

Environmental alert - Wellington to become a super city?

Paul Beverley, Jennifer Caldwell, David Allen, David Randal, Cedric Carranceja, Vanessa Evitt

4 December 2014

The Local Government Commission has today announced its recommendation that the proposed amalgamation of Wellington's nine Councils proceed. The proposal comes after almost 18 months of consideration by the Commission.

The proposal is to create a single council called "Greater Wellington Council". The Council would be led by one mayor, with 21 members from eight wards - Rongotai, Lambton, Ohariu, Porirua-Tawa, Kāpiti Coast, Lower Hutt, Upper Hutt and Wairarapa.

The proposal also includes a second tier of governance with each of the wards having elected members responsible for local decision-making. Other aspects of the proposed model include a Māori board and a Natural Resources Management Committee.

Public submissions on the proposal can be made until 2 March 2015 and hearings will take place in the first quarter of 2015. If required, there will be a poll on any final proposal in mid-2015. If the poll supports the final proposal, or no poll is required, the next steps would then be:

- A transition body to be in place by September 2015
- An interim chief executive to be appointed by May 2016
- Elections for the new council to be held in October 2016
- A commencement day for the new council of 1 November 2016.

The Commission's report can be viewed [here](#).

Auckland

188 Quay Street
Auckland 1010

PO Box 1433
Auckland 1140
New Zealand

P: +64 9 358 2555
F: +64 9 358 2055

Wellington

Aon Centre
1 Willis Street
Wellington 6011

PO Box 2694
Wellington 6140
New Zealand

P: +64 4 499 4242
F: +64 4 499 4141

Christchurch

83 Victoria Street
Christchurch 8013

PO Box 322
Christchurch 8140
New Zealand

P: +64 3 379 1747
F: +64 3 379 5659