

# Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī

BOARD PACK

for

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Board Hui - February

Friday, 20 February 2026

8:00 am (NZDT)

Held at:

Ngāti Ruanui Office

74 Princes Street, Hāwera

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# AGENDA

## TE TŌPUNI KŌKŌRANGI BOARD HUI - FEBRUARY

<b>Name:</b>	Te Tōpuni Kōkōurangi
<b>Date:</b>	Friday, 20 February 2026
<b>Time:</b>	8:00 am to 3:00 pm (NZDT)
<b>Location:</b>	Ngāti Ruanui Office, 74 Princes Street, Hāwera
<b>Board Members:</b>	Liana Poutu (Chair), Dr Dee Sciascia, Nicola Ngarewa, Te Aroha Hohaia, Hemi Sundgren, Dr Bruce Clarkson, Stephen Daysh, Rex Hendry
<b>Attendees:</b>	Sean Zieltjes, Laura Buttimore
<b>Apologies:</b>	Lesia Bevin
<b>Guests/Notes:</b>	Tinaka Mearns

### 1. Karakia / Hui Opening

#### 1.1 Apologies / Attendees

##### For Noting

It is recommended the Board:

- a. **Notes** the apologies and attendee list for this meeting

Supporting Documents:

1.1.a	TTK Item 1.1 - Apologies - 20 February.pdf	10
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### 2. Matters Arising

#### 2.1 Actions Register

##### For Noting

It is recommended the Board:

- a. **Receives** the items in the Actions Register
- b. **Notes** the items in the Actions Register

Supporting Documents:

2.1.a	TTK Item 2.1 - Actions Register - 20 February.pdf	11
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#### 2.2 Interests Register

##### For Noting

It is recommended the Board:

- a. **Receives** the Register of Interests; and
- b. **Notes** any particular interest in any agenda item

Supporting Documents:

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2.2.a	TTK Item 2.2 - Interests Register - 20 February.pdf	12
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## 2.3 Gift Register

### For Noting

It is recommended the Board:

1. **Receives** the gift and hospitality register; and
2. **Notes** any additional items to the register

Supporting Documents:

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2.3.a	TTK Item 2.3 - Gifts and Hospitality Register - 20 February.pdf	16
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## 2.4 Correspondence Register

### For Noting

It is recommended the Board:

- a. **Receives** the inwards correspondence; and
- b. **Notes** the outwards correspondence

Supporting Documents:

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2.4.a	TTK Item 2.4 - Correspondence Register - 20 February.pdf	17
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## 2.5 Confirmation of Minutes

### For Decision

It is recommended the Board:

- a. **Notes** the minutes of the meeting held on 31 October 2025 as read
- b. **Approves** the minutes from the 31 October 2025 meeting as true and correct

## 3. Administration

### 3.1 Meeting Schedule 2026

#### For Decision

It is recommended the Board:

- a. **Notes** the meeting schedule for 2026
- b. **Approve** the meeting schedule for 2026

Supporting Documents:

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3.1.a	TTK Item 3.1 - Meeting Schedule 2026 - 20 February.pdf	18
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### 3.2 Annual Budget Reforecast

#### For Decision

It is recommended the Board:

- a. **Notes** the annual operational budget reforecast for Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī for the year ending 30 June 2026
- b. **Approves** the budget reforecast for the year ending 30 June 2026

Supporting Documents:

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3.2.a	TTK Item 3.2 - Annual Budget Reforecast - 20 February.pdf	19
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### 3.3 Annual Operational Budget for 2026-2027

#### For Discussion

It is recommended the Board:

- a. **Notes** the proposed Board budget for the 2026/2027 financial year
- b. **Discuss** the proposed Board budget for the 2026/2027 financial year

Supporting Documents:

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3.3.a	TTK Item 3.3 - Annual Budget 26 27 - 20 February.pdf	20
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### 3.4 Appointment of Deputy Chair

#### For Decision

It is recommended the Board:

- a. **Discuss** the appointment of a Deputy Chair
- b. **Votes** on the Deputy Chair appointment
- c. **Approves** the Deputy Chair appointment

Supporting Documents:

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3.4.a	TTK Item 3.4 - Deputy Chair Appointment - 20 February.pdf	21
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## 4. Operating

### 4.1 Operating Procedures

#### For Decision

It is recommended the Board:

- a. **Receive** the Board Operating Procedures
- b. **Approve** the Board Operating Procedures

Supporting Documents:

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4.1.a	TTK Item 4.1 - Operating Procedures - 20 February.pdf	22
4.1.b	TTK Item 4.1a - Operating Procedures - 20 February.pdf	23

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### 4.2 Establishing Committees and Terms of Reference

#### For Decision

It is recommended the Board:

- a. **Establishes** three committees as follows:
  - a. Committee 1 – Concessions, Consents and Approvals.
  - b. Committee 2 – Relationships.

c. Committee 3 – Statutory Planning.

- b. **Approves** the Terms of Reference for each committee.

Supporting Documents:

4.2.a	TTK Item 4.2 - Sub-Committees - 20 February.pdf	34
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### 4.3 Statement of Priorities

#### For Decision

It is recommended that the Board:

- a. **Discuss** the draft Statement of Priorities  
b. **Approve** the draft Statement of Priorities

Supporting Documents:

4.3.a	TTK Item 4.3 - Statement of Priorities - 20 February.pdf	50
4.3.b	TTK Item 4.3a - Statement of Priorities - 20 February.pdf	51

### 4.4 Resource Management Reform

#### For Discussion

It is recommended the Board:

- a. **Receives** the update on the submission lodged with the Environment Committee on the Planning Bill and Natural Environment Bill; and  
b. **Notes** the key risks identified for Te Kāhui Tupua, Ngā Pou Whakatupua, and He Kawa Tupua arising from the Bills as currently drafted; and  
c. **Confirms** its support for the relief sought in the submission, including continued engagement to protect Treaty settlement integrity through legislative reform; and  
d. **Meets** with Te Tōpuni Ngārahu to ensure coordination in responding and upholding the rights and interests of Te Kāhui Tupua

Supporting Documents:

4.4.a	TTK Item 4.4 - Resource Management Reform - 20 February.pdf	54
4.4.b	TTK Item 4.4a - RMA Reform Submission - 20 February.pdf	59

### 4.5 Barclay Road Subdivision

#### For Information

It is recommended the Board:

- a. **Receive** the update on the submission lodged with the Stratford District Council; and  
b. **Receive** the revised conditions provided by the applicant

Supporting Documents:

4.5.a	TTK Item 4.5 - Barclay Road Subdivision - 20 February.pdf	71
4.5.b	TTK Item 4.5.a - Barclay Road Subdivision - 20 February.pdf	74
4.5.c	TTK Item 4.5.b - Barclay Road Subdivision - 20 February.pdf	85

## 5. Public Forum

### 5.1 Taranaki Kiwi Trust

#### For Information

It is recommended the Board:

- a) **Note** and **Receive** any presentations to the Public Forum; and
- b) Determine any appropriate response

Supporting Documents:

5.1.a	TTK Item 5.1 - Public Forum - 20 February.pdf	90
5.1.b	TTK Item 5.1a - Public Forum TKT - 20 February.pdf	91

## 6. Public Excluded Session

### 6.1 Public Excluded Session

#### For Discussion

Supporting Documents:

6.1.a	TTK Item 6 - Public Excluded Session - 20 February.pdf	101
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## 7. He Kawa Ora

### 7.1 Schedule of Engagement

Laura Buttimore, Sean Zieltjes

#### For Discussion

It is recommended the Board:

- a. **Approve** a schedule of engagement process for the Statutory Planning Committee to undertake prior to public comment, and record that engagement;
- b. **Approve** the schedule of additional parties to those listed in schedule 3(2)(a-e), as required under schedule 3(2)(f) of Te Ture Whakaturua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025

Supporting Documents:

7.1.a	TTK Item 7.1 - HKO Schedule of Engagement - 20 February.pdf	102
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### 7.2 Assessment Framework & Plan Structure

Laura Buttimore, Sean Zieltjes

#### For Discussion

It is recommended the Board:

- a. **Receives** the draft assessment framework, and draft plan structure.
- b. **Provides direction** for the Statutory Planning Committee (if established) to review and recommend a final draft for approval of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī

Supporting Documents:

7.2.a	TTK Item 7.2 - HKO Assessment Framework and Plan Structure - 20 February.pdf	111
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## 8. General Business

### 8.1 General Business

#### For Discussion

It is recommended the Board:

- a) Formally addresses general business matters and,
- b) Where appropriate, revisit previous agenda items to ensure all relevant issues are thoroughly considered and documented

Supporting Documents:

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8.1.a	TTK Item 8 - General Business - 20 February.pdf	134
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## 9. Karakia / Hui Closing

### 9.1 Close the meeting

**Next meeting:** Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Board Hui - March - 20 Mar 2026, 8:30 am

**Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī**  
**Meeting No. 2 / 2026**

**Agenda Item: 1.1**

Kaupapa: **Apologies / Attendees**  
 Prepared By: Lesa Bevin, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Secretariat  
 Meeting Date: 20 February 2026

<b>Recommendation</b>	<p><u>It is recommended the Board:</u></p> <p>a) <b>Notes</b> the apologies and attendees list for this meeting</p>
<b>Context</b>	<p>All Board members present at the meeting held 20 February 2026.</p> <p><u>Attendee list for the 20 February 2026 meeting:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mitchy Samson - Acting Board Secretary, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī</li> <li>• Sean Zieltjes - Planner, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī</li> <li>• Laura Buttimore - Planner, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī</li> <li>• Tinaka Mearns - Operations Director HWT, DOC</li> <li>• Celine Filbee – Trust Manager, Taranaki Kiwi Trust</li> </ul>

**Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī**  
**Meeting No. 2 / 2026**

**Agenda Item: 2.1**

Kaupapa: **Actions Register**  
Prepared By: Lesa Bevin, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Secretariat  
Meeting Date: 20 February 2026

<b>Recommendation</b>	<p><u>It is recommended the Board:</u></p> <p>a) <b>Receives</b> the items in the Actions Register b) <b>Notes</b> the items in the Actions Register</p>
<b>Context</b>	<p>The Actions Register is provided to update Board members on actions arising from previous meetings and to track progress towards completion. A list of the current actions are provided in the table below.</p>

**TE TŌPUNI KŌKŌRANGI ACTIONS REGISTER**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Action #</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Status</b>
31/10/25	1	Update the Board Calendar with 1 December meeting date	L.B	Completed
31/10/25	2	Update the Interests Register prior to the next meeting	L.B	Completed
31/10/25	3	Contact Earth Law Center to explore avenues where the Board may provide support	L.P	In progress
31/10/25	4	Update the annual operating budget for clarity to the Board	L.B	Completed
31/10/25	5	Prepare a reforecast of the annual operating budget prior to the next Board meeting	L.B	Completed
31/10/25	6	Undertake a check of any known liabilities in regard to Agenda Item #9, Meeting #1	S.Z	Completed
31/10/25	7	Present Agenda Item #9, Meeting #1 to the NZCA for consideration at their next Board meeting	L.P	Completed
31/10/25	8	Prepare an affected party letter to SDC regarding Agenda Item #10, Meeting #1	S.Z	Completed
31/10/25	9	Establish a Sub-Committee for Agenda Item #10, Meeting #1	S.Z	Completed
31/10/25	10	Prepare a programme for He Kawa Ora public engagement	S.Z	Completed
31/10/25	11	Formally decline presenting at the CNI Planning Institute Conference	S.D	Completed
31/10/25	12	Provide a letter to Cinétévé regarding Agenda Item #6, Meeting #1	L.P	Completed

**Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī**  
**Meeting No. 2 / 2026**

**Agenda Item: 2.2**

Kaupapa: **Register of Interests**

Prepared By: Lesa Bevin, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Secretariat

Meeting Date: 20 February 2026

<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended the Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>Receive</b> the register of interests; and</li> <li>b) <b>Note</b> any particular interest in any agenda item.</li> </ul>
<b>Context</b>	Register of interests is provided below.

**TE TŌPUNI KŌKŌRANGI REGISTER OF INTERESTS**  
**As at 20 February 2026**

<b>BOARD MEMBER</b>	<b>ORGANISATION</b>	<b>ROLE</b>	<b>DATE OF DISCLOSURE</b>
<b>Liana Poutu (Chair)</b>	Edward Rongomai Ira Tamati Whanau Trust	Trustee	31 October 2025
	Kaipakopako 2C2 Ahu Whenua Trust	Chair / Trustee	31 October 2025
	Parininihi Ki Waitōtara Incorporation	Committee Member	31 October 2025
	Parininihi Ki Waitōtara Trust	Chair / Trustee	31 October 2025
	Taranaki Crossing Project Steering Group	Chair	31 October 2025
	Te Atiawa Corporate Trustee Limited	Chair / Director	31 October 2025
	Te Atiawa Iwi Holdings Management Limited	Director	31 October 2025
	Te Atiawa (Taranaki) Holdings Limited	Director	31 October 2025
	Te Hunga Rōia Māori o Aotearoa	Member	31 October 2025
	Te Kāhui Raraunga Charitable Trust	Trustee	31 October 2025
	Te Kotahitanga o Te Atiawa Trust	Chair / Trustee	31 October 2025
Te Reo o Taranaki Charitable Trust	Trustee	31 October 2025	

	Te Tōpuni Ngārahu Trust	Trustee	31 October 2025
	Toi Foundation	Trustee	31 October 2025
	Toi Foundation Holdings Limited	Director	31 October 2025
	Toi Foundation Investments Limited	Director	31 October 2025
	TSB Bank	Director	31 October 2025
<b>Dr. Acushla Dee Sciascia</b>			
	Māpuna Consultants Limited	Director	31 October 2025
	Parininihi Ki Waitōtara Incorporation	Committee Member	31 October 2025
	Parininihi Ki Waitōtara Trust	Trustee	31 October 2025
	Te Kura Māori o Porirua	Board of Trustee Member	31 October 2025
	Te Pōtiki National Trust	Director	31 October 2025
	Vision Mātauranga Capability Fund	Member	31 October 2025
<b>Dr. Te Aroha Hohaia</b>			
	Association of Justices of Peace	Member	31 October 2025
	Bashford-Nicholls Trust	Trustee	31 October 2025
	Bishop's Action Foundation	Trustee	31 October 2025
	Business & Professional Women Hawera	Member	31 October 2025
	Federation of Mountain Clubs	Member	31 October 2025
	Hohaia van Paassen Limited	Shareholder & Director	31 October 2025
	Institute of Directors	Member	31 October 2025
	Louise Rauhuia	Responsible trustee	31 October 2025
	Manuera Hohaia Whānau Trust	Trustee	31 October 2025
	Ngā Rere Ora Limited	Consultant	31 October 2025
	Parihaka Papakāinga Trust	Contractor	31 October 2025
	Stage Incorporated Society	Member	31 October 2025
	Taranaki Crossing Governance Group	Member	31 October 2025
	Taranaki Whanui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika: Finance Audit & Risk Committee	Member	31 October 2025
	Te Papa Atawhai / Department of Conservation	Volunteer	31 October 2025
	Toi o Taranaki ki Te Tonga Trust	Trustee	31 October 2025
	Trinity Home and Hospital Limited	Director	31 October 2025
	Waiōkura Marae & Reserves Trust	Responsible trustee	31 October 2025
<b>Nicola Ngarewa</b>			
	Ako Mātatupu	Trustee	31 October 2025

	NZ Foundation	Honorary Advisor	31 October 2025
	Spotswood College	Principal	31 October 2025
	Te Pāti Māori	Sister is co-leader	31 October 2025
	Te Rārana Trust	Trustee	31 October 2025
	Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Ruanui Trust	Trustee	31 October 2025
	Toi Foundation	Trustee	31 October 2025
<b>Hemi Sundgren</b>			
	Ka Uruora Aotearoa Trustee Limited	Director	31 October 2025
	Ka Uruora Te Taihu Foundation	Chair	31 October 2025
	Ka Uruora Te Taihu Housing Trust	Chair	31 October 2025
	Ka Uruora Kainga Limited	Director	31 October 2025
	Ngāti Tama ki Te Taihu Custodian Trustee Limited	Director	31 October 2025
	Ngāti Tamai ki Te Waipounamu Trust	Chief Executive Officer	31 October 2025
	Taranaki Mounga Project Limited	Director	31 October 2025
	Te Here-ā-Nuku Working Group	Trustee	31 October 2025
<b>Prof. Bruce Clarkson</b>			
	Aongatete Forest Restoration Trust	Patron	31 October 2025
	BD & BR Clarkson Waingaro Forest (Lot 1)	Investment	31 October 2025
	Friends of Hamilton Zoo	Chair	31 October 2025
	New Zealand Botanical Society	Member	31 October 2025
	Pirongia Te Aroaro o Kahu Restoration Society	Patron	31 October 2025
	Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust	Trustee	31 October 2025
	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society	Member	31 October 2025
	Royal Society of New Zealand	Member	31 October 2025
	Society for Ecological Restoration	Member	31 October 2025
	University of Waikato	Professor	31 October 2025
	Waikato Regional Council	Deputy Chair	31 October 2025
	Waiwhakareke Advisory Group	Chair	31 October 2025
	West Waikato Coastal Community Catchment Group Inc	Member	31 October 2025
<b>Stephen Daysh</b>			
	Audacious Gems Limited	Director	31 October 2025
	Bridge Pā Vinyard Limited	Director	31 October 2025
	Howden Energy Limited	Director	31 October 2025

	Iona College Council	Board member	31 October 2025
	Mitchell Daysh Limited	Director	31 October 2025
	NZGA (NZ Geothermal Association)	Member	31 October 2025
	NZPI (NZ Planning Institute)	Member	31 October 2025
	RMLA (Resource Management Law Association)	Member	31 October 2025
	Te Kauwae Education Trust	Chair	31 October 2025
<b>Rex Hendry</b>	NZ Antarctic Society	Vice-President	31 October 2025

<b>Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī</b> <b>Meeting No. 2 / 2026</b>	<b>Agenda Item: 2.3</b>
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Kaupapa:               **Gifts and Hospitality Register**

Prepared By:           Lesa Bevin, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Secretariat

Meeting Date:          20 February 2026

<b>Recommendation</b>	<p><u>It is recommended the Board:</u></p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">a) <b>Receive</b> the register of interests; and</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">b) <b>Note</b> any incoming gifts or hospitality.</p>
<b>Context</b>	<p>Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī will declare any items on the gifts and hospitality register over the value of \$50.00 as per the Board Operating Procedures.</p> <p>Noting there are currently no gifts or hospitality items on the register declared from any Board members.</p>

<b>TE TŌPUNI KŌKŌRANGI GIFT AND HOSPITALITY REGISTER</b>					
<b>As at 20 February 2026</b>					
Date	Received by	Offered by	Approximate value	Accepted Y/N	Distributed/ used for:

**Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī**  
**Meeting No. 2 / 2026**

**Agenda Item: 2.4**

Kaupapa: **Correspondence Register**  
Prepared By: Lesa Bevin, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Secretariat  
Meeting Date: 20 February 2026

<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended the Board: a) <b>Receives</b> the inwards correspondence; and b) <b>Notes</b> the outwards correspondence.
<b>Context</b>	Correspondence register provided below. Copies of any item of correspondence may be requested by members from the board secretary.

**TE TŌPUNI KŌKŌRANGI CORRESPONDENCE REGISTER**

**November – February 2026**

**INWARD CORRESPONDENCE**

<b>Date</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>Kaupapa</b>	<b>Status</b>
9/12/2026	Stratford District Council	Notification of affected party for Kererū Hills Limited	Reply sent
23/12/2025	Director-General	Approval to formally defer Statutory Public Notification for He Kawa Ora	Received
5/01/2026	Ngā Rere Ora Limited	Enquiry for Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī approval process	Reply sent
21/01/2026	National Geographic	Interview on Te Kāhui Tupua legal personhood	Reply sent
05/02/2026	Taranaki VTM Project Expert Panel	Release of draft decision on the Taranaki VTM application	Received

**OUTWARD CORRESPONDENCE**

<b>Date</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Kaupapa</b>	<b>Status</b>
14/11/2026	Taranaki VTM Project Expert Panel	Response to Request for Information	Received
8/12/2025	Ministry for the Environment	Resource Management Act Replacement Bill Process	Received
22/12/2025	Estelle Clark & Nicolas Jacquot	Letter of support in principle for Cinétévé	Received
22/12/2025	Director-General	Request to formally defer Statutory Public Notification for He Kawa Ora	Received
22/01/2025	Minister of Conservation & Te Tōpuni Ngārahu	Interim Update on Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī	Received
27/01/2026	Stratford District Council	Formal submission on Kererū Hills Limited sub-division proposal	Received
13/02/2026	Environment Committee	RMA Reform Submission	Received

**Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī**  
**Meeting No. 2 / 2026**

**Agenda Item: 3.1**

Kaupapa: **Meeting Schedule 2026**  
 Prepared By: Lesa Bevin, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Secretariat  
 Meeting Date: 20 February 2026

<b>Recommendation</b>	<p><u>It is recommended the Board:</u></p> <p>a) <b>Note</b> the meeting schedule for 2026; and          b) <b>Approve</b> the meeting schedule for 2026</p>
<b>Context</b>	The below dates are proposed to be locked in for the 2026 year.

<b>TE TŌPUNI KŌKŌRANGI MEETING SCHEDULE 2026</b>	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>20 February 2026</b>	Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Ruanui
<b>20 March 2026</b>	Location TBC
<b>17 April 2026</b>	Location TBC
<b>29 May 2026</b>	Pukeiti
<b>19 June 2026</b>	Location TBC
<b>31 July 2026</b>	Location TBC
<b>21 August 2026</b>	Location TBC
<b>25 September 2026</b>	Location TBC
<b>30 October 2026</b>	Location TBC
<b>20 November 2026</b>	Location TBC

Other relevant meeting dates for noting.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Hui Details</b>
<b>12 May 2026</b>	Te Tōpuni Ngārahu Trust Board Meeting
<b>13 March 2026</b>	Taranaki Whanganui Conservation Board Meeting
<b>8&amp;9 April 2026</b>	New Zealand Conservation Authority Board Meeting

**Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī**  
**Meeting No. 2 / 2026**

**Agenda Item: 3.2**

Kaupapa: **Annual Operational Budget Reforecast**  
 Prepared By: Lesa Bevin, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Secretariat  
 Meeting Date: 20 February 2026

<b>Recommendation</b>	<p><u>It is recommended the Board:</u></p> <p>a) <b>Notes</b> the annual operational budget reforecast for Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī for the year ending 30 June 2026</p> <p>b) <b>Approves</b> the budget reforecast for the year ending 30 June 2026</p>
<b>Context</b>	<p>Overview of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī annual operational budget provided below.</p> <p>The budget below is a partial annual budget from 1 September 2025 to 30 June 2026 which recognises establishment costs.</p> <p>It is noted that Te Tōpuni Ngārahu fund the meeting fees for those members appointed by the Trust and may also contribute to operational costs as agreed.</p>

**TE TŌPUNI KŌKŌRANGI ANNUAL OPERATIONAL BUDGET**  
**August 2025 – June 2026**

<b>Operational Costs</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Member fees	\$18,200.00	\$6,693.75	\$11,506.25
Member travel (accommodation, flights, meals)	\$15,000.00	\$11,815.68	\$3,184.32
Meeting costs (venue hire, catering)	\$6,000.00	\$2,886.05	\$3,113.95
IT (software, website costs, hardware)	\$5,800.00	\$5,494.52	\$305.48
Professional services (legal, accounting, consulting services)	\$25,000.00	\$16,387.44	\$8,612.56
<b>TOTAL OPERATIONAL COSTS</b>	<b>\$70,000.00</b>	<b>\$43,277.44</b>	<b>\$26,722.56</b>

**Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī**  
**Meeting No. 2 / 2026**

**Agenda Item: 3.3**

Kaupapa: **Proposed Annual Operational Budget for 2026-2027**

Prepared By: Lesa Bevin, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Secretariat

Meeting Date: 20 February 2026

<b>Recommendation</b>	<p><u>It is recommended the Board:</u></p> <p>a) <b>Notes</b> the proposed annual operational budget for Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī for the 1 July 2026 – 30 June 2027 financial year.</p> <p>b) <b>Discusses</b> the proposed annual operational budget for Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī for the 1 July 2026 – 30 June 2027 financial year.</p>
<b>Context</b>	<p>An overview of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī annual operational budget is provided below.</p> <p>This is an anticipated budget for 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027. Under <i>schedule 2, clause 20</i> of <i>Te Ture Whakaturua</i>, the Department must meet the reasonable operational costs of the Board in relation to exercising its powers and performing its functions.</p> <p>The 26-27 operational budget is being put before the Board early so the Department can use this to inform their implementation and planning leading into the new financial year.</p> <p>It is noted that Te Tōpuni Ngārahu fund the meeting fees for those members appointed by the Trust and may also contribute to operational costs as agreed.</p>

TE TŌPUNI KŌKŌRANGI ANNUAL OPERATIONAL BUDGET	1 July 2026 – 30 June 2027
<b>Operational Costs</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Member fees (regular meeting and sub-committee meetings)	\$31,500.00
Member travel (accommodation, flights, meals)	\$20,000.00
Meeting costs (venue hire, catering)	\$8,000.00
IT (software, website costs, hardware)	\$5,500.00
Professional services (legal, accounting, consulting services)	\$25,000.00
<b>TOTAL OPERATIONAL COSTS</b>	<b>\$90,000.00</b>

**Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī**  
**Meeting No. 2 / 2026**

**Agenda Item: 3.4**

Kaupapa: **Appointment of Deputy Chair**  
 Prepared By: Lesa Bevin, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Secretariat  
 Meeting Date: 20 February 2026

<b>Recommendation</b>	<p><u>It is recommended the Board:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>Discusses</b> the appointment of a Deputy Chair</li> <li>b) <b>Votes</b> on the Deputy Chair appointment</li> <li>c) <b>Approves</b> the Deputy Chair appointment</li> </ul>
<b>Context</b>	<p>A Deputy Chair is to be appointed to Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī.</p> <p>Under <i>section 32(7) of Te Ture Whakaturua</i>, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī may at any time appoint a member to be the deputy chairperson to perform the functions of the chairperson in the chairperson's absence; but is not required to make that appointment.</p> <p>The Board currently is operating with a Chair but does not have a formally appointed Deputy Chair. Establishing this role is recognised as sound governance practice and the appointment will ensure that governance functions and responsibilities are maintained during any period in which the Chair is unavailable.</p>

**Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī**  
**Meeting No. 2 / 2026**

**Agenda Item: 4.1**

Kaupapa: **Operating Procedures**  
 Prepared By: Lesa Bevin, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Secretariat  
 Meeting Date: 20 February 2026

<b>Recommendation</b>	<p><u>It is recommended the Board:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>Notes</b> the Board Operating Procedures</li> <li>b) <b>Approves</b> the Board Operating Procedures</li> </ul>
<b>Context</b>	<p>The Board Operating Procedures have been developed to serve as a guide for how Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī will operate going forward. It will ensure consistent practice and alignment of procedural and administration matters in <i>Te Ture Whakatupua</i>, more specifically in <i>Schedule 2 of the Act</i>.</p> <p>The Board is asked to review and approve the developed Operating Procedures to support effective implementation of redress expectations.</p>

# Operating Procedures

## Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī

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### Introduction

The primary purpose of these Operating Procedures for Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Board Members is to promote an inclusive and constructive Board culture, and by setting out standards of conduct for individual Board members. It reflects the desired core values of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī.

