



**MĀORI PARTNERSHIP
COMMITTEE**
Kia Reretahi Tātau

AGENDA

Māori Partnership Committee Meeting Tuesday, 10 March 2026

I hereby give notice that a Māori Partnership Committee Meeting will be held on:

Date: Tuesday, 10 March 2026

Time: 7:00 pm

**Location: Supper Room, Waihinga Centre, Texas Street
Martinborough**

**Janice Smith
Chief Executive Officer**

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1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA – OPENING

Kia hora te marino
Kia whakapapa pounamu te moana
Hei huarahi mā tātou i te rangi nei
Aroha atu, aroha mai
Tātou i ā tātou katoa
Hui ē! Tāiki ē!

May peace be widespread
May the seas be like greenstone
A pathway for us all this day
Let us show respect for each other
For one another
Bind us all together!

2 APOLOGIES**3 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST****4 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND TRIBUTES****5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION****6 ACTIONS FROM PUBLIC PARTICIPATION****7 URGENT BUSINESS**

8 DECISION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF

8.1 ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON AND DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON

Author: Shanin Brider, Advisor, Community Governance

Authoriser: Janice Smith, Chief Executive Officer

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for the Māori Partnership Committee to decide on the process it will use to elect its chairperson and deputy chairperson. The committee will then use the adopted process to make its elections.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At its first meeting, the committee is required to elect its chairperson and deputy chairperson. The role of a chairperson includes being supportive of other committee members in navigating their roles and responsibilities, being the key liaison between Council and the committee, and being the spokesperson for the committee. The chairperson is also the facilitator of the board meetings and workshops.

The chairperson will receive more remuneration than the other appointed members.

The deputy chairperson will be called in to fulfil the duties of the chairperson if they are unable to perform their duties.

There are two voting systems that can be used for the election of chairperson and deputy chairperson, and the committee must decide before making its elections, which system to use.

Once the voting system has been selected, the committee will then elect its chairperson and deputy chairperson using the adopted system.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Māori Partnership Committee resolves to:

1. Note the information in the contained report
2. Adopt **System A** or **System B** to elect its chairperson and deputy chairperson if voting is required in its elections
3. Agree that in the event of a tie, the selection will be by way of toss of coin or drawing of names from a hat (by lot)
4. Elect _____ to be the chairperson and _____ to be the deputy chairperson of the Māori Partnership Committee.

OPTIONS

Option 1 – System A

This system requires that a person is elected if he or she receives the votes of the majority of the members of the community board present and voting, and

- There is a first round of voting for all members, and
- If no member is successful in that round, there is a second round of voting from which the member with the fewest votes in the first round is excluded, and
- If no member is successful in the second round of voting, there is a third, and if necessary subsequent rounds of voting with each member receiving the fewest votes being excluded from the following round, and
- In any round, where the member is tied with another member for the fewest votes, the next round is resolved by lot.

Option 2 – System B

This system requires that a person is elected if he or she receives more votes than any other candidate, and

- There is only one round of voting, and
- If two or more candidates tie for the highest number of votes, the tie is resolved by lot.

In summary, system A requires the successful candidate to have a majority of votes. To attain that, it may require more than one round of voting. In contrast, system B will only require one round of voting, and the successful member is the one with the greatest number of votes. In the event of a tie between two members, the successful member is resolved by lot.

Recommended option

It is recommended that the committee chooses “System B’ to make its appointments for the following reasons:

- Only one round of voting is required making the process faster and more efficient
- It is highly likely no more than two members will be nominated for chairperson or deputy chairperson of the committee, making subsequent rounds not an option in these circumstances.

DISCUSSION

The process for the committee to discuss and follow at its meeting is:

- 1 The committee must first determine, by resolution, the system of voting it will use
- 2 Nominations for the positions of chairperson and deputy chairperson are called for
- 3 If there is only one nomination for a position, the committee will resolve that person be elected
- 4 If there is more than one nomination for a position, the committee must vote its nominees using the system it has adopted.

COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE

Full consideration has been given to the provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 S77 in relation to decision making, in particular:

1. A Local authority must, in the course of the decision-making process,
 - a) Seek to identify all reasonably practicable options for the achievement of the objective of a decision; and
 - b) Assess the options in terms of their advantages and disadvantages; and
 - c) If any of the options identified under paragraph (a) involves a significant decision in relation to land or a body of water, take into account the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral land, water sites, waahi tapu, valued flora and fauna and other taonga.
2. This section is subject to Section 79 - Compliance with procedures in relation to decisions.

