

Newsletter September 2016



The Northern Action Group Incorporated

Dear NAG Member/Supporter,

I am very pleased to report that at long last, and after lobbying by the Northern Action Group (NAG) for seven years, including winning a High Court appeal, North Rodney will get its local governance arrangements examined by the Local Government Commission (LGC).

(This process was undemocratically denied us back in 2009 when we were forced unilaterally into Auckland Council against the overwhelming majority's wishes).

The LGC will shortly begin consultation with our community at large with a view to learning first hand what the issues are and what the community would like to see in our local administration.

They will conduct a series of evening public meetings as well as one on one daytime interviews at various 'drop-in' centres, commencing on September 20th.

Drop-in centres 11am – 4pm		Community meetings 7pm*	
Tues 20 September	Wellsford War Memorial Library	Tues 20 September	Wellsford District Community Centre
Wed 21 September	Warkworth Library	Wed 21 September	Warkworth Shoemith Hall
Mon 26 September	Matakana Cinemas	Mon 26 September *8pm	Matakana Cinemas
Tues 27 September	Kumeu Kumeu Library	Tues 27 September	Kumeu Community Centre
Wed 28 September	Oneroa Waiheke Community Library	Wed 28 September	Oneroa Morra Hall
Thurs 29 September	Ostend War Memorial Hall	Thurs 29 September	Ostend War Memorial Hall

In addition they will run, in parallel, an on-line survey (using the 'SurveyMonkey' platform) seeking responses to a set of pertinent questions.

From these and other resources, including independent analysis (not AC) they will identify two or three reasonably practical (and hopefully popular) options. (One of these options must be the status quo).

Unless it is the status quo which is to prevail, they will then choose a preferred option from which they will develop a draft reorganisation proposal.

This draft then goes out to the community and other stakeholders (including us) for submissions.

So this is 'crunch' time for our community if we are to avoid LGC choosing the status quo as a preferred option (ie. more of the same)

I cannot **stress enough how important** it is that we all make every effort to take part in this process of consultation by attending at least one of the meetings and/or the drop-in interviews if you possibly can.

Please mark the dates in your diary and also encourage your like-minded friends and neighbours to participate as well.

This whole process will succeed or fail on how passionate the community is about getting a better deal with our local governance.

Remember public apathy is the number one enemy of democracy so let's give LGC the message loud and clear that we will not tolerate more of the same!

Yours sincerely

Bill Townson
Chair - Northern Action Group Inc.

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