

STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

SECTION: DEMOCRACY		
POLICY: MAORI CONSULTATION POLICY		
RESPONSIBILITY: Chief Executive	REVIEW DATE:	2009
VERSION: 1	APPROVED DATE:	2006
FILE NUMBER: 16043		
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INTRODUCTION

Section 81 of the Local Government Act 2002 sets out the obligations for Council to both consult with Maori and encourage Maori involvement in the Council decision making processes.

CONSULTATION

Council currently has an ongoing commitment to Maori consultation with respect to all of its planning processes, including those under the Resource Management Act, the Strategic Plan and its financial planning. It is important to the Council that its processes of consultation with Maori are appropriate to the needs of Maori in the district.

Resource Management Act 1991

The consultation carried out under the Resource Management Act recognises the interests within the Stratford District area of the following iwi and hapu groups:

- Ngati Ruanui Tahua Iwi Authority.
- Ngati Mutunga Iwi Authority.
- Nga Ruahine Iwi Authority.
- Te Atiawa Iwi Authority.
- Pukerangiora I-lapu Management Committee Inc.
- Nga Rauru Trust Board.
- Ngati Maru Tribal Council.

In respect of the Resource Management Act, Council also gives regard to the Statutory Acknowledgements in accordance with the Ngati Ruanui Claims Settlement Act 2003.

Further Planning Consultation

Council recognizes the role of Stratford's Whakaahurangi Marae within the District. Council welcomes and encourages Maori involvement in its consultation processes and holds consultation meetings on the Marae.

Council will seek to honour any processes or agreements developed with Maori as they relate to consultation as a part of its decision-making processes.

DEVELOPMENT OF MAORI CAPACITY TO CONTRIBUTE TO DECISION-MAKING

Council is committed to maintaining communication and its good working relationship with Whakaahurangi Marae, so as to encourage and facilitate the involvement of local Maori in Council's decision-making processes.

Council is also mindful that there may be additional processes which are also appropriate. It will therefore continue to consult with Maori in the district on its decision making, taking into account the nature and significance of the decision to Maori. It will also seek opportunities to expand the current processes to accommodate any additional consultation mechanisms preferred by Maori.