



WANGANUI  
DISTRICT COUNCIL  
*Te Kaunihera a Rohe o Whanganui*

**Relationship Document**

**Between**

**Te Rūnanga o Tamaupoko**

**and**

**Wanganui District Council**

# Contents

1	Purpose	2
2	Parties to the Document	2
3	Values	2
4	Systems and Processes	3
5	Confidentiality	4
6	Review	4
7	Resolution of Disagreements	4
	Glossary	6
	Appendix 1 Whanganui River Water Rights Charter	7
	Appendix 2 Council's Strategic Direction	8
	Appendix 3 Guidelines for Tamaupoko Funding	10
	Appendix 4 Treaty of Waitangi Texts	11

## **1.0 Purpose**

The purpose of this document is to outline the developing relationship between Te Rūnanga o Tamaupoko and Wanganui District Council. Te Rūnanga o Tamaupoko and the Council have chosen to renew their relationship taking into account their respective values and goals, and identifies common ground as well as issues to be worked through. Both parties will retain their own autonomy.

The parties acknowledge the Treaty of Waitangi as the founding document of Aotearoa/New Zealand. It is acknowledged that both the Treaty and this document express aspirations of true partnership and mutual respect.

## **2.0 Parties to the Document**

These are statements contributed by each party without comment by the other.

### **2.1 Te Rūnanga O Tamaupoko**

Ko nga hapū o Tamaupoko hold ahi kaa for the middle reaches of the Whanganui River. These hapū exercise tino rangatiratanga over this region and consider themselves to hold guardianship responsibility and authority over many resources contained within it including the water resource. The authority of Te Rūnanga o Tamaupoko is hapū based.

Decisions are made at formal hui at hapū and iwi levels. The Rūnanga o Tamaupoko may facilitate consultation arrangements for the matters that affect nga hapū o Tamaupoko.

### **2.2 Wanganui District Council**

The Wanganui District Council is a Territorial Authority which is accountable to the people of the District for the achievement of its objectives. The Council is a statutory body with rights and obligations conferred by various statutes. The Council must effectively represent the residents of the District, by setting goals and allocating resources to meet community needs and aspirations; maintain a cost effective administration; preserve and maintain the value of community assets; and maintain a strong, financially viable organisation. Decisions must be made by the full Council. As part of the Council, the Wanganui Rural Community Board is included in this relationship.

## **3.0 Values**

These are statements contributed by each party without comment by the other.

### **3.1 Te Rūnanga O Tamaupoko Values**

In its Kaupapa Mana Whakahaere, Te Rūnanga o Tamaupoko states the following goals and objectives:

- Improve hapū wellbeing
- Strengthen the paepae
- Maintain whakapapa relationships
- Affirm ngā tikanga o Whanganui
- Respond effectively to tūpuna responsibilities
- Be proactive

The Kaupapa Mana Whakahaere is the baseline for future development and implementation of Tamaupoko policies.

The Whanganui River Water Rights Charter is an Iwi document which presents principles important to Ngā hapū O Tamaupoko. See Appendix 1

### **3.2 Wanganui District Council Values**

#### **Council's vision (from 2009 – 2019 10 Year Plan)**

Family-friendly Wanganui - the preferred place for my family home where the community enjoys:

1. Economic opportunities
2. A good image and sense of identity
3. A safe community
4. Good health care services
5. Connectivity
6. Community networks
7. Quality educational opportunities
8. Quality and affordable housing in contemporary family neighbourhoods
9. Access to recreational and cultural activities

#### **Council's mission**

To make Wanganui an attractive place for families and to ensure a quality of life for all.

#### **Council's values**

- **Leadership** – to provide leadership for the community and to advocate on its behalf
- **Community stewardship** – to effectively and efficiently manage community facilities and resources
- **Participatory democracy** – to consult with the community to identify needs and determine priorities for allocating resources
- **Regional cooperation** – to work with our regional partners
- **Accountability to ratepayers** - to balance the provision of services with the community's ability to pay

## 4.0 Systems and Processes

It is recognised that there is a need to establish systems and processes for addressing issues, in a way that achieves the needs of both parties in a timely manner.

