

4 September 2024

File Ref: OIAPR-1274023063-30301

By email: [REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

### **Request for information 2024-218**

I refer to your request for information dated 30 August 2024, which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) on 30 August 2024. You have requested the following:

“Any notes regarding what was discussed at the 1 August 2024 Council workshop where the Council’s representation review was on the agenda, including any speaking notes and presentations from staff, or any recordings of the meeting.”

### **Greater Wellington’s response**

We have identified the following information as falling within the scope of your request:

1. Updated information on the Representation Review 2024 (**Attachment 1**) – this information was provided to Councillors for reading prior to the 1 August 2024 workshop.
2. File note extract regarding the 2024 presentation review item at the 1 August 2024 Council workshop (**Attachment 2**).

If you have any concerns with the decision referred to in this letter, you have the right to request an investigation and review by the Ombudsman under section 27(3) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where appropriate. Our response to your request will be published shortly on Greater Wellington's website with your personal information removed.

Nāku iti noa, nā



**Luke Troy**

Kaiwhakahaere Matua Rautaki | Group Manager Strategy

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## **Updated information on the Representation Review 2024**

### **Item 3 - Council workshop - 1 August 2024**

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## Context

- 1 The Council considered a Discussion Paper at its 1 February 2024 workshop that included the:
  - a Proposed timeframes and delivery dates for the Representation Review 2024
  - b Scenarios and options for representation based on General Electoral Population (resulting from the Council's October 2023 resolution to establish a Māori constituency from the 2025 triennial local authority election onwards).
- 2 Since then, the Government introduced the Local Government (Electoral Legislation and Māori Wards and Māori Constituencies) Amendment Bill 2024 (the Bill), which provides:
  - a That the Council must either affirm or rescind its decision to establish a Māori constituency by 6 September 2024<sup>1</sup>
  - b Different statutory timeframes for completing the Representation Review 2024.
- 3 Six documents are attached for Councillors' reference:
  - a The Discussion Paper that the Council considered at its 1 February 2024 workshop and which informed the Council's preliminary engagement with the community (**Attachment 1**)
  - b The summary of responses from the preliminary engagement (**Attachment 2**), and the separate response from Gavin Beattie (**Attachment 3**), provided to Councillors on 9 April 2024
  - c The full set of responses from the preliminary engagement (**Attachment 4**), provided to Councillors on 14 May 2024
  - d Updated scenarios and options for representation, based on Total Electoral Population, if the Council rescinds its resolution to establish a Māori constituency (**Attachment 5**)
  - e The proposed different statutory timeframes (from the Bill) and delivery dates for completing the Representation Review 2024 (**Attachment 6**).

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<sup>1</sup> With an affirm decision requiring a mandatory binding poll of electors at the 2025 triennial local authority election.



# Discussion paper

## Representation Review 2024

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## Background

- 1 This paper outlines the legislative framework and timeframe for Greater Wellington Regional Council's Representation Review 2024 and provides statistical updates and theoretical scenarios to inform this review.
- 2 Council resolved, at its meeting on 26 October 2023, to establish a Māori constituency for the 2025 triennial local authority elections onwards (Report 23.539). Under the requirements of the Local Electoral Act 2001 (the LEA), the statistical proportion of the Māori Electoral Population to the Wellington Region's Total Electoral Population means that there would be one single member Māori constituency on the Council<sup>1</sup>.
- 3 Given the Māori constituency arrangements for the Council are already known (a single Māori constituency covering the whole area of the Wellington Region), the only related matter for the Council to determine is the name of the Māori constituency. Greater Wellington is currently engaging with the Wellington Region's mana whenua on a proposed name, and any name gifted by mana whenua will be advised to the Council for proposed inclusion in its initial representation proposal for public consultation.
- 4 Taking into account the Māori constituency arrangements, the scenarios contained in this discussion paper are for the Council's general constituencies. Accordingly, the statistical population information contained in each scenario (and the related options) is based on the General Electoral Population, which excludes the Māori Electoral Population.<sup>2</sup>

### **Local Electoral Act 2001**

- 5 The LEA provides the legislative framework for the Council's representation review. The LEA requires local authorities to review their representation arrangements at least once every six years. As the Council last undertook a representation review in 2018, it needs to undertake a representation review in 2024.
- 6 The LEA's key requirements to take into account when determining the Council's representation arrangements are:
  - a Effective representation of the Wellington Region's communities of interest
  - b Fair representation (the LEA uses a population formula based on the number of people per councillor).

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<sup>1</sup> The estimated Māori Electoral Population in the Wellington Region (based on Statistics NZ's population estimates at 30 June 2023) was 45,000, being 8.17 percent of the Total Electoral Population of 550,500. Applying the formula in clause 4 of Schedule 1A to the LEA, this allows for a single member Māori constituency on the Council, when the Council has a total membership of between seven and 14 members.

**Key legislative provisions**

- 7 The key LEA sections for regional council representation reviews are:
- a Section 19D - membership of regional councils
  - b Section 19E - basis of election of members of regional council
  - c Section 19I - review of representation arrangements for elections of regional councils
  - d Section 19U - requirement for effective representation and other factors in determination of membership and basis of election of regional council
  - e Section 19V - requirement for fair representation and other factors in determination of membership for wards, constituencies and subdivisions.
- 8 These legislative requirements, together with identifying factors and considerations for local authorities to take into account when reviewing their representation arrangements, are discussed in the Local Government Commission's [Guidelines for local authorities undertaking representation reviews](#) (July 2023, updated 2 October 2023).

**Membership of regional councils**

- 9 Section 19D of the LEA states that a regional council is to consist of not fewer than six members nor more than 14 members. The Council currently has 13 members and recently resolved to establish a Māori constituency from the 2025 local authority elections onwards.

**Regions divided into constituencies**

- 10 Section 19E(1) of the LEA states that a region must be divided into constituencies for electoral purposes. There is no option of "at large" elections for regional councils.
- 11 Members must be elected by the electors of each constituency of the region. Section 19E(4) of the LEA provides that each constituency must elect at least one member of the regional council.

**Constituencies to be determined by resolution**

- 12 Section 19I(1) of the LEA states that a regional council must determine by resolution the proposed:
- a Number of constituencies
  - b Name and boundaries of each constituency, and
  - c Number of members to be elected by each constituency's electors.

***Effective and fair representation***

- 13 Section 19U of the LEA requires the Council to ensure that the number of constituencies and the boundaries of each constituency will provide effective representation of communities of interest within the region. Also, these constituency boundaries must coincide with the boundaries of:
- a The current statistical meshblock areas as determined by Statistics New Zealand and used for parliamentary electoral purposes, and
  - b So far as is practical, one or more territorial authority districts or the boundaries of wards.
- 14 Section 19V of the LEA states that to ensure fair representation the number of members to be elected is calculated by having regard to the population of every constituency within the region. The population of each constituency divided by the number of members to be elected by that constituency must not be more than 10 percent greater or smaller than the population of the region divided by the total number of elected members. This 'population formula' is commonly referred to as the "+/- 10 percent rule". For the purposes of this discussion paper, references to population are to the General Electoral Population (as the establishment of a Māori constituency requires us to remove the Māori Electoral Population from each constituency's population).
- 15 Under section 19V(3) of the LEA, the Council may only depart from the population formula required for fair representation where this departure is required to ensure the effective representation of communities of interest. A Council decision not to comply with the population formula must be referred to the Local Government Commission which determines whether to uphold or alter the Council's decision.
- 16 The current Kāpiti Coast constituency is a good example of the application of a departure from the +/- 10 percent rule in the Wellington Region. In 2019, the Local Government Commission determined that the Kapiti Coast was a distinct community of interest warranting its own representation, notwithstanding that the deviation from the regional average population per councillor was 33.31 percent.

**Determining communities of interest**

- 17 The term 'community of interest' is not defined in the LEA, can mean different things to different people, and may change over time. Properly considering this definition is an essential part of the representation review process and a necessary precursor to determining effective representation for the Wellington Region.

- 18 A community of interest usually has several defining characteristics, including:
- a An area where one feels a sense of community identity and belonging
  - b Similar demographic, socio-economic and/or ethnic characteristics of the community's residents
  - c Similar economic activities
  - d Dependence on shared facilities, or access to goods and services, needed for ordinary everyday existence – these can include schools, recreational and cultural facilities, and retail outlets
  - e Physical and topographical features
  - f History of the area
  - g Transportation networks and communication links.
- 19 For a regional council, factors aligned to its functions may also be relevant. For the Wellington Region, these include:
- a Conservation forestry and bulk water supply
  - b Public transport networks, assets and services
  - c Noxious plants and pest animals
  - d Integrated environmental and catchment management.
- 20 Effective representation can be achieved by:
- a Making each community of interest a separate constituency
  - b Combining a number of communities of interest into a single constituency, or
  - c Dividing a community of interest.
- 21 The Council will need to determine the current communities of interest in the Wellington Region for representation purposes. The Representation Review then needs to determine how these interests can be fairly represented by the proposed constituencies and number of members.

### **Electoral system**

- 22 Following the Council's consideration of the electoral system at its 24 August 2023 meeting (Report 23.243), the Single Transferable Vote electoral system will continue to apply for the Council's 2025 and 2028 triennial local authority elections. The Single Transferable Vote

electoral system should be taken into account when formulating the Council's representation arrangements. In the Local Government Commission's 2023 guidelines<sup>3</sup>, it states:

Five to seven members is preferable for wards and constituencies using STV (the absolute minimum is three) to gain the full benefits of proportional representation under STV.

## Representation Review process

### *Recommended elements*

- 23 When applying the Local Government Commission's recommended steps to the Representation Review 2024, the recommended elements are to:
- a Identify communities of interest
  - b Consider effective representation for these identified communities of interest, including:
    - i Size of constituencies, single/demulti member, electoral system, etc.
    - ii Range in total number of elected members
    - iii Grouping or splitting communities of interest
    - iv Number, boundaries, and names of constituencies
  - c Consider fair representation for electors of constituencies:
    - i For the range of total general constituency members, determine the population ratio per general constituency member
    - ii Consider the ratio for each general constituency member (within +/- 10 percent of the population ration for the region)
    - iii Identify appropriate options, necessary reconfigurations, and possible grounds for exceptions
  - d When Council makes its related decisions, to:
    - i Consider all practicable options and community views
    - ii Apply administrative law principles to ensure the Council acts:
      - A In accordance with the law (gives reasons for its decisions)
      - B Reasonably (final decisions are made in light of the submissions received)
      - C Fairly.

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<sup>3</sup> See paragraph 8 above.

**Legislative process**

- 24 The legislative process steps for a representation review are:
- a The Council resolves an initial representation proposal, and invites submissions on the proposal
  - b The Council considers any submissions on the initial representation proposal and resolves its final representation proposal:
    - i If no submissions are received, then the initial representation proposal automatically becomes the Council's final representation proposal
    - ii If the Council's final representation proposal does not meet the statutory requirements for fair representation, then the final representation proposal must be referred to the Local Government Commission for determination.
  - c If the Council receives submissions and resolves a different final representation proposal, then persons who made submissions on the initial representation proposal may appeal under section 19O, or anyone can object under section 19P, to the Local Government Commission on the final representation proposal.
  - d The Local Government Commission hears any appealing and/or objecting parties and issues its determination.
  - e Parties to these proceedings may appeal to the High Court on a question of law relating to the Local Government Commission's determination (Schedule 5 to the Local Government Act 2002).

**Consultation and pre-engagement**

- 25 Sections 19M and 19N of the LEA set out the consultation requirements for the initial representation proposal. As these sections are minimum standards only, the Local Government Commission's 2023 guidelines encourage councils to consider seeking additional feedback and engagement with communities before starting the formal statutory consultation process. Options for such pre-engagement will be discussed at a Council workshop on 1 February 2024.

**Timeframes and delivery dates**

- 26 As there are specific timeframes provided for the legislative process, and for the Local Government Commission's recommended pre-engagement, proposed delivery dates for the Representation Review 2024 are set out in **Attachment 1**.

## Additional information

- 27 We have compiled a range of additional information to assist Council in considering representation review matters:
- a A history of representation reviews in the Wellington Region (**Attachment 2**)
  - b The Local Government Commission's [2019 determination of representation arrangements to apply for the election of the Wellington Regional Council to be held on 12 October 2019](#)
  - c A selection of potential scenarios and options for representation arrangements (**Attachment 3**). These scenarios reflect proposals previously considered by Council, and do not represent the full range of available scenarios
  - d 2018 Census information on the inter-district transport flows for employment purposes (**Attachment 4**). This information can be applied to gauge the connectedness of the Wellington Region.

## Council workshop

- 28 A Council workshop to discuss the matters covered in this discussion paper is scheduled for 1 February 2024.



## Attachment 1

**Legislative timeframes and proposed delivery dates for the Representation Review 2024**

<b>Task and Local Electoral Act 2001 reference</b>	<b>Legislative timeframe</b>	<b>Proposed delivery dates 2024</b>
Earliest date for Council resolving initial representation proposal Section 19K(1AA)	Not before 20 December 2023	See below for date of resolving the initial representation proposal
Council workshop – to brief Councillors on the process and gain initial thoughts, including on preliminary (non-statutory) engagement		1 February 2024 Council workshop
Preliminary (non-statutory) community engagement		March to April 2024
Council decision on initial representation proposal for the 2025 elections Section 19K(1AA) Clause 1 of Schedule 1A	By 31 July 2024	30 May 2024
Public notification of initial representation proposal Section 19M(1)	Within 14 days after making the resolution on the initial representation proposal and by 8 August 2024	13 June 2024
Close of public submissions Section 19M(2)	No less than one month after the date of public notice	14 July 2024
Representation Review Committee to hear and consider submissions		8 August 2024
Council to consider the Representation Review Committee's recommendations on the final representation proposal, and to adopt that final representation proposal Section 19N(1)		22 August 2024
Public notice of final representation proposal Section 19N(1)	Within eight weeks of the close of submissions	8 September 2024
Close of period for appeals and objections on final representation proposal Sections 19O and 19P	No less than one month after the date of the public notice of final representation proposal, and no later than 3 December 2024	9 October 2024

Task and Local Electoral Act 2001 reference	Legislative timeframe	Proposed delivery dates 2024
All relevant information to be provided to Local Government Commission, if appeals and/or objections received, and/or Council's final representation proposal does not comply with the "+/-10 percent rule" of fair representation Section 19Q	By 20 December 2024	By 31 October 2024
Local Government Commission to determine representation arrangements, if required. Section 19R(3)	No later than 10 April 2025	

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### History of representation reviews in the Wellington Region<sup>4</sup>

**1989** The Local Government (Wellington Region) Reorganisation Order 1989 set out the makeup of the Wellington Regional Council (the WRC) as follows:

Constituency	Members
7 in total	19 in total
Kāpiti Coast	2
Porirua	2
Wellington North	3
Wellington South	4
Lower Hutt	4
Upper Hutt	2
Wairarapa	2

**1992** The Local Government Amendment Act 1992 altered the makeup of the WRC by amalgamating Wellington North and Wellington South, and reducing the membership as follows:

Constituency	Members
6 in total	14 in total
Kāpiti Coast	1
Porirua	2
Wellington	5
Lower Hutt	3
Upper Hutt	1
Wairarapa	2

**1995** In accordance with section 101H of the Local Government Act 1974, the WRC reviewed its membership and constituencies in 1994 (the year preceding the year in which a triennial general election was to be held). The WRC's proposed to split the Wellington Constituency into Wellington South (Lambton, Eastern and Southern Wards) and Wellington North (Tawa, Onslow, Western and Northern Wards). The representation proposal was based on a formula

<sup>4</sup> The year stated at the start of each entry reflects the year of the related triennial local authority election.

of population 90 percent | rateable value 5 percent | area 5 percent. No appeals were received on the representation proposal.

Constituency	Members
7 in total	14 in total
Kāpiti Coast	1
Porirua	2
Wellington North	2
Wellington South	3
Lower Hutt	3
Upper Hutt	1
Wairarapa	2

**1998** In accordance with section 101H of the Local Government Act 1974, the WRC reviewed its membership and constituencies in 1997 (the year preceding the year in which a triennial general election was to be held). The WRC proposed no change to its existing constituencies and membership other than a boundary change between the two Wellington constituencies to reflect proposed Wellington City Council ward boundary changes.

Two appeals were received on this representation proposal (and one counter-objection). The Local Government Commission determined that there should be six constituencies (the Wellington North and Wellington South constituencies were amalgamated). Representation was based on a formula of population 90 percent | rateable value 5 percent | area 5 percent.

Constituency	Members
6 in total	14 in total
Kāpiti Coast	1
Porirua	2
Wellington	5
Lower Hutt	3
Upper Hutt	1
Wairarapa	2

**2001** In accordance with section 101H of the Local Government Act 1974, the WRC reviewed its membership and constituencies in 2000 (the year preceding the year in which a triennial general election was to be held). The WRC proposed no change to its existing constituencies and membership other than to divide its existing Wellington Constituency into three constituencies – Wellington South-Western, Wellington Lambton and Wellington South-Eastern.

One appeal was received on this proposal (and four counter-objections). The Local Government Commission determined that there should continue to be six constituencies (the membership of the Porirua constituency was reduced from two to one). Representation was based on a formula of population 80 percent | rateable value 10 percent | area 10 percent.

Constituency	Members
6 in total	13 in total
Kāpiti Coast	1
Porirua	1
Wellington	5
Lower Hutt	3
Upper Hutt	1
Wairarapa	2

**2004** In accordance with section 19 of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the WRC was required to undertake its first representation review under this Act in either 2003 or 2006. The WRC decided not to review its representation in 2003. Accordingly, the LEA's requirements applied to the 2004 triennial local authority elections.

**2007** In accordance with section 19 of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the WRC undertook its first representation review in 2006. The WRC proposed to amend its constituencies by amalgamating the Porirua and Kāpiti Coast constituencies (the Council's initial representation proposal also provided for the amalgamation of the Lower Hutt and Upper Hutt constituencies into a Hutt Valley constituency, but this did not form part of the Council's final representation proposal).

Twenty-four appeals or objections were received on the final representation proposal. The Local Government Commission determined that there should be six constituencies (the membership of the Wairarapa constituency was reduced from two to one, and Tawa was removed from the Wellington constituency and placed with Porirua to create the Porirua-Tawa constituency). Representation was based on a formula of population, with the LEA no longer providing for other factors, such as land area and rateable value, to be applied in determining representation.

Constituency	Members
6 in total	13 in total
Kāpiti Coast	1
Porirua-Tawa	2
Wellington	5
Lower Hutt	3
Upper Hutt	1
Wairarapa	1

**2013** In 2012, the WRC undertook its second representation review in accordance with section 19 of the Local Electoral Act 2001. The Council's initial representation proposal provided for a two member Wairarapa Constituency, but this did not form part of the final representation proposal. The Council's final representation proposal was for the retention of the existing representation arrangements.

Two appeals / objections were received on the final representation proposal. The Local Government Commission determined that the existing representation arrangements, as set out in its 2007 determination, should be retained.

**2019** In 2018, the WRC undertook its third representation review in accordance with section 19 of the Local Electoral Act 2001. The Council's initial representation proposal was for the continuation of the existing representation arrangements, subject to a minor boundary alternation and some name changes for constituencies. The Council's final representation proposal was unchanged from its initial representation proposal, subject to a name change for one constituency.

Two appeals were received on the final representation proposal. The Local Government Commission's determination was consistent with the Council's final representation proposal.

Constituency	Members
6 in total	13 in total
Kāpiti Coast	1
Porirua-Tawa	2
Pōneke / Wellington	5
Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai / Lower Hutt	3
Te Awa Kairangi ki Uta / Upper Hutt	1
Wairarapa	1

## Selection of indicative representation scenarios and options for the Representation Review 2024

### Population change – 2017 to 2023

The Wellington Region's usually resident population grew from 513,900 in 2017 to 550,500 in 2023, an increase of 36,600 (7.1 percent)<sup>5</sup>.

The table below provides Total Electoral Population information by territorial authority area:

Territorial authority area	Estimated population 2017	Estimated population 2023	Percentage share of regional population 2017	Percentage share of regional population 2023	Population increase from 2017 to 2023	Percentage population increase from 2017 to 2023	Percentage share of regional population increase
Kāpiti Coast District	52,700	58,390	10.3	10.6	5,690	10.8	15.5
Porirua City	56,100	62,390	10.9	11.3	6,290	11.2	17.2
Wellington City	212,700	216,230	41.4	39.3	3,530	1.7	9.6
Lower Hutt City	104,700	114,000	20.4	20.7	9,300	8.9	25.4
Upper Hutt City	43,200	48,240	8.4	8.8	5,040	11.7	13.8
Wairarapa districts <sup>6</sup>	44,500	51,220	8.7	9.3	6,720	15.1	18.4
<b>Wellington Region</b>	<b>513,900</b>	<b>550,500</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>36,600</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>100</b>

<sup>5</sup> Statistics New Zealand population estimates, 30 June 2017 and 30 June 2023.

<sup>6</sup> Combined statistics for the South Wairarapa District, Carterton District, Masterton District, and that part of Tararua District that falls within the Wellington Region.

The information in the table above shows that the increase in Total Electoral Population has not been evenly distributed. The Wairarapa districts have experienced the highest population growth, with all territorial authority areas, excluding Wellington City, having increases above the average population increase for the Wellington Region.

Wellington City has experienced relatively low growth in the six year period, with its percentage population growth of 1.7 percent being well below the regional population increase of 7.1 percent, and its share of the regional population declining from 41.4 percent to 39.3 percent.

