



Topic 1: Takata Whenua

Introduction

As part of the District Plan Review, Timaru District Council has produced a Discussion Document report to provide a discussion around how the Timaru District Plan addresses takata whenua values. This can be found at www.timaru.govt.nz/dpr. It identifies a range of issues in relation to takata whenua values, establishes potential approaches to address these issues and discusses the associated strengths and weaknesses. It also puts forward a possible process for progressing this topic.

The issues relating to takata whenua values cover a range of matters but particularly relate to the need to integrate such values throughout the District Plan and to enable appropriate identification and management of places of significance to iwi. The key driver for this topic is the Resource Management Act 1991 which identifies the requirement to consider takata whenua values and to take into account the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.

The Council has initiated a process of meeting with Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua to discuss their issues of interest within the District Plan Review and to establish a method of partnering with the rūnanga to integrate takata whenua values throughout the District Plan. The Council wishes to work with the rūnanga to progress these issues and this discussion document reflects the conversations held to date.

This summary outlines the issues our district faces in relation to takata whenua values.

We welcome your feedback on this topic.

Damon Odey
Timaru District Council Mayor



Issues and Options

The issues relating to takata whenua values include:

- (1) Integration of takata whenua values throughout the District Plan and the involvement of takata whenua in the plan development process.
- (2) Approaches to papakāinga housing or kāinga nohoanga zones, Māori community development and marae development.
- (3) To what extent there should be mapping, objectives, policies and rules to apply to and manage areas of particular interest e.g. cultural landscapes, statutory acknowledgement areas, specific cultural sites, rock art sites, wāhi tapu, wāhi taonga, mahinga kai and which can include kāinga nohoanga / papakāinga areas as well as urupā and archaeological sites, etc.
- (4) To what extent there should be controls over specific areas or resources to recognise takata whenua values e.g. waterways, springs, wetlands, significant ecological areas, natural landscapes.



- (5) To what extent there should be controls relating to infrastructure development, subdivision and civic urban development as these relate to takata whenua values.

The options for addressing these issues are to (i) continue the strategic approach within the current District Plan; or (ii) amend the District Plan to align it with current best practice, including working closely with rūnanga to ensure that takata whenua values are clearly identified and to integrated these throughout the plan.

Next Steps

The proposed next steps are:

- (1) Establish significant sites / areas

Council will liaise directly with the Canterbury Regional Council tāngata whenua coordinator to develop a process of identifying sites / areas of significance to the rūnanga.

- (2) Develop specific provisions

Following the identification of significant sites / areas, a further process will be developed to discuss options for the management of activities that could impact on sites / areas of significance.

To achieve this, and to ensure efficiency, a small Council / rūnanga working group is proposed to be established to assist with the development of draft provisions for the next District Plan and these would then be brought back to the rūnanga to review and endorse.

- (3) Wider consultation

Beyond the working group, there will be consultation with the wider community. This will enable all land owners to provide input to the process. The Council will enable the opportunity for input from the Maori Land Trusts within the District.

- (4) Input to draft District Plan

The agreed provisions would be integrated into the wider drafting process for the next District Plan, subject to the future public process.