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī provide a vital link between their Tūpuna Maunga, iwi, hapū, community groups. The success of a Board in establishing and maintaining these links depends greatly on how they are perceived.

Any dysfunction within a Board has the potential to create mistrust, attract negative media attention, and undermine the morale and the goodwill of everyone associated with the Board. Falling short of the standards communicated in these Procedures may require remedial action to be taken within the Board or, in serious cases, require the involvement of the Minister. The Procedures provide guidance if there is an alleged breach of the standards and expectations, or a breach of general expectations concerning Board member conduct.

When expected standards of professional behaviour between members and other parties are clear, a high level of trust and engagement results. This in turn provides an enhanced experience for the individuals that serve on a Conservation Board.

The expectations contained in these Procedures reflect a mix of common law and statutory duties developed for private and public governance entities. Individual member expectations in these Procedures are heavily informed by the Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025 / Taranaki Maunga Collective Redress Act 2025 (the Act) and the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA).

These Operating Procedures will be reviewed periodically by the Board to ensure its continued currency and applicability.

### Interpretation

**Board/Boards** refers to the Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Board

**Procedures/Operating Procedures** refers to these *Operating Procedures for Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Board Members*

**DOC** refers to Te Papa Atawhai | Department of Conservation and the Director-General of Conservation interchangeably. Other sources may refer to DOC as ‘the Department’.

**D-G** refers to the Director-General of the Department of Conservation

**LGOIMA** refers to the [Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987](#).

**Ngā Pou Whakatupua** refers to the five intrinsic values that represent the essence of Te Kāhui Tupua and are intended to reflect the cultural, spiritual, ancestral and historical relationship between Ngā Iwi o Taranaki and Te Kāhui Tupua

**The Act** refers to Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025 / Taranaki Maunga Collective Redress Act 2025 unless otherwise specified.

**The Deed** refers to Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo unless otherwise specified

**The Minister** refers to the Minister of Conservation.

**The NZCA** refers to the New Zealand Conservation Authority.

**The TWCB** refers to the Taranaki Whanganui Conservation Board

**Trustees** refer to the eight members of Te Tōpuni Ngārahu

## Declaration

Before an appointment to Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī takes effect, a proposed appointee must sign a declaration confirming that the member will:

- act in a manner that achieves the purposes of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī and for no other purpose
- act in good faith and not pursue the member's own interests at the expense of the interests of Te Kāhui Tupua or Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī
- work with other members to assist Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī to strive for consensus in decision making
- promote a relationship of utmost good faith and collaboration among all the members of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī; and
- act with honesty and integrity as a member of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī; and
- exercise the care, diligence, and skill that a reasonable person would exercise in the same circumstances; and
- not contravene this Act or Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo or cause their contravention, or agree to Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī contravening them

## Board member skills and attributes

Some general qualities an effective Board member will possess are:

- Understand and give effect to Ngā Pou Whakatupua
- Articulate a connection to Te Kāhui Tupua
- Self-awareness

- Integrity and credibility
- Wide general knowledge
- Breadth of vision
- An inquiring mind
- Independence and objectivity of thought
- Ability to make a time commitment
- Ability to work effectively within a team
- Ability to interact constructively with all other members
- Ability to communicate, listen and seek others' input
- Effective debating and decision-making skills.

## Summary of Board member performance expectations

Individual Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Board member duties reflect a mix of common law and statutory duties developed for both private and public governance entities. Board members are expected to:

- Comply with any governing legislation
- Act with honesty and integrity
- Act in good faith and not at the expense of the Board's interests
- Demonstrate commitment and professionalism in undertaking duties and responsibilities
- Attend all meetings in full, and actively contribute at meetings
- Contribute to Board activity and action points arising from meetings
- Arrive prepared for meetings, including reviewing agenda material and the background of issues to be raised
- Fully disclose interests and conflicts of interest
- Protect confidential information
- Participate in Board and individual evaluations on an annual basis.

## Independence

Independence relates to the absence of external influences on an individual.

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Board members are appointed by either the trustees or the Minister of Conservation. All members should take an inclusive view to considering issues, rather than seeking to further the interests of their nominator.

It is acknowledged that each Board member will bring their own experiences and connection to the Board, but any decisions made while on the Board are acting on behalf of Te Kāhui Tupua, and must reflect and uphold the status of Te Kāhui Tupua, and Ngā Pou Whakaturua.

Any issues that arise around a Board member's independence or perceived independence are dealt with as potential conflicts of interest. See section 9 for more information on conflicts of interest.

## Impartiality

Impartiality relates to the absence of bias, prejudice or predetermination.

Board members must show independence and impartiality in decision making. In doing so, members are expected not to represent the interests of their appointing bodies, and are not impartial when considering matters relating to Te Kāhui Tupua, whose interests must be central in Board decisions. Any decision of the Board must be able to be trusted to have been:

- based on its own merits
- made using a fair and transparent process
- made in the best interest of Te Kāhui Tupua.

Failure to show that the above factors have been considered in decision-making creates a risk that a Board's decision could be legally reviewed and overturned.

Members are expected to continue developing their awareness of this topic during their term on the Board.

## Accountability

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī have a range of statutory duties and functions under clause 8.3 of Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo and s (29) of the Act, and are accountable to both the Minister of Conservation, the trustees, and the public.

Under Schedule 2 s (21) of the Act, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī will adopt and publish an annual report and provide it to the trustees and the Minister of Conservation in their capacity as appointers. This report must be presented to the House of Representatives by the Minister of Conservation as soon as practicable after they have received it.

The Board may elect to produce interim reports in addition to the annual report. These supplementary reports serve to keep both the trustees and the Minister of Conservation informed about the Board's progress in fulfilling its duties and responsibilities.

Individual accountability of members is to the Board and is reflected in the expectation of full and active meeting participation, preparation, protection of confidential information, high standards of integrity and other aspects of professional conduct.

## Expectations around working relationships

### *Relationships with iwi, hapū, and whanau*

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī will enter into He Takapou Tupua not later than 12 months after the effective date of the Act (or such later date as agreed between the parties to He Takapou Tupua). This relationship agreement is between Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī, the Minister of Conservation, and the Director-General, and covers but is not limited to the items listed under clause 12.36 of Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo.

In addition to He Takapou Tupua, the Board will also engage with and form relationships with the trustees of Te Tōpuni Ngārahu, as well as the iwi and hapū of Ngā Iwi o Taranaki with interests in Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki, and relationships with Crown agencies and other bodies that have functions affecting Te Kāhui Tupua including the Taranaki Whanganui Conservation Board, and the New Zealand Conservation Authority.

Each iwi and hapū have a right to form a relationship agreement with Te Kāhui Tupua.

The Board may wish to set up a sub-committee to lead the formation of these relationship agreements. The Board will initiate the formation of the formal relationships, but remain reactive to informal ones, noting the capacity required for individual agreements.

The Board Secretariat will be the first point of contact for any informal relationship agreements, who will then direct to the sub-committee (if established).

Members are expected to demonstrate cultural sensitivity and, in particular, acknowledge the spiritual, traditional, cultural and historic associations that ngā iwi o Taranaki have with the land, waters and indigenous flora and fauna within Te Kāhui Tupua. Māori, as tangata whenua, have a unique relationship with their ancestral lands, waters, wāhi tapu (sacred sites) and taonga (treasures).

The concept of kaitiakitanga (guardianship, stewardship, protection) gives ngā iwi o Taranaki a cultural mandate to preserve, protect and manage Aotearoa New Zealand's natural and historic resources. Board members must demonstrate an understanding, or a willingness to understand, te ao Māori perspective of issues that impact manawhenua within the Board's rohe (area of jurisdiction). This includes an understanding of:

- Mātauranga Māori (the Māori world view, which encompasses kawa (cultural practices) and tikanga (cultural principles) to inform the way Māori critique, examine, analyse and understand the world).
- The historic and contemporary relevance of te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi.
- Key concepts around the relationship between Māori and the land, waters, and flora and fauna of Te Kāhui Tupua.
- The context of contemporary Crown-Māori relations.

### *Relationships with the community*

Board members should interact with members of the public in a way that shows that the Board encourages and values community input. Board meetings under LGOIMA are open to the

public. Board members will respect the right of the public to express their views and show a willingness to hear the views of members of the public with an open mind, even if the views differ from their own.

### *Relationships with fellow Board members*

Board members are appointed by the Minister and the trustees to represent the interests of Te Kāhui Tupua. The composition of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī is chosen by the Minister and the trustees to achieve a balance of experience, geographic spread, gender, age, and representation of the interests of Te Kāhui Tupua. This encourages diversity of thought and perspectives.

All members have the right to express their views and opinions in a meeting, and for these to be respected by other members. Outside of meetings, it is expected that Board members will not speak in a derogatory manner about the Board, fellow Board members, or misrepresent the statements or actions of other members or the Board as a whole.

## Interaction with the media

The Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī contact email serves as the primary channel for media enquiries. Members may be approached by the media from time to time to comment on a particular issue, especially if the issue is one of high public interest. Board members may speak to the media in a personal capacity; however members must take care to ensure the media is aware that the member is not representing the views of the Board. Should a Board member be approached directly about a Board-related item, they should refer the matter to this email address. The Board Secretariat will then either distribute the enquiry or formulate an appropriate response.

Boards speak with one voice. The Board Chair will generally be the spokesperson for the official views of the Board but may choose to delegate this function to another Board member. No member may comment to media on behalf of the Board without a specific delegation from the Chair to do so.

Members must observe collective responsibility (i.e. they must agree to be bound by a decision of the Board even if they do not personally support the decision). A member must not make statements to the media that bring the Board into disrepute or make derogatory comments regarding other Board members, the trustees, or the Minister of Conservation.

## Meeting attendance

Members are expected to allocate an adequate amount of time to prepare for meetings, attend Board and committee meetings and carry out other duties that may be required.

Members of the Board will make best efforts to attend official meetings in person, however attending online will be an option if they cannot make the in-person meeting. Public notice of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī meetings must be given in whatever manner the chairperson considers appropriate, including on an internet site or by any other electronic means. This notice must be given not later than 10 working days before a scheduled meeting. A notice must include the

date, time, and place of the relevant meeting, where the documentation may be obtained, and the entitlement of members of the public and news media to attend and when they may be excluded. The agenda and documentation relevant to a meeting must be made publicly available at least 2 working days before the meeting.

The quorum for a meeting of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī is not fewer than 6 members, and this may be achieved at a meeting where some members are present in person and others participate by other means. If the chairperson or deputy chairperson is not present at a meeting, the members present may appoint 1 of the members appointed by the trustees to preside over that meeting.

Members should avoid overcommitting (including to other roles), as they should retain flexibility to allocate more time if major or urgent Board issues arise. Members are expected to resign from the Board if they are unable to allocate sufficient time and attention to their Board duties.

The membership of each Board is carefully considered to provide the balance of competencies and skills necessary to best conduct the Board's affairs. If any member is absent, especially over a period of time, this could have a negative impact on Board deliberations.

Boards agree in advance on a schedule of meeting dates to enable members to manage their other commitments to ensure attendance. If a member misses more than one consecutive meeting in a year, this becomes a matter of concern to the Board, unless there has been an approved leave of absence for justifiable reasons, such as illness.

Partial attendance at meetings (ie leaving early or being absent for significant parts of a meeting) is also a matter of concern as it disrupts discussions, denies the Board the benefit of that member's expertise and causes a loss of continuity in Board discussions and decisions.

Ongoing non-participation may be viewed as neglect of duty or inability to perform the functions of the office and may result in a member being removed from a Board by the Minister.

## Interests and conflicts of interest

Many Board members have close connections with businesses, not-for-profit and other community organisations, and/or local iwi that may have links to Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī. This raises potential for a conflict of interest to arise for any Board member during their term.

The Board Secretariat will maintain an Interests Register, and this will be available at each Board meeting. Depending on what the interest is, the options for managing these will be made on a case by case basis and may involve the member excusing themselves from the discussion, or remaining within the discussion but not being able to partake in the vote.

It is noted that under Schedule 2 s (11)(6) of the Act, that a member of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī is not precluded from discussing or voting on a matter only because the member is affiliated to an iwi or a hapū with interests in Te Kāhui Tupua. Under Schedule 2 s (7), an affiliation of a member of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī to an iwi or a hapū with interests in Te Kāhui Tupua, or the fact that a member of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī is also a member of the governance entity of an iwi of Taranaki are not, in themselves, interests that must be disclosed or recorded.

Board members must not pursue their own interests at the expense of the interests of Te Kāhui Tupua. Members should not gain an advantage (or be perceived to gain an advantage) from their position as a member of the Board. Members should:

- Disclose personal interests
- Ensure they are free from any obligation to another party or organisation whose interests conflict with those of the Board
- Avoid situations that could impair their objectivity or create a personal bias that would (or would reasonably be seen to) influence their judgement
- Avoid any situation where action they take in their capacity as a Board member could be seen to influence, or be influenced by, a private interest that they, a family member or close friend may hold.

For more information regarding conflicts of interest, see Schedule 2 s (11) of the Act.

## Conduct when debating matters

Board members are chosen for their ability to contribute the perspectives of various parts of the community and various local interests. It is therefore expected that a range of differing viewpoints will be present at a Board meeting. Debate on matters is encouraged. Constructive debate focuses on issues rather than personalities.

While Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī is made up of members of different backgrounds and skillsets, consensus must be determined in order for the matter at hand to be approved. The Board should always strive for consensus on a matter (s (33) of the Act), however members have a right to dissent, and this right will be respected. If a consensus is not practicable after allowing a reasonable period for discussion, a decision of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī may be made with the agreement of at least 75% of the members present and voting. Once a majority decision of 75% has been reached this becomes a decision of the Board.

## Keeping information secure

Board members have a duty of care to ensure the security of Board information they receive, either in hard copy or electronically. This includes Board information and communication held on members' personal devices. Any confidential information that is held on a Board members personal devices must not be shared outside of the Board.

A Board Management software tool may be used as a central location to hold documentation for the Board, but the same expectations apply around confidentiality. Any chosen external Board Management software tool will be open to the Official Information Act 1982 process.

Board members must not disclose confidential information and must not use confidential information for any purpose other than the purpose for which the information was supplied to them. Any confidential Board papers remain the property of the Board and must be securely destroyed or returned at the end of a member's term.

## Political neutrality

Board members are expected to maintain political neutrality, especially at election times when there is generally a higher level of scrutiny of public organisations.

If a Board member wishes to stand for Parliament or be placed on a party list, they are expected to request a leave of absence from their Board position once their intention is publicly announced (although this may be overridden by Ministerial discretion). If a Board member is elected to Parliament, they are expected to resign from the Board.

If a member stands as a candidate in local or regional body elections, this may create perceived or actual conflict between the role of the Board and the local or regional body. The member should contact the Board Chair to discuss options and disclose to their interests register. The exception to this is if they are standing independently.

## Fiscal responsibility

The Director-General must meet the reasonable operational costs of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī in relation to exercising its powers and performing its statutory functions including the costs of – travel and other expenses of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī members, professional indemnity and public liability insurance for Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī and its members, preparing and publishing any reports by Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī, and providing legal, accounting, auditing, and other necessary professional services to Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī. The Board will set an annual operating budget that will be reviewed on a regular basis and will be subject to a reforecast if necessary.

Boards must be seen to carry out their functions transparently, economically and sustainably. Board members must only claim for legitimate expenses incurred and should endeavour to keep these at a reasonable level.

The Board have an annual budget they must adhere to, which covers meeting fees, venue expenses, travel and accommodation, IT, professional services, and any other expenses deemed necessary to carry out the purpose and functions of the Board.

## Gifts and hospitality

Any gifts received as a member of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī will be automatically received for Te Kāhui Tupua rather than the individual Board member. That gift would then be held in trust for Te Kāhui Tupua.

Gifts or hospitality received over the monetary value of \$50 will be added to the Board gift register, regardless of whether or not they were accepted. Members should carefully consider any gift or hospitality offered to them and may wish to check with the Board Chair before accepting. All members should be aware of the way that acceptance of hospitality or gifts could be perceived by other parties, for example, media, other Board members and members of the public.

## Professional development

All newly appointed Board members are provided with induction training.

Board members should also take reasonable steps to increase their knowledge around issues relevant to their role during their time on Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī. This will generally take the form of self-directed and self-funded study or research, but members are also encouraged to communicate their professional development goals. There may be opportunities for training to increase members' skill and knowledge in areas of conservation and governance.

## Breaches of Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025 (the Act)

These Operating Procedures reflect an agreement between Board members about behaviour they expect from one another and themselves. It does not have the force of law but is an important part of the appointers expectations of the Board and its members.

Any complaint that a member has breached a provision of the Act, or specific or general expectations of behaviour contained within these Operating Procedures should be directed to the Board Chair in the first instance.

Under Schedule 2 s (8)(1) of the Act, a member of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī appointed by the trustees under s 31(1)(a) may be removed by, and at the sole discretion of, the trustees.

Under Schedule 2 s (8)(2) of the Act, a member of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī appointed by the Minister of Conservation under s (31)(1)(b) may be removed by that Minister for reasons of –

- Inability to perform the functions of the office; or
- Neglect of duty; or
- Misconduct.

The reasons are not specifically defined in the legislation, so factors such as neglect of duty or misconduct are largely open to interpretation, although case law may assist. If a Board is dealing with an allegation of a breach of any of these statutory provisions, the parties involved are urged to seek independent legal advice.

### *Breach of The Act not amounting to a statutory breach*

Members may only be removed from office for breaches of the Act. It is possible that a clear and confirmed breach of the Operating Procedures may amount to a statutory breach and grounds for removal under the Act.

However, sometimes a member's breach of the Operating Procedures will not reach the statutory threshold. In these cases, the Board may consider remedial and improvement-focused measures to support the Board member's performance or improve working relationships between Board members. For example, a Board may request that a member:

- Attends a relevant training or refresher course
- Works with a mentor for a period of time

- Participates in voluntary mediation (if there is a conflict between two or more members).

The Board may consider other actions to address unsatisfactory conduct, such as:

- Letter of censure to the member
- Request for an apology to be made either privately or publicly
- Vote of no confidence in the member
- Limitation on dealings with any/all Board members apart from the Chair
- Suspension from Board meetings
- Invitation for the member to consider resigning from the Board.

Any decision to apply any of the measures suggested above should be made by the Board in a public meeting, unless some aspect of the matter makes it more appropriate to discuss the matter with the public excluded. Any proposed measures should be recorded in writing, agreed by all parties and reviewed at an appropriate time to assess whether the measures taken have been successful.

**Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī**  
**Meeting No. 2 / 2026**

**Agenda Item: 4.2**

Kaupapa: **Establishing Committees and Terms of Reference**

Prepared By: Lesa Bevin, Laura Buttimore & Sean Zieltjes, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Planning Team

Meeting Date: 20 February 2026

<b>Recommendation</b>	<p><u>It is recommended the Board:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>Establishes</b> three committees as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Committee 1 – Concessions, Consents and Approvals.</li> <li>b. Committee 2 – Relationships.</li> <li>c. Committee 3 – Statutory Planning.</li> </ol> </li> <li>b) <b>Approves</b> the Terms of Reference for each committee.</li> </ol>
<b>Context</b>	<p><i>Schedule 2, Clause 19</i> enables Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī to establish committees to deal with matters it considers are appropriate. Three committees are recommended as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Committee 1 – Concessions, Consents and Approvals.</b> This Committee will be first point of call for applications for various activities that may affect Te Kāhui Tupua. The Role of the committee is to engage in those processes, before bringing a recommendation to Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī regarding a position on a particular proposal.</li> <li>• <b>Committee 2 – Relationships.</b> Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī is required to enter into several relationship agreements, and it is anticipated that a series of other relationship agreements will be sought over the term of the Board. The role of the Committee is to develop up draft agreements for Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī to finalise and enter into.</li> <li>• <b>Committee 3 – Statutory Planning.</b> The purpose of this committee is to provide oversight of the planning team developing He Kawa Ora, and leadership of that process. It is to provide a committee to troubleshoot issues and ensure best practise plan making is adhered to through the development of He Kawa Ora. The committee will make recommendations to Te Tōpuni Kōkorangī at key process stage gates (e.g., prior to formal comments being invited). This committee may also work on other statutory plan or reforms to advocate for Te Kāhui Tupua within those processes.</li> </ul> <p>Each committee will operate to a Terms of Reference (attached as Appendix 1 in draft).</p>

## Executive summary – Whakarāpopototanga matua

1. The purpose of this paper is to outline and recommend three Committees of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī. Draft terms of reference are proposed for each Committee.
2. The following committees are proposed:
  1. **Committee 1 – Concessions, Consents and Approvals.** This Committee will be first point of call for applications for various activities that may affect Te Kāhui Tupua. The role of the committee is to engage in those processes, before bringing a recommendation to Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī regarding a position on a particular proposal.
  2. **Committee 2 – Relationships.** Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī is required to enter into several relationship agreements, and it is anticipated that a series of other relationship agreements will be sought over the term of the Board. The role of the Committee is to develop up draft agreements for Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī to finalise and enter into.
  3. **Committee 3 – Statutory Planning.** The purpose of this committee is to provide oversight of the planning team developing He Kawa Ora, and leadership of that process. It is to provide a committee to troubleshoot issues and ensure best practise plan making is adhered to through the development of He Kawa Ora. The committee will make recommendations to Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī at key process stage gates (e.g., prior to formal comments being invited). This committee may also work on other statutory plan or reforms to advocate for Te Kāhui Tupua within those processes.
3. Draft Terms of Reference for each of these committee’s is attached as Appendix 1.

## Purpose – He aronga matua

4. The purpose of this paper is to recommend Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī establish three Committees. The purpose of these committees it to enable Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī to deal with the following matters:
  1. Consents, concessions and approvals.
  2. Relationship agreements.
  3. Statutory Planning.

## Background and context – He kupu whakamarama

5. *Schedule 2, clause 19 of Te Ture Whakaturua* enables Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī to establish committees to deal with matters it considered appropriate.
6. *Section 29 of Te Ture Whakaturua* sets out the functions of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī. Proposed committees outlined above address the following specific functions:
  1. Consents, concessions and approvals. *29(b) to uphold and promote (i) Te Kāhui Tupua Status and Ngā Pou Whakaturua; and (ii) the health, well-being and interests of Te Kāhui Tupua.* This is specifically in approval processes where applicants may require advice from or engagement with Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī. This committee would provide a place for applicants to engage with initially, with the Committee then making recommendations to the Board regarding direction. This is the same for *29(i) for the purposes of Schedule 4, to consider and determine,*

*jointly with the Minister of Conservation, applications for concessions and authorisations for an interest in land relating to Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki.*

2. Relationship agreements. 29(c-f) outline relationships Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī is to form including with:
  - i. The trustees of Te Tōpuni Ngārahu.
  - ii. Iwi and hapū of Ngā Iwi o Taranaki with interests in Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki.
  - iii. He Takapou Tupua (the relationship agreement entered into by Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī and the Minister of Conservation and Director-General).
  - iv. Crown agencies, and other bodies with functions affecting Te Kāhui Tupua. This includes the Taranaki/Whanganui Conservation Board and the New Zealand Conservation Authority. Any relationship with local government would also fall within this clause.
3. Statutory Planning. 29(g) requires Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī *to develop and recommend for approval He Kawa Ora*, as well as 29(b) set out above.
7. Establishing committees to deal with these range of functions is considered the most efficient and effective way to progress each of the respective work streams. Each will require iterative and frequent work over the short term as Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī works to establish the redress arrangements.
8. Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī remains the final decision maker on all matters a committee may deal with.

## **Risk assessment – He aronga tūraru**

9. The primary risk of not establishing these committees is in their absence the full Board would be required to deliver these functions. This is not considered practical or efficient given the iterative nature of engagement in an approvals process, or the formulation of relationship agreements. Similarly for the development of He Kawa Ora, closer oversight than at time of board meetings is necessary given the relatively short timeframe to develop the Plan.

## **Consultation – Toronga**

10. No consultation on this matter has been undertaken.

## **Legislation – He aronga ture**

11. *Schedule 2, clause 19 of Te Ture Whakaturua* enables Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī to establish committees to deal with matters it considered appropriate.
12. This decision is in accordance with *schedule 2, clause 19*.

