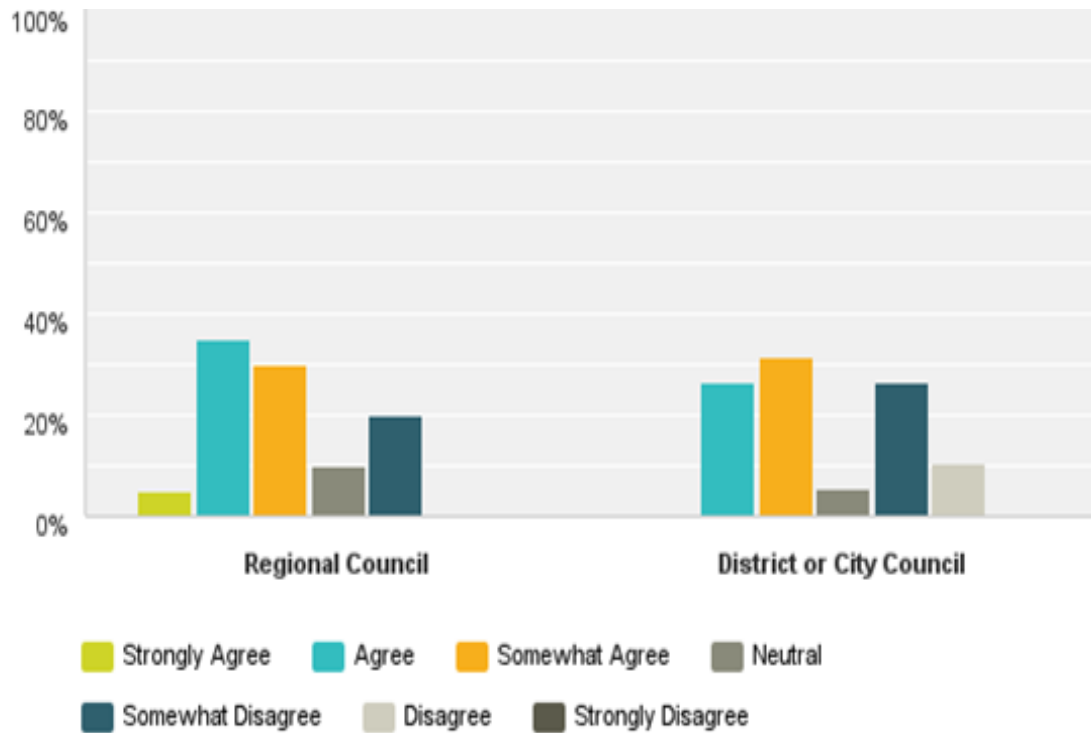


Objective 12 - The timely exchange, consideration of and response to, relevant information by all parties with an interest in the resolution of a resource management issue

Question: Council provides for the timely exchange of information?

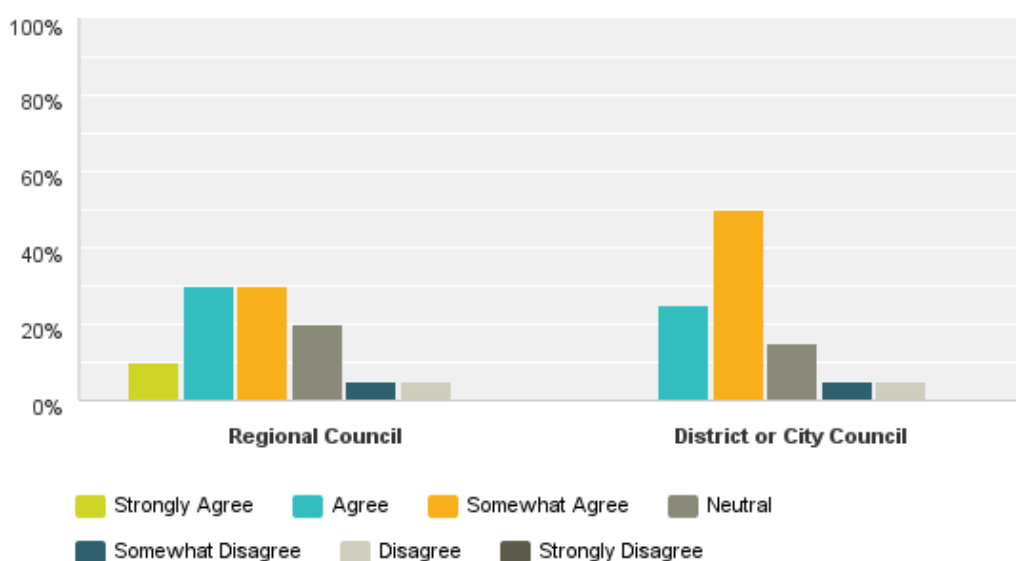


	Strongly Agree (1)	Agree (2)	Somewhat Agree (3)	Neutral (4)	Somewhat Disagree (5)	Disagree (6)	Strongly Disagree (7)	Total
Regional Council	5% 1	35% 7	30% 6	10% 2	20% 4	0% 0	0% 0	20
District or City Council	0% 0	26% 5	32% 6	5% 1	26% 5	11% 2	0% 0	19

Basic Statistics					
	Minimum	Maximum	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation
Regional Council	1.00	5.00	3.00	3.05	1.20
District or City Council	2.00	6.00	3.00	3.63	1.38

Analysis: The results show a mean score of 3.05 for Regional Council. This indicates the majority “somewhat agree” Regional Council provides for the timely exchange of information. As “neutral” is a 4, Regional Council is on the positive side for this response. It is worth noting no responses for Regional Council “disagree” or “strongly disagree”.

Question: Council is informed and shares information with appropriate parties?



