

# MY MASTERTON: OUR PEOPLE, OUR LAND STRATEGY

## HE HIRINGA TANGATA, HE HIRINGA WHENUA



## CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

### OUR VISION

*Masterton/Whakaoriori values the place and role of tangata whenua and is proud of our cultural identity and heritage*

Culture connects and strengthens communities, instils a sense of pride and identity and improves individual and community health and wellbeing.

Māori culture, in particular, is central to our sense of New Zealand's uniqueness as a place, a society and a nation, and is a defining feature of our identity in the world.<sup>1</sup>

We aspire to be a leader in cultural development and want to build on all of the positive actions already occurring in our community.

We want Masterton/Whakaoriori to have a sense of pride in its culture and heritage, and to value the role and place of tangata whenua within our district. We also want our organisation to have a more bicultural focus.

The two priorities below outline the strategic direction we will take to achieve our vision.

# 1

**A commitment to working with Rangitāne o Wairarapa and Kahungunu ki Wairarapa to strengthen relationships and increase opportunities for meaningful partnership and collaboration. To achieve this we will:**

- Strengthen and maintain opportunities for greater decision-making between MDC and iwi
- Support iwi, hapū and Māori communities in the long-term sustainability and wellbeing of local Marae
- Integrate tangata whenua values, culture and language into the business of MDC

# 2

**A community that is proud of its cultural identity and heritage. To achieve this we will:**

- Increase the number of opportunities for residents and visitors to learn about the history and heritage of Masterton/Whakaoriori
- Support language and culture being celebrated in our district



<sup>1</sup>Ministry for Culture and Heritage (2014) Cultural Sector Strategic Framework 2014–2018, page 3