## **Recommendation – He kupu whakatau**

13. Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī establishes three committees as follows:
  1. Committee 1 – Concessions, Consents and Approvals.
  2. Committee 2 – Relationships.
  3. Committee 3 – Statutory Planning.
14. Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī approves the Terms of Reference for each committee.

## Decision comments

\_\_\_\_\_ Date:

Liana Poutu  
**Chairperson, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī**

## Appendix 1 – Draft Terms of Reference – Concessions, consents, and Approvals Committee.

# Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Concessions, Consents, and Approvals Committee

To consider concessions, consents, or other approvals pursuant to a range of legislation that may impact on Te Kāhui Tupua.

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## Background & context

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī acts as the collective face and voice of Te Kāhui Tupua, upholding the integrity, mauri, and interconnectedness of all the elements that comprise Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki and its wider landscape within the region of Taranaki.

*Section 17 of Te Ture Whakaturua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025 ('Te Kāhui Tupua Act')* recognises that Te Kāhui Tupua is a living and indivisible whole comprising Taranaki Maunga and other tūpuna maunga, including Pouākai and Kaitake, from their peaks to, and including, all the surrounding lands, and incorporating all their physical and metaphysical elements. Surrounding land is defined in that section as the lands located within the Taranaki Region that form part of Te Kāhui Tupua.

Te Kāhui Tupua status and Ngā Pou Whakaturua (Maunga values) may be considered by territorial and regional authorities and or government agencies (eg. Department of Conservation) when exercising or performing powers, functions, or duties under any legislation that relate to, or may affect, Te Kāhui Tupua<sup>1</sup>.

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī anticipate that this may result in a range of Resource Management Act process (e.g., resource consent or designation applications), or approvals pursuant to other legislation that may impact Te Kāhui Tupua in a similar manner (e.g., Fast Track Approvals Act 2024) or concession applications pursuant to the Conservation Act 1987.

## Purpose

The purpose of the Committee is to:

- a) Assess the actual and potential effects of any resource consent and/or concession applications (or other regulatory process) on Te Kāhui Tupua; and
- b) Interpret and apply Ngā Pou Whakaturua in the assessment of the proposal; and
- c) Develop a recommendation to Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī on an appropriate position or response to the proposal, consistent with Te Kāhui Tupua status and Ngā Pou Whakaturua.

## Scope

The Committee's scope includes:

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<sup>1</sup> Section 20(5), Te Kāhui Tupua Act

- a) Consideration of any resource consent application, concession applications and/or any other regulatory processes concerning Te Kāhui Tupua, in accordance with Ngā Pou Whakatupua; and
- b) Engagement with relevant information, including ecological assessments, cultural impact statements, and planning documents; and
- c) Consultation, as required, with relevant iwi, hapū, the Department of Conservation, the applicant, local authorities, and stakeholders; and
- d) Development of advice or recommendations to Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī for a decision; and
- e) Where the Committee recommends support for a proposal, it may also:
  - i. Develop proposed conditions to ensure any approval appropriately recognises Te Kāhui Tupua, and is consistent with Ngā Pou Whakatupua; and/or
  - ii. Negotiate or draft side-agreements or undertakings that provide for the protection, restoration, or enhancement of values associated with Te Kāhui Tupua and Ngā Pou Whakatupua, for recommendation to Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī.

The Committee does not have delegated authority to make binding decisions on behalf of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī, unless explicitly authorised to do so.

## Composition

The Committee shall comprise:

- a. Up to three (3) members of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī, appointed by resolution; and
- b. At least one (1) member with specialist expertise in planning or environmental management; and
- c. At least one (1) member with demonstrated cultural and tikanga knowledge relevant to Te Kāhui Tupua and Ngā Pou Whakatupua; and
- d. At least one (1) member with demonstrated conservation management and knowledge relevant to Te Kāhui Tupua.

The Committee may appoint its own Chair.

The Chair of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī must not be appointed as the Chair of any committee.

The Committee may, with the approval of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī, co-opt advisors or subject matter experts where additional expertise is required.

## Roles & Responsibilities

The Committee shall:

- a. Review all relevant application documentation; and
- b. Assess the proposal against Ngā Pou Whakatupua and Te Kāhui Tupua status; and
- c. Identify potential adverse or beneficial effects on Te Kāhui Tupua; and
- d. Prepare a written report and recommendation for Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī's approval.

## Process

1. Appointment – Members are appointed by Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī for the duration of the specific matter under consideration.
2. Quorum – A quorum shall consist of a majority of appointed members.
3. Decision-Making – Consensus shall be sought wherever possible. Where consensus cannot be reached, the differing views shall be documented and reported.
4. Reporting – The Committee shall provide a formal written report and recommendation to the next scheduled meeting of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī.
5. Where approvals timeframes do not align with a Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī board meeting (i.e., a submission deadline) the Committee shall identify this with the Chair of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī to arrange an out of cycle board meeting to consider the recommendation of the Committee.

## Confidentiality & Integrity

Members must treat all information with appropriate confidentiality, act with integrity, and declare any potential conflicts of interest.

## Review

These Terms of Reference will be reviewed by Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī at the conclusion of the Committee’s work, or at least annually, to ensure it remains consistent with evolving understandings of Te Kāhui Tupua and Ngā Pou Whakatupua.

## Approval

These Terms of Reference were adopted by Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī on [Date].

Signed:

Liana Poutu

Chairperson, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Appendix 2 – Draft Terms of Reference – Relationships Committee

# Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Relationships Committee

To oversee and inform the development of relationship agreements between Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī and other individuals and entities

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## Background & context

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī acts as the collective face and voice of Te Kāhui Tupua, upholding the integrity, mauri, and interconnectedness of all the elements that comprise Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki and its wider landscape within the region of Taranaki.

Under *section 29 of Te Ture Whakaturua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025* (**‘Te Kāhui Tupua Act’**), Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī has specific functions related to forming and managing relationships. These will require negotiation and administration of formal agreements. These functions include:

1. Entering into He Takapou Tupua. He Takapou Tupua is specifically defined in the Act and deed as a relationship agreement with the Crown via the Minister of Conservation and the Director-General of Conservation.
2. Engaging and forming relationships with the trustees of Te Tōpuni Ngārahu (the collective iwi governance entity), including by written agreements.
3. Forming relationships with the iwi and hapū of Ngā Iwi o Taranaki who have interests in Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki.
4. Forming relationships with Crown agencies and other bodies whose functions affect Te Kāhui Tupua — including boards such as the Taranaki/Whanganui Conservation Board and the New Zealand Conservation Authority.

These statutory functions create both mandatory (e.g., He Takapou Tupua) and discretionary relationship activities where structured agreements will be central to delivering the governance and stewardship expectations embedded in Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo and Te Kāhui Tupua Act.

There are other agreements identified in Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo (such as Te Ahi Ngārahu between the Trustees and Minister of Conservation and the Director-General of Conservation), as well as other arrangements (such as Mana Whakahono-ā-Rohe).

## Purpose

To oversee, develop, negotiate, maintain and monitor the suite of relationship agreements required of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī under Te Kāhui Tupua Act and Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo.

## Scope

The Committee's scope includes:

- f) Engaging with third parties wanting a relationship with Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī.
- g) Assisting to develop, review and recommend the content and arrangements in relationship agreements.
- h) Making recommendations to the full Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī board regarding the content of any relationship agreement and arrangements.

The Committee does not have delegated authority to make binding decisions on behalf of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī, unless explicitly authorised to do so.

## Composition

The Committee shall comprise:

- e. Up to three (3) members of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī, appointed by resolution; and
- f. At least one (1) member with specialist expertise in planning or environmental management; and
- g. At least one (1) member with demonstrated cultural and tikanga knowledge relevant to Te Kāhui Tupua and Ngā Pou Whakatupua; and
- h. At least one (1) member with demonstrated conservation/restoration knowledge relevant to Te Kāhui Tupua.

The Committee may appoint its own Chair.

The Chair of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī must not be appointed as the Chair of any Committee.

The Committee may, with the approval of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī, co-opt advisors or subject matter experts where additional expertise is required.

## Roles & Responsibilities

The Committee shall:

- e. Identify all statutory and non-statutory relationship agreements required, and prioritise those agreements; and
- f. Lead development of He Takapou Tupua and recommend terms to full Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī; and
- g. Ensure agreements reflect Ngā Pou Whakatupua values and obligations in Te Kāhui Tupua Act and Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo; and
- h. Develop performance frameworks for each agreement, and monitor compliance, reporting requirements and review triggers; and
- i. Provide periodic updates to Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī on negotiations, implementation status, and risks.

## Process

6. Appointment – Members are appointed by Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī for the duration of the specific matter under consideration.
7. Quorum – A quorum shall consist of a majority of appointed members.
8. Decision-Making – Consensus shall be sought wherever possible. Where consensus cannot be reached, the differing views shall be documented and reported.
9. Reporting – The Committee shall provide a formal written report and recommendation to the next scheduled meeting of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī.

## Confidentiality & Integrity

Members must treat all information with appropriate confidentiality, act with integrity, and declare any potential conflicts of interest.

## Review

These Terms of Reference will be reviewed by Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī at the conclusion of the Committee’s work, or at least annually, to ensure it remains consistent with evolving understandings of Te Kāhui Tupua and Ngā Pou Whakatupua.

## Approval

These Terms of Reference was adopted by Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī on [Date].

Signed:

Liana Poutu

Chairperson, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Appendix 3 – Draft Terms of Reference – Statutory Planning Committee

# Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Statutory Planning Committee

To oversee and inform the development of He Kawa Ora mō Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki

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## Background & context

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī acts as the collective face and voice of Te Kāhui Tupua, upholding the integrity, mauri, and interconnectedness of all the elements that comprise Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki and its wider landscape within the region of Taranaki.

As one aspect of this, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī are responsible for overseeing the development of He Kawa Ora mō Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki (**'He Kawa Ora'**)<sup>2</sup>.

He Kawa Ora must be prepared in accordance with Section 94, and Schedule 3 of Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025 (**'Te Kāhui Tupua Act'**).

The following broad timeline is available to develop He Kawa Ora:

- November 2025 – March 2026: Preparatory work.
- March – July 2026: Structured pre-engagement.
- 20 July 2026: Public notice inviting comments.
- September 2026 – April 2028: Drafting, submissions, hearings, and approvals.

## Purpose

The purpose of the Committee is to:

- d) Provide closer oversight of the development of He Kawa Ora; and
- e) Consider and manage process risks associated with the development of He Kawa Ora;
- f) Undertake and manage engagement with relevant parties; and
- g) Ensure the development of provisions proposed for He Kawa Ora are consistent with Te Kāhui Tupua status and Ngā Pou Whakatupua, and the principles of the National Parks Act 1980.

## Scope

The Committee's scope includes:

- i) Providing direction to the Planning Team on the overall He Kawa Ora development programme.

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<sup>2</sup> Section 95, Te Kāhui Tupua Act

- j) Developing the understanding of Ngā Pou Whakatupua and Te Kāhui Tupua Status as they apply in the context of, He Kawa Ora.
- k) Assisting to develop and confirm key opportunities and issues, concepts, planning approaches, and implementation expectations.
- l) Assisting with public engagement and consultation necessary to develop He Kawa Ora.
- m) Making recommendations to the full Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī board regarding key attributes of He Kawa Ora, and risk management.

The Committee does not have delegated authority to make binding decisions on behalf of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī, unless explicitly authorised to do so.

## Composition

The Committee shall comprise:

- i. Up to three (3) members of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī, appointed by resolution; and
- j. At least one (1) member with specialist expertise in planning or environmental management; and
- k. At least one (1) member with demonstrated cultural and tikanga knowledge relevant to Te Kāhui Tupua and Ngā Pou Whakatupua; and
- l. At least one (1) member with demonstrated conservation/restoration knowledge relevant to Te Kāhui Tupua.

The Committee may appoint its own Chair.

The Chair of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī must not be appointed as the Chair of any Committee.

The Committee may, with the approval of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī, co-opt advisors or subject matter experts where additional expertise is required.

## Roles & Responsibilities

The Committee shall:

- j. Provide strategic and cultural leadership to the planning team; and
- k. Oversee the plan development process, including scope, methodology and work programme; and
- l. Guide and ensure appropriate engagement with parties listed at *schedule 3(3)(2) of Te Kāhui Tupua Act*; and
- m. Ensure the process meets the requirements of *Te Kāhui Tupua Act*, ensure accuracy, coherence and cultural consistency; and
- n. Identify and manage risks relating to cultural, reputational, compliance or governance matters; and
- o. Report regularly to Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī on progress, issues and recommendations. Escalate significant risks, disagreements, or departures from the agreed plan development programme.

## Process

10. Appointment – Members are appointed by Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī for the duration of the specific matter under consideration.
11. Quorum – A quorum shall consist of a majority of appointed members.
12. Decision-Making – Consensus shall be sought wherever possible. Where consensus cannot be reached, the differing views shall be documented and reported.
13. Reporting for He Kawa Ora – The Committee may provide a formal written report and any recommendation to the next scheduled meeting of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī regarding the progress of He Kawa Ora.
14. Reporting for other statutory processes – The Committee shall provide a formal report and recommendation to the next scheduled meeting of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī. If a submission deadline does not align with a scheduled meeting, the Committee will work with the Chair to convene an out of cycle meeting to consider a submission or position as required.

## Confidentiality & Integrity

Members must treat all information with appropriate confidentiality, act with integrity, and declare any potential conflicts of interest.

## Review

These Terms of Reference will be reviewed by Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī at the conclusion of the Committee’s work, or at least annually, to ensure it remains consistent with evolving understandings of Te Kāhui Tupua and Ngā Pou Whakatupua.

## Approval

These Terms of Reference were adopted by Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī on [Date].

Signed:

Liana Poutu

Chairperson, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī**  
**Meeting No. 2 / 2026**

**Agenda Item: 4.3**

Kaupapa: **Statement of Priorities**  
 Prepared By: Lesa Bevin, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Secretariat  
 Meeting Date: 20 February 2026

<p><b>Recommendation</b></p>	<p><u>It is recommended the Board:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>Discusses</b> the Statement of Priorities</li> <li>b) <b>Approves</b> the Statement of Priorities</li> </ul>
<p><b>Context</b></p>	<p><i>Sections 99, 100, and 101 of Te Ture Whakaturua</i> prescribe what must be carried out in relation to the Statement of Priorities.</p> <p>Before beginning the annual operational management planning process, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī must meet with the Director-General to discuss operational management issues and priorities for the year ahead and consider and determine priorities for implementing He Kawa Ora for the operational management year. These priorities are to be provided in a statement to the Director-General (s 100).</p> <p>The Statement of Priorities will then be discussed in a meeting between the Director-General and the trustees of Te Tōpuni Ngārahu to inform the operational management year (s 99).</p> <p>After each operational management year, the Director-General will provide a report to Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī on how the Statement of Priorities has been reflected in the operational management for that year (s 101).</p> <p>This Statement has been informed by all members of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī, and has been developed in a letter format addressed to the Director-General. The operational management will be more deeply understood from August 2026.</p>

Te Kāhui Tupua  
C/- Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī  
[tetopunikokorangi@doc.govt.nz](mailto:tetopunikokorangi@doc.govt.nz)

20 February 2026

Director-General, Department of Conservation  
Conservation House (Whare Kaupapa Atawhai)  
18-32 Manners Street  
Wellington 6011

Via email

Tēnā koe Penny,

**RE: TE TŌPUNI KŌKŌRANGI STATEMENT OF PRIORITIES FOR THE 2026/27 FINANCIAL YEAR**

The purpose of this letter is to formally set out the Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Statement of Priorities for Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027. This statement is prepared in accordance with sections 20, 100, and 101 of Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025 (**‘Te Kāhui Tupua Act’**).

This Statement sets expectations of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī for the operational management of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki for the forthcoming annual plan cycle. It is intended to guide the Department of Conservation’s (**‘DOC’**) planning, delivery, and reporting for this period, while recognising that He Kawa Ora mō Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki is still in development and will provide further direction in future years.

**Overarching expectations**

For the 2026/27-year Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī emphasises the following overarching priorities:

- **Forming and deepening relationships:** This is the principal priority for Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī. Affirming relationships at all levels of the programme is necessary to form a strong basis for subsequent annual plan cycles. The operations programme should be reviewed to identify all opportunities for ngā iwi o Taranaki and communities to work alongside the DOC in the delivery of initiatives affecting Te Kāhui Tupua.

- **Alignment with Ngā Pou Whakatupua:** All activities planned, funded, or delivered within Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki must demonstrably align with Ngā Pou Whakatupua. Activities that do not align should not proceed.
- **Te Kāhui Tupua as a living and indivisible whole:** Operational management must recognise and respond to the inseparability of the physical and metaphysical elements of Te Kāhui Tupua.
- **From aspiration to action:** The Statement is values led, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī expect DOC to orientate outcomes and outputs to Ngā Pou Whakatupua within its annual operational planning.
- **Reciprocity and benefit:** Operational programmes must be able to articulate how they give back to, restore or enhance Te Kāhui Tupua, not simply how any impacts are to be mitigated.

### **Manuhiri, and connection to place**

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī recognises the importance of access to nature, recreation, education, and appropriate visitor activity for the well-being of people. These activities are supported where they are consistent with, and subordinate to, the health and well-being of Te Kāhui Tupua. Proactive visitor management, restoration, biodiversity enhancement, and ecosystem health remain central expectations for the 2026/27 year.

### **Examples of operational alignment with Ngā Pou Whakatupua**

Without limiting DOC's operational discretion, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī notes that alignment with Ngā Pou Whakatupua may be demonstrated through practical actions such as:

- **Visitor and access management:** This can include monitoring visitor numbers and patterns, proactively managing pressure on tracks, and ensuring access arrangements support both safety of people and the health of Te Kāhui Tupua.
- **Asset and facilities management:** Track maintenance, wayfinding and signage updates. Consider the renewal or reestablishment of shelters and huts (e.g., the former lake dive hut at Mangoraukawa) where these support safe use while respecting Te Kāhui Tupua.
- **Restoration and biodiversity programmes:** Predator control, flora and fauna monitoring, and restoration initiatives where success is measured by ecological outcomes, not solely by activity metrics.
- **Concessions and commercial activity:** Concessions approved within Te Kāhui Tupua include conditions, monitoring and reporting to reflect Ngā Pou Whakatupua and demonstrate reciprocity and benefit to Te Kāhui Tupua.
- **Research and monitoring:** Research activities are undertaken in ways that respect tikanga, support restoration outcomes, and contribute to a deeper understanding of Te Kāhui Tupua as a living system.

These examples are intended to demonstrate how Ngā Pou Whakatupua can be given practical effect through existing operational activities, rather than to prescribe specific programmes or projects.

As Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī understand more of the operational requirements for Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki and the aspirations of Ngā Iwi o Taranaki, DOC should expect subsequent Statements to prescribe programmes or projects in accordance with He Kawa Ora mō Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki.

### **Ngā Iwi o Taranaki aspirations**

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī acknowledges that the specific aspirations of Ngā Iwi o Taranaki for the 2026/27 financial year are still in discussion and will continue to be developed through engagement during the annual planning and operational management cycle.

In accordance with *section 99 of Te Kāhui Tupua Act*, DOC is expected to engage in good faith with the Trustees of Te Tōpuni Ngārahu to understand those aspirations as they emerge, and to deliberately and demonstrably incorporate them, as far as practicable, into operational planning and delivery within Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki.

Where ngā iwi o Taranaki aspirations cannot be fully incorporated within the 2026/27-year, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī expects this to be clearly identified, with reasons documented, and considered in subsequent planning cycles and Statements of Priorities.

### **Reporting**

In accordance with *section 101 of the Act*, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī expects end-of-year reporting to clearly describe:

- How the Statement of Priorities has been reflected in operational management; and
- The use of concession revenue and other fees for the benefit of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki; and
- Any priorities not delivered, including reasons and constraints.

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī looks forward to discussions with you and your officials as DOC develops its annual plan for 2026/27, and to working collaboratively to realise the aspirations of Ngā Iwi o Taranaki for Te Kāhui Tupua.

Noho ora mai,

Liana Poutu

**Chair, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī**

**Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī**  
**Meeting No. 2 / 2026**

**Agenda Item: 4.4**

Kaupapa: **Resource Management Reform**

Prepared By: Laura Buttimore & Sean Zieltjes, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Planning Team.

Meeting Date: 20 February 2026

<b>Recommendation</b>	<p><u>It is recommended the Board:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Receives</b> the update on the submission lodged with the Environment Committee on the Planning Bill and Natural Environment Bill; and</li> <li>• <b>Notes</b> the key risks identified for Te Kāhui Tupua, Ngā Pou Whakatupua, and He Kawa Tupua arising from the Bills as currently drafted; and</li> <li>• <b>Confirms</b> its support for the relief sought in the submission, including continued engagement to protect Treaty settlement integrity through legislative reform; and</li> <li>• <b>Meets</b> with Te Tōpuni Ngārahu to ensure coordination in responding and upholding the rights and interests of Te Kāhui Tupua.</li> </ul>
<b>Context</b>	<p>The Government is undertaking a comprehensive reform of the resource management system, replacing the Resource Management Act 1991 with the Planning Bill and Natural Environment Bill.</p> <p>The Bills were publicly notified with submissions closing 13 February 2026.</p> <p>Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī made a submission in accordance with its functions set out in section 29 of the <i>Te Kāhui Tupua Act</i>.</p>

## Executive summary – Whakarāpopototanga matua

1. Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī has made a formal submission to the Environment Committee on the Planning Bill ('**PB**') and Natural Environment Bill ('**NEB**'). The submission raises fundamental concerns that, as drafted, the Bills do not adequately provide for Te Kāhui Tupua as a legally recognised entity, nor do they preserve the operative effect of Ngā Pou Whakatupua or the statutory role of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī.
2. The submission is attached as appendix 1.
3. The proposed reform replaces the Resource Management Act 1991 ('**RMA**') framework within which Te Kāhui Tupua arrangements were negotiated, agreed, and enacted. The submission outlines that without explicit statutory direction, the new system risks

materially weakening He Kawa Tupua, fragmenting recognition of Te Kāhui Tupua, and marginalising the mandated role of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī.

4. The submission seeks amendments to ensure Treaty settlement arrangements endure through reform, rather than being narrowed or diluted by the transition to the new planning system.

## Purpose – He aronga matua

5. The purpose of this paper is to update Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī on:
  - a) the submission made on the PB and NEB; and
  - b) the key issues and risks identified for Te Kāhui Tupua and Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī.

## Background and context – He kupu whakamarama

6. The Government is undertaking a comprehensive reform of the resource management system, replacing the RMA with the PB and NEB. The reform introduces a new system based on regional spatial strategies, environmental limits, and a hierarchy of planning instruments, with the stated aim of improving environmental outcomes, enabling development, and increasing certainty and efficiency.
7. Te Kāhui Tupua and He Kawa Tupua arrangements were negotiated and enacted in reliance on the RMA framework. Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī considers that the changes from the RMA to the PB/NEB, without explicit recognition of Treaty settlement legislation risk undermining the integrity of the redress arrangements agreed through Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo.
8. Some dialogue with Ministry for the Environment ('MfE') on this matter has been had. This has largely been to clarify the different roles of Te Tōpuni Ngārahu and Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī as opposed to any detail.
9. How legal personhood landscapes will function within the new system has not been a strong consideration in the design of the Bills. As such it is not clear how the proposed new system would provide for the arrangements agreed for Te Kāhui Tupua set out in Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo.
10. MfE has resourced iwi authorities, including Te Tōpuni Ngārahu, to engage in the reform process with a view to upholding their Te Tiriti Settlement arrangements.
11. Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī has a distinct role from Te Tōpuni Ngārahu as the face and voice of Te Kāhui Tupua in processes such as this reform. A submission was made to the Bills (attached as appendix 1). Te Tōpuni Ngārahu also submitted on the Bills, as did ngā iwi o Taranaki, and many hapū.
12. The Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī submission identifies the following key issues:
  - a. Loss of operative effect: The Bills do not preserve the substantive and directive effect of Te Kāhui Tupua status and Ngā Pou Whakatupua as they functioned under the RMA.
  - b. Fragmentation of Te Kāhui Tupua: Heavy reliance on mapped areas and spatial planning risks confining recognition of Te Kāhui Tupua to narrow geographic boundaries, contrary to its recognition as a living and indivisible whole across the Taranaki Region.

- c. Weakened legal direction: Obligations to merely “seek to achieve” outcomes fall short of the level of protection required to uphold intrinsic maunga values.
  - d. Legal personhood landscapes: The Bills do not explicitly recognise or provide for landscapes with legal personhood, creating risk of inconsistent treatment.
  - e. Role of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī: The Bills do not adequately reflect the statutory mandate of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī as the human face and voice of Te Kāhui Tupua, risking its treatment as one stakeholder among many.
13. The submission emphasises that Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo and Te Kāhui Tupua Act were entered into in good faith, with an expectation that the arrangements would have enduring and meaningful effect within the planning and resource management system.

## Risk assessment – He aronga tūraru

14. The primary risk is that without equivalent provisions in the PB and NEB to those in the RMA the arrangements for Te Kāhui Tupua are substantially weakened, and a derogation from what was agreed in Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo
15. As legal personhood landscapes have not been a strong consideration in the design of the Bills, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī and Te Kāhui Tupua are reduced to another stakeholder reliant on submitting to influence the passage of the legislation.
16. If passed, the resource management system may minimise the impact of Ngā Pou Whakatupua, and the ability to manage activities that impact on Te Kāhui Tupua.