	Strongly Agree (1)	Agree (2)	Somewhat Agree (3)	Neutral (4)	Somewhat Disagree (5)	Disagree (6)	Strongly Disagree (7)	Total
Regional Council	10% 2	30% 6	30% 6	20% 4	5% 1	5% 1	0% 0	20
District or City Council	0% 0	25% 5	50% 10	15% 3	5% 1	5% 1	0% 0	20

Basic Statistics					
	Minimum	Maximum	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation
Regional Council	1.00	6.00	3.00	2.95	1.24
District or City Council	2.00	6.00	3.00	3.15	1.01

Analysis: The mean result is slightly higher than “Somewhat Agree”, with only 2 respondents somewhat disagreeing or disagreeing with this statement in so far as it relates to Regional Council.

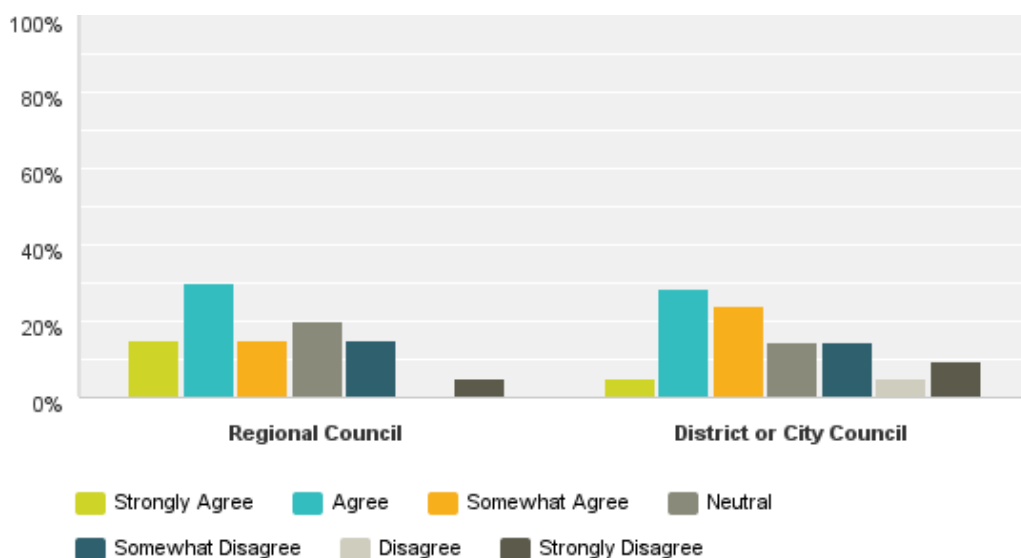
Feedback received as part of the follow up interviews related to consultation Objective 12 related questions 13 and 15 is:

- We regularly receive notice of various meetings, plan changes, consent applications and are able to decide whether our hapū has an interest and wants to be involved. We’ve had involvement in regional consents for earthworks and stormwater discharges related to NZTA underpass works and landfill development. We were also recently involved with the oil spill cleanup. Ongoing dialogue has been open with Council staff with respect to hapū’s concerns over consented landfill. The hapū’s concerns were mainly related to effects on waterways, but also included pest management given landfill’s location bordering indigenous vegetation areas. Tangata whenua were included in monitoring the consent conditions.

- Regional Council is more informed than other councils. Sharing of information is often difficult more because of RMA time constraints for consents. The consent application to dump the RENA remains on Astrolabe Reef is as an example of a process where everyone played their roles well.
- Concerned Regional Council is not supportive of using a Mauri model decision making framework to provide a culturally based template to empower indigenous values alongside western based science and knowledge. However the reasons and concerns for not supporting this decision making framework have not been shared or disclosed to iwi who are seeking Regional Council adopt and use it.
- Our involvement in Regional Council has been across several areas including Environmental Enhancement Fund recipients and submitters to the Proposed Regional Coastal Environment Plan, Long Term Plan and Regional Water and Land Plan water management areas. Regional Council staff and Councillors have been highly responsive and helpful to our requests at all levels. Komiti Māori held one of their meetings at our marae following our submission to the Long Term Plan. This opened up various opportunities to our community and we got a lot of value from this including a field trip to look at local issues, plans and opportunities. We have received a lot of assistance for our strategic plans to gradually transition from low to high value output land used on our trust lands. For our water take consent application we've had open access to consents and engineering staff. Staff located historical flow rate information for the river which they were able to interpret and translate to identify how the application related to Regional Water and Land Plan information requirements. Geospatial staff have helped develop substantive GIS mapping for our community. This is powerful information and often communities don't know Councils have that information. We are using this information to help us drive our development aspirations. The assistance has helped save our iwi thousands of dollars.

Objective 13: Kaitiakitanga is recognised and the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti o Waitangi) are systematically taken into account in the practice of resource management

Question: Council provides opportunities for iwi / hapū / kaitiaki involvement in resource management decision making processes?

