



**Development of  
Maori capacity to  
contribute to Council  
decision making  
processes**





## Development of Māori Capacity to Contribute to Council Decision Making Processes

The Council enjoys a strong working relationship with local Māori. The Council continues to work at developing processes to provide for opportunities for Māori to contribute to the decision making process of the Council.

Over the past year Council have given real consideration to how we strengthen relationships and communication with mana whenua, improve Māori capacity to contribute to decision-making, and develop staff cultural capability and awareness.

The Council held a formal meeting with ngā Rūnanga o Waitaha in 2105 aimed at consolidating and further developing relationships between the Council and Ngāi Tahu runanga. As a result of that meeting, an advisory group has been formed to develop a formal relationship agreement.

The Council has an ongoing relationship with Mahaanui Kurataiao Ltd. Mahaanui Kurataiao Ltd is a jointly owned company of six Ngāi Tahu Rūnanga. It was formed to provide information and advice on resource and environmental management on behalf of those Rūnanga. These relationships assist Council officers give effect to the legislative requirements that relate to Mana Whenua and assist the Rūnanga in their engagement with the Council. We are currently working with Mahaanui Kurataiao to develop a joint work programme for the next 1-2 years.

In 2013, the six Ngāi Tahu Rūnanga in the Council's district launched the Mahaanui Iwi Management Plan (IMP), which the Council is

required to take into account when preparing or changing a district plan. The IMP is a key tool that supports the aspirations of the Rūnanga to better inform Council decision processes about their values and objectives. It is of assistance to staff in their work affecting these Rūnanga.

The Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Act 2011 requires that Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu must have the opportunity to provide input into the development of the recovery plan for the central business district. The Recovery Strategy for greater Christchurch *Mahere Haumanutanga o Waitaha* (Recovery Strategy) and the Christchurch Central Recovery Plan (CCRP) reflect a commitment to reintegrating Ngāi Tahu and Ngāi Tūāhuriri values, narratives and aspirations into the rebuild of the central city. To give this affect the Council has developed a relationship with Te Ope Matapopore (setup in 2013 and mandated by Ngāi Tahu and Ngāi Tūāhuriri).

The Council also has an operational and functional relationship with Te Rūnanga o Ngā Maata Waka. Te Rūnanga o Ngā Maata Waka is an urban Māori authority which provides services including education, health, counselling, driver education, advocacy, early childhood education, recreation, sport, justice, courts, legal support, Māori legal services and initiatives in employment related matters.