Compliance requirement	Staff assessment
State the level of significance (high or low) of the issue or proposal as determined by the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy	This is a matter of low significance.
State the relevant Council policies (external or internal), legislation, and/or community outcomes (as stated in the Long Term Plan) that relate to this decision.	This report complies with the Standing Orders of Council, local government legislation and Council policy.
State the possible implications for Māori and how Māori have been provided with an opportunity to contribute to decision making if this decision is significant and relates to land and/or any body of water.	There are no implications for Māori.
Chief Financial Officer review	The Chief Financial Officer has not reviewed this report.
State the possible implications for health and safety	There are no implications of health and safety

APPENDICES

Nil

8.2 MĀORI PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2026**Author:** Shanin Brider, Advisor, Community Governance**Authoriser:** Janice Smith, Chief Executive Officer**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is for the Māori Partnership Committee to agree on and adopt a schedule of meetings for the 2026 calendar year.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The committee must, at its inaugural meeting of the triennium, either fix the date and time for its first meeting or adopt a schedule of meetings for the following year.

Council, at its meeting on 20 November 2025, adopted its schedule of meetings for the following year. A draft proposal for this committee was included in this schedule which is attached to this report for the committee's reference.

DISCUSSION

Once agreed, the meetings will be made publicly available via the website and set up in Councils agenda management system.

Māori Partnership Committee meetings are held in the Martinborough Town Hall Supper Room and are livestreamed. Meetings have a start time of 7pm.

The following meeting dates for 2026 are proposed for the committee to consider and adopt:

Tuesday 21 April**Tuesday 2 June****Tuesday 14 July****Tuesday 25 August****Tuesday 6 October****Tuesday 17 November****RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Māori Partnership Committee resolve to:

1. Receive the report "Māori Partnership Committee meeting schedule 2026"
2. Agree to meetings in the Town Hall supper room at 7pm on the following evenings:

Tuesday 21 April

Tuesday 2 June

Tuesday 14 July

Tuesday 25 August

Tuesday 6 October

Tuesday 17 November

COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE

Full consideration has been given to the provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 S77 in relation to decision making, in particular:

1. A Local authority must, in the course of the decision-making process,
 - a) Seek to identify all reasonably practicable options for the achievement of the objective of a decision; and
 - b) Assess the options in terms of their advantages and disadvantages; and
 - c) If any of the options identified under paragraph (a) involves a significant decision in relation to land or a body of water, take into account the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral land, water sites, waahi tapu, valued flora and fauna and other taonga.
2. This section is subject to Section 79 - Compliance with procedures in relation to decisions.

Compliance requirement	Staff assessment
State the level of significance (high or low) of the issue or proposal as determined by the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy	This is a matter of low significance.
State the relevant Council policies (external or internal), legislation, and/or community outcomes (as stated in the Long Term Plan) that relate to this decision.	This report complies with Council Standing Orders, local government legislation and Council policy.
State the possible implications for Māori and how Māori have been provided with an opportunity to contribute to decision making if this decision is significant and relates to land and/or any body of water.	There are no implications for Māori.
Chief Financial Officer review	The Chief Financial Officer has not reviewed this report.
State the possible implications for health and safety	There are no implications for health and safety.

APPENDICES**Appendix 1 Adopted schedule of meetings - 20 November 2025**

2026	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	2026
MON						1 Kings Birthday							MON
TUE						2 MPC			1 FCB			1	TUE
WED				1		3	1		2 MCB			2	WED
THU	1 New Years Day			2		4	2		4	1 Council		3	THU
FRI	2 Day after			3 Good Friday	1	5	3		4			4	FRI
SAT	3			4	2	6	4	1	5	3		5	SAT
SUN	4	1	1	5	3	7	5	2	6	4	1	6	SUN
MON	5	2 GCB	2	6 Easter Monday	4	8 GCB	6	3	7	5	2	7	MON
TUE	6	3 FCB	3	7	5	9 FCB	7	4	8	6 MPC	3	8	TUE
WED	7	4 MCB	4	8	6	10 MCB	8	5	9	7	4	9	WED
THU	8	5	5	9 Council	7 EGC / SRC	11	9 Council	6	10	8	5 EGC / SRC	10	THU
FRI	9	6 Waitangi Day	6	10	8	12	10 Matariki	7	11	9	6	11	FRI
SAT	10	7	7	11	9	13	11	8	12	10	7	12	SAT
SUN	11	8	8	12	10	14	12	9	13	11	8	13	SUN
MON	12	9	9	13	11	15	13	10	14	12 GCB	9	14	MON
TUE	13	10	10 MPC	14	12	16	14 MPC	11	15	13 FCB	10	15	TUE
WED	14	11	11	15	13	17	15	12	16	14 MCB	11	16	WED
THU	15	12 IC	12 RAC	16 IC	14 RAC	18 IC	16 RAC	13 IC	17 RAC	15 IC	12 RAC	17	THU
FRI	16	13	13	17	15	19	17	14	18	16	13	18	FRI
SAT	17	14	14	18	16	20	18	15	19	17	14	19	SAT
SUN	18	15	15	19	17	21	19	16	20	18	15	20	SUN
MON	19 Wgtn Ann	16	16 GCB	20	18	22	20 GCB	17	21	19	16	21	MON
TUE	20	17	17 FCB	21 MPC	19	23	21 FCB	18	22	20	17 MPC	22	TUE
WED	21	18	18 MCB	22	20	24	22 MCB	19	23	21	18	23	WED
THU	22	19 Council	19	23	21 ESC	25 HOLD - Council adopt Annual Plan	23	20 Council	24 PAP	22	19 Council	24	THU
FRI	23	20	20	24	22	26	24	21	25	23	20	25 Christmas Day	FRI
SAT	24	21	21	25	23	27	25	22	26	24	21	26 Boxing Day	SAT
SUN	25	22	22	26	24	28	26	23	27	25	22	27	SUN
MON	26	23	23	27 ANZAC Day	25	29	27	24	28	26 Labour Day	23 GCB	28	MON
TUE	27 MPC	24	24	28 GCB	26	30	28	25 MPC	29	27	24 FCB	29	TUE
WED	28	25	25	29 FCB	27		29	26	29	28	25 MCB	30	WED
THU	29	26	26 PAP	30 MCB	28 Council		30	27		29 HOLD - Council adopt Annual Report	26 ESC	31	THU
FRI	30	27	27		29		31	28		30	27		FRI
SAT	31	28	28		30			29		31	28		SAT
SUN		29	29		31			30			29		SUN
MON			30					31 GCB			30		MON
TUE			31										TUE

