

Developing Māori Capacity to Contribute to Decision-Making

Council has a long-standing history of working closely with Māori of the Tairāwhiti region. A number of mechanisms have been developed for both consultation purposes and to involve Māori of the district in Council decision-making processes. These mechanisms will continue to be developed and reviewed to ensure their effectiveness.

MĀORI LIAISON OFFICE

All the activities of the Māori Liaison Office are in the main a support for Council's statutory responsibilities and a duty of Council to make available mechanisms for better community relations and integration. Council can call for, as appropriate, the advice and guidance of the Māori Liaison Office to assist them to manage any engagements Council has with tangata whenua and Māori. Equally, Māori can call on the advice and guidance of the Māori Liaison Office on the processes of Council.

CODE OF PARTNERSHIP and PARTICIPATION

Formal processes exist through a "Code of Partnership and Participation" which is at the management level and the responsibility of Council's Chief Executive.

STANDING ORDERS

Provision is made at all Council and Council Committee meetings for tangata whenua to address the meeting on any topic in accordance with Appendix G of the Council's Standing Orders. This is a fixed agenda item for every Council and Council Committee meeting.

CONSULTATION PROCESSES

All resource consent applications are copied and distributed to affected tangata whenua for their information, comment, and input.

DIRECT INFORMATION SHARING

The Mayor and Council staff have regular programmes on Māori radio talkback. The Mayor has monthly talkback programmes on two Māori radio stations (Tūranga FM and Radio Ngāti Porou).

FORMAL RELATIONSHIP DOCUMENTS

The following relationship documents exist between tangata whenua, Māori, and Council and the private sector as appropriate:

- ▶ The Tītīrangī Accord – Ngāti Oneone and Council general relationship accord.
- ▶ A protocol for the Tītīrangī Reserve between Ngāti Oneone and Gisborne District Council.
- ▶ A protocol for the Heinz-Wattie Site between the representatives of Te Whanau-ā-Iwi, Ngāi Tāwhiri, Ngāti Oneone, kaumātua, Gladiator Investments Limited, and Gisborne District Council.
- ▶ A memorandum of understanding between Ngāti Oneone and Gisborne District Council for on-site earthworks for the extension of Hirini Street.
- ▶ A general relationship declaration of understanding between local runanga, Māori organisations and Gisborne District Council.

Council has budgeted about \$5000 per year in the Ten Year Plan to specifically foster the development of Māori capacity to contribute to the decision-making processes of Council.

Māori capacity building will also be a component of a further \$20,000 per year budgeted within community consultation and policy collaborations.