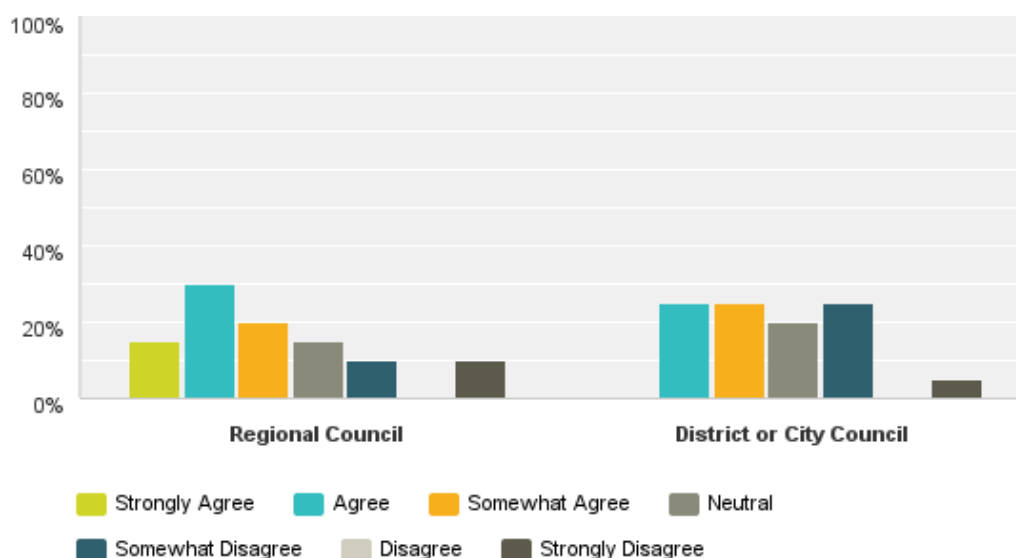


	Strongly Agree (1)	Agree (2)	Somewhat Agree (3)	Neutral (4)	Somewhat Disagree (5)	Disagree (6)	Strongly Disagree (7)	Total
Regional Council	15% 3	30% 6	15% 3	20% 4	15% 3	0% 0	5% 1	20
District or City Council	5% 1	29% 6	24% 5	14% 3	14% 3	5% 1	10% 2	21

Basic Statistics					
	Minimum	Maximum	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation
Regional Council	1.00	7.00	3.00	3.10	1.58
District or City Council	1.00	7.00	3.00	3.57	1.68

Analysis: The mean score of 3.1 is “somewhat agree”, with 9 respondents either agreeing or strongly agreeing Regional Council provides opportunities for kaitiaki involvement in resource management decision making processes. This is a positive result. However 4 respondents are neutral and 3 disagree.

Question: Council considers and responds to iwi / hapū / kaitiaki advice?

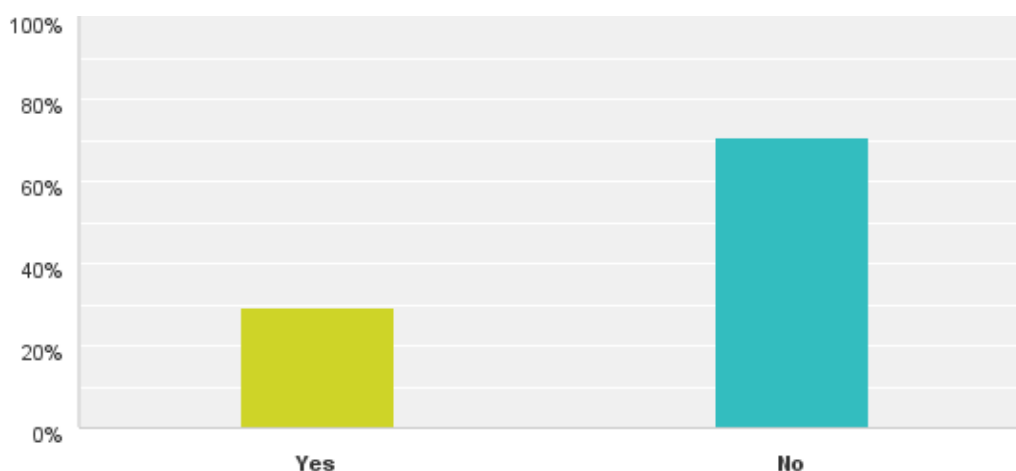


	Strongly Agree (1)	Agree (2)	Somewhat Agree (3)	Neutral (4)	Somewhat Disagree (5)	Disagree (6)	Strongly Disagree (7)	Total
Regional Council	15% 3	30% 6	20% 4	15% 3	10% 2	0% 0	10% 2	20
District or City Council	0% 0	25% 5	25% 5	20% 4	25% 5	0% 0	5% 1	20

Basic Statistics					
	Minimum	Maximum	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation
Regional Council	1.00	7.00	3.00	3.15	1.74
District or City Council	2.00	7.00	3.50	3.65	1.35

Analysis: A mean score of 3 is recorded, which is “somewhat agree”. It is pleasing 9 respondents either strongly agree or agree Regional Council considers and responds to iwi/hapū/kaitiaki advice, however 2 respondents strongly disagreed this was the case. It may be worth prioritising work in this area.

Question: Do you feel advice you or your organisation contributes to regional or district planning is reflected in the Council’s decisions?



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes (1)	29%	5
No (2)	71%	12
Total		17

Basic Statistics				
Minimum	Maximum	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation
1.00	2.00	2.00	1.71	0.46

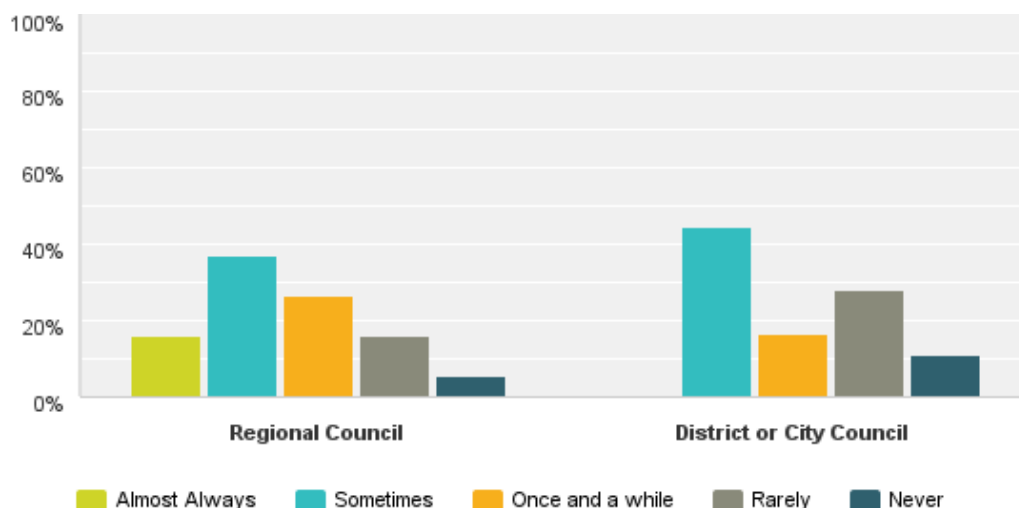
Analysis: 70% of the respondents felt Council decisions did not reflect their advice. This indicates that while Council is providing opportunities for input and is considering that input, that advice is not provided for or reflected in Council's decisions.