Scheduled as six-weekly:

- COUNCIL** Council
- MCB** Martinborough Community Board
- FCB** Featherston Community Board
- GCB** Greytown Community Board
- MPC** Māori Partnership Committee

Committees scheduled as needed (placeholders entered)

- SRC** Social Resilience Committee
- EGC** Economic Growth Committee
- ESC** Environmental Sustainability Committee

Not scheduled - TBC

- RCAC** Rural & Coastal Advisory Committee (not scheduled)

Committees scheduled bi-monthly

- IC** Infrastructure Committee
- PAP** People and Performance Committee
- RAC** Risk & Assurance Committee

Other:

- Public & School Holidays**
- Workshops for Council and Committees - holding space**

8.3 2026 MĀORI PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE FUNDING

Author: Shanin Brider, Advisor, Community Governance

Authoriser: Janice Smith, Chief Executive Officer

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for the Māori Partnership Committee to confirm and agree funding rounds for 2026.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- In the 2025/2026 financial year, the committee was allocated \$20,000 to fund community grants. The 2025/2026 funding needs to be allocated before the end of the financial year
- Following the 2025/2026 financial year, unspent grant money will not roll over into the following year for allocation
- Grant allocations must be made within the guidelines of the Grants Policy adopted by Council in December 2025
- Funding allocation is not divided across the four pou but grant approvals should align with one of the pou - **Tautoko**, general support particularly with youth. **Te Taiao**, environmental. **Whakapapa**, history, and **Marae Wawata**, support of the marae.
- The committee should accept applications within a set timeframe on two occasions over each financial year. This ensures applications are appropriately assessed against a contestable fund and reduces the likelihood of unallocated funding. For the current financial year, there will only be one funding round
- The amounts set in the below recommendations do not include any funds not uplifted which may be returned for distribution in the Income and Expenditure Report. The Community Governance Advisor will update the funding amount available when publicising the fund if the committee resolves to return the funds that have not been uplifted.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Māori Partnership Committee resolve to:

- 1 Receive the “2026 Māori Partnership Committee Funding” report.
- 2 Set one funding round in the 2025/2026 financial year for \$26,517 with applications to open 30 March and close 17 May 2026
- 3 Consider and decide on allocation of these grants at the committee’s 2 June 2026 meeting.
- 4 Set the first of two funding rounds in the 2026/2027 financial year, with the first opening 17 September and closing 25 October 2026. Allocation amount to be publicised following the adoption of the Annual Plan
- 5 Consider and decide upon allocation of these grants at the board’s 17 November 2026 meeting
- 6 Agree to determine future funding rounds once the 2027 meeting schedule has been ratified.

BACKGROUND

The Māori Partnership Committee has the power to approve community grants within their allocated budget, and within the guidelines of the Grants Policy.

Historically, the committee have accepted applications throughout the year and made decisions on these applications as they come in. Funding not allocated from previous years has rolled over to the next financial year. From the 2026/2027 financial year, the committee will be operating under a “use it or lose it” policy. Because of this change, its important the committee accepts applications as a group, so all applications are assessed against the same contestable fund.

The Community Governance Advisor receives applications for funding and checks to determine they meet the criteria and have provided enough information in their applications to be put forward to the committee for consideration.

The Community Governance Advisor also advises all applicants of the committee’s decisions, liaises with the community groups until the projects are completed, and makes sure appropriate accountability of the project is provided to the committee. Community groups are offered the opportunity to present to the committee on the completion of their projects.

DISCUSSION

The committee is asked to consider and discuss the recommendations in this report. Once agreed, the Community Governance Advisor will start the implementation process for funding to start and advise the community of the committee’s plans for funding over the next 12 months.

COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE

Full consideration has been given to the provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 S77 in relation to decision making, in particular:

1. A Local authority must, in the course of the decision-making process,
 - a) Seek to identify all reasonably practicable options for the achievement of the objective of a decision; and
 - b) Assess the options in terms of their advantages and disadvantages; and
 - c) If any of the options identified under paragraph (a) involves a significant decision in relation to land or a body of water, take into account the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral land, water sites, waahi tapu, valued flora and fauna and other taonga.
2. This section is subject to Section 79 - Compliance with procedures in relation to decisions.

Compliance requirement	Staff assessment
State the level of significance (high or low) of the issue or proposal as determined by the Council’s Significance and Engagement Policy	This is a matter of low significance.
State the relevant Council policies (external or internal), legislation, and/or community outcomes (as stated in the Long Term Plan) that relate to this decision.	This report complies with Council policy and appropriate legislative requirements.
State the possible implications for Māori and how Māori have been provided with an opportunity to contribute to decision making if this decision is significant and relates to land and/or any body of water.	There are no implications for Māori.

Chief Financial Officer review	The Chief Financial Officer has not reviewed this report.
State the possible implications for health and safety	There are no implications with healthy and safety matters.

APPENDICES**Nil**

8.4 INCOME & EXPENDITURE REPORT

Author: Shanin Brider, Advisor, Community Governance

Authoriser: Janice Smith, Chief Executive Officer

PURPOSE

To inform members of the Māori Partnership Committee of their delegated budgets and provide an overview of the current financial position.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The committee has three budgets, grant funding, operational expenditure, and an allocation for training purposes.

Grant funding

The current balance of the committee's grant funding budget is \$26,517. This money must be spent prior to the end of the financial year. Any funding that has not been allocated in the current financial year, will no longer roll over to the following financial year for allocation.

The committee has four pou which need to be considered when allocating funding from this budget. These being Tautoko, general support particularly with youth. Te Taiao, environmental. Whakapapa, history, and Marae Wawata, support of the marae. These pou are considered alongside Council's Grants Policy.

Allocation of funding is via resolution of the committee.

Operational expenditure

This funding is for the committee's operational expenses. Catering, committee led initiatives, stationery and incidentals, and any costs associated with workshops and community meetings or consultation.

Training budget

For expenses relating to any training or upskilling of the committee's members.

Following discussion, the committee is asked to consider the following recommendations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Māori Partnership Committee resolve to:

- 1 Receive the "Income and Expenditure" report
- 2 Return the amount of \$1,500 not uplifted by Pirinoa School to the grant funding budget for allocation in line with Council's Grants Policy
- 3 Return the amount of \$1,000 not uplifted by Rangitāne o Wairarapa to the grants funding budget for allocation in line with Council's Grant Policy.

BACKGROUND

The Income and Expenditure report is provided to the Māori Partnership Committee to ensure clear and transparent use of South Wairarapa District Council funds. Funds are used to support the

ordinary operation of the Māori Partnership Committee and provide a grant fund for the community.

The terms of reference for the Māori Partnership Committee state:

5. Delegated Authority

The committee has authority to:

- a) *Distribute community grants delegated to it.*

DISCUSSION

As outlined in recommendations 2 and 3, the committee is asked to consider moving funds that have not been collected by community organisations back to the main allocation pool for redistribution.

Council's updated Grants Policy explains that allocations must be collected within three months. The outstanding grants were allocated in April 2025.

Phone and email contact has been made with Pirinoa School and Rangitāne o Wairarapa regarding outstanding grants in January and February 2026. Pirinoa School has completed their playground project, and no response has been received to date from Rangitāne o Wairarapa. Both organisations will be contacted following the committee's 10 March meeting with the decisions made, and to advise of the committee's funding availability for 2026.

The total amount in grant funding allocation for the 2025/2026 financial year, including the \$2,500 of funds not uplifted would be \$29,017.

COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE

Full consideration has been given to the provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 S77 in relation to decision making, in particular:

1. A Local authority must, in the course of the decision-making process,
 - a) Seek to identify all reasonably practicable options for the achievement of the objective of a decision; and
 - b) Assess the options in terms of their advantages and disadvantages; and
 - c) If any of the options identified under paragraph (a) involves a significant decision in relation to land or a body of water, take into account the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral land, water sites, waahi tapu, valued flora and fauna and other taonga.
2. This section is subject to Section 79 - Compliance with procedures in relation to decisions.

Compliance requirement	Staff assessment
State the level of significance (high or low) of the issue or proposal as determined by the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy	This is a matter of low significance.
State the relevant Council policies (external or internal), legislation, and/or community outcomes (as stated in the Long Term Plan) that relate to this decision.	This report complies with the terms of reference and applicable policies of the South Wairarapa District Council.
State the possible implications for Māori and how Māori have been provided with an opportunity to contribute to decision making if	The funds are intended to have a positive impact for Māori with

this decision is significant and relates to land and/or any body of water.	delegation to the Māori Standing Committee on how they are administered.
Chief Financial Officer review	The Chief Financial Officer has not reviewed this report.
State the possible implications for health and safety	From time-to-time funds, specifically, through grant applications will have a health and safety component that the Committee should consider.

