

Te Manawhenua mō Matamata-Piako Mahi ā-rōpū



Ngā Whakaritenga | Agenda



Note: All workshops of Council do not contain any decisions and are for discussion purposes only.

A workshop of Council will be held on:

Ko te rā | Date: Tuesday 9 June 2026
Wā | Time: 10:00
Wāhi | Venue: Council Chambers
35 Kenrick Street
TE AROHA

NGĀ MEMA | MEMBERSHIP

Tiamana Chairperson:	Hinerangi Vaimoso	Mema Tūturu Principal Member:	Mema Tautoko Alternate Member:
Ngāti Hauā	Rangitonga Kaukau		Tumohe Clarke
Ngāti Hinerangi	Dianna Vaimoso		Hinerangi Vaimoso
Ngāti Maru	Craig Solomon		Waati Ngamane
Ngāti Rāhiri-Tumutumu	Jill Taylor		Norm Hill
Ngāti Pāoa	Tahauariki Thompson		Glenice Puke
Ngāti Whanaunga	Michael Baker		Gavin Anderson
Raukawa	Leo Whaiapu		Andrea Julian
Ngāti Tamaterā	Arama Ngapo		Vacant

Te Kaunihera ā-rohe o | Matamata-Piako District Council
Koromatua | Mayor: Ash Tanner
Koromatua Tautoko | Deputy Mayor: James Sainsbury
Kaunihera ā-Rohe | District Councillor: Rewiti Vaimoso

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- 1 Ngā Mahi ā-rōpū Wātea | Workshop Opening**
- 2 Karakia | Prayer**
- 3 Ngā whakapāha/Tono whakawātea | Apologies/Leave of Absence**
At the close of the agenda no apologies had been received.

4 Ngā Pūrongo Whakamārama | Information Reports

4.1 Iwi Management Plan Reporting

CM No.: 3172078

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

On 10 February 2026, Te Manawhenua Forum expressed interest in understanding how Iwi Management Plans (IMPs) are given effect within Council processes. The Forum has also previously indicated a preference for the 'District Plan Update' to be reframed as a 'District Plan and Iwi Management Plan Update'.

This report responds to that request by identifying the list of Iwi Management Plans Council has formally received and outlining the current Council practices across key functions, including the District Plan (DP), resource consents (RC), and the Reserves Management Plan (RMP).

At the workshop on 9 June 2026, further guidance will be sought from Forum members on the preferred format and scope of reporting to be included in future updates to the Forum.

To improve accessibility, we are seeking the Forum's endorsement to establish an MPDC webpage that centralises links to iwi websites hosting their Iwi Management Plans. We welcome ideas or input from Forum members around this webpage.

Documents tabled during the Workshop

Any documents/presentations shown to members will be added here.

Horopaki | Background

Iwi Management Plans are recognised under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) as planning documents prepared by iwi authorities and lodged with councils, with their definition set out in section 2 of the Act. The RMA gives these plans statutory weight at the local government level by requiring territorial authorities to "take them into account" when preparing or changing district plans under section 74(2A). In addition, IMPs may also inform resource consent decisions under section 104(1)(c).

IMPs are often incorporated into wider Council processes through other legislative frameworks, including the Local Government Act 2002 and the Reserves Act 1977, which require engagement with Māori and consideration of iwi values. In practice, IMPs provide an important source of information to support these actions and inform Council decision-making beyond the RMA.

Altogether IMPs ensure iwi values, interests, and environmental priorities are incorporated into district council planning and resource consent decision-making processes.

At the time of reporting there are currently four Iwi Management Plans (IMPs) that have been lodged with Council. These are listed below in order of lodgement date:

- Tai Tumu, Tai Pari, Tai Ao (Waikato-Tainui, 2013)
- Te Rautaki Taiao a Raukawa (Raukawa, 2015)
- Te Rautaki Taiao o Tamata Ao Tūroa o Hauā (Ngāti Hauā Iwi Trust, 2018)
- Ngāti Whanaunga Strategic Management Plan (Ngāti Whanaunga, 2019)

Kōrerorero | Discussion

This section outlines how iwi management plans (IMPs) are recognised and given effect to across key Council planning functions. It provides an overview of how IMPs are reflected in district planning and resource consenting process. It also considers the role of the Reserves Management Plans (RMPs) in supporting iwi values and partnership. Together, these mechanisms demonstrate how iwi aspirations are incorporated into Council functions.