Feedback received as part of the follow up interviews related to the Kaitiaki Objective 13 questions is:

- While kaitiaki advice is considered by Regional Council response to cultural advice varies. Kaitiaki advice provided by Ngāti Māhino for the Kaituna Diversion consent application was resisted, grouped with cultural impact assessments (CIA) of other iwi (i.e. Ngāti Whakāue, Tapuika and Ngāti Rangiwewehi) and the conditions of consent are weak. Waitaha, Ngāti Makino and Ngāti Pīkiao iwi prepared a combined CIA and the consent conditions requested by iwi resisted by Council staff. The decision was subsequently appealed by iwi. When kaitiaki advice is translated into planner language its meaning and intention is lost. To better address this problem requires greater collaboration and dialogue with Council officer and planners.
- Limited real opportunities for kaitiaki to be involved in the implementation and monitoring of consented activities. Want to see contracting opportunities provided to kaitiaki to carry out works associated with monitoring and implementing consent requirements. For example in the implementation of biodiversity enhancement and/or protection works required to be undertaken for consent applications. Concern expressed about the criteria Councils have for their contracts and tendering processes making it difficult for small or new businesses to win contracts. Concern was also expressed about paid consultants, who have won contracts, consulting kaitiaki and using their advice in reports and recommendations to Council.
- Māori need to grow their skill levels to enhance their capacity to contribute to resource management decision making processes. Judge Joe Williams made this point clear at the Resource Management Law Association 2015 conference in Tauranga. While Regional Council is good at providing opportunities to Māori it is a reflection that other Councils are doing poorly in this area.
- Comfortable when hapū put forward concerns and issues they are responded to appropriately by Council staff/decision makers. Have had our share of project specific challenges but most concerns are able to be satisfactorily resolved. Hapū advice has been resisted by developers/applicants or their agents but Council officers are open to considering how cultural concerns can be addressed through the process.

Objective 14: Partnerships between Bay of Plenty Regional Council, district and city councils and iwi authorities

Question: Do you feel Councils ‘promote a range of opportunities to formalise resource management partnerships’ with iwi?



	Almost Always (1)	Sometimes (2)	Once and a while (3)	Rarely (4)	Never (5)	Total
Regional Council	16% 3	37% 7	26% 5	16% 3	5% 1	19
District or City Council	0% 0	44% 8	17% 3	28% 5	11% 2	18

Basic Statistics					
	Minimum	Maximum	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation
Regional Council	1.00	5.00	2.00	2.58	1.09
District or City Council	2.00	5.00	3.00	3.06	1.08

Analysis: Most responses are between “sometimes” and “once and a while”, indicating Council could do better either to communicate the opportunities that do exist or to create new opportunities for partnerships with iwi across the region.

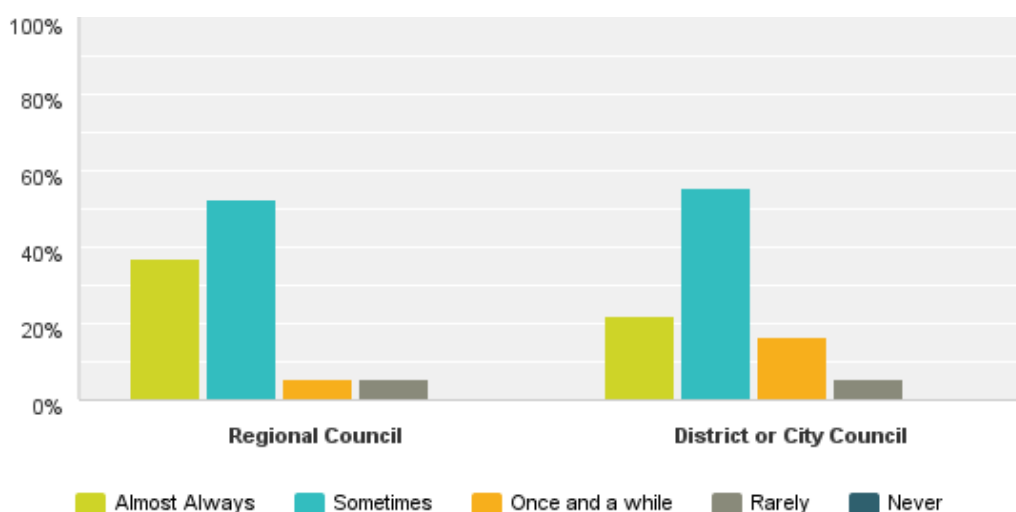
Feedback received as part of the follow up interviews related to the Partnership Objective 14 questions is:

- The perception iwi have is Council is only willing to formalise resource management partnerships with settled iwi. Opportunity exists to use joint management agreements to establish partnerships with non-settled iwi.
- I consider the work we are progressing on our land use change developments as a partnership approach. Although it is not a formal agreement we have a strong level of comfort and trust with the relevant Council staff we deal with.

