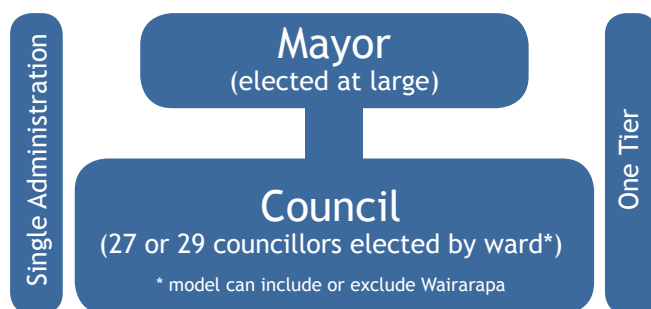


LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM IN THE WELLINGTON REGION – WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Four councils in our region believe we can do better. Wellington currently has nine councils. We think a single council offers huge benefits – co-ordinated planning, efficient use of resources, better infrastructure, focussed decision-making, more accountability, effective economic development, less duplication and red tape, plus savings of between \$12m and \$29m a year.

We've developed two options: a council with a single tier of representation; and a council with two tiers of representation – region-wide councillors and local boards. The alternative is the status quo. We want to know which you prefer. Overleaf is a simple questionnaire, plus some space for your ideas. Please fill it in and send it back to us. Or go online to www.regionalreform.org.nz to complete a more comprehensive survey. Submissions close on May 3. The website has lots of information to help you with your choice. But if you're short on time, here's an overview:

Option one: single-tier council



A mayor elected across the region and up to 29 councillors elected from wards make all decisions. Councillors represent regional and local interests at the decision-making table.

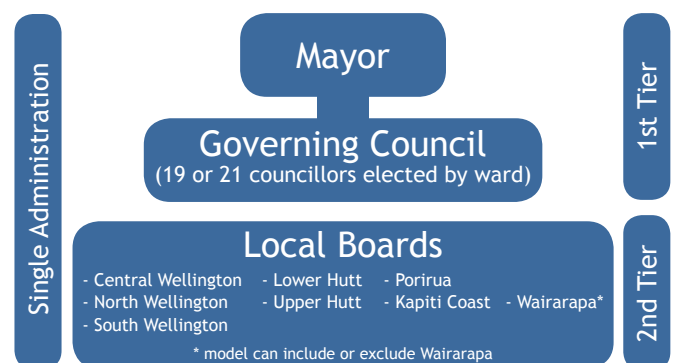
Status quo

We consider the status quo to be the third option. After consultation, an application for change may go to the Local Government Commission, which will undertake more consultation before issuing a final detailed proposal. There is then the opportunity for a public poll on the proposal. If it fails to get 50 per cent support, the status quo remains.

Wairarapa

Either model can work with or without Wairarapa remaining in the region. Some believe Wairarapa should remain as an integral part of the region. Others believe Wairarapa should be a separate region. We want your view.

Option two: two-tier council



Decision-making is shared between a governing council (mayor/councillors) and local boards. Both these tiers share a single administration and one chief executive, and council staff support two levels of elected representatives.

The governing council consists of a mayor elected across the region and up to 21 councillors elected from wards. It focuses on region-wide matters such as planning, infrastructure and economic development. Local boards (there may be seven or eight) have up to nine elected members each. Local boards represent local communities and make decisions on local matters.

**For more information go to
www.regionalreform.org.nz**

Questions:

1.	Do you think our councils need to change?	Yes <input type="radio"/>	No <input type="radio"/>	Don't know <input type="radio"/>
2.	Do you favour one single-tier council or A two-tier council with local boards?	Single-tier <input type="radio"/>	Two-tier <input type="radio"/>	Don't know <input type="radio"/>
3.	Do you think Wairarapa is part of the Wellington region?	Yes <input type="radio"/>	No <input type="radio"/>	Don't know <input type="radio"/>

Tell us your ideas on regional reform:

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Name Email

Address

Fold here

Fold, fasten and post this form
using the address below

Fold here

FreePost Authority Number 3156



Regional Reform
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Wellington 6142