

# Community Outcome: Whaiora - *Participation in society*



Tikanga/ Kawa (values);  
Kotahitanga (Collaboration)  
Tautoko (Vision Moemoeā - Aspirations/ goals)

Comprehensive participation of Iwi Māori in the affairs of Waitakere city, Aotearoa and the world.

Sustain positive growth of innovative Māori economic development.

Communities, including the Māori community, have identified barriers which limit their ability to influence their desired outcomes. Removing these barriers would enable greater participation. Greater access and the ability to be involved in processes or opportunities, particularly decision-making processes, ensure community ownership and control of their own destiny.

### Related outcome areas

- Nga Manukura - *Māori leadership*
- Working Together - *Te mahi tahi*
- Strong Economy - *He tupuranga kaha ihi wana*
- Strong Communities - *He iwi kaha*

### Who are some of the key contributors to making this outcome happen?

Who	How
Ngati Whatua and Te Kawerau a Maki	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Both iwi groups Ngati Whatua and Te Kawerau a Maki are directly involved as Treaty partners in key decision making processes with government agencies, the council and other key stakeholders in the wider community</li> </ul>
Waitakere City Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community representation and dialogue through committees, meetings, submissions, publications, election promotions, web documents including agendas and minutes</li> <li>• Community development and participation programmes</li> </ul>
Te Taumata Runanga	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A committee of the council that enables participation by a range of Māori communities in the council's decision-making processes.</li> </ul>
Local government support agencies including Department of Internal Affairs, Te Puni Kokiri, Local Government Association and Society of Local Government Managers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotion, advice and investment in local government processes and quality work practices</li> </ul>
Te Whanau o Waipareira	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A key stakeholder in Te Hapai Te Hauora, and National Urban Maori Authority and provides a range of social services</li> </ul>
Te Roopu Puawai o Waitakere	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A member organisation of Te Taumata Runanga, Te Roopu Puawai encourages civic participation and leadership development of Māori youth</li> </ul>
Te Roopu Kaumatua o Waipareira	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affiliated to Te Whanau o Waipareira, Te Roopu Kaumatua provides opportunities for kaumātua (elders) to network and be involved in a range of activities</li> </ul>

*"My community - its safe and peaceful."*

Naruia, New Lynn



### Council contribution

The council's contribution to this community outcome is through its Active Democracy and Strong Economy strategic platforms.

The Active Democracy platform's vision is that people feel that they can make a difference. There are high levels of community participation and respect for each other's views.

The Strong Economy platform's vision is that Waitakere is a place of innovative economic activities, providing local, quality work and development options for its people. Environmentally responsible businesses are supported and flourishing.

Platform	Intent	Initiative	Details	Who
Strong Economy	Focussed economic development programmes	Māori economic development planning	A multi agency planning process to promote economic activity by Māori	Council and many other agencies
Active Democracy	People feel that they can make a difference	Massey Matters	Community networking and activity development programme	Massey community and community groups, Council
	High levels of community participation	Public Forums	Specific consultation forums and time at council or its community boards when anyone can speak	Council

### Democratic processes

In order for iwi Māori to participate effectively in the affairs of the council, a sound understanding of the council's decision-making process can help. This indicator measures the proportion of Māori residents who feel they understand these processes. The 2006 results show that around one third of Māori residents agreed that they understood council decision-making processes. Despite the appearance of significant changes between 2004 and 2006, these changes are not statistically significant because of the small sample size of the survey.

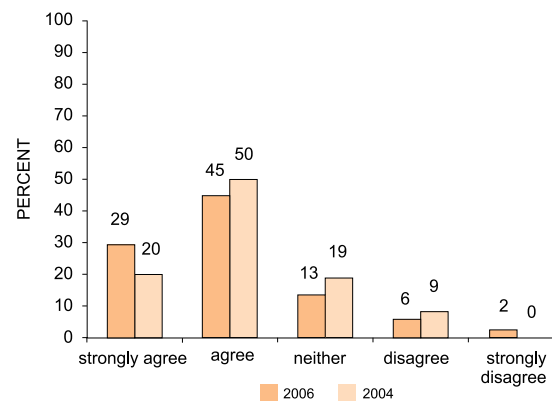
**Table 42: Percentage of Māori residents who agree/disagree that they understand council decision-making process by ethnic group (2004 and 2006)**

	Agree (%)	Disagree (%)
2004	43	30
2006	29	48

Source: *Quality of Life, 2004 and 2006*

This indicator is sourced from the Quality of Life survey. Respondents are asked if they desire more say in what council does. Results shows that 74% of Māori survey respondents said they would like more of a say in what the council does.

**Figure 41: Percentage of Māori residents who agree and disagree that they desire more say in what the council does 2004 and 2006**



Source: *Quality of Life, 2004 and 2006*

### Example: Local Body Elections 2007

Māori continue to find it difficult to influence democratic processes in meaningful ways. The lack of Māori representation at the council level was a key motivation for the establishment of Te Taumata Runanga, which provides advice to the council on kaupapa Māori.

The Waitakere City Council has endeavoured to encourage participation by diverse communities in the 2007 Elections. A specific strategy was developed to encourage Māori both to stand as candidates in the Local Body Elections and to vote. This process has included:

- Hosting a hui at Te Piringatahi o Te Maungarongo Marae
- Nominating 'Elections Advocates' from Te Taumata Runanga
- Targeted media releases to Māori media

The elections are a key opportunity for the public to participate in the democratic process, however, it remains important to encourage community input to the wide variety of council activities.