

Agenda

Rārangi Take

**Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee
Monday 20 September 2021 at 09:30am**



Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee Agenda

Meeting to be held in the remote capacity via Livestream
on Monday 20 September 2021, commencing at 09:30am

Recommendations contained in the agenda are NOT decisions of the meeting. Please refer to minutes for resolutions.

NGĀ MANA WHAKAHAERE (MEMBERSHIP OF THE KAIPARA MOANA REMEDIATION JOINT COMMITTEE)

Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua Tame Te Rangī	Deputy Chair Penny Smart	NRC Councillor Amy Macdonald
Auckland Council Councillor Daniel Newman	Ngā Maunga Whakahī o Kaipara, Cherie Povey	Auckland Council Councillor Greg Sayers
Ngā Maunga Whakahī o Kaipara, Jane Sherard	Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua Virginia Warriner	Te Uri o Hau Malcolm Welsh
Te Uri o Hau Willie Wright	NRC Councillor Joce Yeoman	Rodney Local Board Member Danielle Hancock

KARAKIA / WHAKATAU

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<i>This report will be in the form of a presentation by Alan Wilcox, Acting Pou Tātaki which will be tabled at the meeting.</i>	

TITLE: **Confirmation of Minutes - Kaipara Moana Remediation
Joint Committee - 22 July 2021**

From: Sandra Harris, Administration Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme

Authorised by Alan Wilcox, Acting Pou Tātaki, on 14 September 2021
Group Manager/s:

Ngā mahi tūtohutia / Recommendation

That the minutes of the Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee meeting held on 22 July 2021, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Attachments/Ngā tapirihanga

Attachment 1: Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee - 22 July 2021 [↓](#) 

Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee
22 July 2021

Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee Minutes

Meeting held in the Te Hana Te Ao Marama
Te Hana
on Thursday 22 July 2021, commencing at 09:30

Tuhinga (Present):

Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua Tame Te Rangi
NRC Chair Penny Smart
NRC Councillor Amy Macdonald
Ngā Maunga Whakahiī o Kaipara, Cherie Povey
Auckland Council Greg Sayers
Ngā Maunga Whakahiī o Kaipara, Jane Sherard
Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua Virginia Warriner
Te Uri o Hau Malcolm Welsh
Te Uri o Hau Willie Wright

I Tae Mai (In Attendance):

Jonathon Rishworth - Te Uri o Hau Settlement Trust	Lisette Rawson – Kaipara resident/Te Uri o Hau
Antony Thompson – Te Uri o Hau Settlement Trust	Winnie Clarke - Te Uri o Hau Settlement Trust
Marina Hetaraka – Ministry for Environment	Caleb Male – Auckland Council
Stewart Ruddell –Mangakāhia Farmer	Penny Pirrit – NRC
Jonathon Gibbard – NRC	Alan Wilcox – Interim Pou Tātaki KMR
John Hutton - Strategic Business Manager, KMR	Duncan Kervell - KMR
Sandra Harris – Administrator KMR	

The Chair declared the meeting open at 11.35am.

Karakia Tīmatanga and Whakatau

Ngā whakapahā/Apologies (Item 1.0)

Moved (Sayer / Warriner)

That the apology from Auckland Council Councillor Newman, NRC Councillor Yeoman, NRC CEO Nicolson, Ngā Maunga Whakahiī o Kaipara Helen Woods and Wikitoria Wright for non-attendance be received.

Carried

Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee
22 July 2021

Ngā whakapuakanga (Declarations of Conflicts of Interest)

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

Confirmation of Minutes - (Item 4.1)

ID:

Report from Sandra Harris, Administration Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme

Moved (Povey / Wright)

That the minutes of the Kaipara Moana Remediation joint Committee Minutes meeting held on Friday 25 June 2021 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Carried

Secretarial Note: Amendments were noted on name corrections Tristram and Pirrit

Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme Identity and Brand (Item 5.1)

ID:

Report from Penny Pirrit, Northland Regional Council Management Representative

Moved (Macdonald / Welsh)

1. That the report 'Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme Identity and Brand' by Penny Pirrit, Northland Regional Council Management Representative and dated 15 July 2021, be received.
2. That the verbal update on the outcome of the Joint Committee's July workshop on brand and identity be received.
3. That the design elements of the concept of the four pou; the revised logo and colour palette (as tabled at the meeting) be approved.
 - a. That the existing communication working group (comprising members Welsh, Wright, Te Rangi and Yeoman) be delegated to work with Level to;
 - i. provide guidance on how the four pou are to be used on any communications material
 - ii. articulate and record the narrative behind the design elements,
 - iii. provide guidance on the imagery including patterns and photography that is appropriate to use in any Kaipara Moana Remediation communications.
 - iv. Approve the narrative and guidance documentation.
 - b. That member Cherie Povey be appointed to the communications working group.
 - c. That staff seek advice as to whether the logo needs to be registered to protect its use and integrity.

Moved (Smart / Povey)

4. That staff be requested to ensure the approved brand is used for future reports, correspondence and communication collateral.

Carried

Secretarial Note: Amendments were made to resolutions 3,3a,3ai, 3aii, 3aiv, 3b and 3c following conversation of the Joint Committee members.

ID:

2

Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee
22 July 2021

Digital Tools Investment - remediation grant management & sediment reduction planning system (Item 5.2)

ID:

Report from John Hutton, Strategic Business Manager, Kaipara Maurikura

Moved (Povey / Macdonald)

1. That the report 'Digital Tools Investment - remediation grant management & sediment reduction planning system' by John Hutton, Strategic Business Manager, Kaipara Maurikura and dated 14 July 2021, be received.
2. That investment of \$700,000 (+GST) for the development, configuration, training, and deployment of a digital system for remediation-grant management and sediment reduction planning is approved.
3. That the Interim Pou Tātaki is delegated the task of finalising commercial contracts with the preferred suppliers SmartyGrants and MediaSuite in accordance with KMR procurement policy.
4. Note that budget to cover (estimated) annual software subscription fees of \$35,000 to 65,000 per annum will be calculated based on grants distributed and support required, reviewed and adjusted annually, with the cost of subscription fees for FY2021-22 being covered through the operational budget for the Kaipara Maurikura under the Year 2 Work Plan.
5. That KMR staff are requested to report on progress to the Joint Committee in November 2021 and April 2022.

Moved (Wright / Povey)

Carried

Landowner Grants - Further Consideration (Item 5.3)

ID:

Report from John Hutton, Strategic Business Manager, Kaipara Maurikura

Moved (Wright / Warriner)

1. That the report 'Landowner Grants - Further Consideration' by John Hutton, Strategic Business Manager, Kaipara Maurikura and dated 14 July 2021, be received.
2. That the 'KMR Programme Remediation Funding Criteria' in Attachment 1 to this report be refined by the adoption of those Principles and Additional Criteria set out Attachment 2 to this report.
3. Note that consultation with landowners and stakeholders on the criteria will be ongoing and that approval to amend will be sought if changes are proposed.

Moved (Macdonald / Warriner)

Carried

Secretarial Note: Amendments were made to attachment 2 following conversation of the Joint Committee members

ID:

3

Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee
22 July 2021

Year One Progress Report from Kairuruku (Acting Pou Tātaki) (Item 5. 4)

ID:

Report from Alan Wilcox, Kairuruku (Acting Pou Tātaki)

This report was in the form of a presentation by Alan Wilcox, Kairuruku (Acting Pou Tātaki) which was tabled at the meeting.

1. That the report 'Year One Progress Report ' by Alan Wilcox, Acting Pou Tātaki and dated 12 July 2021, be received.
2. That the Joint Committee: Note that most of the key performance indicators agreed with the Ministry for the Environment for year One were achieved or well advanced.
 - a. Note that significant progress has been made with the projects continued in the Year One Work Programme, with some projects yet to complete, these being carried forward to the Year Two Work Programme.
 - b. Note that there are considerable surpluses that can be carried forward to next year.
 - c. Request that an Annual Report be prepared with professional but modest production values, and brought to its September meeting.

