

Open Meeting

To	Waikato District Council
From	Tony Whittaker Chief Operating Officer
Date	12 September 2021
Prepared by	Gaylene Kanawa Democracy Team Leader
Reviewed by	Dale Ofsoske Electoral Officer
Chief Executive Approved	Y
Reference/Doc Set #	RR2021/ECM#
Report Title	Deliberations report for submissions on the 2021 Representation Review Initial Proposal

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At its hearings held on Thursday, 9 September and Friday, 10 September 2021 the Council resolved:

THAT the Waikato District Council:

- a) *receives the 228 submissions on the 2021 Representation Review Initial Proposal;*
- b) *accepts the 12 late submissions on the 2021 Representation Review Initial Proposal;*
- c) *pursuant to provisions set out in sections 19H and 19J of the Local Electoral Act 2001, considers submissions received on the Waikato District Council 2021 Representation Review Initial Proposal;*
- d) *recommends that following the hearing of the verbal submissions on Thursday, 9 September 2021 and Friday, 10 September 2021; Council considers all submissions and provides feedback at their deliberations meeting scheduled for Tuesday, 14 September 2021 on guidance to staff on any proposed changes (if any) to become the Waikato District Council 2021 Representation Review Final Proposal; and*
- e) *at its meeting on Tuesday, 28 September 2021 approves its 2021 Representation Review Final Proposal for public objection/appeal, this period being notified on Friday, 1 October 2021 and closing Wednesday, 3 November 2021 in accordance with section 19N of the Local Electoral Act 2001.*

CARRIED

WDC2109/02

A total of 56 submitters initially advised they wished to speak to their submissions, however some withdrew during the scheduling process, while others did not confirm scheduled times and did not show at the hearings.

Over the two days of hearings, Council heard 37 oral submissions on the 2021 Representation Review Initial Proposal and noted a number of key themes coming through both oral and written submissions. Staff were requested to provide further information for consideration at the deliberations meeting as follows:

- Review maps/ward boundaries based on feedback in submissions – with the key factors in mind:
 - Keep principle of 11 general ward councillors and two Maaori ward councillors;
 - Retain rural voice - even if this means large wards but ensure correct linkages with communities;
 - Recognise urbanised forms in our towns and villages - and respecting that the fastest growing areas are in and around these nodes, there is also a need to balance the anticipated growth across the entire district as this is not just an issue for the northern part of the district;
 - Recognise Auckland and Hamilton boundaries and these centres as significant communities of interest for adjoining communities;
 - Keep communities of interest together where possible, noting that based on submissions this would mean reviewing a number of general ward boundaries, i.e. Glen Afton and Pukemiro look to Huntly rather than Raglan and review how Aka Aka is currently in Port Waikato general ward;
 - Ensure communities are not split as they currently are, i.e. review Glen Murray and Te Akau
 - Local Government Commission feedback to create multi member wards did not receive support from submitters where these were created, mainly for the Tamahere-Newcastle Ward, review these boundaries and communities of interest with a view to a south-east ward and changing boundary of Waerenga-Hukunui ward;
 - Split current Central general ward to Huntly/Ngaruawahia as separate communities of interest (as evidenced in pre-consultation mapping)
 - Provide an option for two Maaori wards, based on a north/south split as per feedback contained in submissions
- Community board issues to be addressed in report:
 - Provide more clarity around community board legislation
 - Consideration of requests around community board boundaries
 - Request for rural community board in West
- Provide pre-consultation material on communities of interest and link to meshblock maps (circulated under separate cover).

The purpose of the deliberation meeting(s) is to consider both written and oral submissions received on the Waikato District Council 2021 Representation Review Initial Proposal and provide guidance to staff on the final proposal for the 2021 Representation Review.

Based on the above and feedback received from submissions, staff have formulated three options of revised ward map boundaries for consideration at these deliberations (refer

attached). The pre-consultation maps identifying communities of interest are also attached for Council's information when considering the proposed options provided.

Further information is provided on community board legislation, along with proposed responses for community board requests to boundary changes and any name changes requested. The detailed information on options available to Council are contained further on in the report under "Discussion and Analysis of Options" portion of the report.

Should Council wish to make changes to the Initial Proposal, reasons must be provided for each change at this meeting and must be based on feedback received in the submissions. Once staff have received these resolutions and reasons for changes (if any), they will finalise ward and community board maps based on these decisions for adoption as part of the Final Proposal.

Council will resolve its final proposal at their meeting scheduled for Tuesday, 28 September 2021. The final proposal will then be notified for public appeals/objections on Friday, 1 October 2021. The period for public appeals/objections is one month and will close on Wednesday, 3 November 2021.

2. RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Waikato District Council:

- a) **receives the deliberations report for submissions on the 2021 Representation Review Initial Proposal;**
- b) **considers the additional information provided by staff within the deliberations report on the issues raised within the submissions and determine whether they wish to change the Initial Proposal based on the feedback within submissions;**
- c) **provides staff with any proposed changes to the Initial Proposal, along with reasons, to enable them to finalise these changes for adoption by Council of the Final Proposal on Tuesday, 28 September 2021; and**
- d) **at its meeting on Tuesday, 28 September 2021 approves its 2021 Representation Review Final Proposal for public objection/appeal, this period being notified on Friday, 1 October 2021 and closing Wednesday, 3 November 2021 in accordance with section 19N of the Local Electoral Act 2001 .**

3. BACKGROUND

The Local Electoral Act 2001 (LEA) requires that at least once every six years Council undertake a review of its representation arrangements. Council carried out its last review in 2018 (for the 2019 and 2022 triennial elections).

However, during the 2018 appeals process the Local Government Commission recommended a more thorough "bottom up" review for the 2022 and 2025 triennial elections. Council in May 2021 resolved to establish Maaori wards , which also triggered the need to engage with the community on the name(s) and number(s) of Maaori ward(s).

The purpose of the review is to determine the number of councillors to be elected, the basis of election for councillors and, if this includes wards, the boundaries and names of these wards. Reviews also include whether there are to be community boards and if so, arrangements for these boards (as set out in part 1A of the LEA).

The following key changes to its representation arrangements were initially proposed:

- Retain the current total number of councillors for the district (being 13) and the mayor elected at large
- Having two Maaori ward councillors elected across the district-wide ward and 11 general ward councillors elected from seven general wards
- Ensuring three general wards provided a mainly rural voice on Council
- Where possible creating multi-councillor wards
- Tuakau Community Board - restricted to urban boundaries as also reflected in the new Tuakau general ward
- Remove rural portion of the existing Onewhero-Tuakau Community Board area and consult with the rural communities on the possibility of one or more community committees.

4. DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

4.1 DISCUSSION

The following questions were asked of submitters during the consultation process, for which a brief summary of the key themes from the submission were provided in the hearings report and should be consider in conjunction with this report:

- Do you support Council's overall Draft Initial Proposal?
- Do you support the proposal to have 13 councillors, comprising 11 general ward councillors and two Maaori ward councillors, together with a Mayor (elected “at large”)?
- Do you support the proposal to have eight wards – one district wide Maaori ward and seven general wards?
- Do you agree with the proposal regarding the Te Takiwaa Maaori Ward?
- Do you agree with the proposal regarding the Central general ward?
- Do you agree with the proposal regarding the Pokeno-Hunua General Ward?
- Do you agree with the proposal regarding the Port-Waikato General Ward?
- Do you agree with the proposal regarding the Tamahere-Newcastle Ward?
- Do you agree with the proposal regarding the Tuakau General Ward?
- Do you agree with the proposed boundary changes to the Waerenga-Hukanui General Ward?
- Do you agree with the proposed name and boundary changes to the Whaingaroa General Ward?
- Do you agree with this proposals regarding community boards?
- Do you have any general comments?

