Development of Maori Capacity to Contribute to Decision-Making Processes

Council recognises its obligations to Maori and continues to look for ways to facilitate Maori input into decision-making.

Council has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Te Uri o Hau which reflects the relationship between the two parties and formalises the way with the two parties work together on a wide range of issues. This document was renegotiated in 2016 and has the provision for annual reviews. Council has a Mana Enhancing Agreement (MEA) with Te Roroa. This agreement was negotiated over a number of years to reflect the joint aspirations between the two parties and signed in 2018.

Both the MOU and MEA provide for regular funding towards services provided by Te Uri o Hau and Te Roroa which allows for the ongoing development of capacity within these organisations.

CO- governance arrangements are in place for both Taharoa Domain Governance Committee and the Harding Park/Pou Tu Te Rangi Joint Committee

Kaipara Council is one of four Councils that have formed the Kaipara Moana Working Party to work closely with Ngati Whatua on the future governance arrangements for the Kaipara Harbour once the treaty settlement process has been completed.

Council has an agreed procedure in place to provide for iwi input into Resource Consent processing as well as ensuring that iwi have the opportunity for input into the Long Term Plan and Annual Plans during the draft Plan consultation process. These are covered in the MOU and MEA.

Council holds regular Tangata Whenua hui with staff and kuia/ kaumatua from local iwi and hapu attending.

Council remains open to considering further ways of supporting iwi to improve their ability to contribute to decision-making processes that is mutually beneficial to both parties. Internally Council has an Iwi liason officer and a staff Maori advisory group