

Combined Tāngata Whenua Forum – SmartGrowth Senior Manager Group Representative

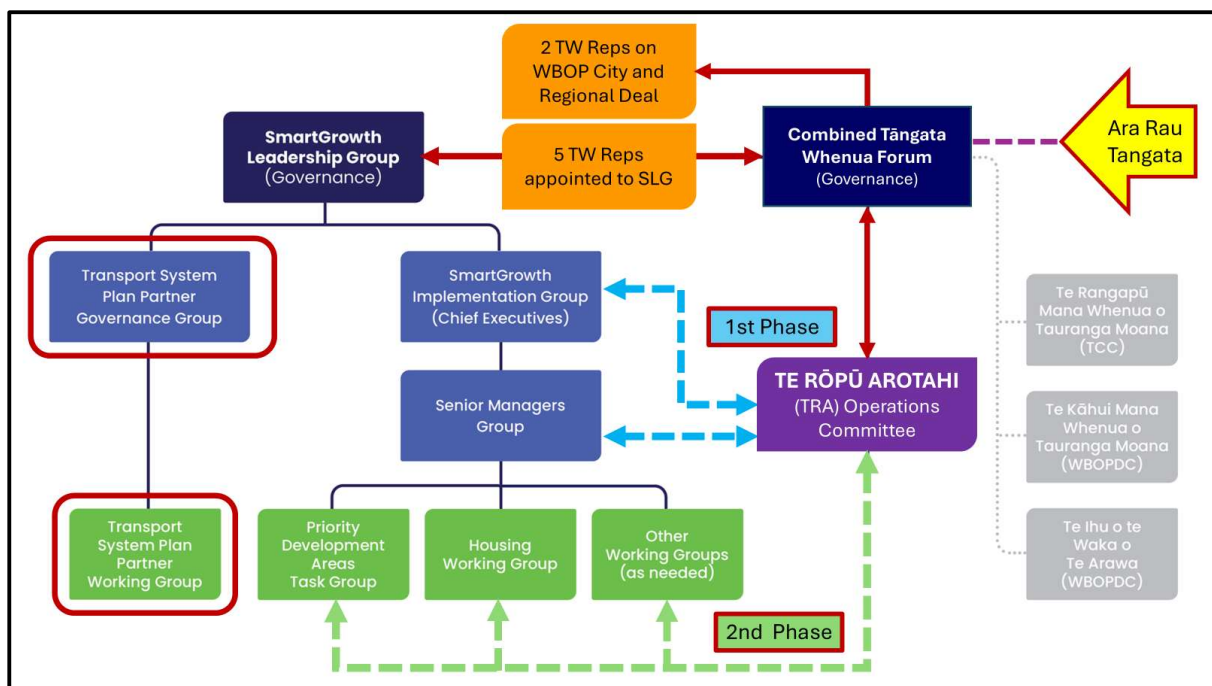
PART 1 - SmartGrowth Senior Managers Group (SMG) Role Description

Introduction

The Combined Tāngata Whenua Forum (CTWF) has successfully established two new tāngata whenua membership positions within the wider SmartGrowth partnership structure.

The CTWF is seeking expressions of interest from suitably qualified and experienced tāngata whenua candidates to serve as a member on the SmartGrowth Senior Managers Group (SMG) in a technical management advisory role on behalf of the CTWF.

The SMG team members work collaboratively across the three-council partner senior management team leads, Priority One and equivalent Crown agency partners, including those responsible for transport, housing, education and health.



The EOI process will be administered and managed by Te Rōpū Arotahi on behalf of the CTWF as the first phase in the new tāngata whenua representation process in 2026. This is outlined in the above SmartGrowth committee and technical working group structure diagram.

For more information on SmartGrowth and the CTWF can be found by clicking [here](#).

SmartGrowth Senior Managers Group (SMG) Position Description

SMG are those middle management team leaders who provide the technical foundation of the SmartGrowth partnership, taking a whole-of-partnership view on broad policy and implementation challenges within sub-regional, regional and national contexts. The SMG responsibilities are to:

- contribute to the management of the Urban Growth Partnership with central government;
- form views and provide guidance, applying a four-wellbeing's approach, on the strategic issues associated with implementing the SmartGrowth Strategy;
- oversee the development and implementation of the SmartGrowth Strategy, Implementation Plan and work programme, initiatives, and action milestones are monitored and reported;
- establish and direct Working Groups, guide any programme or project managers and the Technical and Strategic Advisors, to ensure systems and resources function effectively;
- assess resourcing impacts and support the setting aside of sufficient funding;
- advise both the SGIG and SLG (governance) as required.
- Refer to the SMG Terms of Reference for more information.

Scope of Services

The CTWF technical representative on SMG will:

- contribute technical tāngata whenua values, perspectives, and aspirations are integrated and reflected in the Group's advice, oversight and recommendations.
- have the flexibility to respond to new central and local government initiatives, reform where these are relevant to SMG role and tāngata whenua priorities.