Moved (Sayers / Smart)

Carried

Update Report from Kairuruku (Acting Pou Tātaki) (Item 5.5)

ID:

Report from Alan Wilcox, Kairuruku (Acting Pou Tātaki)

This report was in the form of a presentation by Alan Wilcox, Kairuruku (Acting Pou Tātaki) which was tabled at the meeting.

Karakia Mutunga

Whakamutunga (Conclusion)

The meeting concluded at 4.14pm

TITLE: Whenua Whānui Fund

ID:

From: Emily Peng, Alan Wilcox Associates

Authorised by Alan Wilcox, Acting Pou Tātaki, on 14 September 2021
Group Manager:

He Rāpopoto hautū / Executive summary

At its workshop on 16 August 2021, the Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee (Joint Committee) considered an outline of the Iwi and Community Partnership Scheme. The Joint Committee considered the name for the fund scheme and proposed 'Whenua Whānui Fund'.

The scheme is designed to assist marae or community groups to engage in projects for the restoration of the Kaipara Moana. For example, some assistance could be provided to a marae that wants to plant the water margins on its whenua, or a land care group that wants to carry out significant planting on land in multiple ownership and whose owners may not be farming the land commercially. Land in public ownership could also be considered for the scheme.

In some cases, the applicant group may have their labour and resources and may need assistance with trees or fencing costs. In other cases, KMR staff can match landowners who would like projects undertaken on their land with community groups who can organise volunteer labour for the planned work, such as planting. KMR may pay for the plants and contribute towards the community group's costs of managing and organising volunteer labour.

KMR's monetary contributions will need to be matched with in-kind contributions from the hapū, marae or community groups. In most circumstances, the KMR can contribute to up to 50% of costs. However, in some circumstances, the in-kind cost might need to be more than 50%. This will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Ngā tūtohu / Recommendation(s)

1. That the report 'Whenua Whānui Fund' by Emily Peng, Alan Wilcox Associates and dated 13 September 2021, be received.
 2. That the revised name for the grant scheme, 'Whenua Whānui Fund', be adopted.
 3. That the key principles and criteria for the Whenua Whānui Fund are adopted.
-

Horopaki / Context

At its workshop on 16 August 2021, the Joint Committee discussed the proposed approach to a grant scheme in which hapū, marae and community groups can be supported to undertake remediation works. This approach has been proposed within the relevant budget area in this year's Work Programme.

Tātari me ngā tūtohu / Analysis and advice

Key Principles

Overarching principles are recommended to help frame the criteria:

- i. KMR will consider applications from all landowners, hapū, marae and community groups.
-

- ii. Communications need to be clear that in the case of limited funds over the programme, priority will be given to the best sediment reduction outcomes.
- iii. Landowner agreement will be needed before plants or other remediation works (i.e., fencing) are put on whenua.
- iv. Matched funding will need to come from the landowner or the community, either cash or in-kind.
- v. Projects will be considered that have a realistic chance of assuring outcomes on whenua.
- vi. KMR funding support for projects identified in a Sediment Reduction Plan will be for up to 50% of specified items and described as a 'contribution' - they will not cover 50% of all work the landowner or group may want to carry out.
- vii. The severity and the size of the sedimentation issues and the overall impacts will determine the level of support available for a project.
- viii. KMR Advisors can work with marae and community groups to identify what other funding schemes are available to assist, such as funds from the Ministry of Social Development, MPI and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment.

Proposed approach

Groups could receive contributions for the following areas:

- **Management and engagement:** A modest management and engagement contribution which can be matched by volunteer time by the marae or community group (noting \$100,000 is set aside to support the development of projects under the 'Catchment Reference Group Projects Fund' budget)
- **Sediment Reduction Plans:** Engaging with landowners to agree on Sediment Reduction Plans if people are qualified and trained to do so (noting that between \$1000 and \$2000 is budgeted for each Sediment Reduction Plan).
- **Contribution to work on the whenua:** Financial contribution of up to 50% of the costs of land preparation, fencing, planting and the plant stock can also be made available. This will be made available at KMR standard rates. A community group can apply voluntary labour and meet the landowner share or possibly make some income on this.
- **Other funding sources:** Where the personnel and the programmes qualify, MSD, TPK, MPI or MBIE finance could also be available for defined purposes within the programme.

Criteria

The following criteria are recommended. Each project will need to:

- Fit with KMR's principles and objectives.
- Contribute to sediment reduction and be of long-term benefit to Kaipara Moana.
- Ensure there is sufficient In-kind contributions consistent with KMR principles.
- Enable community participation and awareness: the project's involvement with hapū, marae, land-care or equivalent groups, and the wider community.

Legal entities and non-legal entities that can partner with a fundholder can apply for this scheme. This includes marae, land care groups, land with fish & game purposes, trusts administering land with multiple ownership, trust boards, reserve boards and kaitiaki groups.

Projects must be based in the Kaipara catchment and on land such as public land, land held under Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993 and land with multiple ownership. Groups will need the written consent of the primary body or persons legally responsible for the land.

Groups that are already receiving funding for a project through the KMR's Landowner Grants Scheme in the current financial year will not be eligible to apply for the Hapū, Iwi and Community Partnership Scheme for the same project.

Contributions cannot be made to:

- Projects located outside the Kaipara Catchment.
- Projects that have no or limited sediment reduction outcomes.
- Purchase of capital items of equipment or infrastructure.
- Purchase of land for retirement.
- Education projects that are not related to outcomes on specific blocks of land.
- Retrospective costs: projects that have already been started or completed.
- Projects designed to generate personal or commercial profit.
- Projects that are required as a condition of a resource consent or simply to beautify a site.

Consultation

Consultation on the funding criteria has taken place with some community groups. These groups include the Waimā Waitai Waiora Project, a collaborative project engaged with landowners in the northern Wairoa with remediation efforts, and Whatitiri Resource Management Unit, established by the hapū of the Whatitiri dedicated to environmental management efforts. Information discussions have also taken place with other groups, such as with some hapū and marae within the catchment.

As there is increasing demand to accelerate the KMR program, and the funding allocation for this scheme is limited, it is recommended that the criteria be adopted and used as guide allocation.

Considerations

1. **Aromātai whāinga haumi mō te oranga / Wellbeing Investment objectives and assessment**

This scheme will provide opportunities for groups to carry out projects of benefit to the community and Mana Whenua as well as educational efforts to raise awareness on the environment protection of Kaipara Moana.

The criteria for allocation will assist with a fairer, more flexible, and more focused distribution of resources to where there is the most benefit and support a broad range of community groups with the limited allocated budget.

2. **Ngā ritenga take pūtea / Financial implications**

The projects will be considered in accordance with the approved budget and work plan of the Joint Committee.

3. **Ngā hiranga me ngā hononga / Significance and Engagement**

As mentioned above some consultation has already taken place with respect to this fund. It is proposed that once a few applications have been considered that broader consultation be, and the project scheme be reviewed in the light of experience.


4. **Ngā tūraru me ngā mauru / Risks and mitigation**

With a relatively limited budget allocated to support community groups, it is important to have clarity in communication on the criteria and extent KMR can support. It is also important to ensure that community groups match with in-kind contributions.

5. Ngā whāinga mō āmuri / Next steps

Once the Joint Committee approves the approach and name for the Whenua Whānui Fund, the KMR Programme can start sharing the funding criteria (Attachment 1) with the public and be open to considering applications. Once a few applications are in process the criteria can be reviewed and adjusted, if need be by the Committee

Ngā tapirihanga / Attachments

Attachment 1: Appendix One Whenua Whānui Fund Criteria [↓](#) 

Appendix One: Whenua Whānui Fund Criteria

Purpose

The Whenua Whānui Fund is aimed at supporting marae and community groups to participate in restoration efforts for Kaipara Moana.

How we seek to partner

We seek to support hapū, iwi, marae, and other community groups to participate in work that reduces sedimentation and improves water quality within the Kaipara Catchment.