A request was made prior to the hearings to receive an analysis of submissions with key themes (refer Attachment A). It is noted there were some submissions requesting the status quo or stating “if it isn’t broken...”, however these submissions contradict the advice provided by the Local Government Commission during the 2018 representation review.

Over the two days of hearings, Council heard 37 oral submissions on the 2021 Representation Review Initial Proposal and noted a number of key themes coming through both oral and written submissions. Staff were requested to provide further information for consideration at the deliberations meeting as follows:

- Review maps/ward boundaries based on feedback in submissions – with the key factors in mind:
 - Retain rural voice - even if this means large wards
 - Recognise urbanised forms in our towns and villages - and respecting that the fastest growing areas are in and around these nodes – also noting all of Waikato is growing not just one part of the district
 - Where practical, multi member wards should be constructed – however little support for the Newcastle-Tamahere ward with three councillors.
 - Keep principle of 11 general ward councillors and two Maaori ward councillors
 - Recognise Auckland and Hamilton boundaries and these centres as significant communities of interest for adjoining communities
 - Provide an option for two Maaori wards, based on a north/south split
- Community board issues to be addressed in report:
 - Provide more clarity around community board legislation
 - Consideration of requests around community board boundaries
 - Request for rural community board in the west
- Provide pre-consultation material on communities of interest and link to meshblock maps.

I. Number of Councillors

There were insufficient submissions to warrant a change in the overall number of councillors, as whilst there were some submissions that proposed for more councillors, other submissions proposed less councillors. The submissions did raise concern that the proposed ward structure would be a significant workload for a number of councillors, in particular the two Te Takiwaa Maaori ward councillors.

Five submissions mentioned increasing the Te Takiwaa Maaori ward councillor number to three to ensure the responsibility and representation is manageable, however in the fairness of representation one would also need to increase by one general ward councillor also. Consideration should also be given to other territorial authorities and the amount of constituents that they represent per councillor, which in some cases is far higher than Waikato District, including Waikato Regional Council where the two elected members covering a similar area to Waikato District's territorial area represent a population of some 40,000 each.

Decision required:

Council confirm that effective and fair representation can be provided for the District through the overall numbers of 13 councillors, consisting of 11 general ward councillors and two Maaori ward councillors, along with the mayor (elected at large) as per the Initial Proposal.

2. Te Takiwaa Maaori Ward – one ward versus two

There were 34 submissions that supported the creation of the Te Takiwaa Maaori ward, stating the importance of a Maaori perspective and opinion in decision making, with 17 submissions calling for at least two Maaori wards to achieve fairer representation.

The Waikato-Tainui submission disagreed with the drawing of boundary lines across hapuu/iwi boundaries, however did acknowledge that discussions with staff during the consultation process developed a map which outlined how fair representation could be attained with a north/south split of the Te Takiwaa Maaori ward. There was also discussion at both mana whenua marae forums that indicated a north/south split would ensure fairer representation for Maaori electors.

It is proposed that in recognition of the feedback received that the Te Takiwaa Maaori ward be split into a northern and southern ward as set out in Attachment B. As no indication was provided from submissions in regard to the proposed names of these split wards advice has been sought from the Iwi Liaison Manager and will be provided to councillors at the deliberations meeting.

Decision required:

Council confirms, that based on submissions received from Maaori individuals and organisations, to achieve fair representation, the proposed Te Takiwaa Maaori ward be split into two with a northern ward and southern ward as set out in Attachment B of this agenda.

3. General wards – communities of interest and split communities

Throughout the hearings and in written submissions, there was general concern raised about the splitting of communities across general wards due to the weighting of meshblocks and making numbers balance, rather than consideration of communities of interest. For instance, Glen Murray and Te Akau communities had each been split between two wards.

The Huntly Community Board and others also raised the issue of the merging of Huntly and Ngaruawahia into the new Central General Ward, where the pre consultation material showed there was no community of interest between the two previous wards. The pre consultation maps also show that the previous Newcastle ward showed linkages towards Ngaruawahia. It is further noted that one or two submitters believed that the name is “archaic” and should be dropped for future ward names.

Issues were also raised with Eureka and Tauwhare being included in the new significantly rural Waerenga-Hukunui General Ward. Whilst these communities preferred to have the status quo of a single councillor ward they did recognise their community of interests were similar to Matangi and Tamahere and therefore would be satisfied with changing into a multi councillor south eastern ward. Tamahere had several submissions against being included in the proposed “horseshoe” and submitted in support of the current single councillor ward, however once again this contravenes the approach suggested by the Local Government Commission during the 2018 representation review.

The final issue raised was reviewing how the northern boundaries could still retain their rural voice but being more linked to those wards that bordered the Auckland boundaries as they did previously, i.e. the phone “09” areas should remain together.

Following consideration of the above issues staff have been working on a few options that would address the various issues for consideration by Council at the deliberations meeting as per (Attachment C). Council is reminded that if they choose one of the attachments they must give reasons for the changes.

Decision required:

- a) Council provide direction on whether it wishes to proceed with the current maps and ward boundaries (Initial Proposal); or
- b) Council confirms it wishes to alter the ward boundaries as set out in Attachment C based on submissions received, concerned with the splitting of communities and to better reflect communities of interest.
- c) Should Council confirm alterations as set out in b) above, they also need to confirm the names of the proposed wards.

4. Community boards

A number of requests were received from the north-western residents regarding the removal of the Onewhero and rural portion from the proposed Tuakau Community Board to be restricted to urban boundaries.

Whilst the proposal indicated that the rural portion of the community board could consider forming one or more community committees, there was a perception that community boards had more legal standing with Council and that it “had to listen” to community boards.

Councillors have requested more information regarding the legal standing of community boards versus community committees. There are four large community committees which are provided with council support with an Executive/Senior Leadership Team member present at all their meetings, along with a local councillor.

The only difference in the way in which they are supported by Council is that Council’s Democracy Team are not as involved with agendas and minutes. These community committee chairs are also invited, along with community board chairs to all Council workshops.

The Local Government Act (section 52 and 53) outlines the role and powers of community boards as follows:

Section 52 - The role of a community board is to—

- a) *represent, and act as an advocate for, the interests of its community; and*
- b) *consider and report on all matters referred to it by the territorial authority, or any matter of interest or concern to the community board; and*
- c) *maintain an overview of services provided by the territorial authority within the community; and*
- d) *prepare an annual submission to the territorial authority for expenditure within the community; and*
- e) *communicate with community organisations and special interest groups within the community; and*
- f) *undertake any other responsibilities that are delegated to it by the territorial authority.”*

Section 53 - Powers of community boards:

- 1) *A community board has the powers that are—*
 - a) *delegated to it by the relevant territorial authority in accordance with clause 32 of Schedule 7; or*
 - b) *prescribed by the Order in Council constituting its community.*
- 2) *The powers of a community board prescribed by Order in Council expire at the close of 6 years after the order comes into force.*
- 3) *Despite subsection (1), a community board may not—*
 - a) *acquire, hold, or dispose of property; or*
 - b) *appoint, suspend, or remove staff.*

As per the above there is minimal difference to Council relationships and support for community boards and what are seen as the four Tier 2 community committees. Community committees are not remunerated for their work, whereas community board members are under the legislation. Council is required to consult with community boards.