## Consultation – Toronga

17. No consultation on this matter has been undertaken.

## Legislation – He aronga ture

18. The PB and NEB were publicly notified, with submissions closing 13 February 2026.
19. *Sections 28 and 29(b) of Te Kāhui Tupua Act* require Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī to uphold and promote Te Kāhui Tupua Status and Ngā Pou Whakatupua; and the health, well-being, and interests of Te Kāhui Tupua.
20. *Section 20(5) and 20(6) of Te Kāhui Tupua Act* set out the effect of Te Kāhui Tupua Status and Ngā Pou Whakatupua. These sections hold that the status and values are relevant for all persons acting under any legislation that may affect Te Kāhui Tupua.
21. *Section 21 of Te Kāhui Tupua Act* requires any Council making a decision under the RMA to consider the effects of an activity on Te Kāhui Tupua irrespective of whether Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī has provided written approval.
22. *Section 53 of Te Kāhui Tupua Act* sets out that Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī is recognised as having standing, and a greater interest than the public generally for matters such as this which impact on Te Kāhui Tupua.

## Recommendation – He kupu whakatau

23. It is recommended that the Board:
- a) Receives the update on the submission lodged with the Environment Committee on the Planning Bill and Natural Environment Bill; and

- b) Notes the key risks identified for Te Kāhui Tupua, Ngā Pou Whakatupua, and He Kawa Tupua arising from the Bills as currently drafted; and
- c) Confirms its support for the relief sought in the submission, including continued engagement to protect Treaty settlement integrity through legislative reform.
- d) Meets with Te Tōpuni Ngārahu to ensure coordination in responding and upholding the rights and interests of Te Kāhui Tupua.

### Decision comments

\_\_\_\_\_ Date:

Liana Poutu  
**Chairperson, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī**

## Appendix 1 – Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Submission

Te Kāhui Tupua  
C/- Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī  
[tetopunikokorangi@doc.govt.nz](mailto:tetopunikokorangi@doc.govt.nz)

13 February 2026

Committee Secretariat  
Environment Committee  
Parliament Buildings  
Wellington

via email [En.Legislation@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:En.Legislation@parliament.govt.nz)

Tēnā koutou,

**RE: Submission to the Planning Bill and Natural Environment Bill.**

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī acknowledges and appreciates the opportunity to provide this submission to the Planning and Natural Environment Bills (**the Bills**). From the outset, the Environment Committee must understand that Te Kāhui Tupua is not a special interest to be balanced; Te Kāhui Tupua is a legally recognised entity whose integrity must be maintained through any system reform. This status of personhood is the basis of our submission.

**Te Kāhui Tupua and Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī**

In 2025 new legislation passed in relation to Taranaki Maunga: Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025 (Taranaki Maunga Collective Redress Act 2025) (**Te Kāhui Tupua Act**).

Te Kāhui Tupua Act implements the agreement reached between the eight iwi of Taranaki and the Crown in Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo (the collective redress deed) signed on 1 September 2023 following more than 9 years of negotiation. These arrangements are set out in the deed as He Kawa Tupua.

Te Kāhui Tupua Act establishes a significant new framework in relation to Te Kāhui Tupua which is recognised in legislation as follows:<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Section 17(1) of Te Kāhui Tupua Act, Section 5 of Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo

Te Kāhui Tupua is a living and indivisible whole comprising Taranaki Maunga and other tūpuna maunga, including Pouākai and Kaitake, from their peaks to, and including, all the *surrounding lands*, and incorporating all their physical and metaphysical elements.

*Surrounding lands* means the lands located within the Taranaki Region that form part of Te Kāhui Tupua.

Te Kāhui Tupua is also recognised as a legal person with all the rights, powers, duties, responsibilities and liabilities of a legal person.<sup>2</sup>

Te Kāhui Tupua Act includes an acknowledgement of Te Iho Tāngaengae, which is the statement by Ngā Iwi o Taranaki of their cultural, spiritual, historical, and traditional association with their tūpuna maunga and Te Kāhui Tupua, as set out in section 3 of the Act.

Te Kāhui Tupua Act also sets out ‘Ngā Pou Whakatupua’ (Maunga values) which are intrinsic values that represent the essence of Te Kāhui Tupua and are intended to reflect the cultural, spiritual, ancestral and historical relationship between Ngā Iwi o Taranaki and Te Kāhui Tupua.<sup>3</sup> Te Kāhui Tupua status and Ngā Pou Whakatupua may be considered by persons exercising performing powers, functions, or duties under any legislation that relate to, or may affect, Te Kāhui Tupua.<sup>4</sup>

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī is established by the legislation as the human face and voice of Te Kāhui Tupua and to act and speak for and on behalf of, and in the name of, Te Kāhui Tupua.<sup>5</sup> Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī is made up of four members appointed by Ngā Iwi o Taranaki and four members appointed by the Crown.<sup>6</sup>

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī is recognised as having an interest in Te Kāhui Tupua greater than, and separate from, any interest in common with the public generally, and is entitled to make submissions and entitled to be heard on that matter if a hearing, proceeding, or inquiry is held in relation to that matter.<sup>7</sup>

These arrangements all draw from and remain connected with the collective mātauranga Māori of ngā iwi o Taranaki. He Kawa Tupua<sup>8</sup>, including Te Iho Tāngaengae, Ngā Pou Whakatupua all derive from kōrero tuku iho. The legal personhood recognition of Te Kāhui

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<sup>2</sup> Section 18(1) of Te Kāhui Tupua Act, and Section 5 of Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo

<sup>3</sup> Section 19 of Te Kāhui Tupua Act

<sup>4</sup> Section 20(5) and 20(6) of Te Kāhui Tupua Act

<sup>5</sup> Section 28 and 29(a) of Te Kāhui Tupua Act

<sup>6</sup> Section 31(1) of Te Kāhui Tupua Act

<sup>7</sup> Section 53 of Te Kāhui Tupua Act

<sup>8</sup> See section 2 of Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo. He Kawa Tupua is the framework that underpins the redress arrangements. He Kawa Tupua comprises 1. Te kāhui Tupua as a legal personality; 2. Ngā Pou Whakatupua (Te Kāhui Tupua values); 3. Ko Te Kāhui Tupua me Ngā Pou Whakatupua ētia nei He Kōtore Huia, He Pīkikōtuku (the effect of Te Kāhui Tupua status and Ngā Pou Whakatupua); 4. Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī (the human face and voice of Te Kāhui Tupua) along with a range of other matters set out in Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo.

Tupua in western legal frameworks is a best approximation responding to this mātauranga.

It is also important to note that as a collective redress agreement, Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo is inter-related with and reliant on the individual settlement arrangements of ngā iwi o Taranaki. It cannot be interpreted and applied in isolation, in a similar way that the mātauranga that has informed He Kawa Tupua does not exist in isolation.

### **Previous RMA Reform and a Taranaki Approach**

Although not passed into law, the arrangements for Te Kāhui Tupua were well formed at the time the previous led Resource Management Act 1991 (**'RMA'**) reform programme was developed by the previous government. At that time Taranaki was to be a pilot region for that reform and had advanced several committee structures, issues and options development, and scoping of a regional spatial plan. Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī considers that this previous work remains highly relevant to the proposed planning system under the Planning Bill (**'PB'**) and Natural Environment Bill (**'NEB'**).

This previous work responded to the Te Kāhui Tupua arrangements by ensuring a position for Te Kāhui Tupua (via its human face and voice, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī) on the regional spatial plan committee. Ngā Pou Whakatupua and Te Kāhui Tupua status was viewed as a basis for spatial planning. Relationship agreements between local government and Te Kāhui Tupua and other tools that enable efficient and coherent planning systems that responded positively to Te Kāhui Tupua were identified.

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī acknowledge and support Ngā Iwi o Taranaki and the local Taranaki Councils that progressed that work at that time. Ensuring the planning system proposed under the PB and NEB does not preclude the Taranaki Region from building on this previous work, as this is considered necessary, especially given the truncated timeframes within the PB and NEB to advance the various plans, and the two-year transition period for Treaty settlements to be renegotiated.<sup>9</sup>

### **Planning Bill and Natural Environment Bill**

#### *Interface with Te Kāhui Tupua and Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī*

The PB and NEB propose a fundamental restructuring of the resource management system by replacing the RMA. Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī notes that the redress arrangements provided for in Te Kāhui Tupua Act were negotiated, agreed, and enacted in reliance on the RMA framework, including the jurisprudence that has developed in relation to RMA sections 6, 7 and 8. The Act also enshrined the ability to enter into Joint Management Agreements, and the plan making process under the RMA which required management plans be had regard to, and notification thresholds being minor or more than minor through resource

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<sup>9</sup> Section 9 of the PB and NEB

consent processes. The Bills substantially undermine and derogate the Treaty Settlement of the Crown and ngā iwi o Taranaki.

Te Kāhui Tupua arrangements were designed to function coherently within the RMA decision-making architecture, alongside and supporting the arrangements ngā iwi o Taranaki have in their individual settlements, not in isolation<sup>10</sup>. In particular, the recognition of Te Kāhui Tupua as a living and indivisible whole, the acknowledgement of Te Iho Tāngaenae, and the articulation of Ngā Pou Whakatupua were intended to have substantive and operative effect in planning and consenting decisions that may affect Te Kāhui Tupua across the Taranaki Region.

The PB and NEB as currently drafted do not provide for the continuation of that operative effect.

#### *Te Kāhui Tupua status (Legal Personhood) and System Architecture*

Parliament has now enacted multiple settlement statutes that recognise natural entities as legal persons. Starting with Te Urewera Act 2014, followed by Te Awa Tupua (Whanganui River Claims Settlement) Act 2017, and most recently Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025.

These Acts are not symbolic. Each establishes legal personality, a values framework that expresses the entity's intrinsic integrity, a mandated human face and voice, governance bodies with standing beyond the public at large, and an expectation that these arrangements will operate through the resource management and planning system.

Legal personhood for natural areas and features now forms a distinct and deliberate class of entities within the New Zealand legal system. This reflects both Treaty settlements and the Crown's evolving approach to environmental governance.

Te Kāhui Tupua, Te Awa Tupua and Te Urewera were deliberately designed to override fragmentation resulting from administrative boundaries, narrow land tenure concepts, and purely biophysical or quantifiable assessments.

The PB and NEB by contrast re-introduce fragmentation through spatial mapping, limits and allocation tools, and failing to carry forward any cross-cutting obligation to recognise and give effect to legal personhood entities.

The PB and NEB definitions of 'Identified Māori Land' includes *land that forms part of a natural feature that has been declared under an Act to be a legal entity or person*

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<sup>10</sup> This is evident in Te Kāhui Tupua Act at section 21 and a bespoke role for RMA decision makers regarding affected persons and the consideration of effects in the substantive resource consent decision, the role of TTK as a public authority and able to enter into JMA at section 53, section 20(5) and 20(6) which reference all persons acting under any legislation which may affect Te Kāhui Tupua may consider Te Kāhui Tupua Status and Ngā Pou Whakatupua, 15(3) which extends aspects of the arrangements into the CMA and s.17(2) and surrounding land - of which the RMA is a principal piece of environment legislation.

*(including Te Urewera land within the meaning of section 7 of the Te Urewera Act 2014).* And through this definition Te Kāhui Tupua is subject to the provisions that apply to ‘Identified Māori Land’.

This is a poor fit. Provisions of the PB and NEB look to protect Identified Māori Land from impact of infrastructure activities, or to enable the owners of Identified Māori Land to develop those properties. These are clearly at odds with the role and function of Te Kāhui Tupua, and the express reasons for the legal personhood – Te Mana o Ngā Maunga, the recognition, promotion and protection of the health and well-being of Te Kāhui Tupua and its status.

The absence of explicit provision for legal personhood entities in the PB and NEB represents a departure from Parliament’s approach over the last two decades. This absence creates an incoherent statutory landscape in which entities recognised as legal persons under one Act are treated as discretionary interests in an extremely narrow way under the PB and NEB.

The issues that result from this absence are not unique to Te Kāhui Tupua. Te Awa Tupua and Te Urewera are subject to similar risks of spatial confinement, erosion of intrinsic values, and marginalisation of their mandated representatives.

This is a systemic design failure in the Bills, rather than an isolated issue for Taranaki.

#### *Reliance on RMA Section 6, 7, and 8, and Associated Jurisprudence*

Under the RMA matters of national importance are required to be recognised and provided for. These impose strong, directive obligations on decision-makers. In practice, the RMA framework enables Ngā Pou Whakatupua and Te Kāhui Tupua status to be given effect beyond the immediate boundaries of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki, recognising that Te Kāhui Tupua is a living and indivisible whole incorporating physical and metaphysical elements, and the effects on ngā maunga may arise from activities occurring across a wide spatial area.

The removal of section 6, 7 and 8, erosion of the ability for local communities to develop plan provisions that reflect their unique circumstances, and the absence of an equivalent provision with comparable legal force in the PB and NEB creates a significant risk that He Kawa Tupua will be materially weakened.

The PB and NEB rely on system goals as the core provisions for decision making<sup>11</sup>. Ngā Pou Whakatupua align with aspects of the goals, but the goals as drafted fall substantially short in providing the ability to consider the intrinsic maunga values in their entirety. This issue is further compounded where those goals are framed as matters that persons acting under the Bills must only “seek to achieve”. This is a materially weaker directive

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<sup>11</sup> Section 11 of the Planning Bill and Natural Environment Bill

than the obligations that applied under the RMA and is insufficient to preserve the substantive and operative effect of Te Kāhui Tupua status and Ngā Pou Whakatupua.

Explicit and directive statutory recognition of Te Kāhui Tupua status and Ngā Pou Whakatupua is therefore required.

It is not clear how the proposed ‘funnel’ or hierarchy of planning instruments can adequately provide for Te Kāhui Tupua and the unique arrangements for the Taranaki Region without repeated departures from standardised provisions. This is not considered efficient and introduces substantial risk to Te Kāhui Tupua status and Ngā Pou Whakatupua. Risks include increased uncertainty for Council and applicants, increased litigation, judicial review and appeals.

*Over-reliance on private property rights and the risk of spatial and functional fragmentation.*

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī recognises that spatial planning can be a strong tool. The Bills adopt a highly spatial planning framework that is reliant on mapped areas, environmental limits, and novel market-based allocation methods. Whilst these are important components of a planning system, they are ill-suited when utilised in isolation to give effect to the recognition of Te Kāhui Tupua as an indivisible whole, and Ngā Pou Whakatupua. All persons performing functions that may affect Te Kāhui Tupua must be required to demonstrably engage with and reason against Ngā Pou Whakatupua, not merely acknowledge them. Therefore, it is important for any establishment of spatial plan committees include the Legal Person on these committees.

The proposed system introduces a new concept for regulatory relief or takings. The regulatory relief regime in Part 4 of the PB creates a fiscal disincentive for councils to robustly protect wāhi tapu, sites of significance, outstanding natural features, and areas of high ecological integrity within Te Kāhui Tupua.

Where protection of Te Kāhui Tupua gives rise to compensation liability, councils will be pressured to weaken protections rather than incur financial exposure. This is incompatible with Te Kāhui Tupua’s legal status as a living and indivisible whole.

Environmental limits and allocation frameworks must be capable of incorporating non-quantifiable cultural and metaphysical values. In the case of Te Kāhui Tupua, those values are identified, defined and recognised in law through Ngā Pou Whakatupua.

Allocation mechanisms, including caps, transferability, and scarcity tools determine entitlements to the natural environment, much of which is derived from Te Kāhui Tupua as set out in Te Iho Tāngaengae. Where such mechanisms are designed without explicit recognition of Ngā Pou Whakatupua and Te Kāhui Tupua status, they risk entrenching outcomes inconsistent with Te Kāhui Tupua Act.

Caps and action plans that apply within or affecting Te Kāhui Tupua must not be set or implemented without embedding Ngā Pou Whakaturua as determinative criteria. Technical allocation caps that disregard metaphysical and relational integrity are inconsistent with Te Kāhui Tupua Act.

Without clear statutory direction in primary legislation there is substantial risk that Te Kāhui Tupua and Ngā Pou Whakaturua will be treated as relevant only within narrowly defined geographic boundaries rather than applying to activities that may affect cultural, spiritual, ecological, and/or metaphysical integrity of Te Kāhui Tupua more broadly. Such an outcome would be entirely inconsistent with the express terms and purpose of Te Kāhui Tupua Act, and Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo.

#### *Role of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī in the New System*

As outlined above, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī is established as the human face and voice of Te Kāhui Tupua with a statutory mandate to act and speak on behalf of Te Kāhui Tupua. The interests of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī are recognised as greater than and separate from those of the public generally<sup>12</sup>. There are no other parties, including iwi or hapū that can perform this role within the new system.

While the PB and NEB provide for iwi and Māori participation in various forms they do not ensure that the unique statutory role and status of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī is adequately reflected in plan-making and decision-making processes that may affect Te Kāhui Tupua. In the absence of explicit recognition in primary legislation there is substantial risk that Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī will be treated as one stakeholder among many rather than as the legal representative of a recognised legal person that exists across the Taranaki Region.

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī is responsible for the development of He Kawa Ora mō Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki – the new management plan for Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki.<sup>13</sup> Under the RMA plan making system any Council developing a Plan/Plan Change must have regard to He Kawa Ora mō Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki. There is not the equivalent requirement in the PB and NEB. This removes the influence of He Kawa Ora mō Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki in plan making. This compounds the issue of reducing the role of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī within the planning system.

#### *Treaty Settlement Integrity and Good Faith*

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī understand that the arrangements contained in Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo was entered, and Te Kāhui Tupua Act was enacted in good faith by the Crown following extensive negotiations with Ngā Iwi o Taranaki. Those negotiations proceeded on the basis that the redress arrangements would have an enduring and meaningful effect within the resource management and planning system.

<sup>12</sup> Section 53 of Te Kāhui Tupua Act

<sup>13</sup> Section 95 of Te Kāhui Tupua Act, and Section 11 of Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī is concerned that without explicit recognition and protection within the PB and NEB the proposed reform risks unravelling key aspects of He Kawa Tupua, and the redress arrangements. This would undermine both the substance of the arrangements and the Crown's broader obligation to act consistently with the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi in the implementation of legislative reform, particularly the principle of active protection. Passive recognition is not sufficient. The effect of Te Tiriti settlements must be preserved automatically, not renegotiated.

*Summary and relief sought*

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī considers that the PB and NEB as currently drafted:

- a) Does not preserve the operative effect of Te Kāhui Tupua Status and Ngā Pou Whakatupua as they functioned under the RMA; and
- b) Risks confining the recognition of Te Kāhui Tupua to narrow spatial boundaries directly contrary to its recognition as a living and indivisible whole; and
- c) Fails to clearly embed the role of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī as the mandated voice of Te Kāhui Tupua within the new planning system; and
- d) Does not adequately safeguard the integrity of He Kawa Tupua, and the broader arrangements contained within Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo negotiated in reliance on the RMA framework.

Given the status of Te Kāhui Tupua as a legal person and the reliance placed on the RMA framework when the settlement was negotiated the following relief is not considered discretionary or aspirational. It is necessary to preserve the integrity of Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo, and to ensure the Bills operate lawfully and coherently with the arrangements. The following specific relief is sought to address the issues identified above:

- a) **Definitions:** Remove clause (c) from the definition of Identified Māori Land in section 3(1) of the PB and NEB, and add a new definition for a Legal Person which could read as follows:

*Legal Person: for the purpose of the Planning Act and Natural Environment Act means the same as section 17 of Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025 / Taranaki Maunga Collective Redress Act 2025, the same as section 12 of Te Awa Tupua (Whanganui River Claims Settlement) Act 2017, and Te Urewera land within the meaning of section 7 of the Te Urewera Act 2014.*

Amend the definition of Environmental Limit in the NEB as follows:

*(d) in relation to a Legal Person, a limit necessary to restore or protect the physical and metaphysical integrity, health and well-being of that Legal Person.*

- b) Amend section 11 of both Bills to include the following system goal:

To recognise, promote and protect the integrity, health and well-being of Legal Persons.

- c) Remove the wording 'to the greatest extent possible' from Sections 9(1) and 10(2) of both the PB and NEB.
- d) Remove clause 9(3) of the PB and NEB in its entirety.
- e) Provide specific provisions in both the PB and NEB planning processes that provide for legal person entities to implement their legal arrangements, recognising that their interests are greater than the public at large. Specific provisions at the following sections are required:

- i. **Development and content of national instruments:** amend section 45 of the PB to insert the following clause (or wording to this effect):

When preparing or amending a national direction, the Minister must:

- a. give effect to Treaty settlement legislation; and
- b. recognise and provide for any Legal Person; and
- c. where relevant, give effect to the intrinsic values and governance arrangements for that Legal Person.

Amend section 46(1) of the PB and Section 70(1) of the NEB to insert and amend the following clauses (or wording to this effect):

(aa) provide legal persons with a draft of the proposed national instrument;  
and

(b) give iwi authorities and legal persons what the Minister...

(c) have regard to any advice received from iwi authorities and legal persons on the document.

Amend section 55(1) of the PB to insert the following clause (or wording to this effect):

(c) include provisions specifying how key instruments are to recognise, promote, and protect the health and wellbeing of Legal Persons.

If the Minister establishes a Technical Advisory Group ('TAG') to provide advice on a proposed national instrument under sections 46(4)-(5) of the PB and 70(4)-(5) of the NEB that impact on a Legal Person, the Minister must appoint members nominated by a Legal Person.

- ii. **Plan making:** amend Section 71 of the PB to provide a specific requirement for the inclusion of a Legal Person (through their human face and voice) on a Spatial Planning Committee where relevant.
- iii. **Core obligations and content of Plans (standardised plan provisions vs bespoke plan provisions):** Make changes to the PB and NEB to restrict the development of standardised plan provisions to matters which do not undermine the integrity, health and well-being of a Legal Person.

Amend section 78(1) of the PB to insert the following clause (or wording to this effect):

(d) must not include a standardised plan provision that is inconsistent with the purpose and function of any Legal Person.

Amend section 96 of the NEB to insert the following clause (or wording to this effect):

(3) A regional council must include a bespoke provision where it is necessary to protect or restore the integrity, health and well-being of a Legal Person.

Amend section 80(4)(b) of the PB and 97(4)(b) of the NEB to insert the following clause (or wording to this effect):

(iii) any relevant management plan or strategy developed for Legal Person(s); and

- iv. **Setting limits:** In a limits-based system, the most significant protection for Legal Persons occurs at the point where limits are set. If Ngā Pou Whakatupua are not embedded at that foundational stage, subsequent decision-making cannot repair that omission.

Amend section 55(1) of the NEB to insert the following clause (or wording to this effect):

*(d) have regard to how a limit may affect a Legal Person and ensure that any limit that effects on a Legal Person is sufficient to restore the integrity, health and well-being of that Legal Person.*

- v. **Regulatory Relief / Takings:** Exempt Legal Persons from regulatory relief claims.
- vi. **Resource allocation frameworks:** amend the resource allocation framework across the NEB to require a national direction instrument may only specify a market allocation method once it can demonstrate how it will give effect to intrinsic value framework of a Legal Person.
- vii. **Affected Persons decisions for resource consents and natural resource permit applications:** amend section 125(2)(a) of the PB and the equivalent section of the NEB to insert a clause (or wording to this effect):

*(iii) affected Legal Person; and*

Amend section 128(3) of the PB and section 149(3) NEB to add the following clause (or wording to this effect):

*(d) must have regard to any Legal Person.*

- f) Any other consequential amendments necessary to implement the relief sought identified above.

Te Kāhui Tupua is not a discretionary cultural interest. They are a legally recognised entity that is acknowledged as a living and indivisible whole incorporating physical and metaphysical elements and supported by intrinsic values expressed through Ngā Pou Whakatupua.

The Bills do not provide for this status, and do not sufficiently embed the role of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī as the mandated voice of Te Kāhui Tupua. In the absence of explicit statutory direction, the transition to the new system risks materially weakening Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo and Te Kāhui Tupua Act, undermining He Kawa Tupua, and diminishes the good faith upon which those arrangements were agreed. It is the role of Parliament to ensure Treaty settlement outcomes endure through legislative reform.

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī cannot support these Bills in their current form until the relief sought above is provided, and other fundamental flaws in their design are amended.

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī wishes to be heard in respect to this submission.

Noho ora mai,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Hemi Sundgren', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hemi Sundgren

**For Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī, on behalf of Te Kāhui Tupua**

**Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī**  
**Meeting No. 2 / 2026**

**Agenda Item: 4.5**

Kaupapa: **Submission on 70 Barclay Road subdivision application (RC633) to Stratford District Council**

Prepared By: Sean Zieltjes & Laura Buttimore, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Planning Team

Meeting Date: 20 February 2026

<b>Recommendation</b>	<p><u>It is recommended the board:</u></p> <p>a) <b>Receives</b> the update on the submission lodged with the Stratford District Council; and</p> <p>b) <b>Receives</b> the revised conditions provided by the applicant</p>
<b>Context</b>	<p>Te Kāhui Tupua were considered an affected party to resource consent RC633 for a 44 Lot subdivision at 70 Barclay Road, Stratford.</p> <p>Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī submitted on this resource consent application in support subject to a suite of conditions to ensure the ongoing protection of Te Kāhui Tupua.</p>

## Executive summary – Whakarāpopototanga matua

1. The purpose of this paper is to provide a summary of the Barclay Road subdivision and the submission made by Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī on this resource consent application.
2. Te Kāhui Tupua were considered an affected party by Stratford District Council and notified to make a submission on a 44-lot subdivision application.
3. Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī made a written submission on behalf of Te Kāhui Tupua that was in support of the application subject to suite of conditions to ensure the ongoing protection of Te Kāhui Tupua.
4. Following this submission the applicant has provided an update on these draft conditions and this update is provided in Appendix 2. This update, subject to a few minor changes, accepts the conditions proffered in the Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī submission. On this basis, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī working group have revised their submission to withdraw their right to be heard to enable the resource consent application to progress without a hearing.

## Purpose – He aronga matua

5. The purpose of this paper is to summarise the submission on behalf Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī and formally table the submission made and the subsequent correspondence with the applicant.