This scheme is suitable for land with multiple ownership, uneconomic land such as reserves or marginal land, and Māori whenua. It is also suitable for community groups that can collaborate with landowners or other groups on environmental efforts.

Objectives

The scheme is developed to enable projects that support one or more of the following objectives:

- Mobilise local community participation in local solutions.
- Build kotahitanga by enabling the community to work together.
- Upskill local tangata and support training and employment opportunities for effective land management.
- Increase utility of land that is currently not productive or marginally commercial.
- Raise awareness of and provide education opportunities for environment protection of Kaipara Moana.
- Incorporate Mātauranga Māori into restoration efforts.

Key Principles

Overarching principles that frame the criteria are:

- i) KMR will consider applications from all landowners, hapū, marae and community groups.
- ii) Communications need to be clear that in the case of limited funds over the programme, priority will be given to the best sediment reduction outcomes.
- iii) Landowner agreement will be needed before plants or other remediation works (i.e., fencing) are put on whenua.
- iv) Matched funding will need to come from the landowner or the community, either cash or in-kind.
- v) Projects will be considered that have a realistic chance of assuring outcomes on whenua.
- vi) KMR funding support for projects identified in a Sediment Reduction Plan will be for up to 50% of specified items and described as a 'contribution' - they will not cover 50% of all work the landowner or group may want to carry out.
- vii) The severity and the size of the sedimentation issues and the overall impacts will determine the level of support available for a project.
- viii) KMR Advisors can work with marae and community groups to identify what other funding schemes are available to assist, such as funds from the Ministry of Social Development, MPI and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment.

Who can apply?

Legal entities and non-legal entities that can partner with a fundholder can apply for this scheme including:

- Marae
- Landcare groups
- Land with fish & game purposes
- Trusts administering land with multiple ownership
- Trust boards
- Reserve boards
- Kaitiaki groups

Projects must be based in the Kaipara catchment and on land such as:

- Public land
- Land held under Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993
- Land with multiple ownership

Groups will need the written consent of the primary body or persons legally responsible for the land.

The support we can provide

This scheme is designed to assist marae or community groups that want to engage in the restoration of Kaipara Moana. For example, some financial assistance could be provided to a marae that wants to plant the water margins on its whenua, or to a land care group that wants to carry out riparian or wetland planting on land in multiple ownership and whose owners may not be farming the land commercially. Land in public ownership could also be considered for the scheme.

In most cases, the applicant group will have their labour and resources but may need assistance with trees or fencing costs. In other cases, KMR staff will work to match landowners who would like projects undertaken on their land with community groups who can organise volunteered labour, such as for planting. The KMR can pay for plants and make a modest contribution to the group's costs of organising volunteers.

Support from the KMR will come mainly as a monetary contribution, but generally, this will need to be matched by in-kind contributions from the community group. In most circumstances, KMR can contribute a matched contribution, up to 50% of costs. This will be considered by the KMR Committee on a case-by-case basis.

1. Management and Engagement

We can contribute a modest amount to a community group for managing a project as well as educating the community about the restoration efforts.

Depending on the length and scope of a project, payments can be on quarterly instalments, with the first instalment provided before the start of the project, supporting the project to begin. This management contribution needs to be paired with in-kind contributions from the community group.

2. Sediment Reduction Plans

To participate in the KMR programme, each remediation project will require a Sediment Reduction Plan, which is a property-specific plan that identifies the most effective remediation work on the land.

There are two ways these Sediment Reduction Plans could be developed:

- Community groups could choose to identify an individual be trained and accredited by us to become a KMR Field Advisor. They will develop the Sediment Reduction Plans for landowners, and KMR will fund their work on a by-project basis. This provides an opportunity to train and employ a tangata.
- Alternatively, an existing KMR Field Advisor can develop the Sediment Reduction Plans free of charge.

3. Contribution to work on whenua

We can contribute up to 50% towards significant costs for projects, including:

- Fencing to exclude stock from rivers, streams, drains, wetlands, and estuary margins.
- Riparian planting, its preparation and ongoing maintenance as it is established.

Criteria

Applications are assessed on how well they meet the following criteria:

- Fit with KMR's principles and objectives.
- Contributing to sediment reduction and be of long-term benefit to Kaipara Moana.
- In-kind contributions must be consistent with requirements.
- Community participation and awareness: the project's involvement with hapū, marae, land-care or equivalent groups, and the wider community.

Limitations

If you are already receiving funding for a project through the KMR's Landowner Grants Scheme in the current financial year, you will not be eligible to apply for the Hapū, Iwi and Community Partnership Scheme for the same project.

What we cannot contribute to

- Projects located outside the Kaipara Catchment.
- Projects that have no or limited sediment reduction outcomes.
- Purchase of capital items of equipment or infrastructure.
- Purchase of land for retirement.
- Education projects that are not related to outcomes on specific blocks of land.
- Retrospective costs: projects that have already been started or completed.
- Projects designed to generate personal or commercial profit.
- Projects that are required as a condition of a resource consent or simply to beautify a site.

Application Process

1. Submit an interest in applying.
2. A Hapū and Community Engagement Officer from the KMR will contact you to identify what the project entails.
3. The Hapū and Community Engagement Officer will help you complete an application form and submit it for review.
4. Once the project is approved, a contract will be signed by you and a KMR representative. The contract will include the forms of support, contribution amount, timeframe for completion, the fencing and planting requirements and other project details.
5. After the contract is signed, the first instalment of the management and engagement contribution will be paid to you. Work on the project can only begin after the contract is signed. Other instalments of management and engagement contributions will be paid quarterly.
6. After the project is completed and a formal notification is made, a KMR representative will visit the site within 3 weeks to confirm that work is completed and up to the agreed standards.

TITLE: In-Kind Contribution Process

ID:

From: Sana Lavai Motlagh, Alan Wilcox Associates

Authorised by Alan Wilcox, Acting Pou Tātaki, on 14 September 2021
Group Manager:

He Rāpopoto hautū / Executive summary

The proposed in-kind contribution process will provide the Kaipara Moana Remediation programme (KMR) a means for recognising and quantifying in-kind contributions by different parties. This report outlines a mechanism for approval by Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee on a provisional basis, with the ability to amend the approach later if required.

In-kind contributions can take the form of goods, services or labour. By recognising these contributions, the Kaipara Moana Remediation can support the wider community, including landowners, community groups, industry associations and philanthropic organisations, to achieve its funding goal of \$80 million over the first six years of the KMR programme. A clear approach is required to define which contributions can be considered 'in-kind' and how contributions should be quantified. Contributors have been divided across four groups – Kaipara Uri entities, community (including industry association and philanthropic), landowners, and councils.

The proposed approach involves parties determining what can be counted as an in-kind contributions at the outset of any remediation arrangement, and as part of grants contract negotiation processes where possible. Contributions by community groups and landowners will typically be recorded through the SmartyGrants platform as part of a grants funding contract, with a review taking place upon completion of the contract to ensure fulfilment. Where contributions are not captured through the grants contracting process, the recommended approach is a purpose-built in-kind contributions portal, accessible through the KMR website, in which parties can log their contributions. The approach for councils is covered by existing council accounting practices for staff time and under the service agreement with the Northland Regional Council.

The key issue is how the KMR defines qualifying contributions. As a general rule, it is proposed any in-kind contribution must be directly related to mitigation activities that occur on the ground. Appendix 1 ('Qualifying In-kind Contributions') identifies contributions that are considered acceptable and unacceptable.

The in-kind contribution process will benefit from consultation with representatives of the different contributing groups, to ensure it is responsive to the reality at the grassroots. As such, the approach outlined in this paper is recommended to be adopted provisionally, to allow for imminent in-kind contributions to be recorded, while the process is further refined.