Matamata-Piako District Plan (MPDP):

The MPDP considers IMPs when preparing or changing the district plan.

In practice, the District Plan recognises tangata whenua relationships with land, water and ancestral sites. It acknowledges iwi planning documents as an important source of information on iwi values and priorities. These values are then reflected in the MPDP's objectives and policies, particularly within provisions relating to:

- Tangata Whenua/ Māori Chapter (Part A, section 2.3.3 and Part A, section 3.10)
- Protection of sites and areas of significance to Māori (Schedules, Maps and Rules)
- Papakāinga (Part B, Activity Table 2.2.6 and Papakāinga Chapter 19)

These provisions reflect key IMP themes such as kaitiakitanga, manaakitanga, whanaungatanga, protection of wāhi tapu, and support for Māori housing and economic development.

All plan changes at MPDC, that are council-initiated or private, must include an assessment against the relevant IMPs. This is required under section 74(2A) of the RMA, which obliges councils to “take into account” any planning document recognised by an iwi authority. As a result, plan change applicants must demonstrate how their proposal aligns with iwi values, policies, and aspirations as expressed in IMPs. In practice, this typically includes the preparation of cultural impact or cultural values assessments. This ensures iwi perspectives are accurately reflected and that cultural effects are addressed.

Below are summarised points highlighting how IMPs are given effect to through district plan changes and resource consents.

MPDC District Plan Change 54 – Papakāinga:

Plan Change 54 (Papakāinga) includes provisions in the District Plan that aim to enable Māori housing and development on ancestral land. It was developed through an iwi-led working party and removes long-standing regulatory barriers by creating more flexible, culturally aligned pathways for papakāinga. This plan change reflects iwi aspirations and provides a framework that can adapt as iwi planning documents evolve. The plan change was made operative in November 2024. Since that time, we have received two applications using these rules, both have been related to community facilities. One application was approved in May 2025, while the other remains in progress as Council awaits further information.

District Plan Change 54 gives effect to the IMPs through:

- **Iwi-led development of the Plan Change**
Plan Change 54 (PC54) was developed through a working party led by iwi. This approach meant the priorities, values, and aspirations contained in the IMPs shaped the drafting from the very beginning, rather than being added later through consultation. By embedding iwi direction at the design stage, PC54 reflected the intent of the IMPs.
- **Embedding cultural values and tikanga into the planning framework**
PC54 has incorporated a range of cultural values and tikanga that are commonly expressed in IMPs, such as:

- recognition of mana whenua relationships with land
 - enabling whānau to live on ancestral land using traditional ways of living
 - flexibility around density, building form, and land use
 - alignment with tikanga and whānau-based decision-making
 - reducing regulatory barriers for Māori land
- **Translating IMP aspirations into District Plan rules**
Many IMPs call for easier pathways for papakāinga, recognition of Māori land tenure, reduced consenting barriers, support for intergenerational living, and culturally appropriate servicing. PC54 gives effect to these aspirations by creating a dedicated papakāinga chapter and recognising the importance of enabling multiple dwellings on Māori land, marae related activities, home businesses, educational facilities, community facilities and healthcare facilities.
- **Strengthening the role of iwi in consenting and implementation**
PC54 also gives effect to IMPs by ensuring iwi remain central in the implementation of papakāinga development. This is achieved through recognition of Iwi authorities as decision-maker and māori land trusts as key decision makers.

National Environmental Standard for Papakāinga (NES-Papakāinga or NES-P):

The NES-Papakāinga provides a nationally consistent baseline for enabling papakāinga housing and associated activities on Māori land. While PC54 was developed before the NES came into force, the two frameworks are strongly aligned. The NES reinforces the intent of iwi management plans by requiring councils to remove unnecessary barriers and support Māori-led development.

The NES-P sets minimum requirements that all councils must meet, including permitting a range of papakāinga activities on Māori land. This aligns with IMP aspirations by enabling whānau to return home and supports traditional intergenerational living.

These standards are made and enforced under sections 43 – 44A of the RMA. Once the standard has come into force, councils are required to consider iwi planning documents when applying the NES-P. This strengthens the role of IMPs by ensuring its use as a primary reference point for interpreting papakāinga provisions and understanding iwi aspirations.

The NES recognises that papakāinga is more than housing. It includes community facilities, health and wellbeing facilities, education and cultural activities as well as economic activities. This aligns with PC54, which already enables these activities. Considering PC54 already provides for these outcomes, MPDC is well positioned to implement the NES-P.

