



# MANIAPOTO MĀORI TRUST BOARD

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## SUBMISSION TO THE WAITOMO DISTRICT COUNCIL (WDC) ON THE DRAFT LONG TERM PLAN 2021-2031

This submission is from the Maniapoto Maori Trust Board (MMTB) regarding the Long Term Plan (2021-31). The Maniapoto Maori Trust Board submits as follows:

1. The MMTB notes the significant focus of the LTP on financial impacts over the next 10 years and understands the rationale relating to this focus. It is anticipated that many submissions will comment on these matters and the proposed new/amended/targeted rates. For this reason the focus of this MMTB submission is on other LTP matters specifically relating to Māori/Maniapoto/Tangata Whenua/Mana Whenua.
2. The recognition and acknowledgement that states Iwi as a treaty partner with a commitment to strengthen the relationship between Maniapoto Iwi and the WDC. Improvements in the LTP document in relation to this matter include:
  - a. the recognition of Maniapoto Iwi as Tangata whenua and understanding that there are many Mana whenua groups within the district.
  - b. the recognition of the Te Tiriti o Waitangi as a founding document of the New Zealand
  - c. a narrative regarding the collaborative nature of the relationship to date with a commitment to strengthen this relationship further. An example of this is would be the Maniapoto Māori Trust Board Engagement Strategy.
  - d. kotahitanga should underpin the relationship between iwi and WDC
  - e. a dedicated section for Māori/Mana whenua partnerships and working with iwi to develop this section
3. There is an opportunity to provide more clarity and specificity regarding "Fostering Maori participation in Council decision-making". Suggested improvements in the LTP document in relation to this matter include:
  - a. Council member and/or staff training and development in this area
  - b. Involvement and engagement of Iwi in the early stages of planning processes rather than only in the consultation phase
  - c. Seeking to identify and understand the strategic aspirations of Maniapoto Iwi
  - d. Ensure that Māori/Iwi presence is embedded within the council including but not limited to legislative documents, communications, website
  - e. Implement a service level agreement between Iwi and WDC which would cover a range of matters including but not limited to; Environmental matters, resource consents, planning and monitoring
4. Work with Iwi to build cultural capacity with council staff and governance which should also be reflected across all documentation. To achieve this would be to develop a strategy as a tool to set achievable goals and outcomes to ensure that the right processes are in place to implement these. As a part of this strategy we would include but not be limited to:
  - a. Te Reo me ōna tikanga
  - b. Cultural inductions
  - c. History and whakapapa
5. It is disappointing to note the Council's decision in 2018 regarding the establishment of Maori wards to maintain the current "status quo" of representation. It is even further disappointing that the Council did not take the opportunity under the Local Electoral (Māori Wards and Māori Constituencies) Amendment Bill to reconsider this decision. We strongly suggest that the LTP signal preparatory discussions with MMTB regarding this matter before the Council considers this matter again. MMTB acknowledges that this is some time away however it is within the timeframe of the LTP (i.e. the next ten years) and is directly related to "encouraging Maori contribution to decision-making".

*Ā muri kia mau ki tēnā, kia mau ki te kawau mārō, whanake ake, whanake ake*

6. MMTB would like to be heard in relation to this submission.

Prepared by:

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