Ngā tūtohu / Recommendation(s)

1. That the report 'In-Kind Contribution Process' by Sana Lavai Motlagh, Alan Wilcox Associates and dated 13 September 2021, be received.
2. That the 'Qualifying In-kind Contributions' under Appendix 1 be approved.
3. That a set of rules be developed for a graduated system to quantify in-kind contributions.
4. That the KMR consults representatives of contributor groups to ensure the in-kind contribution process is effective.

5. That the approach taken be submitted to the Ministry for the Environment for its consideration and feedback.
6. That approval by the Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee to amend the in-kind contribution process will be sought if changes are proposed.

Horopaki / Context

The first six years of the Kaipara Moana Remediation programme (KMR) is underpinned by a joint funding approach. Crown funding of \$100 million must be matched by funding from other sources. The Northland Regional Council (NRC) and Auckland Council have both committed \$10 million under their respective Long-term Plans, which will be provided as a mixture of cash, staff time and other services to the programme.

The balance of \$80 million needs to come from other sources, including from community groups, industry associations, philanthropic, and landowners in particular. While a proportion of contributions will be directly financial, a significant amount will take the form of in-kind contributions. This is also true of contributions by Kaipara Uri entities and the two councils, whose provision of staff, guidance and facilities will be an important aspect of their contributions.

In-kind contributions can broadly take the form of goods, services, or labour. The KMR programme is required to define the nature of in-kind contributions in the context of this programme and develop a mechanism for recognising and quantifying these contributions. This will help the KMR to accurately track the valuable contributions made by various groups, in light of the goal of \$100 million, and provide participants with a clear understanding as to how these contributions will be accounted for.

Tātari me ngā tūtohu / Analysis and advice

Proposed Approach

The proposed in-kind contribution process divides contributors into four general groups – Kaipara Uri, Councils, Community Groups, and Landowners. The in-kind contributions of Kaipara Uri, Community Groups and Landowners account towards the \$80 million target set for the community, while the in-kind contributions of the Councils will come under their financial commitment of \$20 million.

The contributions will broadly fall under the categories of labour, time and other material resources. Labour will typically be accounted for at either a fixed rate or an hourly or daily rate, depending on the nature of the contribution. These rates will be based on industry-assessed rates¹, or alternatively on the actual and reasonable expenses incurred. Appendix 1 provides a list of qualifying activities to better illustrate the scope of the proposed in-kind contribution process.

For greater clarity, in-kind activities are broadly categorised as acceptable or unacceptable under Appendix 1 ('Qualifying In-kind Contributions'). The degree to which acceptable contributions are accepted is to be determined on a case-by-case basis by the relevant advisor. Should these classifications require modification following implementation of the in-kind contribution process, approval of the Joint Committee will be sought. The submission of in-kind contributions will depend on the nature of the work and the contributor.

Contributions for projects recorded in Sediment Reduction Plans

¹ GWE has been contracted to provide an assessment of standard rates; this work is nearing completion.

To a large extent, contributions, particularly from landowners and community groups, will be recorded through the grants contract negotiation process required for Sediment Reduction Plans. For the KMR, this will typically be led by either a Catchment Remediation Advisor or a Hapū and Community Advisor.

These contributions may be categorised under administration and on-the-ground labour, and an amount will be agreed upon and recorded under each category. In some circumstances a group might be able to contribute materials (i.e., plants or fenceposts). These contributions will then be recorded into SmartyGrants by the relevant advisor, as part of the general recording of the cost of the project.

In this way, the magnitude of contributions is agreed upon at the outset between the contributor and the advisor.

Following the completion of the contract, the relevant KMR advisor will then review the actual in-kind contributions made and ensure that this is consistent with the contributions recorded in the contract, making amendments where necessary.

This process will benefit from the development of a graduated system, using formulas or rules, to provide the advisor with guidance on the degree of in-kind contribution that is acceptable. For example, administration costs for projects that are \$100,000 or less should not exceed 10% of the total project cost.

The aim, particularly with the community groups in mind, is to ensure projects balance KMR cash contributions (which will mostly draw on Crown funding) and community contributions. What is meant by this is that 50% of the cost is covered by the KMR programme, and the other 50% is achieved entirely by in-kind contributions, meaning that no cost incurred by the community group is unaccounted for. Recognizing these contributions as in-kind, as opposed to funding them, also allows the KMR programme to make money available from within the agreed Sediment Reduction Plan contract to dedicate to quality assurance.

Contributions recorded in other ways

For contributions that are not captured through the grants contract process, such as the contribution of facilities for KMR hui and the contribution of meeting time, it is proposed contributions will be submitted by the contributor(s), into a portal on the KMR website which will record contributions and make them accessible to Maurikura staff for review and approval.

These contributions will be agreed to in principle prior to their occurrence. Contributors will then be provided with a job number that will act as an identifier for their submission to the in-kind contribution platform. Once the contribution has been made, the contributor can submit the costs associated with their contribution into the platform to be recognized as an in-kind contribution.

To prevent unauthorised submissions, a valid job number will be required to submit an in-kind contribution. These submissions will then be reviewed by a relevant member of the Maurikura to ensure the submission is consistent with the contribution. Job identification numbers will only be provided for acceptable activities, and internal review by a relevant Maurikura staff member will ensure that the submission is consistent with the contribution that was provided.

Contributions by councils

Council contributions, as is currently the practice, will be captured through their internal systems such as time-sheeting. Councils record their hours against individual KMR projects on a monthly basis. Additionally, the service agreement between the KMR Joint Committee and the Northland Regional Council covers a large portion of the Northland Regional Council's in-kind contributions (i.e., back-office costs, accommodation, IT services etc.)

KMR will only recognise time spent on specific tasks as requested by the Kaipara Maurikura or through secondment arrangements. In calculating the contributions of staff time, it will be important for the KMR programme to clarify an appropriate rate, as the Councils themselves may include their overhead expenses in this rate, which may not be entirely appropriate in the context of the KMR programme.

These contributions may be periodically added to the portal, by a relevant member of the Maurikura, so that the entirety of the programme's in-kind contributions can be monitored internally. Additionally, ensuring that all in-kind contributions made to the KMR programme are entered into the KMR portal will be helpful for accurate oversight and auditing purposes.

Typically, all costs for a secondment including salaries, leave, PPE, training, or development will be borne by the Council as part of its commitment to the Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme. The recording of this contribution will default to the 'parent' organisations recording processes and be provided for eventual entry into the in-kind contribution portal.

Issues

The primary issue that will require attention is how the KMR programme can distinguish legitimate contributions, from unrelated costs. It will be equally important for contributors to have a clear understanding of this.

As a general rule, governance, management, and administration activities will not qualify as in-kind contributions unless they are directly related to sediment reduction work that is occurring on the ground. Where deemed acceptable, these contributions must be time-bound and agreed upon prior to their occurrence, for example, a 4-hour board meeting during which a KMR project is to be discussed will not be accounted for in its entirety, rather, a portion of that meeting may qualify as a contribution. This amount will be agreed upon prior to any contribution taking place, as contracts are discussed between KMR advisors and contributors.

This issue also extends to the number of individuals involved in governance, management, and administration activities. The KMR programme must decide whether such contributions will be accounted for on the basis of time spent, as a collective, or time spent per person. Again, this presents a challenge as it requires KMR to ascertain the degree to which individuals within a collective are contributing value towards the accomplishment of sediment reduction work.

Consultation

The approach outlined in this paper is suggested to be adopted on a provisional basis, so that the KMR programme has a system for recognizing in-kind contributions arising from contracts that are currently underway or are to be commenced imminently.

With this approach as the foundation, it will be beneficial to engage relevant representatives to consult on the in-kind contribution process and how it may be refined to provide a process that is in alignment with the experience of potential contributors. This will be particularly important in the context of Kaipara Uri entities and community groups, who will have valuable insight into the real cost of managing, organizing and executing community projects. The Ministry for the Environment will also need to be consulted and ultimately an agreement with the Ministry will be needed.

Implicit in this is that the in-kind contribution process is not final, nor rigid, and can be modified to best meet the needs on the ground. This refinement will also occur organically through its implementation, and as the SmartyGrants platform and forms develop.

