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**REPORT 4**  
(1215/12/IM)

## **RATIFICATION OF SUBMISSION TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM IN WELLINGTON**

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### **1. Purpose of Report**

To enable Community Board members to approve the Boards submission to Local Government Reform in Wellington.

### **2. Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Tawa Community Board:

- 1. Receive the information.*
- 2. Approve the submission of the Tawa Community Board to Local Government Reform in Wellington attached as appendix 1.*

## **LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM IN WELLINGTON**

The view of the majority of **Tawa Community Board** members is that the best option for the future of Wellington is:

Option 1 - shared services or collaborative model. No change to existing boundaries for councils, but agree to formally share or bring together the management of certain services.

The above makes a lot of sense. Councils which make up the Wellington region should retain their autonomy but work together more collaboratively.

We believe that localised community-oriented decision-making is vital in the interests of democracy, and any move towards “super city” status is a threat to that. Maintaining the status quo is likely to better serve the interests of local communities than amalgamation would.

We are also convinced that a lot more could and should be done in terms of “shared services” between the various councils, and standardisation of rules and fees between councils in terms of building consents, food licences, dog licences, etc, should be given serious consideration.

We do not have a set view whether Kapiti should be included in the new and improved arrangement, but we do not think that it should include Wairarapa.

As only limited information is available at this stage in terms of how the process might be undertaken, we would like to reserve our right to comment further once the situation becomes clearer and more details are known.

Malcolm Sparrow  
Chair, Tawa Community Board

3 July 2012