

Community letter template

To: *[Recipient's name] <[email address]>*

Subject: Two practical steps on Wellington's Runway 34 flight path

Kia ora [recipient's name],

I am a [resident, ratepayer, parent or business owner] in [suburb]. I am concerned about the Runway 34 DMAPS departure route introduced in December 2022.

The change has concentrated routine jet departures over communities that previously experienced materially fewer and quieter departures. For those living beneath the route, this is a significant new effect, not simply the continuation of existing airport noise.

[ADD ONE OR TWO SENTENCES ABOUT WHY THIS MATTERS TO YOU. OPTIONS ARE PROVIDED BELOW.]

I recognise that DMAPS was introduced with the stated aim of improving aviation safety and operational efficiency. I am not asking for those objectives to be abandoned or for an untested alternative to be imposed.

I am asking for the periodic technical review of DMAPS, which is due in 2027, to be brought forward, broadened and conducted transparently. It should explicitly test whether the same claimed safety and operational benefits from separating departures and missed approaches can be achieved through a less harmful route design, including by keeping routine departures over the harbour longer and crossing residential areas later and higher.

Wellington Airport's 2024 consultation did not answer that question. It mainly compared retaining DMAPS with partial or complete returns to the previous routes, rather than testing whether a different DMAPS configuration could provide a better balance.

I also support an independent Government Inquiry under the Inquiries Act 2013. A technical review could identify a less harmful route, but it would not address the wider questions about how DMAPS was developed, approved and introduced without prior community consultation.

The inquiry should examine:

- the decision-making and implementation process;
- the safety and regulatory assurance in place;
- consultation, transparency and governance;
- the roles of Wellington Airport, Airways and the Civil Aviation Authority; and
- whether the aviation framework adequately protects communities affected by significant flight-path changes.

The technical review could identify a practical way to reduce the present harm. The inquiry would provide independent public assurance and help prevent the same problems arising again.

[ADD THE ENDING FOR YOUR RECIPIENT.]

Please tell me whether you support these proposals and what action you will take.

Ngā mihi,

[Your name]

[Your suburb]

Choose why this matters to you

Personal experience:

Since the route changed, [describe briefly how repeated departures have affected your sleep, family, work, home or wellbeing].

Sleep and health:

[Wellington Airport's monitoring](#) recorded individual departures reaching approximately 80 dB LAmax at some locations, with flights beginning from around 6 am. Broad average measures do not capture what repeated high-noise events are like for households directly beneath the route.

Fairness and mitigation:

Newly affected northern communities were not consulted before the route began. Their homes generally lie outside the existing Air Noise Boundary and are therefore not eligible for the Airport's Quieter Homes programme. Residents bear a new concentration of aircraft noise without access to the funded mitigation available in areas nearer the airport.

Airport future:

I support a safe, efficient and successful Wellington Airport. Finding a durable and less contested departure route would be better for residents and for the airport's long-term growth and public support.

Choose one recipient ending

Mayor or councillor:

Please publicly support both proposals and use Wellington City Council's position as a 34% shareholder in Wellington Airport to ask the Airport to support a brought-forward, broadened and transparent technical review.

Current MP or candidate:

Please advocate for a brought-forward and broadened technical review and raise them with your party leader and transport spokesperson and let me know their response.

Political party or party leader:

Please commit to bringing forward and broadening the technical review and establishing an independent Government Inquiry under the Inquiries Act 2013.

Minister or Associate Minister of Transport:

Please bring forward and broaden the 2027 technical review of DMAPS, give it an explicit mandate to test less harmful alternatives, and take the necessary steps to establish an independent Government Inquiry under the Inquiries Act 2013.

Who to write to

Pick one or two people. To reach all Wellington City councillors: councillors@wcc.govt.nz

Mayor and relevant ward councillors

Role or ward	Name	Email
Mayor	Andrew Little	mayor@wcc.govt.nz
Takapū/Northern	Deputy Mayor Ben McNulty	ben.mculty@wcc.govt.nz
Takapū/Northern	Andrea Compton	andrea.compton@wcc.govt.nz
Wharangi/Onslow-Western	Diane Calvert	diane.calvert@wcc.govt.nz
Wharangi/Onslow-Western	Ray Chung	ray.chung@wcc.govt.nz
Wharangi/Onslow-Western	Rebecca Matthews	rebecca.matthews@wcc.govt.nz

Current MPs

For the inquiry request, write to your local MP, a Wellington-based MP, or the Associate Minister of Transport.

Name	Current role	Email
Hon James Meager	Associate Minister of Transport	J.Meager@ministers.govt.nz
Barbara Edmonds	MP for Mana	Barbara.Edmonds@parliament.govt.nz
Ayesha Verrall	List MP, Wellington	Ayesha.Verrall@parliament.govt.nz
Tamatha Paul	MP for Wellington Central	Tamatha.Paul@parliament.govt.nz
Lan Pham	List MP, Wellington	Lan.Pham@parliament.govt.nz

Name	Current role	Email
Nicola Willis	List MP, Wellington	Nicola.Willis@parliament.govt.nz

2026 candidates: Wellington North

Candidate	Party	Public contact
Ayesha Verrall	Labour	Ayesha.Verrall@parliament.govt.nz
Matthew Hague	ACT	ACT contact page
Josh Harford	Alliance	wellington@allianceparty.nz
Jessica Hammond	Opportunity	jessica.hammond@opportunity.org.nz
Jonathan Pitts	National	jonathan.pitts@national.org.nz
Tamatha Paul	Green	Tamatha.Paul@parliament.govt.nz
Taylor Arneil	New Zealand First	NZ First contact page

2026 candidates: Kenepuru

Candidate	Party	Public contact
Jon Blackshaw	New Zealand First	NZ First contact page
Barbara Edmonds	Labour	Barbara.Edmonds@parliament.govt.nz
Matthew Evetts	National	matthew.evetts@national.org.nz
Robert Mason	Opportunity	Robert.Mason@opportunity.org.nz
Lan Pham	Green	Lan.Pham@parliament.govt.nz

Which electorate?

Broadly, Kenepuru includes Johnsonville, Churton Park, Tawa and southern Porirua. Wellington North includes Khandallah, Broadmeadows, Ngaio and the central and western suburbs.

Check the [Electoral Commission electorate maps](#)

Candidate list and public contacts checked 21 September 2026. Candidate selections may change before election day.