Considerations

1. Aromātai whāinga haumi mō te oranga / Wellbeing Investment objectives and assessment

Ōhanga – Physical and Financial Capital:	The in-kind contribution process helps to increase the effectiveness of land management by encouraging a variety of contributions, resulting in greater involvement in the programme. It also helps to support a just transition by recognizing, in monetary terms, the various contributions that are made towards achieving the mitigation goals.
Manaaki Tangata – Human Capital:	The in-kind contribution process will provide a valuable example of how non-financial contributions can be recognized in pursuit of financial targets set for remediation activities and is expected to encourage the utilization of local skills to meet these targets.
Tātai Hononga – Social Capital:	Recognizing the various dimensions of the contributions made by local communities is expected to enable more meaningful local participation.
Tiaki Taiao – Natural Capital	The in-kind contribution process supports the restoration of Mauri to Kaipara Moana by encouraging contribution to mitigation activities, through recognizing the value of those contributions and ensuring they are directly linked to mitigation activities.

2. Ngā ritenga take pūtea / Financial implications

Financial implications will likely arise from the cost of developing the in-kind contributions portal. The other aspects of the process can be accommodated by existing Maurikura staff and systems. Maurikura staff time will be required for the implementation and development of this approach, while discussing and recording in-kind contributions naturally forms a part of the role of Catchment Remediation Advisors and the Hapū and Community Advisor.

3. Ngā hiranga me ngā hononga / Significance and Engagement

The decisions sought in this report aim to establish a provisional framework for recognizing and quantifying in-kind contributions, to be implemented and refined. This will assist the KMR programme to record the contributions of partners in light of their respective funding goals and, as outlined above, this process is consistent with the investment objectives of the KMR programme.

The key risk is that in-kind contributions can dilute the progress of groups towards their respective funding goals by misrepresenting the amount of mitigation activities being achieved. This is mitigated by ensuring all in-kind contributions are directly linked to mitigation activities on the round and providing clarity around which contributions are accepted as 'in-kind' through the use of clear classifications (refer to Appendix 1) and communication of the approach with contributors.

4. Ngā tūraru me ngā mauru / Risks and mitigation

In relation to section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002, the decisions arising from this report are considered to be of moderate significance when assessed against Northland Regional Council's significance and engagement policy. Engagement in the form of involving and collaborating with representatives of contributor groups, as provided under Recommendation 4 of this memo, will help to produce a better in-kind contribution process that is more clearly understood by contributors.

5. Ngā whāinga mō āmuri / Next steps

Following approval of the provisional in-kind contribution process, work should commence to establish the online portal. This initial stage should include the allocation and recording of job identification numbers, as well as the nature and volume of any contributions, for later addition into the KMR portal. At the same time, SmartyGrants forms should be adapted to also record in-kind contributions. It is expected that this can be assigned to the Catchment Remediation Advisors and the Hapū and Community Advisor, as the collection and recording of this information is a natural part of their role.

Ngā tapirihanga / Attachments

Attachment 1: In-kind Suggested Qualifying Contributions [↓](#) 

Attachment 1: Suggested qualifying Contributions

Kaipara Uri entites

- Contributions towards specific mātauranga projects as defined in project briefs.
- Time of Kaipara Uri entity representatives spent on projects, or at meetings, if requested by KMR.
- Time of Kaipara Uri entity senior staff contributing to Senior Officials Group meetings or other meetings as requested by the KMR.
- Time of Kaipara Uri entity representatives when contributing to KMR Joint Committee meetings, if requested by the Joint Committee.
- Hosting hui as requested by KMR.
- Direct labour costs for remediation projects, for example:
 - Planting;
 - Fencing;
 - Clearing land;
 - Plant husbandry;
 - Transport of materials; and
 - Transport of labour force for specific KMR projects, if there are 5 or more people per vehicle.

Community Groups

Acceptable

- Direct labour costs on remediation projects, for example:
 - Planting;
 - Fencing;
 - Clearing land;
 - Plant husbandry;
 - Transport of materials; and
 - Transport of labour force for specific KMR projects, if there are 5 or more people per vehicle.
- Contributions of management time and labour costs for contributing to KMR projects as agreed in the project brief, such as under Whenua Whānui projects
- Training of volunteers for agreed KMR projects.
- Operational expenses related to agreed KMR projects, such as supplies for planting days.
- Group accommodation for agreed KMR planting projects that span multiple days, in line with the definition of actual and reasonable expenses.
- Landowner engagement projects and community engagement aimed at recruiting a work force, as determined appropriate by a relevant KMR advisor.*
- Time spent negotiating contracts, as determined appropriate by the negotiating advisor.*

Unacceptable

- Attending public meetings.
- Administration not specifically related to an agreed project brief.

**To be re-assessed following the initial projects.*

Landowners

Acceptable

- Direct labour costs on remediation projects, for example:
 - Planting;
 - Fencing;
 - Clearing land;
 - Plant husbandry;
 - Transport of materials; and
- Equipment hire for specific KMR projects; and
- Contribution of material items e.g. fence posts, plants
- Contribution of time and information towards the production of an SRP.

Unacceptable

- Attending public meetings;
- Indirect overheads, such as proportions of insurance, power and rentals; and
- Retirement of land.

Calculations

- Transport expenses will be calculated at the standard rate of \$0.27 per km.
- Time and labour will be calculated at a rate of \$25 per hour, with the exception of a volunteer labour force, which may be calculated more conservatively.
- Hospitality will be calculated at a rate of \$10 per person per meal.

TITLE: **Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme draft Annual Report**

ID:

From: John Hutton, Strategic Business Manager, Kaipara Maurikura

Authorised by Group Manager: Alan Wilcox, Acting Pou Tātaki, on 14 September 2021

He Rāpopoto hautū / Executive summary

The Kaipara Moana Remediation Deed of Funding requires the preparation of an Annual Report and provision of it to the Ministry for the Environment by 31 October 2021.

A draft Annual Report will be tabled on 20 September 2021. It is recommended the Joint Committee approve the draft in principle and delegate to the Chair and Deputy Chair final approval of the Annual Report. This will enable the Joint Committee to discuss a final draft, including formatting and illustrations, at the workshop scheduled for 18 October 2021. It also provides time for the required independent audit to be completed, and for adjustments to the draft Annual Report to be made if required.

Ngā tūtohu / Recommendation(s)

1. That the report 'Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme draft Annual Report' by John Hutton, Strategic Business Manager, Kaipara Maurikura and dated 13 September 2021, be received.
2. That the 'Draft Annual Report' document, tabled on 20 September 2021, be approved in principle.
3. Delegate to the Chair and Deputy Chair power to approve a final draft of the Annual Report for provision to the Ministry for the Environment, with the ability of the Pou Tātaki to make minor editorial changes prior to publication if required.

Horopaki / Context

Under the Kaipara Moana Remediation Deed of Funding, signed with the Ministry for the Environment on 9 February 2021, the Joint Committee must submit an annual report to the Ministry for the previous financial year by four months following the end of each financial year (i.e., by 31 October), or by such other later date to be agreed in writing by the parties.

A draft Annual Report, covering the first nine months of the Kaipara Moana Remediation programme (KMR), will be tabled with the Joint Committee on 20 September 2021. This draft contains text only, without the formatting and illustrations anticipated for the final report. An outline of proposed formatting will also be provided to enable the Joint Committee to consider the look and feel of the report, noting that the intention is for production values to be modest.

