

Options for independent decision-making on a management plan

(as provided to the 14 July local board workshop and updated post-feedback)

Options	Retains local decision-making	Risks	Risk mitigation	Complexity of decision-making	Hearing	Decision-maker	Local board commitment of time	Perception of independence
Option a) : Local board	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of perception/ actual conflict of interest Local board members have varying levels of experience of the Reserves Act If more than three local board members stand down there would not be enough board members to form a quorum and make a decision 	Local board members with an actual or perceived conflict of interest would need to declare their interest and stand down from the submission hearings and decision-making on the plan.		Local board	Local board	High	Would not adequately address perceptions of conflict of interest or a sense of independent decision-making
Option b) : Local board with an independent chair	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of perception/ actual conflict of interest If more than three local board members stand down there would not be enough board members to form a quorum and make a decision 	Local board members with an actual or perceived conflict of interest could stand down from the submission hearings and decision-making on the plan. An independent chair could help the local board come to an agreement.	An independent commissioner acting as chair would bring additional knowledge of the Reserves Act 1977	Independent commissioner and local board	Local board	High	Would go a some way to reduce perceptions of conflict of interest and increase a sense of decision-making independence
Option c) : Independent commissioners hear submissions and make recommendations to the local board	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This option is only available for Onetangi Sports Park as it is held under the Reserves Act 1977. Rangihoua Reserve would need to be declared and classified under the Reserves Act to be included. Local board members will not have had the benefit of hearing submissions directly when they are making the decision on the commissioner's report. 		An independent commissioner would have sound knowledge and experience of the Reserves Act	Independent commissioner	Local board	Low/Medium	No conflict of interest for Onetangi Sports Park and provides independence for decision-making for the management plan development (however unless Rangihoua Reserve is classified it will be excluded from the management plan).
Option d) : Appoint a committee to hear submissions and approve the final management plan	Yes – if local board member included	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced risk of perceived/ actual conflict of interest 	This option would provide a high level of independence for the submission hearing and decision-making.	An independent commissioner acting a chair would bring sound knowledge and experience of the Reserves Act Other committee members would have knowledge and experience of the Reserves Act 1977 as they would have completed the Commissioners' training.	Independent commissioner and local board members	Independent commissioner and local board members	Low (High for local board members appointed to committee)	Would provide low level of actual/ perceived conflict of interest and increase sense of independent decision-making