

Taituarā – Te Tiriti Positioning Statement

Taituarā is committed to giving effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi (The Treaty of Waitangi) in all that we do. We recognise Te Tiriti as the foundation of our nation and a living covenant that continues to shape our collective future.

We affirm our responsibility to honour the articles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi:



Article One Kāwanatanga

Exercising responsible and accountable governance.



Article Two Tino Rangatiratanga

Recognising and supporting the self-determination and authority of hapū and iwi.



Article Three Ōritetanga

Ensuring equity of outcomes and opportunities for Māori.



And we commit to upholding the principle of **partnership** – through enduring relationships built on trust, reciprocity, and shared leadership.



As a national sector body, we acknowledge the strength, leadership, and mātauranga that Māori bring to local government. Our role is to support a future where Māori voices, aspirations, and rangatiratanga are central to shaping the sector.

We are taking intentional and meaningful steps toward this vision, while recognising the importance of not moving too far without proper engagement and co-design with Māori in the sector. This positioning statement is a declaration of our commitment and a call for partnership in shaping the pathway ahead.

We are focused on the following early areas of action, which we intend to further shape in collaboration with Māori partners.

These are intended as the foundations for a more detailed, operational plan:

- **Embedding Te Tiriti into our foundations** – including reviewing our constitution to reflect our commitments to Te Tiriti and to diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- **Investing in relationships** – building enduring and respectful relationships with Māori professionals, hapū, iwi, and sector bodies such as Te Maruata, Te Pae Urungi, Ngā Kairapu and others.
- **Resourcing for impact** – dedicating resources, roles, and funding to support Māori engagement, leadership, and influence across the organisation and sector.

As these focus areas evolve, we are committed to working with Māori leaders and practitioners to develop a clear and operational roadmap – grounded in practical actions, resourcing, and shared priorities – that gives real effect to Te Tiriti.

This is the beginning of a long-term transformation. We are committed to listening, learning, and taking action in partnership – to ensure that Māori leadership, mātauranga Māori, and aspirations are central to a thriving and equitable local government sector.

Ngā manaakitanga,
Jo Miller – Taituarā President
Suzanne Boyd – Taituarā Chief Executive