APPENDICES**Appendix 1 Māori Partnership Committee financials as at February 2026**

Te Maangai O Ngaa Hapori Maaori

Income & Expenditure for the Period Ended 31 January 2026

Allocation Grants Annual Budget 2025-26	\$ 20,405
Unused funds from 2024-25	\$ 22,612
Less Expenditure 2025-26 (Funds Uplifted)	
Jul-25	\$ -
Aug-25	
MSC2025/19 - Hau Arika Marae	\$ 4,000
MSC2025/14 - Kuranui College	\$ 10,000
Sept-25	\$ -
Less funds granted and uplifted to 30 June 2025	\$ 14,000
Balance as at 30 September 2025	\$ 29,017
Less funds not uplifted from previous Community meetings	
Tautoko - Pirinoa School - Meeting 29/04/25	\$ 1,500
Te Taiao - Rangitāne o Wairarapa - Meeting 29/04/25	\$ 1,000
Whakapapa	\$ -
Marau Wawata	\$ -
Less committed funds not uplifted from previous community meetings	\$ 2,500
Balance as at 31 December 2025	\$ 26,517

Te Maangai O Ngaa Hapori Maaori Operational Expenditure for the Period Ended 31 January 2026

Annual Budget 2025-26	\$ 2,054
Less Expenditure 31 December 2025	
Jul-25	
Catering for MSC	\$ 45
Aug-25	
Less expenditure uplifted to 31 December 2025	\$ 45
Balance as at 31 December 2025	\$ 2,009
Less committed expenditure not uplifted from previous Community meetings as at 31 December 2025	
Less committed expenditure not uplifted from previous community meetings	\$ -
Operational Account balance as at 31 December 2025	\$ 2,009

Te Maangai O Ngaa Hapori Maaori Training Expenditure for the Period Ended 31 December 2025

Annual Budget 2025-26	\$ 1,027
Less Expenditure 31 January 2026	\$ -
Less expenditure uplifted to 31 January 2026	\$ -
Balance as at 31 January 2026	\$ 1,027

Te Maangai O Ngaa Hapori Maaori

Terms of Reference Review for the Period Ended 31 January 2026

** This carried forward balance has been reallocated to Council operations for use by Pou Maori advisor.*

Allocation Grants Annual Budget 2025-26	\$	-
Balance carried forward from 2022-23	\$	15,920
Less Expenditure 2025-26 (Funds Uplifted)		
	\$	-
Less funds granted and uplifted to 31 December 2025	\$	-
Balance as at 30 June 2025	\$	15,920
	\$	-
Less funds not uplifted from previous Community meetings		
MSC2024/47 - Reallocate funds to Council operations - meeting 29/10/24	\$	15,920
Less committed funds not uplifted from previous community meetings	\$	15,920
Balance as at 31 December 2025	\$	-

8.5 MĀORI POLICY REVIEW

Author: Narida Hooper, Principal Advisor, Māori / Pou Māori

Authoriser: Janice Smith, Chief Executive Officer

PURPOSE

To inform the Māori Partnership Committee of the recent review of the Māori Policy. For the Māori Partnership Committee to recommend to Council that the Draft Māori Policy be adopted at the 9 April 2026 meeting.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The current Māori Policy for South Wairarapa District Council was adopted on 29 June 2009 and then reviewed 11 March 2015. It was due for review in 2018.
- Work has been undertaken over the last 18 months on a revised Draft Māori Policy to replace the 2009 policy.
- Council officers are now asking the Māori Partnership Committee to review the Draft Māori Policy and provide a recommendation to Council for adoption.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Māori Partnership Committee resolve to:

1. Receive the Draft Māori Policy paper; and
2. Recommends to Council that the Draft Māori Policy be adopted at the meeting 9 April 2026.

BACKGROUND

The current policy includes outdated information related to treaty settlements and establishment of the Māori Partnership Committee which now falls under the Terms of Reference, rather than the policy itself. The Draft Māori Policy now aligns with the council logo and is consistent with other South Wairarapa policies.

DISCUSSION

Overall, most of the work on the Draft Māori Policy has been to improve readability, explanations and plain English, examples of these changes are noted below:

Structural and formatting changes:

Area	A1000 Māori Policy (2009/2015)	Draft Māori Policy (2025)	Change Summary
Structure	Simple, 3-section format	Comprehensive, 13-section format with appendices	Major expansion and reorganisation
Language	Formal, legalistic	Bicultural, inclusive, bilingual headings	More accessible and culturally aligned
Visuals	None	Tables, glossary, references, links	Improved usability and clarity

Key contents differences:***Expanded Vision and Purpose***

Old Policy: Focused on statutory obligations and Treaty principles.

New Policy: Emphasises partnership, inclusion of Māori worldviews, and a shared vision: Kia Reretahi Tātau – Let us fly together.