Core Competencies

- Applied capability in Te Ao Māori, including te reo Māori me ngā tikanga, Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and Tauranga Moana and Te Arawa tikanga and kawa in a planning, policy and or governance context.
- Proven capability in managing complex, multi-partner relationships across Māori, central government, local government and other stakeholders
- Senior-level experience operating within strategic, multi-partner governance or management forums, including briefing and influencing decision-makers
- Leading, or significant involvement in, policy or planning programmes in new, contentious, sensitive or complex areas

Technical Competencies

- An academic qualification in public policy, planning, spatial planning, social science, law, Māori studies or te reo Māori, or equivalent professional experience
- Understanding of Iwi, Māori and local government decision making processes and demonstrated knowledge of political administrative processes and structures
- Developed communication skills including the ability to communicate clearly and succinctly in a variety of communication settings and styles, both through writing and verbally
- Experience at drawing on a range of inputs including evidence from a range of sources and innovative use of evidence sources
- Effective working relationships and the ability to work with multiple partners that may have different objectives

Representation and reporting

- Ensure information on CTWF priorities are monitored and reported.
- Liaise on CTWF risks, concerns and opportunities affecting key tāngata whenua matters

Key Relationships

- SMG members
- CTWF members, chairperson, and Te Rōpū Arotahi
- Tū Pakari Advisory team, Pou Ārahi and Kai Ārahi (Strategic and Technical Advisors)

Time and Resource Commitment

The successful appointee will be remunerated at the current SmartGrowth Tāngata Whenua meeting rate of \$297.00 gross per meeting. This rate covers:

- attendance at scheduled SMG meetings / workshops;
- preparation for each meeting, including reviewing the distributed agenda pack, and
- reporting back to the next CTWF hui following each SMG meeting.

Meeting Frequency

The SMG meeting frequency is determined by the three Council partners in the first quarter of each year for all SmartGrowth meetings. It is expected that there would be 5 or 6 SMG meetings schedule in 2027.

PART 2 - Expressions of Interest Process

This Expressions of Interest (EOI) process invites suitably qualified and experienced tāngata whenua candidates to express their interest in the SMG tāngata whenua management representative position described above. The process is administered and managed by Te Rōpū Arotahi on behalf of the CTWF and is the first phase of the CTWF's tāngata whenua representation across the SmartGrowth Committee structure in 2026.

The CTWF welcomes expressions of interest from candidates from the Tauranga Moana and Te Arawa rohe who can represent tāngata whenua interests at a sub-regional management level. Submitting an expression of interest places a candidate under no obligation, and the CTWF is under no obligation to appoint from those who respond.

How to submit an expression of interest

To express an interest, candidates are asked to provide the following:

- a cover statement of no more than two pages, outlining their interest in the role, the basis of their connection and standing within the rohe, and how they meet the core and technical competencies set out in this role description;
- a curriculum vitae outlining relevant strategic leadership, governance, policy and partnership experience; and
- the names and contact details of two referees who can speak to the candidate's experience, standing and suitability for the role.

Expressions of interest are to be submitted electronically to the SmartGrowth administrator at administration@smartgrowthbop.org.nz by the deadline set out below. Candidates are encouraged to keep their submission concise and focused on the competencies sought.

Indicative Expression of Interest (EOI) Timeline

Milestones:	Dates:
EOI SMG position description and process released on SmartGrowth website.	25 June 2026
Closing date for questions on the SMG EOI process to SmartGrowth via: administration@smartgrowthbop.org.nz	3 July 2026
Closing date to lodge an SMG EOI application to SmartGrowth via: administration@smartgrowthbop.org.nz	4.00pm 10 July 2026
Shortlisted candidates contacted	13 July 2026
Interviews / kanohi ki te kanohi (preferred)	14 – 21 July 2026

Appointment confirmed by the CTWF	23 July 2026
Term commences	27 July 2026

SmartGrowth may amend this timeline and will notify candidates of any material change.

How expressions of interest will be assessed

Expressions of interest will be assessed against the Core Competencies and Technical Competencies set out in this role description. In particular, Te Rōpū Arotahi and the CTWF will have regard to the candidates:

- applied capability in Te Ao Māori, including te reo me ngā tikanga, and knowledge of Tauranga Moana and Te Arawa;
- standing and ability to carry the mandate of the CTWF and represent tāngata whenua at a sub-regional, executive management level;
- experience in senior strategic leadership, and in influencing and briefing decision-makers across Māori, central government and local government; and
- ability to maintain an effective, two-way interface with the CTWF, including reporting back on key matters discussed with SMG.

As this is a mandated representative appointment rather than a procurement, candidates are not required to submit pricing. Remuneration is at the fixed meeting rate set out under Time and Resource Commitment above.

Te Rōpū Arotahi may shortlist candidates and meet with them kanohi ki te kanohi before making a recommendation to the CTWF. The CTWF will confirm the appointment and the conferral of its mandate.

Questions and point of contact

Questions about this EOI or the role should be directed to SmartGrowth administration at administration@smartgrowthbop.org.nz before the deadline for questions set out above. To ensure fairness, SmartGrowth may share questions of general relevance, and its responses, with all known candidates.

Appointment and next steps

The successful candidate will be appointed by the CTWF as its mandated tāngata whenua senior management representative on the SMG committee to progress the collective WBOP subregional tāngata whenua views and perspectives in accordance with the position description provisions and expectations in a professional manner.

The unsuccessful candidates will be notified following confirmation of the appointment.