### **Scenarios**

The potential scenarios outlined below are indicative only. If Councillors identify other scenarios at the forthcoming Council workshop, then officers can provide similar information for these scenarios.

### **Assumptions**

Each scenario and related map:

- Is based on the current territorial authority areas
- Uses General Electoral Population figures, rather than the Total Electoral Population figures used for previous representation reviews<sup>7</sup>
- Refers to 'General Electoral Population' and 'general constituency Councillors' to distinguish clearly from previous reviews
- Includes the Wairarapa districts general constituency area, which combines the South Wairarapa District, South Wairarapa District, Carterton District, Masterton District, and that part of Tararua District that falls within the Wellington Region
- Reflects a maximum number of 13 general constituency Councillors (i.e., the LEA allows for a maximum number of 14 constituencies for a regional council, less the Māori constituency).

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<sup>7</sup> This approach follows from the Council's resolution to establish a single Māori constituency, and General Electoral Population is the Total Electoral Population less the Māori Electoral Population.



**Quick guide**

The following table provides a quick guide to the differences between the seven general constituency scenarios proposed in this discussion paper:

<b>General Constituency Area</b>	<b>Scenario 1</b> (6 General Constituency Areas)	<b>Scenario 2</b> (6 General Constituency Areas)	<b>Scenario 3</b> (4 General Constituency Areas)	<b>Scenario 4</b> (4 General Constituency Areas)	<b>Scenario 5</b> (4 General Constituency Areas)	<b>Scenario 6</b> (5 General Constituency Areas)	<b>Scenario 7</b> (5 General Constituency Areas)
Kāpiti Coast District							
Porirua City							
Tawa Community							
Wellington City (excluding the Tawa Community)							
Lower Hutt City							
Upper Hutt City							
Wairarapa districts							

**Scenario 1 General constituencies** (based on the current General Constituency Areas)

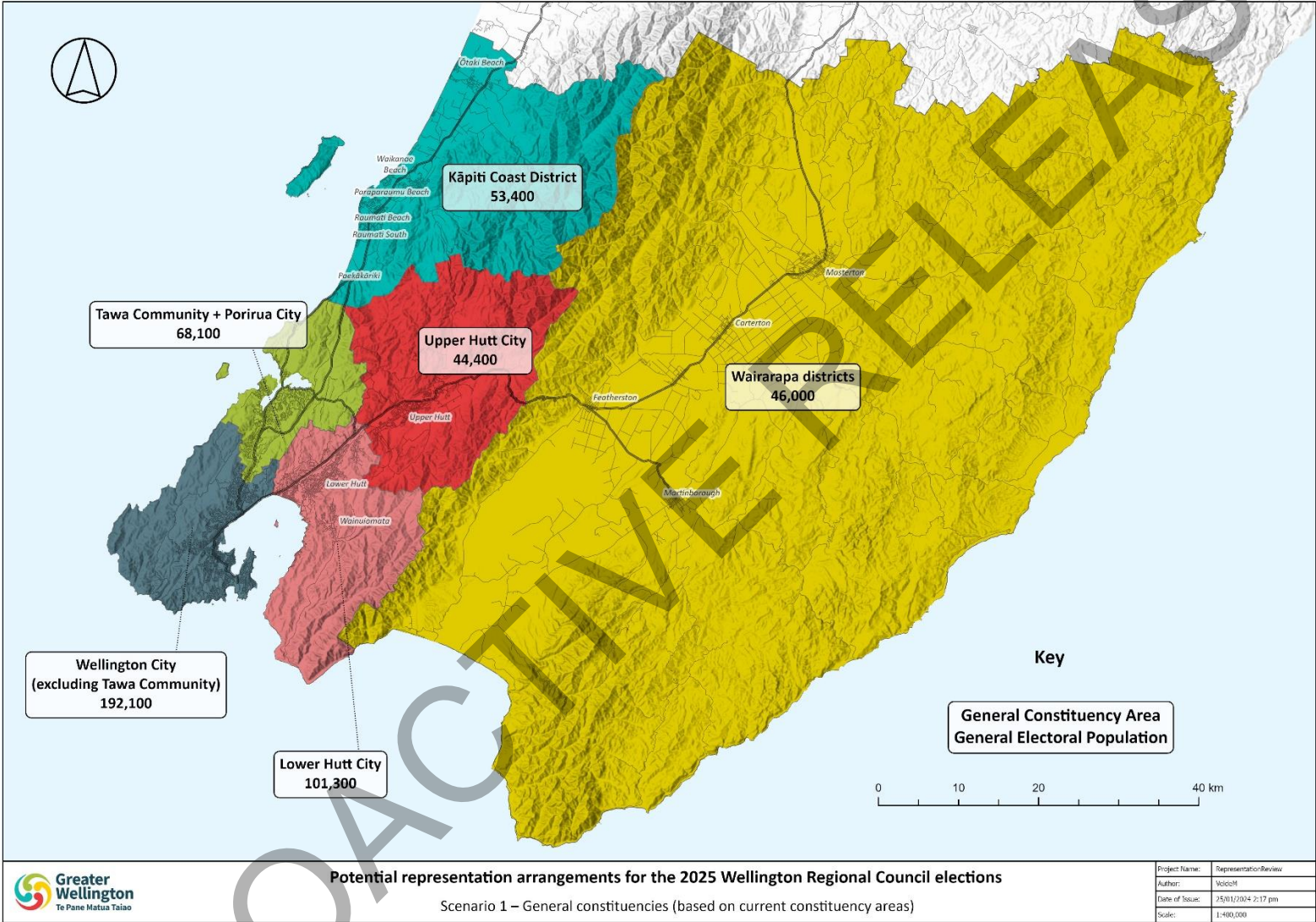
**A 13 general constituency Councillors elected**

General Constituency Area	GEP	Percentage of region's GEP	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Population per general constituency Councillor	Deviation from regional average population per general constituency Councillor (38,869)	Percentage deviation from regional average population per general constituency Councillor
Kāpiti Coast District	53,400	10.6	1	53,400	+14,531	+37.4
Porirua City + Tawa Community	68,100	13.5	2	34,050	-4,819	-12.4
Wellington City (excluding Tawa Community)	192,100	38.0	5	38,420	-449	-1.2
Lower Hutt City	101,300	20.0	3	33,767	-5,102	-13.1
Upper Hutt City	44,400	8.8	1	44,400	+5,531	+14.2
Wairarapa districts	46,000	9.1	1	46,000	+7,131	+18.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>505,300</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13</b>			

**B Scenario 1, with 10, 11, or 12 general constituency Councillors elected**

General Constituency Area	10 members		11 members		12 members	
	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Percentage deviation from regional average population per general constituency Councillor (50,530)	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Percentage deviation from regional average population per general constituency Councillor (45,936)	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Percentage deviation from regional average population per general constituency Councillor (42,108)
Kāpiti Coast District	1	+5.7	1	+16.2	1	+26.8
Porirua City + Tawa Community	1	+34.8	2	-25.9	2	-19.1
Wellington (excluding Tawa Community)	4	-5.0	4	+4.5	5	-8.8
Lower Hutt City	2	+0.2	2	+10.3	2	+20.3
Upper Hutt City	1	-12.1	1	-3.3	1	+5.4
Wairarapa districts	1	-9.0	1	+0.1	1	+9.2

Under this scenario, the option of a Council of 11 general constituency members best complies with the +/-10 percent rule. The option of 13 general constituency members is the least compliant option.



## Scenario 2 Territorial authority boundaries

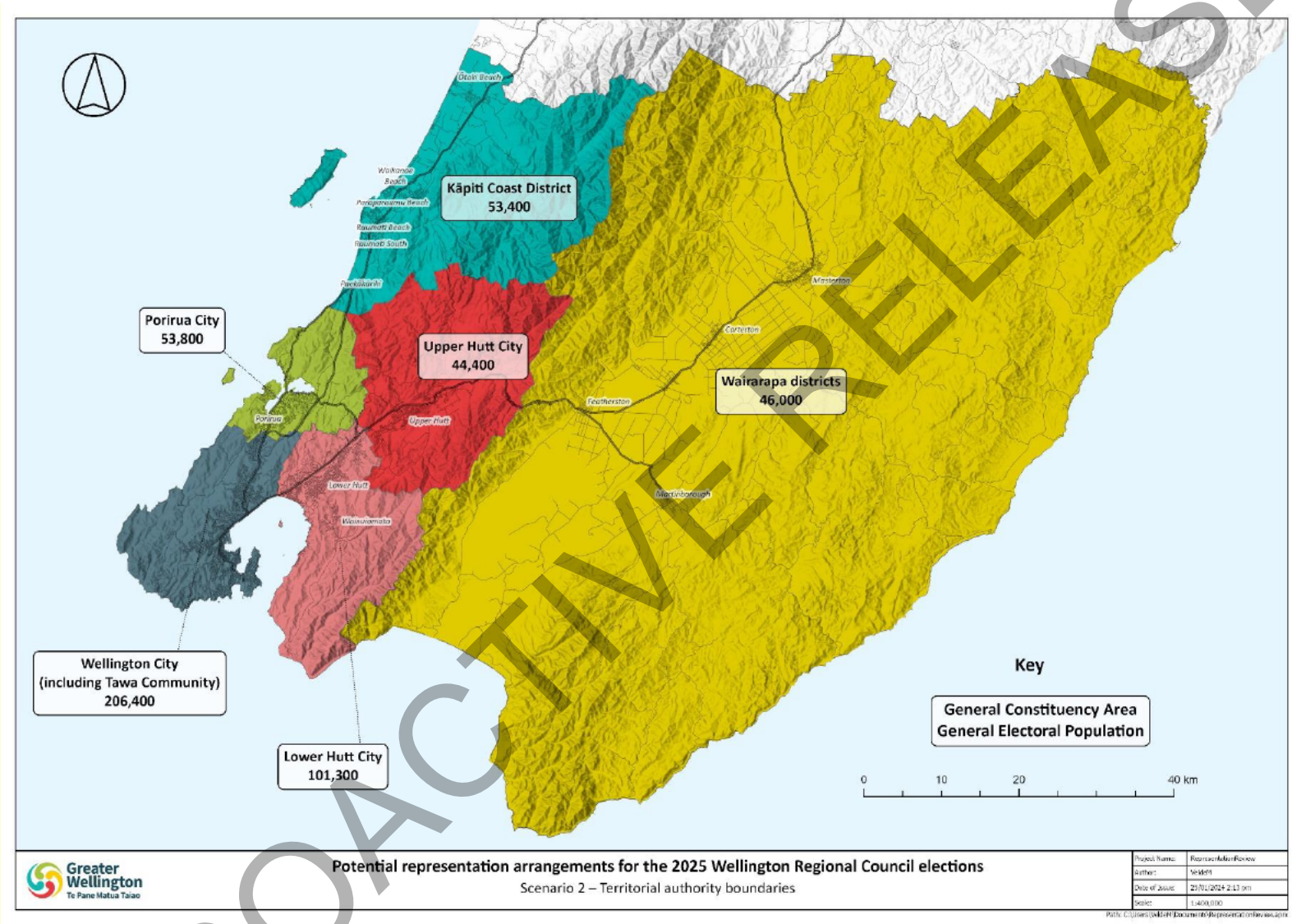
## A 13 general constituency Councillors elected

General Constituency Area	GEP	Percentage of region's GEP	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Population per general constituency Councillor	Deviation from the region's population per general constituency Councillor (38,869)	Percentage deviation from the region's population per general constituency Councillor
Kāpiti Coast District	53,400	10.6	1	53,400	+14,531	+37.4
Porirua City	53,800	10.6	2	26,900	-11,969	-30.8
Wellington City (including Tawa Community)	206,400	40.8	5	41,280	+2,411	+6.2
Lower Hutt City	101,300	20.0	3	33,767	-5,102	-13.1
Upper Hutt City	44,400	8.8	1	44,400	+5,531	+14.2
Wairarapa districts	46,000	9.1	1	46,000	+7,131	+18.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>505,300</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13</b>			

**B Scenario 2, with 10, 11, or 12 general constituency Councillors elected**

General Constituency Area	10 members		11 members		12 members	
	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Percentage deviation from regional average population per general constituency Councillor (50,530)	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Percentage deviation from regional average population per general constituency Councillor (45,936)	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Percentage deviation from regional average population per general constituency Councillor (42,108)
Kāpiti Coast District	1	+5.7	1	+16.2	1	+26.8
Porirua City	1	+6.5	1	+17.1	1	27.8
Wellington City (including Tawa Community)	4	+2.1	5	-10.1	5	-2.0
Lower Hutt City	2	+0.2	2	+10.3	3	-19.8
Upper Hutt City	1	-12.1	1	-3.3	1	+5.4
Wairarapa districts	1	-9.0	1	+0.1	1	+9.2

Under this scenario, the option of a Council with 10 general constituency members best complies with the +/- 10 percent rule, and more closely complies than the most compliant option under Scenario 1. The option of 13 general constituency Councillors is the least compliant option.



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**Scenario 3 Merged constituencies: Wellington City (including Tawa Community), Porirua City + Kāpiti Coast District, and Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City**

**A 13 general constituency Councillors elected**

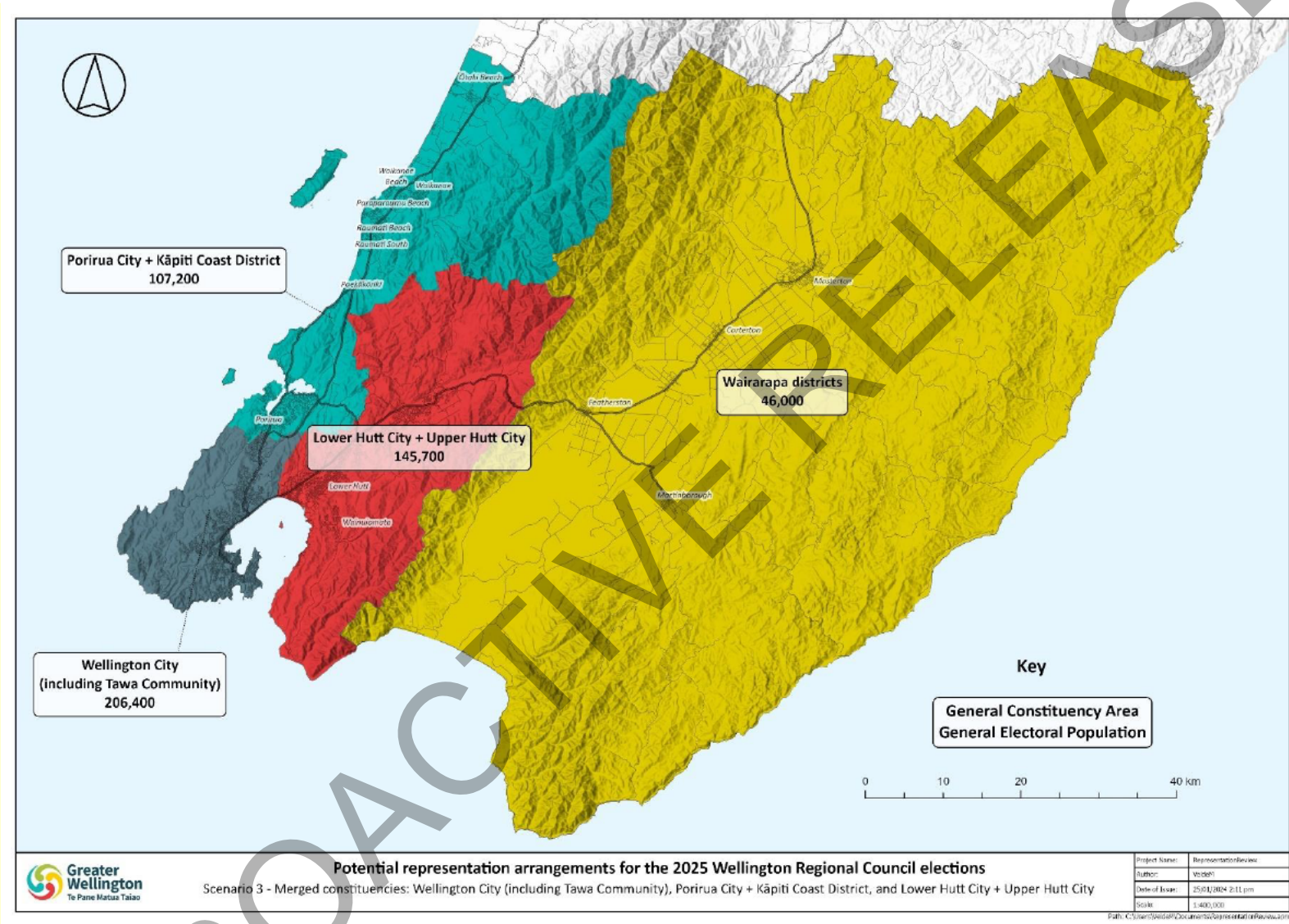
General Constituency Area	GEP	Percentage of region's GEP	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Population per general constituency Councillor	Deviation from the region's population per general constituency Councillor (38,869)	Percentage deviation from the region's population per general constituency Councillor
Porirua City + Kāpiti Coast District	107,200	21.2	3	35,733	-3,136	-8.1
Wellington City (including Tawa Community)	206,400	40.8	5	41,280	+2,411	+6.2
Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City	145,700	28.8	4	36,425	-2,444	-6.3
Wairarapa districts	46,000	9.1	1	46,000	+7,131	+18.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>505,300</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>13</b>			



**B Scenario 3, with 10, 11, or 12 general constituency Councillors elected**

General Constituency Area	10 members		11 members		12 members	
	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Percentage deviation from regional average population per general constituency Councillor (50,530)	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Percentage deviation from regional average population per general constituency Councillor (45,936)	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Percentage deviation from regional average population per general constituency Councillor (42,108)
Porirua City + Kāpiti Coast District	2	+6.1	2	+16.7	3	-15.1
Wellington City (including Tawa Community)	4	+2.1	5	-10.1	5	-2.0
Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City	3	-3.9	3	+5.7	3	+15.3
Wairarapa districts	1	-9.0	1	+0.1	1	+9.2

Under this scenario, the option of 10 general constituency Councillors complies fully with the +/- 10 percent rule.



**Scenario 4 Merged constituencies: Tawa Community + Porirua City + Kāpiti Coast District, and Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City**

**A 13 general constituency Councillors elected**

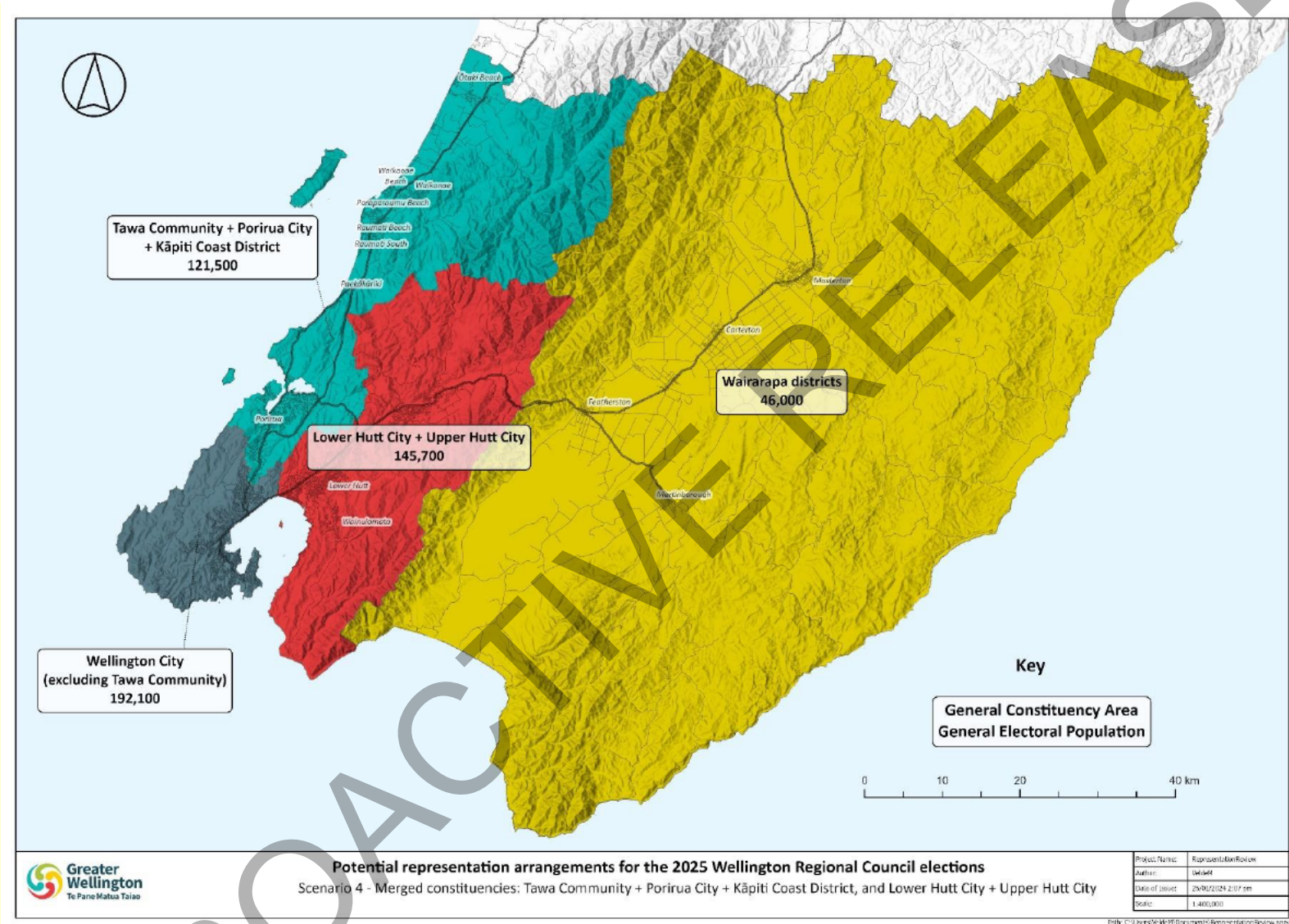
This scenario is similar to Scenario 3, except the Tawa Community is excluded from the Wellington City general constituency area .