In light of lack of submissions from communities outside the community board areas, Council needs to consider whether or not they wish to extend any of the requested boundary changes from both the Raglan and Huntly Community Boards. Similar to ward boundaries, any changes must be done by meshblocks, which draw in a significant amount of rural areas and affects the following number of properties in each area:

Raglan: (Details to be provided verbally at meeting)

Huntly: (Details to be provided verbally at meeting)

Some submissions identified that if you had more community boards they did not necessarily need to consist of six members plus two appointed councillors – the range considered acceptable would be four to five members plus one appointed councillor.

The Huntly Community Board also requested a change to their name to reflect the Maaori name of the area, being Raahui Pookeka. It is noted that their agendas do currently have both names, however it is formally known as the Huntly Community Board first and foremost at present.

Decisions required:

- a) *Council considers whether or not it wishes to extend the Raglan Community Board boundaries as requested in the Raglan Community Boardr submission on the Initial Proposal, noting that there were no submissions from residents within the affected communities/meshblocks to support this change; and*
- b) *Council considers whether or not it wishes to extend the Huntly Community Board boundaries as requested in the Huntly Community Board submission on the Initial Proposal, noting that there were no submissions from residents within the affected communities/meshblocks to support this change; and*

- c) *Council considers whether or not it wishes to change the name of the Huntly Community Board to Raahui Pookeka-Huntly Community Board (it is noted that the train station has recently incorporated both Huntly – Raahui Pookeka into it's name and there is also an application to the geographic board to consider the request for a name change).*
- d) *Council, confirms no changes to the boundaries for the Ngaruawahia, Taupiri and Tuakau Community Boards as set out in the initial proposal for the final proposal, as the only submissions received from Tuakau residents supported these boundaries, noting that the rural portion of the existing board objected to being split and if any changes were to occur then they would like their own community board area.*
- e) *Council determines whether or not it wishes to establish a rural community board within the Port Waikato General Ward, based on the number submissions received advising they opposed the establishment of community committee(s) – it is noted that if Council does establish another community board within the Port Waikato General Ward, this will be restricted to the existing area of the previous rural portion of the previous Onewhero-Tuakau Community Board area to ensure no new properties are affected by the targeted rate (for which no consultation has occurred – refer [Attachment D](#)). Further to this the recommended name would be Port Waikato & Districts Community Board.*
- f) *Council confirms the number of members for each community board, in light of submissions received and the size of the various communities they represent.*
- g) *Council confirms their support for the existing Huntly Community Board to be renamed Raahui Pookeka Community Board.*

4.2 OPTIONS

Council now has the following options:

Option 1: continue with the Initial Proposal (un-amended) and notify this as the Waikato District Council 2021 Representation Review Final Proposal. Only those who made submissions on the Initial Proposal will be able to make an appeal on the Final Proposal.

Option 2: amend the Initial Proposal and notify this as the Waikato District Council 2021 Representation Review Final Proposal. Anyone will be able to make an objection or appeal to the final proposal.

The Final Proposal must be publically notified by 1 October 2021.

5. CONSIDERATION

5.1 FINANCIAL

This financial impact of consulting is within budget allocations.

5.2 LEGAL

There is a legal requirement under the Local Electoral Act 2001 to consult with the community using the special consultative procedure every six years. However, the Local Government Commission provided feedback during the 2018 review that Council consider a more comprehensive, bottom up approach to a review for the 2022 and 2025 triennial elections to address a number of issues raised during the objection process.

It is also noted that Council voted to establish Maori ward(s) in May 2021, so were required to consult with the public on this portion of the proposal in regard to:

- one ward versus two
- if two, type of split
- name(s) of the ward(s)

It is further noted that there is currently a Local Government Reform process being undertaken and therefore all reports have noted for “at least the 2022 triennial elections” as there may be ramifications under this review in regard to representation and boundaries of local authorities. It is anticipated any decisions will result in time for the 2025 elections.

5.3 ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT POLICY AND OF EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS

Highest levels of engagement	Inform <input type="checkbox"/>	Consult <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Involve <input type="checkbox"/>	Collaborate <input type="checkbox"/>	Empower <input type="checkbox"/>
<p><i>Tick the appropriate box/boxes and specify what it involves by providing a brief explanation of the tools which will be used to engage (refer to the project engagement plan if applicable).</i></p>	<p>The Representation Review triggers Council’s Significance and Engagement Policy through the community interest threshold, which is normal for this type of consultation.</p> <p>Consultation details on the Waikato District Council 2021 Representation Review Initial Proposal were publicly notified on 14 July 2021, beginning a five and a half week consultation period. Consultation closed on 20 August 2021. Notices went into the Waikato Times, Te Kauwhata Chatter, Raglan Chronicle and Franklin County News.</p> <p>Information on the consultation (the Initial Proposal, Summary of Proposed Ward Changes, Statement of Proposal including submission form, Summary of proposed changes for community boards) was also made available to the public at all Council offices and libraries, as well as online via the “Have your say” page on Councils website as well as links to the Shape Waikato webpage. Notification of consultation was also made via social media channels (along with the link to the online response collector), a media release was sent out by Council on the initial proposal also.</p> <p>A page in Councils newsletter the LINK covered details of the consultation and encouraged submissions – nearly 30,000 copies of the LINK are distributed to households around the district. Chairs of Community Boards and Committees were contacted directly when consultation opened with consultation letters and the above consultation material.</p> <p>Drop-in sessions etc were held in Tuakau, Pukekawa and Raglan. Two sessions were held with Marae representatives. Three zoom sessions were hosted, for which nobody attended.</p>				

Planned	In Progress	Complete	
		y	Internal
		y	Community Boards/Community Committees
		y	Waikato-Tainui/Local iwi
		y	Households
			Business

6. CONCLUSION

The Waikato District Council 2021 Representation Review Initial Proposal has been notified for consultation. A total of 240 submissions have been received; these submissions have been summarised in the hearing report.

Council is required to consider all submissions made to its 2021 Representation Review Initial Proposal and is requested to provide feedback on proposed changes to the Initial Proposal (if any) at their deliberations meetings scheduled for 14 & 16 September 2021.

Staff have modelled proposed changes for consideration at Council's extraordinary meeting scheduled for 28 September 2021, when the 2021 Representation Review Final Proposal will be adopted.

The Waikato District Council 2021 Representation Review Final Proposal will be publicly notified for a one month period for objections/appeals on 1 October 2021 and closing on 3 November 2021.

Any objections/appeals are forwarded to the Local Government Commission who will undertake an independent hearings process and make a decision on the Final Proposal by 11 April 2022.

7. ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A:	Analysis of submissions by ward and theme
Attachment B:	Map with north/south split for Te Takiwaa Maaori ward
Attachment C:	Maps for general ward options
Attachment D:	Map for community board area in the north-west

Representation Review Deliberations

14 September 2021

Summary of Submissions - Analysis by Ward and Theme

Tamahere-Newcastle General Ward	
Theme	Comments
Community Board for Ward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I am very disappointed that NEWSTEAD doesn't feature in your proposed Tamahere -Newcastle Ward communities. - Why is there no formal community board for Tamahere Newcastle. - I think there is good reason for establishing a Tamahere Community Board. Appreciate there is a community committee, but a board would enhance the ability to gain resolution to issues.
Boundaries not representative of communities of interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I believe Puketaha district should not be split and should be part of the final configuration of the ward bordering Hamilton City. - We don't think the proposal will work for the area and that we will get fair and effective representation - Identify with the unique characteristics and contributions of key areas in the combined in the generalised grouping. - My concern is that the proposal as it is presented fails to recognise the unique contributions of communities like Matangi to what Hamilton City is today - There is no common community of interest between Tamahere and Te Kowhai. It would make far more sense to add part of the Tauwhare Ward to Tamahere if numbers were too small here. - When WDC finally recognised its responsibility to include Heritage protection in its responsibilities, the Southern Region amicably put together a Heritage Committee (one of 8 run by WDC overall), and membership of which has included Eureka, Matangi, Puketaha, Tamahere, Newstead, Tauwhare, the Narrows and Gordonton, a group which is working well and which considers it represents the WDC Southern Region. To emphasise the concept of a Southern Region, it should be noted that 4 of the primary schools within the region work as a group (Matangi, Tauwhare, Tamahere and Newstead), and combine for events such as sports days, calf clubs and other activities. Children from Eureka currently attend both Newstead and Tauwhare schools. And almost all children from the Southern Region move to attending intermediate and secondary schools in Hamilton, including from Eureka.
Include Tauwhare in Tamahere-Newcastle Ward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We have consulted with the Tauwhare community and the support has been overwhelmingly in favour of being part of the Tamahere-Newcastle General Ward.
Retain status quo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If it is not broken don' t fix it.

Central General Ward	
Theme	Comments
Elected representatives for Huntly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Waikokowai should be included in the Huntly ward and Huntly should have its own elected representatives. - To thrive Huntly needs its own ward with one councillor - Please consider the pink ward division, as shared by David Whyte which would keep Huntly as a separate ward with one councillor.
Retain status quo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keep the community boards as they are now.
Boundaries not representative of communities of interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We do not agree that the Huntly and Ngaruawahia wards should be combined with two councillors spread over this larger geographical area. We do not believe that there is communities of interest between the two communities and that the council has made a grave error in assuming that communities of interest are present because the towns are both on the river, and both towns have pockets of lower socio-economic folks, and the challenges that occur with this.

Whaingaroa General Ward	
Theme	Comments
Extend Community Board boundaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - People in Te Mata, Te Uku, Okete, Waitetuna, Ruapuke, when asked, say they are from Raglan. - We all pay taxes, use Raglan town and live in this community. - We have different issues but also use Raglan township as our extended backyard. - Our exclusion in matters pertaining to the township of Raglan to where our rates obviously go seems insulting - Would love for the raglan community board to be extended to include te uku, waitetuna etc.
Boundaries not representative of community of interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Glen afton pukemiro have been well support by local council to our community meetings by WDC - Drawing up board boundries, and community boards shouldn't there be a consultation with communities of interest?! - With re drawing boundaries and community boards, they are meant to align with communities of interest. - We are strongly opposed to the changes of the Proposed Ward Structures for Glen Afton and Pukemiro. Some of the reasons for our opposition; Our Communities have a long established connection with Huntly

Tuakau General Ward	
Theme	Comments
Boundaries not representative of community of interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rural area in north Waikato relate to Tuakau. It is our service centre - I would like to think that the rural and urban districts still have the ability to work as one as Tuakau while having a reasonable urban representation, has a large rural link with the surrounding areas

Port Waikato General Ward	
Theme	Comments
Retain status quo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For Urban community boards we support Onewhero Tuakau community board as it stands - If something isn't broken, why do we actually need to fix it? Does anything actually have to change? - we support the continuance of the Onewhero Tuakau Community Board as it stands currently. - If something is working well, why change it? I Have not read any information which suggests the need or relevance for these changes. - The current OTCB cannot provide the evidence that this split is supported which suggests some influential people with unethical practices are controlling the process and they are not representing the views of the wider group. - I would seek the retention of the present Community Board. - We should retain the existing structure of the Onewhero - Tuakau Community Board ward as it reflects the interdependence of the urban and rural areas it represents - We are happy with Onewhero-Tuakau Community Board representing our communities interests and by disbanding it, Onewhero and surrounding communities will not have any legal means of representation apart from 1 councillor, who will have the biggest ward in terms of distance and number of communities to represent. - I do not see that downgrading our current say for our community would be of benefit. Please retain our local community board in its current stature.
Boundaries not representative of community of interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The north side of the river has far more association with Tuakau ward and apart from the river has no association with south side. - Onewhero does not have any retail shops, which makes Tuakau a very important place for shopping. - The boundaries shown on the maps don't reflect how the community operates. - Additionally the North Side of the river has far more association with the Tuakau Ward and apart from the river has no association with the South side. - These choices are made by your numbers, not by the best interests of your community. - We use Tuakau for its amenities and facilities

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The wider Onewhero area does not have any retail services other than mechanics, fuel and dairys, making Tuakau a very important Community of Interest for shopping, banking, post office, council, dining, rural & building supplies, etc. What happens in Tuakau directly affects the greater Onewhero area. - The township of Tuakau is of great importance to the Over the River Districts. It is first port of call for shopping, medical, physiotherapy, dentistry, chemists, post shop, fuel, supermarkets, dining, cafes and library. - We should retain the existing structure of the Onewhero - Tuakau Community Board ward as it reflects the interdependence of the urban and rural areas it represents - We use Tuakau for facilities such as the library, the health center, the council offices, recreation (cricket and rugby), retail and feel that we should be all working together with the community board towards our communities' interests. - The wider area which is being removed from the Onewhero Tuakau Community board has close links to Tuakau. We have vested interest in the growth and management of Tuakau. We have our services there, council offices, libraries, doctors and shops. - Tuakau is a valued part of our community of interest. It is where we go to use the library,café's, shops and Council offices. Every benefit to Tuakau is also a benefit to us. For example new Tuakau skate park
<p>Onewhero not represented by a community board</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - removing the Onewhero from the Onewhero-Tuakau Community Board would reduce fair representation for those residing in Onewhero. - Yet another attempt for central Waikato to take away our Community Boards so that they can ignore us. - Removing the community board for Onewhero and other rural areas will only further allow the council to continue to ignore the needs of smaller communities - Spilt current OTCB into Tuakau and "western rural". Western rural should be a community board if that is what the community want. - If we are unable to continue being represented on the Onewhero-Tuakau Community Board, we would like to form our own community board to serve and represent our ward. - Removing rural Onewhero from the Onewhero Tuakau Community Board would reduce the level of fair and effective representation for individuals and communities as there are no effective community groups in the area. - I can only imagine how difficult it is to meet all the needs of these diverse communities. It is important to have representation by people who know these communities and their needs. - Onewhero Community will lose there community board. The disconnect will be a strong loss of voice for our community to the council. - There is Onewhero a large rural communtiy with council owned and maintained facilitys and Port Waikato a seaside town both needing community board for the direct representation to Council otherwise the fear is we get put way down the list of prioritys.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Onewhero deserves their own Community board which has reflected this growing community so well in the past. - If we do not have the Onewhero-Tuakau Community Board as an option any more, then our community would like to establish our own Community Board to serve our communities of interest-Port Waikato, Glen Murray, Te Akau, Pukekawa, Onewhero, Glen Massey, Aka Aka. - Establish a new Community Board which includes the rural communities of the current Onewhero Tuakau Community Board. - I do not support the proposal with regard to removing the rural areas from the Onewhero Tuakau Community Board.
Responsibility of community boards vs. community committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A Community Board is a legal entity which assures representation and accountability with WDC. A Community Committee (a suggested alternative for rural wards) has no legal rights - As a general comment on Community Boards it would be helpful if their role could be clarified. Given the Council's need to consult with its communities, the community boards be used more to provide for and improve the effectiveness and usefulness of that community consultation.
Community Board for Port Waikato	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Should the proposed PW General Ward happen, we support the establishment of a Port Waikato General Ward Community Board. - There is Onewhero a large rural community with council owned and maintained facilities and Port Waikato a seaside town both needing community board for the direct representation to Council otherwise the fear is we get put way down the list of priorities. - It is totally inequitable to not have a Community Board for the Port Waikato General Ward and the communities in it - On the Onewhero-Tuakau Community Board in particular, I strongly oppose the proposal to change to a Tuakau only Community Board. It would be better to divide the Onewhero-Tuakau Community Board into two- a Tuakau Community Board and a Port Waikato Community Board. - We need Port Waikato to be included as a community board, as otherwise there is no obligation for WDC to actually listen to local request - The Port Waikato General Ward should have it's own separate board to be in line with Raglan and serve the community's common interests. - We will only begin to believe our democratic aspirations will be heard is with legal tie between Port Waikato and WDC. A PW Board provides for this. - Supports a new Community Board for the Port Waikato ward