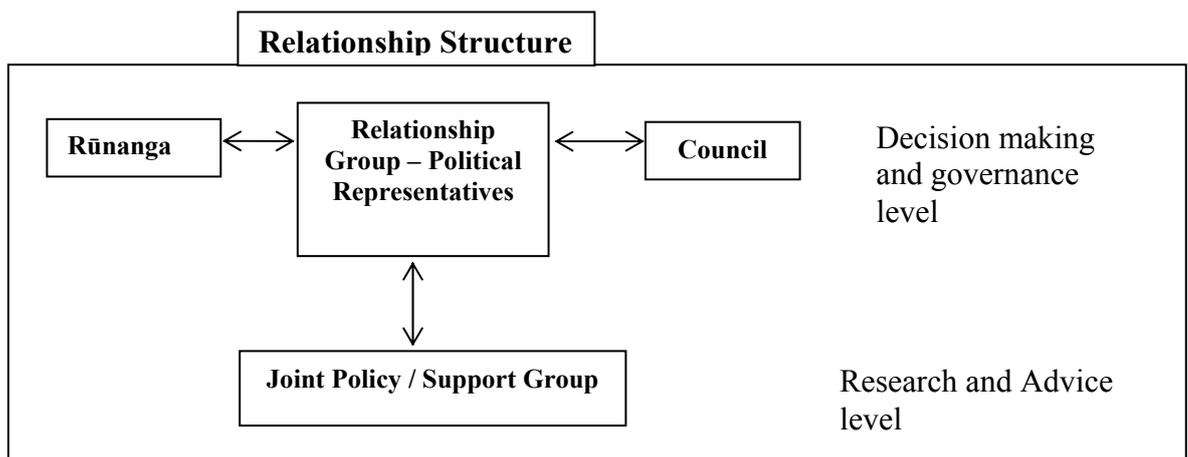
The Issues Process Diagram is the means by which this agreement will be implemented.

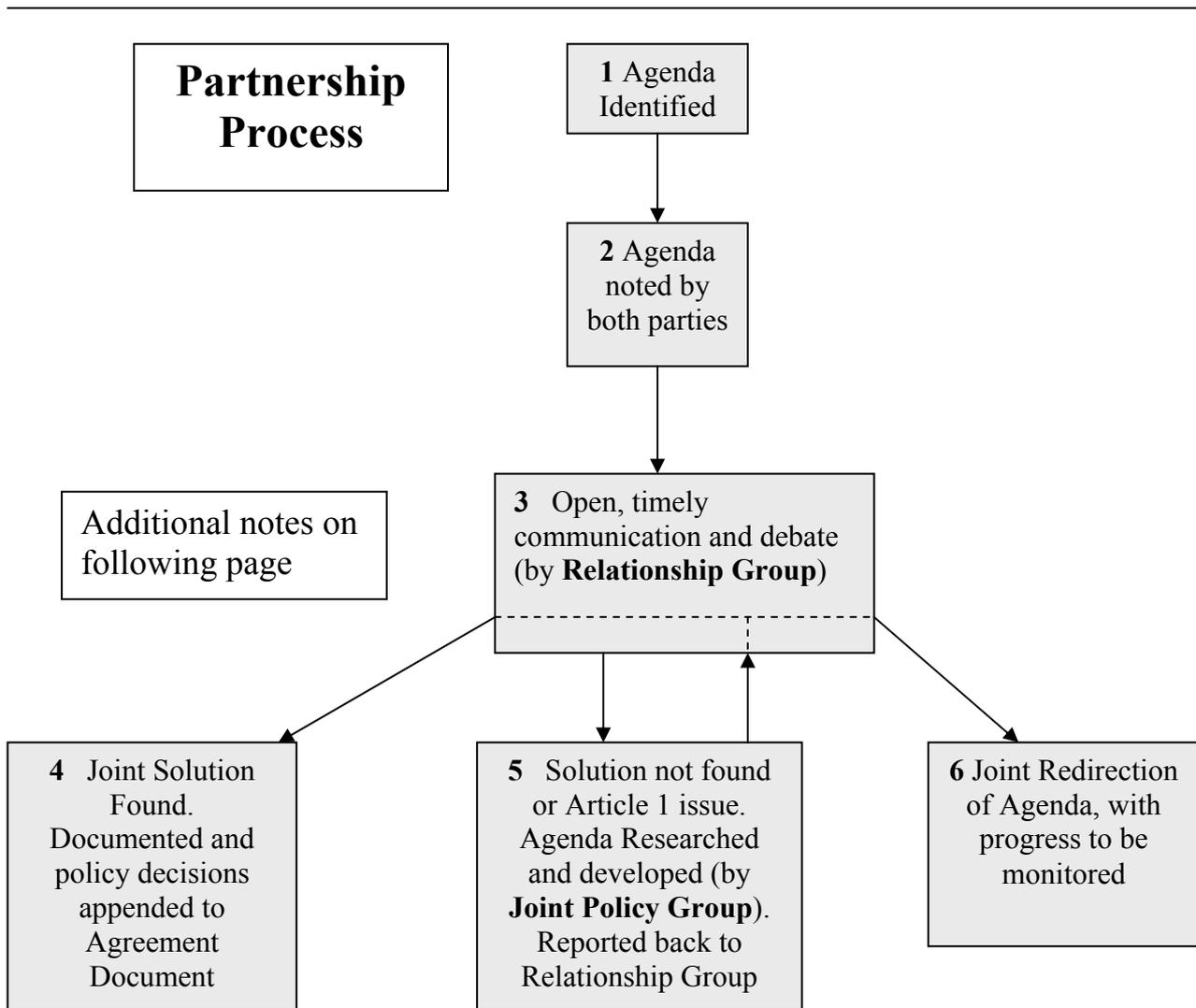
A balance is required which respects both tikanga and law, and accounts for both. In some cases, there may be areas of non-agreement. In addressing issues it will be important to recognise the political consequences. The parties agree that the Issues Process should be followed to work through issues raised (see below).

