

Glossary of Māori Terms

The following Māori terms are provided to assist with interpretation of terms used within the Section 32 Evaluation reports of the Unitary Plan. They are not intended to be used as definitions.

Atua - Supreme being or deity

Hapū - A number of whānau related through a common ancestor – section of a large kinship group

Hui - To meet, to gather. Meeting

Iwi - A number of hapū related through a common ancestor

Iwi management plans - Documents prepared by iwi that Councils must consider when developing or amending RMA plans

Kai - Sustenance (food, water, etc)

Kai o te awa - Food from the river

Kaimoana - Food from the sea

Kaitiaki - Guardian

Kaitiaki contacts - Contacts within iwi and hapū organisations authorised to take RMA and consent application enquiries

Kaitiakitanga - Guardianship, including stewardship; the processes and practices of looking after the environment. Guardianship is rooted in tradition

Kanohi - Face, eye

Kanohi ki te kanohi - Face to face, eye to eye, in person

Karakia - A ritual recitation often used to open and close meetings

Karanga - Ceremonial call of welcome that commences the formal pōwhiri process

Kaumātua - One who holds knowledge of tikanga and reo Māori and is recognised by hapū, iwi or organisation

Kaupapa - Topic, issue

Kaupapa Māori - A philosophical doctrine incorporating the knowledge, skills and values of Māori

Kāuta - Kitchen, cookhouse, cooking shed

Kāwanatanga – Governance

Koha - Unconditional gift or offering

Kōhanga Reo - Māori language nest or Māori early childhood centre

Kōiwi - Human bone(s)

Kōrero - To talk, to speak

Kōrero o neherā - Refers to any ancient history

Koroua - Elderly man, grandfather

Kuia - Elderly woman, grandmother

Kura - School

Mahinga kai - Food gathering places (rivers, bush, sea, gardens etc)

Mana - Authority, status, prestige

Manaaki - An act of hospitality

Manaakitanga - Hospitality, generosity

Mana atua - Spiritual authority

Mana motuhake - An individual's authority to determine his/her own destiny, self-determination

Mana tangata – An individual's personal authority

Mana Whenua - The people of the land who have mana or customary authority – their historical, cultural and genealogical heritage are attached to the land and sea

Manuhiri - Visitor, guest

Māori - Mana Whenua and Mataawaka.

Marae - The enclosed space in front of a meeting house where people gather

Mataawaka - Māori who live in Auckland and are not within a mana whenua group.

Mātaitai - Food obtained from the sea

Mātauranga – Knowledge

Mātauranga Māori - Māori knowledge

Maunga - Mountain, mount or peak. Also refers to volcanic cones

Mauri - Life force

Mihi - Greeting

Mihi whakatau - Welcome speech

Ngā maunga whakahī - The volcanic cones

Noa - Free from restrictions of tapu

Ōritetanga - Equal rights and opportunities of all citizens as identified in Article 3 of the Treaty of Waitangi

Pā - Māori settlements and villages

Pākehā - A New Zealander of European descent

Papakāinga – A settlement or village which has whakapapa connections to that land

Papakāinga housing - Housing development within a papakāinga

Papatūānuku - Mother Earth

Pou tohu - Sign post

Pōwhiri - Formal Māori welcome ceremony

Puna wai - Fresh water spring or well

Rangatahi - Younger generation, youth

Rangatira – Chief

Rangatira ki te rangatira - Chief to chief

Rangatiratanga - Authority made evident through a person's chiefly deeds towards others in the interest of hapū and iwi

Ranginui - Sky Father

Raranga - To weave

Rohe - Region, district or area

Rohe moana - Marine region or area

Rongoa - Medicine, medication or remedy. Can be used in context of solution to a problem. Can also be Rongoā

Taina - Younger sibling of the same sex, extends across to cousins of the same sex and generation but in a younger branch of the family. Has the same meaning as Teina

Tā Hori Kerei – Ngā Kohinga Taonga Whakahirahira - The Sir George Grey Special Collections (held by Te Pātaka Kōrero / Auckland Library)

Tāmaki Makaurau - The Māori name for Auckland

Taonga - A treasured item. It can be tangible or intangible

Taonga tuku iho - A treasure passed down through the generations, either tangible (whenua etc) or intangible (reo etc)

Tangaroa - Tangaroa is the child of Ranginui and Papatūānuku. God of the sea

Tangata whenua - Indigenous people of the land

Tangihanga - Funeral rite, wake

Tapu - Having restrictions, sacred

Tapuwae – Footprint

Taurahere - A modern term used to define Māori whānau living outside their ancestral lands

Tauranga waka - Landing place of waka

Te Ao Māori - The Māori World

Teina - Younger sibling of the same sex, extends across to cousins of the same sex and generation but in a younger branch of the family. Has the same meaning as Taina

Te reo Māori - The Māori language

Te Tiriti o Waitangi - The Treaty of Waitangi which is the document upon which the British and Māori agreed to found a nation state and build a government

Te Waka Angamua - The Māori Strategy and Relations Department of Auckland Council

Tikanga - Customary lore and practice, Māori protocols

Tinana - The body, main part of something or someone

Tipuna / Tīpuna (pl) - Ancestor(s), grandparent(s). Has the same meaning as Tupuna/ Tūpuna (pl)

Tohunga - Expert, specialist

Treaty Settlements - Settlements from negotiations occurring between iwi and hapū and the Crown to redress Treaty of Waitangi breaches

Tuakana - Elder sibling of the same sex, extends across to cousins of the same sex and generation but in an elder branch of the family

Tūpāpaku - Corpse, the body of one deceased

Tupuna / Tūpuna (pl) - Ancestor(s), grandparent(s). Has the same meaning as Tipuna / Tīpuna (pl)

Tūrangawaewae - The place Māori recognise as their foundation, place in the world and home, coming through kinship and whakapapa

Waharoa - Main entrance into a pā or onto a marae complex, gateway

Wāhi pakanga / also Wāhi pakanga - Battle site

Wāhi tapu - Sacred ancestral sites and places of significance to iwi, hapū or whānau

Waiora - Health, well-being

Wai puna - Water from a spring

Wairua - Spirit, soul

Waka - An ancestral canoe that people of Māori descent can trace their origins to. Vehicle or mode of transport

Wānanga - Māori knowledge, lore and learning of the esoteric kind. A Māori tertiary education institution

Whakapapa - Genealogy that links Māori to their Māori ancestors. (Io, Rangi & Papa)

Whakatika - To correct or put right

Whānau - Family, the smallest social unit of Māori groupings

Whare hui - Main building or meeting house on a marae complex, may or may not be carved in traditional Māori style

Whare kai - Dining hall on a marae complex, restaurant

Whare moe - Sleeping house

Whare nui - Main building or meeting house on a marae complex. It may or may not be carved in traditional Māori style

Whare tupuna - Ancestral meeting house on a marae complex, usually carved in traditional Māori style

Whenua - Land, country, earth, ground