General Constituency Area	GEP	Percentage of region's GEP	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Population per general constituency Councillor	Deviation from the region's population per general constituency Councillor (38,869)	Percentage deviation from the region's population per general constituency Councillor
Porirua City + Tawa Community + Kāpiti Coast District	121,500	24.0	3	40,500	+1,631	+4.2
Wellington City (excluding Tawa Community)	192,100	38.0	5	38,420	-449	-1.2
Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City	145,700	28.8	4	36,425	-2,444	-6.3
Wairarapa districts	46,000	9.1	1	46,000	+7,131	+18.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>505,300</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13</b>			

**B Scenario 4, with 10, 11, or 12 general constituency Councillors elected**

General Constituency Area	10 members		11 members		12 members	
	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Percentage deviation from regional average population per general constituency Councillor (50,530)	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Percentage deviation from regional average population per general constituency Councillor (45,936)	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Percentage deviation from regional average population per general constituency Councillor (42,108)
Porirua City + Tawa Community + Kāpiti Coast District	2	+20.2	3	-11.8	3	-3.8
Wellington City (excluding Tawa Community)	4	-5.0	4	+4.5	5	-8.8
Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City	3	-3.9	3	+5.7	3	+15.3
Wairarapa districts	1	-9.0	1	+0.1	1	+9.2

Under this scenario, the option of 11 general constituency Councillors best complies with the +/- 10 percent rule.



**Scenario 5 Merged constituencies: Wellington City (including Tawa Community) + Porirua City, and Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City**

**A 13 general constituency Councillors elected**

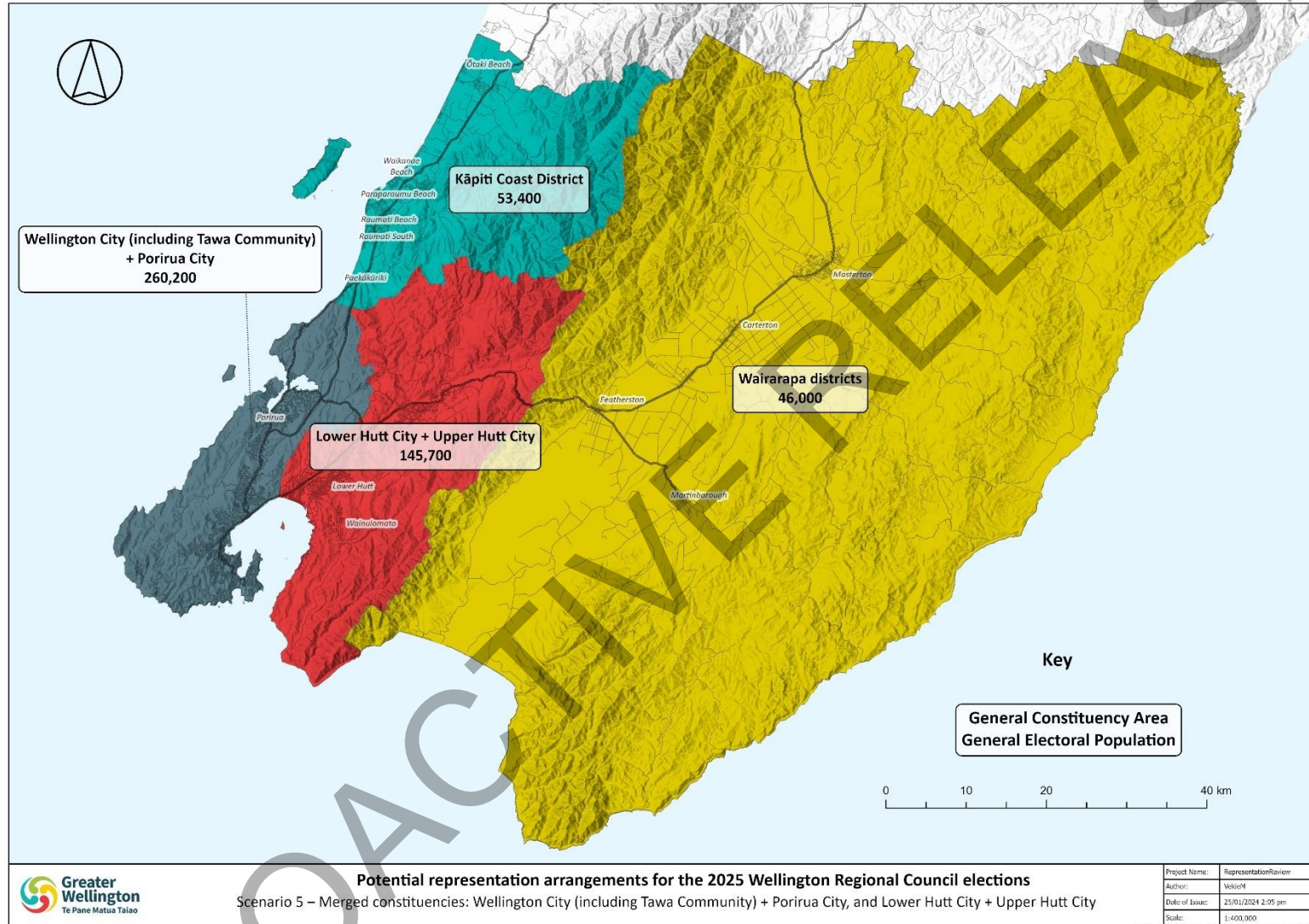
General Constituency Area	GEP	Percentage of region's GEP	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Population per general constituency Councillor	Deviation from the region's population per general constituency Councillor (38,869)	Percentage deviation from the region's population per general constituency Councillor
Kāpiti Coast District	53,400	10.6	1	53,400	+14,531	+37.4
Wellington City (including Tawa Community) + Porirua City	260,200	51.5	7	37,171	-1,698	-4.4
Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City	145,700	28.8	4	36,425	-2,444	-6.3
Wairarapa districts	46,000	9.1	1	46,000	+7,131	+18.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>505,300</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13</b>			

**B Scenario 5, with 10, 11, or 12 general constituency Councillors elected**

General Constituency Area	10 members		11 members		12 members	
	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Percentage deviation from regional average population per general constituency Councillor (50,530)	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Percentage deviation from regional average population per general constituency Councillor (45,936)	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Percentage deviation from regional average population per general constituency Councillor (42,108)
Kāpiti Coast District	1	+5.7	1	+16.2	1	+26.8
Wellington City (including Tawa Community) + Porirua City	5	+3.0	6	-5.6	6	+3.0
Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City	3	-3.9	3	+5.7	4	-13.5
Wairarapa districts	1	-9.0	1	+0.1	1	+9.2

Under this scenario, the option of 10 general constituency Councillors complies fully with the +/- 10 percent rule







**Scenario 6 Merged constituencies: Tawa Community + Porirua City, and Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City**

**A 13 general constituency Councillors elected**

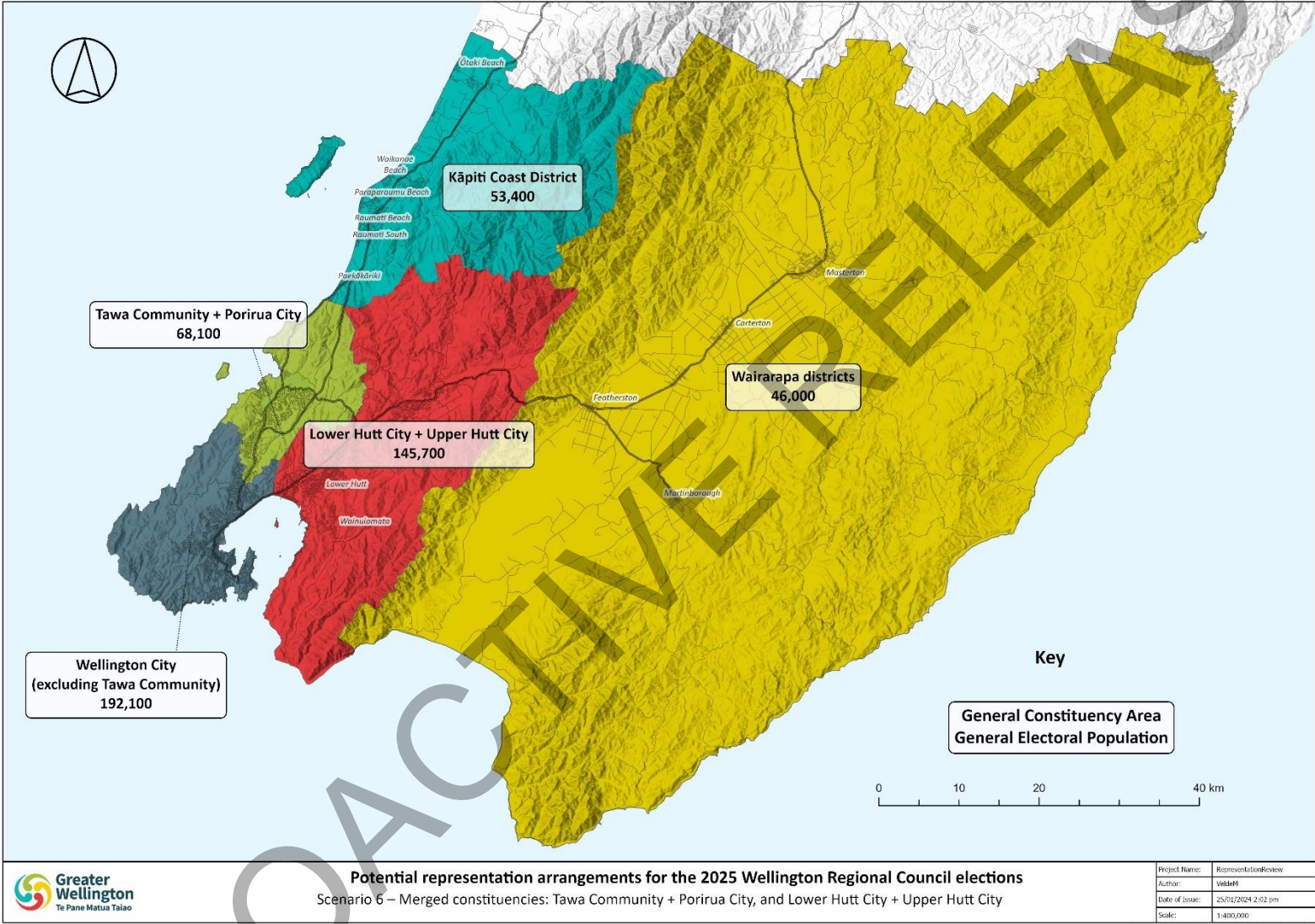
This scenario is a variation on Scenario 1 – the difference is the merging of the Lower Hutt City and Upper Hutt City general constituency areas.

General Constituency Area	GEP	Percentage of region's GEP	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Population per general constituency Councillor	Deviation from the region's population per general constituency Councillor (38,869)	Percentage deviation from the region's population per general constituency Councillor
Kāpiti Coast District	53,400	10.6	1	53,400	+14,531	+37.4
Porirua City + Tawa Community	68,100	13.5	2	34,050	-4,819	-12.4
Wellington City (excluding Tawa Community)	192,100	38.0	5	38,420	-449	-1.2
Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City	145,700	28.8	4	36,425	-2,444	-6.3
Wairarapa districts	46,000	9.1	1	46,000	+7,131	+18.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>505,300</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13</b>			

**B Scenario 6, with 10, 11, or 12 general constituency Councillors elected**

General Constituency Area	10 members		11 members		12 members	
	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Percentage deviation from regional average population per general constituency Councillor (50,530)	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Percentage deviation from regional average population per general constituency Councillor (45,936)	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Percentage deviation from regional average population per general constituency Councillor (42,108)
Kāpiti Coast District	1	+5.7	1	+16.2	1	+26.8
Porirua City + Tawa Community	1	+34.8	2	-25.9	2	-19.1
Wellington City (excluding Tawa Community)	4	-5.0	4	+4.5	5	-8.8
Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City	3	-3.9	3	+5.7	3	+15.3
Wairarapa districts	1	-9.0	1	+0.1	1	+9.2

Under this scenario, the option of 11 general constituency Councillors best complies with the +/- 10 percent.



**Scenario 7 Merged constituencies: Wellington City (including Tawa Community), and Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City**

**A 13 general constituency Councillors elected**

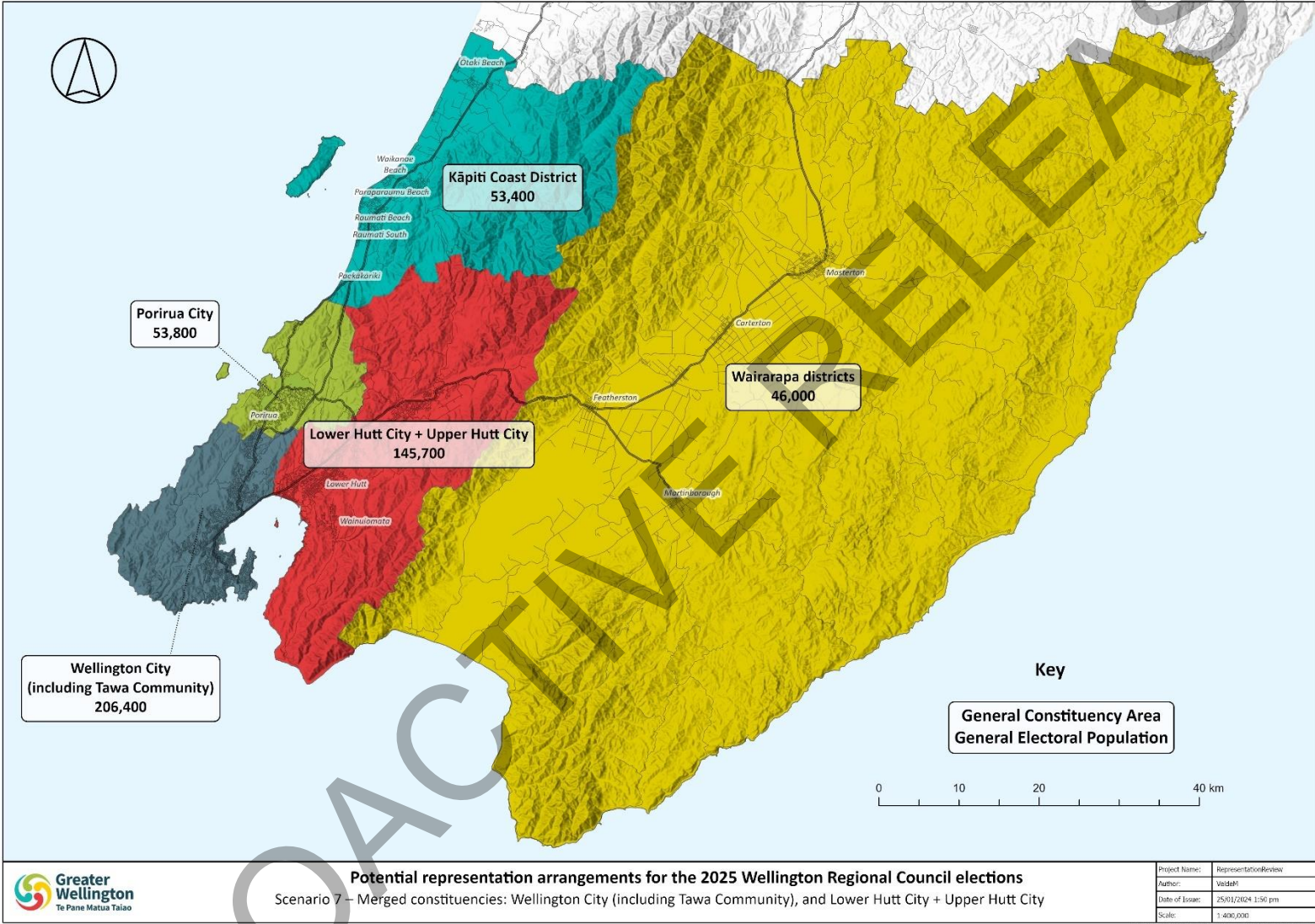
This scenario is a variation on Scenario 2 – the difference is the merging of the Lower Hutt City and Upper Hutt City general constituency areas.

General Constituency Area	GEP	Percentage of region's GEP	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Population per general constituency Councillor	Deviation from the region's population per general constituency Councillor (38,869)	Percentage deviation from the region's population per general constituency Councillor
Kāpiti Coast District	53,400	10.6	1	53,400	+14,531	+37.4
Porirua City	53,800	10.6	2	26,900	-11,969	-30.8
Wellington City (including Tawa Community)	206,400	40.8	5	41,280	+2,411	+6.2
Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City	145,700	28.8	4	36,425	-2,444	-6.3
Wairarapa districts	46,000	9.1	1	46,000	+7,131	+18.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>505,300</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13</b>			

**B Scenario 7, with 10, 11, or 12 general constituency Councillors elected**

General Constituency Area	10 members		11 members		12 members	
	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Percentage deviation from regional average population per general constituency Councillor (50,530)	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Percentage deviation from regional average population per general constituency Councillor (45,936)	Number of general constituency Councillors per constituency	Percentage deviation from regional average population per general constituency Councillor (42,108)
Kāpiti Coast District	1	+5.7	1	+16.2	1	+26.8
Porirua City	1	+6.5	1	+17.1	1	+27.8
Wellington City (including Tawa Community)	4	+2.1	5	-10.1	5	-2.0
Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City	3	-3.9	3	+5.7	4	-13.5
Wairarapa districts	1	-9.0	1	+0.1	1	+9.2

Under this scenario, the option of 10 general constituency Councillors complies fully with the +/- 10 percent rule.



