



**MĀORI STANDING  
COMMITTEE**  
*Kia Reretahi Tātau*

## **SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL MĀORI STANDING COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**September 2021**

<b>Reports to:</b>	Council
<b>Membership:</b>	<p>Three councillors appointed by Council in consultation with Iwi representatives</p> <p>Two representatives from each of the three South Wairarapa Marae (Kohunui Marae, Hau Ariki Marae and Pāpāwai Marae)</p> <p>Two representatives from Pae Tū Mokai o Taurira</p> <p>One representative from Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa</p> <p>One representative from Rangitāne o Wairarapa</p> <p>The Mayor</p> <p>One youth representative in an advocacy role</p> <p>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.</p> <p>A robust induction process will be in place for all incoming members of the Committee.</p>
<b>Non-voting attendees</b>	The youth representative is not a voting member of the Committee
<b>Meeting Frequency:</b>	Eight-weekly or as required
<b>Quorum:</b>	Five members including a minimum of three representatives from Iwi or Marae/Pae tū Mōkai O Taurira and one representative from Council

## 1. Introduction

These Terms of Reference reflect the intent and expectations of both the South Wairarapa District Council (“**the Council**”) and the South Wairarapa District Council Māori Standing Committee (“**the Committee**”).

These Terms of Reference look to strengthen the relationship between the Council and the Committee members and to ensure that the role of kaitiakitanga by the Committee and tāngata whenua is fulfilled and the wellbeing of the South Wairarapa district and its people is enhanced.

Te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi is a historical agreement between the Crown and Māori. The Council is a statutory body with powers and responsibilities delegated to it by the Crown. The Council must therefore adhere to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi in respect of tāngata whenua within the South Wairarapa district.

The Council and the Committee acknowledge that the iwi of Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Wairarapa and their respective hapū exercise mana whenua and mana moana over the South Wairarapa district. The Council and the Committee acknowledge that the marae in the South Wairarapa district are Kohunui Marae, Hau Ariki Marae and Pāpāwai Marae and Pae tū Mōkai O Tauira as a kaupapa māori community group represented on the Committee. The Council and the Committee further acknowledge that there are mataawaka (people of Māori descent who are not tāngata whenua) living within the South Wairarapa District.

## 2. Background

On 15 December 1993, the Council made a resolution to support in principle the establishment of a Māori Standing Committee of the Council. On 27 March 1996, the Council Working Party and tāngata whenua established the Committee. On 17 April 1996, the Committee first met, and on 20 June 1996, the Committee was formally established following the adoption of the 1996/1997 Annual Plan. The Annual Plan included a [Māori Policy](#) and an acknowledgement that the Committee was now fully operational. The Committee has been established every triennium thereafter.

The Committee is established pursuant to clause 30(1)(a) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002.

## 3. Overview

The South Wairarapa District, which extends from the Tararua Ranges to the South Wairarapa Coastline and includes Greytown, Featherston and Martinborough (“**the**

**District**”), is rich in Māori history and culture. The iwi of the District are Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Wairarapa, the marae are Kohunui Marae, Hau Ariki Marae and Pāpāwai Marae and Pae tū Mōkai O Taurira is a kaupapa māori community group represented on the Committee.

Some of the earliest known occupational sites exist within the District’s boundaries and for centuries the natural environment has provided both material and spiritual sustenance. Its place in the Māori political history of Aotearoa is a matter of national record. Lake Wairarapa and the South Wairarapa Coastline are of immense cultural, spiritual and historic significance to tāngata whenua.

The Local Government Act 2002 (“**the LGA**”) signals that the social, cultural and economic development of Māori is of particular importance. There are also specific requirements to enable Māori to contribute to council decision-making. The Resource Management Act 1991 (“**the RMA**”) places obligations on the Council including a duty to consult with Māori during the planning process and requires consideration of Māori cultural and traditional relationships with their ancestral lands, water, sites of significance, wāhi tapu, and other taonga. These obligations are in turn derived from the underlying principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi, which in this context, includes:

- » **Partnership** - the development of an active and on-going relationship between the Council and hapū of Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Wairarapa in the South Wairarapa.
- » **Participation** - a principle which emphasises positive and active Māori involvement in the business of the Council, and in particular its planning and delivery functions.
- » **Active Protection** - the requirement to ensure that Māori well-being is enhanced whenever possible, and that principles of equity of Māori outcomes are observed in the Council’s decision-making processes.

