about the Governing Body.

Interest in learning more about your **local board**:



Interest in learning more about the **Governing Body**:



BASE: All respondents (n=1,268)
Q: How interested are you in knowing more about the following elected representatives?



DK



Engagement and Contact

Just over half have had some contact with elected reps

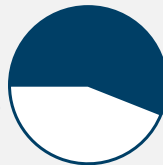
Most respondents (87%) have voted in council elections before and over half (56%) say they have had their say in a council consultation. The most common ways of having contact with an elected representative are by 'email, post, or visiting an office' (29%), and 'seeing an elected representative at an event' (27%).

Engagement with council:

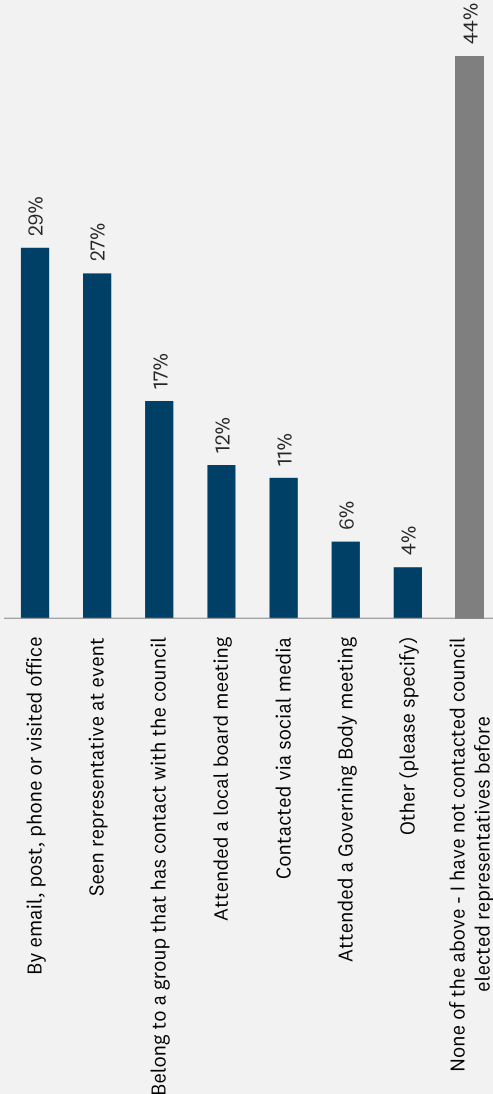
87% have **voted** in council elections before:



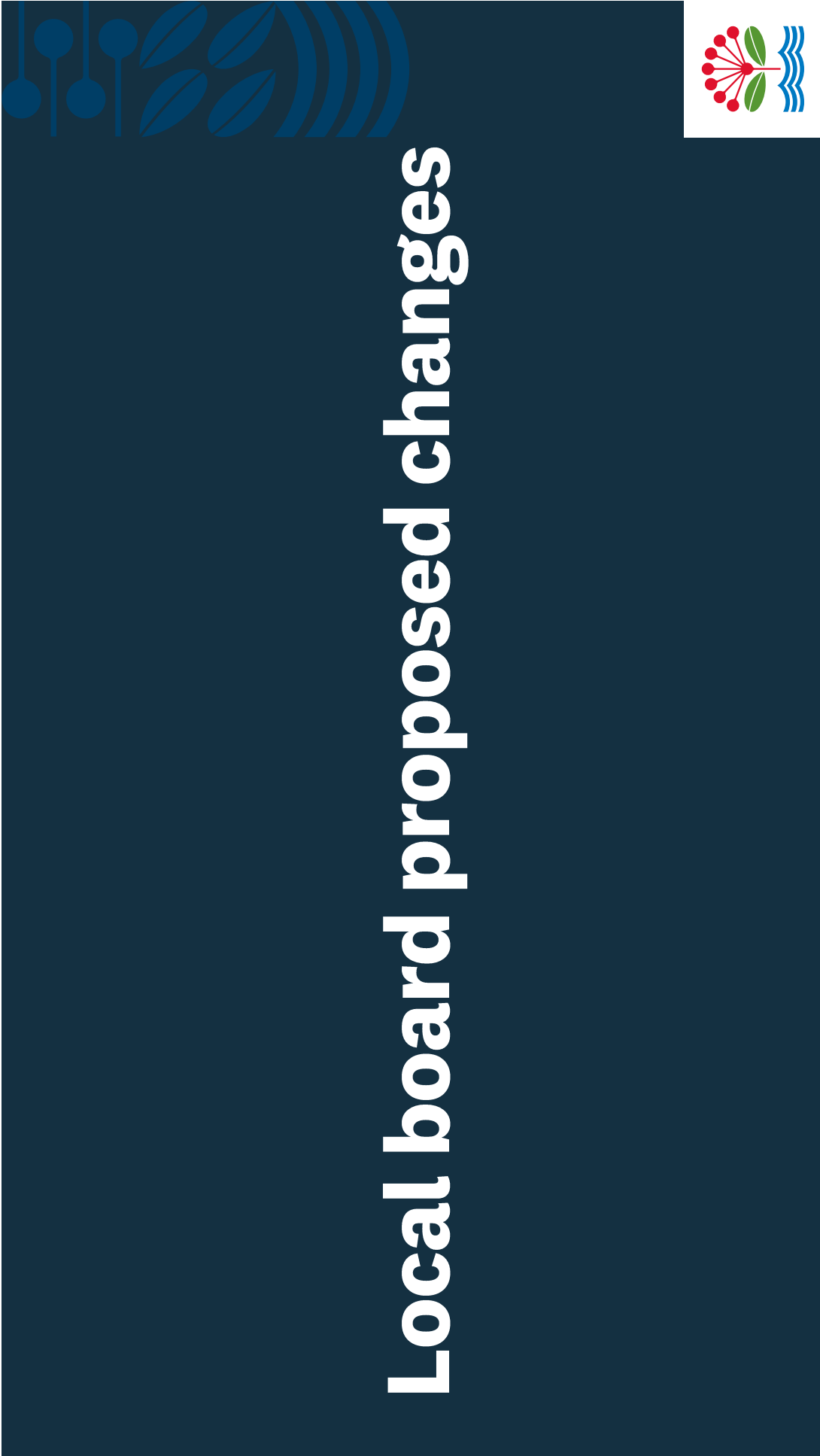
56% have **had their say** before:



Contact with council elected representatives:



BASE: All respondents (n=1,268)
Q: Have you voted in council elections before?
Q: Have you had your say on a Auckland-wide or local matter before - for example through a consultation?
Q: Which of the following types of contact, if any, have you had with your council elected representatives?



We introduced the local board reorganisation as follows:

“The council is currently **considering making changes** to its decision-making structure to make it simpler, more effective for local communities, and within the same overall cost.

Council currently has 21 local boards, the proposal is to have **fewer local boards** and for them to be **more empowered**. The overall number of elected members would reduce slightly in the boards that are merged.

Local boards that could be merged include:

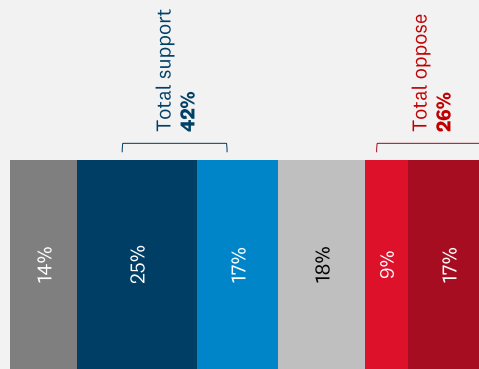
- Hibiscus & Bays with Upper Harbour
- Henderson-Massey with Waitākere Ranges
- Manurewa with Papakura
- Ōtara-Papatoetoe with Māngere-Ōtāhuhu
- Albert-Eden with Puketāpapa
- Kaipātiki with Devonport-Takapuna

Other local boards that represent distinct communities would probably stay as they are e.g. rural areas like Rodney and Franklin, and our island boards (Waiheke and Aotea Great Barrier).”