Representation and Governance

Old: Māori Standing Committee only.

New: Adds Māori Ward Councillor, Pou Māori Advisor, PSGEs, and other forms of representation.

Legislative Context

Old: Local Government Act 2002 and Resource Management Act 1991.

New: Adds Māori Language Act 2016, Māori Land Act 1993, and links to legislation.

Values and Principles

Old: Treaty principles (Partnership, Participation, Protection).

New: Adds updated SWDC values being Manaakitanga, Collaboration, Customer-driven and Pride, with practical engagement principles.

Cultural Support

Old: Limited mention.

New: Detailed guidance on tikanga, support for pōwhiri, tangihanga, and cultural practices.

Evaluation and Strategy

Old: No evaluation framework.

New: Introduces Te Aka Matakitaki, Māori Strategic Framework 2025–2030 for outcomes and annual review.

Fundamental policy shift:

Theme	Shift
From Compliance to Partnership	Moves from a compliance-based approach to a proactive, relationship-based model.
From Static to Dynamic	Introduces annual reviews and alignment with a strategic framework.
From Council-Centric to Community-Centric	Emphasises Māori-led engagement, representation, and cultural integrity.

COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE

Full consideration has been given to the provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 S77 in relation to decision making, in particular:

1. A Local authority must, in the course of the decision-making process,
 - a) Seek to identify all reasonably practicable options for the achievement of the objective of a decision; and
 - b) Assess the options in terms of their advantages and disadvantages; and

- c) If any of the options identified under paragraph (a) involves a significant decision in relation to land or a body of water, take into account the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral land, water sites, waahi tapu, valued flora and fauna and other taonga.
2. This section is subject to Section 79 - Compliance with procedures in relation to decisions.

Compliance requirement	Staff assessment
State the level of significance (high or low) of the issue or proposal as determined by the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy	This is a matter of low significance and is an operational and governance policy. This policy update provides a more inclusive and transparent approach.
State the relevant Council policies (external or internal), legislation, and/or community outcomes (as stated in the Long Term Plan) that relate to this decision.	This report complies with the requirements under the Local Government Act 2002 and the Resource Management Act 1991.
State the possible implications for Māori and how Māori have been provided with an opportunity to contribute to decision making if this decision is significant and relates to land and/or any body of water.	The following implications for Māori include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building a more cohesive relationship between both parties. • The policy sets out the obligations of both parties. • The policy looks to grow the relationship further in the future.
Chief Financial Officer review	The Chief Financial Officer has not reviewed this report.
State the possible implications for health and safety	N/A

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 - Draft Māori Policy



**SOUTH WAIRARAPA
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Kia Reretahi Tātau

Māori Policy

Kia Reretahi Tātau

let us fly together

Date of Approval	
Policy Number	PI-FDT-001 (previously M700)
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Business Owner	General Manger Governance and Business Operations
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1. Kupu Whakataki - Introduction

The South Wairarapa District, home to some of the earliest known Māori settlement sites, has a rich history and culture deeply rooted in a natural environment that has supported Māori communities physically and spiritually for centuries.

As sources say:

“Māori communities lived in the southern Wairarapa throughout the entire period of New Zealand prehistory.”¹

“It is a place where adapting to change... has been the secret to its survival.”²

2. Te Aronga - Purpose

This policy is guided by the vision:

Kia Reretahi Tātau – Let us fly together.

Its purpose is to:

1. Encourage and support Māori participation in Council decisions and activities.
2. Include Māori worldviews in Council policies and procedures.
3. Build strong and meaningful relationships with tangata whenua and iwi.
4. Seek advice and recommendations from the Māori Standing Committee (**MSC**) on Council matters.
5. Ensure the Pou Māori role is well resourced and supported to provide advice on all aspects of te āo Māori.
6. Support the Pou Māori in expressing the aspirations of the local Māori community.

3. Tirohanga Whānui - Scope

This policy provides guidance on how the Council should engage with Māori. It references key legislation including:

- The Local Government Act 2002;
- Te Tiriti o Waitangi (Treaty of Waitangi); and
- The Resource Management Act 1993.

4. Tauākī Kaupapa - Policy Statement

The South Wairarapa District includes Te Hūpēnui (Greytown), Pae tū Mōkai, (Featherston), Wharekākā, (Martinborough), and coastal areas such as Ocean Beach, Ōnoke Spit, Mātakitaki-a-Kupe (Palliser Bay), Ngawi, Tora, and Te Awaiti.

According to the 2023 Census, the population of South Wairarapa is 11,811 with 1,821 individuals who identified as Māori which is 15.4% of the total population of the district. Additionally, 2.7% of the South Wairarapa population speak te reo Māori.

Under Section 81 of the Local Government Act 2002, the Council must:

- Create and maintain processes that allow Māori to contribute to decision-making.
- Support the development of Māori capacity to engage in decision-making.
- Provide relevant information to Māori to support their participation.

