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**REPORT 6**  
(1215/12/IM)

**RATIFICATION OF BOARD SUBMISSION TO THE  
WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL REVIEW OF  
REPRESENTATION ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 2013  
LOCAL AUTHORITY ELECTIONS**

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**1. Purpose of Report**

To enable Community Board members to approve the Boards submission to the Wellington City Council review of representation arrangements for the 2013 Local Authority Elections.

**2. Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Tawa Community Board:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Approve the submission of the Tawa Community Board to the Wellington City Council review of representation arrangements for the 2013 Local Authority Elections attached as appendix 1.*



# APPENDIX 1

## **TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD SUBMISSION TO THE WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATION ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 2013 LOCAL AUTHORITY ELECTIONS**

The Tawa Community Board agrees with many of the recommendations set out in the Wellington City Council report entitled “Representation Review – Proposal for the 2013 Local Authority Election”, dated 12 July 2012.

Specifically, we agree with the recommendation that:

- Members of the Wellington City Council (other than the Mayor) are elected under the ward system for the 2013 local authority elections.
- The city is divided into five wards for the 2013 local authority elections.
- The number of elected members (excluding the Mayor) is retained at 14 and that the distribution of those numbers between the five wards is per the most recent local body election. This is an issue which will no doubt be subject to review if and when a comprehensive Local Government restructure takes place.
- The Tawa Community Board continues to operate within its current boundaries, that the community is not subdivided for electoral purposes and that its existing membership of six elected members continues to be elected by the electors of the Tawa community as a whole, plus two appointed members.
- No further community boards are established across the city at this time. However this is an issue which needs to be reviewed if and when a comprehensive Local Government restructure takes place. In principle it is our view that community boards play a key role in providing local communities with a local voice and that various communities of interest in Wellington would benefit by having their own community boards.

We are not convinced that the current STV voting system is the best option for Wellington electors, bearing in mind that it is overly complex and provides so many options that people find it easier to simply opt out and not bother to vote.

When Wellington City Council is determining its representation proposal, we feel very strongly that communities of interest be a prime consideration. Consolidation into larger wards can tend to disenfranchise communities of interest. Whatever measures are necessary should be taken to ensure that given communities are not split into different wards or disbanded.

### **Tawa Community Board**

Malcolm Sparrow (Chair)

Graeme Hansen

Margaret Lucas

Christopher Reading

Alistair Sutton

Robert Tredger