Timeframes associated with the NES-P:

In May 2025, the Ministry for the Environment (MFE) released a proposed NES-P, as part of its Infrastructure and Development Package, which Council submitted on. As it currently stands, the Minister has made final decisions, which have been captured in the Recommendations and Decisions Report which was released in May this year (see link below). The NES-P is due to be recommended to the Governor-General in mid-2026, before it is gazetted and comes into effect shortly after.

[National Environmental Standards for Papakāinga: Report on Recommendations and Decisions | Ministry for the Environment](#)

Resource Consenting:

Iwi management plans (IMPs) influence resource consenting decisions by helping identify relevant iwi values. When assessing a resource consent application, consent planners consider whether a proposal affects matters commonly addressed in IMPs, such as waterways, wāhi tapu, Māori land, and papakāinga. This is undertaken alongside an assessment of consistency with District Plan provisions.

Consent planners also evaluate whether the proposal aligns with District Plan objectives and policies that already reflect the values contained in iwi planning documents. Where appropriate, applicants may be encouraged or required to engage with iwi, particularly when activities may affect culturally sensitive resources.

In practice, when assessing a consent under the District Plan, iwi management plans are given effect by:

- considering tangata whenua and Māori land provisions;
- assessing the effects of proposals on Māori freehold land, papakāinga, waterways, and cultural landscapes;
- determining whether District Plan objectives and policies already give effect to relevant iwi values; and
- identifying whether further engagement with iwi is required to appropriately address cultural effects.

Reserves Management Plans (RMP):

MPDC's Reserves Management Plans provide the framework for how public reserves are managed, protected, and developed across the district. However, Reserves Management Plans (RMPs) do not have the same legal requirement as the District Plan to consider iwi management plans. Under the RMA councils must "take into account" iwi management plans when making district plan decisions, but this requirement does not exist in the Reserves Act.

Instead, the Reserves Act 1977 must be interpreted and administered to give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. This creates an expectation that iwi are involved in reserve planning.

Historically, iwi involvement in RMPs has been limited. Many of the current plans date back to around 2009 or earlier, when engagement with iwi was not as well developed as it is today. The Council has acknowledged this gap and is now working to improve this.

This shift is supported by the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy (2021), which commits to ensuring tangata whenua have influence around how parks and reserves are planned and managed. Additionally, the current review of the Aerodrome RMP includes a joint committee arrangement between Council and Ngāti Hauā, enabling shared decision-making. The review of what will be known as the Nature Parks RMP will be happening soon and will involve engagement with iwi from the beginning.

Overall, the reserves management space is shifting towards more meaningful collaboration with iwi. Looking ahead, iwi can expect a stronger recognition of partnership and shared responsibility in reserve management.

What will this might look like?

- IMPs will inform the development and review of RMPs

During the preparation and reviews of RMPs, Council will consider iwi management plans to identify cultural values, environmental priorities and key principles, like kaitiakitanga which will be then reflected in the objectives and policies of the RMP.

- RMP support ongoing partnership

RMPs often include provisions for continued iwi involvement, such as joint working groups. These arrangements reflect IMP aspirations and Te Tiriti principles of partnership, protection and participation.

Workshop discussion

At the workshop on 9 June 2026, we will seek guidance from Forum members on their preferred format and scope for future reporting on how IMPs are influencing Council decision making and ask iwi representatives for any updates to IMPs.

We welcome any updates from Iwi around the work they might be doing in relation to IMPs and encourage discussion around IMP reporting measures. Below are some ideas.

Discussion starters:

- Are Iwi currently undertaking any work relating to existing IMPs?
- Are Iwi developing any new IMPs?
- Are there general IMP updates Iwi would like to provide?
- What is the preferred scope, format and frequency of IMP reporting?

Some potential ideas for IMP Reporting:

- The number of IMP citations in plan change documents like section 32 reports
- IMP direction translated into new plan chapters or rules in the operative MPDP
- Inclusion of IMP assessments in planner reports Iwi participation in working groups
- Number of papakāinga or Māori land developments approved

To improve accessibility to the IMPs, we are seeking the Forum's endorsement to establish a Council webpage that centralises links to iwi websites hosting their Iwi Management Plans. We also welcome ideas from Forum members on what else to include on this webpage.

Discussion starters:

- How can the webpage better reflect iwi aspirations and partnership with MPDC?
- What would our Forum members like to see on the webpage?

Ngā Tāpiritanga | Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

Ngā waitohu | Signatories

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