## Background and context – He kupu whakamarama

6. Te Kāhui Tupua were considered an affected party by Stratford District Council and notified to make a submission on a 44-lot subdivision application at 70 Barclay Road, Stratford. Submissions closed on the 27<sup>th</sup> of January.
7. Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī established a working group to review and comment on the subdivision. A suite of conditions was drafted to ensure the ongoing protection and recognition of Te Kāhui Tupua is made so those future residents of the subdivision understand the value of the sites location adjacent to Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki.
8. A copy of the submission made is attached as Appendix 1 to this paper.
9. The application was assessed against Ngā Pou Whakatupua – Maunga Values, to identify and establish the key items of interest and relevance from the subdivision. These related to the following:
  - Provision for built form setback from Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki;
  - Provision of built form requirements on lots including best practice rural design matters including dark recessive colour buildings, rural fencing, one dwelling only on each allotment etc;
  - The Establishment of a comprehensive Ecological Improvement Plan which includes the following:
    - o Restoration and ongoing protection of wetlands, waterways and native vegetation onsite;
    - o Enhancement of the site through the provision of restoration areas and establishment of further planting on the site, including riparian planting and site specific areas;
    - o Protection of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki from the introduction of pests, mustelids, cats and kiwi aversion trained dogs only; and; a
    - o A kiwi monitoring program
10. Since agreement with the applicant has been reached on these draft conditions, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī have withdrawn their right to be heard on their submission to enable the applicant to progress their subdivision without the need to go to a hearing. The approval of the resource consent by Stratford District Council if and when this is made, will include the suite of conditions sought by Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī and provided in Appendix 1 with the minor amendments outlined by BTW (the agent for the applicant) in Appendix 2.
11. This outcome is considered a positive result for Te Kāhui Tupua and outlines an important engagement process that has been undertaken with the applicant to ensure the Ngā Pou Whakatupua values are upheld and protected.

## Risk assessment – He aronga tūraru

12. The risk is considered negligible as Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī have provided written confirmation to Stratford District Council and the applicant that their right to be heard is no longer sought provided the suite of conditions (as amended by Appendix 2) are to be imposed on consent decision. These conditions will ensure the ongoing protection of Te Kāhui Tupua.

## Consultation – Toronga

13. No consultation on this matter has been undertaken with the exception of the engagement with the Stratford District Council Planner and the applicant and their agent.

## Legislation – He aronga ture

14. Te Kāhui Tupua was considered an affected person under Section 95E of the RMA. The written submission was made by Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī under Section 96 of the Resource Management Act.

## Recommendation – He kupu whakatau

20. That Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī record this submission and decision process.

## Decision comments

\_\_\_\_\_ Date:

Liana Poutu  
**Chairperson, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī**

## Appendices

Appendix 1: Barclay Road Submission

Appendix 2: BTW revised conditions

This submission is made to application RC633 for a 44 Lot subdivision at 70 Barclay Road and 500 Waingongoro Road, Stratford.

### **Submitter details**

<b>Full name</b>	Te Kāhui Tupua C/- Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī
<b>Contact Person</b>	Lesia Bevin
<b>Electronic Service Address</b>	<a href="mailto:tetopunikokorangī@doc.govt.nz">tetopunikokorangī@doc.govt.nz</a>
<b>Telephone</b>	0272753554
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.tekahuitupua.nz">www.tekahuitupua.nz</a>
<b>Resource Consent Number</b>	RC633
<b>Applicant</b>	Kererū Hills Limited
<b>Site Address</b>	70 Barclay Road and 500 Waingongoro Road, Stratford

*Tūtohi 1: Submitter & application details*

### **Introduction and context**

Te Kāhui Tupua is the legal person in accordance with section 18 of Te Ture Whakaturua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025 / Taranaki Maunga Collective Redress Act 2025 (**‘Te Kāhui Tupua Act’**).

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī is the face and voice of Te Kāhui Tupua, and is obligated to represent the interests of Te Kāhui Tupua in processes such as for resource consent applications. In discharging these duties, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī is to uphold and promote Te Kāhui Tupua status, and Ngā Pou Whakaturua, which are the Maunga Values set out in Section 19 of the Te Kahui Tupua Act.

Ngā Pou Whakaturua are inherently relational in nature, and require an active and on-going relationship between people, communities and Te Kāhui Tupua. It is through these relationships that other aspects of the values are realised; including the cultural or conservation outcomes expressed across Ngā Pou Whakaturua.

To this end, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī appreciates the applicant’s recognition of Te Kāhui Tupua as a living and indivisible whole from the peaks down to and including all of the surrounding lands within Taranaki, encompassing both physical and metaphysical elements. The applicant’s efforts have been evidenced through the genuine engagement undertaken, not only with Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī but also with Ōkahu Inuāwai, Ngāti Ruanui and Te Tōpuni Ngārahu.

An additional nuance that Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī draws the Stratford District Council’s (**‘Council’**) attention to in the Te Kāhui Tupua Act is section 21, which states the following:

*(1) Subsection (2) applies if—*

*(a) a consent authority determines that Te Kāhui Tupua is an affected person in relation to a resource consent application under the [Resource](#)*

*Management Act 1991 that relates to Te Kāhui Tupua or to activities affecting Te Kāhui Tupua; and*

*(b) Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī gives written approval for that application.*

*(2) Despite sections 95D(e) and 104(3)(a)(ii) of the Resource Management Act 1991, the consent authority must not disregard any relevant effects on Te Kāhui Tupua.*

Section 21 means that irrespective of the position of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī, Council must continue to consider the actual and potential adverse effects of the proposal on Te Kāhui Tupua.

It is understood that this application is being considered as a fully discretionary activity and as such the matters to decline or approve the application, or to impose conditions of consent are not limited.

In making this submission, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī has reviewed the application, undertaken a site visit, and engaged with the applicants (and their agents) in good faith to understand the proposal, and the overall philosophy for the development.

### **Existing Environment**

The existing environment is characterised by Te Kāhui Tupua. Te Kāhui Tupua is a living and indivisible whole comprising Taranaki Maunga and other tūpuna maunga, including Pouākai and Kaitake, from their peaks to, and including, all the surrounding lands, and incorporating all their physical and metaphysical elements. It is the synthesis of the Taranaki Region (the physical environment, and the communities of people) as described in Te Iho Tāngaengae. It is a citadel for native biodiversity.

Importantly, the status of Te Kāhui Tupua and Ngā Pou Whakatupua / Maunga Values are forward focussed and set a strong expectation for the future environment as it is reasonable to anticipate.

### **Te Kāhui Tupua Status, Ngā Pou Whakatupua / Maunga Values and the actual and potential adverse effects of the proposal**

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī has identified the following actual and potential adverse effects that may result from the proposal in accordance with Ngā Pou Whakatupua:

- Effects on native biodiversity, including impacts on the rate of restoration outcomes being achieved in this area as a result of initiatives within Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki (e.g., re-establishing kiwi populations to abundance). Adverse effects may continue to accrue over time as the community of people the develops following the subdivision.
- Effects on the relationship between Te Kāhui Tupua, iwi and hapū.
- Effects on landscape resulting from more buildings and structures across the proposed subdivision area.

Te Kāhui Tupua Status and Ngā Pou Whakatupua are the foundation for the governance, management and administration of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki. They may be considered by all four territorial authorities exercising their powers, functions or duties on surrounding lands that relate to or may affects Te Kāhui Tupua.

<b>Te Kāhui Tupua Status and Ngā Pou Whakatupua – He Whakamārama</b>	
<p><b>s.17 Recognition of Te Kāhui Tupua</b> (1) Te Kāhui Tupua is a living and indivisible whole comprising Taranaki Maunga and other tūpuna maunga, including Pouākai and Kaitake, from their peaks to, and including, all the surrounding lands, and incorporating all their physical and metaphysical elements.</p> <p>Surrounding lands being defined as the lands located within the Taranaki Region that form part of Te Kāhui Tupua.</p>	<p>The subdivision is located adjacent to, and adjoining Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki within the ecological district and geological areas of Te Kāhui Tupua.</p> <p>As such, the location of the subdivision sits firmly within the definition of ‘surrounding lands’ as set out in section 17(b) of Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025, and therefore subject to this assessment.</p>
<p><b>s.19 (a) Ko Te Kāhui Tupua, he rārangī maunga here ā-nuku, here ā-rangi: Te Kāhui Tupua, the mountain range binding heaven and earth</b></p> <p>Te Kāhui Tupua is a living and indivisible whole incorporating all of its physical and metaphysical elements:</p>	<p>Historically land uses have been heavily delineated at the boundary of the national park. Te Kāhui Tupua status requires greater integration and alignment between land uses, communities and Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki.</p> <p>The proposed subdivision includes a number of attributes that provides for this transition/integration. These include the creation of new reserve areas, and access arrangements across the development.</p> <p>Future communities will benefit from living in proximity to Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki, and efforts to restore the cultural and ecological integrity of the park in accordance with Ngā Pou Whakatupua.</p> <p>One attribute of this is the continuity of relationship between Ōkahu Inuāwai and Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Ruanui, with Te Kāhui Tupua.</p> <p>The application is proposing conditions of consent and consent notices to secure on-going management plans and design expectations beyond the subdivision process.</p> <p>These are necessary to ensure the subdivision is implemented in a manner which meets this value.</p> <p>Recommended wording for these conditions is set out below. If adopted these conditions will avoid potential</p>

	effects on Te Kahui Tupua in relation to those effects listed above. These are further discussed below.
<p><b>(b) Ko Te Kāhui Tupua, koia ko ō mātou nei okiokinga, ko mātou nei tō rātou okiokitanga: Te Kāhui Tupua, our embodiment in life and death</b></p> <p>Te Kāhui Tupua represents and upholds the ancestral, historical, cultural, and spiritual relationship between Ngā Iwi o Taranaki and their tūpuna maunga:</p>	<p>A number of recommendations in accordance with this value are contained in the cultural impact assessments completed by Ōkahu Inuāwai, and Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Ruanui. It is understood that the applicant has adopted these recommendations into the proposal.</p> <p>No further recommendations are made other than to encourage the applicant to continue to develop their relationship with Ōkahu Inuāwai and Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Ruanui, and through this relationship also continue to develop their connects with Te Kāhui Tupua.</p>
<p><b>(c) Ko Te Kāhui Tupua, ko te puna i heke mai ai te tangata: Te Kāhui Tupua, from which we descend and take our identity</b></p> <p>Te Kāhui Tupua and its health and well-being are fundamental to the identity, tikanga, reo, and health and well-being of Ngā Iwi o Taranaki:</p>	<p>The application includes a mixture of esplanade strips and public access arrangements that provide for access throughout the subdivision. This includes up to the existing extent of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki (via the Pātea and Konini esplanade strips).</p> <p>This access enables an active relationship between people and this area that otherwise would not be able to occur to the same degree, should this remain as a dairy farm which in of itself limits those opportunities.</p> <p>The provision of this access to and protection of wai as identified in the impact assessments of Ōkahu Inuāwai and Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Ruanui is supported.</p>
<p><b>(d) Ko Tupua Kawa, ko Tawhito Kawa, he kawa ora: The ancestral knowledge, the ancient law, the law of existence</b></p> <p>Te Kāhui Tupua is a source of spiritual, cultural, and physical well-being of—</p> <p>(i) the lands, waters, flora, fauna, and other natural resources of Taranaki; and</p> <p>(ii) the people of Taranaki:</p>	<p>The applicant is proposing a range of measures/interventions to work towards the restoration of this area of Te Kāhui Tupua. This includes the restoration of wetland areas, additional planting areas and reserves.</p> <p>A 150m setback from the current extent of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki is proposed for all activities. This is with a view to ensuring any additional houses will not impinge on predator control activities, including aerial 1080.</p> <p>The existing herd home on the property is to be converted to a native plant nursery to facilitate on-going planting efforts across the subdivision site.</p> <p>The application is proposing conditions to restrict the keeping of cats, goats, pigs and mustelids.</p> <p>The application notes that only kiwi aversion trained dogs may be kept within the subdivision. However, the keeping of any dog within the subdivision has the potential to conflict</p>

	<p>with restoration activities established in the existing environment.</p> <p>The preference of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī is that no dogs are kept in proximity to ecological preserves such as Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki. Dogs, along with the species already excluded from the subdivision put all indigenous fauna under threat of predation and this is at odds with Ngā Pou Whakatupua.</p> <p>For this reason, it is recommended that kiwi aversion training is complemented with a restriction of dogs in public or communal spaces within the subdivision development, as well as a fencing standard for any allotment within the development where a dog is being kept that limits the movement of a dog to the property it is homed at. These are set out as conditions below to ensure mitigation of potential effects on Te Kahui Tupua.</p> <p>The applicant is proposing to use design guide and pest management plans (secured by way of condition) to ensure the intended restoration trajectory over time. It is recommended these be contained within an Ecological Improvements Plan set out below.</p> <p>These mechanisms and proffered conditions go some way to aligning the proposal with this value.</p>
<p><b><i>(e) Ko Te Kāhui Tupua, he puna koropupū, he manawa whenua, hei mou ake nei i te tini mokopuna: Te Kāhui Tupua, a spring, a source of enduring naturally filtered water and life, protected for future generations.</i></b></p> <p>Ngā Iwi o Taranaki, the Crown, and all of the communities of Taranaki have an intergenerational responsibility actively to protect the health and well-being of Te Kāhui Tupua.</p>	<p>This subdivision will result in up to 38 new living opportunities adjacent to Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki. This community of people will evolve and change over time, and this has the potential to erode the original restoration and reconnections intentions that underpin the application.</p> <p>Mechanisms to ensure the provisions of on-going support and investment into Te Kāhui Tupua, recognising the environmental benefits of living on Te Kāhui Tupua, adjacent to Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki are recommended.</p> <p>An Owners Association is proposed for this community to manage commonly held infrastructure and assets. Accordingly, some agreement between future owners and the Owners Association will be required. An additional aspect of annual or regular payments to an Owners Association could be a contribution towards the on-going restoration of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki. An agreement/contract between Te Kāhui Tupua, and the Owners Association would be one vehicle for those contributions to be made.</p>

	This future community will benefit the substantial investment others make in the restoration of Te Kāhui Tupua. Mechanisms that ensure this benefit is reciprocated from the future residents back to Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki in an enduring manner would better align the proposal with this value.
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*Tūtohi 2: Ngā Pou Whakatupua Assessment*

Ngā Pou Whakatupua inform the protection of significant indigenous vegetation and habitats, outstanding natural features and landscapes, and the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands as matters of national importance. Similarly, Ngā Pou Whakatupua provide more site specific context for a number of other matters to have particular regard to including kaitiakitanga, intrinsic values of ecosystems, the maintenance and enhancement of the quality of the environment, and the ethic of stewardship.

### **Summary**

The proposed subdivision adjoins Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki, on Te Kāhui Tupua. The approach of the applicant to engage with Ōkahu Inuāwai, Te Rūnunga o Ngāti Ruanui, Te Tōpuni Ngārahu and others in the community is commended. The responsiveness to the Cultural Impact Assessments, as well as willingness to adopt recommendations made through consultation is commended.

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī has several residual concerns in the instance that the proffered conditions in the application are not adopted. This is with respect to management plans and design guide, including the commitment to aligning with Ngā Pou Whakatupua as values that persist in the existing environment that the application would result in actual and potential adverse effects on the environment as outlined above.

Similarly, ensuring mechanisms are in place to enable future residents to reciprocate the benefits of living in close proximity to Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki, and contribute towards the revitalisation of Te Kāhui Tupua are considered necessary to avoid adverse effects on Te Kāhui Tupua.

### **Relief Sought**

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī supports the application in part subject to conditions that address the submission points raised above.

Te Kāhui Tupua is not a trade competitor for the purposes of section 308B of the RMA.

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī wishes to be heard with respect to this submission.

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī will consider making a joint submission with other submitters.

A copy of this submission has been served on the applicant as required by Section 96(6) of the RMA.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Hemi Sundgren', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hemi Sundgren

**For Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī on behalf of Te Kāhui Tupua**

Attachment 1: Recommended conditions of consents:

**On-going conditions to be satisfied beyond subdivision**

*Consent Notice Conditions:*

1. A Consent Notice shall be recorded against Lots 1-38 at each respective stage of subdivision to the following effect:
  - a) *Each allotment shall be limited to one dwelling only.*
  - b) *To maintain rural character all new buildings, habitable and non-habitable, roofs and cladding should be finished with materials that have a light reflectance value of less than 25% (roofs) and 40% (exterior walls).*
  - c) *To maintain rural character, boundary fencing on any allotment should consist of either post and rail or 7-wire post and batten fencing only.*
  - d) *Driveways shall be chip sealed, asphaltic concrete, metalled, or concrete with a minimum of 4% black oxide.*
  - e) *Lots shall not be further subdivided, except for minor boundary adjustments (that will not create additional building lots and/or change the use of the land) while the land remains zoned Rural.*
  - f) *Dwellings must treat wastewater by way of secondary treatment at the least. All treatment systems are to be more than 25m from waterbodies and more than 150m from Te Papa Kura o Taranaki Park boundary.*
  - g) *All exterior lighting shall be 'hooded' and cast down.*
  - h) *Each allotment shall be managed in accordance with the Ecological Improvement Plan and meet the required planting, fencing and restoration requirements set out in this Plan.*
  - i) *Each allotment shall be developed consistent with Ecological Improvement Plan.*
  - j) *No cats, goats, mustelids, or deer shall be kept on any of the allotments.*
  - k) *All dogs kept on any allotment shall:*
    - a. *Be registered with the Owners Association to enable regular kiwi aversion training;*
    - b. *Be trained in kiwi-aversion. Kiwi aversion training must be renewed bi-annually at a minimum, or if kiwi presence is detected within the Development Area;*
    - c. *Be constrained or otherwise fenced into the allotment; and*
    - d. *Be excluded from replanting or revegetation areas by way of dog proof fencing.*
  - l) *The existing and proposed revegetation areas (including riparian planting) are protected in perpetuity where these are located within the subject property. This includes the fencing of these areas to prevent stock access*

*and shall include the removal of pest species and the replacement of dead or diseased plants with suitable native species.*

- m) Riparian planting and fencing along the length of the waterbodies or restoration planting areas shall be retained, maintained and enhanced on an on-going basis.*
  - n) Any dead or diseased species within the riparian planting shall be replaced as soon as practicable within the next planting season.*
  - o) Any damaged fencing along the riparian margins shall be replaced to ensure stock proof fencing permanently along the stream margins.*
  - p) No wind energy installations shall be installed on the lots.*
  - q) The owner shall not object to, oppose, appeal, seek enforcement action in respect of, or lodge any complaint (including under the Resource Management Act 1991, Local Government Act 2002, or common law nuisance) against the Department of Conservation, any regional or territorial authority, or any authorised contractor or agent, in respect of the lawful undertaking of pest control operations, including aerial 1080 application, over or in the vicinity of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki.*
- 2. The Owners Association shall undertake six monthly kiwi monitoring across the Development Area to determine the presence/absence of kiwi.*
  - 3. The kiwi monitoring shall comprise of the following:*
    - a. Acoustic survey; or*
    - b. Walk through survey with kiwi detection trained dogs; or*
    - c. A static trail camera network established across the development area; or*
    - d. A combination of all three methods.*
  - 4. In the instance kiwi presence is detected the Owners Association must:*
    - a. Report the observation to Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī and the Department of Conservation; and*
    - b. Audit and repair all dog containment fencing; and*
    - c. Ensure all dogs kept within the development have their kiwi aversion training updated.*

**Conditions to be satisfied prior to title**

*Ecological Improvement Plan*

- 5.** Prior to certification pursuant to section 224(c) for stage 1, the Consent Holder shall prepare an Ecological Improvement Plan ('EMP'). The EIP shall be developed in consultation with Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī, the Department of Conservation, Te

Rūnunga o Ngāti Ruanui and Ōkahu Inuāwai Hapū. The objective of the Ecological Improvement Plan is to identify and coordinate the implementation of measures across the development area to assist with the restoration and improvement of the ecological health and mauri of the development area.

6. The Ecological Improvement Plan must be submitted to the Director – Environmental Services (or nominee) for certification one month prior to works starting on site.
7. The Ecological Improvement Plan must:
  - a. Provide a purpose statement drawing from Te Kāhui Tupua Status, and Ngā Pou Whakatupua / Maunga Values.
  - b. Provide the ecological, conservation, planting and development works for the subdivision, the timing of the works and ongoing monitoring and management measures.
  - c. Demonstrate the progressive replanting with native vegetation specified in the Lower Montane Zone of the Egmont Ecological District across the development to a minimum of 60% coverage of native vegetation over a 30-year period following issue of consent.
  - d. The planting plan(s) for each restoration area, showing varying planting zones and areas in m<sup>2</sup> across the development and timing for when these will be completed by.
  - e. Lists and or tabular information on intended planting species, spacing and numbers for varying planting zones, informed by Lower Montane Zone of the Egmont Ecological District, and general availability in eco-sourcing, nursery propagation/cultivation.
  - f. A timeline and development plan for wetland restoration for the four identified wetland areas in accordance with the wetland restoration plan lodged with the consent application.
  - g. A works implementation schedule.
  - h. An 18-month maintenance plan for planting areas.
  - i. A plan for the control of environmental weeds and mammalian vertebrate pests; (and review of pest management plans/strategies as context changes).
  - j. Details on the management of the nursery on site and its long-term management strategy.
  - k. Details for the kiwi monitoring programme.

- l. Locations identified on each allotment for restoration planting and future fencing requirements for these areas, including timing for completing fencing and planting.
- m. Identification of existing established native vegetation and the protection of this long term.
- n. A process for reporting on planning and works progress to the Director – Environmental Services (or nominee) which is a minimum of annual reporting, including at completion of works prior to Section 224 of the Resource Management Act 1991 approvals.
- o. The ongoing monitoring and management recommendations for replanting areas.



13 February 2026

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī  
tetopunikokorangī@doc.govt.nz  
Attention: Sean Zieltjes

Dear Sean,

### **Suggested Amendments to Proposed Conditions set out in Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Submission on Subdivision of 70 Barclay Road, Stratford (RC633)**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Thank you for the submission on behalf of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī as the face and voice of Te Kāhui Tupua.

As agreed, below are some suggested amendments to the conditions proposed in the submission document dated Tuesday 27 January 2026.

#### **SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS**

Below, I have included proposed amendments in **bold** and struck out where deletions are suggested.

#### **On-going conditions to be satisfied beyond subdivision**

Consent Notice Conditions:

1. A Consent Notice shall be recorded against Lots 1-38 at each respective stage of subdivision to the following effect:
  - a) Each allotment shall be limited to one dwelling only.
  - b) To maintain rural character all new buildings, habitable and non-habitable, roofs and cladding should be finished with materials that have a light reflectance value of less than 25% (roofs) and 40% (exterior walls).
  - c) To maintain rural character, **new** boundary fencing on any allotment should consist of either post and rail or 7-wire post and batten fencing only.
  - d) Driveways shall be chip sealed, asphaltic concrete, metalled, or concrete with a minimum of 4% black oxide.
  - e) Lots shall not be further subdivided, except for minor boundary adjustments (that will not create additional building lots and/or change the use of the land) while the land remains zoned Rural.

Ngāmotu – New Plymouth  
179-181 Courtenay St  
New Plymouth 4310

Kirikiriōa – Hamilton  
517 Anglesea St  
Hamilton 3204

Whāingaroa – Raglan  
1 Wainui Rd  
Raglan 3225

Taupō  
55 Kaimanawa St  
Taupō 3330

Taumarunui  
35 Morero Tce  
Taumarunui 3920

0800 289 787  
info@btw.nz  
www.btw.nz

- f) Dwellings must treat wastewater by way of secondary treatment at the least. All treatment systems are to be more than 25m from waterbodies and more than 150m from Te Papa Kura o Taranaki Park boundary.
- g) All exterior lighting shall be 'hooded' and cast down.
- h) Each allotment shall be managed in accordance with the Ecological Improvement Plan and meet the required planting, fencing and restoration requirements set out in this Plan.
- i) Each allotment shall be developed consistent with Ecological Improvement Plan.
- j) No cats, goats, mustelids, or deer shall be kept on any of the allotments.
- k) All dogs kept on any allotment shall:
- Be registered with the Owners Association to enable regular kiwi aversion training;
  - Be trained in kiwi-aversion. Kiwi aversion training must be renewed bi-annually at a minimum, or if kiwi presence is detected within the Development Area;
  - Be constrained or otherwise fenced into the allotment; and
  - Be excluded from replanting or revegetation areas **that have a recorded presence of kiwi occupation by way of fencing sufficient to constrain a dog, or by other means.** ~~by way of dog proof fencing.~~
- l) The existing and proposed revegetation areas (including riparian planting) are protected in perpetuity where these are located within the subject property. This includes ~~the fencing of these areas to prevent stock access~~ **stock exclusion** and shall include the removal of pest species and the replacement of dead or diseased plants with suitable native species.
- m) Riparian planting and fencing along the length of the waterbodies or restoration planting areas shall be retained, maintained and enhanced on an on-going basis.
- n) Any dead or diseased species within the riparian planting shall be replaced as soon as practicable within the next planting season.
- o) Any damaged fencing along the riparian margins shall be replaced to ensure stock proof fencing permanently along the stream margins.
- p) No **commercial scale** wind energy installations shall be installed on the lots.
- q) The owner shall not object to, oppose, appeal, seek enforcement action in respect of, or lodge any complaint (including under the Resource Management Act 1991, Local Government Act 2002, or common law nuisance) against the Department of Conservation, any regional or territorial authority, or any authorised contractor or agent, in respect of the lawful undertaking of pest control operations, including aerial 1080 application, over or in the vicinity of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki.

