

Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee Minutes

Rā Date:	Monday 6 May 2024
Tāima Time:	10am
Tauwāhi Location:	Kaiwaka Sports Association, 2 Gibbons Road, Kaiwaka, 0573
Huihuinga Gathering	Tame Te Rangi (Chair), Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua Amy Macdonald (Deputy Chair), Northland Regional Council Georgina Curtis-Connelly, Te Uri o Hau Greg Sayers, Auckland Council Jane Sherard, Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara John Blackwell, Northland Regional Council Taiāwhio Wati, Te Uri o Hau
I Tae Mae In Attendance	Justine Daw, Pou Tātaki, KMR Galilee Miles, Kaitohutohu, KMR Lisette Rawson, Amo-Rauora Kōawa, KMR Sophie Bone, PA to Pou Tātaki and Governance Support, KMR Stephanie Versteeg, Amo-Rautaki Pākihi, KMR Willie Wright, Mana Whenua Relations Lead, KMR (Presenter) Celia Witehira, Kōrero Tuku Iho Project Manager, Te Uri o Hau (Presenter) Ilka Pelzer, Kaitātari Matua, MfE (Observer)

The Chair declared the meeting open at 10.23am.

Karakia Timatanga and Whakatau (Item 1.0)

Ngā whakapahā | Apologies (Item 2.0)

Moved (Macdonald/Curtis-Connelly)

1. That the apologies from Members Cherie Povey, Michelle Carmichael, Jack Crow, Kerrin Leoni and Virginia Warriner be received.

Carried

Ngā whakapuakanga | Declarations of Conflicts of Interest (Item 3.0)

It was advised that members should make declarations item-by-item as the meeting progressed.

Confirmation of Minutes- April 2024 (Item 4.1)

Report from Sophie Bone, PA and Governance Support

Moved (Blackwell/Sherard)

1. That the minutes of the Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee meeting held on 8 April 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Carried

Joint Committee Action Tracker (Item 5.1)

Report from Sophie Bone, PA and Governance Support

Moved (Sayers/Blackwell)

1. That the report 'Joint Committee Action Tracker' be received.

Carried

Joint Committee Forward Workplan (Item 5.2)

Report from Sophie Bone, PA and Governance Support

Moved (Curtis-Connelly/Sherard)

1. That the report 'Joint Committee Forward Workplan' be received.

Carried

Draft Annual Work Plan (2024-2025) (Item 6.1)

Report from Stephanie Versteeg, Amo-Rautaki Pākihi

Moved (Blackwell/Sayers)

That the Joint Committee:

1. Receive the report 'Draft Annual Work Plan 2024-2025' by Steph Versteeg, dated 6 May 2024 (Attachment 1).
2. Note the draft Annual Work Plan budget for the 2024-2025 financial year totals \$13.771 million (total programme value excluding GST).
3. Note the draft Work Plan budget and KPIs will continue to change as modelling is refined and it becomes clearer what Year 4 budget needs to carry over into Year 5.
4. Note modelling uptake of remediation activity is inherently challenging, as KMR is a voluntary programme, and uptake can be highly variable depending on weather, human capacity, and the economy.
5. Note that given the uncertainties in KMR's operating environment, we have estimated a suite of delivery ranges in 2024-2025, the lower bound of which represents the formal Key Performance Indicators for the programme, which KMR is expected to meet.
6. Approve for submission the draft Work Plan (Attachment 1) to the Ministry for the Environment for review and comment, as per the requirements of the KMR Programme Deed of Funding, subject to any feedback from the Joint Committee.
7. Note that the Ministry can request any reasonable modifications to the draft Work Plan within 20 working days from submission.
8. Agree to delegate to the Joint Committee Chair and Deputy Chair approval of a final draft Work Plan for provision to MfE and finalisation of the Work Plan as needed following MfE review.
9. Note the Joint Committee will receive for information the finalised Work Plan in October due to the timing of the external audit.

Carried

Kōrero Tuku Iho Update (Item 6.2)

Report from Willie Wright, KMR Mana Whenua Relations Lead, and Celia Witehira, Kōrero Tuku Iho Project Manager

Moved (Macdonald/Sherard)

That the Joint Committee:

1. Receive the report titled 'Kōrero Tuku Iho Update' by Willie Wright, KMR Mana Whenua Relations Lead, and Celia Witehira, Kōrero Tuku Iho Project Manager, dated 6 May 2024.
2. Note that a number of changes to earlier draft documentation have been made to respond to Joint Committee feedback.
3. Approve the following foundations to enable Kōrero Tuku Iho to proceed to implementation:
 - The Terms of Reference for the Kōrero Tuku Iho Reference Rōpū (Attachment 1);
 - The membership of the Interim Reference Rōpū (Attachment 2), acknowledging that further representation is envisaged;
 - An overview of the whakatauirā process, including case study selection criteria (Attachment 3); and
 - The first whakatauirā (Pouto Lakes Pātaka Kai) and associated budget (Attachment 4).
 - A high-level workplan and budget for 2024/25.

