

## Summary of the Relationship Agreement

The Relationship Agreement between **Whanganui Iwi** and the **Whanganui District Council (WDC)** establishes a formal relationship, acknowledging their shared and distinct responsibilities for the Whanganui district. Grounded in **Te Tomokanga ki te Matapihi**, it reflects Whanganui tikanga, values, and the principles of partnership under **Te Tiriti o Waitangi**.

### Key Points:

- **Purpose:** Reset and strengthen the relationship to foster a mutual, values-based partnership for the betterment of Whanganui's people, environment, and future.
- **Foundation:** Built on *Ngā Mātāpono o Whanganui* (integrity, inherited authority, and physical/metaphysical sustenance), reflecting cultural, spiritual, and governance values.
- **Scope:** Encourages open communication, shared learning, enhanced Iwi participation in decision-making, and collaborative management of lands, resources, and socio-economic strategies.
- **Binding Nature:** Legally binding, applicable to future WDC councils, and aligned with Whanganui Iwi Settlement legislation.
- **Commitments:** Includes joint land/resource management, cultural collaboration, and a dispute resolution process based on *kanohi ki te kanohi* and mediation.
- **Review:** Regular reviews every 3–5 years to ensure continued relevance and effectiveness.

This Agreement symbolises a transformative relationship, rooted in mutual respect, cultural understanding, and shared responsibility for the Whanganui district's long-term well-being.