



ONSLOW RESIDENTS' COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Submission of the Onslow Resident's Community Association for the Representation Review 2021

The Onslow Residents Community Association represents the areas of Khandallah, Broadmeadows and Kaiwharawhara. Our purpose is to act as a conduit between the community and local authorities, represent the views and interests of our three communities, promote, develop and improve the public services and facilities for our community and foster a sense of community. We are a voice for our community.

Overview

The Onslow Residents Community Association is pleased to make a submission on the proposed changes to Representation as part of Wellington City Council's 2021 review. This is based upon the views of our Committee.

We support the recommended proposal for Representation.

We oppose the listed options as we do not want Councillors at Large, nor Khandallah, Broadmeadows and Kaiwharawhara to move into a Northern Ward, nor a new Lower North Ward that would include Khandallah, Broadmeadows and Kaiwharawhara.

We have no problem with using macrons in community board representation.

We also wish to make an oral submission.

We will now make some specific points.

Specific points we wish to make

We wish to make the following specific points about the representation review:

1. ***We believe that this mid-term review is no time to change the ward structure***, as it is only three years before the next review, and consultation is only happening because of the introduction of a Maori Ward. Let's keep it simple.
2. ***We do not want Councillors at Large and believe the debate is festering both wrong and dangerous opinions***. We have heard it reported that some are advocating for Councillors at Large because these councillors will represent the whole City and not just one ward of it. All ward councillors must affirm that they will represent the interests of the whole city, so this statement is wrong. This statement reinforces the incorrect belief that Councillors at Large are in some way superior to the other councillors, and that they can opt out of any issues they deem to be local ward issues, so it may simply prolong the dysfunctionality we have seen in this council. These councillors will still live in a ward, so they distort its representation on Council.

3. ***We believe that using larger wards, as in Option 2, reduces local representation.*** Electing four councillors by STV enables councillors with only 26% of first votes to be automatically elected and they could predominantly come from a larger suburb.
4. ***We want Khandallah, Broadmeadows and Kaiwharawhara to be affiliated with suburbs we relate to,*** and do not want to become part of the Northern Ward with the large metropolitan areas of Johnsonville and Tawa, as these suburbs have different characteristics and needs to us, and they will dominate the voting, while the Onslow-Western Ward is more closely related.

Conclusion

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission. We will also be sharing this submission in ORCA's communications with its members. Please feel free to contact our association at onslowcommunityassociation@gmail.com or by phone on 021 750 633 regarding this submission.

Yours sincerely

Lawrence Collingbourne, President on behalf of

Onslow Residents' Community Association