

# Assessment of Cultural Effects

Assessing the effect of a proposed activity on Māori cultural interests and values



## When is an Assessment of Cultural Effects needed?

Not all resource consent applications require an Assessment of Cultural Effects. It will depend on the nature, scale, location and status of the proposed activity.

You may be advised that an Assessment of Cultural Effects is needed when the Regional Council assesses your resource consent application.

Assessment of Cultural Effects may be needed if a proposal:

- Occurs near a site of significance to Iwi such as a Pā site (historic settlement) or urupā (burial site).
- Occurs within or near a Statutory Acknowledgement Area.
- Occurs within or near the coastal environment.
- Involves the taking of water from rivers, springs and streams.
- Involves large volumes of earthworks.

## Who should prepare an Assessment of Cultural Effects?

An Assessment of Cultural Effects should be developed with the relevant Iwi or Hapu Authority.

This could involve:

- The Iwi or Hapu Authority providing a letter or email endorsing (in full or subject to conditions) the assessment prepared by the applicant,
- The Iwi or Hapu Authority (or someone they endorse) preparing the assessment on behalf of the applicant. This assessment could be in the form of a letter, email or technical report.

Like any technical report - such as an engineering or ecological report - there may be costs associated with the preparation of an Assessment of Cultural Effects. This may include time for:

- Time and mileage to attend a meeting or site visit
- Time associated with research, preparing assessments and correspondence
- Time associated with liaising with relevant Iwi or Hapū technical experts/representatives

## What should an Assessment of Cultural Effects contain?

At the very least, an Assessment of Cultural Effects should contain:

- Information on the relevant Māori cultural values, interests and associations with an area and/or natural resource e.g. river or stream.
- The potential effects of the proposed activity on those values and interests.
- Methods to avoid, remedy or mitigate cultural effects, including suggested consent conditions.

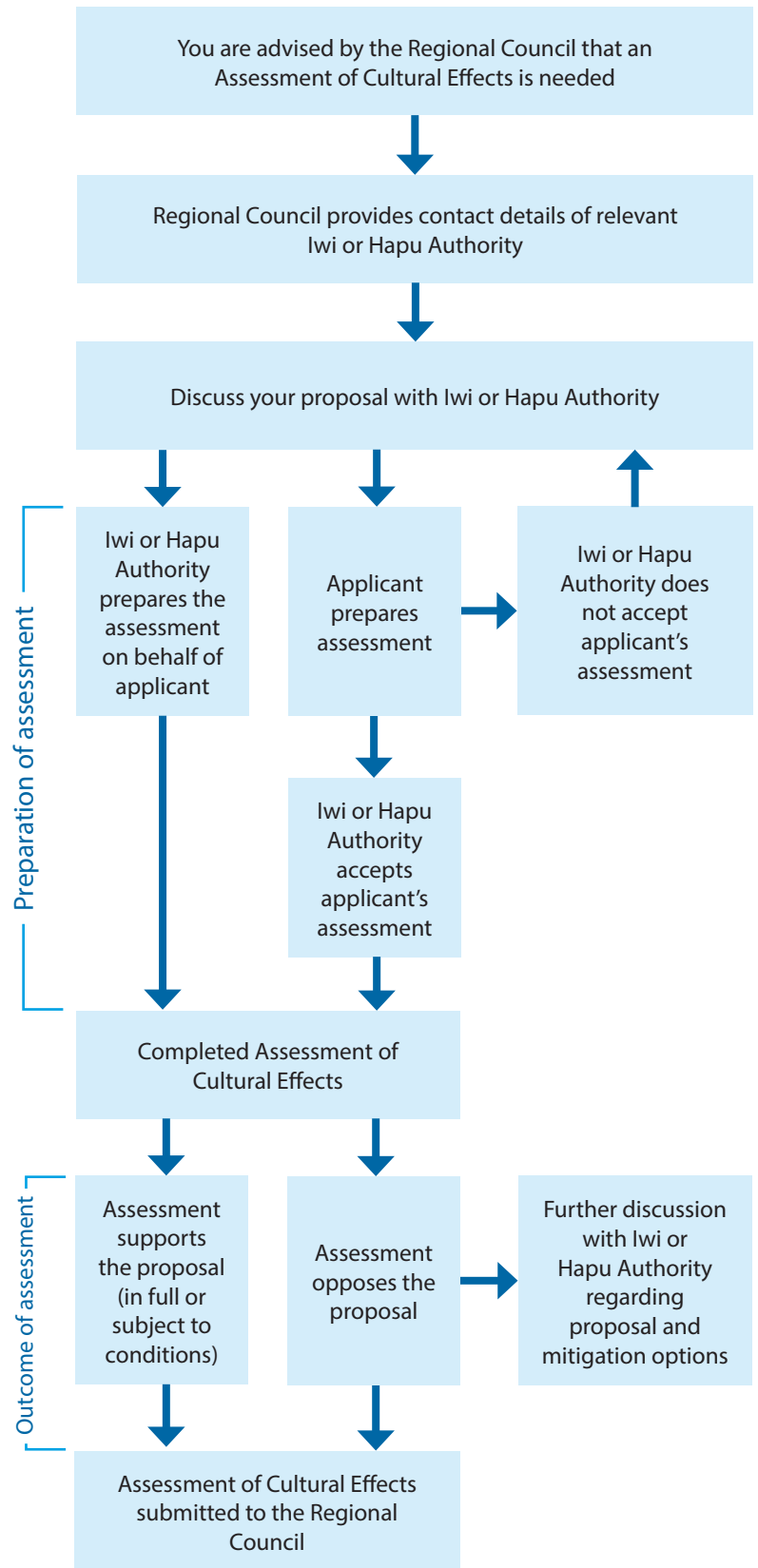
An Assessment of Cultural Effects should be developed with the relevant Iwi or Hapu Authority. In some instances, this may involve more than one iwi or hapu authority.

## What information do I need to provide to an Iwi or Hapu Authority?

- A summary of the proposal
- A site plan or map
- Suggested methods to mitigate cultural effects (if already known)

A site visit may also be arranged to discuss the proposal on-site and face-to-face.

Glossary	
Iwi/Hapu	Tribe/Sub-tribe
Iwi/Hapu Authority	An organisation that is mandated to represent an Iwi or Hapu
Statutory Acknowledgement Area	An acknowledgement by the Crown of the cultural, spiritual, historical and traditional association of an Iwi with an identified area, including rivers and streams.



## Who do I contact for more information or Iwi Authority details?

The Maori Policy Advisors at the Regional Council can provide further information or contact details for the relevant Iwi or Hapu Authority. In some instances, this may involve more than one iwi or hapu authority.

Contact: 0800 884 880 or [info@boprc.govt.nz](mailto:info@boprc.govt.nz)