This policy gives the Council the tools to bring the vision Kia Reretahi Tātau Let us fly together to life, through collaborative decision-making and processes that are mana enhancing.

¹ C. Barnett, Wairarapa Moana The Lake and its People, Wairarapa Archive Fraser Books

² T.Silbery, Wairarapa Moana The Lake and its People, Wairarapa Archive Fraser Books

5. Ngā Uara e Tūhono me te Hoe Urungi - Values and Principles

The Council has developed values with underpinning principles to guide its interactions with tangata whenua and the wider community. These principles are upheld by the Chief Executive, Group Managers, and the Pou Māori, across all Council operations:

Pride:

- We take ownership in our work, striving for excellence and holding ourselves accountable for outcomes.
- We celebrate achievements recognising both individual and team accomplishments.
- We take pride in being part of the Council, consistency working with integrity and commitment to the Council's mission and vision.

Manaakitanga

- We show respect and kindness, creating a positive inclusive environment where everyone feels valued.
- We embrace inclusivity by welcoming diverse perspectives and ensuring a safe working environment.
- We practice generosity by sharing knowledge and opportunities to help others thrive and succeed in their role.

Customer-driven

- We prioritise customer satisfaction, ensuring their needs and feedback guide our decisions and actions.
- We maintain responsiveness by addressing customer enquires promptly and adapting to meet their expectations.
- We continuously improve by using customer insights to refine processes and services for a better customer experience.

Collaboration

- We value teamwork by encouraging open communication and sharing knowledge across the Council.
- We embrace diverse perspectives leveraging on the skills and experiences of each team member.
- We encourage collective problem-solving focusing on innovative solutions through collaboration.

Underpinning Principles

- know who you are engaging with, who are their people and how did they come to be
- understand the tikanga you need to support your engagement
- engage respectfully and authentically
- use te reo Māori multiple ways; to introduce yourself, naming plants or animals, karakia
- build your relationship with manaakitanga at the core

6. Whakaahuahanga - Representation

Representation provides a way for authorised Māori individuals and groups to participate in Council decision-making. This must align with the values and principles outlined earlier.

Forms of representation include:

- Māori Ward Councillor;
- Pou Māori;
- Endorsement from the MPC (Māori Partnership Committee)
- Endorsement from Marae Trustees; and
- Formal relationships with Post Settlement Governance Entities (**PSGE's**) and Iwi organisations.

- **Pou Māori Advisor**

The Pou Māori is an advisory role that offers strategic and operational guidance to Council. This role ensures Council actions align with the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and supports elected members, appointed members, and staff.

- **Māori Partnership Committee**

The MPC advises Council on matters requiring a Māori perspective, including policy development and review. Tangata whenua can raise issues through their takiwā representative or directly with the committee. Recommendations from the committee are formally reported to Council and considered in decision-making.

All committees to council and their members shall adhere to the Council's code of conduct³ and Standing Orders⁴, and Council and Committee terms of reference⁵ which sets out the standards of behaviour expected from committee members in the exercise of their duties.

- **Māori Wards**

In November 2023, Council voted to establish a Māori Ward for the 2025 local elections, with representation continuing through at least two election cycles, this reflects the growing and younger Māori population in the district. A poll will be held in 2025 to decide if Māori Ward representation will continue in 2028 and 2031.

- **PSGE's and Iwi Entities**

Council is committed to working positively with Post Settlement Governance Entities (**PSGE's**) and Iwi organisations.

Following the settlement of Te Rohe e Rongokako Joint Redress Act 2022 Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tamaki Nui-a-Rua, Rangitane Tū Mai Rā, Kohunui and Papawai Marae, Department of Conservation, Greater Wellington Regional Council and South Wairarapa District Council, a statutory board was formed to act as guardian of Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment, ensuring its sustainable management and protection for current and future generations.

- **Other Representation**

Council acknowledges that representation can take many forms. This policy does not limit individuals, whānau, hapū, iwi, or organisations from engaging directly with Council.

7. Kaupapa Here Hiranga, me te Whakapāpā - Significance and Engagement

The Council's Significance and Engagement Policy helps determine how important a decision is and how the community will be involved. It guides how Council assesses significance and ensures community views are considered.

Engagement with Māori is a priority. Council aims to strengthen relationships through mechanisms like the MPC. For decisions involving land, water, or cultural traditions, early engagement with Māori is essential.

³ [Code of Conduct](#)

⁴ [Standing Orders - September 2021](#)

⁵ [Council and Committee - Terms of Reference 2022 - 2025](#)

8. Tautoko - Support

Council supports and follows tikanga as guided by the Pou Māori and MSC. This is especially important during ceremonies such as pōwhiri, tangihanga, and hui. Support may be requested from kaumatua and kaikaranga for karakia, whaikōrero, and other cultural practices.

