



caring about you & your environment

Report 01.339

18 May 2001

File: X/16/1/1

IB.sw.report 01.339 to pol & Fin 2001

Report to Policy and Finance

From Councillor Ian Buchanan, Chairperson, Environment Committee

Assisting Iwi to assist the Council

1. Purpose

To seek the adoption of a proposal to designate a proportion of Iwi funding to each individual Iwi, for the purpose of increasing administrative capacity.

2. Background

At a previous Ara Tahī committee meeting (07/03/2001), report 01.145 outlined a proposal to support the establishment of regular meeting times between Council staff and Iwi. This proposal was not adopted and at present is being reviewed.

Discussion from that paper raised the issue of the lack of capacity by Iwi to provide the Council with on-going and consistent input. The reasons for this difficulty varied between Iwi – but the end result was the same

Following on from this meeting and at the last Ara Tahī meeting (02/05/2001) there has been much discussion about how Iwi and Council can redress this situation. There is a feeling that the Council should recognise the competing demands on Iwi and the need to empower them to participate meaningfully in our work. A suggestion has thus been advocated via the Ara Tahī forum that a proportion of Council's Iwi budget be allocated to each Iwi to help them build the capacity to interact better with Council.

This putea could thus help resource a part time administration person or help supply an office with equipment such as a computer or fax. It is envisaged that this will help individual Iwi to build on its administrative capacity and free up time for Iwi representatives to consult more regularly with Council staff.

If this putea is approved, it will be reviewable after the first year and thereafter. The first payment of these monies would be made available to Iwi before the end of this financial year.

At Ara Tahi, this move was warmly supported as a positive gesture that recognized the value of maintaining the Council's good working relationship with Iwi of the region.

3. **Recommendation**

1. *That Policy and Finance Committee recommends that Council adopt a policy of providing funding from the Iwi project budget for building Iwi administrative capacity.*
2. *That the amount of funding available is to be set at \$15,000 per Iwi per year, to be drawn from allocation in the Long Term Financial Strategy.*

Report prepared by:

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Chairperson Environment Committee