

Development of Māori Capacity to Contribute to Decision-Making Processes

In recognition of Te Tiriti o Waitangi/The Treaty of Waitangi, Council acknowledges the ongoing obligations that it has in conjunction with the provisions afforded to Māori in both the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) and Local Government Act 2002 (LGA). Council will be continuing to look for more meaningful ways to further build on existing relationships and raise Māori capacity to input into decision-making at a Local Government level.

Current status of Relationships and Partnerships:

- 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 reviewed in 2019 and has the provision for annual reviews.
- Council has a Mana Enhancing Agreement (MEA) with Te Roroa. This agreement was negotiated over several years to reflect the joint aspirations between the two parties and agreed on in 2019.

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 entities.

- Co-governance arrangements are in place for both the Taharoa Domain Governance Committee and the Harding Park/Pou Tu O Te Rangi Joint Committee.
- Integrated Kaipara Harbour Management Group (IKHMG), Kaipara District Council has a seat on the sub-committee and plays a role in the newly formed Partners Forum.
- Kaipara Council is one of four Councils that have formed the Kaipara Moana Working Party to work closely with Ngāti Whātua and other iwi/hapū groups on the future governance arrangements for the Kaipara Harbour once the treaty settlement process has been completed.
- Council continues to review annually the Mana Whenua Forum alongside iwi/hapū and continue hui with iwi, hapū, marae and other Māori representatives as required.
- Kaipara Council is also signed on to the Whanaungatanga Ki Taurangi relationship agreement between the Northland Mayoral and Chair forum (Northland Mayors and Chair) and Te Kahu O Taonui (Northland iwi chairs forum).

RMA Consultation:

With respect to the Resource Management Act (RMA) council processes all resource consent applications accordingly then distributes to the appropriate mana whenua for information, comment or input. Council continues to ensure that iwi/hapū have the opportunity for input into the Long-Term Plan and Annual Plans during the draft Plan consultation process.

Iwi Relations Manager:

Council remains committed to enhancing its relationships with iwi/hapū and look for further opportunities and ways to support iwi/hapū contribution to decision-making processes that are of mutual benefit to both parties. This mahi is carried out by the Iwi Relations Manager and supported by the staff belonging to the Māori advisory group.