

The Future for Local Government and Local Governance¹

Taituarā Executive Board Vision, Principles and Proposals



Our Vision: People thriving in place

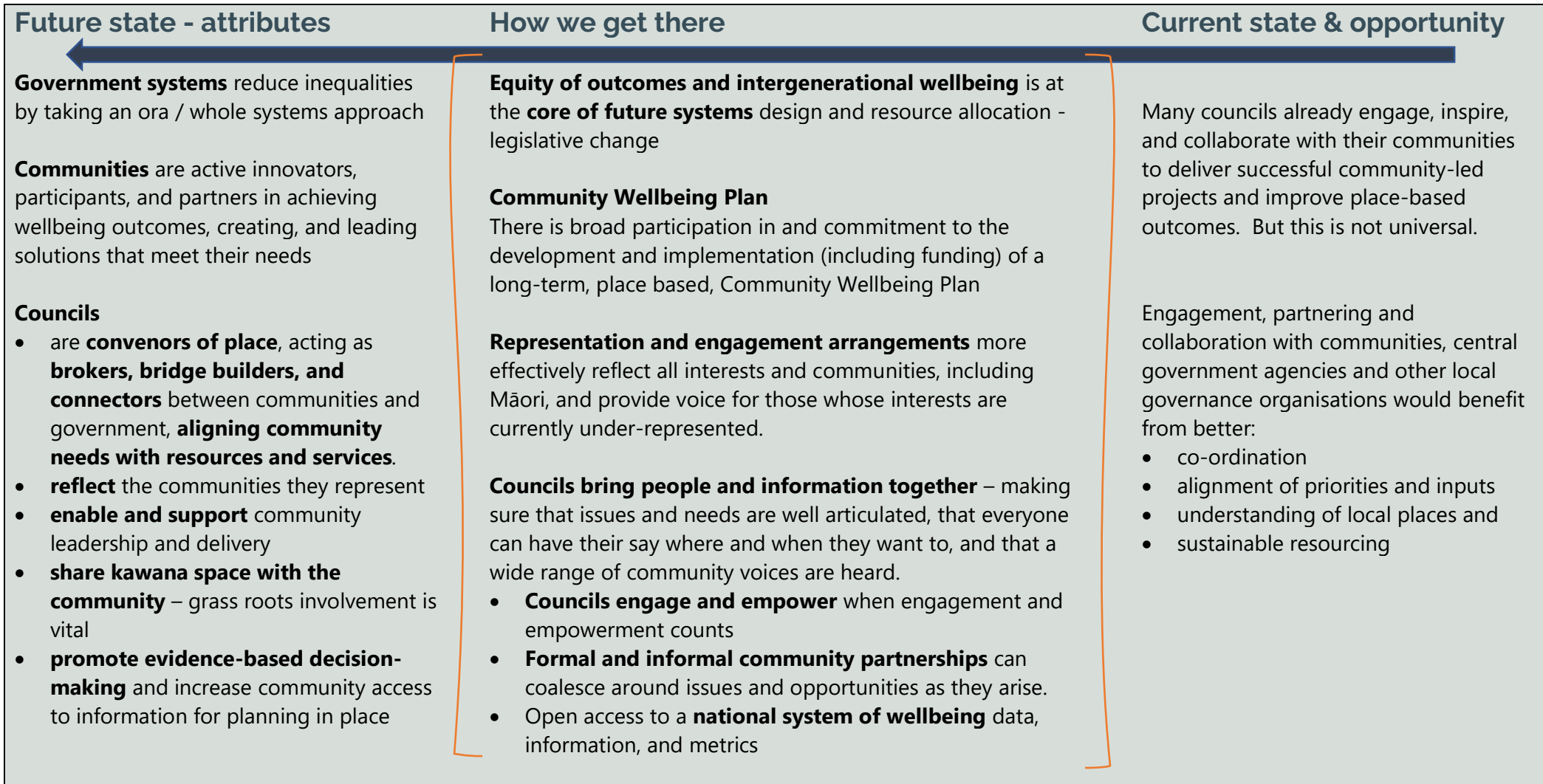
Because everyone doing well matters – Councils of the future will function within a system of local decision making and accountability that:

Principle 1	Is inclusive, values diversity, strengthens social cohesion, and unleashes the inherent power and strength of communities
Principle 2	Enables place-based decision making and action
Principle 3	Gives effect to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and partners with Māori
Principle 4	Is innovative, self-improving, and adaptive, building and sustaining trust and confidence in government
Principle 5	Through collaborative leadership, ensures central and local government MUST <ol style="list-style-type: none">think and act as one system to deliver improved community wellbeing.have funding approaches that:<ul style="list-style-type: none">support fair allocation and equitable distribution of resources across the systemenable decision-makers to make the best use of limited resources.

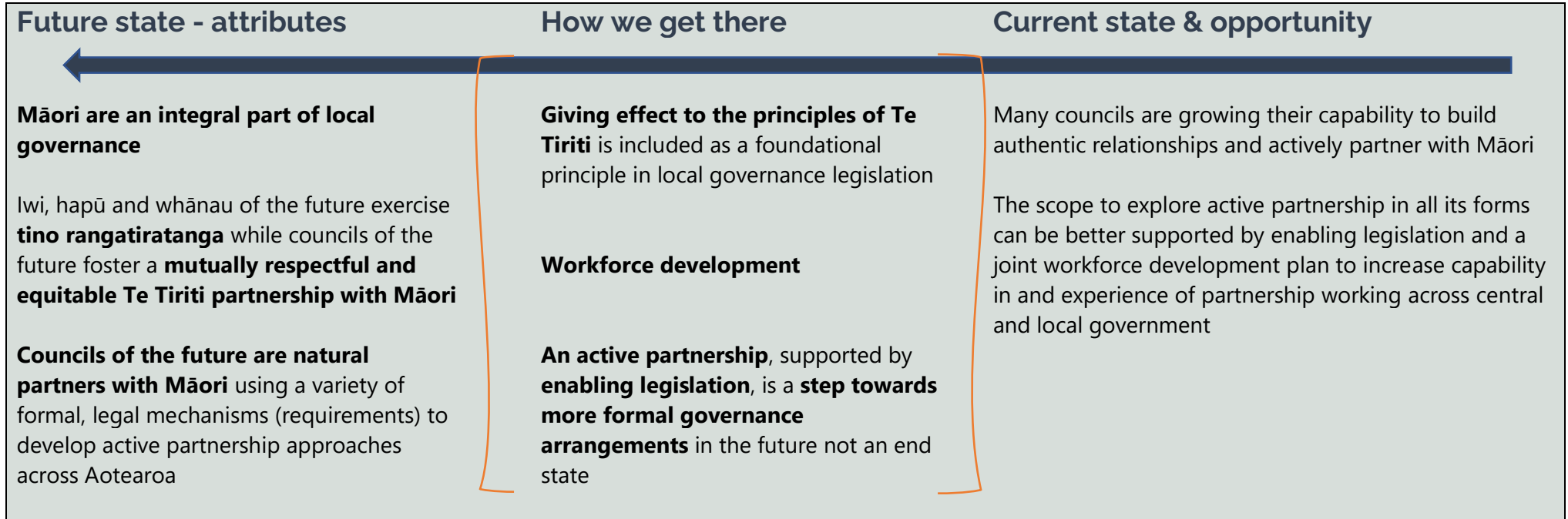
¹ In this context governance means the decisions and processes we use to collectively solve our problems and meet society's needs. Local governance refers to the system that governs communities and requires genuine collaboration between public, private, Māori, community and not for profits to achieve outcomes

For Principles 1 and 2:

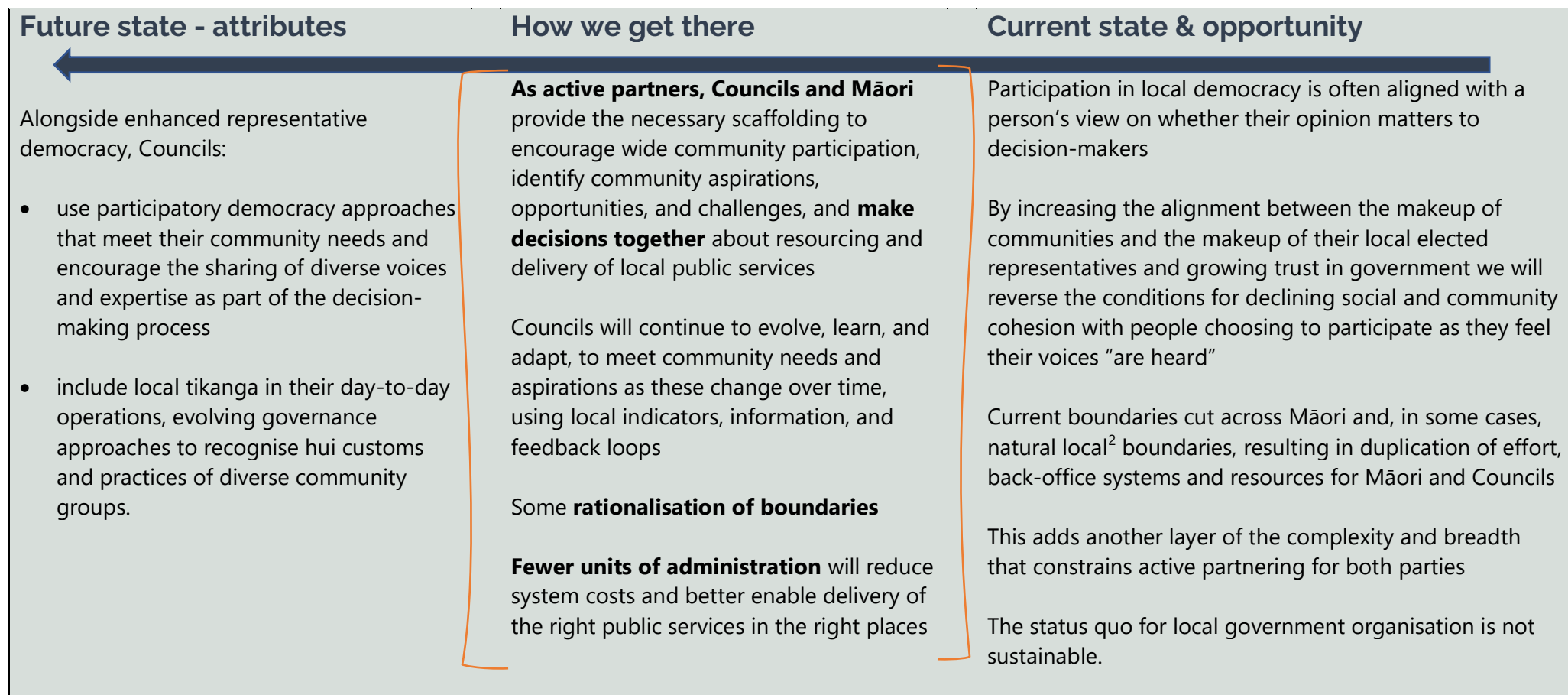
- Is inclusive, values diversity, strengthens social cohesion, and unleashes the inherent power and strength of communities
- Enables place-based decision making and action



For Principle 3: Gives Effect To The Principles Of Te Tiriti O Waitangi And Partners With Māori



For Principle 4: Is innovative, self-improving, and adaptive, building and sustaining trust and confidence in government



