



# Cabinet

CAB Min (09) 41/17

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## Minute of Decision

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### Pacific and Ethnic Participation in Auckland Governance

#### Portfolio: Local Government

On 23 November 2009, following reference from the Cabinet Committee on Implementation of Auckland Governance Reforms (AGR), Cabinet:

#### Background

- 1 **noted** that the Royal Commission on Auckland Governance recommended the establishment of a Pacific advisory panel and an Ethnic advisory panel at the Auckland Council level;
- 2 **noted** that on 27 April 2009, Cabinet invited the Minister of Local Government, in consultation with the Minister of Pacific Island Affairs and the Minister for Ethnic Affairs, to report back to AGR on advisory panels for Pacific peoples and other ethnic peoples [CAB Min (09) 14/2];
- 3 **noted** that on 24 August 2009, Cabinet:
  - 3.1 confirmed its previous decision that separate Maori representation should not be provided for within the new Auckland governance structure;
  - 3.2 invited the Minister of Local Government and the Minister of Maori Affairs to report back to AGR on the details and implications of establishing in legislation a Statutory Board and a Joint Council Committee;

[CAB Min (09) 30/9]
- 4 **noted** that on 2 November 2009, Cabinet agreed to provide in legislation for the establishment of an Independent Statutory Board for mana whenua and Maori participation in the governance of Auckland [CAB Min (09) 39/26];

#### Options

- 5 **noted** that the Minister of Local Government has considered three options for participation by Pacific and ethnic communities in Auckland governance, in consultation with the Minister of Pacific Island Affairs and the Minister for Ethnic Affairs:
  - 5.1 Option 1: status quo (maintain the existing legislative mechanisms);

- 5.2 Option 2: legislation expressly requiring the Auckland Council to provide opportunities for Pacific and ethnic communities to contribute to its decision-making processes;
- 5.3 Option 3: legislation providing for the mandatory establishment of a Pacific advisory panel and an Ethnic advisory panel at the regional level;
- 6 **agreed** to Option 3, that legislation provide for the mandatory establishment of a Pacific advisory panel and an Ethnic advisory panel at the regional level, but with this provision to expire at the end of the first term of the Auckland Council;
- 7 **agreed** that after the first term of the Auckland Council, the Council may determine its own arrangements to facilitate Pacific and Ethnic peoples' participation in local authority decision-making processes;
- 8 **agreed** that the provision for the establishment of the Pacific and Ethnic advisory panels be included in the Local Government (Auckland Law Reform) Bill due for introduction in December;

### Publicity

- 9 **agreed** that any communication of Cabinet's decisions in relation to the paper under CAB (09) 690 be co-ordinated between the Prime Minister's office and the Ministers of Pacific Island Affairs, Ethnic Affairs, and Local Government.

*Rebecca Kitteridge*  
Secretary of the Cabinet

Reference: CAB (09) 690

Distribution:

Proactively Released by the Minister of Local Government