The first contact for the Wanganui District Council will be the Secretary of Te Rūnanga o Tamaupoko, who will give direction as to who the Council needs to deal with. Hapū with issues to discuss can make contact directly with the Chief Executive of the Council.

By working through the system, it is intended that the parties will develop a policy that is agreeable to both.

The Relationship Group will meet as Tamaupoko Link on a six-weekly cycle, unless mutually agreed otherwise.





**1** An agenda may be raised by the Council, Rūnanga or any hapū

**3 Relationship Group** The Relationship Group is a standing body consisting of representatives of the Rūnanga and the Council. Its decisions are to be ratified by the respective bodies. It is supported by the Joint Policy Group.

An initial task for the Relationship Group is to determine whether an issue is related to Article 1, 2, or 3 of the Treaty of Waitangi

- Article 1: Sovereignty/self-determination (Issues with Central Government)
- Article 2: Authority over resources/taonga belonging to tangata whenua and the Crown’s assurance that this is protected.
- Article 3: Right of Māori as citizens.

The Relationship Group will advise the Council whether an issue is to be dealt with by the Rūnanga or hapū.

**5 Joint Policy Group** A body consisting of officers from the Rūnanga and the Council, providing support to the Relationship Group as required. The officers involved may vary according to the issue concerned.

6 Redirection possibilities include: Central Government, mediation, Government Agencies, other Local Government processes, eg Annual Plan consultation.

## **5.0 Confidentiality**

It is acknowledged that issues of a culturally or commercially sensitive nature may arise. It is expected that both parties will treat information connected with these issues with respect.

## **6.0 Review**

It is noted that as the relationship evolves there may be a need to review the terms of the agreement and that the parties should be brought together approximately, every three years, or earlier if requested by either party.

## **7.0 Resolution of Disputes**

It is acknowledged that from time to time disagreements may arise regarding the interpretation, application or operation of the Agreement. Both parties will attempt to negotiate using their best endeavours to resolve the issue in an amicable manner to the satisfaction of both parties. Mediation by an agreed third party may be considered. Where this is not effective the parties shall move to invoke the Review clause.

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## **Glossary**

**Ahi kā** - a reference to the home people who protect, care for and administer day to day hapū affairs in a particular area which confers prior rights in that area.

**Hapū** – a grouping of whānau linked to a common ancestor, usually associated with marae.

**Iwi** – A confederation of hapū

**Kaupapa Mana Whakahaere** – Strategic Plan

**Paepae** - the area in front of the wharepuni occupied by the Tangata Whenua during a pōwhiri. There are important leadership roles associated with the paepae. Those involved are required to understand certain areas of tribal knowledge and skills.

**Rūnanga** – a council of hapū set up to manage issues, challenges, risks and opportunities of common interest. It does not have the power to make decisions for individual hapū without informed and formal consent.

**Tikanga** – customary law and practices

**Tino rangatiratanga** – Māori self determination and authority over their own affairs.

**Tūpuna** –Ancestors. ‘Tūpuna responsibilities’ refers to the obligation to sustain and practice the principles and conventions that protect, care, develop and enhance the lifeforce from the mountain to the sea.

**Whakapapa** – The inherent relationships shared between whānau, hapū and iwi based on shared ancestry and histories.

### **Significant Agenda Items**

- Infrastructure – marae, water, roads, waterways and tracks
- Whānau and hapū (community) development
- Rates – policy setting and application
- Community funding options and criteria
- Whānganui Council functions and duties to river residents, including hapū
- Formal and purposeful iwi engagement with District Council planning, regulatory, monitoring and funding policies, initiatives, projects, programmes, processes and performance
- Council procurement policy and work activities along the river

# Appendix 1

## Whanganui River Water Rights Charter

The Principle of Tino Rangatiratanga and Kaitiakitanga (intergenerational responsibility)

*Hapū and Iwi have inherited an inter-generational responsibility to ensure that they pass on to their descendants an environment which has been enhanced by their presence and efforts.*