2. The Owners Association shall undertake six monthly kiwi monitoring across the Development Area to determine the presence/absence of kiwi.
3. The kiwi monitoring shall comprise of the following:
  - a. Acoustic survey; or
  - b. Walk through survey with kiwi detection trained dogs; or
  - c. A static trail camera network established across the development area; or
  - d. A combination of all three methods.
4. In the instance kiwi presence is detected the Owners Association must:
  - a. Report the observation to Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī and the Department of Conservation; and
  - b. Audit and repair all dog containment fencing measures; and
  - c. Ensure all dogs kept within the development have their kiwi aversion training updated.

### **Conditions to be satisfied prior to title**

#### Ecological Improvement Plan

5. Prior to certification pursuant to section 224(c) for stage 1, the Consent Holder shall prepare an Ecological Improvement Plan ('EMP'). The EIP shall be developed in consultation with Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī, the Department of Conservation, Te Rūnunga o Ngāti Ruanui and Ōkahu Inuāwai Hapū. The objective of the Ecological Improvement Plan is to identify and coordinate the implementation of measures across the development area to assist with the restoration and improvement of the ecological health and mauri of the development area.
6. The Ecological Improvement Plan must be submitted to the Director – Environmental Services (or nominee) for certification one month prior to works starting on site.
7. The Ecological Improvement Plan must:
  - a. Provide a purpose statement drawing from Te Kāhui Tupua Status, and Ngā Pou Whakatupua / Maunga Values.
  - b. Provide the ecological, conservation, planting and development works for the subdivision, the timing of the works and ongoing monitoring and management measures.
  - c. Demonstrate the progressive replanting with native vegetation specified in the Lower Montane Zone of the Egmont Ecological District across the development to a minimum of 60% coverage of native vegetation over a 30-year period following issue of consent.

- d. The planting plan(s) for each restoration area, showing varying planting zones and areas in m<sup>2</sup> across the development and timing for when these will be completed by.
- e. Lists and or tabular information on intended planting species, spacing and numbers for varying planting zones, informed by Lower Montane Zone of the Egmont Ecological District, and general availability in eco-sourcing, nursery propagation/cultivation.
- f. A timeline and development plan for wetland restoration for the four identified wetland areas in accordance with the wetland restoration plan lodged with the consent application.
- g. A works implementation schedule.
- h. An 18-month maintenance plan for planting areas.
- i. A plan for the control of environmental weeds and mammalian vertebrate pests; (and review of pest management plans/strategies as context changes).
- j. Details on the management of the nursery on site and its long-term management strategy.
- k. Details for the kiwi monitoring programme.
- l. Locations identified on each allotment for restoration planting and future fencing requirements for these areas, including timing for completing fencing and planting.
- m. Identification of existing established native vegetation and the protection of this long term.
- n. A process for reporting on planning and works progress to the Director – Environmental Services (or nominee) which is a minimum of annual reporting, including at completion of works prior to Section 224 of the Resource Management Act 1991 approvals.
- o. The ongoing monitoring and management recommendations for replanting areas.

## SUMMARY

Subject to the adoption of the minor amendments above. The Applicant proposes adoption of the consent conditions recommended in Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī's submission.

We look forward to your consideration of the proposed amendments set out above and continuing to work with Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī in the development of this proposal.

Yours sincerely,



Hamish Walker  
Senior Planner | Pou Whakamāhere Taiao

Your Reference : Click or tap here to enter text.

Our Reference : 240673

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**Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī**  
**Meeting No. 2 / 2026**

**Agenda Item: 5.1**

Kaupapa: **Public Forum**  
 Prepared By: Lesa Bevin, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Secretariat  
 Meeting Date: 20 February 2026

<b>Recommendation</b>	<p><u>It is recommended the Board:</u></p> <p>a) <b>Note</b> and <b>Receive</b> any presentations to the Public Forum; and</p> <p>b) <b>Determine</b> any appropriate response.</p>
<b>Context</b>	<p>Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī holds a public forum during each meeting to give the community an opportunity to attend and speak to the Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī on any matters relating to Te Kāhui Tupua or Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki.</p> <p>A public notice of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī's meeting and public forum timing is published on a dedicated Te Kāhui Tupua website.</p>

The following people have their attendance and/or presentation to Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī at this 20 February hui:

1. Celine Filbee – Taranaki Kiwi Trust



## Kiwi from Rare to Everywhere

*To promote and facilitate the restoration and protection of sustainable populations of kiwi in Taranaki*

Established in 2001 Taranaki Kiwi Trust (TKT) is a group of passionate and skilled staff, contractors, and volunteers who work throughout Taranaki to protect and increase numbers of western brown kiwi. TKT is engaged in kiwi monitoring and surveying, education, advocacy, kiwi translocations and post-translocation monitoring. Through predator trapping, it provides protection for kiwi on Taranaki Maunga and 38 private and public properties. In partnership with Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust, TKT has been breeding kiwi in the Rotokare Sanctuary for twelve years. This project, Taranaki Kōhanga Kiwi at Rotokare, is so successful that over 200 birds have been translocated to new homes in Taranaki, Wellington and the Waikato over the last six years. TKT also collaborates with a host of other organisations to achieve positive outcomes for this taonga species. Taranaki Kiwi Trust is made up of eight volunteer board members, eight staff and contractors, and more than 80 volunteers who participate in its projects.



*An important fact to note is that our iconic national bird is in trouble without human help. Of every 100 chicks born, only 5 will make it to adulthood in the wild without predator control. With diligent control, 40–65% chick survival to adulthood can occur.*

- **Monitors** kiwi using radio transmitters on Taranaki Maunga, the Kaitake Range, the Tōtara Block, Mangaoapa Forestry Block and Omoana.
- **Surveys** kiwi using acoustic recording devices and kiwi call count surveys throughout Taranaki.
- **Protects** kiwi on Taranaki Maunga and at 46 sites in the region, using predator traps to target stoats, ferrets, weasels and feral cats.
- **Develops** trapping programmes in partnership with other organisations to create potential kiwi release sites.
- **Breeds** kiwi for translocation to other sites (in partnership with Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust).
- **Advocates** for kiwi across a wide range of agencies.
- **Educates** the public about kiwi through schools, community organisations, tertiary providers, businesses, and at events.
- **Trains** people to monitor, survey and handle kiwi, to trap predators, and to navigate and stay safe in the bush.

## Our People

Taranaki Kiwi Trust has a wealth of experience and competencies at its fingertips: a board with a diverse skill set spread across conservation, governance, finance, IT and law, all with a personal commitment to restoring native wildlife to our region. Staff with relevant qualifications and a demonstrated passion for conservation, led by an experienced management team. Volunteers who are prepared to go the extra mile for kiwi, many are also accredited kiwi handlers with years of experience working with kiwi and training others. Staff and trustees collectively hold the following qualifications:

- Bachelor of Science (Botany, Ecology, Zoology, Microbiology, Biochemistry)
- Master of Science (Ecology, Zoology, Conservation Biology)
- Bachelor of Business Studies
- Te Reo Māori Levels 3 & 4
- Institute of Directors Governance
- Bachelor of Law
- Bachelor of Law
- Bachelor of Arts (Sociology)

### Trustees

Sue Hardwick-Smith

Gloria Campbell

Sam Hopkirk (Deputy Chair)

Macy Duxfield (Ngāa Rauru)

Tane Manu (Ngā Mahanga-a-Tairi)

Bayley Sprott (Chair)

Drew Castle

### Staff/Contractors

Céline Filbee – Trust Manager

Sian Potier – Conservation Manager

Nadine Paterson – Administration Leader

Jess Fancy – Community Kiwi Ranger

Jono Walter – Kiwi Habitat Protection Leader

Harmony Kupe - Trapping Contractor

Tracey Skinner – Trapping Contractor

### Key Volunteers

Sam Hopkirk - Accredited kiwi handler

Kevin Stokes – Accredited kiwi handler & trainer

Jenny Oakley – Accredited kiwi handler

Kelly Brider - - Accredited kiwi handler

Guy Oakley – Veterinarian & Accredited kiwi handler

Sue Hardwick-Smith – Accredited kiwi handler & trainer

Don Fields – Trap maintenance

### Taranaki Mounga Trapping Partners

FirstGas   Mt Egmont Alpine Club   Craigs Investment Partners

### Major Sponsors

Contact Energy

Primo

Neat

Rewild

Grounded Kiwi

Western Coast Auto Group



## Taranaki Kōhanga Kiwi at Rotokare (TKKR)



In 2012, Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust and Taranaki Kiwi Trust identified a *safe breeding site* as the main requirement for increasing kiwi numbers cost-effectively. Rotokare Sanctuary had a pest-proof fence, creating an ideal predator-free habitat to establish a breeding population of kiwi. A partnership was formed, and the sanctuary at Rotokare is now a kiwi kōhanga, nursery and breeding site – a protected area where kiwi can live without interference from introduced predators. Forty founder birds have been released into the site over twelve

years and the success of the breeding programme is evident – kiwi are abundant within the sanctuary, to the extent that the estimated population is now thought to be well over 300. In June 2020, the original goal of the partnership was realised with the translocation of the first kiwi from the kōhanga. Over 200 birds have since been rehomed to a several sites including the Tōtara Block in Mangamingi, Omoana, east of Eltham, Taranaki Maunga, the Kaitake Ranges, Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari in the Waikato, and the Capital Kiwi Project in Wellington. A team of around 15 staff and volunteers are highly engaged in monitoring and caring for the birds, including eight accredited kiwi handlers. A part-time kiwi ranger is employed to oversee the project, and the TKKR team works closely with Ngāti Tupaia, who are hapū in the Rotokare Sanctuary rohe. The partnership strives to constantly upskill its team, and to develop methodology and standard operating procedures. The sanctuary has proven its worth as a breeding site and was the first of its kind, a mainland breeding programme capable of transferring kiwi to populate other areas.

### Kiwi Operations

Taranaki Kiwi Trust has had direct involvement in the release of over 350 kiwi onto Taranaki Maunga and the Kaitake Range (2005–2025) to join the small remnant population living there. TKT's volunteers, along with the Kaitake Range Conservation Trust, have monitored up to 40 kiwi at a time with radio transmitters attached in Te Papakura-o-Taranaki since 2016 to survey their breeding habits and survival rates for the Taranaki Mounnga Project (TMP). To support this, TKT's volunteers have carried out important kiwi call surveys on the maunga every five years since 2009 to gauge trends in the kiwi population. Up to 140 more kiwi will be released onto the maunga and the range in coming years. TKT is responsible for the 40 kiwi released into the Totara Block in partnership with South Taranaki Forest & Bird, who do the majority of the trapping work on the site. TKT continues to monitor birds to ascertain breeding and survival rates. In recent years, Taranaki Kiwi Trust has led the development of a kiwi release site in Omoana, TKT has a permit to release 80 kiwi into the site, involving multiple stakeholders including Taranaki Regional Council, a private landowner, the Native Forest Restoration Trust, 800 Trust, a forestry block and the Department of Conservation. The land is at the junction of three iwi rohe, with Ngāti Ruanui, Ngāti Maru and Ngāa Rauru all having an interest in and supporting the translocation, along with Ngāti Hawe, the local hapū.



### Community Trapping Project (CTP)

The CTP was established in 2006, it supports and encourages the protection of existing kiwi populations by landowners on private property. Taranaki Kiwi Trust loans the landowner traps on a long term basis and it is the landowner's responsibility to regularly check their traps and provide trap catch data back to TKT, to be logged into Trap NZ. Many of these traplines are developed in partnership with Taranaki Regional Council on Key Native Ecosystem sites and the QEII Trust. The project employs 1.5 full-time equivalents who provide ongoing support and resources to landowners and volunteers, oversee and participate in annual trap audits and maintenance, and work with new landowners to establish trapping plans. Currently there are over 3,415 traps in place protecting over 26,000 hectares across 38 Taranaki properties. Traps are DOC 200's and 250's, with some SA Kat traps and F-Bombs targeting feral cats and mustelids, with self-setting A24's deployed in inaccessible country. Several of these sites have been identified as future release sites for kiwi bred in our kōhanga, and are being developed over the next few years in partnership with hapū, landowners and other agencies.



### Taranaki Maunga Trapping

Taranaki Kiwi Trust have a long history partnering with DOC, who provided seed funding to put some of the original traps on Taranaki maunga. This has now extended into a large-scale predator trapping programme run by DOC / TMP. Taranaki Kiwi Trust has continued to fund and manage traps on ten traplines on the maunga, this augments the trapping network in place with the DOC / TMP partnership. The trap checks on our lines are carried out by TKT staff, volunteers and volunteer teams from local businesses or clubs. This huge trap network on the maunga is the lynchpin in allowing the kiwi that are released to breed successfully by reducing the threat of predation from stoats, weasels and ferrets.

### Education, Advocacy and Training

One of the key strategic goals of Taranaki Kiwi Trust is to deliver a kiwi education programme. TKT work with schools, other conservation and tertiary training organisations, landowners and volunteers, in the business community and with service clubs and organisations to deliver kiwi awareness. TKT's five accredited kiwi handling trainers assist to upskill volunteers and members of the wider conservation community in kiwi tracking, surveying and handling practices. The Kiwi Habitat Protection team do similar work in the trapping field.





### Funders

Toi Foundation Strategic Partner  
 Wild for Taranaki  
 South Taranaki District Council  
 Pacific Development Fund  
 Fred & Eunice Rodie Charitable Trust  
 Taranaki Electricity Trust  
 Save the Kiwi  
 Aotearoa Gaming Trust  
 Lysaght Watt Trust  
 New Plymouth District Council  
 World Wildlife Fund/Tindall Foundation  
 Taranaki Foundation

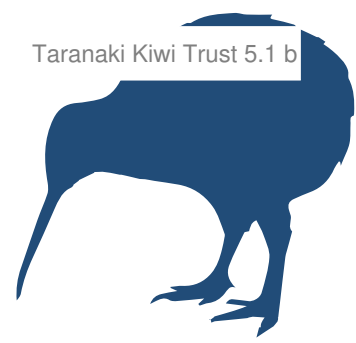
### Iwi/Hapū Partners

Ngāti Maru  
 Ngāti Korokī Kahukura  
 Ngāti Tupaia Hapū  
 Ngaa Rauru  
 Ngāti Hawe  
 Ngā Mahanga a Tairi  
 Pukerangiora Hapū  
 Puketapu Hapū  
 Ngaa Ariki Hapuu  
 Ngāti Ruanui  
 Ngāti Tama

### Partner Organisations

Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust  
 Taranaki Mounga Project  
 South Taranaki Forest & Bird  
 Patea River Catchment Community  
 Save the Kiwi  
 East Taranaki Environment Trust  
 Department of Conservation  
 Capital Kiwi Project  
 Parininihi Ki Waitotara  
 Wild for Taranaki  
 Native Forest Restoration Trust  
 Eight Hundred Trust  
 Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari  
 South Taranaki District Council  
 Mt Hiwi Charitable Trust  
 Taranaki Regional Council





*Pictured – Sian with Tipunakore Rangiwai from Taranaki Mounga Project*





## Kiwi Monitoring Projects

### Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki

We smashed records again this season, overseeing the release of more than 100 kiwi into Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki. This is the largest kiwi translocation to take place in Taranaki and one of the biggest ever in the country. The season ran like clockwork and was a huge collaborative effort between TKT staff and volunteers, Taranaki Mouna Project, Ngā Mahanga a Tāiri, Save the Kiwi, Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari, Kaitake Ranges Conservation Trust, Te Ara Taiao and the Department of Conservation (DOC). A massive thank you to Ngāti Korokī Kahukura for gifting these taonga and the Toi Foundation for contributing funding towards the translocations.



These kiwi releases provide incredible advocacy opportunities for partner organisations to highlight the importance of the conservation work happening across the region. The releases were a celebration of how far we have come but also a reminder that the work must be continued. The events were a great chance for iwi and hapū to welcome kiwi to the whenua and for school children and the community to get up close to the birds and learn about the importance of providing them a safe environment.

*Pictured – Midhirst School release event*

Toby and a dedicated team of volunteers have continued to monitor 30 kiwi in Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki over the past year. This monitoring would not be possible without these committed people who give up their weekends, and in some cases their annual leave, to help with this mahi. During the past year there have been no kiwi predations in the national park and breeding rates on Patuhā (Kaitake Range) have exceeded rates seen anywhere else in the region. Cameras on Patuhā are now picking up more kiwi than possums or mustelids, which is a great result. The kiwi monitoring will continue for at least one more year, and long-term monitoring through call count and acoustic recorder surveys will continue for years to come.

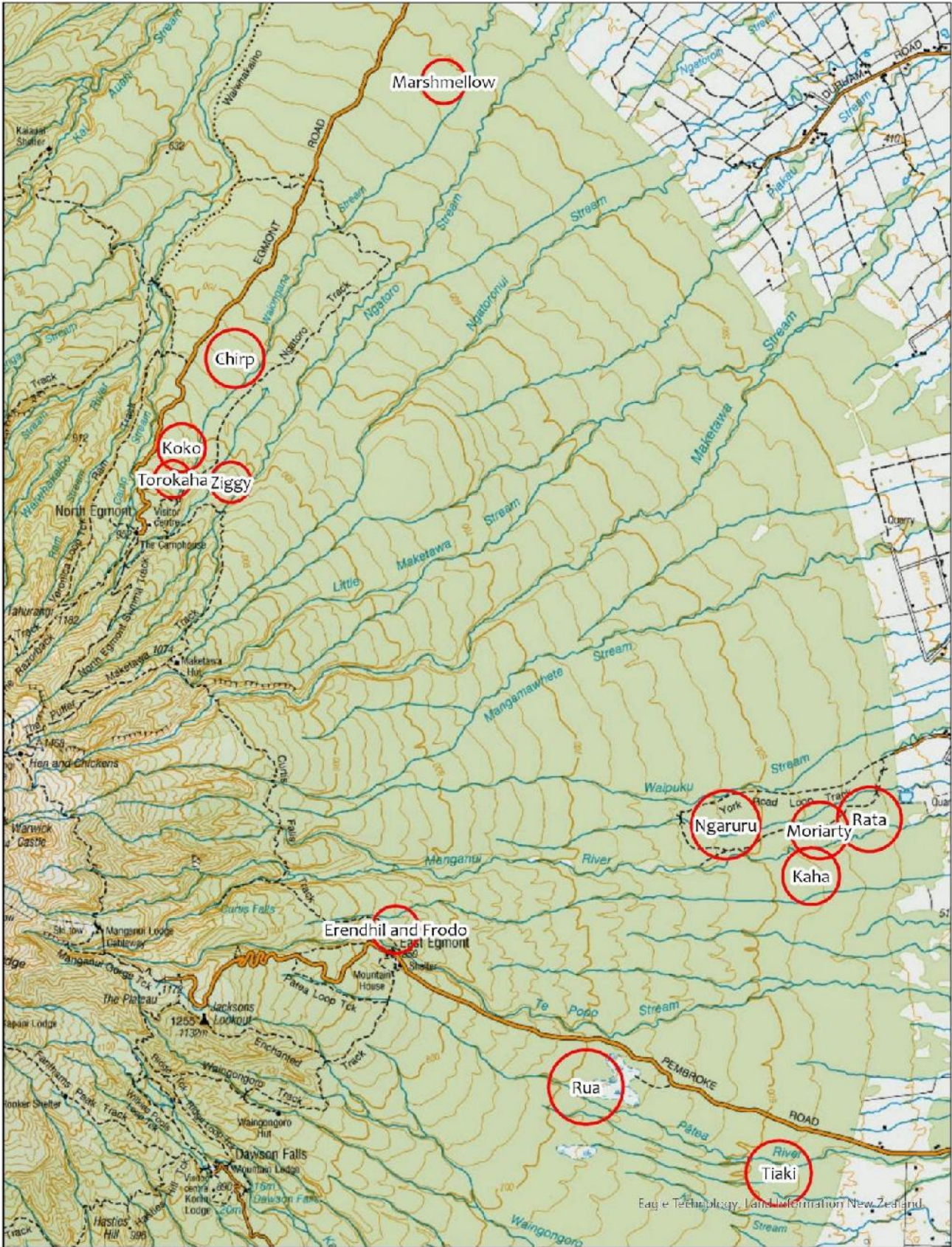
Taranaki Maunga now has a long history of kiwi releases and the TMP monitoring project, which started in 2016, has given us some excellent data and insight into survival and breeding rates. Since 2012, 354 kiwi have been released into Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki from many sites in the western region. Information collected in recent years has given us early confidence in the success of the translocation programme and also highlighted the importance of 3-yearly 1080 applications in the national park.

With the promulgation of Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua / Taranaki Maunga Collective Redress Act 2025, the next stage of restoration of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki is being developed to build on the work of the last ten years towards the values for Taranaki Maunga outlined in this new legislation.





### Approximate locations of monitored kiwi on Taranaki Maunga, June 2025





## Patuhā (Kaitake Range)

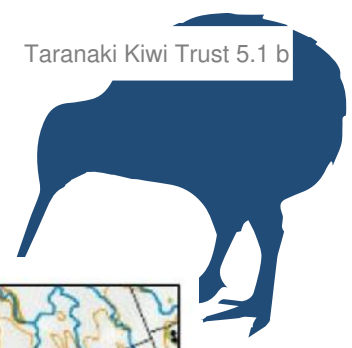
Patuhā had a bit of a coming-of-age this year, 101 kiwi have now been released there since the first translocation in 2021. Kiwi have come from both Taranaki Kōhanga Kiwi at Rotokare (TKKR) and Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari (SMM) and birds have been monitored with transmitters attached since the first release. The survival rate currently sits at 92%. Bringing kiwi back to the area has been a considerable collaborative effort with multiple stakeholders, local schools, and community all supporting the releases and ongoing protection.

The Kaitake Ranges Conservation Trust continues to be the backbone of this translocation project, their volunteers spend thousands of hours every year trapping to keep the site safe for kiwi, they also carry out a large chunk of the kiwi monitoring, along with Toby. There is one kiwi, Katie, who now lives just outside the protected area and the community have rallied to step up the trapping to ensure she is kept safe.

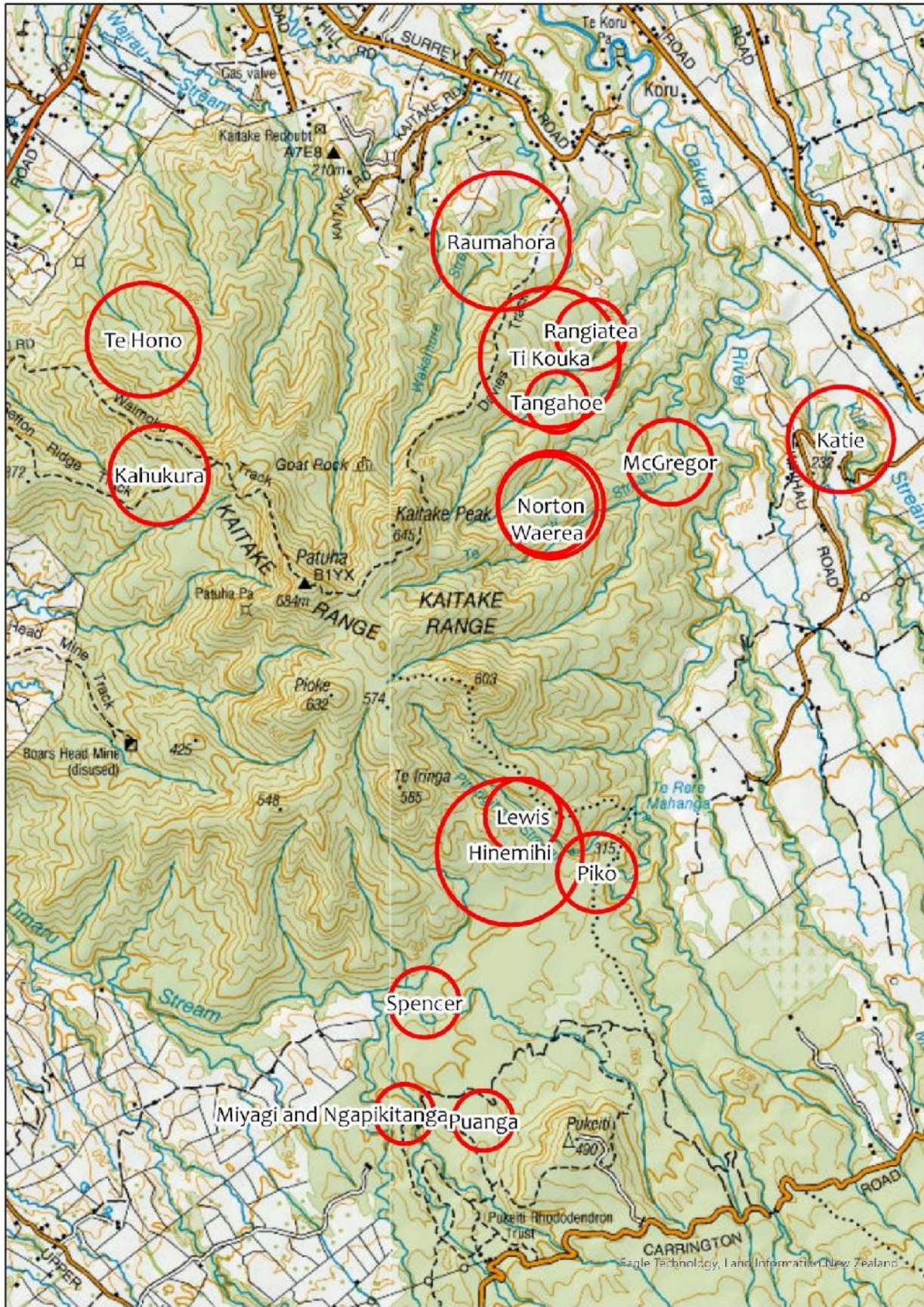


*Pictured – Sian with Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari volunteers Jayne and Lucy at a Taranaki Mounga Project release*





Approximate locations of kiwi on Patuhā (Kaitake Range), June 2025



**Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī**  
**Meeting No. 2 / 2026**

**Agenda Item: 6**

Kaupapa: **Public Excluded Session**

Prepared By: Lesa Bevin, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Secretariat

Meeting Date: 20 February 2026

<b>Resolution to exclude the public</b>	<p>In accordance with section 48 Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, it is moved that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely: Agenda Item 6.</p> <p>It is also moved that the following persons be permitted to remain at the meeting, after the public has been excluded, because of their knowledge of these topics and/or their role in supporting Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mitchy Samson, Acting Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Secretariat;</li> <li>- Sean Zieltjes, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Planner; and</li> <li>- Laura Buttimore, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Planner</li> </ul> <p>These stated persons have had input into, advised on or been advised of the matters sought to be excluded.</p>
<b>Context</b>	<p>The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 ('<b>OIA</b>') for the passing of this resolution are set out below.</p> <p>Papers for publicly excluded matters will be circulated to members separately.</p>

<b>General subject of each matter to be considered</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>	<b>Grounds under section 48(1) of the OIA for the passing of this resolution</b>
Agenda Item #6: Taranaki VTM Project Fast-track Application.	To maintain legal privilege and to enable Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī to deliberate in private on its decision or recommendation in any relevant proceeding.	s.48(1)(a)(ii) s.48(1)(d) s.9(2)(h)

Kaupapa:	<b>He Kawa Ora mō Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki - Schedule of engagement to satisfy Schedule 3, clause 2 of Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025.</b>
Prepared By:	Sean Zieltjes and Laura Buttimore, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Planning Team
Meeting Date:	20 February 2026

<b>Recommendation</b>	<p><u>It is recommended the Board:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>Approve</b> a schedule of engagement process for the Statutory Planning Committee to undertake prior to public comment, and record that engagement;</li> <li>b) <b>Approve</b> the schedule of additional parties to those listed in <i>schedule 3(2)(a-e)</i>, as required under <i>schedule 3(2) (f) of Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025</i></li> </ul>
<b>Context</b>	<p><i>Schedule 3, clause 3(2) of Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua</i> sets out the process Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī must comply with prior to the preparation of a draft He Kawa Ora mō Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki.</p> <p>This clause sets out some parties that must be included in engagement and enables Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī the ability to include other persons and organisations deemed appropriate.</p> <p>A decision at this meeting will enable the He Kawa Ora sub-committee and planners the ability to progress with engagement and appropriately facilitate and record these discussions.</p>

## Executive summary – Whakarāpopototanga matua

- The purpose of this paper is to recommend Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī request approval of an engagement plan, including parties of whom the He Kawa Ora sub-committee shall progress and how they shall progress engagement to assist in the preparation of He Kawa Ora mō Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki (**‘He Kawa Ora’**).

