

Chamber of Commerce opposes Greater Wellington representation changes

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The Kapiti Coast Chamber of Commerce says it is against the Greater Wellington Regional Council's proposal to merge the Porirua and Kapiti areas into a single ward for electing councillors.

Chamber President Mike Olsen says the Chamber believes that the possibility of no Kapiti-based representatives being elected to Greater Wellington is not in the interests of the district.

"There are no business linkages at all with Porirua and indeed both areas now even have their own Chambers of Commerce," Mike Olsen says.

"The only linkage is political, and most Kapiti business people do not believe this has been successful at all."

"Wairarapa has a similar population to Kapiti, but has two representatives, and we believe a better option is to reduce the number councillors there to one. The total number of regional councillors should also be reduced to a more effective number of ten, including one representative for Porirua and one for Kapiti."

"This would better equate the representation on a population basis, and probably on a growth basis, while also being more equitable."

For further comment phone Mike Olsen on 021 526 484