PROACTIVE RELEASE



## 2018 Census information on the inter-district transport flows for employment purposes

Usual residence (General Constituency Area)	Place of employment (General Constituency Area)							
	Kāpiti Coast District	Porirua City	Wellington City	Lower Hutt City	Upper Hutt City	South Wairarapa District	Carterton District	Masterton District
Kāpiti Coast District	12,380	890	4,120	600	100	-	-	-
Porirua City	220	10,750	8,030	1,220	260	-	-	-
Wellington City	200	2,280	90,460	4,280	430	10	-	20
Lower Hutt City	60	580	13,260	27,110	1,150	-	-	-
Upper Hutt City	220	410	4,550	3,550	9,330	-	-	-
South Wairarapa District	-	20	670	170	90	2,340	120	250
Carterton District	-	10	270	70	30	230	1,800	720
Masterton District	-	10	250	80	30	160	500	7,970

## Summary of Responses – Representation Review 2024 - Preliminary Engagement

- 1 At its 1 February 2024 workshop, Council discussed the statutory and recommended considerations, processes, and timeframes for the Representation Review 2024. This discussion included considering seven potential representation scenarios and related membership options (based on the General Electoral Population), and the approach to preliminary engagement with the community.
- 2 Greater Wellington undertook preliminary engagement with the community from 11 to 31 March 2024 using its Have Your Say online platform. This engagement was signalled on Greater Wellington's website and supported by a series of boosts on our social media channels.
- 3 The Have Your Say platform provided a map and table showing information for Scenario 1, which proposes general constituencies based on the current constituencies and the membership of those general constituencies. As context, Greater Wellington provided the discussion paper considered at its workshop (which outlines the background and the seven potential representation scenarios and membership options) and copies of the Local Government Commission's 2007, 2013, and 2019 determinations of representation arrangements.
- 4 We received 282 responses, compared to 95 responses for preliminary engagement on the Representation Review 2018 (the 2018 preliminary engagement focused on constituency arrangements as a whole, rather than general constituency arrangements for a Council that also had a Māori constituency).
- 5 In addition to 281 respondents to the preliminary engagement survey, one individual provided a separate detailed response. Where practicable, their responses are included in the summary of survey responses below. The individual detailed response is also attached.
- 6 The responses to the preliminary engagement's questions were:

Question	Response numbers and summary of responses		
Do you consider that six general constituencies (as outlined) would provide effective representation for the Wellington Region's communities of interest?	2018 numbers are provided as a comparison:		
		<b>2024 responses</b>	<b>2018 responses</b>
	Total	272	95
	Yes	143 (52.6%)	52 (54.7%)
	No	113 (41.5%)	38 (40.0%)
	Don't know	16 (5.9%)	5 (5.3%)
	The responses suggested:		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Merge Lower Hutt and Upper Hutt into a single Hutt Valley constituency</li> <li>• Create one constituency for Wellington-Porirua</li> </ul>		



## Summary of Responses – Representation Review 2024 - Preliminary Engagement

Question	Response numbers and summary of responses															
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support a Porirua-Tawa constituency given the large set of common interests</li> <li>• Put Tawa with Wellington and align with the territorial authority boundaries</li> <li>• Don't support Scenarios 3 to 5 – don't merge Porirua with Kāpiti or Wellington as these are each distinct communities of interest</li> <li>• Support Scenarios 3 and 4</li> <li>• Support Scenario 5</li> <li>• Add Churton Park, Johnsonville, and Newlands to the Tawa constituency as there is closer affinity than the current placement within the Wellington constituency.</li> </ul>															
<p>Do you consider that the potential name and boundaries of each general constituency (as outlined) are clear and appropriate for representation purposes?</p>	<p>2018 numbers are provided as a comparison:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="587 815 1386 1144"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2024 responses</th> <th>2018 responses</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>271</td> <td>95</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>186 (68.6%)</td> <td>70 (73.7%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>69 (25.5%)</td> <td>17 (17.9%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Don't know</td> <td>16 (5.9%)</td> <td>8 (8.4%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>These responses included comments to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjust the boundary between Porirua-Tawa and Kāpiti to address the under-representation for Kāpiti</li> <li>• Add Paekākāriki to Porirua</li> <li>• Add a mix of Newlands, Woodridge, Grenada Village, and/or Johnsonville to Porirua-Tawa</li> <li>• Constituency names: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ State in English only</li> <li>○ State the English place name first, and include the English name for those with Māori names</li> <li>○ Support bilingual names</li> <li>○ Note the place names are dull, but informative.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		2024 responses	2018 responses	Total	271	95	Yes	186 (68.6%)	70 (73.7%)	No	69 (25.5%)	17 (17.9%)	Don't know	16 (5.9%)	8 (8.4%)
	2024 responses	2018 responses														
Total	271	95														
Yes	186 (68.6%)	70 (73.7%)														
No	69 (25.5%)	17 (17.9%)														
Don't know	16 (5.9%)	8 (8.4%)														
<p>Do you consider that the number of Councillors to be potentially elected from each general constituency (as outlined) is appropriate to provide fair representation of the electors in those constituencies?</p>	<p>2018 numbers are provided as a comparison:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="587 1794 1386 1993"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2024 responses</th> <th>2018 responses</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>270</td> <td>95</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>82 (30.3%)</td> <td>26 (27.1%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		2024 responses	2018 responses	Total	270	95	Yes	82 (30.3%)	26 (27.1%)						
	2024 responses	2018 responses														
Total	270	95														
Yes	82 (30.3%)	26 (27.1%)														

## Summary of Responses – Representation Review 2024 - Preliminary Engagement

Question	Response numbers and summary of responses		
	No	170 (63.0%)	58 (60.4%)
	Don't know	18 (6.7%)	12 (12.5%)
	<p>The responses include the following suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have two councillors, or at least two councillors, for the Wairarapa</li> <li>• Have two councillors, or at least two councillors, for Kāpiti</li> <li>• Have two councillors for Upper Hutt</li> <li>• Create a Wellington-Tawa constituency with six councillors</li> <li>• Less councillors, including reduce the numbers to 10 councillors</li> <li>• Less councillors for Wellington City – either four or two</li> <li>• Retain five councillors for Wellington City</li> <li>• Retain 13 councillors</li> <li>• Create a merged Hutt Valley constituency, with less (three) or more (five) councillors.</li> </ul>		
<p>Do you have any suggestions for change to Greater Wellington's representation arrangements?</p>	<p>129 responses</p> <p>A number of respondents suggested representation arrangements that are not provided for by the Local Electoral Act 2001. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More than 14 councillors – currently too few for the large population and area, and 19 councillors</li> <li>• Three constituencies of four to five members – move the boundaries to even out the population</li> <li>• One councillor for each constituency or territorial authority</li> <li>• One councillor for each constituency with the rest elected as district-wide members</li> <li>• A minimum of two councillors for each constituency, then more based on the number of households or one more for Wellington City</li> <li>• Divide Wellington and Lower Hutt into two to three sub-entities that better represent a community of interest</li> <li>• Create a separate regional council for Kāpiti</li> <li>• Wairarapa: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Three Councillors, one for each territorial authority area</li> <li>○ Split in two along whaitua lines, or one councillor for Masterton and the other for south of Masterton</li> <li>○ Two councillors, plus a rural member</li> <li>○ Create a separate regional council</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Set representation arrangements by considering:</li> </ul>		

## Summary of Responses – Representation Review 2024 - Preliminary Engagement

Question	Response numbers and summary of responses
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Projected population growth</li> <li>○ Land area</li> <li>○ Fair representation for horticulture, wine growing, and farming</li> <li>○ Water coverage and sea frontage</li> <li>○ Density and ease of access to Council and governance meetings</li> <li>○ Residence only – remove property ownership as a mechanism</li> <li>○ Balance socio-economic representation (more councillors for less advantaged)</li> <li>○ More representation for areas with more investment in assets (e.g. parks and flood protection)</li> <li>● Create a super city / one council for the whole region (no territorial authorities).</li> </ul>
In which city or district of the Wellington Region do you live and/or own property?	<p>294 responses<sup>1</sup></p> <p>Carterton District – 18 (6.1%)</p> <p>Kapiti Coast District – 45 (15.3%)</p> <p>Lower Hutt City – 37 (12.6%)</p> <p>Masterton District – 29 (9.9%)</p> <p>Porirua City – 22 (7.5%)</p> <p>South Wairarapa District – 35 (11.9%)</p> <p>Upper Hutt City – 23 (7.8%)</p> <p>Wellington City – 82 (27.9%)</p> <p>That part of Tararua District within the Wellington Region – 1 (0.3%)</p> <p>None (I am an organisation, or live outside the Wellington Region) – 2 (0.7%).</p>

7 We also received responses in support of, and against, the establishment of a Māori constituency and Māori representation, and on use of the Single Transferable Voting electoral system. These responses are not included here as they are outside the scope of the preliminary engagement.

8 A large number of respondents (85) asked to be advised when the initial representation proposal is publicly notified.

<sup>1</sup> Respondents can select multiple locations.

## Greater Wellington Regional Council 2024 representation review

### Introduction

I am a former senior adviser to the Local Government Commission (LGC) and, with the LGC, I went through five rounds of appeals/objections on final council representation proposals. Prior to that in the Department of Internal Affairs, I led the policy development for the Local Electoral Act 2001 (LEA). I am now 'semi-retired' but providing advice to a few councils on their representation reviews.

I recommend that GWRC adopts an initial representation proposal, under the LEA, based on **Scenario 5**, as identified in the in the council's discussion document.

To explain the rationale for my recommendation requires context beyond that able to be set out in the council's online survey, hence this submission.

### General approach to representation review

My approach here reflects the LGC's recommended three-step good practice approach of:

1. identification of communities of interest
2. effective representation for identified communities of interest
3. fair representation for electors

### Identification of communities of interest

This is a crucial first step for providing the basis for fair and effective representation arrangements.

The council's decision to have a Māori constituency provides the opportunity to begin with a 'clean sheet' for its next representation review. As a result of this decision, the council could resolve to have just one general constituency, and still comply with section 19E of the LEA. While not advocating this, this raises the question of on what basis should multiple general constituencies be identified in relation to the region's current communities of interest.

The LGC suggests this is approached using three dimensions of community of interest: perceptual, functional and political.

On this basis, a Wairarapa constituency can be based on a clearly distinct community of interest and has been since 1989. For example, it is geographically distinct from the remainder of the region, reinforcing a sense of identity and belonging (the perceptual dimension of community of interest). It has separate river catchments (the functional dimension). The manawhenua are different from the rest of the region (the political dimension).

On a similar basis, a Kāpiti Coast constituency has also been based on a distinct community of interest since 1989, and this can still be supported today.

The areas of Upper Hutt, Lower Hutt, Wellington and Porirua cities have also largely been separate constituencies since 1989, apart from divisions of Wellington City and variations relating to Tawa and Porirua at various times. There are factors here, however, relating to the three dimensions of community of interest and their effective representation, that require further consideration in terms of appropriate constituency arrangements today and for the future.

For example, Upper Hutt and Lower Hutt have a commonality in respect of Te Awa Kairangi – arguably an increasingly important consideration for GWRC, in terms of risk management, in relation to the functional dimension of community of interest. They also share common manawhenua relating to the political dimension of community of interest.

Similarly, there are connections between Wellington and Porirua particularly in terms of the functional dimension of community of interest, involving the Tawa/Porirua Basin catchment area, patterns of urban development, location of shopping and employment etc.

#### Effective representation for communities of interest

The LEA principle of fair and effective representation for individuals and communities is intended to guide councils in undertaking representation reviews. Unlike for fair representation, the LEA does not define effective representation, this is for the council to determine, with section 19U setting out requirements and considerations.

Section 19U(a) requires the council to ensure the number and boundaries of constituencies will provide effective representation for communities of interest. It does not require establishment of constituencies based on territorial authorities per se, e.g. as noted in GWRC's case, there could now be one general constituency. It is section 19U(c) that requires (when constituencies are established) that constituency boundaries coincide, as far as practicable, with territorial authority/ward boundaries.

In short, it is on the basis of identifiable communities of interest that constituencies should be established in order to achieve effective representation. This is to coincide with territorial authority/ward boundaries only “so far as is practicable”.

While not specifically referenced in section 19U, it can reasonably be argued that effective representation for communities of interest in the region can also be addressed in terms of achieving proportional representation for those communities of interest. This should be taken into consideration by GWRC, given its adoption of STV.

As noted in the discussion paper, five to seven members is preferable for constituencies using STV “to gain the full benefits of proportional representation under STV”, with three members being the “absolute minimum”. Clearly this should be considered in relation to the establishment of constituencies for the Hutt Valley and Wellington/Porirua (while noting, as discussed above, single-member Wairarapa and Kāpiti Coast constituencies can be seen as still highly desirable).

A merged Hutt Valley constituency electing four councillors, would be closer to an ‘optimum’ number of councillors, than the current arrangements of an Upper Hutt Constituency electing one councillor and a Lower Hutt Constituency electing three councillors. Such a merged constituency would represent 145,700 people on the general electoral roll, with 44,400 from Upper Hutt and 101,300 from Lower Hutt. Upper Hutt electors would be approximately 30% of all electors, while each councillor position in this merged constituency would constitute 25% of the four available seats. In other words, Upper Hutt electors would still be able to elect a ‘local’ candidate, in the merged constituency, if they so wish.

The same applies in respect of a merged Wellington/Porirua constituency. Porirua electors would be approximately 20% of all electors, while each councillor position in the merged constituency would constitute approximately 14% of the seven available seats. Again, Porirua electors would still be able to elect a ‘local’ candidate, in the merged constituency, if they so wish.

But just as importantly, while being able to elect 'local' candidates if they so wish, electors would have the ability to elect non-geographically-based candidates if they wish. Such candidates could include candidates representing traditionally under-represented communities, such as young people and ethnic communities who constitute a significant proportion of the total merged population.

In short, with these two merged constituencies, there would be greatly enhanced potential to achieve effective representation for communities of interest, geographically and non-geographically-based, leading to a council that is more representative of the diversity of the Greater Wellington Region.

In summary, on the basis of both communities of interest and also the nature of STV, I strongly recommend scenario 5 as set out in the discussion document.

I am also suggesting here that the issue of the number of councillors per merged constituency under this scenario, is more complex than simply in relation to compliance with the +/-10% fair representation rule.

In addition to achieving proportional representation, the LGC's good practice steps in relation to effective representation, identify the size of the council, or at least a range in the size of membership, as a further important consideration. This is to take into account the diversity of the region, statutory obligations and the need for efficient and effective governance.

GWRC currently has 13 councillors and has had either 13 or 14 since the cap on councillor numbers was introduced in 1992. Presumably this has been seen to be an appropriate number/range since that time for this region. The suggestions of having 10, 11 or 12 councillors, identified in all seven of the scenarios (including scenario 5), clearly need to be considered in this light.

#### Fair representation for electors

Section 19V of the LEA defines fair representation in terms of councillors representing approximately the same number of people, i.e. the +/-10% rule.

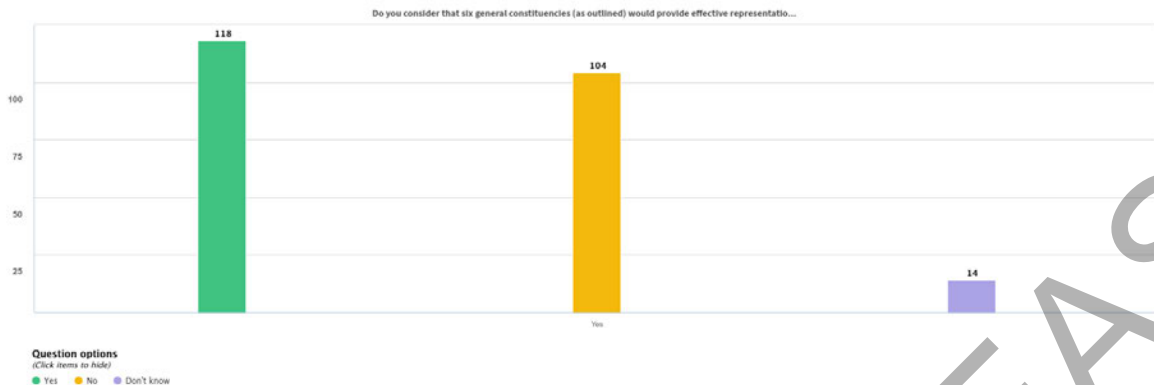
If the council does put weight on retaining 13 councillors in order to achieve effective representation and meet its statutory obligations, this would result in 4 councillors for the merged Hutt Valley constituency, 7 for the merged Wellington/Porirua constituency and one each for the Kāpiti Coast and Wairarapa constituencies. Both of the merged constituencies comply with the +/-10% rule, but neither of the Kāpiti Coast or Wairarapa constituencies comply.

As noted in the discussion paper, there can be departures from the +/-10% rule in order to ensure effective representation for communities of interest. I note the LGC has approved departures for GWRC in the past. In 2019, the LGC approved three of the six constituencies not complying with the +/-10% rule, including Kāpiti Coast Constituency at +33.31%. For the 2013 elections, the LGC approved a similar non-compliance for the Kāpiti Coast Constituency of +32.75%.

I believe, if GWRC is again able to provide robust justifications for departures for the Kāpiti Coast and Wairarapa constituencies for 2025, based on them being distinct communities of interest, there is a good chance such departures would again be approved.

Gavin Beattie  
27 March 2024

**Question 1** Do you consider the six general constituencies (as outlined) would provide effective representation for Wellington's Region's communities of interest?



**Question 2** Comments

- We certainly don't need more.
- Just do all at-large elections, rather than mess around with regional seats. GWRC councillors should be making decisions for the benefit of the whole region, rather than trying to represent a city within it. You can use representatives from the city councils if you want the views of representatives of specific communities.
- Representations needs to reflect more equitable proportion for the population in each constituency.
- Follow the cities in our region. Makes sense. Use updated population figures. Lower Hutt for example has 11,000 more people.
- The Council hasn't considered options that would better provide equal numbers of people per councillor, and greater proportionality. Each ward should be at least 3 members and equal populations per councillor as much as possible, even if this means boundaries don't line up with TAs. Places like Featherston or Te Marua, Paekakariki or Pukerua Bay, for example, could be moved to the other side to balance the numbers. I favour three general wards of about 4-5 members each regardless of where the boundaries end up, e.g. it could be roughly one for Wellington City, one for Porirua+Kāpiti, one for Hutts+Wairarapa, but borders tweaked to even out population.
- One constituency for the Hutt, one for Porirua Wellington. Got to do something with Kapiti because I doubt the LGC will give a 37% variance a pass this time around.
- The coverage areas I agree with, but the number of councillors per area, should be a minimum of 2 and then based on housing numbers after that point.
- I think there are too many communities of interest based on mutually incompatible geographic, socio-economic and cultural needs for these six entities to provide good representation. The cities of Wellington and Lower Hutt should probably be subdivided into 2 or 3 sub-entities so that there is more direct representation for the various communities within those large cities - e.g. Naenae-Taita-Stokes Valley people would have a lot of interests that would not be well represented by the people elected from or by the voters in Woburn or Boulcott; and similarly, the interest of Kilbirnie-Seatoun-South Coast residents are profoundly different from those of the residents of Wadestown-Ngaio-Khandallah. This does not require more elected officials: the 5 and 3 representatives of Wellington and Lower Hutt could be assigned to specific sub-constituencies of their cities. As well as

providing better representation for local needs, this would reduce the impact of "block voting" by which the two big cities can force their will on the entire region. I think that South Wairarapa has such unique needs that it probably doesn't even belong in Wellington region. But since it is there, I think it needs a stronger voice than one representative can provide, even if this means they have a very favourable rep-to-resident ratio.

- Wellington city potentially should have 1 less. Kapiti and wairapa seem especially disadvantaged.
- Unsure on merits of Tawa.
- No.
- Fix The Pipes.
- There are not enough Councilors for Kapiti Coast and in Wairarapa, the biggest geographic area with the highest Councilor to voter ratio need more Councilors.
- Joining different requirements into one big organisation has never been effective.
- Wairarapa should be split into 2 along whitua lines.
- Sick of ōtaki payng its share of rates to GWC AND KCDC but not getting much in return. Give us a rail service and give our waterways back to the control of KCDC.
- Kapiti is a large population to serve but it is a community of interest.
- Effective representation depends on the calibre of the representative.
- Merge all the councils - you're all a waste of money.
- The Wairarapa region is very diverse in socioeconomic and type (e.g. Rural, lifestyle, small towns, main centre) and has the second highest ratio to councillors. I don't think this will provide a wide enough perspective.
- Wellington central doesn't need the highest representation. They are not the fastest growing population and should not have what is effectively a controlling voice.
- The place with the largest area has only one councilor which makes fair representation difficult.
- It seems that the splits are made via population which may be appropriate for some regions closer to the city but when you look at the size of the Wairarapa & the diversity of this region, I do not believe 1 person is able to cover off all of the region on their own. I also believe that consideration needs to be given to the city centers & look at those that are growing communities versus those who are are not. Growth needs to be put into perspective when setting boundaries or allocating the number of representatives.
- The regional councils need to work closely together to manage infrastructure, environmental issues and climate change.
- Too many councillors especially in the Wellington Consistency. Should be one for each consistency making a total of 6.
- Constituencies with more than 2 representatives need to be broken down.
- Kapiti pays too much and receives little.
- Why are we having a Maori only seats? Are you as a council think that Maori cannot get elected?



- The Kapiti region needs another councillor as the present growth rate clearly shows the requirement. There is NO NEED OR REQUIREMENT FOR SEPERATE MAORI REPRESENTATION!
- Very unfair on Kapiti with one vote for 54k vs ave of 38k for other areas. We pay high rates for what little services we get. How about coming and clearing your drains and stop pissing about with restricting activity by delaying resource consents. Hypocritical actions.
- It seems crazy there is a regional Council body sitting above other Councils resulting in duplication of admin, overlapping of services, and duplication of costs.
- Upper Hutt is a growing city, and the representation should reflect that.
- The Wairarapa region is totally different to all the other regions. The other regions are much more densely populated whereas Wairarapa has to consider a very large rural area. Having only one representative for this region doesn't allow that difference to be seriously considered. In my opinion a minimum of two representatives for Wairarapa is necessary. Perhaps one would be from a general vote and one from a Maori vote meaning two Maori representatives. One Maori representative would be for Wairarapa and the other for the remaining groups. Just to inform you, I am not Maori.
- No I think they look ok.
- Yes. Kapiti, Upper Hutt and Wairarapa require two representatives each due to population, location ie twin lakes in UH. Remutuka hill difficulties and weather effect on Wairarapa. Growth of population in Kapiti.
- Should be decided on population in that area.
- I'm 18 years old. We need a supercity. Amalgamate Wellington City, Porirua, Upper Hutt, Lower Hutt and Kāpiti into one single authority. Wairarapa isn't connected to Wellington and is too remote to be. It's exhausting and inefficent having five mayors and five completely different councils for what is for all intents and purposes just one city.
- Wairarapa has a huge land mass that requires an increased representation because there are distinct rural community and physical differences to the other more urban areas which have zero representation.
- Land size of Wairarapa should be taken into account - there are 5 vastly different towns across three councils and 1 councillor doesn't represent this effectively.
- It would be good if views could be seen rather than this blind survey.
- I believe the Wairarapa should have representatives; covers a much larger area than the others but is mostly rural so I believe the rural interests are not fairly considered. I am NOT a resident of the Wairarapa!!
- Tawa belongs with Porirua, but the downside of that is the increased rates. If this happens I hope that Porirua City would not ignore Tawa like Wellington City does.
- The majority of the councillors are bias and push their own ideology. I have heard this from the councillors who feel they are a minority. They have lost their way and are not representing the people of Wellington.
- We need local rates for our area.
- Each area is quite different in its needs size of area and population served needs to be a consideration.