- I don't think Regional Council is willing to enter into partnerships with iwi, unless they are settled and a partnership or co-governance arrangement has been legislated (e.g. Te Maru o Kaituna).
- Council is dismissive of matauranga Māori and iwi interests in the management and sustainability of resources.

From the responses in the further interviews for this question, it would appear the general view is Councils are only willing to enter into formal partnerships where this has been mandated by legislation or preference is given to settled iwi in the region.

Question 22: Does your organisation experience consistent, positive engagement with Councils?



	Almost Always (1)	Sometimes (2)	Once and a while (3)	Rarely (4)	Never (5)	Total
Regional Council	37% 7	53% 10	5% 1	5% 1	0% 0	19
District or City Council	22% 4	56% 10	17% 3	6% 1	0% 0	18

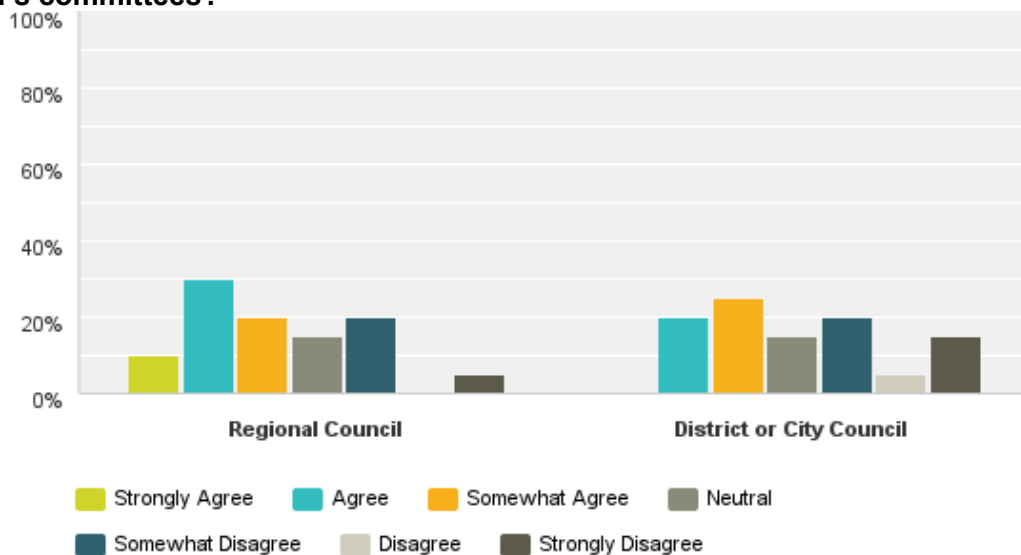
Basic Statistics					
	Minimum	Maximum	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation
Regional Council	1.00	4.00	2.00	1.79	0.77
District or City Council	1.00	4.00	2.00	2.06	0.78

Analysis: The responses indicate Regional Council is doing a good job with its engagement. The mean score of 1.79 is between “almost always” and “sometimes, with only 2 responses for “once and a while” and “rarely”. The result indicates Regional Council is heading in the right direction.

Feedback received as part of the follow up interviews related to the questions is:

- Generally engagement with the hapu is positive. Nothing negative comes to mind, issues take time to work through, so common understanding is reached on both sides. Often the issues of cultural significance are clouded by client relationships. For example advice from the applicant's lawyer or agent may be to not engage early or directly with tangata whenua or to ignore cultural advice received. All in all we're in a privileged position because we have close and established working relationships with key staff in Council. If the hapū or Council have an issue there is already a level of trust established and we have a foot in. This is an advantage to us.
- Once in a while. I have limited directly involvement with Council staff, most of my engagement is directly with landowners and developers in the western Bay of Plenty district. I do think Council's view kaitiaki as tokenistic advisors and they are only willing to consider cultural advice when it fits within their picture.
- Rarely. We have ongoing concerns with some long standing consented operations/activities which we have tried to resolve through engagement with Regional Council. We also had to appeal a recent stormwater discharge consent application because our cultural recommendations were not reflected in Council's decisions. There needs to be a greater effort made towards strategically weaving as one together to achieve relationship success.
- Almost always. I'm seeing major change in views of whanau members who are generally mistrustful of government authorities but are now changing their stance as can see Council wants to help them. This represents a major shift in mind set and has only happened recently.

Question: Do you feel there is a positive trend in representation of tangata whenua on Council's committees?



	Strongly Agree (1)	Agree (2)	Somewhat Agree (3)	Neutral (4)	Somewhat Disagree (5)	Disagree (6)	Strongly Disagree (7)	Total
Regional Council	10% 2	30% 6	20% 4	15% 3	20% 4	0% 0	5% 1	20
District or City Council	0% 0	20% 4	25% 5	15% 3	20% 4	5% 1	15% 3	20

Basic Statistics					
	Minimum	Maximum	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation
Regional Council	1.00	7.00	3.00	3.25	1.55
District or City Council	2.00	7.00	4.00	4.10	1.67