42% support the reorganization proposal

Those who support the proposed changes tend to mention reductions in cost, complexity, and less competing interests. The main reasons for opposition are reductions in understanding and responsiveness to local issues, and impacts on community engagement and effective representation. There are also concerns that many boards proposed for merger are too different, or that one merged board may dominate the other

Support for reducing the number of boards:



Reasons for support*:

- Reducing costs
- Reducing the complexity of the structure
- Potential for less competing interests

Reasons for opposition*:

- Impact on effective representation
- Impact on community engagement and connection (particularly south)
- Less understanding of local issues
- Less responsive to local needs
- One merged board could dominate and the other would lose out
- Some merged boards are just too different

Other key points*:

- Pacific and Māori feel the current model isn't providing effective representation for them
- Effective representation is needed for rural and island communities so their needs aren't drowned out
- There were suggestions to reduce number of boards further or remove entirely

* Feedback sourced from stakeholders and members of the community (including the People's Panel)

BASE: All respondents (n=1,268)

Q: What is your level of support for reducing the number of boards?

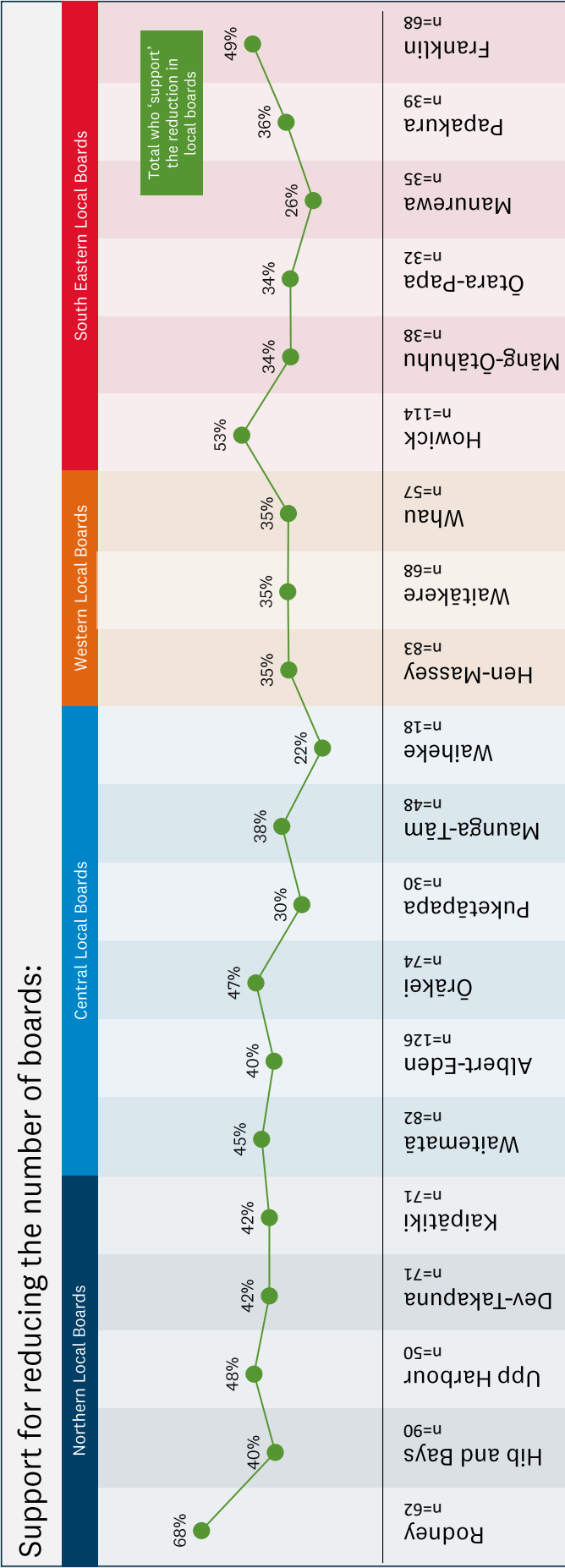
Q: Do you have any comments about the number and structure of local boards?



