

3 August 2009

Review of Local Government Arrangements

Dot Kettle, Chief Executive of the Chamber of Commerce responded today to the launch of a petition calling for a review of Council amalgamation options. "The Nelson Tasman Chamber of Commerce has consistently called for greater collaboration and strategic planning between the Nelson and Tasman Councils" said Dot Kettle.

"The Chamber's recent submission as part of the LTCCP process supported a feasibility study to look at the benefits of a different governance structure for the three regions that make up the Top of the South. The Chamber noted that the review by the Royal Commission regarding the Auckland super city concept provided the opportunity to consider the merits of Nelson and Tasman being more closely aligned and we called for the region to explore our options."

"The Nelson Tasman Chamber of Commerce has consistently held the view that our region needs to work effectively together and we welcome a fair independent review of options that will best achieve that".

The Chamber understands that the petition launched is an opportunity for Nelson Tasman registered voters to have their say on whether they want a review of amalgamation options.

ENDS