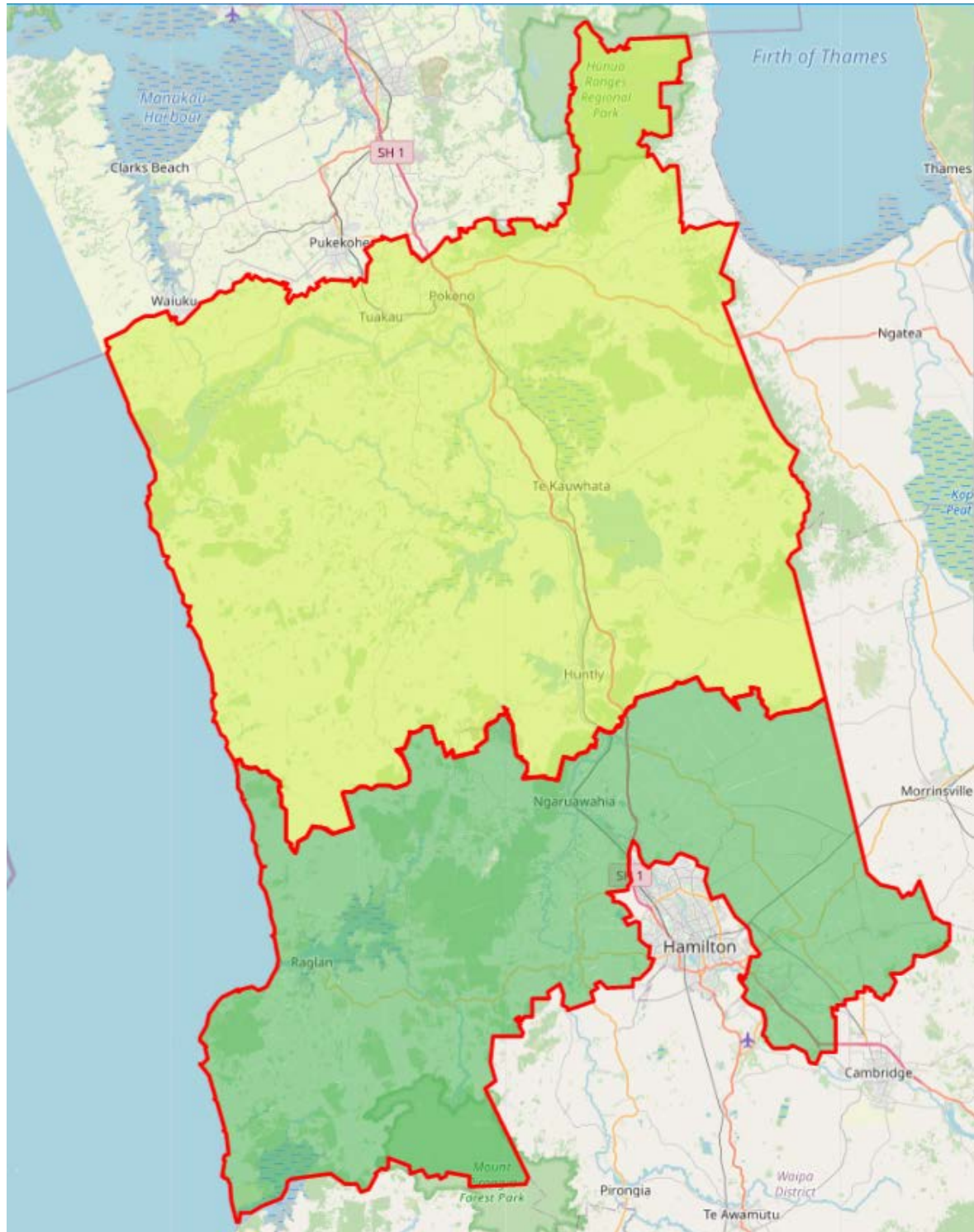
Representation for rural community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rural communities are very dependent on funding, and it has provided many opportunities for the local schools and community recreational groups. I have seen Onewhero neglected numerous times by the Waikato District Council - There must be a proposal for wards to be represented by what ever form they wish do not exclude rural wards from forming community wards if they wish. - No reason why there could not be a community board with rural focus. - Just because some of us rural voters do not have a community board now dose not make it all right. Rural people especially need a forum to present our concerns to council. - These rural communities such as Onewhero must keep a communication channel such as a community board to allow themselves the right to be heard - All I can see this proposal doing is dividing rural areas from urban areas and in doing this taking any rural representation out of the community boards. Rural areas will loose there voice and their interests ignored. - Once again it feels like a split between rural and urban with the community board now trying to just represent the urban centre and cast out the rural part of the board. I think this will leave rural communities quite vulnerable and with a weak voice or no voice at all. - This area needs further representation by the development/expansion of a community board to represent us as "remote Rural" Waikato District ratepayers - Given the common perception in rural areas that Council is distant and not interested in rural concerns there seems there is more need, not less, for community boards in rural areas. - The rural voice should be as valued as the urban voice - Rural areas need and deserve as much representation as urban areas. You have provided no good reason that this should be the case. The challenges for rural are certainly different to urban areas but no less important. - I am surprised that WDC's reasoning that Community Boards are best for urban areas. Rural areas face significant challenges, as do urban areas, so to only provide a direct link to WDC for urban areas is totally unreasonable. I would only support the removal of the Onewhero area from the OTCB if a rural Community Board was guaranteed to be established for the ward.
Splitting of communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Both Glen Murray and Te Akau should stay within the Port Waikato ward - I oppose the change in the southern border of the Onewhero-Te Akau General Ward. It has been moved north from the edges of the Raglan Harbour and will divide the rural community of Te Akau. - The Te Akau community will be split between two generalwards.