DK

Support for reorganisation proposal by local board

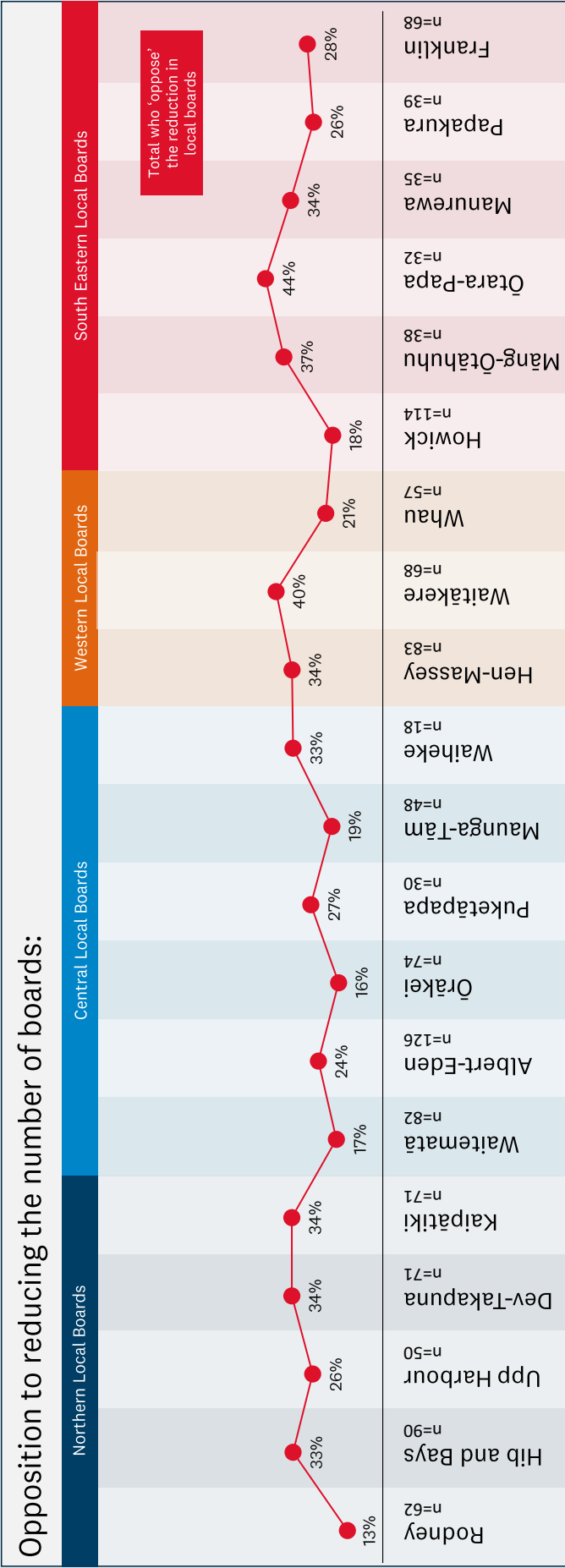
Overall, those in Local boards that are not proposed for amalgamation are more supportive of the proposal (47%). Support is highest in Rodney (68%), Howick (53%), and Franklin (49%) local boards.



BASE: All respondents (n=1,268)
Q: What is your level of support for reducing the number of boards?

Opposition to reorganisation proposal by local board

Overall, those in local boards that are proposed for amalgamation have more opposition for the proposal (32%). Opposition is highest in Ōtara-Papatoetoe (44%), and Waitākere (40%) local boards.



BASE: All respondents (n=1,268)
Q: What is your level of support for reducing the number of boards?

How should local boards be more empowered

Many people commented they didn't know enough about the role of local boards or the funding arrangements to be able to answer this question. Those who did provide recommendations said that they could have stronger governance roles with CCOs (particularly AT), more budget and autonomy in decision-making, and greater oversight of local contractors.

* How should boards be more empowered?

Stronger governance roles with CCOs – particularly AT
E.g. decision making over local transport matters

“Have a decision-making power regarding local infrastructure and approve the funding for projects under certain threshold.”

More budget and more flexibility with it
Including setting staff structures and decisions about part-time / full-time members

“Funding for community organisations needs to rest more with the local boards.”

More autonomy in decision-making
Decisions on land and asset sales, local reserves, sport fields, playgrounds, stormwater management and local initiatives

“Speed limits, road maintenance, roadside parking in the newer housing areas.”

Greater oversight of local contractors
I.e. those who understand local needs

“Greater regulatory autonomy.”

“Gain more community voice and really understand what the needs are. This way the decisions that are made are done so collaboratively.”

* Feedback sourced from stakeholders and members of the community (including the People's Panel)

BASE: All respondents (n=1,268)
Q: Considering the concept of more empowered local boards, are there any decisions that you believe your local board should be able to make for your community, but currently lacks the authority to do so?