Tātari me ngā tūtohu / Analysis and advice

Annual Report requirements

Section 4.2 of the Kaipara Moana Remediation Deed of Funding sets out what is required in each Annual Report, including:

- i. a comparison of the project activities undertaken for the previous financial year against those set out in the applicable Annual Work Plan
- ii. a comparison of project activities undertaken (including deliverables and project activities achieved and not achieved) for the previous financial year against those in the applicable Annual Work Plan
- iii. the amount spent on project activities and a breakdown of expenditure
- iv. confirmation and details of contributions made by member parties
- v. the amount of Crown grant funding received from the Ministry under the deed for the financial year, the activities to which grant funding was applied, and any amount not spent
- vi. the amount and details of funding contributions from any other sources
- vii. a reconciliation of the grant monies received from the Ministry and expenses paid with the grant monies during the period covered by the report and any interest received on the grant
- viii. address any issues raised and provides any additional information reasonably requested by the Ministry
- ix. provides an update of health and safety in relation to project activities

The Deed of Funding provides for unspent funding in a financial year to be held and spent in the following financial year.

The Annual Report also provides an opportunity to communicate key messages about the Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme. For this first Annual Report, the focus of the KMR programme over its first nine months of operation can be described: building capacity to provide for remediation works at pace and scale, while also achieving early wins on the ground. The various successes of the programme can also be celebrated, and challenges acknowledged.

Audit Report

An Audit Report is also required to be submitted to the Ministry. Work on that is currently underway by an independent auditor and will be available in mid-October 2021 for consideration.

Finalising the draft Annual Report and delegations to the Chair and Deputy Chair

It is proposed the draft Annual Report is approved in principle only. The Joint Committee has a workshop scheduled on Monday 18 October 2021 and the final draft of the Annual Report can be discussed then. Because there is no business meeting for the Joint Committee in October, it is recommended the Chair and Deputy Chair are delegated the power to approve the Annual Report for submission to the Ministry for the Environment, thus avoiding the need for a specially constituted business meeting in October.

It is also recommended the Pou Tātaki is given the ability to make minor editorial changes to the Annual Report before publication. This is to avoid the need for the Chair and Deputy Chair to approve the report a second time if typographical and other minor matters need attention.

Annual Report formatting and look

It is proposed the Annual Report is formatted in a manner consistent with the KMR brand and identity, with appropriate illustrations, and with modest production values.

Considerations

1. Aromātai whāinga haumi mō te oranga / Wellbeing Investment objectives and assessment

Provision of an Annual Report to the Ministry for the Environment is a requirement under the Kaipara Moana Remediation Deed of Funding. The continuation of Crown funding, which is used to achieve the wellbeing objects of the KMR among other things, is contingent on meeting obligations under the Deed.

2. Ngā ritenga take pūtea / Financial implications

There are no financial implications in approving the Annual Report – budget for its preparation is covered by the general operating budget of the Kaipara Maurikura business unit. Audit costs are also provided for.

3. Ngā tūraru me ngā mauru / Significance, risk and mitigation

The Annual Report provides accountability and transparency to the work of the KMR programme, and assurance to programme partners on performance.

4. Significance and Engagement

In relation to section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002, the decisions arising from this report are considered to be of low significance when assessed against Northland Regional Council's significance and engagement policy. This does not mean that this matter is not of significance to tangata whenua and/or individual communities, but that the joint committee is able to make these decisions without undertaking further consultation or engagement.²

5. Ngā whāinga mō āmuri / Next steps

If supported, a final draft of the Annual Report will be provided to the Joint Committee for discussion at its workshop on 18 October, with finalisation under delegation by the Chair and Deputy Chair.

Ngā tapirihanga / Attachments

Attachment 1: Annual Report [↓](#) 

² This joint committee operating under the Local Government Act which requires a significance and engagement policy (which identifies when matters require special consultation with tangata whenua and the community) and to have regard to that policy when making decisions. As the administrative support for the joint committee is provided by the Northland Regional Council, it's that councils Significant and Engagement Policy that will apply to joint committee decision making.

Preparation for Remediation

Report of the first nine months of the operation of the Kaipara
Moana Remediation Joint Committee, 2020–21

(Draft tabled with Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee, **20 September 2021**)

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Chair's Foreword

Kia hikina ake ngā aronga ki te mātāpuna o te oranga
Kia tukuna ake ngā tauāki ngā takutaku
Kia āhei kia tuwhera ngā momo huarahi ki te whei ao ki te ao mārama

Ka mihi tonu ki te whenua
Ka tangi tonu mō te hunga kua okioki
Rātou ki a rātou ā tātou kua mahue mai ki a tātou

Kia anga tonu atu ki te kaupapa e hora ake nei, kāti ake.

On 9 of October 2020 an historic occasion took place with the signing of the Kaipara Moana Remediation Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) at Waihaua Marae. It was the joining of Mana Whenua, with local government, the Crown, and the community in a partnership to restore the mauri of the Moana – a project involving over 6000km² of catchment land area, 950km² of harbour surface area, and 8110km of waterways flowing into the Moana.

The establishment of this partnership after decades of degradation of Kaipara Moana is a welcome high watermark for all parties. It is the result of the work of many individuals and groups, many of whom participated in the Integrated Kaipara Harbour Management Group (IKHMG), which worked tirelessly for the last 25 years to witness this moment.

Kaipara Uri have been nurtured by Kaipara Moana for centuries; it was a food basket that delivered abundance, a playground, an iconic marker of identity, life and vitality. Restoration of the mauri of the Moana is therefore highly significant to Kaipara Uri, as it is for many other recreation and commercial users of this place.

The signing of the MOU was accompanied by the establishment of the Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee. With equal seats at the governance table for councils and Kaipara Uri, as well as funding from the Crown and councils, comes a recognition of the kaitiaki status of Kaipara Uri who live in close proximity to the Moana, as well as an investment in the capacity of Kaipara Uri to exercise that status.

The Joint Committee has taken a deliberate and measured approach in the first nine months of its operation, recognising it is important the \$200 million budgeted for the first six years of the Kaipara Moana Remediation programme is spent wisely and to best effect. Acknowledgement must be made to the critical importance of the Crown commitment to fund half of these costs, as this programme is only possible with this support.

This nine months has therefore been mainly a planning period, where the foundations for the remediation have been laid. A Funding Agreement has been negotiated and agreed with the Crown; the operating procedures for the Joint Committee have been established; an Interim Management team has developed the structure and procedures for the Kaipara Maurikura (an operational unit for the programme).

In carrying out this activity, we have had nine meetings on marae and at other venues around the rohe. This has enabled engagement with haukāinga along with their respective communities. Discussion is also regularly carried out within a Senior Officers Oversight Group of Kaipara Uri and council representatives.

Funding of remediation works has also commenced, which has helped to generate jobs. 63 grants funding arrangements have been reached with landowners, 82km of riparian fencing is contracted with some 11km already completed, and 27 hectares of riparian planting are underway to get 156,000 plants in the ground.

This trickle of activity will gather momentum to a time when Kaipara Moana is protected from excessive sediment runoff, the waterways and wetlands of the catchment are healthy and enhanced, and the many and diverse communities of the Kaipara benefit from these collective efforts.

Kia hora tonu ngā tohu o te oranga o te mārama ki runga ki a koe ki a koutou ki a tātou katoa mō ngā wā katoa.

Acting Pou Tātaki Comments

The first nine months of operation has largely been developmental. While the need for remediation and its general direction were agreed, there were still many questions that needed to be answered. Are there enough nurseries in the catchment to provide for the millions of trees that need to be planted? Are there enough trained fencers, planters and contractors to carry out the remediation work? How could the funds best be used to provide for employment opportunities for Mana Whenua and those living in the catchment? What is the best strategic approach to the remediation effort – addressing matters on a catchment by catchment basis; moving from the top of the catchment to the sea; or placing planting around key riparian and wetland margins as an initial priority then addressing the worst areas of hill country erosion on a systematic basis? Answers were required to all of these questions if the optimum use of the financial and human resources available for the programme was to be found.

Several pieces of work answered these questions. A Nursery Strategy identified the production capability of the catchment's nurseries, suggesting that there was no necessity to create more nurseries, but smaller satellite nurseries could be established. Nurseries needed to have professional standards and so needed to be accredited. Plants needed to be eco-sourced and grown to order and the price KMR was prepared to pay for plants determined.