## Purpose – He aronga matua

- The purpose of this paper is for Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī to approve the following:
  - A final list of parties to engage with on He Kawa Ora to satisfy the requirements of *schedule 3(2) of Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025 / Taranaki Maunga Collective Redress Act 2025* (**‘Te Ture Whakatupua’**); and
  - A process for undertaking and recording engagement.

## Background and context – He kupu whakamarama

3. Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī are responsible for the development of a new management plan for Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki, titled He Kawa Ora mō Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki (**‘He Kawa Ora’**).
4. Te Ture Whakatupua specifies the process to be followed for the development of He Kawa Ora at *schedule 3* of the Act. This includes a list of parties that Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī must *begin discussions with, and seek the views of, the following parties in relation to what is to be included in He Kawa Ora:*
  - a) the trustees; and
  - b) the iwi and hapū of Ngā Iwi o Taranaki with interests in Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki; and
  - c) the New Zealand Conservation Authority; and
  - d) the Taranaki/Whanganui Conservation Board; and
  - e) local authorities within whose boundaries Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki is located; and
  - f) any other person or organisation that Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī considers appropriate.
5. An initial process to identify relevant parties that Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī is required to engage with are set out in appendix 1 below. Between 36 and over 60 different entities are listed in the table below. This range is dependent on the number of hapū who may engage in this process, and degree to which other various interest groups (e.g., concession holders) may engage in this initial conversation.
6. This list is intended as a starting point and is not exhaustive. Additional parties and groups can be added as engagement progresses, or if it is considered that inadequate coverage of topic areas, or information relative to Ngā Pou Whakatupua are being obtained/considered.
7. The requirement to engage with these parties is to be satisfied between now and July 2026 (the date for formal notice to develop He Kawa Ora will be made).
8. In order to provide some context to the proposed work a presentation and other collateral to summarise the key aspects of the development of He Kawa Ora is required. This would act as a way to inspire and inform the conversation with those parties.
9. All engagement will be accurately recorded and documented. A simple engagement checklist based on Nga Pou Whakatupua is recommended below to ensure adequate coverage of issues, opportunities, topic areas and information across Ngā Pou Whakatupua. This is attached as appendix 2.
10. Initial conversations with the *schedule 3(2)* party are to be framed around Ngā Pou Whakatupua. It is also intended as a way of summarising consultation and framing comments into these pou for record keeping purposes.
11. Table 3 in appendix 2 below sets out a staged engagement process across the development of He Kawa Ora. This process draws from what is statutory required in *Te Ture Whakatupua*, as well as best practise plan making.

## Risk assessment – He aronga tūraru

12. The following risks and mitigations are identified:
  - Relevant parties – not all relevant parties, or sufficient breadth/depth of parties to give good coverage of Ngā Pou Whakatupua are engaged ahead of formal comment. This introduces potential judicial review risk if a required party isn’t engaged with.
  - Time – timing to meet statutory deadlines is tight. It places emphasis on the importance of early engagement and discussions.

13. This engagement process is expected to evolve and develop as we progress, He Kawa Ora and changing approaches as we progress is accepted and acknowledged.

### **Consultation – Toronga**

14. No consultation on this matter has been undertaken.

### **Legislation – He aronga ture**

15. *Schedule 3 of Te Ture Whakaturua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025 / Taranaki Maunga Collective Redress Act 2025* sets out the plan making process for He Kawa Ora mō Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki.
16. This decision is in accordance with *schedule 3, clause (3)(4)(b)*.

### **Recommendation – He kupu whakatau**

20. Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī approve the parties set out in appendix 1.
21. To direct the Statutory Planning Committee to progress engagement with those parties.

### **Decision comments**

\_\_\_\_\_ Date:

Liana Poutu  
**Chairperson, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī**

## Appendix 1 – Table of parties to engage prior to formal comment

Engagement parties for He Kawa Ora		
Person / Entity	Comment/rationale	Schedule 3 compliance
Te Tōpuni Ngārahu Trust	<p>Represents the collective interests of ngā iwi o Taranaki and their relationship with Te Kāhui Tupua.</p> <p>One of the final approvers of He Kawa Ora.</p> <p>Responsible for the development of a Cultural Materials Plan.</p> <p>Responsible for additions to the approvals process He Kawa Ora will be reliant on.</p>	Yes 3(2)(a)
Taranaki iwi and hapū: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ngāti Tairi</li> <li>- Ngā Mahanga</li> <li>- Ngāti Moeahu</li> <li>- Ngāti Haupoto</li> <li>- Ōrimupiko (collective of southern hapū)</li> </ul>	Iwi and hapū with interests in Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki	Yes 3(2)(b)
Te Ātiawa and hapū: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Manukorihi</li> <li>- Ngāti Rāhiri</li> <li>- Ngāti Te Whiti / Tūparikino</li> <li>- Ōtaraua</li> <li>- Pukerangiora</li> <li>- Puketapu</li> <li>- Ngāti Tawhirikura</li> </ul>	Iwi and hapū with interests in Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki.	Yes 3(2)(b)
Ngāti Tama	Iwi with interests in Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki.	Yes 3(2)(b)
Ngāti Mutunga	Iwi with interests in Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki	Yes 3(2)(b)
Ngāti Maru	Iwi with interests in Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki	Yes 3(2)(b)
Ngā Ruahine and hapū: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Kanihi-Umutahi</li> <li>- Ōkahu-Inuāwai</li> <li>- Ngāti Hāua</li> <li>- Ngāti Manuhiakai</li> </ul>	Iwi and hapū with interests in Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki	Yes 3(2)(b)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ngāti Tū</li> <li>- Ngāti Tamaahuroa</li> <li>- Tītahi</li> </ul>		
<p>Ngāti Ruanui and the relevant hapū:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Araukūku</li> <li>- Ahitahi</li> <li>- Hāmua</li> <li>- Hāpōtiki</li> <li>- Ngā Ariki</li> <li>- Ngāti Hawe</li> <li>- Ngāti Hine</li> <li>- Ngāti Kōtuku</li> <li>- Ngāti Ringi</li> <li>- Ngāti Tākou</li> <li>- Ngāti Tānewai</li> <li>- Ngāti Tūpito</li> <li>- Rangitāwhi</li> <li>- Tuatahi</li> <li>- Tūwhakaehu</li> <li>- Tangahoe</li> <li>- Pakaohi</li> </ul>	Iwi and hapū with interests in Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki	Yes 3(2)(b)
<p>Ngā Rauru Kitahi and the relevant hapū:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hine Waiata</li> <li>- Hine Waitarua</li> <li>- Kairakau</li> <li>- Manaia</li> <li>- Ngā Ariki</li> <li>- Ngāti Hine</li> <li>- Ngāti Hou Tipua</li> <li>- Ngāti Iti</li> <li>- Ngāti Maika 1 &amp; 11</li> <li>- Ngāti Pourua</li> <li>- Ngāti Pūkeko</li> <li>- Ngāti Ruaiti</li> <li>- Ngāti Tai</li> <li>- Pukorokoro</li> <li>- Rangitāwhi</li> <li>- Tamareheroto</li> </ul>	Iwi and hapū with interests in Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki	Yes 3(2)(b)
New Zealand Conservation Authority	NZCA has established a sub-committee to engage in this process.	Yes 3(2)(c)
Taranaki Whanganui Conservation Board	TWCB has identified some workshop dates for this engagement to occur. Has substantial previous thinking/issue identification to inform this process.	Yes 3(2)(d)
Taranaki Regional Council		Yes 3(2)(e)
New Plymouth District Council		Yes 3(2)(e)

Stratford District Council		Yes 3(2)(e)
South Taranaki District Council		Yes 3(2)(e)
Venture Taranaki	Responsible for regional economic development, including tourism and the promotion of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki.	Other 3(2)(f)
Wild for Taranaki	Representing a collective of conservation/restoration groups, many of whom deliver work within or impacting on Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki.	Other 3(2)(f)
Parininihi Ki Waitotara	Owner of land administered in conjunction with Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki.	Other 3(2)(f)
Concession and licence holders	Infrastructure, tourism industry and research entity coverage.	Other 3(2)(f)
Tramping, mountaineering, alpine clubs	Regular users of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki, including maintenance of private lodges on Taranaki Maunga.	Other 3(2)(f)
Department of Conservation	The Department of Conservation is not explicitly listed in <i>Schedule 3(2)</i> , however is critical for this plan development, as well as for informing one of the final approvers of He Kawa Ora in the Minister of Conservation.	Other 3(2)(f)

Table 1: Parties to be engaged with in accordance with Schedule 3(2)

## Appendix 2 – Structured engagement relative to Ngā Pou Whakatupua, and general approach

**Table 2: Engagement log against Nga Pou Whakatupua**

<b>Ngā Pou Whakatupua</b>	
<b>Ngā Pou Whakatupua / Maunga Values</b>	<b>Consideration as to how the Ngā Pou Whakatupua values are overlaid to represent/ summarise the relevant <i>schedule 3(2)</i> parties interests, and knowledge of Te Kāhui Tupua</b>
<p><b>(a) Ko Te Kāhui Tupua, he rārangī maunga here ā-nuku, here ā-rangī: Te Kāhui Tupua, the mountain range binding heaven and earth</b></p> <p>Te Kāhui Tupua is a living and indivisible whole incorporating all of its physical and metaphysical elements:</p>	<p>Scene setting – understanding their place within the physical and metaphysical elements of Te Kāhui Tupua, and those which are present within Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki (being the relevant interest group) context</p>
<p><b>(b) Ko Te Kāhui Tupua, koia ko ō mātou nei okiokinga, ko mātou nei tō rātou okiokitanga: Te Kāhui Tupua, our embodiment in life and death</b></p> <p>Te Kāhui Tupua represents and upholds the ancestral, historical, cultural, and spiritual relationship between Ngā Iwi o Taranaki and their tūpuna maunga:</p>	<p>Understanding the ancestral, historical and cultural context, and relationship the interest group holds to the Maunga and how this needs to be portrayed through He Kawa Ora.</p> <p>Consideration to flow charts and other design elements not just words.</p>
<p><b>(c) Ko Te Kāhui Tupua, ko te puna i heke mai ai te tangata: Te Kāhui Tupua, from which we descend and take our identity</b></p> <p>Te Kāhui Tupua and its health and well-being are fundamental to the identity, tikanga, reo, and health and well-being of Ngā Iwi o Taranaki:</p>	<p>Understanding how best we can represent the protection and uphold the health and wellbeing of the Maunga through He Kawa Ora for the relevant interest group.</p>
<p><b>(d) Ko Tupua Kawa, ko Tawhito Kawa, he kawa ora: The ancestral knowledge, the ancient law, the law of existence</b></p> <p>Te Kāhui Tupua is a source of spiritual, cultural, and physical well-being of—</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. the lands, waters, flora, fauna, and other natural resources of Taranaki; and</li> <li>ii. the people of Taranaki:</li> </ol>	<p>What are your key spiritual, cultural, ecological, recreational interests and how best are these needs to be represented and upheld through He Kawa Ora?</p>
<p><b>(e) Ko Te Kāhui Tupua, he puna koropupū, he manawa whenua, hei mou ake nei i te tini mokopuna: Te Kāhui Tupua, a spring, a source of enduring naturally filtered water and life, protected for future generations.</b></p>	<p>What does enduring protection look like, while enabling use, enjoyment and an active relationship with Te Kāhui Tupua?</p>

Ngā Iwi o Taranaki, the Crown, and all of the communities of Taranaki have an intergenerational responsibility actively to protect the health and well-being of Te Kāhui Tupua.	
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Table 2: Ngā Pou Whakaturua engagement alignment questions

**Table 3: Engagement process for He Kawa Ora**

<b>Engagement process</b>	
<b>Task</b>	<b>Person/ group</b>
<b>Stage 1 (Nov 25 – March 2026): Initial engagement/introductions</b>	
Reach out to each relevant group/ organisation and make time for an informal chat about the engagement process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Understand who the relevant group key contact is and any early key interests and preference for engagement moving forward</li> </ul>	He Kawa Ora sub-committee (ensure a minimum of 1 member and 1 planner at each hui)  Planner to record consultation record for each hui
<b>Stage 2 (March – 20 July 2026) Structured pre-engagement</b>	
Consider the following mechanisms for structured engagement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Roadshows;</li> <li>- A series of wānanga;</li> <li>- Workshops;</li> <li>- Online webinar series; and</li> <li>- Ability to receive draft comments from relevant parties</li> </ul>	He Kawa Ora sub-committee (ensure 1 member and 1 planner at each hui)  Planner to record consultation record for each hui  Consider online portal for comments from relevant/ interested parties
<b>Stage 3 (20 July 2026 – September 2026) Formal engagement</b>	
Public Notice inviting comments  Review and categorise comments into Ngā Pou Whakaturua values model.	He Kawa Ora sub-committee (ensure 1 member and 1 planner at each hui)
<b>Stage 4 (September 2026 – June 2027) Prehearing engagement</b>	
Review relevant submissions and summarise.  Workshop relevant aspects of submissions with parties if opportunity allows	He Kawa Ora sub-committee (ensure 1 member and 1 planner at each hui)
<b>Stage 5 (June 27 – April 28) Formal hearing process followed by plan approval process by others</b>	
Appoint and schedule formal hearing process	He Kawa Ora sub-committee, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī, and the Minister of Conservation

<p>Preparation of evidence if necessary to support He Kawa Ora</p> <p>Review any submissions made and make changes if necessary to the Draft He Kawa Ora</p> <p>Finalise He Kawa Ora and send to the Trustees and the Minister of Conservation for Approval</p>	
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*Table 3: Engagement process*

**Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī**  
**Meeting No. 2 / 2026**

**Agenda Item: 7.2**

Kaupapa: **He Kawa Ora mō Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki  
 – Assessment Framework & Plan Structure**

Prepared By: Laura Buttimore & Sean Zieltjes, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Planning Team

Meeting Date: 20 February 2026

<b>Recommendation</b>	<p><u>It is recommended the Board:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>Recieves</b> the draft assessment framework, and draft plan structure.</li> <li>b) <b>Provides direction</b> for the Statutory Planning Committee (if established) to review and recommend a final draft for approval of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī.</li> </ul>
<b>Context</b>	<p><i>Section 94 of Te Ture Whakatupua</i> requires He Kawa Ora mō Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki (<b>‘He Kawa Ora’</b>) to provide for the management of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki in a manner that is consistent with Te Ture Whakatupua, Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo, and the National Parks Act 1980. This is unique to He Kawa Ora.</p> <p>He Kawa Ora is a statutory plan, that has the same status and effect as a national parks management plan.</p> <p>For these reasons a decision-making framework is recommended in accordance with good practice decision making principles. Producing this early in the process and making this available provides any person making comments or submitting on the draft Plan transparency regarding how those comments or submissions will be assessed or influence He Kawa Ora.</p>

## **Executive summary – Whakarāpopototanga matua**

1. The purpose of this paper is to update on the development of He Kawa Ora, specifically to discuss a decision-making framework, and a draft contents page for the Plan. Each of these are considered necessary context for engagement, as well as to begin to frame the Plan.
2. *Section 94 of Te Ture Whakatupua* requires He Kawa Ora to provide for the management of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki in a manner that is consistent with Te Ture Whakatupua, Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo, and the National Parks Act 1980. This is unique to He Kawa Ora.
3. A decision-making framework is recommended in accordance with good practice decision making principles. Producing this early in the process and making this available provides

any person making comments or submitting on the draft Plan transparency regarding how those comments or submissions will be assessed or influence He Kawa Ora.

## Purpose – He aronga matua

1. The purpose of this paper is to update on the development of He Kawa Ora. Specifically:
  - to discuss a decision-making framework; and
  - a draft contents page for the Plan outlining sections of He Kawa Ora.
2. Developing these early in the engagement process enables these to be transparent prior to any formal comment period. This enables parties engaging in the process an understanding of how to articulate their comments or requests to inform the development of the Plan, and to identify any gaps in the thinking to date.
3. None of this content should be treated as final. Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī should expect debate and testing of the thinking. It is not a process to defend any of these, rather as a starting point for conversations.

## Background and context – He kupu whakamarama

4. *Section 94 of Te Ture Whakatupua* requires He Kawa Ora to provide for the management of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki in a manner that is consistent with Te Ture Whakatupua, Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo, and the National Parks Act 1980. This is unique to He Kawa Ora.
5. Reconciling tensions and finding alignment across these requirements early in the process is recommended. It is not a matter of one of these requirements taking precedence over another, rather Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo and Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025 are additional foundational context for He Kawa Ora alongside National Parks Act 1980 requirements and principles.
6. The assessment framework attached as appendix 1 works to identify alignment across the principles set in the NPA for national parks, and Ngā Pou Whakatupua.
7. This matters where a particular party or activity may rely on one of the higher order management plans or documents to rationalise status quo where this is clearly at odds with Ngā Pou Whakatupua and the foundational context taken as a whole.
8. It is expected that this reconciliation of Ngā Pou Whakatupua and the principles for national parks will evolve over the engagement process and as a result of comments received. By providing an initial assessment, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī is setting clear signals and expectations for how it will make its recommendations on the eventual provisions.
9. It also provides the Planning Team a clear reference when developing provisions for He Kawa Ora, as well as the nature of the evidence required to support the inclusion of an approach or requirement.
10. A draft contents page is attached as appendix 2. This draws from Te Kawa o Te Urewera, and the Tūpuna Maunga o Tāmaki Makaurau Integrated Management Plan as two other plans recently developed under similar legislation arrangements.
11. Once a broad structure is confirmed this can be tested to ensure adequate coverage of topics. Each of these topics would require a separate assessment report justifying proposed content and provisions. This approach demonstrates that Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī has performed its plan making role in a transparent, considered and inclusive manner.

12. If approved, it is proposed that the Statutory Planning Committee would review and update these before seeking approval from the Board.

### **Risk assessment – He aronga tūraru**

13. Risks of not adopting this approach include:
- Recommended provisions not being lawful.
  - Unfair process, with inadequate or incomplete engagement.
  - Being unable to demonstrate robust, transparent and coherent reasoning and decision making.

### **Consultation – Toronga**

14. No consultation on this matter has been undertaken.

### **Legislation – He aronga ture**

15. *Section 94 of Te Ture Whakaturua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025 / Taranaki Maunga Collective Redress Act 2025* sets out the plan making and preparation requirements for He Kawa Ora.
16. This decision is in accordance with recognised best practise for plan making.

### **Recommendation – He kupu whakatau**

17. It is recommended that:
- a) this approach is endorsed, and Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī receives the draft assessment framework, and draft plan structure; and
  - b) to provide direction for the Statutory Planning Committee (if established) to review and recommend a final draft for approval of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī.

### **Decision comments**

\_\_\_\_\_ Date:

Liana Poutu  
**Chairperson, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī**

## Appendix 1 – draft decision-making framework for He Kawa Ora mō Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki

# He Kawa Ora mō Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki

Assessment framework for comments/submissions received

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**Tūngia te kawa, te kawa mania, te kawa paheke, te kawa rauhiuhi, te kawa rau matomato.  
Rau tāpatu, tēnā te kawa ka eke, ka eke ki te uruora e**

**Ki runga e i te kawa e...**

*Establishing a system and framework, to make progress, to gather momentum, all encompassing, to grow and flourish. Achieving success and realising its purpose.*

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## Context & background

### Introduction

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī must prepare a new management plan for Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki, to be known as He Kawa Ora mō Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki (**‘He Kawa Ora’**).

Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki is 34,000 hectares of alpine, wetland, river and forest environments. It is a complex ecosystem, that stands as the largest contiguous forest remnants of the Egmont Ecological District.

Te Iho Tangaengae is the collective statement of connection and relationship Ngā Iwi o Taranaki hold with Te Kāhui Tupua. The statement sets out the physical and metaphysical elements of Te Kāhui Tupua that have shaped Taranaki and the people who call the Region, home.

The purpose of this assessment framework is to provide a structure for the consideration of comments received, and the information, data or insights relied upon in making a recommendation on provisions of He Kawa Ora. It is to help to demonstrate that:

- a) all provisions have been well tested against the purpose of He Kawa Ora; and
- b) the consequence of the new provisions is proportionate – that is the anticipated benefits of a proposed provision outweigh the costs or risks.

This framework is to ensure the development of He Kawa Ora meets the requirements of:

- Being lawful. Recommended provisions are made in accordance with the law. The recommending person has the authority, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī act within the purpose of their powers and duties and take relevant factors and ignore irrelevant ones.
- Procedural fairness. The development of recommendations follows a fair process, with adequate engagement, unbiased optioneering, no conflicts of interest, and no pre-determination.
- Robust decision-making. Recommended provisions must be rational, logically justified, and proportionate to the objective to be achieved.

- Transparency and accountability. A record of reasoning, making it clear how recommendations are made and the factors weighted.
- Proportionality. Options recommended must be appropriate relative to the purpose and objectives, and not excessive.
- Consistency and clear reasoning. Recommendations are reached using clear and sound reasoning based on evidence, and where similar cases arise, treated in a consistent way unless there are good reasons to depart.

He Kawa Ora does not exist in isolation, it is one component of He Kawa Tupua; the overall framework secured in the redress arrangements. It is closely linked to and reliant on the following plans and processes:

- a) The Cultural Material Plan developed by Te Tōpuni Ngārahu.
- b) The annual Statement of Operational Priorities developed by Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī.
- c) The concession and permit process operated by the Department of Conservation, as modified by Te Ture Whakatupua Act.

## Statutory & policy context for He Kawa Ora

### He Kawa Ora

He Kawa Ora must provide for the management of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki in a manner that is consistent with—

- (a) Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025; and
- (b) Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo; and
- (c) the National Parks Act 1980<sup>1</sup>.

He Kawa Ora has the same status and effect as a national park management plan prepared under the National Parks Act 1980 ('NPA')<sup>2</sup>.

### Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo & Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025

Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo sets out that Te Kāhui Tupua status and Ngā Pou Whakatupua are the foundation for the ongoing governance, management and administration of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki<sup>3</sup>.

One of the purposes of Te Ture Whakatupua is to give effect to He Kawa Tupua, comprising:

- (i) *Te Mana o Ngā Maunga, for the purpose of recognising, promoting, and protecting the health and well-being of Te Kāhui Tupua and its status; and*

<sup>1</sup> Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025 / Taranaki Maunga Collective Redress Act 2025, section 94(2).

<sup>2</sup> Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025 / Taranaki Maunga Collective Redress Act 2025, section 94(3).

<sup>3</sup> Clause 7.1, Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo, and Section 20(1) of Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025.

- (ii) *Te Mana o Te Kāhui, for the purposes of recognising and providing for the mana and relationship of Ngā Iwi o Taranaki with Te Kāhui Tupua.*

He Kawa Tupua is defined and set out at clauses 2.1 and 2.2 of Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo. He Kawa Ora is a fundamental component of He Kawa Tupua.

