



## TE RŪNANGA O TOA RANGATIRA

Marlborough District Council  
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By email: [longtermplan@marlborough.govt.nz](mailto:longtermplan@marlborough.govt.nz)

10 Mei 2021

Tēnā koe

### **Submission on Marlborough District Council Long Term Plan 2021 – 2031**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Marlborough District Council's Long Term Plan (LTP).

As a key council planning tool, the LTP process provides an opportunity for Council to support their iwi partners to be able to exercise their mana whenua obligations. It also provides Councils with the opportunity to recognise their obligations under section 4 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA),

We see our relationship with Council as vitally important given the significance of the Wairau area to Ngāti Toa. Our participation in the various work undertaken by Council is also significant in the fulfilment of our kaitiaki obligations, and Council's Treaty and other legal obligations.

While improvements can be made to enable iwi participation across all Council activities, we are aware that development of the LTP is a large piece of work. For Ngāti Toa this means all of our Council partners seek to engage us on the development of their LTPs. We believe that this can be undertaken a mind to effective efficiency in future and would suggest a collaborative process alongside other Councils within Te Tau Ihu when seeking to engage and

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consult with Ngāti Toa. We would also suggest an approach to engage Ngāti Toa in the development of Activity Management Plans. This is the process undertaken by some of our other Council partners, and ensures that we are able to indicate early on where our interests lie, and what meaningful participation in the various activities of Council can look like.

Several Council's are also seeking to consult on the kaupapa of Māori Wards as part of their LTP consultations. While this is not a matter that Marlborough District Council is seeking views on, we would note that Ngāti Toa's position on this matter is that while we do not oppose the establishment of Māori Wards, we are clear that they do not represent Treaty Partnership. Iwi remain the Treaty Partner and having Māori representation at local government does not change this.

We are currently seeking to build stronger working relationships with all local authorities within the Ngāti Toa rohe and look forward to working alongside Marlborough District Council in this regard. We are interested in exploring options to solidify our relationship, through mechanisms such as Mana Whakahono a Rohe, which we are happy to discuss further. Most importantly however, is a genuine willingness to act in partnership which provides a springboard from which to pursue stronger working relationships.

Ngā mihi



Johnny Joseph  
**General Manager – Te Tau Ihu**



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