A Workforce Strategy gave us answers to the number of human resources needed in different roles, where shortfalls would be, how training could take place, the role that the government agencies could take in supporting the development of the workforce and a profile of demand over the lifetime of the project.

An initial need was to identify at least some 20 to 30 field advisors that could assist with developing over 1500 Sediment Reduction Plans in partnership with landowners. Standards for these plans needed to be developed, training carried out, and the software developed to capture the information provided in a coherent and retrievable manner.

A financial model was developed and the optimum rate of works and planting over the lifetime of the project determined. Initial steps were taken to partner this model with a geographical model that will identify hotspots and enable prioritisation of effort to be determined.

A Landowner Grants Scheme and criteria and a community and hapū oriented Whenua Whānui scheme have been developed and initially publicised. A Communications and Engagement Strategy has been determined and will be rolled out to the various parties in forthcoming years. This will ensure high levels of uptake and that landowners make the best use of the financial opportunity that the programme provides them.

In carrying out all of this work I would like to thank the Chair and members of the Joint Committee, the councils and Kaipara Uri partners for the constructive way in which they have collaborated. In particular I would like to thank members of the Interim Management Team, John Hutton and Penny Pirrit, for their tireless work establishing the framework and the machinery to enable remediation effort to accelerate with rationality, and at pace and scale in the succeeding years of its operation.

Governance, Management and Planning

Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee

The Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee (Joint Committee) provides governance and decision-making for funding allocated to the KMR programme (KMR), as set out in the Kaipara Moana Remediation Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed with the Crown.

The Joint Committee comprises 12 members representing the KMR partners:

- Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara (2 members)
- Te Uri o Hau Settlement Trust (2 members)
- Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua (2 members)
- Northland Regional Council (3 members)
- Auckland Council (3 members)

The Joint Committee appoints a chair from the Kaipara Uri members (Tame Te Rangī), and a deputy chair from the council members (Penny Smart).

The Joint Committee held its inaugural meeting on 9 October 2020, and a further eight formal meetings and five workshops were held in the period to 30 June.

The practice of marae-based meetings allows direct engagement with haukāinga and local communities, and helps communicate the objectives of the KMR. They also provide the Joint Committee important insights into the challenges and priorities of the many communities around the Kaipara catchment.

Since its inaugural meeting, the Joint Committee has made decisions on KMR work plans, strategies for KMR's approach to nurseries, workforce and communications, and the criteria and method to deliver grants funding to landowners to undertake remediation work, among other things. Partnership and consensus-based decision making has been a priority.

- Joint Committee Members – Photos

Programme management and support

Initial support for the KMR has been provided by an Interim Management Team of three members, with project management and technical expertise by staff seconded from councils, and contractors. Staff from Kaipara Uri entities have participated in strategy development and have engaged with landowners to provide grants funding.

Following guidance by the Joint Committee, KMR partners agreed to establish an operational unit within the Northland Regional Council to service the KMR. The unit takes the name 'Kaipara Maurikura'. Management and administration responsibilities transferred to the Kaipara Maurikura on 1 July 2021, with staff recruitment underway.

Senior Officers' Oversight Group

A Senior Officers Oversight Group has been formed with representatives from the KMR partners – councils and Kaipara Uri entities. The Group facilitates communication and coordination at an operational level between programme partners.

Relationship with Ministry for the Environment

KMR partners signed a Deed of Funding with the Ministry for the Environment on 8 February 2021. Crown grant funding for the Year One Work Plan was received in late March 2021.

The Deed of Funding sets out the conditions for the Crown's \$100 million contribution over the first six years of the programme, including the requirement for Crown funding to be matched by a combination of council funding and contributions by landowners and others. The Deed also contains reporting requirements, including the development of annual work plans, annual reports, and audits.

Ministry for the Environment staff engage regularly with KMR programme staff, attend Joint Committee meetings, and provide valuable support and advice.

Confirmation of financial support by councils

A requirement in the Deed of Funding is for councils to confirm their funding contributions to the KMR through their Long-term Plans. Both Northland Regional Council and Auckland Council have confirmed funding of \$10 million each for the first six years of the programme. This leaves a balance of \$80 million to be sourced in various ways from landowners, industry associations, community and philanthropic organisations.

KMR Strategies

Three key strategies have been completed to underpin the roll-out of the KMR programme:

- Partner and Stakeholder Engagement Strategy
- Nursery Strategy
- Workforce Strategy

Each strategy was developed in consultation with affected operators and stakeholders, and their findings and recommendations adopted by the Joint Committee.

Digital Tools

Digital tools are needed to ensure remediation works can be delivered the pace and scale required, and to ensure funding is well managed and targeted.

Three digital tools have been commissioned for the KMR and are in development. First, a grants management system will ensure KMR funding is provided effectively and transparently to landowners and community groups. Secondly, a farm planning platform with a focus on sediment-reduction will provide mapping and prioritisation tools to the KMR advisors who will work with landowners and community groups to identify projects for funding support. Lastly, a freshwater management tool will support investment decision-making, farm plan prioritisation, and accounting and reporting of water quality outcomes.

Environmental Science and Mātauranga Māori approaches to underpin remediation efforts

The KMR needs to ensure that the best approach is taken to implementing remediation works that reduce sediment (eroded land) lost into Kaipara Moana. Research is being supported to identify the best native species to plant on and near stream banks – the plants with the best root strength and ability to survive floods.

Investment is also being made to help identify highly erodible land and wetlands that might be restored, including detailed aerial photography to be combined other graphical information system tools. Options to manage highly erodible land by different forms of tree planting are being analysed, with the aim of providing funding for this in later years of the programme. A Mātauranga Māori Strategy is planned for FY2021-22 to ensure remediation work is informed by local knowledge and understanding.

Remediation Works – Key Achievements

The first nine months of the KMR programme have looked to achieve some early wins for both environmental and employment outcomes. The table below records Year 1 targets and results in this area.

Metric	Year 1 Target	Year 1 Actual	Narrative
Number of plants planted in riparian, lake, or wetlands areas	27,775	156,606 (planting undertaken through winter 2021)	The winter planting season extends across financial years. The number of plants is based on grant funding agreements for riparian planting agreed with landowners and where work is being undertaken in 2021. Verification of completion takes place when the season has run.
Area (ha) of riparian, lake, or wetlands planting completed	5	26.9	As above.
Length (km) of new fencing constructed	123	11.63 km (completed, with grants funding paid) 81.94 km (contracts finalised, with works underway)	Fencing requires dry ground and is typically undertaken in warmer months. A total of 93.57 km of fencing is either completed or is contracted and underway, with completion through the summer months of 2021 and early 2022.
Number of Farm Environment Plans created	61	63	63 remediation grant funding agreements finalised with landowners. Noting these are plans focused on sediment-reduction outcomes for the Kaipara, not full 'Farm Environment Plans' as anticipated in future national regulation.
Area (ha) of works covered by Farm Environment Plans	14,000	11,413	Total area of farms participating in a KMR grant funding agreement.
Cumulative number of individuals paid since project commencement	36	35	Total derived by apportioning hours worked to FTE, including modelled hours for on-farm work. Actual number of individual involved on a part-time basis is higher.

Focus Areas

Looking ahead a number of areas will be a focus for the KMR. Planning and strategy work over the first nine months of the programme have set the course for these actions.

Engagement and communication

The KMR can only be achieved with involvement of many people, both at a community and a landowner level. A key focus is to ensure people understand what the KMR seeks to achieve, how people can be involved, and the importance of the contributions everyone can make.

To this end the KMR will undertake engagement at multiple levels – through digital media, with industry associations and community groups (including marae and hapū), and directly with landowners on a one-to-one basis. Receiving feedback and improving how the programme operates will be vital.

Landowner Grant Scheme

Reducing sediment flow into Kaipara Moana is the essential first step to restore its mauri (life-force / wellbeing). Around 4,000 km² of the Kaipara catchment is in pasture and engaging with landowners to undertake work that reduces sediment loss in this area is critical.

