

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT
AT PORIRUA**

**I TE KŌTI-Ā-ROHE
KI PORIRUA**

CIV 2025-091-000544

UNDER	The Local Electoral Act 2001
IN THE MATTER	of a Recount of the Votes in the 2025 Local Government Election for the Parirua Māori Ward of the Porirua City Council
BETWEEN	JESSICA TE HUIA Applicant
AND	WARWICK LAMPP, Electoral Officer for the Porirua City Council Respondent

Judgment: 13 November 2025
(On the papers)

MINUTE OF JUDGE A A COUCH
[following a recount of votes cast at local body election]

[1] On 11 November 2025, pursuant to s 90(3)(b) of the Local Electoral Act 2001, Judge K D Kelly ordered a recount of the votes cast at the Local Body Elections for the Parirua Māori Ward of the Porirua City Council.

[2] The recount was conducted in my presence and was done in the manner directed by Judge Kelly. Consistent with my directions to the Electoral Officer, all informal, blank and special votes were reviewed by me by viewing the scanned colour images. I also viewed the declarations made in respect of all special votes. I extracted one individual voting paper from physical batches for further inspection. In attendance were scrutineers for candidate Jess Te Huia. Two scrutineers were appointed by that candidate but, at my direction, only one was present at any time during the recount.

[3] At the conclusion of the recount, I determined that two special votes were to be disallowed on the basis that the required declarations did not comply with r 38 of the Local Electoral Regulations 2001. One was not signed by the voter. In the other case, the witness had not provided a residential address. This led to a change of two votes in the final tally but that this did not lead to a change in the result.

[4] Although the change in the final tally was minor and did not affect the result, the number of votes for the candidates at each iteration also changed. In order that the final declaration comply fully with regulation 106 of the Local Electoral Regulations 2001, I direct the electoral officer, Warwick Lampp, to issue an amended declaration. I confirm, however, that Kylie Wihapi is elected.

[5] In terms of security for costs, I am satisfied that the application was bona fide and that this is an appropriate case for a direction that the full amount of the deposit made under s 90 be returned to the applicant (per s 92(4) of the Act).

[6] Otherwise, costs are reserved. The parties are invited to agree costs but, if that is not possible, Warwick Lampp is to file and serve a memorandum as to costs within 10 working days. Jessica Te Huia shall have a further 10 working days to file submissions in reply. A decision will then be made on the papers.

[7] Orders are made accordingly.



A.A Couch
District Court Judge