9. Te Ture Whakahaere ā-Rauemi 1991 - Resource Management Act 1991

Under the RMA, all decision-makers must:

- Recognise and provide for matters of national importance, including:
 - The relationship of Māori with their ancestral lands, water, sacred sites, and other treasures.
- Pay particular attention to:
 - Kaitiakitanga (guardianship of the environment); and
 - the intrinsic value of ecosystems

10. Te Ture ā-Rohe ā-iwi 2002 - Local Government Act 2002

Section 81 of the Local Government Act 2002 requires councils to:

- Create opportunities for Māori to contribute to decision-making;
- Support Māori capacity to engage; and
- Provide relevant information to Māori communities⁶.

11. Te Tiriti o Waitangi - The Treaty of Waitangi

The Treaty of Waitangi is a foundational document for New Zealand. It outlines the relationship between Māori and the Crown. Council acknowledges both the original Te Reo Māori version and the English translations.

12. Ngā Putanga me te Aromātai - Outcomes and Evaluation

Te Aka Matakītaki - Māori Strategic Framework 2025-2030 (currently in draft) is a comprehensive plan that guides our organisation and community in honoring Te Tiriti o Waitangi, promoting Māori well-being, and achieving Māori aspirations.

Includes elements like strong leadership (tino rangatiratanga), partnership (pātuitanga), equity (mana taurite), and Māori sovereignty (mana Motuhake). These kaupapa tuku iho ensure that Māori perspectives and needs are integrated into decision-making and resource allocation.

Te Aka Matakītaki - Māori Strategic Framework 2025-2030 will assess the quality of relationships between Council and Māori. The Māori Policy will be reviewed annually alongside the strategy, with informal input from the MPC to ensure it remains relevant and effective.

⁶ [Māori Participation and Engagement with Local Government](#)

13. Papakupu o nga Kupu - Glossary of Terms

Council	South Wairarapa District Council, elected representatives and staff.
District	The territorial authority area of the South Wairarapa District Council.
Hapū	Sub-tribe
Hui	Gathering/Meeting
Iwi	Tribe
Karakia	Incantation, prayer, affirmation
Karakia (whakanoa)	Prayer to remove tapu
Karanga	Ceremonial calling of visitors
Kawa	The specific protocols and processes that particular hapū or iwi engage to formalise encounters with others. Kawa varies amongst hapū and iwi, however the kawa of the hosts will take precedence and will govern proceedings.
Manaakitanga	The expression and responsibility inherent to the mana of encounter or engagement as in the reciprocal relationships between host and visitor.
Mana whenua	The acknowledged authority, that a particular whānau, hapū or iwi has over a particular area. This authority affords whānau, hapū and iwi rights as kaitiaki and obligations to manaaki. It also infers the obligation of other groups to negotiate or consult for access rights to land and resources.
Pōwhiri/pōhiri	Ritual of encounter
Tangata whenua	Whānau, hapū, and iwi who whakapapa to whenua in the South Wairarapa district and is inclusive of Māori organisations and mataawaka who have chosen to live in the district and be a part of the wider Māori community.
Tangihanga	Grieving ritual/process
Takiwā	The South Wairarapa from the Tararua Ranges to the South Wairarapa Coastline and is represented by the members of the Māori Standing Committee who represent their marae, whānau, hapū and iwi.
Taonga	Tangible resources or treasures
Taonga tuku iho	Intangible resources of treasures that are important to the cultural heritage of tangata whenua, taura here, and the wider community.
Taura here	The association of Māori individuals or groups who join together to fulfil a common purpose or goal, that share similar aspirations and who live outside their tribal area.
Tikanga	Correct procedure, custom, habit, lore, method. The customary system of values and practices
Wāhi tapu	Sacred place
Whaikōrero	Oratory
Whakapapa	Relates to the genealogy, not only of people but all things. It is the relationships to and between all elements, tangible and intangible, such as matter and energy, the universe, the gods, people, mokopuna and other forms of life
Whenua	Land

14. Appendices

14.1. Appendix A – Mana Whenua Entities

Includes (but not limited to):

- Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tamaki nui-a-Rua
- Kahungunu ki Wairarapa
- Rangitane Tū Mai Rā
- Rangitane o Wairarapa
- Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board

14.2. Appendix B – Te Ture Whaitake (Relevant Legislation)

Includes links to key laws such as:

- [Local Government Act 2002](#)
- [Resource Management Act 1991](#)
- [Te Ture mō Te Reo Māori 2016 \(Māori Language Act 2016\)](#)
- [Te Ture Whanau Māori Act 1993 \(Māori Land Act 1993\)](#)

and others related to land, environment, and heritage.

14.3. Appendix C – Related Policies

Includes (but not limited to):

- [Significance and Engagement Policy](#)
- [Grants Policy](#)
- [Procurement Policy and Guide](#)
- [Remission and Postponement of Rates on Māori Freehold Land Policy](#)

8 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA – CLOSING

Kua mutu ā mātou mahi
Mō tēnei wā
Manaakitia mai mātou katoa
O mātou hoa
O mātou whānau
Aio ki te Aorangi

Our work is finished
For the moment
Blessing upon us all
Our friends
Our families
Peace to the Universe