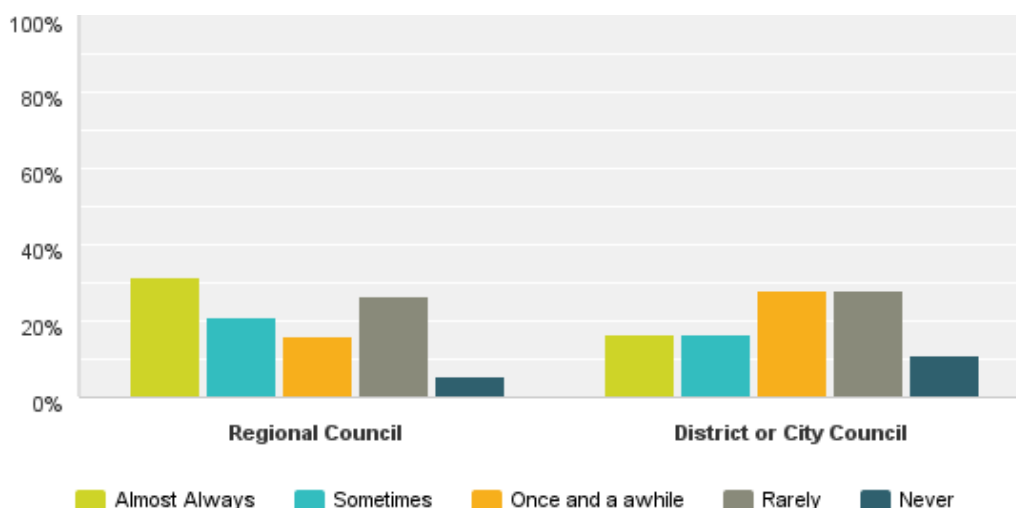
Analysis: The mean response to this question is just below “somewhat agree”. The results are more favourable for Regional Council compared with the responses for city and district councils. The responses in the further interviews for this question are very similar to those for the partnership question. There is a strong general view Councils are only willing to provide for tangata whenua representation where this has been mandated by legislation or preference is given to settled iwi in the region. I note there are variable examples of Māori or tangata whenua representation committees that have existed across different local authorities in the region in the last 10 to 15 years. Often these Committees have limited delegations and real decision making powers.

Feedback received as part of the follow up interviews related to the tangata whenua representation questions is:

- We support Komiti Māori and the way they have their meetings at different marae across the region. Also support the establishment of co-governance entities however those established to date are required by legislation so Council has no discretion not to ensure this happens.
- We're in favour of Regional Council's Maori constituencies. It's a huge positive. But doesn't filter down to TCC or WBOPDC. Non-stat committees have better representation (e.g. Smart Growth Tangata Whenua Forum) than statutory committees.
- Yes we support Māori constituencies however Council only provides for tangata whenua representation where it is legislated to do so.

Objective 15: Water, land, coastal and geothermal resource management decisions have regard to iwi and hapū resource management planning documents

Question: Do you feel Council’s resource management decisions take account of iwi or hapū resource management plans relevant to your organisation, iwi or hapū?



	Almost Always (1)	Sometimes (2)	Once and a while (3)	Rarely (4)	Never (5)	Total
Regional Council	32% 6	21% 4	16% 3	26% 5	5% 1	19
District or City Council	17% 3	17% 3	28% 5	28% 5	11% 2	18

Basic Statistics					
	Minimum	Maximum	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation
Regional Council	1.00	5.00	2.00	2.53	1.31
District or City Council	1.00	5.00	3.00	3.00	1.25

Analysis: While 10 respondents feel Council “almost always” or “sometimes” takes into account their resource management plans, another 9 respondents answered “once and a while”, “rarely” or “never”. Further analysis is required to determine why this is the case and if particular hapū/iwi are feeling more marginalised than others.

The RMA includes a requirement to take into account iwi and hapū resource management plans when preparing regional policy statements and regional and district plans. In resource consents processes the consent authority may have regard to any other matter (s104(1)(c)) including iwi and hapū resource management plans. So the requirement to consider iwi and hapū resource management plans is more direct with respect to plan change processes.

In resource consents processes, the consideration of iwi and hapū resource management plans is likely to be less common and would depend on a number of factors. Relevant factors include whether the application for resource consent is publicly notified, what cultural

issues are relevant and whether such plans are raised as a relevant consideration. The recent consent process to leave the Rena wreck on Astrolabe Reef is an example of where various iwi and hapū resource management plans were considered as part of the process.

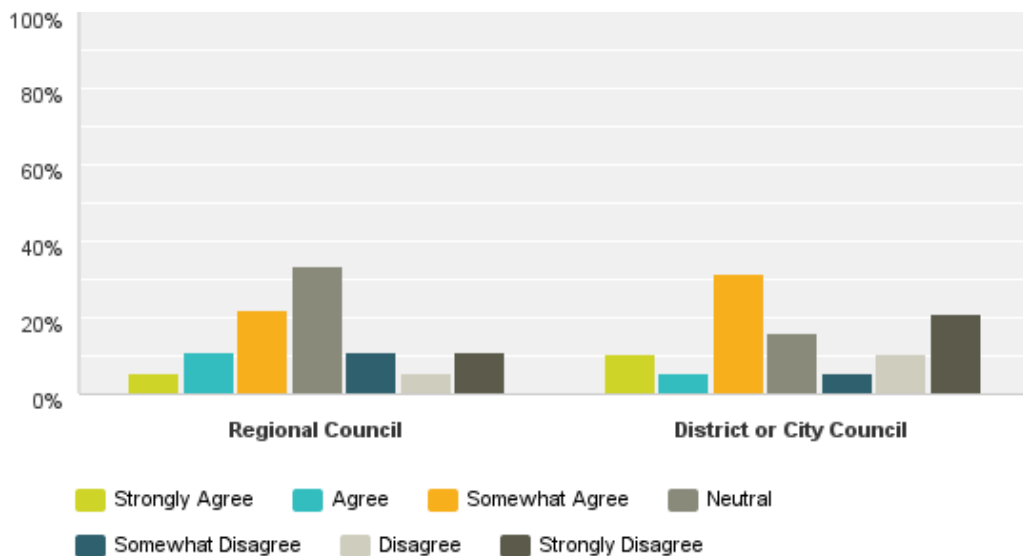
Iwi and hapū resource management plans lodged with Regional Council were analysed in the second generation RPS development process. The analysis purpose was to identify the issues of significance to iwi. For each issue there is a corresponding objective, and each objective has corresponding monitoring indicators including the need to carry out this iwi perception survey.