Overall, 24% feel the existing ward structure works well

Those from the North Shore ward (35%) are the positive about the ward structure, while Maungakiekie-Tāmaki is the least positive. Only 15% support councillors being elected regionally, those from Waitemata (21%) and Albert-Eden (19%) are the most supportive areas

Agreement that:

	Total	Northern Wards			Central Wards			Western Wards			South-Eastern Wards			Average agreement %	Highest agreement %
		Rodney	Albany	North Shore	Waitemata and Gulf	Albert-Eden-Roskill	Ōrākei	Maunga-Tam	Waitākere	Whau	Howick	Manukau	Manuwaera-Papakura		
The existing number of councillors and ward structure works well	24%	23%	26%	35%	22%	21%	28%	13%	20%	18%	20%	24%	27%	24%	24%
Support councillors being elected at an Auckland-wide level	15%	10%	12%	11%	21%	19%	14%	13%	15%	16%	16%	16%	16%	12%	12%
	n=1,258	n=62	n=138	n=141	n=105	n=155	n=74	n=48	n=151	n=57	n=114	n=70	n=75	n=68	n=68

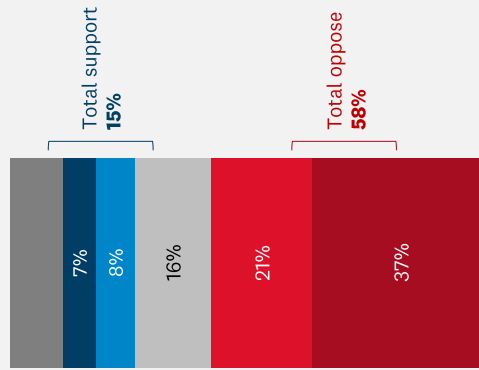
Those who are 'knowledgeable' about council decision making are more likely to agree that the existing ward structure works well (38%)

BASE: All respondents (n=1,268)
Q: How well do you think the existing number of councillors and ward structure works to represent you and your community?
Q: What is your level of support for councillors being elected at an Auckland-wide level (instead of at a ward level as they currently are)?

Key reasons for supporting / opposing ward changes

A key reason for supporting councillors at Auckland-wide level is a more regional focus. Reasons for opposition include a loss of community connection and consideration of local needs, and the fact that political party influence could be stronger.

Support electing councillors at Auckland-wide level:



*Reasons for support:

- There would be a more regional focus
- Potential for cost savings - would require councillors to be well prepared and able to act holistically
- More focused on priority issues

*Reasons for opposition:

- Loss of community connection and consideration of local needs - particularly for under-represented communities
- Political party influence may be stronger
- Potential for representatives to only come from wealthy areas

*Other key points:

- Ratio of wards to councillors should be 1:1
- Return to the pre-amalgamation model - more local management
- Differing views about having dedicated Māori seats on council

*Feedback sourced from members of the community (including the People's Panel), and stakeholders

BASE: All respondents (n=1,268)
Q: What is your level of support for reducing the number of boards?
Q: Do you have any comments about the number and structure of local boards?

1 - Not at all

2

3

4

5 - Yes, it is very iconic

DK



Any questions?

Contact the People's Panel Team at
peoplespanel@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Governing Body perceptions by ward:

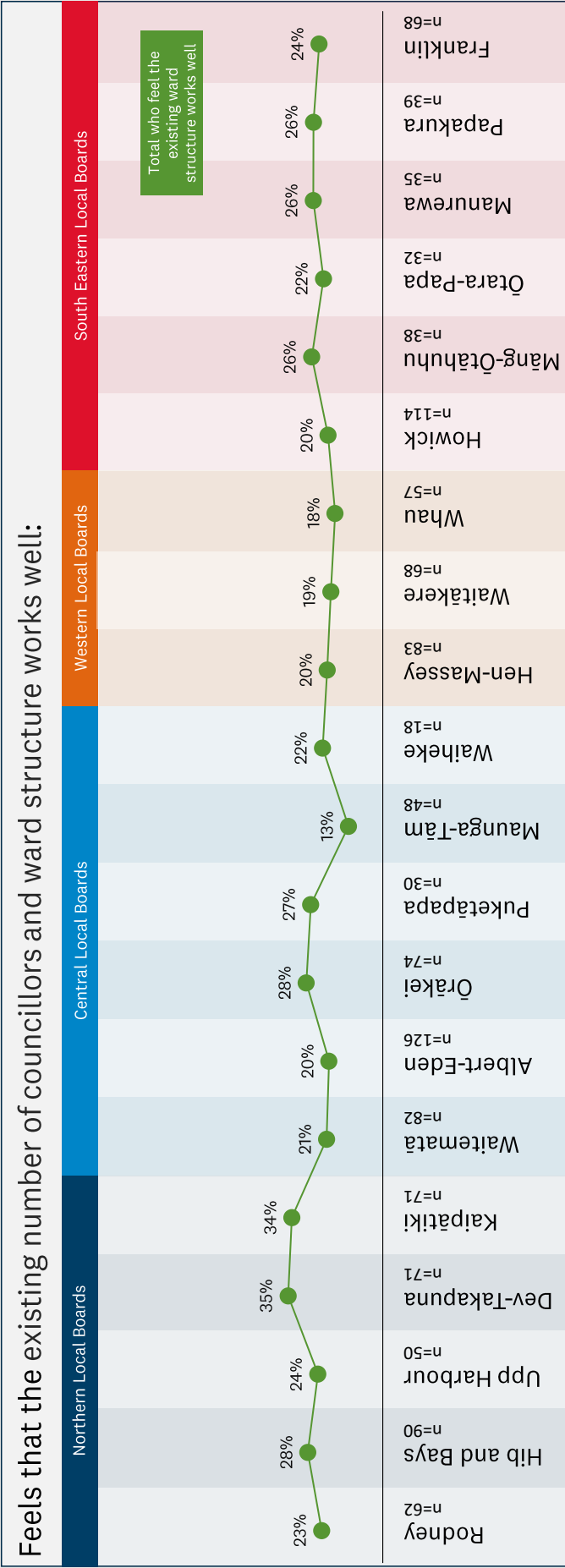
In general, perceptions towards the Governing Body are highest among those in Rodney, Albert-Eden-Roskill, and Manuwera-Papakura wards. Perceptions are lowest among those in Maungakiekie-Tāmaki, Waitākere, and Franklin wards.

Agreement that ‘The Governing Body:’																	
	Total	Northern Wards				Central Wards				Western Wards			South-Eastern Wards				Highest agreement % per statement
		Rodney	Albany	North Shore	Waitemata and Gulf	Albert-Eden-Roskill	Ōrākei	Maunga-Tam	Waitākere	Whau	Howick	Manukau	Manuwera-Papakura	Franklin			
Understands issues facing Auckland	34%	32%	31%	34%	37%	34%	41%	33%	30%	33%	34%	33%	35%	31%			
Takes action on Auckland issues	22%	24%	20%	25%	18%	26%	23%	10%	18%	25%	24%	23%	23%	18%			
Provides opportunities for you to have your say	25%	31%	25%	25%	30%	23%	23%	21%	23%	32%	25%	30%	29%	22%			
Provides enough information for you to have your say	20%	23%	21%	21%	19%	23%	18%	17%	17%	16%	20%	24%	23%	18%			
Makes the right decisions	11%	15%	12%	9%	8%	15%	7%	4%	11%	11%	11%	10%	19%	4%			
	n=1,258	n=62	n=138	n=141	n=105	n=155	n=74	n=48	n=151	n=57	n=114	n=70	n=75	n=68			

BASE: All respondents (n=1,268)
Q: How much do you agree with the following statements about the Governing Body?

