



Report 06.127
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Committee Ara Tahī
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Te Puni Kokiri publication - Whakamana - Influence

1. Purpose

To provide Ara Tahī an opportunity to peruse and discuss the Te Puni Kokiri publication 'Te Kotahitanga o te Whakahaere Rawa – Māori and Council Engagement Under the Resource Management Act 1991 – Whakamana *Influence* – Capacity and Capability: The Current Situation (**Enclosed separately**).

2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report do not trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

3. Background

Te Puni Kokiri commissioned this report which contains interviews with councils, iwi and hapū in six regions around New Zealand to discuss how Māori engage with councils under the RMA and the issues that affect that engagement.

4. Comment

Although our region was not a part of this review the contents of the report are a timely reminder of the importance and influence iwi can have on council processes through development of Council plans e.g. the current review of the Regional Policy Statement.

The report also shows key findings in Māori participation and relationship building, resource consent processing and council planning. It also delves into capacity issues facing iwi/Māori, cost recovery for comments on resource consents and capability issues Māori face in engaging in RMA processes.

Ara Tahi appears to have confronted many of these issues and in most cases we have managed to develop reasonable processes to deal with them. Some areas that require development are:

- building technical RMA capability within iwi authorities;
- succession planning for young Māori in RMA expertise;

5. Communication

There are no matters in this report that require further communication.

6. Recommendations

That the Committee:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

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Attachment 1: Te Puni Kōkiri document