Feedback received as part of the follow up interviews related to the iwi resource management plan questions is:

- We don't have a iwi resource management plan yet.
- Sometimes because we refer to our plan in our submissions to plans or consent applications.

Objective 16: Multiple-owned Māori land is developed and used in a manner that enables Māori to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing and their health and safety, while maintaining and safeguarding its mauri

Question: Do you feel regional, city and district councils are 'reducing barriers to development on multiply-owned Māori land' in the Bay of Plenty region?



	Strongly Agree (1)	Agree (2)	Somewhat Agree (3)	Neutral (4)	Somewhat Disagree (5)	Disagree (6)	Strongly Disagree (7)	Total
Regional Council	6% 1	11% 2	22% 4	33% 6	11% 2	6% 1	11% 2	18
District or City Council	11% 2	5% 1	32% 6	16% 3	5% 1	11% 2	21% 4	19

Basic Statistics					
	Minimum	Maximum	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation
Regional Council	1.00	7.00	4.00	3.94	1.58
District or City Council	1.00	7.00	4.00	4.16	1.95

Analysis: The majority of respondents answered either “neutral” or “somewhat agree” to this question. Three respondents agreed or somewhat agreed with the question. Three respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed Regional Council are reducing barriers to developing multiply-owned Māori land. Six respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed City or District Councils are reducing barriers to developing multiply-owned Māori land.

Information obtained from the further interviews relevant to this question is as follows:

- We made a submission to SmartGrowth and WBOPDC seeking Papakāinga zoning for Otekawa on Pah Road adjacent the Rangiuru Business Park. Instead all Papakāinga spot zones were removed from the district plan which has increased barriers to the development of these areas of multiply-owned Māori land in our rohe. Some whānau wanted new areas added but only specific Papakāinga spot zone areas were requested to be removed.
- The building and resource consent fees are too high adding to the difficulties securing finance to building on multiply owned Māori land.
- There are additional barriers to developing multiple owned Maori land. Nga Potiki have sought special housing area approval for our land in Papamoa adjacent the Waitaha block. Am interested in progressing spatial planning including within the CMA.
- There is more awareness around infrastructure investment on multiply owned Maori land. TPK have established an infrastructure fund in recognition of the infrastructure costs impediments on Maori land. A classic example is the Te Puna block at Ohikemoeke. Difficulty is getting roading into the block. When the block was surveyed it was done as a desktop exercise and the road ended up traversing through swamp area.
- Te Tumu are large Maori landowners within the urban limits. There are no barriers as landowners are also developers with economic interests. But need to also balance iwi interests of managing environmental effects.
- Most of the land in our rohe is Maori land. There have been no examples in recent times of new housing development in our rohe. Historically we have seen lots of forestry and maize development done by third parties on our tribal lands. Maize growers mostly rely on year by year verbal agreements for their lease arrangements. Forestry lease

agreements are long term leases many with 60 years still to run. Housing is still an issue. Issue is access to funding for buyers/trustees. But the real issue is a lack of jobs in our rohe. That is the crux of the issue, in order to promote development we need to create jobs for whanau and the community in our rohe. Maori housing is more pronounced in eastern Bay as 90% of land is Maori land. Our solution is to create land use change from low to high return crops at a rate of 30 ha per year for 5 years to systematically remove maize and replace with kiwifruit. This initiative is owned and lead by the hapu.

Objective 17 – The mauri of water, land, air and geothermal resources is safeguarded and where it is degraded, where appropriate, it is enhanced over time

Question: Do you thing the mauri of water, land, air and geothermal resources within your rohe has changed in the last 5 years?

Answer Choices	Responses
Very much (1)	68% 13
Somewhat (2)	21% 4
Neutral (3)	0% 0
Not really (4)	5% 1
Not at all (5)	5% 1
Total	19

Basic Statistics				
Minimum	Maximum	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation
1.00	5.00	1.00	1.58	1.09

Analysis: Most respondents answered “very much” to this question and the comments received all show a perceived decline in the mauri of natural resources, particularly water quality. Examples of comments include:

- *”Diminishing trends across most taonga of significance particularly our awa and estuaries. Both water quality and quantity decline. This results in loss of matauranga, affects identities and relationship with affected taonga. Effects upon present and future generations (cumulative)”*
- *“It will take many years to upgrade the water quality in this rohe.”*
- *“I was born and raised in and around Ohinemataroa. It is paru and you can visibly see it is hurting.....We asked in our submission to the long term Plan to BOPRC that all waterways in the EBOP area i.e. Ohinemataroa, Tarawera and Rangitaiki be cleaned up please!!!”*
- *“Loss of quality of life in our river” “Decline in most parts of the environment”*
- *“The number of water users at a commercial and recreational level have increased. The Rena, expansion of the Port of Tauranga, harbour dredging, oil spills have all had an impact on the mauri of the natural water resources in Tauranga Moana.”*

- *“Councils adopt maori concepts and their staff are not the correct people to implement them. Water take processes are a nonsense and take insufficient regard for the environment”*
- *“Growth issues and land development have a major impact on waterways, land and other resources. Constant monitoring and protective measures are needed to ensure cultural values are not being eroded.”*
- *“It has degenerated especially in the land sectors like dairy farming as policies especially from central government have favoured economic returns as a priority”*

Resource Consents Process

This part of the survey incorporates questions specifically related to iwi/hapū and whānau experiences with Regional Council’s resource consents process. Participants’ were asked to rate their experience (1 = Poor, 5 = OK, 10 = Excellent) on specific process related matters set out in the table below.

