

## **Mārae Development Fund Policy**

### **Introduction**

Under the Local Government Act 2002, Hastings District Council (Council) is obliged to consider how it will meet current and future needs of communities for good-quality local infrastructure and how it can foster the development of Māori capacity to contribute to the decision-making processes of council.

This Policy will contribute to that purpose by supporting the ability of mana whenua and Māori in the District to engage with Council and to maintain appropriate infrastructure for their communities in a cost-effective and efficient way.

Mana whenua, through whakapapa as ahi kaa in Heretaunga are responsible for Mārae preservation, maintenance and development.

The Mārae Development Fund is Council's commitment to respond to the needs and aspirations of mana whenua with respect to Mārae. This will benefit hapu, the District and the nation. It will contribute to a guarantee of the protection of the culture and heritage embodied in Mārae facilities and relationships. This is critical to community infrastructure and ability to exercise whanaungatanga.

Council also acknowledges Mārae as a social asset for the community as a whole, under the mana whenua of tangata whenua, and ngā hau e whā where that occurs.

The policy and procedures for the operation of the Mārae Development Fund are as follows.

### **The Fund**

The Council's Long Term Plan contains an annual funding allocation base of \$75,000.

The Fund is administered by the Strategic Advisor Culture and Heritage.

Other relevant Council staff are the Mārae Development Advisor and the Parks and Building Projects Officer.

Council will work with other funders and stakeholders towards cross sector collaboration to support short, medium and long term aspirations of Mārae, in a strategic way for all Mārae in the District.

Council's strategic approach is to survey the needs of all Mārae and to develop overarching project management in conjunction with other participating funders to resource development needs.

The objectives and levels of funding are determined by considering identified issues that affect the Mārae in the District. The initial objectives will target Health and Safety matters, including fire and earthquakes. The assessments will be used to obtain

quotes based on expert information that takes into account the specifications of each task and to allocate funding to a schedule of works to address needs in a coordinated manner. In these cases a signed agreement will be produced between respective Mārae trusts and Council to deliver building services, installation of specialized equipment and management systems to meet compliance, under the project management and oversight of Council.

### **Eligibility for the Fund**

To be eligible for the Fund, the applicant Mārae will:

- i. Be a Mārae within the Hastings District.
- ii. Be governed by a charter under Te Ture Whenua Act administered by the Māori Land Court.
- iii. Have the capacity to make the required contribution to the cost of the work to be carried out.
- iv. Deposit the Mārae contribution to Council for the work before equipment is ordered and before work commences.
- v. Agree to Council's support in funding coordination, project management and oversight, including coordination between the building services and any suppliers.
- vi. Submit all invoices for services, materials and equipment by contractors and suppliers to Council to be approved based on inspection to confirm that the work is of the correct standard.

### **General information**

Council is taking a strategic approach to Mārae development. Individual applications are not considered under this policy. However, all enquiries are welcomed from all Mārae constituents on any Mārae development issue. Advice is available as to the process required to benefit from this policy.

This policy is dynamic and will apply to the issues that are identified through ongoing Council strategic processes as affecting Mārae. In each round prioritization decisions will consider the capacity of a Mārae to engage with the policy; and what Council may need to consider doing to enhance the capacity of Mārae to engage with the policy.

Final approval is given by the HDC: Māori Joint Committee, based on a schedule of tasks and the costings, for work to be funded under the policy.

For any further information, please contact in the first instance, the Parks and Building Projects Officer, Tony McHannigan, [tonym@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:tonym@hdc.govt.nz) 871 5110 ext 5427, Mobile: 027 498 8270.