

Hei hoa Tiriti pai Becoming better Treaty partners



One of Horizons' four strategic priorities is:

Strengthening partnerships with tangata whenua: Responding constructively to changing expectations, realising the potential contribution of Māori leadership, building mana-enhancing relationships.

Over the last 10 years, relationships between Horizons and the iwi in the region have developed significantly. Since 2020, the working partnership and capacity funding for the Oranga Wai Freshwater Future programme has seen an increase in memorandums of partnership and much closer working relationships between Council, iwi and hapū.

Council currently has a wide range of formal and informal partnerships that see us collaborating with tangata whenua to work towards shared goals. In 2022 we were pleased to introduce Māori wards in the region; a northern ward, Raki, and a southern ward, Tonga, and we now have two Māori Ward councillors.

With over 30 iwi and more than 100 hapū in the region, strong and authentic partnerships between Council and tangata whenua is always going to be a work in progress. One of the community outcomes that we are working towards is:



He whanaungatanga whai mana

Our region's relationship with iwi and hapū are respectful and mana-enhancing

Mutually beneficial partnerships with tangata whenua reflect the intent of Te Tiriti o Waitangi | The Treaty of Waitangi.



He whanaungatanga whai mana
Our region's relationship with iwi and hapū are respectful and mana-enhancing



He whatunga waka mauritau
Our region has effective transport networks



He hapori manawaroa
Our region's communities are resilient to the impact of natural hazards and climate change

Te Tiriti o Waitangi | The Treaty of Waitangi¹

The Treaty is more than just a document that was signed on 6 February 1840. It is a symbol of the enduring partnership between Māori and the Crown. The Regional Council, as an agent of the Crown, has many obligations to fulfil in relation to the Treaty.

Our role under the Treaty is becoming even more important as Manawatū/Whanganui iwi and hapū go through the Treaty claims and settlement process. Therefore, it is essential for staff to understand these obligations through their work.



Ways Horizons demonstrates its approach to Treaty partnership				
Fostering partnerships	Enabling participation	Protecting Māori interests and values	Supporting capacity and capability building	Encouraging early and meaningful engagement
- Supporting iwi that are in the process of settling Treaty claims - Enabling co-management initiatives - Entering into relationship agreements, e.g. memorandums of understanding, joint management agreements - Recognising statutory acknowledgement areas and Customary Marine Titles	- Taking iwi management plans in to account in planning and decision-making processes - Māori councillors represent Māori interests in Council decision-making processes - Developing cultural monitoring initiatives	- Recognising Māori kaitiakitanga (guardianship) responsibilities as part of policy development - Developing a regional marae locations map - Using Te Reo Māori in our mahi/work	- Supporting the development of Iwi Management Plans and keeping appropriate records - Sponsoring Māori to undertake RMA training, e.g. Making Good Decisions training for Hearing Commissioners - Enabling student internships and/or secondments	- Maintaining an accurate Māori contacts directory - Consulting iwi/hapū on resource consent applications - Engaging early and developing relationships with iwi groups that are in the process of settling Treaty claims

¹ This table is based on the Te Tiriti o Waitangi | The Treaty of Waitangi implementation framework in the Bay of Plenty Regional Council Treaty of Waitangi Toolkit (page 30).

Ngā putanga ā-hapori Our community outcomes



He whakamana hapori, he hapori kori
Our region's communities are vibrant and empowered



He pūnaha hauropi ora
Our region's ecosystems are healthy

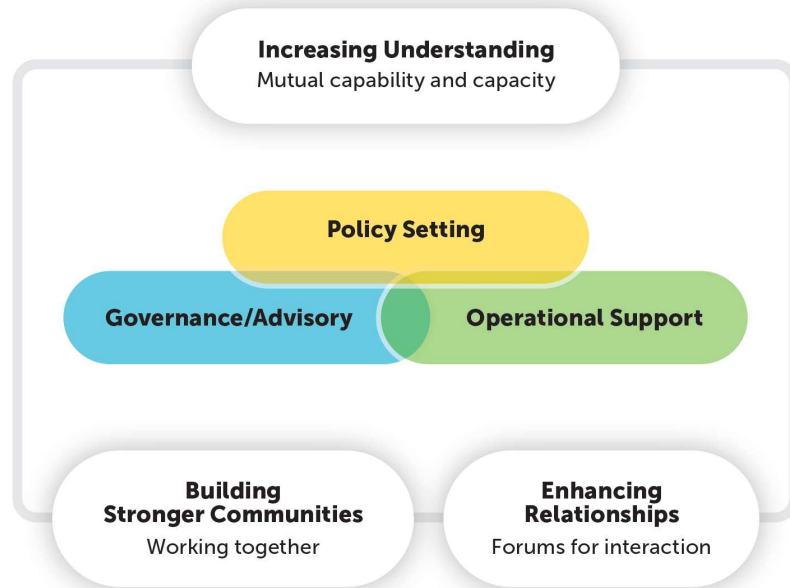


He rohe piki te ōhanga, piki te taiao
Our region's economy is thriving and environmentally sustainable

MAHI TAHI: COUNCIL AND IWI/HAPŪ WORKING TOGETHER

The current mahi tahi between Council and the iwi and hapū of the region falls into roughly three categories; policy setting, governance and/or advisory roles, and operational input. Council and iwi/hapū contribute to this mahi in many different ways. In the process of working together towards our mutual aspirations, we increase mutual understanding, enhance the relationship between Council and tangata whenua, and we build stronger communities.

Mahi tahi



MĀORI CONTRIBUTION TO COUNCIL'S DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES

The LGA requires all councils to consider ways in which it can foster the development of Māori capacity to contribute to its decision-making processes. The ways in which Council currently does this are through:

- the provision of funding to enable engagement with iwi/hapū in decision and policy making processes (via the Iwi/Hapū Relationships activity, funded by 100% General Rate),
- establishing and maintaining processes for Māori to contribute via Memorandums of Partnership and other relationship agreements, project governance and operational input,
- building our internal capacity through the provision of advisory roles and our staff cultural competency programme so that we are equipped to support tangata whenua when they engage (see our performance measures for the Iwi and Hapū Relationships activity, page 134).



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