- It's clear that the focus is purely on 'Greater Wellington' of the city. You recently increased public transport fares by 10% on a system already suffering massive delays and issues. So us folk in the Wairarapa now pay even more to travel on an already broken system, with no plan in place (or communicated if there is one) to fix it.
- We only need one Council to cover the whole region NOT a Regional Council plus Local Councils. Too much duplication and too many noses in the trough
- We are Wairarapa, not Wellington, want to keep it that way, otherwise we can move to Wellington. Leave our province to make its own way!
- Is 6 constituencies fair for the size of the wellington region based on land mass and Maori repping those specific areas.
- The Kapiti coast region should be taken out of the Greater Wellington and have its own representation/offices here on the coast and be known as 'The Kapiti Coast Regional council'.
- Wairarapa is a huge area size wise and has 3 separate councils. I think wairarapa should be broken up to 3 constituencies taking the total number to 8.
- Wairarapa is rural community, whose requirements are not aligned to any of the other councils.
- I think the Wairarapa should be split into the areas same as you do for LH, UH as they are separate Councils.
- Wairarapa is too large (land) for one vote and so is the number of people per representative, lower hutt seems to be getting a better deal.
- Not enough representation - too little for the large population and land represented.
- Is there an options analysis?
- I live in the Wairarapa, so cannot speak for other regions, however I feel as though when it comes to GW projects within this region, because of the lay of the land, I get that one would consider to group it as one, however having a representative from each TLA would be more beneficial and the rate payers would feel represented sufficiently.
- Combine all into one.
- I am pleased that a Māori representative position has been created.
- 1: Representation cannot be "effective" where you are weighing the needs, attitudes and culture of a city with those of a rural region. The goals for the two would always be conflicting and incompatible 2: Point 2 would not be an issue if GRWC stuck to core council duties. You do not, and act like an overlord pushing through ideological vanity projects. Therefore, it would be impossible to create an effective representation that fair represents the number of people, due to the vastly different requirements of the region governed by GWRC. 3: I do not believe in race based representation. By implementing this, GRWC has ceased to represent myself and any other like-minded rate payer.
- Anything North of Waikanae does not exist to WDC, KCDC or GWRC. We should be under Horowhenua. We can't go to Wellington Hospital, always get sent to Palmy. Pay Wellington rates yet completely overlooked by councils.
- Most of those are urban the Wairarapa is rural different needs won't be noticed.
- Scrap racist "representative". Diestablish GWRC and save the population millions in wasted poorly applied rates.

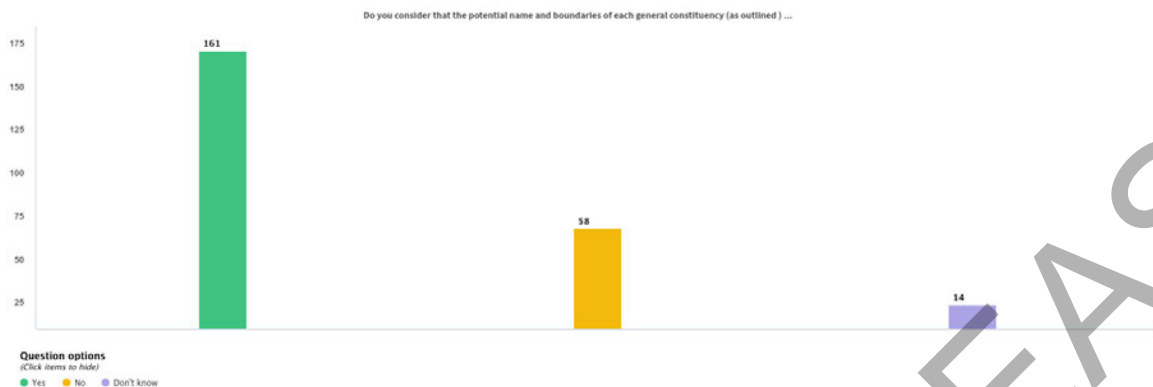
- Kapiti is going to grow rapidly in next 10 years it should have 2 representatives to better reflect the future situation.
- I don't believe that merging Porirua with either Kapiti or Wellington, as proposed in Scenarios 3, 4, and 5, would provide more effective representation for anyone in those constituencies. I think that the three constituencies form distinct communities of interest. I think that merging the Hutt constituencies would be a better change, should residents of those constituencies agree. I think that the Hutt Valley forms a distinct COI and the councils are likely to merge at some point anyway. This may in fact give Upper Hutt residents more effective representation, as they would be able to use STV effectively and have more than one representative on the Council. Although Kapiti Coast is a distinct COI, I'm very concerned by the deviation continuing to be high at 37.4% in Scenario 1. I wonder whether adjusting the boundary between Porirua-Tawa and Kapiti Coast constituencies northward to include Paekakariki, or alternately southward and giving Kapiti Coast 2 representatives, would be workable.
- GWRC should be abolished.
- Seems the city has a large representation while the large more rural city areas might be under represented.
- One person representing a whole city.
- Wairarapa is a large area with many different needs.
- Yes I am opposed to any Maori Constituency being created fullstop
- The wairarapa has a wide range of requirements while the other 5 are concentrated areas with high volume of the same requirements.
- S hi seems a logical way to do it. Possibly Wellington City due to its population density possibly doesn't need 5 councillors. But overall a logical way to apportion
- Your history in managing and delivering services is not good enough. Example the change in the bus timetable.
- Prefer say one elected member per constituency and rest elected as district wide members as it is a Regional Council not a coordinating committee for the various Councils.
- I feel the number of representatives is adequate however the quality of the people representing us is poor.
- Tawa, Churton Park, Johnsonville and newlands should form a separate general constituency.
- They don't represent individual iwi.
- Just another scam to up our rates and the fatcats get bigger salaries. What a joke.
- The Wairarapa is separate to Wellington, defined by geographic boundaries.
- Why do you rely on the general roll and the Maaori roll? Why separate Maaori and everyone else? I am Maaori and vote on the general roll. Why not just have a general roll for our Regional council?
- I think having 13 people representing the region is too few .
- The outlier councils such as Kaiti are disadvantaged.
- It would be appropriate to use population crossed with local council numbers. That means that Wairarapa has three councils so the representation would be increased to 3.

- Wairarapa should be separate, we have more rivers and isolated coastal areas and the wairarapa has changed greatly since the regional council was set up.
- Six constituencies results in poor representation of each individual constituency; STV delivers results that represent constituencies poorly below a district magnitude of 3 representatives.
- Wairarapa has three separate councils and each of those council should have representation to reflect each of their councils goals with GWRC.
- No, too many members on the Council as it is. Hutt City has three unknown people, all they do it put up rates rather than review expenditure.
- Wairarapa has 3 councils and a very large area. There should be, at a minimum 3 representatives. There should be inclusion of the rural / farming sector from the Wairarapa also as it is an extensive farming area.
- I don't feel represented correctly as I don't have confidence in my local government.
- It's hard to be represented by a number. Every area is unique. The 1 person that represents South Wairarapa has quite a different job representing that area compared with the Lower Hutt person. Is that fair representation? I don't know.
- Provided representative communicate when matters are brought to their attention.
- Rebalancing as in Scenarios 3 & 4 would provide a more favourable outcome to those communities currently under-represented.
- Wairarapa including part of Tasman very large geographical area for one representative to cover, and understand all the key requirements of a very large and diverse area.
- I think there is room for significant improvement in the way elected representatives engage with voters in their constituencies.
- There are 50,000 Disabled people living in the Wellington region but there is no democratically elected mechanism for disabled people to have their voice heard. The current way for disability issues to be heard is not effective and not recognised by the disability community and there has never been an elected Councillor, who the disability community recognises as coming from the community, to speak on behalf or and advocate for disabled people in the history of Wellington, this is profoundly un democratic.
- Some areas need more reps eg Kapiti and Wairarapa.
- Wairarapa has more unique issues such as public transport, roads and rates.
- The needs of Wairarapa are totally different to those in Wellington. While it is done people the Wairarapa covers a large area. The should at least be 2 people plus a rural.
  - No.
  - Hutt Valley provides all the water. That means more power with more representation.
- The biggest space should be split or there should be more than one person per region.
- As we understood it, none of the Wairarapa wanted anything to do with Wellington council. We don't want anyone from any iwi controlling our councils, we thought that was done away with when we said NO to 3 waters.
- The Wairarapa may not have as many people living in it , but the contribution per person is higher than the other areas. Yet we are given one representative. This is an uneven

representation which is resulting in the rural areas ( minor group) funding more than their share.

- No.
- Kapiti is proportionally underrepresented and is growing.
- Yes, as long as there is definite Maori representation.
- I can't see how one Maori member for the whole region can be effective. Even if those on the Maori roll are equivalent to one representation, the culture and the land are just as important. I believe serious consideration needs to be given to greater representation.
- The ratio of electors/council member is strongly weighted against Kapiti, where 2 would be a more equitable number.
- Good to see Tawa grouped with Porirua, where it belongs. It's not contiguous with Wellington. You could probably give Porirua a bit of Newlands, Woodridge and Grenada Village too, if you wanted to even up the voter per representative ratio.
- I believe that a degree of amalgamation would be beneficial.
- This should regulate rates and services as many people travel between regions/councils daily. All members of my family do.
- Should condense even more.
- The problem is Councillors under Labour Greens tickets are controlled by the central mainstream political parties so don't represent ordinary voters voices...this is not democracy.
- The Wairarapa could do with one more representative purely in the larger land area involved and not population based.
- Big difference between Cannons Creek Masterton and Greytown or Eastbourne and Wainuiomata. One or two rich pākeha representatives won't give great representation.
- Agree with Maori constituency.
- Should be 1 representative per area, with groups of representatives according to population supporting each representative.
- Just to say, as a respectful Pakeha, I am heartened to see that Maori have been accorded a Constituency that covers all of the region....

**Question 3** Do you consider the potential name and boundaries of each general constituency (as outlined) are clear and appropriate for representation purposes



**Question 4** Comments

- See above re: Wairarapa.
- Again no one seems to want to include Ōtaki. Happy to take our money though.
- Yes they are clear.
- See no reason to change the current names.
- You don't listen to people anyway.
- As we expand regions are going to blend & the lines may become blurred.
- Don't like the Māori names at all.
- Refer response above.
- The boundaries are fine, but again why is it necessary to attach Māori names to the Hutt areas? For the majority of rate payers it's simply confusing, does nothing to assist the work required of the RC and of course a waste of a rare commodity, "money" to satisfy the leftist ideologists within council.
- Waste of time.
- N/a.
- No I think we should have English name places first and for those places that only have a Māori name they should also have their English name as well.
- As above in 2.
- Excellent to see the bilingual names of our constituencies.
- They should be defined by natural physical boundaries rather than population.
- It would be good if views could be seen rather than this blind survey. Or the results of the survey and views presented.
- As above.
- Not bothered about name or boundaries - just want fair representation to have the hinterlands represented and we don't have to face the fate of the city.

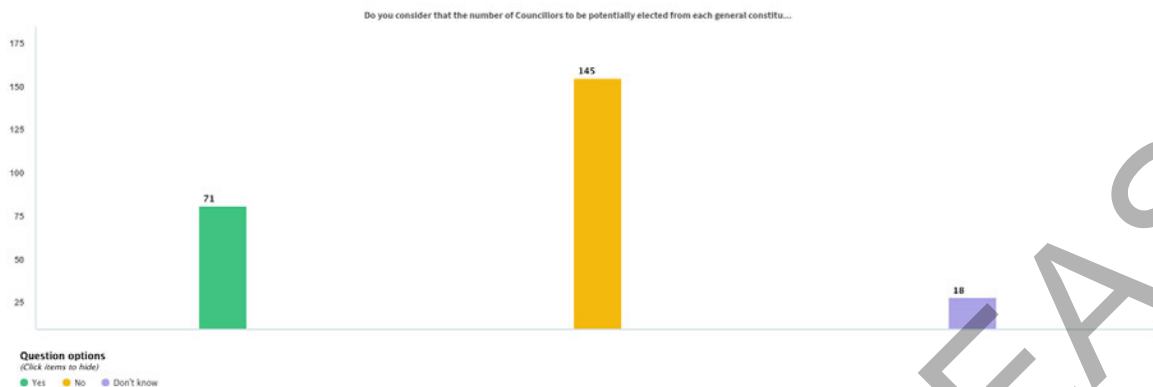
- Based on maori representation the Wairarapa consist of two iwi not one Orangitane Ngati Kahungunu.
- The Kapiti coast should have its own identity.
- There should be representative for each council. One SWDC, Carterton and Masterton.
- As above - should be split by Council boundaries.
- Maybe having different boundaries could cause a colab approach ??
- The map is very pretty, colourful, and the areas can be clearly recognised.
- Make one entity.
- The names are a little dull but informative.
- Lower Hutt area seemed to extend along to Ngaranga which seems a bit weird but I assume it is something to do with the electorate boundaries.
- Wainuiomata is a distinct entity from Lower Hutt.
- As above.
- But they are out numbered by population. Wairarapa should be one.
- Artificial Maori names are stupid. Wairarapa is a big place.
- Bit strange that Tawa is lumped in with Porirua when it's actually part of Wellington City rates, not Porirua ratepayers. If this doesn't matter, then why not add Newlands and Johnsonville to Porirua.
- GWRC should be abolished.
- South Wairarapa is Featherston/Martinborough. What about the rest of the district?
- Reiteratong my above comment thankyou.
- As above comments.
- They are not iwi boundaries.
- Just another scam to up our rates and the fatcats get bigger salaries. What a joke Lower salaries.
- More populated areas Wellington...poorly run will get more of the money.
- Boundaries are good.
- No.
- These boundaries would be appropriate IF the total number of Councillors weren't so constrained, but some level of constituency amalgamation is needed in order to ensure the interests of groups beyond the largest minority of voters is represented on Council; even under STV, it is difficult for candidates with the single largest minority of voters behind them to be defeated.
- Divide Wairarapa into its councils.
- Corrupt small group of people who are only interested in their selves.
- It will be expensive to change things up.
- As above.

- I think that the northern suburbs (Churton Park, Johnsonville and Newlands), have a closer community interest with Tawa than with Brooklyn, Aro Valley or Lambton. Accordingly they should be added into the Tawa constituency.
- Once again Wairarapa has different needs to Wellington.
- Naming things can have many sensitivities.
- Leave the Wairarapa alone.
- The Wairarapa is forced into becoming part of the Wellington district, and expected to fund Wellington City for services many don't use.
- No.
- Use the common names for all constituencies. Nobody calls Lower Hutt "Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai" or Wellington "Pōneke". If dual languages is insisted upon then at least be consistent and apply English names for Kāpiti Coast and Wairarapa.
- Please just get on with it and don't spend too much time or money on this.
- No.
- Again, just to say that I am very supportive of and gratified with the decision to respectfully call upon Maori to make the decision on the name of the Maori Constituency....

PROACTIVE RELEASE



**Question 5** Do you consider the number of Councillors to be potentially elected from each general constituency (as outlined) is appropriate to provide fair representation of the electors in those constituencies?



**Question 6** Comments

- I think Wairarapa should have another - one less in Wellington city.
- Kapiti Council have the highest population per councillor. Because it is spread from Paekakariki to Otaki it does not seem reasonable to have one councillor representing the coast.
- Inequitable representation based on the nos shown and areas shown.
- There are too many councillors currently, causing inconvenience views which lead to delays in decisions and expensive meetings.
- Seeing as Wairarapa is the biggest in area, and with a lot of remote areas, it would be prudent to have more than 1 councillor.
- Wairarapa should have 2.
- Wairarapa only getting 1 councillor is frankly ridiculous, we have virtually no say in what is effectively an urban council for Wellington, Porirua and the Hutt. You basically take our rate money and pour it into other areas. The whole situation is absurd, theres no way you accurately represent the Wairarapa or its priorities. Our passenger trains have been basically non existent for years and we hear nothing from you. Its rare to see anything from GWRC in the Wairarapa.
- I understand it's currently on a population basis. That's probably okay for smaller areas but in huge places it needs to be population/area combined.
- The elected councillors all just bring their own vanity projects and bring in no real world or real life experience to the table.
- See comments above.
- Most are city people who have no idea of the rural sector. The largest area is covered by 1 person that is. Not good enough for the people of the Wairarapa.
- No because the area with the largest number of councillors has no connection with the population of the largest area so have no vested interest in that area.
- Wairarapa needs additional staff.

- Kapiti needs 2 as it's growing and pulling people from Wellington.
- See above.
- Kāpiti region should have at least 2 representatives.
- Wellington has 4x the population of Kapiti, but 5x the representatives. Similarly the Lower Hutt has 2x the population but 3x the representatives. How is that fair?
- Kāpiti is under represented.
- I notice the Kapiti Coast constituency a much larger population per representative than the others but perhaps that's just the way numbers work.
- As mentioned above Kapiti needs one more.
- As above need more voice for Kapiti, it's as different/unique as other areas, but not serviced as well.
- Elected representatives need to be more visible and getting more visible in their communities, it is not clear just what they actually do.
- The added overhead of regional council invites another layer of costs for ratepayers. Time for a paradigm change.
- as prev.
- See my comment above in #2.
- Kapiti needs 2 councillors.
- Just because there is a smaller population in some areas, they all face the same issues. Having a singular vote/representative does not provide fair and equitable standing compared to the other areas.
- As above in 2.
- Representation is not equitable!
- Kāpiti needs more councillors.
- We only need one Councillor per constituency.
- Too many councillors.
- As above.
- The population of the Wairarapa has now surpassed the population of Upper Hutt. The land area and complexities of the Wairarapa that come under GW mandate should be recognised by having 2 representatives.
- See 1 above.
- I think larger regions may need more councillors, but in saying that the ones at the moment are meeting their responsibility. I would like to see more than one representation from iwis, instead of one elected.
- If you are going to put the train fare up you make shore the railway line is running at it full capacity with more frequent train service the same as the kapiti coast and no delay. Make all work is finished by the first of July 2024.
- After being ignored by Wellington for decades, Tawa should go along with Porirua. Hopefully it will work better than the dysfunctional Tawa/Wllington City relationship.

- There should not be a regulations committee making decisions, decisions should be made by all councillors. Otherwise you fill the committee with those who share your view and then the representation as elected by the people disappears.
- Wairarapa should have an additional councillor as it's a vastly different area with vastly different needs when it comes to representation. As it is proposed, it would be under represented and its own interests would not be accounted for.
- Look after our problems in our immediate area.
- It is harder for the smaller communities to be fairly represented with only one councillor as opposed to other constituencies that have more than one councillor. These larger constituencies can have multiple views presented by the different councillors that represents differing viewpoints of these communities. On the other hand, these smaller communities will only have one view presented. Just because the other constituencies are smaller does not mean there is only one view. Similarly, this gives these smaller communities less of a voice even though there are still many people living within them.
- Larger area needs more than 1 representative because these areas also have the largest population to reach.
- Wairarapa has the 3 separate councils so each so a representation from each council is needed.
- More from hinterland so our voices are heard.
- We don't need more councillors. My understanding is that councillors from each block generally always all vote the same way. Adding more councillors just puts more bums in seats. You could consider reducing the number of councillors but instead having each councillors votes weighted. So say you reduce Wellington from 5 to 2 councillors, each of their votes may be worth two based on the population. This would allow you to quickly change the weightings of votes each year without increasing or decreasing councillors based on the population movements.
- One for each council.
- Wairarapa should have from Martinborough 1rep Greytown 1rep Carterton 1rep Masterton 2 reps based on our farming land base wineries waterways and foreshore1 rep.
- This adds to the earlier submission I made on this survey: The worsening under-representation for the Kāpiti Coast constituency - which will be the most under-represented in the region should nothing change by 2025 - can no longer be justified. The under-representation has been getting worse over time: Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor: 2004 - 32.71% 2007 - 33.75% 2010 + 2013 + 2016 - 32.75% 2019 + 2022 - 33.31% 2025 (status quo) - 37.4% (more than double the next most under-represented area - Wairarapa at 18.3%) Of relevant note is that in its determination on Kāpiti Coast District Council's representation review for the 2022 election, the Local Government Commission determined that an under-representation of 24.79% was too much for the Waikanae ward (a ward that had likewise endured years of under-representation), and as a result determined that "we do not believe it is reasonable to continue endorsing a non-compliance of this size". It can reasonably be argued that this now sets a precedent for GWRC to follow in relation to its Kāpiti Coast constituency, where an even greater level of under-representation has been allowed to persist for two decades. While adding an additional councillor for Kāpiti would see it's non-compliance with the +/- 10% rule flip to being 26.02% over-represented, while simultaneously increasing the under-representation relative to the number of councillors overall for Upper Hutt and

Wairarapa to 23.02% and 27.45% respectively, Upper Hutt could largely be brought into compliance via a merged Lower Hutt-Upper Hutt constituency - "Hutt Valley" - which would end up being much closer to the required average. Even without the merger of these two constituencies, the over-representation of Kāpiti would be justified on addressing the unfair and arguably un-democratic decades long under-representation of the Kāpiti Coast. While legislation does not require area/density/distance to governance to be considered, that doesn't mean they shouldn't be considered in terms of elevating what's fair for representation arrangements. An argument could be made that Wellington City - with its higher density and ease of access to council and governance meetings, would be better able to absorb under-representation if a councillor was removed from there and re-allocated either out to Kāpiti (keeping the total at 13) or giving it to Wairarapa to acknowledge the much greater size, less dense population, numerous river catchments, and even greater distance (with this scenario providing for 2 councillors in Kāpiti and two in Wairarapa).

