

What is a hapū/iwi resource management plan (HIRMP)?

A hapū/iwi resource management plan is a document developed and approved by hapū and/or iwi. It describes resource management issues of importance to them as tangata whenua. The plans may contain information relating to specific cultural values, historical accounts and descriptions of areas of interest. This diagram shows some of the many issues identified within HIRMP documents.

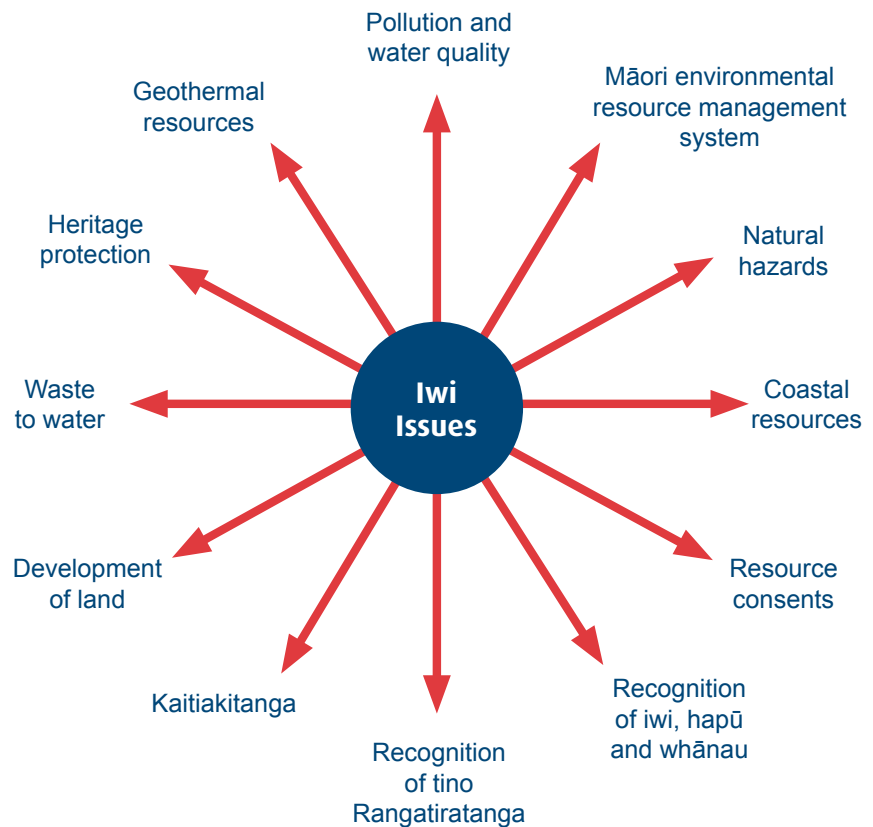
The importance of developing a hapū/iwi resource management plan

Hapū and iwi resource planning documents recognised by an iwi authority provide a mechanism in which tangata whenua interests can be considered in council in decision-making. Specific legislation requires councils to take these plans into account.

In practice local authorities must balance a number of competing interests including hapū/iwi plans. The following examples from the Resource Management Act apply:

Section 61(2A)... when preparing or changing a regional policy statement council must take into account any relevant planning document...

The most important thing any Council staff member can do to integrate a HIRMP document into their work is to read and understand the plan.



Some of the many issues often identified in HIRMP documents.

Section 66(2A) ... when preparing or changing a regional plan council must take into account any relevant planning document recognised by an iwi authority...

Section 104 (1)(c) ... when considering an applications for a resource consent ... the consenting authority must have regard to any other matter the consent authority considers relevant... (the content of iwi plans is considered under this section).

Section 35A ... A local authority must keep and maintain ... a record of... planning documents recognised by each iwi authority and lodged...

Section 74(2A) ... A territorial authority when preparing a district plan must take into account any relevant planning document recognised by an iwi authority...

Supporting HRIMP development

An annual fund of \$50,000 is available for iwi/hapū groups. This amount must accommodate all hapū/iwi groups across the Bay of Plenty.

The Regional Council also provides support in kind, such as access to records, maps, technical information, word processing, printing and peer review.

Once an HRIMP document has been lodged through the Māori Committee, Māori Policy staff will co-ordinate a post plan workshop. The workshop will provide relevant staff with an opportunity to discuss the plan with its authors, as well as providing staff with the opportunity to begin building relationships.

Regional Plans/Policies & District Plans

HRIMPs can assist councils to prepare their second generation regional or district plans and regional policy statements by:

- Identifying tangata whenua of the region and their values and interests.
- Identifying preferred methods and levels of participation. This will form the basis for improved relationships between local authorities and tangata whenua.
- Identifying matters of resource management significance to tangata whenua.
- Assist in the development of more specific plan provisions to better provide for the relationship of tangata whenua with important sites, areas and resources.
- Meeting the requirements of schedule 1 (particularly clauses 3(1)(d), 3(b) and 3(c)) to consult iwi authorities who may be affected by policy statements and plans.

Value of HRIMP documents

Resource management planning documents are becoming increasingly important as natural resources come under more and more pressure.

The following is a list of how HRIMP documents add value.

Value for Council

- Assists in decision-making.
- A planning tool for engagement and partnerships.
- Outlines preferred methods of engagement.
- Identifies tangata whenua of the region, their rohe, values and interests.
- Assists in the development of more specific plan provisions such as the Regional Policy Statement.
- Assists in developing relationships.
- Identifies tangata whenua, their areas of interests and can help resource consent staff to understand who is affected.