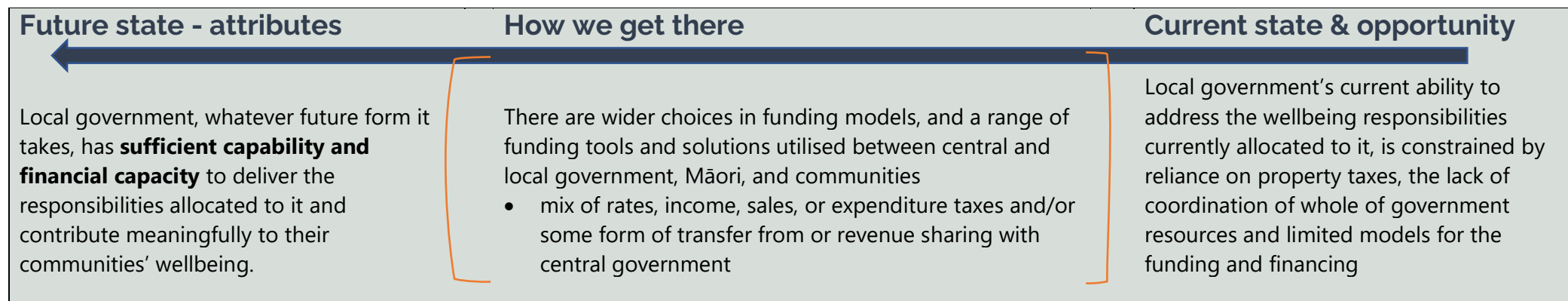
² community

For Principle 5: Through collaborative leadership, central and local government MUST (a) think and act as one system to deliver improved community wellbeing

Future state - attributes	How we get there	Current state & opportunity
<p>System that is founded in the spirit of community service</p> <p>Councils have a clear place in the governance system</p> <p>Mutually respectful high trust relationship with central government</p> <p>Integrated system that provides flexibility and supports collaboration in pursuit of shared interests and outcomes</p> <p>Councils are allocated, and can allocate or delegate, functions, and roles at the most appropriate scale, whether that is community, rohe, town or city, sub-national, or national levels</p> <p>Joint oversight of the system, its performance (and the performance of local and central government), capability and resourcing for outcomes</p>	<p>Legislation is principles-based for wellbeing outcomes</p> <p>Constitutional position of local government is protected in legislation</p> <p>Councils play a key role utilising their convening capacity to support local delivery of local public services to achieve wellbeing improvements</p> <p>Evaluation of locally designed and delivered projects; measurement of the contribution local government makes to wellbeing outcomes at community, rohe, town, regional, sub-national and national level</p> <p>Fit for purpose workforce</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a commitment to the spirit of public service across all levels of the public service• behavioural change premised on a shared sense of purpose• skills and desire to work collaboratively, facilitate increased community participation in decision-making and actively partner with Māori• joint workforce planning <p>Establishment of a Reform Office or National Transition Unit to coordinate and "drive accountability and learning" located to emphasise the importance of the partnership between central and local government</p>	<p>So much can be achieved when central and local government work in partnership with others in communities to achieve wellbeing outcomes</p> <p>However, currently the central/local government interface is at times frustrating for both parties and struggles to support the high trust public services environment needed to pursue the joined-up, long term planning required to improve wellbeing</p> <p>Councils and central government agencies currently lack a "one source" wellbeing database that captures and enables the sharing of data/information from public services research and evaluation (both local and central) and community data to inform and drive community-based, designed, and delivered interventions</p>

For Principle 5: Through collaborative leadership, central and local government MUST (b) have funding approaches that:

- support fair allocation and equitable distribution of resources across the system
- enable decision-makers to make the best use of limited resources



The unique value proposition of Taituarā

Taituarā is an incorporated society of almost 1000 members drawn from local government chief executives, senior managers, and council staff with significant policy or operational responsibilities. We are an apolitical organisation. Our contribution lies in our wealth of knowledge of the local government sector and of the technical, practical, and managerial implications of legislation.

Taituarā will continue to invest in capability-building in the local government sector. People are at the heart of making the reforms, and the outcomes they seek, happen. Taituarā (alongside LGNZ) is a natural partner and bridging agent, providing support for both sectors as they work towards an integrated public service that is self-improving and thinks and acts as one. In the future central government could partner with and invest in Taituarā to:

- leverage Taituarā's unique value to enable communities to shape their future and create energy and enthusiasm for change especially when the journey gets difficult
- support, enable and promote integrated reforms, with appropriate sequencing for success
- bring together professional local government leaders, and participate in a Combined Reform Office / oversight body to ensure the reform outcomes are achieved
- increase capability across the public service and orientate towards the future as part of a joined-up system for wellbeing, for example through:
 - i. joint workforce development to ensure we have the right people with the right skills in sufficient numbers for the future
 - ii. co-design of policy and legislation.