

12 December 2012

Dear Local Board Members and CEO Auckland Council

Replacement of Deputy

The role of Chairman is a big one. I had expected it to be very busy in year one when we were in planning mode but the role is continuing to demand more time as the role of Local Boards continues to develop within the Auckland Council.

At the beginning of our term, we selected Adele White as Deputy Chair in order to achieve a broad spread of responsibility across the board. We did not anticipate a large workload and at that time there was no additional remuneration.

Initially I believed that the need for assistance from the Deputy would be primarily attending to civic duties. Due to Adele's limited availability during business hours and her celebrant activities, we evolved early on a system of sharing civic duties amongst all board members. I am grateful for Adele's attendance at citizenship ceremonies.

I had intended that the Deputy would support me in Events & Maori Affairs and Wayne in Ethnic Affairs. Unfortunately I have found that Adele and I are often diametrically opposed on the direction of these portfolios and this is standing in the way of delivering the Board's agreed outcomes.

I would like to expand the role of Deputy and see it as supporting the Chairman in the following ways:

- Advice to the Chair on critical issues
- Project Overview and assistance in making things happen
- Assist in maintaining good board communication
- Assist with Strategic Relationship Management
- Share in Civic Duties
- Available to meet with the Chairman and staff during business hours.
- Key support in the Events, Maori Affairs and Ethnic Affairs portfolio areas

I believe that Jim Donald is best qualified to take on this role based on his availability, depth of experience and his previous role as a Community Board Chair.

This change is not intended as a criticism of Adele's performance as Deputy Chair but to strengthen the functioning of the board through the addition of time and commitment from incumbent members. I wanted to give Adele the opportunity to allow this important change to occur by moving aside quietly and with dignity and to this end I took her aside privately and asked her to resign. Adele has chosen not to resign and to take the matter to the media which is her prerogative.

As it is critical that Howick Local Board complete the proposed changes in a timely manner, we, the undersigned hereby requisition a special meeting to remove the current Deputy Chair and elect a new Deputy Chair of the Howick Local Board.

We request that this meeting take place at 6pm on Monday 21 January 2013 at the Howick Local Board meeting room, Pakuranga Library complex, 7 Aylesbury Street, Pakuranga.

Sincerely,



Michael Williams, Chairman

Jim Donald



Steve Udy



Wayne Huang



Shirley Warren

