



Open briefing: Census 2023 – key trends and insights

27 November 2024 – 3.16pm

Attendees

Elected Members: Mayor Barry, Cr Barratt, Cr Brown, Cr Dyer, Cr Edwards, Deputy Mayor Lewis (via audio-visual link), Cr Mitchell, Cr Morgan, Cr Parkin, Cr Shaw, Cr Stallinger and Cr Tupou.

Staff: J Miller, Chief Executive (via audio-visual link), J Livschitz, Group Chief Financial Officer; A Blackshaw, Director Neighbourhoods and Communities (via audio-visual link); J Griffiths, Director Strategy and Engagement; J Kingsbury, Director Economy and Development; D Nunnian, Manager Financial Planning and Performance; R Hardie, Head of Strategy and Policy; J Scherzer, Head of Climate, Waste and Resource Recovery; C Parish, Head of Mayor's Office; B Hodgins, Strategic Advisor; P Hewitt, Head of Transport, G Roberts, Waste and Resource Recovery Manager.

Apologies

Cr Briggs and K Yung, Petone Community Board

Presenter

M Nuth, Principal Advisor, Research and Evaluation

Key Objectives of the Briefing

The purpose of the briefing is to provide insight into population and housing trends using 2023 Census data.

Presentation by M Nuth, Principal Advisor, Research and Evaluation

Slide 1 (Header)

Slide 2 – What I am covering: Overview of the presentation.

Slide 3 – Population growth: Population growth since 1996.

Slide 4 – Our population is aging: Lower Hutt's population is trending down.

Slide 5 – Our population is becoming more diverse: Immigration is creating a diversity of ethnicities.

Slide 6 – Rental market inflation: Higher rents are impacting lowest income families.

Slide 7 – Household crowding is increasing: 7.1% of households experienced overcrowding in 2023.

Slide 8 – Crowding in high deprivation areas: The most deprived suburbs of Lower Hutt experienced the most overcrowding.

Slide 9 – Crowding in high deprivation areas: The Northern Ward has experienced the largest overcrowding increase

Slide 10 – Taita North has the highest incidences of crowding.

Slide 11 – Pacific people are disproportionately affected by household crowding.

Slide 12 – Personal incomes in Lower Hutt are increasing: Lower Hutt appears to be attracting high income individuals from other population centres.

Slide 13 – The Lower Hutt population is becoming more qualified: High income professionals may find Lower Hutt more affordable than other population centres.

Slide 14 – Conclusion.

Slide 15 – What Hutt City Council needs to think about: Consideration should include the aging population, maintaining competitiveness and how to ensure Lower Hutt is an affordable city to live in.

Questions and discussion points

- data shows that a good proportion of the population is now working from home, leading to a decrease in the use of travel or public transport for commuting. This trend may be due to the rise in remote work.
- overcrowding in Taitā North is typically caused by multiple families living in a dwelling. This is likely to be connected to rental market inflation.
- increased housing intensification usually results in smaller house footprints, which can exacerbate overcrowding and lead to various negative health impacts.
- in some cultures, multi-generational housing is common. This raises the question of whether current housing development trends are appropriate or if more housing options should be created for multi-generational living.
- Unaffordable housing is the main driver of overcrowding. Council has a range of tools in its Long Term Plan that could help address this issue.

Briefing materials

Attachment 1 – Presentation: Census 2023 key trends and insights

The briefing closed at 3.40pm