Carried

Secretarial Note:

William Wright and Celia Witehira spoke to the papers, highlighting the importance of this work as one of KMR's foundations and noting the project had been revised to address feedback from the previous meeting.

Members and the Presenters discussed the ecological importance of the lakes, their role in wider aquifer and wetland systems, and the intent of the initial case study to work in other parts of the peninsula to reduce sediment flows into the Kaipara Moana.

Member Wati sought clarification on how the past would be acknowledged through the Kōrero Tuku Iho project. The presenters spoke to the proposed Hui Wānanga as a space to receive and integrate stories and knowledge of the past in the whakatauirā, acknowledging that capturing, sharing and recording these would be undertaken in an appropriate way, and with permission.

Member Wati acknowledged that many areas in the catchment are rich in history, providing historical context on erosion as well as sites of significance. She asked how KMR planned to bring this into its everyday work. The Pou Tātaki responded that in time the Kōrero Tuku Iho project would provide information and insights that could be used by KMR, for example by identifying: taonga species that could be used in planting plans; culturally important sites that would benefit from sediment remediation projects; mātauranga Māori approaches to reducing sediment that could be integrated into KMR's 'kete' of remediation approaches; original names of streams or wetlands that could be used in KMR mapping; and various other purposes.

Members asked if a reply had been sent to an email received from the Tinopai RMU in relation to the Kōrero Tuku Iho project. Witehira indicated that the email had been acknowledged by the project team but noted that the Kōrero Tuku Iho project had no mandate to engage until the KMR Joint Committee had approved the project and its scope. A formal response to the email would then be forthcoming.

The Pou Tātaki shared emailed notes from Member Carmichael who was unable to be in attendance. The Member confirmed her overall support for the project, reiterating the importance of community engagement, and seeking to understand how the project planned to engage with the community once it had approval to proceed to implementation. She noted that it was important that local groups (such as the Tinopai RMU) who were already taking action with KMR support were invited to participate.

Discussion turned to the proposed Kōrero Tuku Iho Reference Rōpū membership. The interim Rōpū would continue, with Member Povey also reconfirmed as a member of the interim Rōpū. Wright acknowledged that it may take time to seek and receive confirmation of mandated representation from Kaipara Uri, which was why the interim membership would continue until February 2025. The Pou Tātaki confirmed that it was expected that the mandate-seeking process would begin relatively soon, given the expectation that the Reference Rōpū would include mandated representation by the end of February 2025.

Member Macdonald asked if there would be a process in place to record and pass on matters raised by the community through the Kōrero Tuku Iho engagement that were the responsibility of other agencies (e.g., the regional council or unitary authority, district council or DOC). Witehira agreed there was scope to invite agency representatives to engagement events and wānanga, as well as record (with permission) such matters raised so they could be passed on to the respective authority.

Member Sayers acknowledged the way feedback from the last meeting had been addressed, and asked what the next milestones would be, referencing the February 2025 mandate deadline. Wright and Witehira responded that by the end of the current financial year, the project will have resolved the mandate for the Reference Rōpū, begun implementing the first case study and identified a second case study. The Pou Tātaki indicated that the Kōrero Tuku Iho project team would report back to the governors in July on progress (e.g., with an update on engagement and the mandate process) and in November (e.g., with an update on progress in implementing the initial case study).

Chair Te Rangi raised the importance of ensuring the Kōrero Tuku Iho project used and reflected language that was meaningful to local communities, without getting caught up in a scientific narrative remote from a genuine mātauranga Māori approach. The local narrative – for example, the kōrero of these lakes, how they used to be, and how they have changed – was important to protect, as was the local voice of transgenerational landowners in the area.

Chair Te Rangi also reminded the Members that the Joint Committee was the mandated decision-making body for KMR. The Kōrero Tuku Iho Reference Rōpū was an advisory committee to the Kōrero Tuku Iho project, was subsidiary to the KMR Joint Committee, and did not speak for nor take decisions for KMR.

The Chair Te Rangi also reminded the Members that in the Kōrero Tuku Iho project, as in all KMR matters, it was important to manage perceived or actual conflicts. Witehira confirmed that the Reference Rōpū aligned its interests' management with that employed by KMR. The Pou Tātaki clarified that the KMR approach to managing conflicts that arose in respect of iwi/hapū relationships had been formally tested with the Office of the Auditor-General, and KMR operated in alignment with the guidance provided by the Office.

Pou Tātaki Report (Item 6.3)

Report from Justine Daw, Pou Tātaki

Moved (Curtis-Connelly/Blackwell)

1. Receive the report 'Pou Tātaki Report' by Justine Daw dated 6 May 2024.

Carried

Secretarial note:

The Pou Tātaki shared further details of the recent successful Ministerial visit by Hon. Andrew Hoggard to a large-scale KMR native planting project. As part of visit, KMR showcased our Digital Tools, and all programme partners credited. Chair Te Rangi added that it was uplifting to hear from a fourth-generation landowner, and immeasurably valuable to be there in person and see the sheer scale of scarring from the 2023 weather events.

Karakia Mutunga

Whakamutunga (Conclusion)

The meeting concluded at 11.38am.