

Treaty Relationships

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The Council's engagement and relationships with Māori are founded on te Tiriti o Waitangi as well as subsequent legislation such as the Local Government Act 2002, the Resource Management Act 1991 and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998.

We recognise the takiwā of Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga, Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke, Te Rūnanga o Koukourārata, Ōnuku Rūnanga, Wairewa Rūnanga, and Te Taumutu Rūnanga within our district. Since 2015, the relationship anchored by the Te Hononga Council – Papatipu Rūnanga Committee ensures both governance and ongoing kōrero between the Council and these rūnanga.

The Council's partnership with Ngā Papatipu Rūnanga ensures that the views and values of Māori are considered across Council activities as we make decisions about the city, its resources and the environment. Land, water (all forms) and the natural environment are of significant cultural value for Māori and are mutual areas of interest for mana whenua and the Council. Enabling access to social housing and papakāinga development (housing developments for Māori on ancestral land) are also fundamental to Māori wellbeing and form a further pou (pillar) in the relationship between mana whenua and the Council.

We seek to support mana whenua to promote opportunities that enhance the prosperity and wellbeing of Māori. We want to recognise and celebrate the special role that mana whenua contribute to our economy and the opportunity for sustainable and long-term Māori business that will support the economic and social wellbeing of Māori and the wider community.

At an operational level, the relationship is strengthened through the Treaty Relationships Team. The Treaty Relationships Team fosters working relationships with Council staff and Papatipu Rūnanga. The team guides Council staff on the cultural context of protocols, policies, procedures and strategies.

The Council provides many different pathways for staff to participate and engage to extend their understanding of Ngāi Tahu cultural values. This includes, Te Tiriti o Waitangi workshops, waiata, te reo Māori, and marae-based learning.:

- learn te reo.
- learn waiata.
- participate in marae based cultural workshops and seminars.

Māori katoa

The Council is committed to engaging more effectively with Māori to ensure they have opportunities to contribute to decision-making processes. While the Council specifically recognises the special relationship with mana whenua, it also engages with wider Māori who live in Christchurch, including those whose tribal affiliations are external of Ngāi Tahu. Situated at Ngā Hau e Wha Marae, Te Rūnanga o Ngā Maata Waka is a valuable community stakeholder.

Greater Christchurch Partnership

Mana whenua are represented on the Greater Christchurch Partnership (GCP) to collaborate on planning and managing the impacts of growth and development in the Greater Christchurch area. This provides iwi and papatipu rūnanga further opportunities to actively contribute to and make decisions in areas of mutual interest, as a valued partner at the GCP decision table.