Waerenga-Hukanui General Ward	
Theme	Comments
Community Board for Ward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Te Kauwhata was previously a Community Board, but changed to a Committee to focus on completing projects and reduced 'red tape'. It may need to accept reduced efficiency and return to a Board under this proposed plan. - Our community board should remain in place to have a local voice and flavour on what happens here.
Retain status quo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - re the north eastern boundary, including Mangatangi, Miranda and Mangatawhiri boundary changes. Why change something that works
Boundaries do not align with communities of interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - My concern is that the proposal as it is presented fails to recognise the unique contributions of communities like Matangi to what Hamilton City is today - The Matangi Community Committee members would like to advise that in their view the proposed Wards for the Waikato District Council for our area fail to reflect our community of interest or provide for fair and accountable representation. - The initial proposed Waerenga-Hukanui Ward has 16 communities of interest. There are differences between these communities that I am sure decision-makers are aware of. I suggest that the proposed Waerenga-Hukanui ward be divided (perhaps into north and south) with one councillor per ward - Glen Murray has no community of interest with the Waeranga Hukanui ward - the new Waerenga-Hukanui General Ward boundary which is far too big to accurately represent and reflect communities of interest - Waerenga-Hukanui General Ward covers too large a geographical area where the community interest and aims will not be the same - Area similarities, land usage and community aims should be the driving factor not demographics

District wide	
Theme	Comments
Population data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I have concerns about the population numbers used and would like to see the numbers as taken from the last census and then estimated to 30th June 2020 - I would like to know where the population statistics supplied in the proposal came from please - Ward population table is confusing and not accurate. - More recent population figures should be used to calculate the number of general ward councillors needed to fairly represent Waikato Communities.
Retain status quo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Leave things alone - Leave as is - Why are we trying to fix something that isn't broken? - No no no to this proposal.

Support proposal	- great moves to better manage peoples input into local govt
Rural community not represented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WDC are looking to keep and refocus the current community boards to apply to urban areas only, not rural. Council is of the view that rural community interests could be better met by community groups rather than formal boards. I strongly disagree with that. - Is this fair representation for all ratepayers particularly as rural area's don't appear to have them. Do rural hall committees carry the same weigh? - Federated Farmers is very disappointed rural communities have not been identified as 'communities of interest' in their own right.
Role of community board vs. community committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A community board has rights and responsibilities mandated under the Local Government Act, a community group does not. - I am not familiar with the function of these Boards
More community boards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There needs to be more and new community boards to enable representation among the new, larger wards, particularly in the southern part of the district, which are currently served by community committees. - We suggest that establishment of genuine communities of interest might be better achieved through a thorough review of community boards, including possible establishment of new community boards where the population in the region is increasing (e.g. Pokeno and Te Kauwhata).
Boundaries do not align with communities of interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fundamentally, Waikato-Tainui does not support the imposition of boundaries across our tribal rohe. Councils and Crown agencies have imposed a myriad of artificial boundaries on the rohe that cut across whakapapa, whaanau and hapuuconnections. Many times these boundaries are inconsistent and do not reflect thecommunities that they are supposed to support. - We would define our own "communities of interest" by our whakapapa links to our marae and hapuu and the natural landscapes across the Waikato.
Maaori representation	- Under the current proposal, we are concerned that effective representation of the Maaori population in the Waikato will be particularly onerous for two Maaori wardcouncillors at large. These councillors will be responsible for representing an estimated population of 15,150 (or 7575 per councilor – the highest number across all the proposed wards) as well as a geographically large and diverse area.
Increase number of Councillors	- To address the needs of growing populations, and their diverse needs, I would suggest the total number of councillors be increased significantly.



Attachment B – Te Takiwaa Maaori ward with north/south split

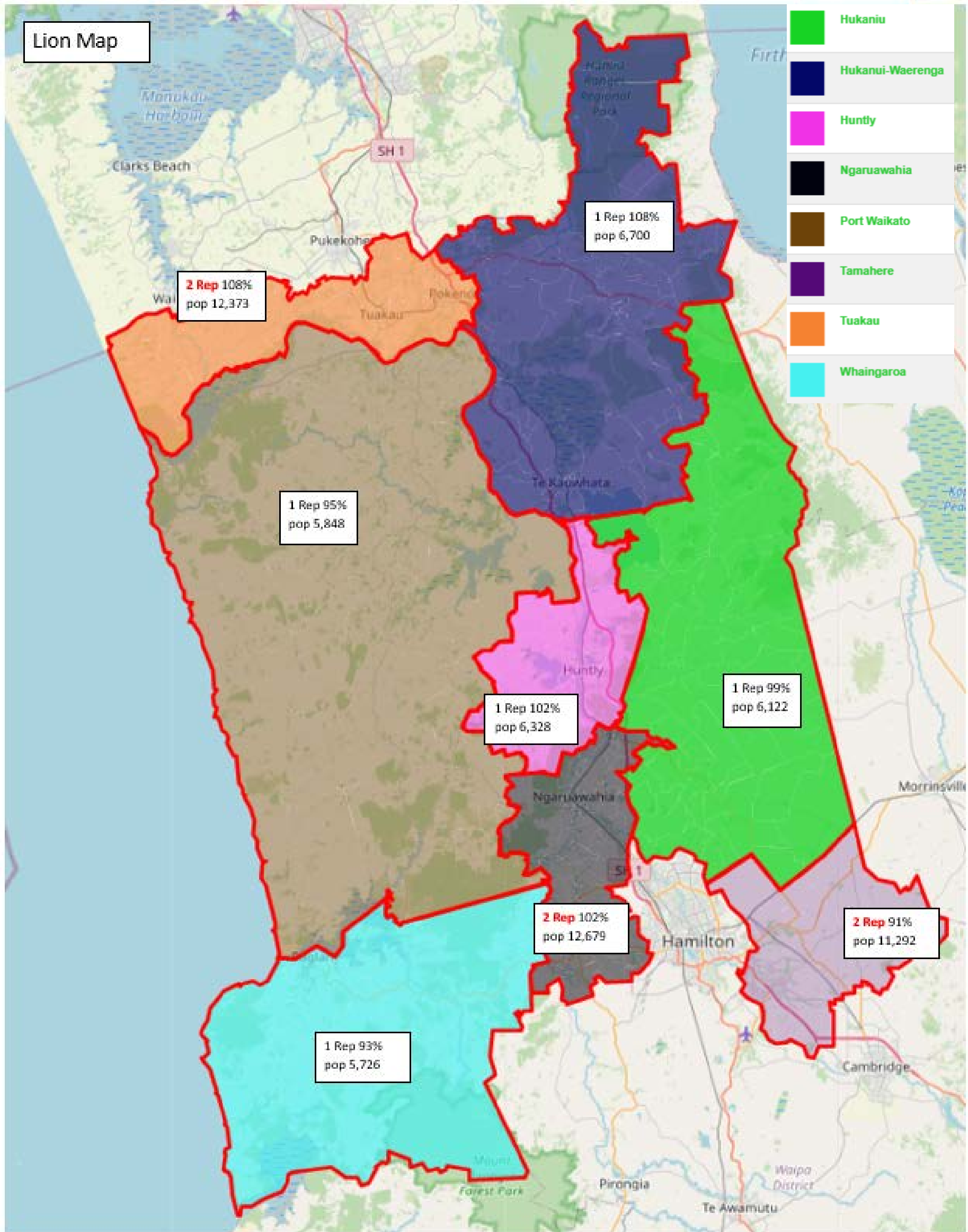


Style	Name	No. Cllrs	Pop.	Target Pop.	Target Ratio	Pop. Var.
	North of Taupiri	1	7900	7415	107%	486
	South of Taupiri (incl)	1	6929	7415	93%	-485
	Unassigned	0	0	In 1 meshblock		
	Total	2	14829	7415		