Value for the community

- Enhances understanding.
- Can help build community awareness.
- Can help resource consent applicants identify relevant matters for Assessments of Environment Effects.

Value for Māori

- Facilitates knowledge transfer.
- Provides a framework to articulate values, aspirations and issues.
- Provides a template for others developing HRIMP documents.
- Resource Management Act mechanism.
- A tool to capture Mātauranga Māori.
- May identify specific natural resources and/or sites of cultural significance.

Resource Consents

HIRMPs can be used in the resource consent process to:

- Identify tangata whenua and their preferred method of engagement for potential resource consent applications.
- Help potential applicants identify relevant matters that should be considered in preparing an assessment of environmental effects through the information requirements contained in section 88(2).
- Help guide which iwi or hapū may be potentially affected by an activity.



Councillors and Tame Iti, Tūhoe/Crown Political Compact signing in Ruatāhuna.

Working with HIRMP documents

Māori expect that Council staff are giving due consideration to the content of these plans.

While staff are more aware of these documents, there needs to be a consistent approach to how these plans can and should be used to inform our work. Staff will take into account the content of iwi management plans when:

- Reviewing or developing any regional plans,
- Processing resource consent applications in the region,
- Making decisions that may impact on Māori resource management in the region and for other relevant work.

Accessing HIRMP documents

Electronic copies of HIRMP documents are available on the Māori Contacts Database. A compendium of HIRMP documents for the region has been put together by the Māori Policy Unit. Please contact your relevant Māori Policy Advisor to arrange a set for you or your team.

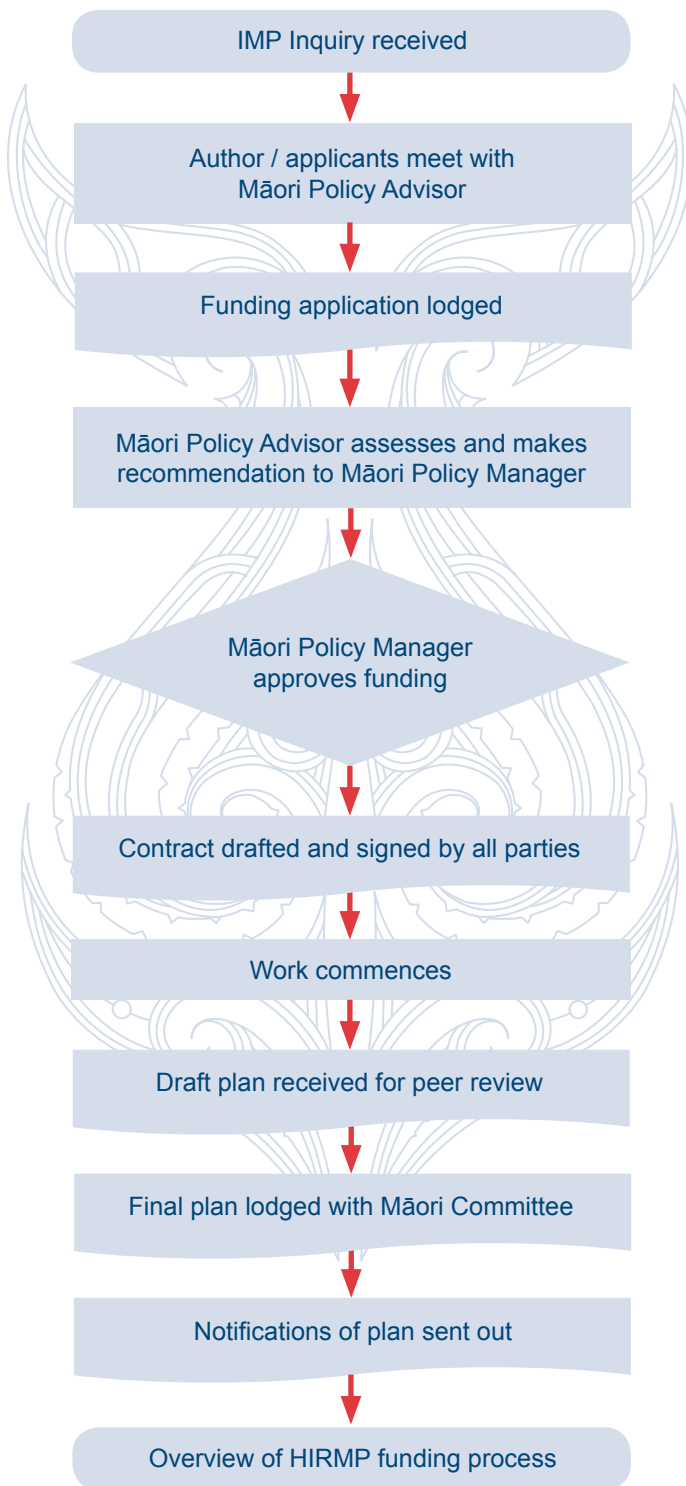
Hard copies of all HIRMP documents are also available in the library. Eventually electronic copies will be available through our website.

Please contact the Māori Policy Unit for further information or support.



Tūhoe Rangatira greeting manuhiri – Tūhoe/Crown Political Compact Signing in Ruatāhuna





A diagram showing some of the many issues often identified in HIRMP documents.

For more information, contact your local Māori Policy Advisor or the Māori Policy team:

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Carved by Graham Niao and the students of Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangī's carving school. It is one of two poupou located in Committee Room 1 at the Whakatāne office.



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