The Council is committed to giving effect to these principles by engaging effectively with tāngata whenua and fostering positive relationships in pursuance of the partnership envisaged under Te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi, on matters that affect and concern tāngata whenua.

#### **4. Purpose and functions**

The purpose of the Committee is to advocate on behalf of and in the best interests of tāngata whenua in the District (including the descendants of hapū of Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Wairarapa) and to ensure that the Council

is fulfilling its obligations to them. To achieve this purpose, the Committee will undertake the following functions to the extent that resources allow:

- » Give advice and make recommendations to the Council on significant governance issues and decisions that affect tāngata whenua in the District.
- » Actively participate in and contribute to decision-making processes, policy and strategy development and other activities of the Council, based on Te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi principles of participation, partnership and active protection.
- » Consider ways in which to support the development of Māori capacity and capability to contribute to the decision-making processes of the Council.
- » Provide advice and relevant information to the Council regarding economic, social, environmental, spiritual and cultural matters in the District that support sustainable resource management, kaitiakitanga and economic growth.
- » Make recommendations to the Council on matters of relevance affecting tāngata whenua in the District, and to help fulfil the Māori consultative requirements of the Council particularly with regard to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi, the LGA and the RMA.
- » Work with the Council to develop and maintain a Māori consultation policy and advise the Council about particular consultation processes with tāngata whenua in the District. Assist in the development of consultation networks throughout the District.
- » Manage a budget for the purposes of making community grants, marae grants and undertaking projects that promote Māori interests.
- » Advise the Council on engagement with tāngata whenua to ensure that these engagements are positive, productive, and culturally safe and that the tikanga of the tāngata whenua are observed and respected by Council.

## **5. Stakeholders**

Stakeholders include:

- » South Wairarapa District Council.
- » Hapū of Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Wairarapa.
- » Iwi settlement trusts and their entities.
- » Kohunui Marae, Hau Ariki Marae and Pāpāwai Marae.
- » Pae Tū Mokai o Tauira.
- » Greater Wellington Regional Council.
- » Wellington Water Ltd.
- » The wider South Wairarapa District community.

## 6. Deliverables

In addition to its functions outlined above, the Committee will:

- » Contribute to the Long Term Plan every three years.
- » Contribute to the Annual Plan every other year.
- » Provide advice on the hapū responsible for cultural and historical input into resource consents under the RMA.

## 7. Accountability and reporting

The Committee is accountable to the Council and minutes of Committee meetings and specific reports will be presented to the Council. The chairperson or nominated appointee of the Committee may provide an update to the Council at each Council meeting.

## 8. Delegations

In addition to the functions of the Committee outlined in paragraph 3 above, the Council delegates to the Committee the power to:

- » Discretionarily spend on community grants and projects.
- » Determine the criteria and allocation of the marae development fund granted through Annual or Long Term Plans, and any subsequent development grants, to Kohunui Marae, Hau Ariki Marae, Pāpāwai Marae and Pae tū Mōkai O Tauira.

## 9. Review of terms

These Terms of Reference may be reviewed, updated or amended at any time by the Committee and must be endorsed by the Committee and approved by Council.

## 10. Meetings

### Timing and frequency

Ordinary meetings will be convened by the Chief Executive on an eight-weekly cycle. Extraordinary or emergency meetings may be called in accordance with Standing Orders.

The Chair or their nominated appointee of the Committee have the ability to attend and speak at the following meetings:

Council	Delegation to attend and speak but not vote
Planning and Regulatory Committee	Delegation to attend and speak but not vote

Assets and Services Committee	Delegation to attend and speak but not vote
Finance, Audit and Risk Committee	Delegation to attend and speak but not vote

### Meeting procedure

Committee meetings are conducted pursuant to [Council's Standing Orders](#).

### Decisions

Decisions will be made at a meeting through a vote exercised by the majority of members.

### Quorum

The quorum for Committee meetings is five Committee members including a minimum of three representatives from iwi or marae/Pae tū Mōkai O Taurira and one representative from Council.

### Secretariat

Secretariat services are to be provided by the Council Committee Advisor.

### Agenda and paper circulation

The agenda for Committee meetings will be circulated by email as well as by post, to be received at least two working days before the Committee meeting. The agenda will also be made publicly available at the South Wairarapa libraries and on the Council's website in the following location: <https://swdc.govt.nz/meetings/>.

### Workshops and briefings

The Committee may hold workshops and briefings about matters that impact local government and Māori. These workshops are not decision-making forums and the provisions of [Council's Standing Orders](#) relating to workshops and similar forum apply.