Clause 7 of Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo provides clarity on the interplay between other conservation legislation and Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025 ('**Te Ture Whakatupua**'). Clause 7 introduces qualifiers to the interpretation and application of the principles of National Parks Act 1980 (section 4) *will have effect for the purpose of acknowledging and upholding Te Kāhui Tupua status and Ngā Pou Whakatupua.*

Ngā Pou Whakatupua and Te Kāhui Tupua Status are the foundation for the governance, management, and administration of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki<sup>4</sup>. Ngā Pou Whakatupua are as follows:

***Ko Te Kāhui Tupua, he rārangi maunga here-ā-nuku, here-ā-rangi***

*Te Kāhui Tupua, the mountain range binding heaven and earth.*

*Te Kāhui Tupua is a living and indivisible whole incorporating all of its physical and metaphysical elements.*

***Ko Te Kāhui Tupua, koia ko ō mātou nei okiokinga, ko mātou nei tō rātou okiokitanga***

*Te Kāhui Tupua, our embodiment in life and in death*

*Te Kāhui Tupua represents and upholds the ancestral, historical, cultural and spiritual relationship between Ngā Iwi o Taranaki and their Tūpuna Maunga.*

***Ko Te Kāhui Tupua, ko te puna i heke mai ai te tangata***

*Te Kāhui Tupua, from which we descend and take our identity*

*Te Kāhui Tupua and its health and wellbeing are fundamental to the identity, tikanga, reo and health and wellbeing of Ngā Iwi o Taranaki.*

***Ko Tupua Kawa, ko Tawhito Kawa, he kawa ora***

*The ancestral knowledge, the ancient law, the law of existence*

*Te Kāhui Tupua is a source of spiritual, cultural and physical wellbeing for both:*

- a) *The lands, waters, flora and fauna and other natural resources of Taranaki; and*
- b) *The people of Taranaki.*

***Ko Te Kāhui Tupua, he puna koropupū, he manawa whenua, hei mou ake nei i te tini mokopuna***

*Te Kāhui Tupua, a spring, a source of enduring naturally filtered water and life, protected for future generations*

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<sup>4</sup> Te Ture Whakatupua Act, section 20(1).

*Ngā Iwi o Taranaki, the Crown and all the communities of Taranaki have an intergenerational responsibility to actively protect the health and wellbeing of Te Kāhui Tupua.*

## The National Parks Act 1980, and the Wanganui Conservation Management Strategy 1997-2007

### *National Parks Act 1980*

Section 4 of the NPA sets out the principles to be applied to national parks. These generally are to ensure national parks are maintained in their natural state, and that the public retain a right of entry. Sites and objects of archaeological and historical interest shall as far as possible be preserved. The value as soil, water, and forest conservation areas of national parks shall be maintained.

Section 44A(2) of the NPA requires that any management plan must not derogate from a conservation management strategy.

### *Wanganui Conservation Management Strategy 1997 - 2007*

Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo includes provision for any future review of the Wanganui Conservation Management Strategy ('CMS') pursuant to the Conservation Act 1987. This requires that review to provide for Te Kāhui Tupua status, and the Ngā Pou Whakatupua. This is a clear signal that the next CMS requires change towards the outcomes agreed through Te Tiriti redress. This impacts on the weight able to be applied to the provisions of the existing CMS in considering the provisions of He Kawa Ora.

Notwithstanding this, the Wanganui Conservation Management Strategy 1997-2007 is the relevant CMS for this process. Section 3 of the CMS sets out the kaupapa, and ten visions for the CMS, including for Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki. These include:

- *The extent of natural areas in the Conservancy has increased and the level of protection has improved the point that the full range of native plants and animals present in the Conservancy in 1997 is sustained and enhanced. Wherever possible, any native species lost from the conservancy prior to 1997 are reinstated.*
- *All significant natural landscape values in the Conservancy are recognised and protected from unsympathetic development.*
- *A mutually supportive arrangement is in place with Tangata Whenua to achieve conservation, historic resource protection and recreational objectives.*

These visions are supported by the following key principles:

- a) Bio-diversity – priority will be given to retaining and restoring indigenous bio-diversity throughout the Conservancy.
- b) Threatened Species – priority will be given to the protection of threatened indigenous species.
- c) Treaty of Waitangi – priority will be given to meeting the Department's Treaty obligations.
- d) Advocacy – priority will be given to seeking protection of important natural and historic resources on private land through policies and plans prepared under the Resource Management Act 1991. Emphasis will be given to ensuring that critical habitats and

ecosystems are sustained. Protection of these values will also be promoted in resource consents, particularly where important precedent is likely to be set.

- e) Historic Resources – priority will be given to achieving greater protection for the knowledge of historic resources on land administered by the Department.
- f) Public Awareness and Participation – priority will be given to activities which raise public awareness of important conservation issues, build positive relationships and which promote greater public relationships, and which promote greater public participation in conservation programmes.
- g) Recreation – priority will be given to the provision of recreation opportunities in high use front country areas in places such as roadends and close to urban areas. All recreation opportunities will be managed to ensure that they are safe, that the quality of the recreation experience is preserved and that adverse effects are minimal. Improved public access to areas administered by the Department, to rivers and the coast will be promoted.
- h) Commercial Activities – priority will be given to ensuring new commercial activities will not give rise to unacceptable effects on natural, historic or recreation values, and that adverse effects of existing activities are reduced. Cost recovery and rental charges from commercial activities on land administered by the Department, and charges for facilities or services will be managed to optimise funding for conservation.

The CMS includes a includes a full chapter on the Egmont Ecological District. That chapter includes specific visions and management objectives to Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki. The vision is that *Egmont National Park will gain enhanced recognition for its natural features. The mountain will be known for its natural and historic values and relationships to Tangata Whenua. The full range of indigenous plants and animals will remain and all major animal and weed threats to the park will be eradicated or controlled. Visitors to the park have caused less damage and learn more about its natural, cultural and historic values. The impacts of commercial and recreational utilities with the park will be reduced while interpretation facilities will be enhanced. The quality and flow of water on the ringplain is protected and enhanced. The few scattered natural areas outside the park are legally protected. Key parts of the marine environment and the adjoining coast are formally protected and the remainder used sustainably.*

This vision is supported by specific objectives that include:

- The addition of land of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki.
- Kaupapa Atawhai, or engagement with Tangata Whenua on a broad range of conservation matters that impact Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki, including the then Taranaki Māori Trust Board.
- Native species protection, with specific aspirations regarding whio, toutouwai, and both bat species.
- Addressing threats of native species, including the eradication of goats, maintaining low possum numbers, prevent the establishment of deer, pigs and other wild animals in the park, and to control weeds.
- To manage historic places, specifically the Camphouse and Rahiri cottage.
- To limit and restrict recreation infrastructure and activities in the park. This is balanced with providing enhanced recreation opportunities in specific locations in the park (e.g., existing huts and routes, maintaining visitor centres).

- To limit and over time reduce commercial activity in the park, specifically rationalising the number of telecommunications facilities in the park, and to require additions to existing infrastructure as opposed to new buildings or facilities.
- Advocacy for and public awareness of conservation challenges and initiatives that impact on Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki, including within RMA planning processes.

## Reconciling Te Kāhui Tupua Status, Ngā Pou Whakatupua and the National Parks Act 1980/Wanganui Conservation Management Strategy 1997

Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo and Te Kāhui Tupua Act are recognised as additional foundational layers for He Kawa Ora, as opposed to a replacement for the Wanganui Conservation Management Strategy ('**WCMS**'). It is important to recognise (and weight accordingly) the age of the WCMS and that the provisions of that plan were not prepared with the benefit of Te Kāhui Tupua Act, nor any other Te Tiriti settlement legislation/iwi planning documents that relate to Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki.

Despite this, there is considerable alignment between Te Kāhui Tupua status, Ngā Pou Whakatupua, and outcomes expressed in the WCMS. Ngā Pou Whakatupua, as well as Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo (including Te Iho Tangaengae), provide greater clarity to more generic Te Tiriti and Kaupapa Atawhai outcomes expressed in the WCMS.

Similarly, Ngā Pou Whakatupua, and Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo provide broader context for the restoration and tourism related outcomes that are expressed in the WCMS. In some respects, the outcomes in the WCMS are a sub-set of Ngā Pou Whakatupua, as opposed to being polar opposite expectations.

## Other legislation

### *Resource Management Act 1991*

The Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) is New Zealand's main legislation governing the use of land, water, air and coastal resources. Its primary purpose is the 'sustainable management' of the natural and physical resource by managing environmental effects'. The RMA requires Council's (both regional and territorial) to have plans that set objectives, policies, and rules to manage activities ranging from building, to clearing vegetation and earthworks, to water takes. Any breaches to District Plans or Regional Plan rules require the applicant to seek resource consent.

Section 4 of the RMA provides exemptions for the use of land to effectively not need to comply with District or Regional Plans, within Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki:

- Where it is work of the Crown within the boundaries of land held or managed under the Conservation Act 1987 or any other Act specified in Schedule 1 of that Act, and
- Where there is not a significant adverse effect beyond the boundary of the area of land

The impact of this is everyday management activities by DOC that occur within Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki are not applicable to the District Plan or Regional Plan land use provisions. Therefore, the RMA is of relevance primarily for use and development of land outside of Te Papa-Kura-o-

Taranaki and the consideration of how these activities might impact on Te-Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki, and for activities proposed by parties other than the DOC. Consideration within He Kawa Ora needs to clearly articulate how use and development of land in and around Te-Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki poses potential impacts on Te Kāhui Tupua when considered through Ngā Pou Whakatupua.

The RMA is currently in the process of reform with two new pieces of legislation set to replace this act. In December 2025, the Planning Bill and the Natural Environment Bill were passed into Parliament to replace the RMA.

#### *Conservation Act 1987*

The Conservation Act 1987 (CA) was developed to promote the conservation of New Zealand's natural and historic resources. This created the establishment of DOC, to manage conservation. The CA directs the management of all land within conservation areas. It directs procedures for the preparation of management plans for conservation, freshwater fisheries, and sports fish and game and the like. The CA also manages through the Concession process approvals for use and occupation of conservation land.

*Section 103 of Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua*, sets out that activities within Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki continue to apply to Part 3B of the CA, which relate to the Concession approvals process. He Kawa Ora will therefore need to clearly set out the Concession approval process and how any concession application within Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki needs to ensure alignment with Ngā Pou Whakatupua, and Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo.

The Annual Statement of Operational Priorities for Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī will also be important in ensuring the operational management of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki by DOC aligns with He Kawa Ora vision and operational intent.

In August 2025, the Government announced that it will make changes to the CA with drafting of an amendment bill currently underway. It is understood that this will be introduced to Parliament in early 2026.

#### *Wildlife Act 1953*

The Wildlife Act (WA) covers all native birds, bats, frogs, and reptiles including those that visit New Zealand such as godwits and sea turtles. It also includes native invertebrates and marine species.

Wildlife permits are required to be sought by DOC for any groups or persons wanting to undertake the following:

- *manage and monitor wildlife in recovery programmes*
- *carry out research*
- *breed and release wildlife*
- *rehabilitate sick and injured wildlife*
- *have wildlife on display, or hold dead specimens for research, educational or advocacy purposes*
- *relocate wildlife that would be affected by development projects, for example, bats and lizards.*

The WA is conservation legislation within Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki that is not expressly addressed in Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo or Te Kāhui Tupua Act. It is however closely interrelated

with the management of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki and the permissions process administered by DOC. Te Kāhui Tupua status and Ngā Pou Whakatupua are relevant considerations for those processes.

## Other Te Tiriti Settlements, and Iwi Planning Documents

Section 1 of *Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo* records how individual Te Tiriti settlements of ngā iwi o Taranaki record the agreement to work collectively to negotiate with the Crown for these arrangements.

As such, whilst some individual settlements show areas over Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki that fall within respective ancestral lands, these do not in of themselves convey a conflicting arrangement with Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo. Rather they assist to identify locations where different iwi or hapū exercise mana, rights, and responsibilities in accordance with tikanga or customary law.

Some iwi have produced Iwi Planning Documents. The following have specific sections/provisions that relate to Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki:

- Te Korowai o Ngāruahine – Te Uru Taiao o Ngāruahine Plan 2021 is the iwi planning document for Ngāruahine. The earlier chapters of Te Uru Taiao o Ngāruahine set a basis and context early, with a unique narrative regarding the arrival of Taranaki Maunga in the Region, and associated values with that narrative; specifically maunga-a-rongo – long lasting peace.
  - The plan includes specific expectations for Taranaki Maunga; as follows:
    - *Ngāruahine reo, kōrero and mātauranga associated with Taranaki Maunga is acknowledged and protected as the intellectual and cultural property of Ngāruahine.*
    - *Access and activities upon Taranaki Maunga are a privilege which Ngāruahine reserves the right to prohibit should the tapu of our Tupuna be transgressed.*
    - *Mana whenua and Kaitiaki roles regarding Taranaki Maunga are a common responsibility shared by Ngāruahine and our whanaunga Iwi.*
  - The Plan sets out the following objectives directly relevant to He Kawa Ora:
    - *Due to the level of reverence Ngāruahine have for Taranaki Maunga, management and use requires a higher level of respect and mindfulness by all.*
    - *To ensure that the special relationship and kōrero o Ngāruahine regarding Taranaki Maunga is recognised and strengthened by the Department of Conservation and preserved for future generations.*
    - *Co-governance between Iwi and DoC is established for Taranaki Maunga/Te Papakura o Taranaki.*
    - *Ngāruahine Uri, Hapū and Whānau are empowered as Kaitiaki of their cultural heritage within the Ngāruahine Kaitiaki Area.*
  - The Plan sets out nine policies to achieve these objectives.

- Te Kāhui o Taranaki – Taiao, Taiora 2018 is an iwi planning document for the Iwi. In Taiao, Taiora different domains are identified, and specific provisions/outcomes for each of those domains identified. These outcomes centre on mouri, and the restoration of mouri as the fundamental value/principal/impelling force.
  - The Plan includes a chapter specific to Te Kāhui Tupua – *Taranaki Mounga*. This section sets out the following broad objectives:
    - *The mouri of Taranaki Mounga in the Taranaki Iwi rohe will be protected, cared for and restored.*
    - *Taranaki Mounga will be given comprehensive protection; risks of damage from invasive weeds and pests will be removed in order for native flora and fauna to flourish in abundance.*
    - *The korowai of native habitat will proliferate and flow down the sides of the mounga towards the sea.*
    - *All water that flows from the mounga will be given active protection from the detrimental impacts of human activity, wider environmental degradation and invasive species to ensure waterbodies are maintained in a pristine state.*
    - *All waterbodies that start on the mounga, flowing to the sea will be given riparian shelter and protection from erosion and contamination from land use by native vegetation as an extension of the ngahere on Taranaki Mounga.*
    - *All people involved in activity on the munga will be aware of the environmental and cultural associated with Taranaki Mounga and will be required to treat these values with respect and care.*
    - *Taranaki Iwi are fully engaged in all levels of management and operations linked with the mounga and are active kaitiaki of the mounga.*
    - *Wider Taranaki communities will understand key elements of the value placed on the mounga by Taranaki Iwi and share in the task of active protection and respect in line with these views.*
  - 11 policies implement these objectives that set expectations regarding consultation, the role of Taranaki Iwi, that decision makers must consider the impact of an activity on the essential character of Taranaki Mounga, as well as activities that will and will not be supported around Te Papa-kura-o-Taranaki.
- Te Kotahitanga o Te Atiawa – Tai Whenua, Tai Tangata, Tai Ao 2020 is the iwi planning document for Te Atiawa. This plan is built on a foundation of values grounded in the whakapapa of Te Atiawa (as described in earlier sections of the Plan). Te Tai Rua Taranaki is the chapter that sets out specific provisions for Taranaki Maunga.
  - Te Tai Rua Taranaki has one objective for Taranaki Maunga as follows: *Work with the Department of Conservation, any other relevant authority, and our whanaunga iwi of Taranaki to project the cultural and spiritual relationship between Te Atiawa and Taranaki Maunga.*
  - 12 policies implement this objective. Policies of direct relevance to He Kawa Ora include:

- *Pol. TTRT1.1 – require that central government agencies, regional and district councils and any other consenting authority acknowledge and provide for the relationship of Te Atiawa with Taranaki Maunga in management and decision-making.*
  - *Pol. TTRT1.2 - require that central government agencies, regional and district councils and any other consenting authority recognise that only tangata whenua can identify the impact of activities on our relationship with Taranaki Maunga.*
  - *Pol. TTRT1.5 - require strong and effective working relationships with the Department of Conservation and our whanaunga iwi of Taranaki to manage the use and development of natural and physical resources and allow for customary activities.*
  - *Pol. TTRT1.10 - restrict increases to the footprints of existing buildings and structures, and erection of new buildings or structures on Taranaki Maunga.*
  - *Pol. TTRT1.11 - avoid people standing on the peak or head of Taranaki Maunga.*
  - Other policies support the development of matauranga māori monitoring techniques, effective working relationships as well as the transfer of powers or responsibilities from the Department of Conservation to iwi of Taranaki.
- Ngāti Mutunga Iwi Environmental Management Plan revised 2019:
  - The Ngāti Mutunga Iwi Environmental Management Plan includes a specific section on Mouna Taranaki. It is noted that this section of the Plan is to be revised following the completion of Mouna Settlement processes. However, the following objective is included in the Taiao Plan: *To work with the Department of Conservation and ngā iwi o Taranaki to protect the cultural and spiritual relationship between tangata whenua and the Mouna.*
  - Eight policies implement this objective. These policies include to:
    - *Provide for all tangata whenua in Taranaki, current and future generations to access, use and protect Mouna Taranaki, and the history and traditions associated with the mountain.*
    - *Encourage an effective working relationship between Ngāti Mutunga and the Department of Conservation, to address issues such as visitor management, natural resource use and development on conservation land and customary use.*
    - *Require the relationship between Ngāti Mutunga and the Mouna to be recognised and provided for in all management decisions relating to the national park.*
    - *Require that the status of tangata whenua as kaitiaki be recognized by providing opportunities for iwi to play a key role in the identification, protection and management of their cultural and historic heritage within Egmont National Park.*

- Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi – Te Kaahui o Rauru Puutaiao Management Plan does not contain a specific chapter or set of provisions for Taranaki Maunga or Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki. It does however, contain more general provisions building from a central concept or foundation – Te Kawa Ora. Te Kawa Ora is described as a value and knowledge system that is rooted firmly in a Maaori worldview.

Ngāti Ruanui has an iwi planning document that is currently under review. Similarly, Ngāti Tama and Ngāti Maru are in the process of developing iwi planning documents. This section of the assessment document will be updated following the receipt of those provisions/plans.

## Summary – Statutory Context

He Kawa Ora is the statutory management framework for Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki and has the same legal status as a national park management plan under the National Parks Act 1980. It must be consistent with Te Ture Whakatupua Act, Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo, and the NPA. Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo and Te Ture Whakatupua establish Te Kāhui Tupua status and Ngā Pou Whakatupua as the foundational principles for governance and management, giving effect to He Kawa Tupua and recognising both the health and wellbeing of the maunga, the mana and relationship of ngā iwi o Taranaki.

The National Parks Act 1980 and the CMS continue to apply, although the CMS is acknowledged as dated and not developed in the context of Te Kāhui Tupua or recent Te Tiriti settlements. Despite this, there is alignment between CMS objectives and Ngā Pou Whakatupua, particularly in relation to biodiversity protection, landscape values, recreation management, and relationships with tangata whenua. Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo signals that future CMS reviews must reflect Te Kāhui Tupua status, affecting the weight given to the existing CMS.

He Kawa Ora also sits alongside multiple iwi planning documents, which consistently emphasise the cultural, spiritual, and environmental significance of Taranaki Maunga; co-governance and kaitiakitanga; protection and restoration of mauri; limits on development and commercial activity; and respectful management of access and use. Collectively, these instruments reinforce a management approach grounded in Te Kāhui Tupua status, tikanga, and Te Tiriti-based partnerships, while remaining broadly compatible with existing conservation legislation and policy.

Issue/opportunity analysis

Proposed provisions & any alternatives (including those put forward through comments or submissions)

## Evaluation of proposed provisions

Te Kāhui Tupua status and Ngā Pou Whakatupua are universal principles for all people to engage with – māori and non-māori. They require the development of relationships between people and place that are reciprocal. As such the development of provisions within He Kawa Ora must recognise that impacts within Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki are a function of both who is the proponent of an activity or initiative, and what is proposed to happen to Te Kāhui Tupua.

Tables 1 and 2 below work to assess provisions through this lens. They work to understand the context a comment or submissions is made within, including a submitters understanding of Ngā Pou Whakatupua, as well as to understand the variety of activities and initiatives provisions of He Kawa Ora may need to provide for or consider.

<b>Submission/comment stage / Component</b>	<b>What is assessed</b>	<b>Key questions / criteria</b>	<b>Outputs / how to record</b>
<b>Submission classification and context</b>	Understand who is submitting, scope, and significance	Who is the submitter?  What part of He Kawa Ora is addressed?  What is the scale or material impact?	Metadata record: submitter identity, scope, priority rating
<b>Knowledge of Ngā Pou Whakatupua</b>	Evaluate respect for Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo, tikanga, mātauranga, whakapapa.	Is there evidence of understanding from Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo?  Does it incorporate cultural knowledge?  Protect sensitive information?  Engage iwi/hapū?	Narrative assessment and integrative score

<b>Alignment with Ngā Pou Whakatupua</b>	Evaluate alignment or conflict with each Pou	For each Pou: does submission promote, conflict, or trade-off?  What mitigation could improve alignment?	Matrix per submission with narrative justification
<b>Magnitude of effect, and uncertainty</b>	Assess likely effects and uncertainty	What is the scale of impact? Significant, moderate, imperceptible?  Are effects reversible?  What level of uncertainty exists?	Risk/impact score and uncertainty flags
<b>Risk of acting / not acting</b>	Assess the risk of acting or not acting on a comment or submission	What is the scale of risk?	Risk score
<b>Costs / benefits</b>	Assess the costs and/or benefits of a proposal contained in a comment or submission	What are the costs?  What are the benefits?	Commentary on costs and/or benefits
<b>Legal and policy alignment / feasibility</b>	Check statutory and practical compatibility	Is it consistent with Te Ture Whakatupua, National Parks Act 1980?  Is it feasible?  Is it consistent with relevant iwi planning documents?	Compatibility rating and commentary
<b>Synergies, conflicts, and trade-offs</b>	Compare across submissions	Which comments/submissions reinforce or conflict?  Can they be bundled?	Cross-submission map or clustering

<b>Recommendations and decision pathways</b>	Propose action, conditions, modifications	Should it be accepted, accepted subject to modifications, or rejected?	Decision record, draft plan changes, rationale
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Table 1: Assessment of proposed provisions

<b>Ngā Pou Whakatupua</b>	<b>Personal Understanding</b>	<b>Evidenced Actions</b>	<b>Future Intent</b>	<b>Risk Mitigations</b>	<b>Clarifying assumptions</b>
	“No clear understanding” → “Deep, holistic understanding grounded in tikanga and whakapapa.”	“No evidence” → “Comprehensive, sustained commitment.”	“No plans” → “Robust plan with monitoring and evaluation.”	“No risk analysis” → “Comprehensive, adaptive risk management.”	“Unstated” → “Transparent, well-justified assumptions aligned with Pou.”
he rārangi maunga here ā-nuku, here ā-rangi					
koia ko ō mātou nei okiokinga, ko mātou nei tō rātou okiokitanga					
ko te puna i heke mai ai te tangata					
Ko Tupua Kawa, ko Tawhito Kawa, he kawa ora					
he puna koropupū, he manawa whenua, hei mou ake nei i te tini mokopuna					

Table 2: Assessment of understanding of Ngā Pou Whakatupua

## Conclusion

## Appendix 2 – Draft contents for He Kawa Ora mō Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki

# He Kawa Ora – Draft Contents Page

## Section 1 - Introduction

- Role, status and function of the Plan
- Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki / Identity of place. This includes the physical & metaphysical attributes of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki.
- Ancestral relationships & collective statement.
- Ngā Pou Whakatupua / Foundational values.
- Hopes, aspirations and expectations for this 10-year period of He Kawa Ora. This next period of whakapapa being developed.
- Statutory alignments and relationships to other plans.
- Review period for He Kawa Ora.

## Section 2 - Spiritual Life and Vitality

- Wairua as foundational to wellbeing drawing from Te Iho Tangaengae
- Mauri of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki drawing from Te Iho Tangaengae.
- Spiritual integrity and associations.
- Implications for conduct, decision-making, and intervention.

## Section 3 - Ecological and Environmental Wellbeing

- Ecological systems as living relationships.
- Indigenous Biodiversity and natural processes.
- Interdependence of land, water, air, and life.
- Restoration, protection, and enhancement obligations.
- Standards, goals and targets for ecological and environmental wellbeing over the period of this version of He Kawa Ora.

## Section 4 - Human Relationships with Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki

- Humans as part of the living system of Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki.
- Appropriate presence, access, and movement across Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki.
- Cultural materials and resource use.
- Buildings and other infrastructure that facilitates human use and occupation.
- Learning, respect, and relational behaviour.
- Responsibilities rather than rights. Concession and approvals process and the changes agreed between Trustees and DOC.

#### Section 5 - Intergenerational responsibility, conduct and behaviour.

- Responsibilities to past, present and future generations.
- Expected conduct of Governors, Managers, and Partners.
- Conduct of visitors and the wider public.
- Upholding mana and mauri through behaviour.
- Responding to breaches of He Kawa Ora, offences and penalties.

#### Section 6 - Definitions and interpretation

- Defined terms.
- Description or explanation to assist interpretation.

**Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī**  
**Meeting No. 2 / 2026**

**Agenda Item: 8**

Kaupapa: **General Business**  
 Prepared By: Lesa Bevin, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī Secretariat  
 Meeting Date: 20 February 2026

<b>Recommendation</b>	<p><u>It is recommended the Board:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Formally addresses general business matters and,</li> <li>b) Where appropriate, revisit previous agenda items to ensure all relevant issues are thoroughly considered and documented</li> </ul>
<b>Context</b>	<p>This approach will help maintain transparency and facilitate informed decision-making on outstanding or ongoing matters. The Board may establish a standing procedure whereby general business and earlier items are reviewed at each meeting, allowing members to raise concerns or seek updates as necessary.</p>