Overall, 24% feel the existing ward structure works well

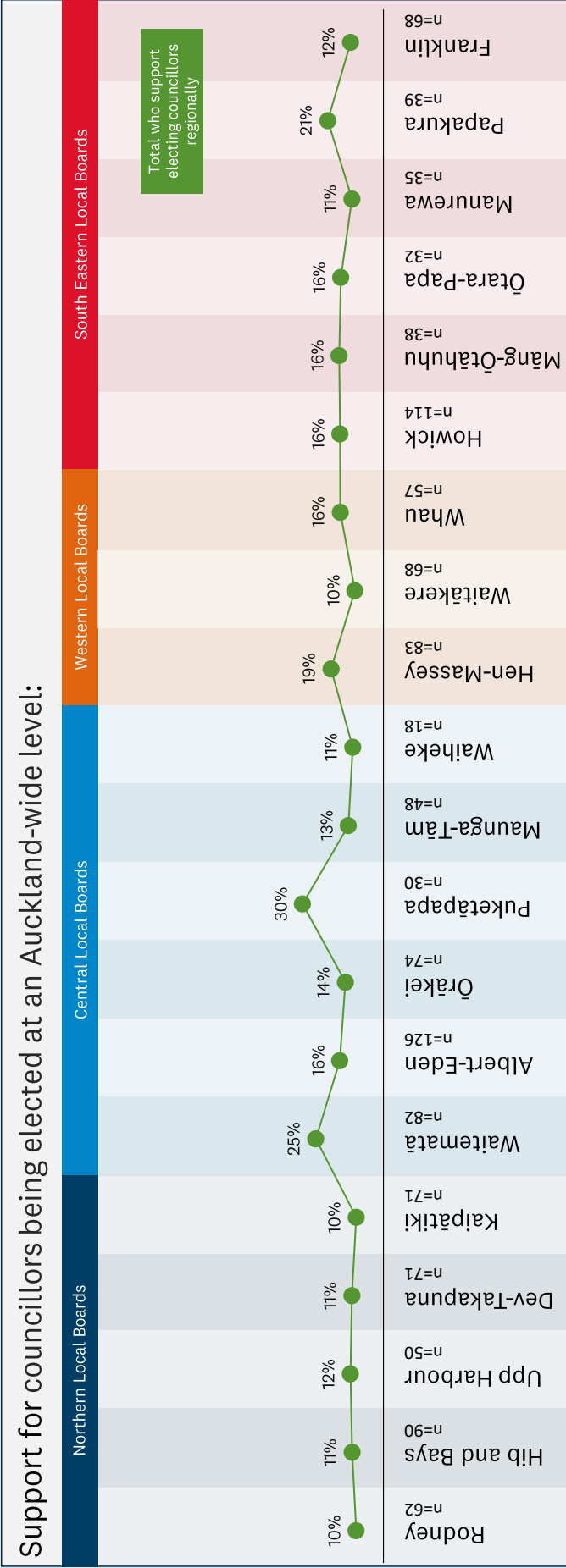
Those from Devonport-Takapuna (35%) and Kaipātiki (34%) are the most positive areas.



BASE: All respondents (n=1,268)
Q: How well do you think the existing number of councillors and ward structure works to represent you and your community?

Only 15% support councillors being elected regionally

Those from Puketāpapa (30%) and Waitematā (25%) are the most supportive areas.



BASE: All respondents (n=1,268)
Q: What is your level of support for councillors being elected at an Auckland-wide level (instead of at a ward level as they currently are)?

Tira Hautū / Governing Body

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Governing Body held in the Reception Lounge, Auckland Town Hall, 301-305 Queen Street, Auckland on Thursday, 27 June 2024 at 10.06am.

TE HUNGA KUA TAE MAI | PRESENT

Mayor	Wayne Brown	
Deputy Mayor	Cr Desley Simpson, JP	
Councillors	Cr Andrew Baker	
	Cr Josephine Bartley	
	Cr Angela Dalton	
	Cr Chris Darby	
	Cr Julie Fairey	
	Cr Alf Filipaina, MNZM	Via electronic link
	Cr Christine Fletcher, QSO	Via electronic link
	Cr Lotu Fuli	Via electronic link
	Cr Shane Henderson	
	Cr Richard Hills	
	Cr Mike Lee	From 10.10am, Item 4.1 Until 5.51pm, Item 19
	Cr Kerrin Leoni	
	Cr Daniel Newman, JP	
	Cr Greg Sayers	Until 5.51pm, Item 19
	Cr Sharon Stewart, QSM	
	Cr Ken Turner	
	Cr Wayne Walker	
	Cr John Watson	From 10.10am, Item 4.1
	Cr Maurice Williamson	

10 Review of representation arrangements for the 2025 elections - initial proposal

Note: change were made to the original recommendation, removing clauses f) i), f) ii) and f) iii) and amending original clause f) iv), as a chairperson's recommendation.

