

Central Hawke's Bay District Council STATEMENT ON MAORI DECISION MAKING POLICY	POLICY MANUAL	
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INTRODUCTION

Council is required to state in the Community Plan what steps it intends to take having considered the ways in which it might foster Maori capacity to contribute to its decision-making processes over the next ten years.

MAORI CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Council has a Maori Consultative Committee which consists of up to seven representatives of the Marae of the District. The term of office of committee members expires at the end of each year in which the triennial local authority elections are held. The selection of members is determined by a process agreed between Council and the Committee. If the Committee has less than seven members, the Committee shall have the power to co-opt.

The purpose of the Maori Consultative Committee is to provide advice to Council. The Maori Consultative Committee is an ad-hoc committee of Council and no Councillors are appointed to the Committee. Council is represented at each meeting by The Mayor in an ex-officio capacity, the Chief Executive and the Regulatory Services Manager. Councillors and other Council Officers attend as needed. Minutes of all proceedings are kept and minute books are available for inspection.

The Committee nominates one member as the representative at every scheduled ordinary, special, and extraordinary meeting of full Council and the Regulatory and Finance and Services Committees. This representative does not vote. The normal expectation is for the Maori Consultative Committee Chairman to attend most Council and Council Committee meetings.

IWI LIAISON

To enhance the provision of advice to Council through the Maori Consultative Committee, Council is planning to investigate the appointment of an Iwi Liaison Officer to assist with the development of relationships with local hapu groups, to enhance Council's capacity to deal with Maori issues and to enhance the capacity of Maori to participate in Council decision-making processes.

MAORI WARDS

The Local Electoral Act 2001 gives Council the ability to establish separate wards for Maori electors. Council is required to review its representation arrangements at least once every six years. This review must include deciding whether or not to have separate wards for electors on the Maori roll.

The formula to establish the number of Maori seats is governed by population. Based on the population of this district it may be possible that one Maori seat could be established.

Council conducted a representation review in 2006. Following advice from the Maori Consultative Committee, Council decided during the representation review process that no Maori ward will be

established for the Central Hawke's Bay District Council for the 2007 and 2010 triennial elections. The community may demand a poll by producing a petition signed by 5% of electors within the District. No petition was received by 28 February 2006, which means any poll received thereafter will not be valid for the 2007 elections, but will be valid for the 2010 elections.

LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN/ANNUAL PLAN CONSULTATION

As part of its round of public meetings during the Long-Term Council Community Plan/Annual Plan consultative process.