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Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:44 PM

Subject: Auckland reorganisation process - update

Good afternoon

I am writing to you as an interested party in the Auckland reorganisation process to update you on progress and to inform you of some limited additional research the Commission is undertaking.

As you will be aware, officials are in the process of gathering information and evidence that will inform advice to the Commissioners who are required to make a decision on the reasonably practicable options and the preferred option for local government arrangements in Auckland.

To support the Commissioners' decision, we will be undertaking some public opinion surveying in Rodney.

This will not cover all of the options in the Morrison Low report, only those for which the Commission does not feel it has sufficient information to determine whether or not there is demonstrable community support. The Northern Action Group and Our Waiheke have previously provided us with information about community support through their applications and submissions.

The survey is, therefore, an information gathering process and does not indicate a preference for any particular option. To preserve the integrity of the Commissioners' decision-making process, we will not be releasing the results of this before an announcement on a preferred option.

I also wish to clarify our process relating to the Morrison Low report, and the peer review of this we are conducting. First, it is important to note that the information obtained is for the Commission's own information and evidence. Second, it will form just part of a spectrum of advice to the Commissioners.

We have engaged consultants to review the technical details and appointed an expert panel to assess the assumptions of the Morrison Low report. They will be provided with the feedback on the report you gave us. Again, any significant findings arising from this process will be made public at the time the preferred option is announced. Until then, the Commission will not be discussing further either the process or the findings.

The Commission wishes to thank you for your patience as we work carefully through this important process.

Kind regards,

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