

Reorua Contestable Fund

Ko tōku reo tōku ohooho, ko tōku reo tōku māpihi maurea. My language is my awakening, my language is my treasure.

The Reorua Contestable Fund champions the use of te reo Māori in the Whakatāne District. The funding focus is for events, projects, and activities that encourage and uplift te reo Māori.

Te reo Māori is a taonga that holds a vital place in the cultural fabric of Aotearoa. At Whakatāne District Council, we are committed to celebrating and supporting the growth of te reo Māori across our rohe. We are proud to have two of our town centres recognised as Reorua townships, Whakatāne in 2023, and Murupara in 2024.

This funding is an initiative between Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa, Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Manawa, and Whakatāne District Council.

Guidelines:

- Applications are accepted from both individuals and organisations
- Applicants are welcome to make a presentation to our Community Funding Committee about their project. You can let us know if you want to make a presentation in your application form.
- We recommend the amount of funding you apply for is less than \$5,000. Applications for amounts higher than that may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

How to make an application:

Applications can be completed online through our partner, SmartyGrants. If you need help with your application, or you are unable to complete an application online, please contact the Community Funding Advisor at grants@whakatane.govt.nz or 07 306 0500 for help.

To complete your application form, you will need evidence of the costs of your project, e.g. quotes or invoices for your expenses. If you are applying for an organisation, you will also need an annual report or financial statement.

What we do fund:

Whakatāne District Council funds projects, programmes, and activities that that benefit the Whakatāne District, its residents, and its communities. Applicants must be active in the Whakatāne District to be eligible.

In addition, we prefer to fund applicants that:

- Have a clear plan in their application, identify exactly how funding will be used, and provide a budget for the project/activity
- Demonstrate that there is a community need and/or community support for the project/activity
- Support vulnerable and marginalized people and groups in our community.

What we don't fund:

- Salaries for the staff of non-profit organisations
- Projects and activities that do not directly benefit the Whakatāne District's residents and communities
- Applications more suited to funding by other funding organisations
- Funding for projects that have already taken place.

Whakatāne District Council does not usually fund commercial or private organisations, activities that promote religious or political purposes, and programmes that duplicate existing initiatives. However, exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Council does not fund legal or medical expenses, debt repayment, statutory functions and public services (e.g. education and health care), purchase or promotion of alcohol and tobacco, and physical works (e.g. improvements to community buildings) that do not have permits prior to application.

How are decisions made:

Applications are assessed based on how they would benefit the Whakatāne District's residents and communities. This includes factors like how many people your project/activity would reach, and how it would improve the lives of those people.

Applications are also assessed based on how well they meet the guidelines and criteria, and how much information is provided in the application.

Application review and assessment:

We'll carry out an initial check of your application to make sure you're eligible. If there is any more information we need, we'll be in contact.

The Community Funding Committee then will meet to discuss applications and allocate funding to applicants. After this meeting, you will be notified of the outcome of your application via email.

The Committee may require some conditions to be met for funding they allocate to be released. For example, providing information or clarification, paying outstanding bills, or filing outstanding reports. If this happens, you will be notified when you are told your application has been successful.

The total amount of funding requested often exceeds the amount of funding we have to distribute. Successful applicants may receive less funding than they request.

Advice and support:

If you have any questions, or you need advice and support, contact the Community Funding Advisor at grants@whakatane.govt.nz