

# TANGATA WHENUA

#### BACKGROUND

The Kaipara District, being one of the first areas settled by Māori, boasts a rich history and is home to both Tangata Whenua and Mana Whenua groups. The terms Tangata Whenua and Mana Whenua are defined in the Resource Management Act 1991(RMA).

Māori have experienced substantial losses of their land, culture and identity following the signing of Te Tiriti o Waitangi (Te Tiriti). Grievances against the principles of Te Tiriti are settled through the Treaty Settlement process.

Kaipara District Council currently has three Treaty partners who have settled their historical Treaty grievances with the Crown and whose rohe (tribal area) is part of the Kaipara District. They are: Te Roroa, Te Uri o Hau and Ngāti Manuhiri.

Ngātiwai, Ngāti Whātua and Ngāpuhi are still in the process of negotiating their Treaty claims. It is anticipated that their areas of interest will cover parts of the Kaipara District once settled.

The Treaty settlement process generally results in the formation of Iwi Authorities. Te Roroa and Te Uri o Hau have both developed Iwi Management Plans (IMPs, also known as environmental management plans). Section 8 of the RMA requires Kaipara District Council to take into account the principles of Te Tiriti and any IMPs as part of the plan-making process and decision-making. A 'Tangata Whenua' chapter is required to be included in the new District Plan, which provides a strategic framework of Te Ao Māori/the Māori world view and how it needs to be taken into account when considering resource management matters.

Additionally, there are matters of importance to Council's lwi Authorities, which also need to be reflected in the new District Plan.

The Kaipara District includes marae and hapū groups that do not affiliate or belong to Te Roroa, Te Uri o Hau or Ngāti Manuhiri. While these groups may be nonaffiliating Tangata Whenua, Council will be seeking their input during the development of the new District Plan to ensure all views are sought.

#### **KEY ISSUES**

- The new District Plan needs to reflect the matters of key interest to Tangata Whenua and acknowledge the existing agreements between the Council and Te Uri o Hau and Te Roroa.
- The rohe of the Iwi Authorities extends beyond the Kaipara District Council boundaries to our neighbouring local authorities (Auckland Council, Far North District Council and



### **KEY ISSUES Continued**

Whangarei District Council). Where possible and appropriate, consistent policy should be developed to be more effective and efficient across the rohe boundaries.

- Tangata Whenua have indicated to Council
  a desire to enable housing and economic
  development of Māori landholdings across the
  Kaipara District. The new District Plan will need
  to ensure provisions are enabling for this type
  of development to occur.
- The new District Plan needs to ensure sites and areas of significance to Māori are protected. This issue is also discussed in the Historical

Heritage Discussion Document. To ensure privacy associated with some taonga and wāhi tapu sites, an approach is required to enable this information to remain confidential.

- Tangata Whenua have a strong interest in being involved where there may be cultural impacts on sites or areas of significance to Māori, or where an activity will impact on the mauri of natural resources.
- As more growth and development occurs, Tangata Whenua strive to protect the mauri of the natural environment. It is important to consider how to provide for this in the new District Plan.

## THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

The content of a district plan ranges from fulfilling legal requirements made by Central Government and regional councils, to proposing specific provisions that meet the needs of our District and its communities. This list includes any changes required to meet legal obligations, as well as some ideas Council wants to explore further with our communities.

- Council will develop the Tangata Whenua chapter in collaboration with our lwi Authorities to ensure alignment of the objectives, policies, and methods with the respective lwi Management Plans and Te Ao Māori/ the Maori world view.
- Provisions for Papakāinga Development need to be updated to ensure they support and encourage whānau to return to their whenua.

- It is envisaged that the new District Plan needs to include provisions that support the development of Māori landholdings to ensure economically sustainable and resilient outcomes for landowners.
- The new District Plan needs to protect sites and areas of significance to Māori and provide the framework to include appropriate triggers and mechanisms to ensure consultation and/or a cultural assessment is undertaken with Tangata Whenua.
- The new District Plan needs to protect sites and areas of significance to Māori and ensure appropriate consultation and/or a cultural assessment is undertaken with Tangata Whenua.



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Your Kaipara, your say.