	1 (1)	2 (2)	3 (3)	4 (4)	5 (5)	6 (6)	7 (7)	8 (8)	9 (9)	10 (10)	Total	Weighted Average
The timeliness that we contact you about consent applications	13% 2	0% 0	6% 1	13% 2	19% 3	0% 0	31% 5	6% 1	6% 1	6% 1	16	5.63
How we keep you informed about consent applications relating to your rohe	6% 1	6% 1	6% 1	19% 3	6% 1	6% 1	38% 6	0% 0	0% 0	13% 2	16	5.69
How your concerns were addressed by and during the consents process	6% 1	0% 0	13% 2	13% 2	31% 5	6% 1	25% 4	0% 0	0% 0	6% 1	16	5.25
How your iwi is involved in the Cultural Impact Assessments for your rohe	6% 1	0% 0	19% 3	0% 0	19% 3	13% 2	13% 2	13% 2	13% 2	6% 1	16	5.94
How your Iwi / Hapū Management Plan was considered during the consents process	14% 2	7% 1	7% 1	14% 2	36% 5	7% 1	14% 2	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	14	4.29
The Consents Team's cultural awareness	0% 0	13% 2	13% 2	6% 1	31% 5	13% 2	13% 2	6% 1	0% 0	6% 1	16	5.19
Your overall satisfaction with our consent process?	6% 1	6% 1	6% 1	19% 3	25% 4	6% 1	19% 3	6% 1	0% 0	6% 1	16	5.19

Basic Statistics					
	Minimum	Maximum	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation
The timeliness that we contact you about consent applications	1.00	10.00	6.00	5.63	2.52
How we keep you informed about consent applications relating to your rohe	1.00	10.00	6.50	5.69	2.49
How your concerns were addressed by and during the consents process	1.00	10.00	5.00	5.25	2.05
How your iwi is involved in the Cultural Impact Assessments for your rohe	1.00	10.00	6.00	5.94	2.49
How your Iwi / Hapū Management Plan was considered during the consents process	1.00	7.00	5.00	4.29	1.87
The Consents Team's cultural awareness	2.00	10.00	5.00	5.19	2.10
Your overall satisfaction with our consent process?	1.00	10.00	5.00	5.19	2.21

Analysis

Overall, the responses indicate Regional Council is performing at a level slightly higher than “Okay” for resource consenting processes.

The lowest score generated was in relation to ‘how Iwi / Hapū Resource Management Plans are considered during the consents process’. This indicates a perception that iwi and hapu resource management plans are not receiving adequate consideration according to survey respondents.

Responses and/or comments on Regional Council’s resource consents process is as follows:

- Consider secondments of Regional Council planning and policy or consents officers to iwi organisations to support them with their involvement in resource management decision making processes. Many iwi and hapū organisations lack qualified and experienced planning staff. Secondments would be a good opportunity to help build their capacity and effectiveness in these processes while simultaneously helping to build relationships and trust between iwi/hapu and Council. It could also help reduce costs particularly if iwi/hapū are better able to articulate the relief they seek with the support of relevant information earlier on in decision making processes.
- Overall I think Regional Council’s consenting process has definitely improved. I think this is mainly because Maori environmental concerns and issues are getting a lot publicity, debate and discussion. The Treaty settlements are also adding weight to iwi concerns, not just environmental but also in terms of iwi being developers. Council staff are becoming more aware of the issues and iwi resource management plans have improved. Iwi resource management plans produced in last few years are much improved and people are using them more.
- Most of our concerns are related to specific resource consent applications and their effects on the mauri of water. Some are historical and ongoing (i.e. water takes for urban areas or jet boating operation on river), while others will be in response to new applications. It appears the statutory acknowledgements are working as we have received requests for consultation at the pre-application stage where the proposal may result in effects on our ancestral waterways. We’re keen to build better relationships with Council staff so they understand and are aware of our cultural concerns with different types of activities in our rohe.
- In my view the process is a nonsense. There is no visible proof the ‘allocable’ water is allocated or that all who require water get any. There are no clear instructions sent to us. A pile of forms and no information of what is expected, no date by which it needs to be submitted, the role we have in either approving or not the consent, no information about whether the new consent is a renewed consent based on the previous one or a new and increased consent. No information about how Council decides to approve the consent, no science behind what they do, how they do it and what is left for the river ecology to thrive in. There should be a set amount of specific uses, with time limits and volume limits all metered and electronically collated.

We have to work together and we have to have robust processes in place that is fair for everyone. Resource consents go with the land not the farmer, no one is able to sell any of their water take. This proves they were allocated too much in the first place. Decisions on these may need to be heard in hearings if there are more consents requested than there is water to allocate.

- Capacity and resourcing is still an issue dealing with consents alongside plan changes. Hearings, submissions and all the other work that comes with a response and reaction from applicants. Continue working on capacity building and resourcing. Disappointed at some of the rejected submission points. Not consistent with policy already in plans and RPS. Shows resistance from Council to respect parts of the RMA and their own RPS.
- Need to review timeframes and process and prioritise relationships which are of utmost importance.
- Cultural considerations should be weighted above economic considerations.
- Tangata whenua kaitiaki and cultural advisors are not a free service. Some are experts in their fields and should be treated as such. Frequently the consultants hired by councils have financial gain on their minds. Maori have the future existence of their culture on their minds. Wish to see a tangata whenua council of Tauranga Moana with real decision making powers and not just advisory groups.
- Real inflexibility when dealing with tangata whenua. Use a best practice model which is proactive rather than reactive. Need better alignment of policy and processes at a regional and district council level.