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Marlborough District Council
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Tēnā koutou e ngā Rangatira

SUBMISSION – MARLBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL LONG TERM PLAN 2021-31

This submission is made on behalf of the Rangitāne o Wairau Group (comprising Te Runanga a Rangitāne o Wairau Trust, Rangitāne o Wairau Settlement Trust, Rangitāne Holdings Limited and Rangitāne Investments Limited) and relates to the Marlborough District Council's 2021-31 Long Term Plan. There are a number of initiatives that we propose Council adopt in order to:

- Meet its obligations as a partner to Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- Build the capacity of Māori to contribute to Council's decision-making processes
- Meet the current and future needs of Māori in relation to local public services and regulatory functions and processes
- Support events and activities that promote te reo Māori me ōna tikanga within the community

Our submission is as follows:

1. Iwi Capability Funding

There are examples across Te Taihū where Councils resource iwi to attend the many and varied consultation and engagement hui, process/review consents and provide cultural advice on Council projects. During 2020, Rangitāne was regularly provided with lists of consents for review, which during the course of the year totalled 1150 consents. We conservatively estimate that 95% of these only need cursory investigation, taking no longer than 10 minutes, with 5% requiring investigation and feedback requiring, at times, many hours of investigation.

We therefore estimate that this equates to approximately 180 hours carrying out cursory investigation of consents and a further 200 hours on those which require many more hours of investigation, follow up and engagement. At our standard cost recovery rate of \$80/hr, this totals some \$30,400 of time essentially gifted to Council in reviewing consents. This cost is currently met by Rangitāne from the resources we derived through our Treaty Settlement for historical grievances.

This is not consistent with a partnership approach. Council has an obligation (under Local Government legislation) to enable democratic local decision making and action, and Rangitāne believes Iwi Capability Funding will support Council to achieve this.

Council's Māori Capacity Development Policy states: *"Council needs to find out how it can help with resourcing so that iwi can better engage in Council processes and decision-making"*.

The Report of the Resource Management Review Panel (June 2020)¹ identified *"the lack of adequate funding and support as one of the main reasons why resource management outcomes for mana whenua have not been delivered"*. The report went on to note that *"participation by mana whenua in resource management processes should be supported by central government and local government funding and capability-building assistance"*.

To address this issue and inequity, we propose that Council provide iwi capability funding of \$25,000 each year to Rangitāne in recognition of the work undertaken in the Taiao space in relation to consent processing, with funding from general rates. This approach is not inconsistent with how other Councils operate and support iwi capability in resource management issues².

2. Māori Cultural Initiatives Fund

In 2018, Auckland Council established a Māori Cultural Initiatives Fund to support the aspirations of iwi Māori. The Fund supported grants for marae and papakāinga development, including to support payment of Council charges. Rangitāne propose that the Marlborough District Council establish a Māori Cultural Initiatives Fund, of \$50,000 per annum (increasing by \$5,000 per annum for each of the next ten years) and that the Fund be targeted at supporting:

- Marae and papakāinga development and maintenance
- Māori cultural programmes, such as wananga, whakapapa research and tribal activities
- Māori artwork and design across the Marlborough region

There are increasing pressures on marae to be available to support our communities through Civil Defence emergencies, pandemic response, and community events. We have also seen a renaissance of Māori inspired art across the region (including the installation of the Tauihu project initiated by Rangitāne,

¹ New Directions for Resource Management in New Zealand. Available at <https://environment.govt.nz/assets/Publications/Files/rm-panel-review-report-web.pdf>

² Data collected by the Ministry for the Environment show 53 per cent of councils provide budgetary support for iwi/hapū participation in planning. See data from National Monitoring System 2018/19 available at www.mfe.govt.nz.

which Council supported) and we would hope to see Council continue to prioritise further Māori artwork and design.

We propose that this be funded from the Forestry and Land Development Reserve.

3. Sedimentation in the Marlborough Sounds

Rangitāne recently engaged with Council over sedimentation issues in the Marlborough Sounds. Our moana provides us with an important and customary source of kaimoana. Not only does a thriving fishery support iwi through their commercial fisheries, but it also allows us to undertake our cultural and customary practices. Sediment in the Marlborough Sounds is negatively affecting the seafloor and our species. Rangitāne support Council moving proactively to address sedimentation issues and expects to work in partnership in addressing these issues.

4. Blenheim Sewerage Treatment Plant (BSTP)

Rangitāne are engaged with Council in relation to the BSTP and future discharge options. We request that Council include provision in its Long Term Plan to meet the aspirations of iwi in terms of the discharge options. Rangitāne records that it does not support the status quo discharge option, which sees treated effluent enter the Wairau River adjacent to Te Pokohiwi.

5. Iwi Mapping Project

As expressed above, Rangitāne engage across all levels of Council operations on consenting issues. A particular resource heavy aspect of this is engagement with Council over various locations where waahi tapu or sites of significance for Rangitāne be located. Rangitāne propose that Council provide support (both financially and operationally) to iwi to map our sites of significance on a platform suitable for our needs.

6. Resolving misappropriated spelling of Māori Street Names and Catchments

Across the region, there is evidence of misspelling of Te Reo Māori words and phrases. Whilst Council is taking some steps to improve its consultation and engagement to ensure correct appropriation of Te Reo Māori moving forward, however, there remain historical issues that simply must be addressed if Council is to genuinely demonstrate a commitment to preserving the taonga that is Te Reo Māori.

Rangitāne proposes that Council establish an eighteen-month project to work with iwi on reviewing all Māori street and catchment names across the region, with a view to rectifying these. Council would need to consult with other iwi in the region on the rollout of such a programme of work, however, we would

propose that a resourced Working Group (comprising of Council/Marlborough Roads staff and iwi partners) be established to appoint suitably experienced Te Reo Māori practitioner(s) to support the correction process. By way of example, we can point to the following examples of where Te Reo Māori has been misappropriated and remains incorrect to this day. This is not an exhaustive or complete list.

- Opawa Street should be Ōpaoa Street
- Opawa Walk should be Ōpaoa Walk
- Manatu Place should be Manatū Place
- Kowhai Drive should be Kōwhai Drive
- Kakapo Rise should be Kākāpō Rise
- Kamahi Road should be Kāmahi Road
- Onamalutu River or Ohinemahuta River should be Ōhinemahuta River
- Rangitane Drive should be Rangitāne Drive
- Ngati Kuia Drive should be Ngāti Kuia Drive
- Mahakipawa Road should be Mahakipaoa Road
- Nikau Drive should be Nīkau Drive
- Okiwi Crescent should be Ōkiwi Crescent
- Totara Place should be Tōtara Place
- Korari Grove should be Kōrari Grove
- Tuamarina River should be Tuamarino River
- Matai Place should be Mātai Place

We propose that this be funded from the Forestry and Land Development Reserve.

In addition to the above, we expect Council to make provision on the new Street Naming Subcommittee for Rangitāne representation and for this representation to be resourced.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit. We would welcome to opportunity to discuss our submission further with Council.

Ngā mihi nui, nā



Corey Hebbard
General Manager