



Iwi/Hapū Environmental Management Planning Fund

Application Criteria

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Iwi/Hapū Environmental Management Plans

What is an Iwi/Hapū Environmental Management Plan?

An Iwi/Hapū Environmental Management Plan (IHEMP) is a term commonly applied to a resource management plan developed by hapū, iwi or iwi authority. Iwi/Hapū Environmental Management Plans are often holistic documents that cover more than RMA matters. They may assume a variety of shapes and forms; from formal planning documents similar to council policy documents, to more informal statements of policies.

The Hapū/Iwi plans may contain information relating to specific cultural values, historical accounts, and descriptions of areas of interest. They describe resource management issues of importance to tangata whenua.

There are no statutory obligations for preparing these documents and Hapū/Iwi plans may vary widely in format and content. This allows for creative and innovative plan content.

The importance of developing an Iwi/Hapū Environmental Management Plan

IHEMP's recognised by an Iwi Authority provide a mechanism for tangata whenua interests to be considered in regional council decision-making. There are specific legislative obligations that require the council to take IHEMPs into account.

The following examples from the Resource Management Act apply:

- Section 35A ... A local authority must keep and maintain ... a record of... planning documents recognised by each Iwi Authority and lodged...
- Section 61(2A) ... when preparing or changing a regional policy statement council must take into account any relevant planning document...
- 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 74(2A) ... A territorial authority when preparing a district plan must take into account any relevant planning document recognised by an Iwi Authority...
- Section 104 (1)(c) ... when considering an application 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)

Funding for Iwi/Hapū environmental management planning documents

The Northland Regional Council has allocated \$30,000 / year for the development, review and updating of Iwi/Hapū environmental management plans. The maximum allocation for any one application for funding is \$10,000.

Application criteria

The criteria for applications are as follows:

- a) Evidence of endorsement from the hapū or iwi the plan will be for;
- b) Funding will only be paid to an established legal entity such as a marae committee, iwi authority, hapū trust or consultants acting on behalf of the applicant.
- c) Evidence of endorsement from the relevant iwi authority;
- d) Applicants must agree to:
 - i. A copy of the final IHEMP being formally lodged with council;
 - ii. An electronic copy of the IHEMP being placed on council's website.
 - iii. The Northland Regional Council having the opportunity to review a draft version

Application details

A pdf application form is accessible via council's website at: www.nrc.govt.nz/iwiplans

The following details will be required:

- a) Application type
- b) Contact information
- c) Contact details of key people involved
- d) Evidence of plan endorsement from the iwi or hapū the plan will be for
- e) Project description
- f) Plan development method and estimated cost
- g) How Hapū/ Iwi will contribute to the development of the plan
- h) Bank account details
- i) Official lodgement agreements.

Staff assistance – developing Iwi/Hapū Environmental Management plans

Northland Regional Council planning and policy staff are available to help Hapū/ Iwi develop or update their plans where necessary and appropriate. Staff will provide feedback on any planning issues and/or assess drafts of the document for the applicant to consider when completing the finalised IHEMP.

Assessment of applications

Although each application will vary, it is expected the plans cover resource management components such as Hapū/ Iwi history and background, kaitiakitanga, natural and physical resource areas, sites of special significance, and options for working with Northland Regional Council on future development plans.

Applications may consider how mana whenua and mana moana is held or claimed and how this has changed over time; who has authority to represent the Hapū/ Iwi on resource management issues; and how kaitiakitanga can be expressed within the constraints of the Resource Management Act.

The Kaiārahi Tikanga Māori will collate an assessment of applications for consideration. Following this, a recommendation will be made to the regional council's Kaiwhakahaere Honongā Māori and the Group Manager for approval. If an offer is made and accepted, a contract agreement will be drafted. This will outline the terms and conditions of the contract and will include details of any progress reports required.

Receiving funding

Funding will be paid in instalments as detailed below:

- a) The first instalment will be a payment of 25% of the total amount allocated;
- b) The second instalment of a further 25% will be paid upon the receipt of a tax invoice and the completion of 'milestones'. The progress report/s will show these milestones;
- c) The final payment (50%) will be paid upon receipt of a tax invoice and the final planning document. In addition, the final instalment will not be released until the document has been assessed for compliance with the terms and conditions of the agreed outcomes;
- d) All payments shall be made by direct bank credit to the bank account nominated by the applicant. GST will only be paid if the applicant produces a GST registration number;
- e) The above arrangements may be varied at the discretion of the Group Manager.

Council Consultation Process

In the event that the applicant wishes to vary the agreed milestones or deadlines, the contract may be re-negotiated with the approval of both parties.

Lodging the Iwi/Hapū environmental management planning document

To ensure the IHEMP has statutory weighting under the Resource Management Act, the IHEMP must be recognised by the relevant Iwi Authority in accordance with section 74 (2A) and formally lodged with Northland Regional Council. A copy of the final IHEMP is to be lodged with council prior to the final payment being released.

Acknowledgement

- a) Each completed IHEMP will be formally lodged and acknowledged by council;
- b) The IHEMP will be catalogued in the council library for staff reference purposes;
- c) Relevant staff at Northland Regional Council will receive notice of any new IHEMP;
- d) Recipients of funding agree to a copy of their IHEMP (either new, revised or updated) being loaded on to Northland Regional Council's website.