



Photo: Jason Mills

Say what?

We need to do a representation review

Every six years we have to look at how many councillors we have in each of our three wards (Paeroa, Waihi and Hauraki Plains), and across the district overall. This is to make sure we have the right amount of people around the Council table to fairly represent the number of people that live in each of our communities.

Under the Local Electoral Act 2001 we have to consider some strict criteria around effective and fair representation, and then talk to you about whether or not we meet this criteria, and if we don't, what changes you think we could make.

The Local Government Commission will then consider the Council resolutions, public feedback and any objections and make a decision. Its decision may allow for exceptions from the rules.

This is called a representation review.

What we need to find out

Our focus at the moment is on our Long Term Plan but once these discussions are finished, we'll turn our attention to the representation review and chat with you about any issues and options that may come up.

You know your communities best, so it's important we work alongside you and find out what you want, before we make any recommendations to the Local Government Commission.

What we know already

We can see already that councillor numbers don't quite stack up in the Waihi Ward, and that we've also got more councillors overall than most other councils in the country when you take into account our population.

One of the options the Local Government Commission will want us to look at in relation to this, is whether or not our communities are open to the possibility of changing ward boundaries.

We'll talk to communities where this could be a consideration soon, before coming up with some options for the wider community to think about later this year.

The current ward system works well

"The current ward system has been very effective since amalgamation in 1989, and as Mayor I don't see any appetite for changing this from any of our communities. I can also assure you the Council has no intention whatsoever of changing any wards. However, these are not decisions we can assume to make on your behalf. To comply with legislation and before we make any decisions on the representation of each ward, we need to satisfy the Local Government Commission that we've asked our communities if changing ward boundaries is a possible option."

Mayor John Tregidga

Hey, we need to say thank you *kia ora* to everyone who shared their feedback

If you have missed out it's not too late to drop in and share your views on 16 May between 3.00pm and 4.00pm or 17 May between 9.00am and 10.00am at the Council Chambers in Paeroa.

Where to from here?

The Council will consider all your feedback and make its decisions on the proposals in our We Need to Talk booklet and website. We'll let you know how that turns out.

Then we'll put together our final Long Term Plan which will be adopted by the Council at the end of June. We'll let you know where to find that too.

Talk soon



Hauraki Coromandel Business Awards 2018

Applications now open!

Last year's Supreme Award winner AgriSea NZ Ltd General Manager Tane Bradley says the experience was incredibly worthwhile. He encourages all local businesses to throw their hats in the ring.

"What a fantastic opportunity to reflect on our own systems and processes, but also to be part of something bigger than us. The absolute highlight for me was to celebrate with other businesses doing all kinds of great things within our community. We're all so busy running our own companies it's easy to forget to stop and share our successes and learnings with each other. This is what the awards are all about."

Want to know more?

Come along to one of three question and answer sessions in the District this month. Please register your interest by calling Lisa on 07 901 0100 or emailing info@haurakicoromandelbusinessawards.co.nz

22nd May 12:00pm

Paeroa Positive Paeroa, 101 Normanby Road

23rd May 8:00am

Waihi Eaten Café, 34 Rosemont Road

23rd May 12:00pm

Ngatea Conference room at 18a Orchard Road (front door entrance is between Ngatea Meats & Ebony Clothing)

www.haurakicoromandelbusinessawards.co.nz



Fibre roll out begins in Waihi next week

The Waihi community will be the first in Hauraki to be able to connect to Ultra-Fast Broadband as Chorus begins rolling out their fibre network next week.

Mayor Tregidga says this is exciting news for the Waihi community.

"Being able to tap into ultra-fast broadband will bring huge benefits to the community and means we can all stay connected and competitive in today's digital world. Like all our towns, Waihi is growing quickly as more people realise the advantages of living and doing business here."

Chorus says residents will be notified by letter prior to work starting in their neck of the woods.

Overall, the work is expected to take around a year to complete. Any disturbed ground will be reinstated to previous condition as per council standards – so affected berms that are nice grass now, will be topsoiled and seeded.

Residents will be sent a postcard letting them know when they can talk to their service provider about getting connected.

You can also check on the Chorus website for an indication of when fibre will be available at your address www.chorus.co.nz/broadband-checker

If you don't want to connect, no problem. The fibre will just sit at the property boundary.

