# \\officetemplates.dia.govt.nz\diatemplates$\Templates\Images\Logo -  DIA colour.pngThe Relationship Accord

The Kia Tūtahi Relationship Accord (the Accord) sets out principles and expectations to guide how communities and government can work together for the benefit of society. The following principles form the basis for committed actions:

* we will respect Te Tiriti o Waitangi;
* we have a collective responsibility to hear and respond to the voices of all;
* we will act in good faith; and
* our work together will be built on trust and mutual respect.

Implementation of the Accord will contribute to the vision of: communities of Aotearoa New Zealand and the Government of New Zealand working together for a fair, inclusive and flourishing society.

## Background

The Accord was signed by government and community members on 1 August 2011.

The signing follows many years of debate about the state of the community-government relationship and replaces the Statement of Government Intentions for an Improved Community-Government Relationship signed by government in 2001.

The Accord was developed by a Steering Group appointed by the Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector in 2010.

## Why do we need an Accord?

To support strong community-government relationships because:

* government is increasingly devolving more responsibility and decision-making to communities;
* strong community-government relationships help communities and government work better together; and
* communities and government need to work together to respond to the complex issues that society faces.

## What’s happening to give effect to the Accord?

The Accord is being promoted through the following actions:

* communities being invited to identify and promote opportunities to give effect to the Accord with government agencies and other stakeholders;
* co-ordinating a series of seminars with government agencies and non-government organisations ; and
* supporting agencies and communities to capture and analyse lessons learned, and to develop a body of good practice to share and support government agencies and communities.