

Petitions Policy - adoption

Meeting: Kaipara District Council
Date of meeting: 24 February 2021
Reporting officer: Gavin Dawson, Governance Advisor

Purpose/Ngā whāinga

To provide the final draft of the Petitions Policy (the “Policy”) for adoption and inclusion on the policy register.

Recommendation/Ngā tūtohunga

That the Kaipara District Council:

- a) Adopts the amended Petitions Policy as provided in Attachment A.
- b) Authorises the Chief Executive to make minor edits or changes to the Policy to correct any spelling errors or make typographical edits, and/or to reflect decisions made by Council at this meeting.

Context/Horopaki

Petitions are an important tool that the community can use to raise their concerns or issues with the Council and are an important feature of our democratic system. They are most effective when the framework and processes that apply are clear.

Discussion/Ngā kōrerorero

The current Policy was adopted in October 2016 and was scheduled to be reviewed in March 2019. No such review was undertaken as scheduled. It was decided that a review should be undertaken in January 2021 to ensure that the Policy is aligned with current legislation and best practice.

The findings of the review confirm that the intent and content outlined in the original policy are still relevant and applicable in today’s governance environment.

Minor amendments were required to align the Policy with the petitions criteria outlined in our Council Standing Orders (section 17), which were adopted by this current Council at the beginning of the 2019/2022 Triennium.

Feedback was provided at the 3 February 2021 Council Briefing, which confirmed the amendments and insertions highlighted in red in the draft Policy (**Attachment A**).

No other amendments to the Policy are being proposed at this time.

Next steps/E whaiake nei

The Policy will be finalised and included on the policy register. It will also be made available to the public on the Council website. The Policy will be reviewed again in July 2023.

Attachments/Ngā tapiritanga

	Title
A	Draft Petitions Policy for adoption