The Principle of Hapū/Iwi Determination

*Hapū and Iwi continue to apply their own tikanga in respect of the Tiakitanga of their waters. Any negotiations with hapū and iwi must therefore recognise the uniqueness of their interests and aspirations.*

The Principle of Interdependency

*Waters are taonga and are interdependent with all other taonga of the environment, physical, social, and cultural. Any activity involving waters will therefore directly impact on the rest of the environment.*

The Principle of Collectivity

*Hapū and Iwi are collective identities whose responsibilities and aspirations extend beyond any individual, organisation and generation.*

The Principle of Mouri

*Waters come from Papatuanuku and Ranginui. They are part of the mouri of the peoples. If the mouri of waters is damaged so too will be the mouri of the people.*

The Principle of Development

*Hapū and Iwi have the right to development of their resources.*

The Principle of Use Management

*In the exercising of Tino Rangatiratanga, hapū and iwi maintain the right to grant or withhold permission for the use or the development of their environment.*

## Appendix 2

### Council's strategic direction (from 2009 – 2019 10 Year Plan)

Council aims to take a sustainable development approach in promoting the wellbeing of the community. This means Council will promote development which meets the needs of present generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

For communities to flourish they need a secure livelihood, a safe and healthy environment, happiness and fulfilment.

The four dimensions of community wellbeing include social, economic, environmental and cultural and are defined as:

**Social wellbeing:** relates to education, health, financial and personal security, the strength of community networks and associations, rights and freedoms and levels of equity.

**Economic wellbeing:** relates to the ability of the economy to generate the employment and wealth which enables communities to afford the goods and services they desire.

**Environmental wellbeing:** relates to the capacity of the natural environment to support, in a sustainable way, the activities that constitute community life.

**Cultural wellbeing:** relates to the shared beliefs, values, customs, behaviours and identities reflected through language, stories, experiences, visual and performing arts, ceremonies, heritage and sports.

#### Strategies

##### 1. Economic opportunities

- Identify and develop economic development initiatives
- Improve business and industry growth, investments and performance
- Facilitate training and education opportunities
- Promote and support the tourism sector/Regional Tourism Organisation functions
- Promote and support events
- Encourage and support the uptake of technology that assists economic development

##### 2. A good image and sense of identity

- Undertake research aimed at attracting families
- Promote the quality of life in Wanganui – climate, travel benefits, family-friendly policies
- Improve the look of the city
- Facilitate a strong sense of identity, belonging and community

##### 3. A safe community

- Obtain World Health Organisation accreditation as a safe district
- Take a zero tolerance approach on gangs
- Take a zero tolerance approach on antisocial behaviour
- Provide a safe transportation network

##### 4. Good health care services

- Advocate for retention of full hospital services

- Assist with the recruitment of obstetricians, paediatricians and midwives
5. **Connectivity**
    - Facilitate good urban design
    - Facilitate the provision of digital infrastructure to support families, schools and businesses
    - Provide pathways to ensure safe cycling and walking routes particularly to schools and Central Business District
    - Provide an efficient transportation network to residents and promote economic development
  6. **Community networks**
    - Develop community partnerships
    - Support communities to establish community networks and support structures
    - Support children and youth programmes
    - Value older people in our community
    - Continue to build strong relationships with Iwi
    - Maximise the potential for ethnic diversity
  7. **Quality educational opportunities**
    - Encourage schools to adopt family-friendly policies
    - Promote quality schools and preschools
    - Facilitate and support tertiary educational opportunities to attract youth to Wanganui
  8. **Quality and affordable housing in contemporary family neighbourhoods**
    - Collaborate on healthy housing initiatives
    - Ensure District Plan zoning and rules advance family-friendly interests
    - Encourage environmental sustainability of neighbourhoods
  9. **Access to recreational and cultural activities**
    - Provide and maintain parks, recreational and sporting amenities and facilities that meet the needs of all age groups and abilities
    - Recognise and value our points of difference around sports, arts, culture and heritage
    - Encourage development of a vibrant Central Business District - shops and cafe scene, riverfront development.

## **Appendix 3**

### **Guidelines for Tamaupoko Funding**

Suggested guidelines for discussion are as follows:

1. Meetings held to discuss relationship document and other issues involving input into Council affairs.

Meeting preparation, attendance and travel fee – paid by Council – Iwi Liaison budget

2. Consultation over specific issue, e.g. dumping of soil into river to maintain/improve road.

Cost of consultation negotiated between Council and Rūnanga – Appropriate activity budget (e.g Transport Network).

Cost of employing Iwi expertise for a particular project – met by Council or by consultant employed by Council.

3. Information sharing, e.g location of Urupa, Māori Land Rating Study meetings. This shall be considered on case by case basis.

4. Appropriate koha will be given for marae based or ceremonial occasions.

Both parties meet own costs where there is a mutual benefit.