- Having one elected councillor representing the Kapiti coast is not enough and we do not want other councillors from other wards voting on matters that concern the Kapiti coast.
- Wairarapa is made up of 3 separate councils and should have at least one representative from each council.
- I believe we need 1 more councillor for our community.
- I think each area should get the same number of Councillors, too biased if you make it on population alone.
- Using population as a measure for constituencies is an issue. Wairarapa swells at weekends from all the weekend Wellingtonians who have properties in the area (particularly South Wairarapa).
- Needs further exploring and specialist research.
- I feel as though the Wairarapa is hugely underrepresented.
- Add an additional councillor.
- Lower Hutt should probably get another one cause it's growing.
- The population of Kapiti is growing and it looks like for representation to be proportional it would be appropriate for it to have at least 2 representatives.
- In an ideal world, there would be less discrepancy between voter power between blocks such as Kapiti coast and lower Hutt, but I understand this will always happen to some extent when attempting to keep communities cohesive as voting blocks.
- If GRWC is aiming to provide core council services to all encompassing regions, you need to have one - and only one - representative from each local council. Certainly areas servicing more people could be granted more weight when it comes to prioritising necessary improvements, however each and every local council has different and often conflicting requirements and needs.
- I think Kapiti Coast is under-represented. One councilor for 53,000 people is a bit ridiculous. There is a good argument to make for adding another Kapiti councilor, reducing the numbers in either Wellington or the Hutt Valley by one. Kapiti is growing and the opening of Transmission Gully is drawing many more visitors to the district. Anecdotally it is now the preferred stopping off point for freedom campers heading to and from the South Island. There is a lot of potential to enhance the area but the place feels like an afterthought by Greater Wellington.

- The two largest Constituencies only have 1 Councillor each, and I believe that the Wairarapa constituency has unique requirements with large rural and diverse towns that are unlike the other constituencies
- It doesn't matter how many councillors there are to represent Ōtaki we are still Wellingtons and Kapiti's poor cousins who miss out on a lot.
- Kāpiti and Porirua/Tawa should have 2 each.
- Less in Wellington city.
- Each constituency should have 2 elected members with a third being elected for the Wellington City constituency. It is completely unreasonable that Lower Hutt has 2 more representatives than Upper Hutt, Kapiti and the Wairarapa but only has an additional 50% population. If you are going to 'allocate' Councillors based on population then there should actually be a reduction in the number of number of Councillors as a whole to ie 10 Councillors based on 50,000 voters.
- Population favours cities.
- Wellington and LH overdone at expense of those who need greater support.
- Kāpiti and Wairarapa should have 2 representatives each.
- It often seems like the outer suburbs get a lower level of service from GWRC regardless of population. Since the focus seems to be more about equity, then surely this isn't really a fair balance with the number of councillors in the City constituency.
- See above.
- I think it is likely that party politics will play an increasing role in local elections in Wellington City. Accordingly I think it is important to ensure the constituency continues to be represented by 5 councillors. Reducing this to 4 as a result of the Council having fewer members could risk elections becoming less competitive, and locking in for example 2 Greens, 1 Labour and 1 right wing independent councillor. This can be seen in Australia, eg where the ACT for a very long time elected one Labor and one Liberal senator at every election, despite the Greens achieving a higher percentage of primary votes in the ACT than in every state. Keeping the Council at 13 general members and Wellington City having 5 councillors ensures competitiveness and Wellington's pluralism is respected. As noted above, merging the Hutt constituencies could ensure that Upper Hutt representatives have fairer representation on the Council, through being able to influence the election of more than 1 representative.
- GWRC should be abolished.
- As above.
- Nil.
- Wairarapa as a much larger geographical area with 3 separate councils need to have a minimum of 2 representatives if not 3 (one from each council).
- As above Comments.
- As stated above due to the population density of Wellington city perhaps they do not require 5 councillors?
- Too many!

- As defined herein, the high population constituencies, which are also closely aligned, garner far greater representation than those further into the regions. Thus, can be, and too often are, ignored where their unique and specific needs are concerned. Each region/constituency should have an equal voice so as to enable their needs to be heard and given appropriate consideration.
- See my comments for item 1.
- When Kapiti and/or Wairarapa reach a general constituency population of 60,000 consideration should be given to increasing their representation by a further councillor.
- Northern suburbs of Wellington are underrepresented.
- All iwi need a voice at the table as per Te Tiriti.
- Just wondering why it is purely based on population and not land and water coverage and maybe sea frontage as that is what the mahi is most to do with. Could it be calculated on a combo of the two.
- Just another scam to up our rates and the fatcats get bigger salaries. What a joke Lower salaries
- With Wairarapa being the greatest land area, I believe that there should be two representatives on the GWRC.
- Clearly Kaapiti Coast, Wairarapa and Upper Hutt City are under represented.
- We are a growing area and should have more than one person.
- Wairarapa, as the largest constituency, is made up of 3 seperate councils. Each council has unique needs and voices that need to be heard. These are not best served by one person.
- It would be appropriate to use population crossed with local council numbers. That means that Wairarapa has three councils so the representation would be increased to 3.
- Wairarapa is far larger than wellington so we should have far more say. Why should we pay for wellingtons problems.
- Wairarapa is slightly under represented by population but significantly under represented by Territorial Authority ( 1 rep for 3 councils ) and vastly under represented by area ( 70% of the region) and rivers. It also contains most of the farmland which is significantly impacted by Regional Council decisions.
- Wherever practicable, constituencies should elect >3 Councillors. I consider discussion paper scenario 4 would deliver the fairest results for electors.
- No, too many members on the Council as it is. Hutt City has three unknown people, all they do it put up rates rather than review expenditure.
- I live in Lower Hutt area but think Upper Hutt and Kapiti could have more representatives.
- As above.
- Too many councillors.
- I dont trust WCC .Too many stupid decisions have been made over the last decade.Because of their number of reps. on here,they will obviously have a lot more sway in decisions.I especially dont trust the leader,Tory.
- See comment above.

- As comment 1.
- As in question 2, I believe the balance is too heavily toward Wellington City.
- A minimum of two needed for the Wairarapa area.
- No. Churton Park, Johnsonville and Newlands should be added to the Tawa constituency rather than be part of the Wellington CBD.
- Wairarapa needs two seeing covers large area and ensures horticulture, wine growing, and farming get fair representation and this rural area is important for the whole region (and I am a city dweller!).
- Population not evenly spread need at least 2 per area.
- Wellington City and Lower Hutt could operate effectively with 1 less councillor each. And still have less population per councillor than Kapiti and similar to Wairarapa.
- Kapiti is under-represented and lower Hutt over-represented.
- As above.
- There should be less in wellington city but more in the regions where there is only one person.
- Should be representative of sustainable budgets.
- Its all just words, I just smell control. How many rates payers do you people think will understand this so called proposal?
- As per the answer before. There is a disconnect with what is paid from the rural community, to the services they receive.
- Kapiti needs to be represented by 2 councillors.
- I believe that there should be a greater number of councillors, as having only one for large places such as Upper Hutt, Kapiti and Wairarapa leads to underrepresentation. The population per councillor ranging from 34050 to 53400 is not fair.
- Don't add any extra councillors.
- The size of the region needs to be factored into the plan. Although Wairarapa only has enough pop 46k for 1.member that person has a huge space to deal with. Wlg could easily lose one member to Wairarapa and still have 1 per 43k people.
- See previous comment.
- If these are multi-member districts, then it's a bit weird that 3/6 only have 1 rep.
- Feel it should be 2 per constituency.
  - All should be doubled in size so that no area only has one person representing the area.
  - more representation from the Wairarapa.
- The control central Government has over Labour Greens means the ordinary people's voice is lost....Local Government is not democratic....
- Wairarapa should have 2 for the larger land area.
- Upper hutt and wairarapa are poorly represented. Especially considering the population and land areas.
- No.

- See response 2.
- No... I am not sufficiently conversant with the intricacies of the workings of the constituencies....

PROACTIVE RELEASE



**Question 7 Any suggestions for changes to Greater Wellington's representation arrangements**

- If you look at every combination of smaller organisations into one has been ineffective. Auckland CC, polytechnics, etc. A huge amount of money is spent doing it and it is not the value it is sold as.
- See above.
- Take a better look at how well or how little Kapiti Coast is represented.
- Please explain the numbers in the Maori roll that will be represented by the 1 councillor. Is that fair and proportionate number to the numbers being represented by the other councillors.
- As above.
- Wairarapa needs 3 councillors so we at least have some real say in the allocation of resources and time.
- Wairarapa needs representation by a combination of population and area. Also representatives need to be much more visible in the community. GWRC does a pretty good imitation of a secret power cabal at the moment.
- Merge all the councils.
- One more councillor in the Wairarapa one in central Wellington, which gets the majority of everything anyway.
- Higher representation for the Hutt valley is required.
- Should have at least 2 representatives for the Wairarapa region.
- The Wairarapa constituency should have at least 2 councillors due to its larger size and many very different communities.
- Reduce the number of councillors to save costs.
- Kāpiti region should have at least 2 representatives.
- The diversity of the current group of councillors has very good diversity (by age, gender, ethnicity etc.). Efforts need to be made to ensure this continues.
- Don't see the need for a separate Māori Constituency. There are other ways to include the views of all the various diverse groups in our communities.
- Add 1 more Councillor for Kāpiti.
- Local RC representatives must become far more visible and available to the constituents. Those who represent us should have far more say in what happens in our various districts and should demand that the most important infrastructural requirements and the mitigation of risks facing home owners ( such as the maintenance of the local rivers ) be attended to BEFORE the feel good projects that continue to arise to satisfy the egos of the local councillors and councils bureaucratic staff.
- There is no need for specific Maori representation no matter if such pathetic decision has been made. Correct it and eliminate racism . . .
- Add another seat for Kapiti and scrap the Māori seat.
- Wind it up.

- Why have a separate Māori Constituency...we all have to live in the same area..if that is the case maybe we should have an Indian or Asian Constituency..represents separatism sorry.
- I think it needs to consider the growth of cities. Look at a 10-year plan for population growth, and adjust representation appropriately- it's our FUTURE we should be planning for.
- Increase to two representatives in Kapiti, Upper Hutt and Wairarapa.
- Wellington should form a super city like Auckland.
- Use natural physical boundaries.
- Need to distribute councillors more evenly throughout the region.
- 2 Wairarapa councillors.
- As above. 2 representatives for the Wairarapa.
- When I moved back home in 2006 you guys had meetings in the town hall about the rumahanga river. What has been done since .....
- See 1 above.
- More councillors, more representation, no bias committees making all the decisions, accountability for councillors.
- District or towns with higher base of lower social economic, educational and state housing should have greater representation to balance the affluent social economic educated areas.
- Additional rep for Wairarapa.
- Common sense, our money gets used in our area!
- As above when you have a large population spread over a larger area and with different "environments" more representatives make sense surely city/beach/ rural areas have vastly different needs.
- Stop just charging more to rate payers because years of bad planning and misappropriation now sees us screwed for services - as councillors you have failed - don't foist it onto the public to fix your mistakes - that's criminal!
- No co governance. Not even at local level. No race based nonsense.
- For the wairarapa 1 rep is ridiculous.
- As per the above, I recommend that in order to address decades long under-representation for the Kāpiti Coast, that GWRC resolves to have two councillors elected from the Kāpiti Coast constituency. To look at addressing some of the resulting changes in levels of non-compliance, GWRC could also consider merging the Lower Hutt and Upper Hutt constituencies, or consider that Wellington City constituency would be better placed to handle under-representation given its more densely populated nature and proximity to council and governance headquarters, and as such look to either reallocate one of its councillors out to Kāpiti (if the view was to keep the total at 13) or out to the Wairarapa (in a 14 councillor scenario where Kāpiti has two representatives).
- I would like to see the Kapiti coast area taken out of the greater Wellington area and supported locally by 2-3 elected representatives and known as the 'Kapiti Coast regional Council, as a division of the Kapiti coast district council.

- Would prefer wairarapa has own regional council, as centralised watercare is not working.
- Seperate out Wairarapa into Councils, no other Councils are merged. Each area gets equal representation . I live in Sth Wairarapa and also have a property in Porirua.
- Wairarapa should have at a minimum 2 representatives. One for the area Masterton Carterton one for the remainder loosely referred to as South Wairarapa.
- I don't feel there is a true representation from certain large groups, the skill set required fits a certain demographic and I wonder if there is a better way to govern.??
- All the projects I see the GW preforming, they seem to primarily natural resources related, therefore considering the vast land space and natural resources within the Wairarapa, I feel that we are hugely underrepresented. I believe working within TLA lines would be more beneficial, and having one representative per TLA would be sufficient. I feel as though the GW needs to be seen as working with TLAs and their rate payers, and equal representation should be applied across the table. Wairarapa is so underrepresented, that if you ask the rate payers if they could withdraw from the GW and create their own GW, the W referring to Wairarapa in this case, I'm sure a lot would.
- Maybe Upper Hutt needs more representation too. If the Hutt cities combines they could have 5.
- Fix the pipes first.
- 13 general blocks plus 1 Māori block is roughly in line with existing electorate population to councillor ratios given 8.17% Maori role in the region. However, there will be varying proportions of Maori role voters in each currently general electorate, so much so that after the creation of the Maori electorate these general electorates may need to be reconsidered and redrawn again.
- As above - single councillor per local council. Either that, or cut out the regions where people move to specifically to get away from the "march of progress" of the urban areas.
- as per comments above im not sure what the numbers should be but as the 2 largest constituencies only have 1 Councillor each i think this should be addresses.
- Put Ōtaki under Horowhenua District Council.
- Would love to see a Māori ward/constituency.
- Represtation should better focus on where the money is being invested in GWRC assets ie why does Wellington have 5 Councillors but has zero GWRC managed parks within its boundaries or Kapiti and the wider Hutt Valley have the main flood risk rivers but have the same representation as Wellington that has no flood risk rivers but the Wellington Councillors could decide that public transport is more important than if the stopbanks were being upgraded.
- Must ensure mana whenua have a say.
- Scrap Regional Council as not required. Have city and District Councils already. No need for more that are not properly elected. Any election turnout of less than 75% of eligeable voters should be null and void. Also no accountability.
- The Māori ward should have 2 representatives.
- As above.
- In Kapiti we should have one urban and one rural Councillor as the issues are very different.

- Only the ones listed above.
- GWRC should be abolished.
- There should be at least four representing Upper Hutt alone and I'd like to see more interconnectedness between community, local council and greater Wellington.
- What is it that people here in Greater Wgtn Area don't understand , that no more Maori anything should be established,they have been given far too much already for their actual population compared to all the other communities and races that make up our numbers.
- Wairarapa as a much larger geographical area with 3 separate councils need to have a minimum of 2 representatives if not 3 (one from each council).
- That they be based on requirements not population. Population only requires larger volumes of the same thing.
- Focus on service delivery and the effective use of ratepayers money as your only priorities. Resist deviation from this.
- See answer to 6 above. Equal representation based on region/constituency.
- As stated above have one representative per district and the rest voted on District wide election including the Maori representative.
- I find Penny Gaylor a poor representative of the kapiti coast rate payers. From what I have seen so far she has only served her own self interest and pushed forward with her pet projects despite clear opposition from the people she is supposed to represent.
- Add another general constituency for northern suburbs.
- Give each iwi individual representation.
- Scrape the Greater Wellington group, adds unnecessary layers bureaucracy and cost to rate payers!!
- So if calculations were done as suggested s as move there maybe more representation for the Wairarapa which covers a huge area with people with of diverse interests.
- Lower salaries of councilors and representatives.
- Wairarapa, being the largest geographical area, the number of representatives on the GWRC should be two.
- Keep the Wairarapa separate from Wellington.
- Can you enable a more even ratio of population to representative on the Regional Council for Kaapiti Coast, Wairarapa and Upper Hutt City? Why do you rely on the general roll and the Maori roll? Why separate Maori and everyone else? I am Maaori and vote on the general roll. Why not just have a general roll for all of us for our Regional council?
- I think that the election of a Maori councillor indicates that people's representation is not always best met through Geography. I suggest that the council adopts a practice of ex-officios to represent other minority groups like refugees and people of other ethnicities. Maybe the chairperson of each of the multicultural councils should be included as council ex-officios.
- Listen to the people.
- Wairarapa needs 3 representatives.

- It would be appropriate to use population crossed with local council numbers. That means that Wairarapa has three councils so the representation would be increased to 3.
- Wairarapa should have two reps in one General Constituency. This should probably be managed by reducing one Councillor from one of the urban constituencies. Which one needs to be determined by where the voters on Maori rolls reside and they will no longer be voting in general Constituencies.
- A valid democratic principle that I do not see in the discussion document's consideration of communities of interest and effective representation is that electors should have opportunity to meet and interact with their representatives. Consequently, it's important to consider the ability for Councillors to effectively travel across the constituency and campaign within it; constituencies over a given population or geographic area make this difficult. For that reason, the Council should prefer scenario 4. Scenario 4 balances the need for multi-representative constituencies with manageable constituency sizes, and respects the long-standing allocation of the Tawa Community to the Porirua City ward based on shared community interests.
- Kapiti should have 2 reps because of projected population growth...not too far off Porirua who has 2 reps... Wellington should reduce to 4 reps maybe?
- See above.
- Yes, reduce the number in Hutt City and Wellington.
- It seems like all of the councils manage to mismanage funds across the board and are more concerned about overpriced art and culture exhibits while complaining about needing more money from ratepayers.
- Representation of all Wairarapa councils Representation of the Wairarapas cast rural sector.
- Stay in touch with the electorate not by having a huge difference of income with the local people And serving the people in these difficult times by not increasing their council tax relentlessly year on year.
- Stop wasting money on vanity projects and cycle ways and get back to doing the job you are elected to do. Fix the areas problems and stop pandering to minority groups.The whole country is bankrupt, we dont have the luxury of time and money.
- On whose authority did you establish the Maori constituency? I dont recall being consulted on this issue.
- 1 additional councillor for kapiti coast, with an equivalent removal of 1 for Wellington City.
- As above for the Wairarapa.
- Churton Park, Johnsonville and Newlands should be added to the Tawa constituency rather than be part of the Wellington CBD. These suburbs have a closer community affinity with Tawa than with Aro Valley, Wadestown or Lambton.
- See above.
- Wellington City and Lower Hutt could operate effectively with 1 less councillor each. And still have less population per councillor than Kapiti and similar to Wairarapa.
- Each territory should have the same number of representatives regardless of population for a fair unbiased say in proceedings.
- Keep the number of councilors at 13 (including Maori ward).

- More representation for the Hutt valley.
- These people need to be from the community they represent, their income should be closely monitored and should have precautions put in place where if they violated their role they are held accountable.
- Essential services should be nationalised - I'm not even a 3 waters type, I'm a 1 waters type....
- Yeah stay in your own lane. Leave the Wairarapa alone . And we don't appreciate a portion of our rates to the Wellington city council.
- 2 councillors for Kapiti please.
- NA.
- Leave the constituency names as they are.
- I disagree with having Māori wards and feel this needs to be reconsidered. Everyone should have the opportunity for an equal voice via voting.
- It is essential that there is Maori representation in all appropriate circumstances.
- As above.
- Amalgamate amalgamate amalgamate the councils. At least Upper and Lower Hutt, or the Wairarapa councils.
- Wellington should cover Wellington, Tawa and Porirua Lower HUTT, Upper HUTT and Wairarapa should be another.
- STV doesn't work so now people are going to use it like first passed post ie just vote once as secondary votes results in people we don't want winning. ...
- 1 per ward or 1 per district council.
- No.
- See reply to q 2.
- No suggestions....

## Proposed different statutory timeframes and delivery dates for completing the Representation Review 2024

Task and Local Electoral Act 2001 reference	<i>Local Government (Electoral Legislation and Māori Wards and Māori Constituencies) Amendment Bill (with reference(s))</i> Council meeting on 27 August 2024 to resolve its initial representation proposal
Additional Council workshop – to brief Councillors on the Bill and its implications for the Māori constituency and completion of the Representation Review 2024	1 August 2024
<i>Te Tiriti o Waitangi Komiti -to recommend to the Council to affirm or rescind the Council's resolution to establish a Māori constituency</i>	<i>Te Komiti meeting of 15 August 2024</i>
<i>The Council – to affirm or rescind its resolution to establish a Māori constituency</i>	<i>Council meeting of 27 August 2024</i>
Council decisions on its initial representation proposal for the 2025 triennial general election and on establishment of the Representation Review Committee Section 19K(1AA) Clause 1 of Schedule 1A	If “Rescind”, by 6 September 2024 (Clauses 29 and 32) If “Affirm”, by 13 September 2024 (Clauses 22 and 34(4)) <i>A Council meeting is scheduled for 27 August 2024</i>
Public notice of the initial representation proposal and call for public submissions Section 19M(1)	Within 7 days after the Council makes the resolution on its initial representation proposal and not later than 20 September 2024 (Clauses 23 and 34(4)) <i>3 September 2024 (or earlier)</i>
Close of public submissions on the initial representation proposal Section 19M(2)	A period that ends not later than 11 October 2024 and is not less than three weeks from the date of the public notice (Clauses 23 and 34(4)) <i>24 September 2024</i>
Representation Review Committee to hear and consider public submissions on the initial representation proposal, and recommend to Council on the final representation proposal	<i>The Representation Review Committee would likely meet on 10 or 22 October 2024</i> <i>10 October is a scheduled Council workshop day</i>
Council to consider the Representation Review Committee's recommendations on the final representation proposal, and to adopt the final representation proposal Section 19N(1)	Within six weeks of the close of public submissions on the initial representation proposal (Clauses 24 and 34(4)) <i>Six weeks is 5 November 2024. A Council meeting is scheduled for 31 October 2024</i>
Public notice of the final representation proposal Section 19N(1)	Within six weeks of the close of public submissions on the initial representation proposal (Clauses 24 and 34(4)) <i>5 November 2024 (or earlier)</i>
Close of period for appeals and objections on the final representation proposal Sections 19O and 19P	Not earlier than three weeks after the date of the public notice of the final representation proposal, and no later than 13 December 2024 (Clauses 25 and 34(4)) <i>26 November 2024</i>
All relevant information to be provided to the Local Government Commission, if any appeal and/or objection received, and/or the Council's final representation proposal does not comply with the “+/-10% rule” of fair representation Section 19Q	By 23 December 2024 (Clauses 26 and 34(4))
The LGC to determine representation arrangements, if required Section 19R(3)	Before 11 April 2025 (Clauses 27 and 34(4))

## Updated scenarios and options for representation, if the Council rescinds its decision to establish a Māori constituency

### Population change – 2017 to 2023

The Wellington Region's usually resident population grew from 513,900 in 2017 to 550,500 in 2023, an increase of 36,600 (7.1 percent)<sup>2</sup>.

