

Memorandum

To: Toituu Marae Forum
From: Gannin Ormsby, Strategic Advisor Community Resilience
Subject: Marae Resilience Fund and Marae Resilience Data Tool Update
Date: September 2026

Marae Priority

Resilience, Climate preparedness and Civil Defence Readiness

Mihi Whakatau

Ki te taha oo tooku matua, ko Waikato-Maniapoto te iwi.

Ki te taha oo tooku whaea, ko Te Rarawa te iwi.

Ko Ngaati Mahuta, ko Ngaati Roora, ko Ngai Tuupoto oo ngaa hapuu.

Ko Te Kuuiti, ko Waahi, ko Mangamuka oo ngaa marae.

No te whaanau Ormsby me te whaanau Harris hoki.

Ko Gannin Ormsby ahau.

He kaimahi moo te Kaunihera aa Takiwaa oo Waikato, he Kaitohutohu Whakarautaki Hapori Manahau, Strategic Advisor Community Resilience moo taku mahi.

Teenaa raa koutou katoa.

He aha te kaupapa?

The Community Resilience Team is providing an update on the **Marae Resilience Programme**, including the launch of the Marae Resilience Fund and progress on the **Marae Resilience Data Tool** (MRDT).

The programme has been developed to support marae-led resilience by strengthening preparedness, capability, and connections before, during, and after emergency events.

Why is this important?

Recent emergency events across Aotearoa have highlighted the critical role marae play in supporting whaanau and communities.

Marae often become places of shelter, coordination, information sharing, and recovery during times of crisis. Building resilience at marae strengthens the ability of communities to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies.

The programme recognises that resilience looks different for every marae and seeks to support marae aspirations through partnership, capability-building, and practical resources.

What is being proposed?

Utilisation of the Marae Resilience Fund. A Marae Resilience Fund has been established that will enable eligible marae to apply for funding of up to \$13,000 for resilience-related initiatives.



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Projects may include:

- Emergency preparedness and planning
- Capability and training initiatives
- Resilience equipment and resources
- Projects that strengthen marae readiness, response, or recovery capability

Successful applicants will enter into a funding agreement and provide:

- An interim report (January 2027)
- A final report (September 2027)

Marae Resilience Data Tool (MRDT)

The Marae Resilience Data Tool has been developed to help marae identify strengths, opportunities, and priorities for future resilience planning.

The tool considers resilience across:

- Reduction
- Readiness
- Response
- Recovery

It also reflects key values that underpin marae resilience, including mahitahi, manaakitanga, kotahitanga, and aroha.

What has happened so far?

Key milestones achieved to date include:

- Development of the Marae Resilience Strategy.
- Establishment of the Marae Resilience Fund framework.
- Completion of the Marae Resilience Data Tool.
- Pilot engagement with marae through the Waahi Whaanui Trust network.
- Ongoing relationship-building with marae across the Waikato District.
- Collection of feedback to refine and improve the programme.

Initial testing has provided valuable insights that will inform future rollout and implementation.

What is Council asking the Forum?

Council is seeking the Forum's support to:

1. Receive the Marae Resilience Programme update.
2. Consider opportunities to apply for the Marae Resilience Fund.
3. Share feedback on the proposed funding approach.
4. Consider participation in future phases of the Marae Resilience Data Tool rollout.
5. Continue discussions on strengthening marae and community resilience across the district.



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Potential Benefits for Marae

The programme may help marae to:

- Strengthen emergency preparedness and planning.
- Improve capability to respond during emergency events.
- Identify resilience strengths and future priorities.
- Access funding for marae-led resilience initiatives.
- Strengthen relationships with emergency management partners.
- Build long-term resilience for whaanau and communities.

What Happens Next?

Following feedback from Toituu Marae Forum:

- Applications for the Marae Resilience Fund will open.
- Engagement on the Marae Resilience Data Tool will continue.
- Feedback from marae will help shape future programme delivery.
- Ongoing updates will be provided through future Toituu Marae Forum hui.

Recommendation

That the Toituu Marae Forum receives the Marae Resilience Fund and Marae Resilience Data Tool update memorandum.