MOVED by Mayor W Brown, seconded by Deputy Mayor D Simpson:

That the Governing Body:

Representation Review

- a) whai / adopt the Auckland Council's initial proposal for representation arrangements for the 2025 local elections in Attachment A of the agenda report, for public notification in accordance with the Local Electoral Act 2001
- b) whakaae / agree Part One of the supporting material (Attachment B of the agenda report) relating to the initial proposal for representation arrangements
- c) whakaae / agree Part One of the feedback form (Attachment C of the agenda report) containing the questions relating to the initial proposal for representation arrangements, as amended to provide more detail around changes in the isthmus
- d) tautapa / delegate to the Joint Governance Working Party the responsibility and power under section 19M (3) of the Local Electoral Act 2001 to hear and consider oral submissions and make recommendations to the Governing Body on its initial proposal

Regional structure of local boards

- e) whakaae / agree Part Two of the supporting material (Attachment B of the agenda report) that supports the questions on the regional structure of local boards.
- f) whakaae / agree the questions feedback form (Attachment C of the agenda report) seeking public feedback on the regional structure of local boards:
 - i) ~~Do you feel knowledgeable about what local boards are and what they do?~~
 - ii) ~~Do you think council should review the current structure of local boards?~~
 - iii) ~~If you think council should consider changing the local board structure, which geographic area do you think is best for a local board to represent? (3 options)~~
 - i)iv) Do you have any other feedback about how you and your community can be better represented through local boards and the governing body?
- g) tautapa / delegate to the Chief Executive or nominee the ability to make minor changes to reflect the decisions of this meeting or to correct errors or improve presentation.

MOVED by Cr M Williamson, seconded by Mayor W Brown, an amendment by way of addition to clause a):

- a) whai / adopt the Auckland Council's initial proposal for representation arrangements for the 2025 local elections in Attachment A of the agenda report, for public notification in accordance with the Local Electoral Act 2001, as amended by changing the representation arrangements for the Howick Local Board as follows:
 - i) the number of members in each subdivision is reduced by one, resulting in a total of seven members for the local board instead of 11 members,
 - ii) in order to ensure compliance with the fair representation rule, the boundary between the Botany and Flatbush subdivisions is moved such that it is bounded by Te Irirangi Drive, Smales Road, Kilkenny Drive and Point View Link
 - iii) the population table for the proposed arrangements for the Howick Local Board and Map 5 are replaced by the population table and Map 5 as tabled at this meeting."

A division was called for, voting on which was as follows:

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstained</u>
Mayor W Brown	Cr A Baker	Cr M Lee
Cr C Fletcher	Cr J Bartley	Cr D Newman
Deputy Mayor D Simpson	Cr A Dalton	Cr G Sayers
Cr S Stewart	Cr J Fairey	
Cr K Turner	Cr A Filipaina	
Cr W Walker	Cr L Fuli	
Cr J Watson	Cr S Henderson	
Cr M Williamson	Cr R Hills	
	Cr K Leoni	

The motion was declared LOST by 8 votes to 9.

The original motion was put.

Resolution number GB/2024/80

MOVED by Mayor W Brown, seconded by Deputy Mayor D Simpson:

That the Governing Body:

Representation Review

- a) **whai / adopt the Auckland Council's initial proposal for representation arrangements for the 2025 local elections in Attachment A of the agenda report, for public notification in accordance with the Local Electoral Act 2001**
- b) **whakaae / agree Part One of the supporting material (Attachment B of the agenda report) relating to the initial proposal for representation arrangements**
- c) **whakaae / agree Part One of the feedback form (Attachment C of the agenda report) containing the questions relating to the initial proposal for representation arrangements, as amended to provide more detail around changes in the isthmus**
- d) **tautapa / delegate to the Joint Governance Working Party the responsibility and power under section 19M (3) of the Local Electoral Act 2001 to hear and consider oral submissions and make recommendations to the Governing Body on its initial proposal**

Regional structure of local boards

- e) **whakaae / agree Part Two of the supporting material (Attachment B of the agenda report) that supports the questions on the regional structure of local boards.**
- f) **whakaae / agree the questions feedback form (Attachment C of the agenda report) seeking public feedback on the regional structure of local boards:**
 - i) **Do you have any other feedback about how you and your community can be better represented through local boards and the governing body?**
- g) **tautapa / delegate to the Chief Executive or nominee the ability to make minor changes to reflect the decisions of this meeting or to correct errors or improve presentation**

CARRIED

Note: Under Standing Order 1.8.6, the following councillors requested their dissenting votes be recorded:

- Cr J Bartley – against clauses e), f) and g)
- Cr L Fuli – against clauses e), f) and g)