Option 1









Lion Map

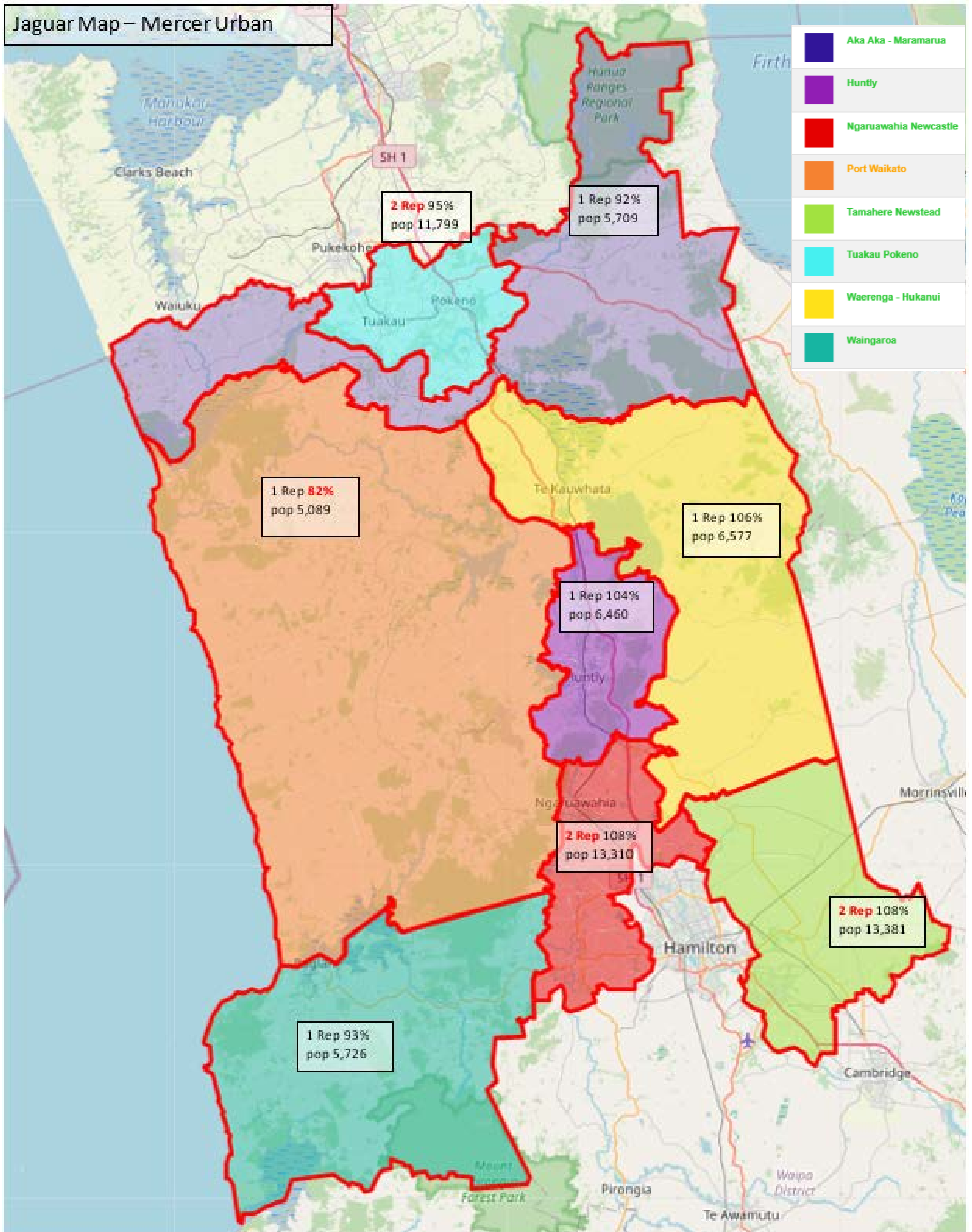
	Hukaniu	1	6122	6186	99%	-64
	Hukanui-Waerenga	1	6700	6186	108%	514
	Huntly	1	6328	6186	102%	142
	Ngaruawahia	2	12679	12373	102%	306
	Port Waikato	1	5848	6186	95%	-338
	Tamahere	2	11292	12373	91%	-1081
	Tuakau	2	13356	12373	108%	983
	Whaingaroa	1	5726	6186	93%	-460