The table below provides Total Electoral Population information by territorial authority area:

Territorial authority area	Estimated population 2017	Estimated population 2023	Percentage share of regional population 2017	Percentage share of regional population 2023	Population increase from 2017 to 2023	Percentage population increase from 2017 to 2023	Percentage share of regional population increase
Kāpiti Coast District	52,700	58,390	10.3	10.6	5,690	10.8	15.5
Porirua City	56,100	62,390	10.9	11.3	6,290	11.2	17.2
Wellington City (including Tawa Community)	212,700	216,230	41.4	39.3	3,530	1.7	9.6
Lower Hutt City	104,700	114,000	20.4	20.7	9,300	8.9	25.4
Upper Hutt City	43,200	48,240	8.4	8.8	5,040	11.7	13.8
Wairarapa districts <sup>3</sup>	44,500	51,220	8.7	9.3	6,720	15.1	18.4
<b>Wellington Region</b>	<b>513,900</b>	<b>550,500</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>36,600</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>100</b>

The information in the table above shows that the increase in Total Electoral Population has not been evenly distributed. The Wairarapa districts have experienced the highest population growth, with all territorial authority areas, excluding Wellington City, having increases above the average population increase for the Wellington Region.

Wellington City has experienced relatively low growth in the six year period, with its percentage population growth of 1.7 percent being well below the regional population increase of 7.1 percent, and its share of the regional population declining from 41.4 percent to 39.3 percent.

<sup>2</sup> Statistics New Zealand population estimates, 30 June 2017 and 30 June 2023.

<sup>3</sup> Combined statistics for the South Wairarapa District, Carterton District, Masterton District, and that part of Tararua District that falls within the Wellington Region.



**Scenarios**

The potential scenarios outlined below are indicative only. If Councillors identify other scenarios at the 1 August 2024 Council workshop, then officers can provide similar information for these scenarios.

**Assumptions**

Each scenario and related map:

- Is based on the current territorial authority areas
- Uses Total Electoral Population figures, rather than General Electoral Population (as used in the Discussion Paper provided to inform the preliminary engagement with the community)<sup>4</sup> (**Attachment 1**)
- Refers to ‘Population’ and ‘Councillors’ to distinguish clearly from the Discussion Paper provided during the preliminary engagement
- Includes the Wairarapa districts constituency area, which combines the South Wairarapa District, South Wairarapa District, Carterton District, Masterton District, and that part of Tararua District that falls within the Wellington Region
- Reflects a maximum number of 14 members (i.e., the Local Electoral Act 2001 allows for a maximum number of 14 constituencies for a regional council).

**Quick guide**

The following table provides a quick guide to the differences between the seven constituency scenarios proposed:

Constituency Area	Scenario 1 (6 Constituency Areas- status quo)	Scenario 2 (6 Constituency Areas)	Scenario 3 (4 Constituency Areas)	Scenario 4 (4 Constituency Areas)	Scenario 5 (4 Constituency Areas)	Scenario 6 (5 Constituency Areas)	Scenario 7 (5 Constituency Areas)
Kāpiti Coast District							
Porirua City							
Tawa Community							
Wellington City (excluding the Tawa Community)							
Lower Hutt City							
Upper Hutt City							
Wairarapa districts							

<sup>4</sup> This approach follows from the Council’s resolution to establish a single Māori constituency, with General Electoral Population being the Total Electoral Population less the Māori Electoral Population.

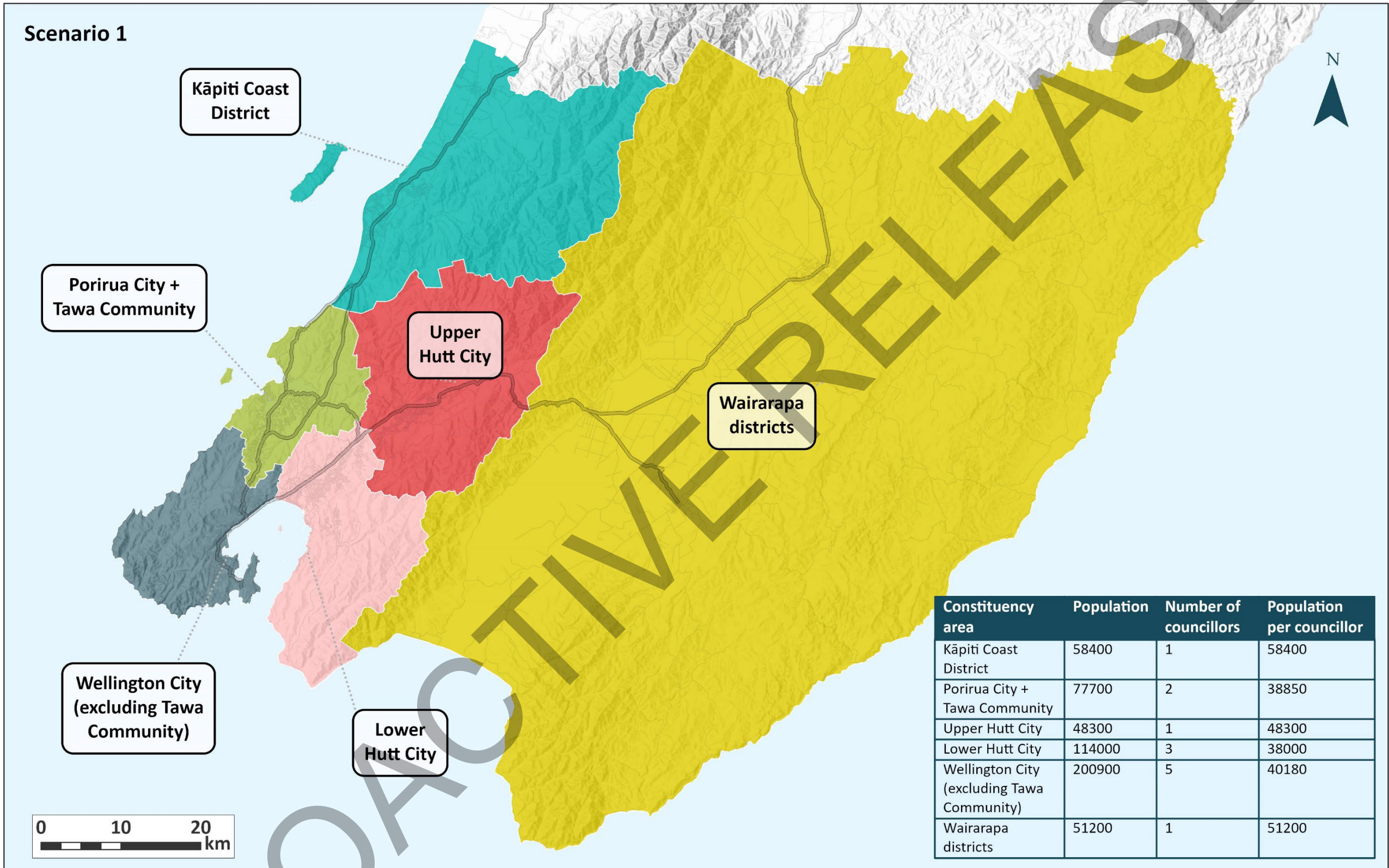
**Scenario 1 Status quo** (based on the six current Constituency Areas)**A 13 Councillors elected**

Constituency Area	Population	Percentage of region's population	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Population per Councillor	Deviation from regional average population per Councillor (42,346)	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor
Kāpiti Coast District	58,400	10.6	1	58,400	+16,054	+37.91
Porirua City + Tawa Community	77,700	14.1	2	38,850	-3,496	-8.26
Wellington City (excluding Tawa Community)	200,900	36.5	5	40,180	-2,166	-5.12
Lower Hutt City	114,000	20.7	3	38,000	-4,346	-10.26
Upper Hutt City	48,300	8.8	1	48,300	+5,954	+14.06
Wairarapa districts	51,200	9.3	1	51,200	+8,854	+20.91
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>550,500</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13</b>			

**B Scenario 1, with 11, 12, or 14 Councillors elected**

Constituency Area	11 members		12 members		14 members	
	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor (50,045)	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor (45,875)	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor (39,321)
Kāpiti Coast District	1	+16.7	1	+27.3	2	-25.7
Porirua City + Tawa Community	2	-22.4	2	-15.3	2	-1.2
Wellington (excluding Tawa Community)	4	+0.4	4	-9.5	5	+2.2
Lower Hutt City	2	+13.9	3	-17.2	3	-3.4
Upper Hutt City	1	-3.5	1	+5.3	1	+22.8
Wairarapa districts	1	+2.3	1	+11.6	1	+30.2

Under this scenario, the option of a Council of 11 members best complies with the +/-10 percent rule.



## Scenario 2 Territorial authority boundaries

### A 13 Councillors elected

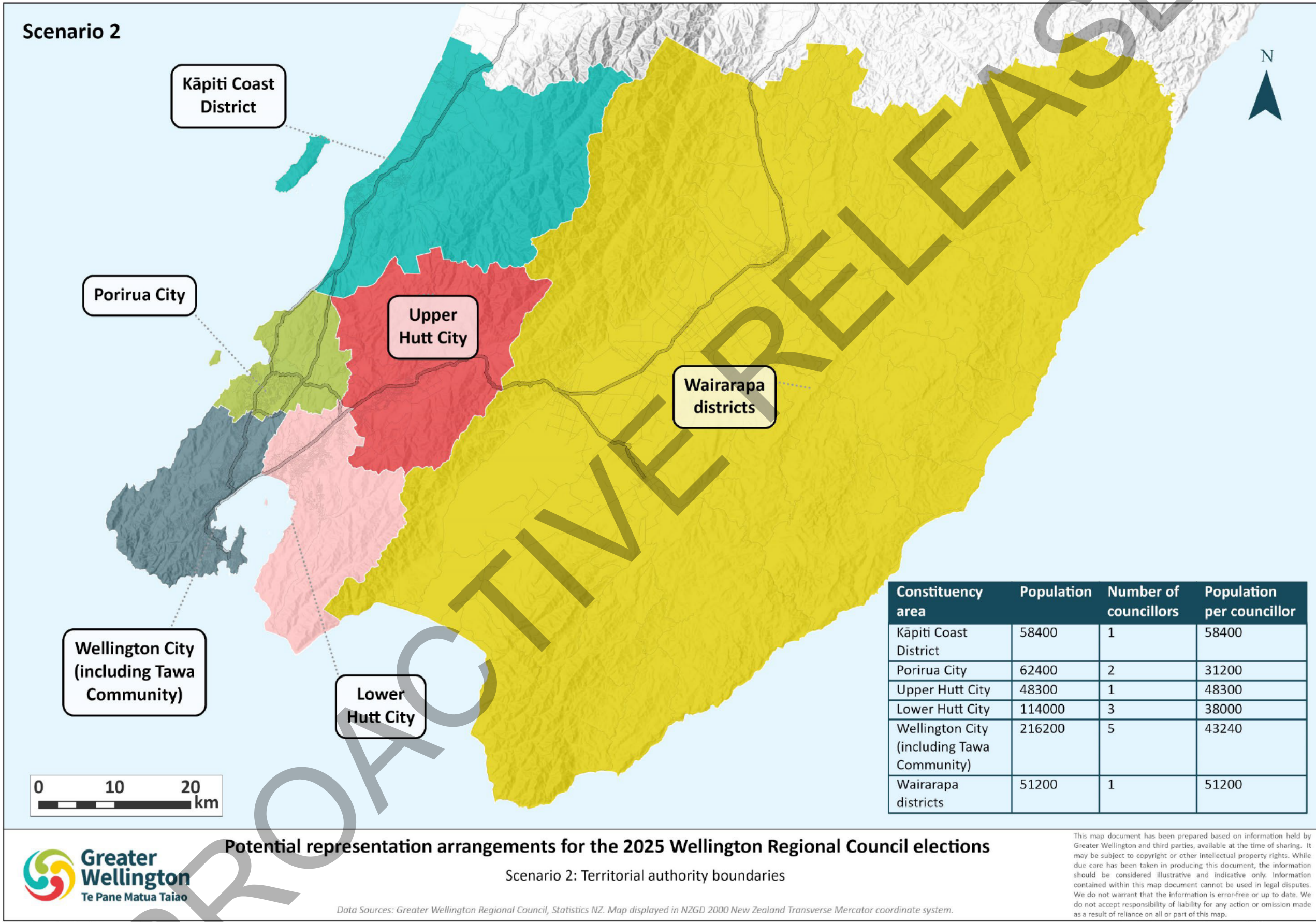
Constituency Area	Population	Percentage of region's population	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Population per Councillor	Deviation from the regional average population per Councillor (42,346)	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor
Kāpiti Coast District	58,400	10.6	1	58,400	+16,054	+37.9
Porirua City	62,400	11.3	2	31,200	-11,146	-26.3
Wellington City (including Tawa Community)	216,200	39.3	5	43,240	+894	+2.1
Lower Hutt City	114,000	20.7	3	38,000	-4,346	-10.3
Upper Hutt City	48,300	8.8	1	48,300	+5,954	+14.1
Wairarapa districts	51,200	9.3	1	51,200	+8,854	+20.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>550,500</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13</b>			

### B Scenario 2, with 11, 12, or 14 Councillors elected

Constituency Area	11 members		12 members		14 members	
	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor (50,045)	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor (45,875)	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor (39,321)
Kāpiti Coast District	1	+16.7	1	+27.3	2	-25.7
Porirua City	1	+24.7	1	+36.0	2	-20.7
Wellington City (including Tawa Community)	5	-13.6	5	-5.7	5	+10.0
Lower Hutt City	2	+13.9	3	-17.2	3	-3.4
Upper Hutt City	1	-3.5	1	+5.3	1	+22.8
Wairarapa districts	1	+2.3	1	+11.6	1	+30.2

Under this scenario, the option of a Council with 11 members best complies with the +/- 10 percent rule.





Potential representation arrangements for the 2025 Wellington Regional Council elections

Scenario 2: Territorial authority boundaries

Data Sources: Greater Wellington Regional Council, Statistics NZ. Map displayed in NZGD 2000 New Zealand Transverse Mercator coordinate system.

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**Scenario 3 Merged constituencies: Wellington City (including Tawa Community), Porirua City + Kāpiti Coast District, and Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City**

**A 13 Councillors elected**

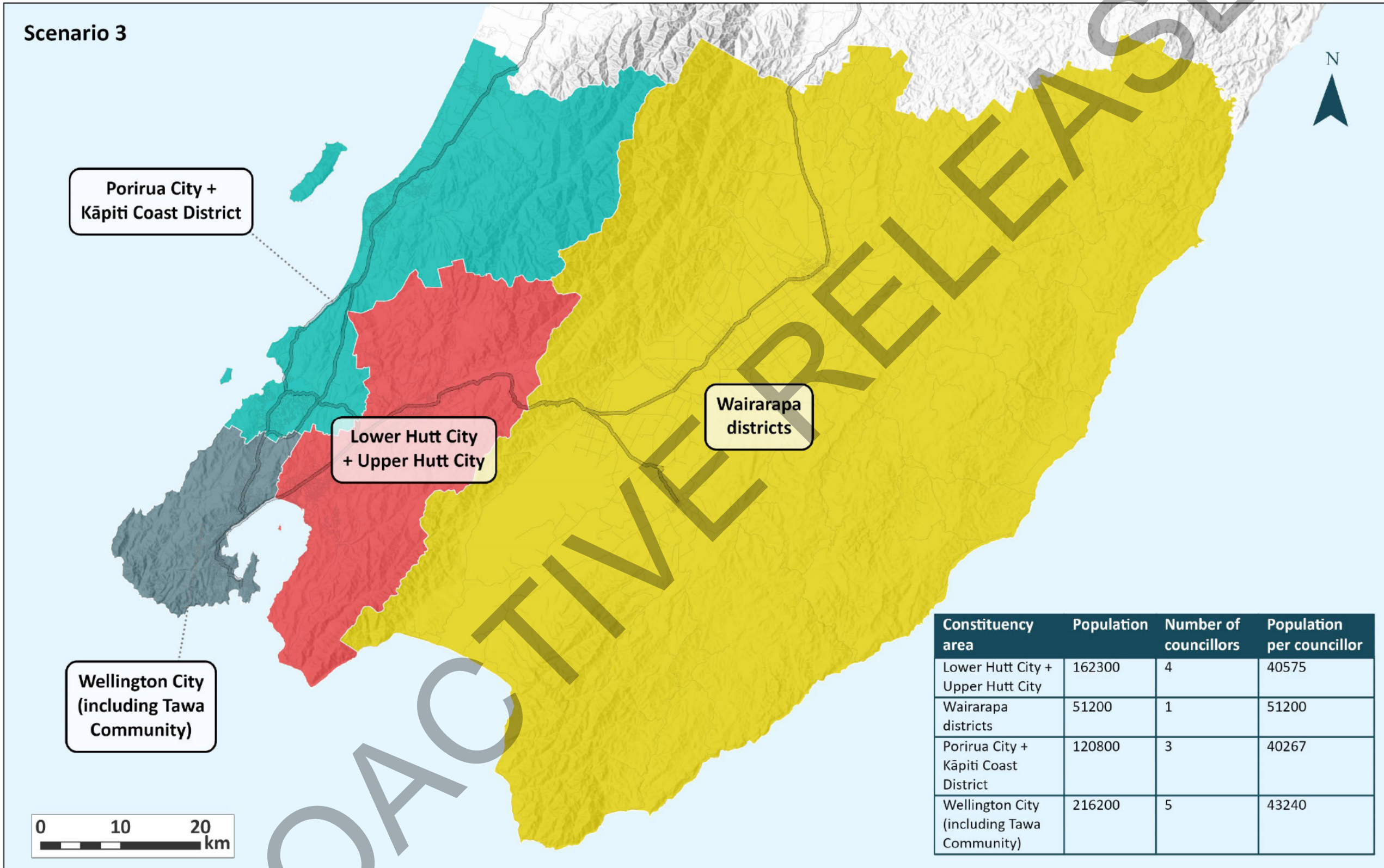
Constituency Area	Population	Percentage of region's population	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Population per Councillor	Deviation from regional average population per Councillor (42,346)	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor
Porirua City + Kāpiti Coast District	120,800	21.9	3	40,267	-2,079	-4.9
Wellington City (including Tawa Community)	216,200	39.3	5	43,240	+894	+2.1
Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City	162,300	29.5	4	40,575	-1,771	-4.2
Wairarapa districts	51,200	9.3	1	51,200	+8,854	+20.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>550,500</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>13</b>			

**B Scenario 3, with 11, 12, or 14 Councillors elected**

Constituency Area	11 members		12 members		14 members	
	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor (50,045)	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor (45,875)	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor (39,321)
Porirua City + Kāpiti Coast District	3	-19.5	3	-12.2	3	+2.4
Wellington City (including Tawa Community)	4	+8.0	5	-5.7	6	-8.4
Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City	3	+8.1	3	+17.9	4	+3.2
Wairarapa districts	1	+2.3	1	+11.6	1	+30.2

Under this scenario, the option of 11 members best complies with the +/- 10 percent rule.





**Potential representation arrangements for the 2025 Wellington Regional Council elections**  
 Scenario 3: Merged constituencies: Wellington City (including Tawa Community), Porirua City + Kāpiti Coast District, and Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City  
 Data Sources: Greater Wellington Regional Council, Statistics NZ. Map displayed in NZGD 2000 New Zealand Transverse Mercator coordinate system.

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**Scenario 4 Merged constituencies: Tawa Community + Porirua City + Kāpiti Coast District, and Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City**

**A 13 Councillors elected**

This scenario is similar to Scenario 3, except the Tawa Community is excluded from the Wellington City constituency area.

