



## **SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL**

# **MAORI STANDING COMMITTEE**

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**"TOITŪ TE MARAE A TANGAROA, TOITŪ TE MARAE A TĀNE, TOITŪ TE IWI"**  
*WHEN THE DOMAIN OF TANGAROA AND TĀNE ARE HEALTHY, SO ARE WE*

## **Our Vision**

Shape the future by preserving our heritage, rediscovering our traditional knowledge, and sharing our culture with our communities.

### **1. Overview**

The ramifications of historic trauma resulting from the dislocation of our people from tūrangawaewae, dispossession of whenua, and erosion of sovereignty, are directly linked to the disproportionate number of our whānau in negative health, education, incarceration, and other statistics. Directly linked to these issues is the loss of mana whenua and mana moana which has promulgated in the poor health of our land and water.

We hereby commit to the restoration of our mana in our rohe, seeking to rectify wrongs, heal historic wounds, empower our people, and reclaim mana motuhake.

**The Local Government Act 2002 signals that the social, cultural and economic development of Māori is of particular importance.**

The Resource Management Act 1991 places an obligation on the Council to consult with Mana Whenua and Māori during the planning process. This obligation is in turn derived from the underlying principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, which in this context, refers to:-

- **Partnership** - the development of an active and on-going relationship between the Council, marae, and local iwi.
- **Participation** - a principle which emphasizes positive Māori involvement in the business of the Council, and in particular it's planning and delivery functions.

- **Protection** - the requirement to ensure that Māori well-being is enhanced whenever possible, and that principles of equity towards Māori are observed in the Council's decision making process.

The Council is committed to engage in active consultation with Mana Whenua and Māori and to foster positive relationships in pursuance of the partnership envisaged under Te Tiriti o Waitangi, on matters that affect and concern us.

## 2. Purpose

- Establish a method of consultation, which involves mana whenua and Māori, on all matters relating to the District's resources, and involving the District's planning processes
- Advise on Mana Whenua and Tangata Whenua interests in the Council's major areas of activity
- Support, develop, and promote tikanga Māori.
- To act as a conduit between our Māori Communities and our local council (that is SWDC)
- Promote the development of processes within Council, to develop policy, processes and guidelines, based on the Tiriti o Waitangi principles of participation, partnership and active protection.
- Assess resource consent applications relating to land situated in the rural zone to identify any relevant cultural matters relating to the site. The RMA requires consideration of Māori cultural and traditional relationships with their ancestral lands, water, sites of significance, wāhi tapu, and other taonga. (Due to the statutory timeframes which apply to processing of applications by Council, applications are often emailed to members when Council would not meet those statutory timeframes if we waited for an upcoming meeting.)

## 3. Delegated Authorities

The Māori Standing Committee has the authority to:

- Delegate to any subcommittee of the Māori Standing Committee any authorities that have been delegated by Council to the committee and to appoint members.
- Make recommendations to Council on all governance issues relating to the statutory functions, powers and duties within its terms of reference.
- Make recommendations on professional development opportunities which will enable members of the Māori Standing

Committee to better contribute to its decision-making processes.

- Review and determine how the steps that Council will take to develop Māori capacity to contribute to decision-making processes should be described, planned and monitored in the draft and final Long-term Council Community Plan.
- Make submissions on any issue the MSC deem important.

#### **4. Membership**

- Two representatives from each of the three South Wairarapa Marae and Featherston's "Pae tu Mokai o Taurira" - Incorporated Society
- One representative from each of the two Wairarapa Iwi
- Mayor ex-officiodo
- Two councillors appointed by the Mayor

Nominations must be received in writing from each participating body.

Membership is ratified by Council.

The chairperson and deputy chairperson are elected by the Committee at the start of the triennium.

#### **5. Stakeholders**

- South Wairarapa District Council
- Iwi - Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitane o Wairarapa
- Kohunui Marae, Hau Ariki Marae, Papawai Marae and Pae tu Mokai o Taurira – Incorporated Society.
- SWDC Ratepayers and Residents

#### **6. Deliverables**

- Contribute to the Long Term Plan every three years
- Contribute to the Annual Plan every other year
- Resource Management Act – provide advice on the cultural and historical value of land involved in resource consent applications.
- To report back to each of our respective marae/ communities/ hapū on the ongoing matters of the MSC.
- To report regularly to Rangitāne o Wairarapa and Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa at their respective board hui.

Council	Delegation to attend and speak but not vote.
Infrastructure and Planning Working Group	Full membership.
AP/LTP Working Party	Full membership.

## 7. Accountability and reporting

- We will be transparent and communicate all relevant information to our marae and communities, iwi, and the SWDC.
- Minutes will be presented to each Council meeting.

## 8. Review

The Committee and its functions will be reviewed in September of the year preceding the Long Term Plan.

## 9. Operating model

- **Meetings**  
The Maori Standing Committee shall hold meetings at such frequency, times and place(s) as agreed for the performance of the functions, duties and powers delegated under the Terms of Reference.
- **Timing and frequency**  
Meetings are held once a month at the convenience of the MSC.
- **Meeting procedure**  
The meeting is conducted under the LGNZ Standing Orders for Meetings of Local Authorities and Community Boards – copies to be made available to MSC members and reference copies can be found in our district libraries and on Council’s website
- **Quorum**  
Five members will constitute a quorum.
- **Secretariat**  
Secretariat services to be provided by the SWDC Committee Secretary, that the MSC takes its own minutes when required and sends to Suzanne Clark (Committee Secretary) at SWDC.
- **Agenda, Action Sheet and papers circulation**  
By post, to be received at least 7 working days before the meeting.

By email, to be received at least 7 working days before meeting.  
MSC requests the option to have agenda and action sheet emailed.

The agenda is also available at the South Wairarapa libraries and on Council's website in the following location:

<http://www.swdc.govt.nz/maori-standing-committee-agenda-and-minutes-2018>

- **Sharing of information and resources**

The meetings are public and the minutes are available on Council's website.

As part of the accountability to whānau, hapū, and iwi for whom we represent, the meetings of the Maori Standing Committee are open to the iwi/hapū/whānau and the public in general.

## **10. Budget and Remuneration**

- **Budget**

The Maori Standing Committee shall be responsible for its own budget as set through the Annual Plan process.

- **Meeting fee**

Payable for every formal meeting of the Maori Standing Committee attended. There are at least 10 meetings a year. The meeting schedule for each year is set in August/September by Council and the Chair of the MSC during non-election years or October during an election year.

- **Travel allowance**

Payable for any travel to and from every formal meeting of the Maori Standing Committee attended.

- **Payment**

Meeting fee and travel allowance is made on the 5th of each month (or the following Monday should the 5<sup>th</sup> fall on a weekend). Members must complete a meeting declaration form at each meeting.