Option 2 - var 1

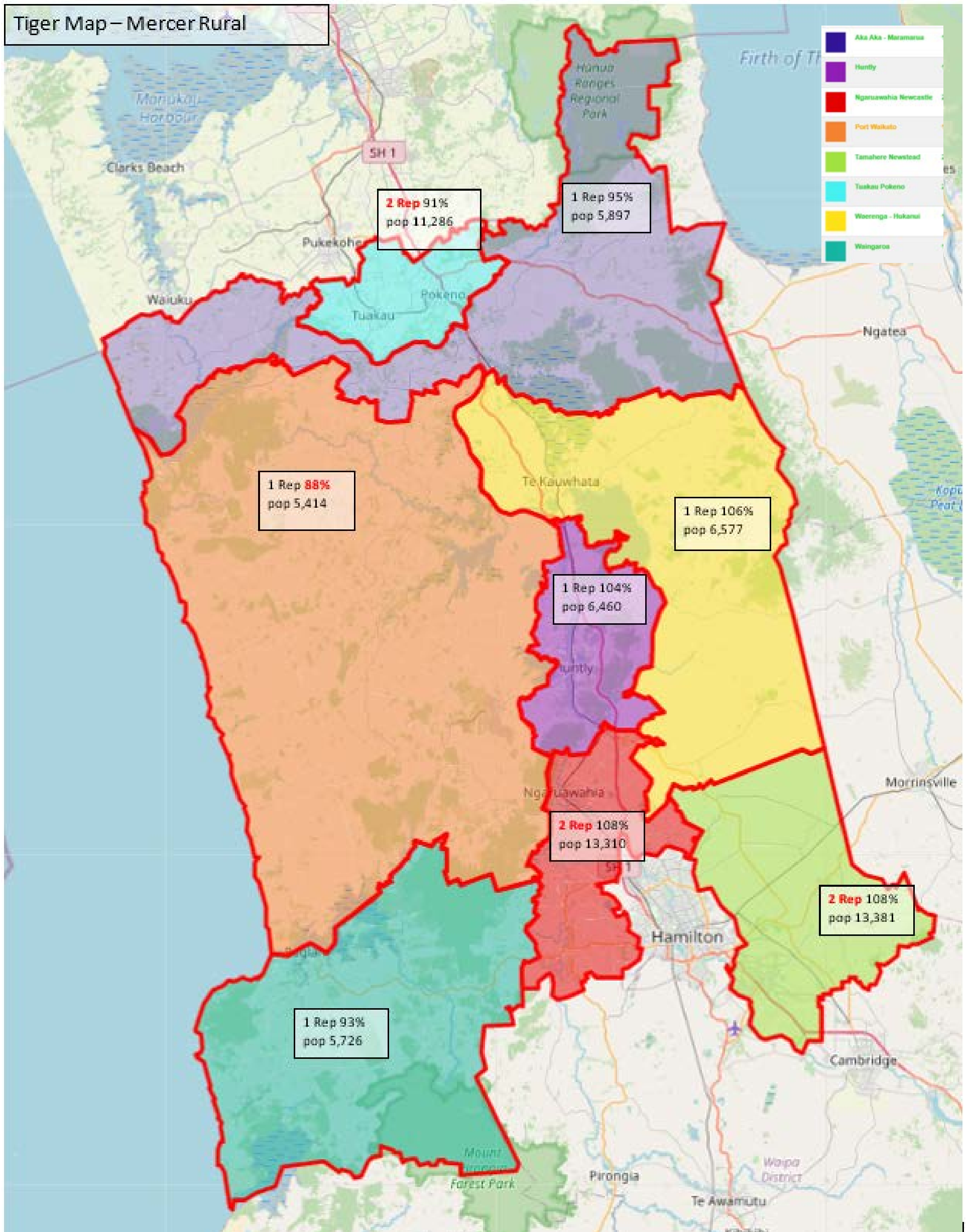
Jaguar Map – Mercer is urban

Style	Name	No. Cllrs	Pop.	Target Pop.	Target Ratio	Pop. Var.
	Aka Aka - Maramarua	1	5709	6186	92%	-477
	Huntly	1	6460	6186	104%	274
	Ngaruawahia Newcastle	2	13310	12373	108%	937
	Port Waikato	1	5089	6186	82%	-1097
	Tamahere Newstead	2	13381	12373	108%	1008
	Tuakau Pokeno	2	11799	12373	95%	-574
	Waerenga - Hukanui	1	6577	6186	106%	391
	Waingaroa	1	5726	6186	93%	-460
	Unassigned	0	0	In 1 meshblock		
	Total	11	68051	6186		












Tiger Map – Mercer is Rural

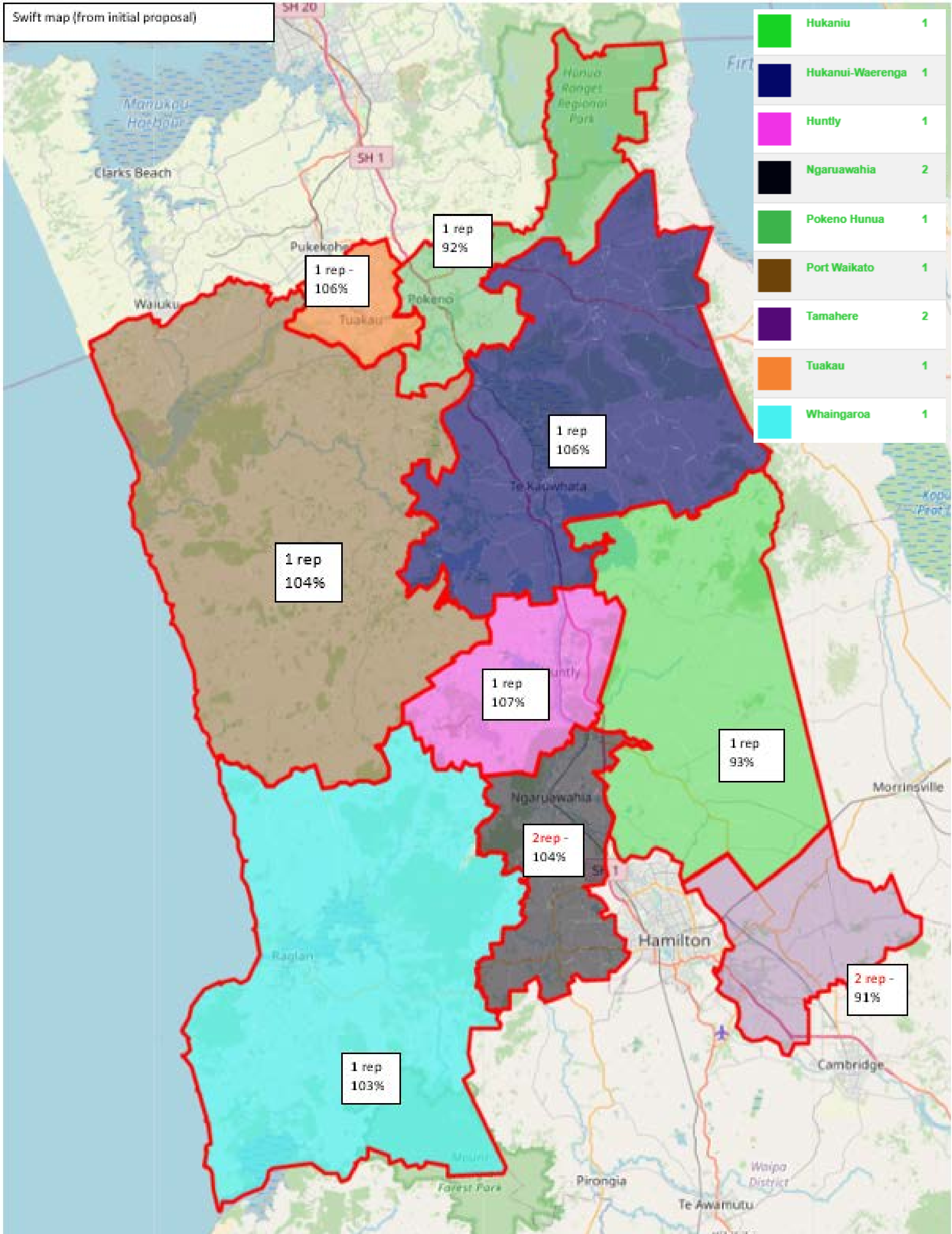
Style	Name	No. Clrs	Pop.	Target Pop.	Target Ratio	Pop. Var.
	Aka Aka - Maramarua	1	5897	6186	95%	-289
	Huntly	1	6460	6186	104%	274
	Ngaruawahia Newcastle	2	13310	12373	108%	937
	Port Waikato	1	5414	6186	88%	-772
	Tamahere Newstead	2	13381	12373	108%	1008
	Tuakau Pokeno	2	11286	12373	91%	-1087
	Waerenga - Hukanui	1	6577	6186	106%	391
	Waingarua	1	5726	6186	93%	-460





Option 3

Swift Map

	Hukaniu	1	5748	6186	93%	-438
	Hukanui-Waerenga	1	6542	6186	106%	356
	Huntly	1	6589	6186	107%	403
	Ngaruawahia	2	12855	12373	104%	482
	Pokeno Hunua	1	5689	6186	92%	-497
	Port Waikato	1	6433	6186	104%	247
	Tamahere	2	11292	12373	91%	-1081
	Tuakau	1	6544	6186	106%	358
	Whaingaroa	1	6359	6186	103%	173



Port Waikato and District Community Board

Style	Name	No. Clrs	Pop.	Target Pop.	Target Ratio	Pop. Var.
	Port Waikato and Districts Community Board	1	4560	4560	100%	0
	Unassigned	0	78380	In 802 meshblocks		
Total		1	4560	4560		