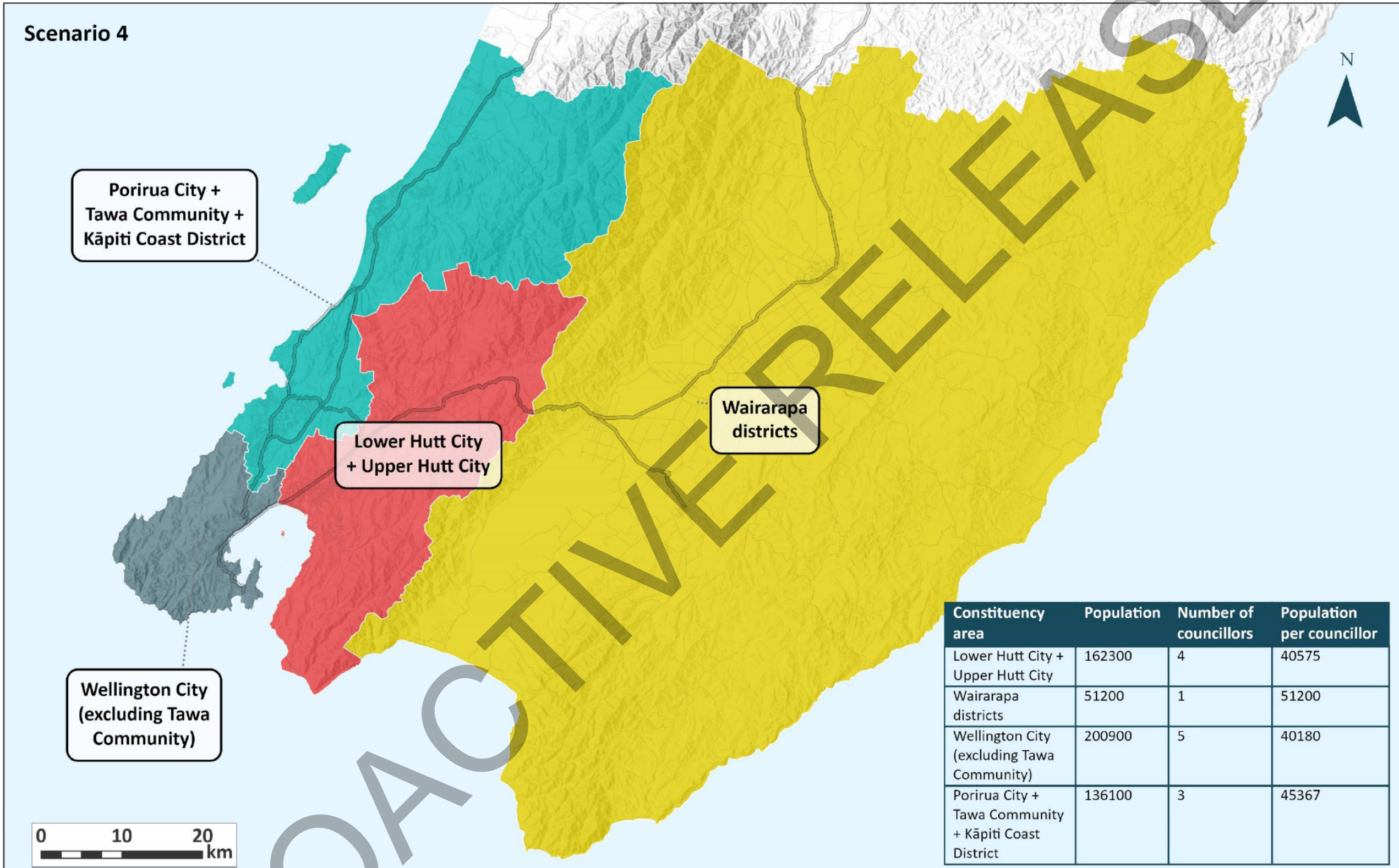
Constituency Area	Population	Percentage of region's population	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Population per Councillor	Deviation from regional average population per Councillor (42,346)	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor
Porirua City + Tawa Community + Kāpiti Coast District	136,100	24.7	3	45,367	+3,021	+7.1
Wellington City (excluding Tawa Community)	200,900	36.5	5	40,180	-2,166	-5.1
Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City	162,300	29.5	4	40,575	-1,771	-4.2
Wairarapa districts	51,200	9.3	1	51,200	+8,854	+20.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>550,500</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13</b>			

**B Scenario 4, with 11, 12, or 14 Councillors elected**

Constituency Area	11 members		12 members		14 members	
	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor (50,045)	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor (45,875)	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor (39,321)
Porirua City + Tawa Community + Kāpiti Coast District	3	-9.3	3	-1.1	4	-13.5
Wellington City (excluding Tawa Community)	4	+0.4	4	9.5	5	+2.2
Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City	3	+8.1	4	-11.6	4	+3.2
Wairarapa districts	1	+2.3	1	+11.6	1	+30.2

Under this scenario, the option of 11 members complies fully with the +/- 10 percent rule.





Constituency area	Population	Number of councillors	Population per councillor
Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City	162300	4	40575
Wairarapa districts	51200	1	51200
Wellington City (excluding Tawa Community)	200900	5	40180
Porirua City + Tawa Community + Kāpiti Coast District	136100	3	45367

**Greater Wellington**  
Te Pane Matua Taiao

**Potential representation arrangements for the 2025 Wellington Regional Council elections**

Scenario 4: Merged constituencies: Tawa Community + Porirua City + Kāpiti Coast District, and Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City

Data Sources: Greater Wellington Regional Council, Statistics NZ. Map displayed in NZGD 2000 New Zealand Transverse Mercator coordinate system.

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**Scenario 5 Merged constituencies: Wellington City (including Tawa Community) + Porirua City, and Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City**
**A 13 Councillors elected**

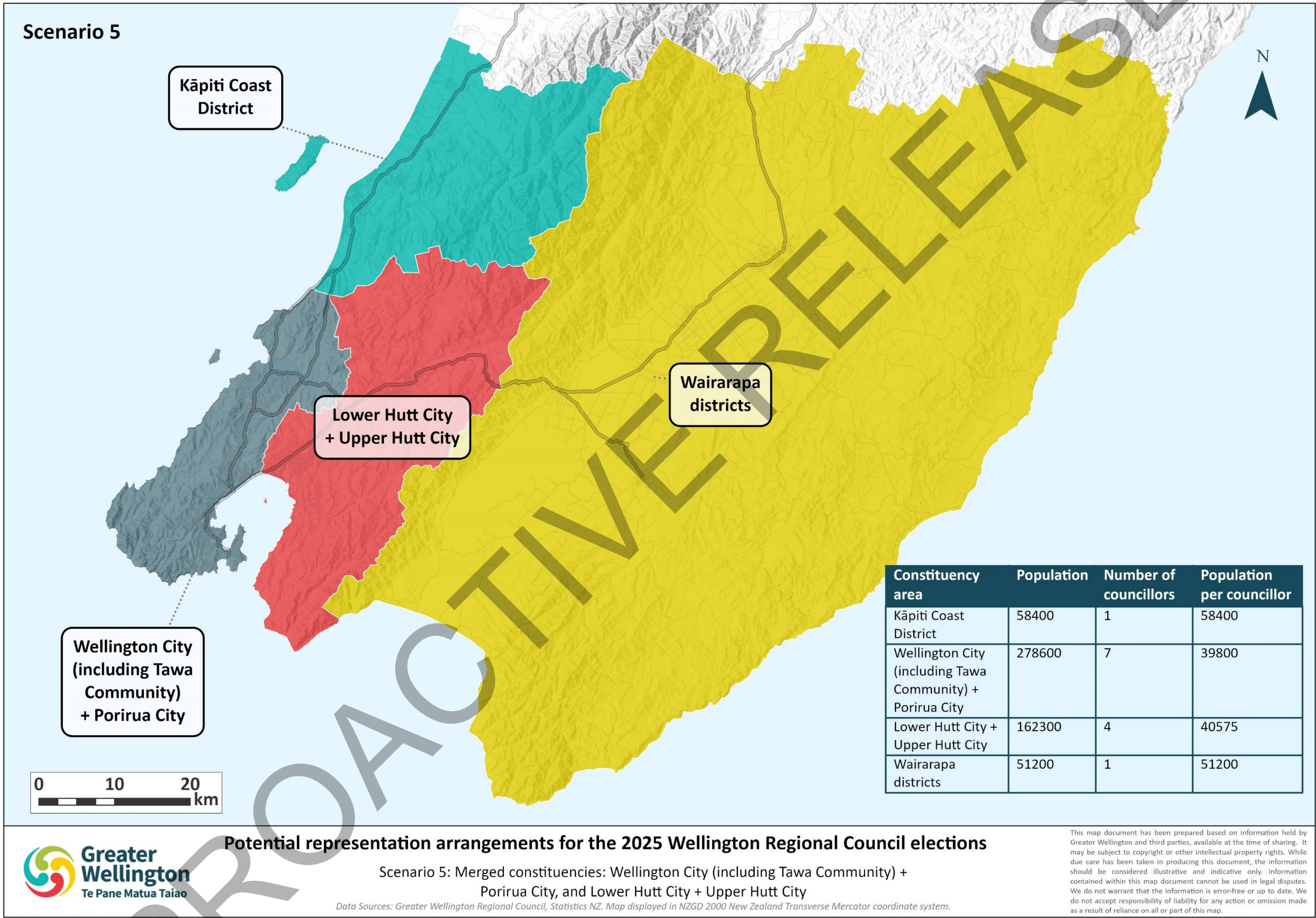
Constituency Area	Population	Percentage of region's population	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Population per Councillor	Deviation from regional average population per Councillor (42,346)	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor
Kāpiti Coast District	58,400	10.6	1	58,400	+16,054	+37.9
Wellington City (including Tawa Community) + Porirua City	278,600	50.6	7	39,800	-2,546	-6.0
Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City	162,300	29.5	4	40,575	-1,771	-4.2
Wairarapa districts	51,200	9.3	1	51,200	+8,854	+20.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>550,500</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13</b>			

**B Scenario 5, with 11, 12, or 14 Councillors elected**

Constituency Area	11 members		12 members		14 members	
	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor (50,530)	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor (45,936)	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor (42,108)
Kāpiti Coast District	1	+16.7	1	+27.3	2	-25.7
Wellington City (including Tawa Community) + Porirua City	6	-7.2	6	+1.2	7	+1.2
Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City	3	+8.1	4	-11.6	4	+3.2
Wairarapa districts	1	+2.3	1	+11.6	1	+30.2

Under this scenario, the option of 11 members best complies with the +/- 10 percent rule.





**Potential representation arrangements for the 2025 Wellington Regional Council elections**  
 Scenario 5: Merged constituencies: Wellington City (including Tawa Community) + Porirua City, and Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City  
 Data Sources: Greater Wellington Regional Council, Statistics NZ. Map displayed in NZGD 2000 New Zealand Transverse Mercator coordinate system.

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### Scenario 6 Merged constituencies: Tawa Community + Porirua City, and Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City

#### A 13 Councillors elected

This scenario is a variation on Scenario 1 – the difference is the merging of the Lower Hutt City and Upper Hutt City constituency areas.

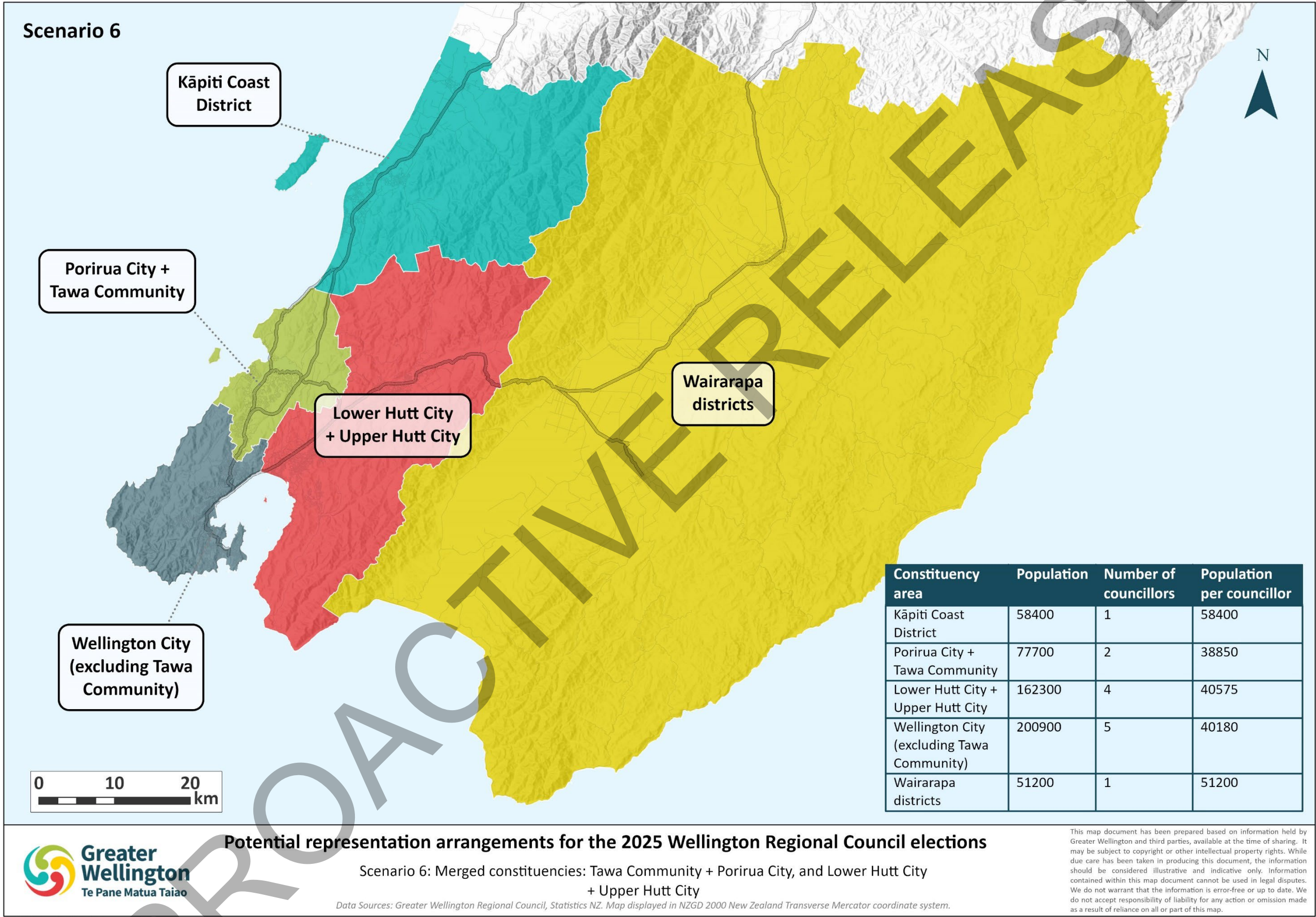
Constituency Area	Population	Percentage of region's population	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Population per Councillor	Deviation from regional average population per Councillor (42,346)	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor
Kāpiti Coast District	58,400	10.6	1	58,400	+16,054	+37.9
Porirua City + Tawa Community	77,700	14.1	2	38,850	-3,496	-8.3
Wellington City (excluding Tawa Community)	200,900	36.5	5	40,180	-2,166	-5.1
Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City	162,300	29.5	4	40,575	1,771	-4.2
Wairarapa districts	51,200	9.3	1	51,200	+8,854	+20.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>550,500</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13</b>			

#### B Scenario 6, with 11, 12, or 14 Councillors elected

Constituency Area	11 members		12 members		14 members	
	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor (50,045)	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor (45,875)	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor (39,321)
Kāpiti Coast District	1	+16.7	1	+27.3	2	-25.7
Porirua City + Tawa Community	2	-22.4	2	-15.3	2	-1.2
Wellington City (excluding Tawa Community)	4	+0.4	4	+9.5	5	+2.2
Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City	3	+8.1	4	-11.6	4	+3.2
Wairarapa districts	1	+2.3	1	+11.6	1	+30.2

Under this scenario, the option of 11 members best complies with the +/- 10 percent rule.





**Potential representation arrangements for the 2025 Wellington Regional Council elections**

Scenario 6: Merged constituencies: Tawa Community + Porirua City, and Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City

Data Sources: Greater Wellington Regional Council, Statistics NZ. Map displayed in NZGD 2000 New Zealand Transverse Mercator coordinate system.

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## 7 Merged constituencies: Wellington City (including Tawa Community), and Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City

### A 13 Councillors elected

This scenario is a variation on Scenario 2 – the difference is the merging of the Lower Hutt City and Upper Hutt City constituency areas.

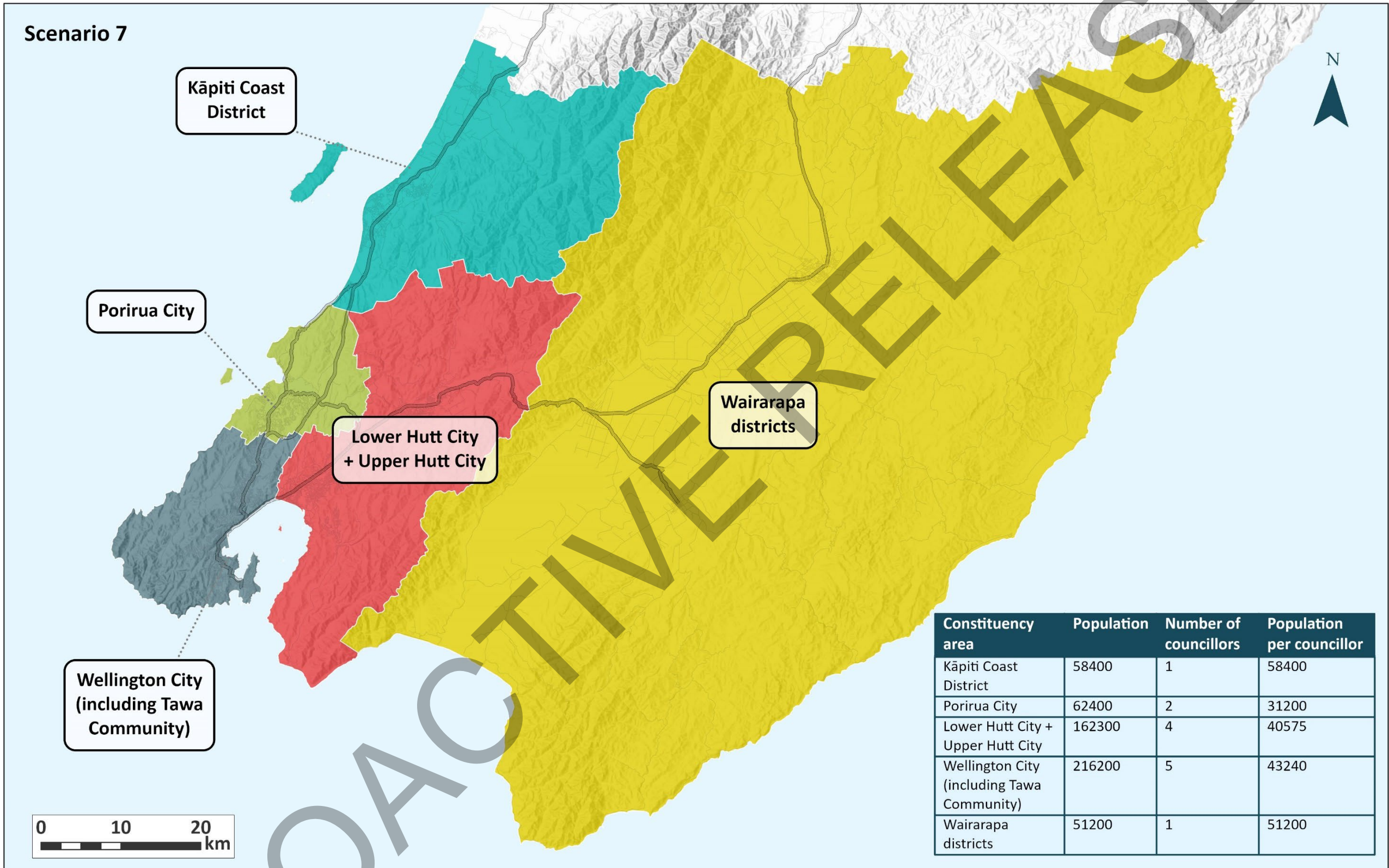
Constituency Area	Population	Percentage of region's population	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Population per Councillor	Deviation from regional average population per Councillor (42,346)	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor
Kāpiti Coast District	58,400	10.6	1	58,400	+16,054	+37.9
Porirua City	62,400	11.3	2	31,200	-11,146	-26.3
Wellington City (including Tawa Community)	216,200	39.3	5	43,240	+894	+2.1
Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City	162,300	29.5	4	40,575	-1,771	-4.2
Wairarapa districts	51,200	9.3	1	51,200	+8,854	+20.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>550,500</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13</b>			

### B Scenario 7, with 11, 12, or 14 Councillors elected

Constituency Area	11 members		11 members		14 members	
	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor (50,045)	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor (45,875)	Number of Councillors per constituency area	Percentage deviation from regional average population per Councillor (39,321)
Kāpiti Coast District	1	+16.7	1	+27.3	2	-25.7
Porirua City	1	+24.7	1	+36.0	2	-20.7
Wellington City (including Tawa Community)	5	-13.6	5	-5.7	5	+10.0
Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City	3	+8.1	4	-11.6	4	+3.2
Wairarapa districts	1	+2.3	1	+11.6	1	+30.2

Under this scenario, the option of 11 members best complies with the +/- 10 percent rule.





**Potential representation arrangements for the 2025 Wellington Regional Council elections**  
 Scenario 7: Merged constituencies: Wellington City (including Tawa Community), and Lower Hutt City + Upper Hutt City  
 Data Sources: Greater Wellington Regional Council, Statistics NZ. Map displayed in NZGD 2000 New Zealand Transverse Mercator coordinate system.

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### Item 3- 2024 Representation Review

Members present at beginning of item	Cr Bassett, Cr Connelly, Cr Duthie (online), Cr Gaylor, Cr Kirk-Burnnand, Cr Laban, Cr Lee, Cr Nash, Cr Ponter, Cr Ropata (online) , Cr Saw, Cr Staples and Cr Woolf (online).
Presenting officers	Francis Ryan and Will Ogier
Supporting information	Document in the He Kete workshop folder.
Purpose of item	To update Councillors on the decision-making considerations and timelines for the 2024 Representation Review, arising from the 30 July 2024 commencement of the Local Government (Electoral Legislation and Māori Wards and Māori Constituencies) Amendment Act 2024 , and to address any questions.
Discussion points	Statutory timelines, and a new set of scenarios (in the event that Council were to decide to rescind its resolution to establish a Māori Constituency). Questions from Councillors.
<b>ACTIONS</b>	Report to Council on 27 August 2024.