To this end the KMR will provide grants to landowners through 'Sediment Reduction Plans'. Plans will be free for a landowner and property-specific, ideally covering three years, and identifying specific sediment reduction projects. In time a Sediment Reduction Plan can be incorporated into Farm Environment Plans, although this depends on the direction of central government regulation.

Landowners will be able to arrange for a KMR accredited field advisor to visit their property and help design a Sediment Reduction Plan. The plan will set out remediation work that would be most effective on the property and identify what is eligible for grants funding.

The initial focus of KMR funding is fencing and planting wetlands and waterways to create a buffer that protects waterways from sediment loss, with hillsides and slips to be targeted in future. The expectation is that landowners will match grants funding with a mixture of cash and in-kind contributions – effectively a 50/50 split on the cost of agreed works.

A partnership agreement between the KMR and Fonterra will allow Fonterra advisors to develop Sediment Reduction Plans with Fonterra farmers to access KMR funding support.

Whenua Whānui Fund

Opportunity to access KMR grants funding will be provided to marae and hapū groups, and the many kinds of community and landcare groups that exist around the Kaipara catchment. Such groups may wish to work with landowners to complete remediation works (including on Māori land), or undertake projects on areas of public land that can be found on river or coastal margins.

The approach taken is similar to that for 'Sediment Reduction Plans' – groups will work with a KMR advisor to draw up a Sediment Reduction Plan to identify remediation projects. Agreement with the relevant landowner will be required. The KMR will be able to contribute up to half the cost of projects, covering for example the cost of plants for community planting days. Groups will be able to count their 'in-kind' labour to match KMR funding.

Employment Opportunities

The KMR needs to ensure there is a workforce to undertake all aspects of remediation – from advisory and monitoring services, to fencing, spraying, planting and related nursery work – and to meet social and cultural objectives. Crown funding for the KMR comes from the 'Jobs for Nature' programme, which has a strong emphasis on job creation.

The Kaipara Moana Workforce Strategy recorded a positive response from local businesses and service providers who were keen to participate in and support the KMR. Many wished to grow their businesses to meet demand and employ more staff. Others saw opportunities in setting up new operations.

To drive workforce growth the KMR has partnered with the Ministry for Social Development to establish an employment hub. The hub will coordinate with businesses who want to take on new staff and people who are looking for employment. The aim is to ensure the training and other financial support services provide by the government are made available.

Plant Supply

Ensuring there is a supply of quality plants for KMR-supported planting projects is important. The Kaipara Moana Nursery Strategy identified that existing nursery capacity could grow to meet demand from the KMR programme, and did not recommend establishing new nurseries. There are nevertheless opportunities for existing nurseries to work with smaller 'satellite' nursery projects at a community or marae level. To ensure plant production is of good standard, including using local seed sources, an accreditation process for nurseries will be undertaken.

The Nursery Strategy also recommended that plants are grown to order. When a landowner (or community group) agrees a Sediment Reduction Plan, the KMR will pay a deposit to the nursery for the cost of the plants, and count this as a contribution to the cost of planting. This will provide nurseries assurance for production and support landowners and community groups. Standard prices for species and the establishment of a database and seed bank will also be provided.

Progress Summary for Year One Work Programme

The KMR Year One Work Programme was adopted by the Joint Committee on 16 November 2020 as a precondition of finalising a deed of funding with the Crown.

Many projects started under the Year One Work Programme are being progressed through the 2021 calendar year and, in some instances, into 2022. This requires unspent budget in the 2020-21 financial year to be brought forward into the 2021-22 financial year. Remediation work often needs to follow the seasonal farming calendar, with planting over winter and fencing during drier months, and regularly runs across financial years.

2020-2021 Work Programme Summary		2020-21 Budget				2020-21 Actual			
Project	Summary	Crown	Councils	Landowner / Other	TOTAL	Crown	Councils	Landowner / Other	TOTAL
REMEDIATION IMPLEMENTATION									
NRC (North Kaipara) Grants Funding	Undertaking remediation works in the 2021 calendar year with 50 landowners, using the Northland Regional Council's Environment Fund criteria to achieve early wins as KMR processes are put in place. Landowner grants payments matched by in-kind contributions. Fencing projects of 9.7km completed with 69.9km planned and underway. Balance of project budget carried forward into FY2021-22.	0	368,000	310,000	678,000	0	89,984	49,982	139,966
Waiotu Catchment Care Group	Undertaking remediation works identified by a community-led group comprising 19 neighbouring landowners whose properties drain into the Waiotu River. First year of anticipated four year project across around 5,000 hectares. Planning and landowner engagement progressed. Project continuing in FY2021-22, and balance of budget carried forward.	925,000	30,000	750,000	1,705,000	0	16,997	0	16,997

Waterway Wetland Remediation – Forest Bridge Trust	Delivering remediation works by supporting landowners in south Kaipara to fence and plant riparian strips, wetland areas and bush blocks. First year pilot of anticipated four year project, with administration and landowner engagement led by the Forest Bridge Trust. Engagement and remediation planning undertaken with 13 landowners. Riparian fencing of 2.2 km completed and 2 alternative water supplies approved. Further 12 km of riparian and wetland fencing planned and underway, with a target of 35 km by project end. Project being progressed in FY2021-22 and balance of budget carried forward.	682,000	15,000	508,000	1,205,000	276,667	142,080	25,308	444,055
Fonterra Tiaki Partnership	Delivering remediation works with Fonterra-suppliers, while piloting a long-term partnership between KMR and Fonterra. Negotiations progressed with Fonterra for project commencement in 2021. Revised budget of \$2.91 million approved to November 2022. Project being progressed in FY2021-22 and FY2022-23, and balance of budget carried forward.	880,000	60,000	600,000	1,540,000	0	13,444	0	13,444
GOVERNANCE, MANAGEMENT & PLANNING									
KMR Programme (Governance)	Governance, oversight, and decision-making for the KMR Programme provided by the 12-member Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee, with 9 formal meetings and 5 workshops held.	0	0	0	0	55,739	86,312	0	142,051

KMR Programme (Management & Administration)	Management, planning, administration and related services for the KMR by an Interim Management Team of three members, and project management and advice by contracted and seconded staff. Senior Officers Oversight group formed with representation by all KMR partners (councils and Kaipara Uri entities). Kaipara Maurikura operational unit formed within the NRC, with management and administration transferring to it on 1 July 2021. Recruitment for roles supported.	355,000	560,000	0	915,000	133,884	501,348	0	635,232
ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATIONS									
Engagement & Communications Strategy	Engagement Strategy and Communications Plan completed and adopted. Work on KMR identity and brand undertaken. Communications outputs including Panui/Update for the Kaipara community and programme stakeholders produced. Balance of project budget carried forward into FY2021-22.	12,500	102,000	0	114,500	0	92,839	0	92,839
Implementation of E&C Strategy	Project disestablished and budget carried forward into FY2021-22.	487,500	0	0	487,500	0	0	0	0
Catchment Group Project Support	Project disestablished and budget carried forward into FY2021-22.	470,000	0	500,000	970,000	0	0	0	0
CAPABILITY & WORKFORCE									
Workforce Strategy	Kaipara Moana Workforce Strategy completed, including consultation with industry and community providers. Procurement policies, accreditation guidelines, and employment hub concept adopted. Work commenced with MSD to establish workforce hub. Future work to maximise workforce outcomes to be undertaken through the Kaipara Maurikura operations unit, in partnership with MSD and private sector providers.	0	71,000	0	71,000	0	74,899	0	74,899

Kaipara Nursery Strategy	Kaipara Moana Nursery Strategy completed, including consultation with affected operators. Recommendations adopted and implementation process commenced.	35,000	60,000	0	95,000	18,635	50,000	0	68,635
Nursery Partnerships – plant propagation and supply	Project to implement Nursery Strategy recommendations. When completed, the Nursery Strategy found that existing nursery capacity was sufficient and recommended that plants should be purchased to order by landowners. Budget not therefore required and project was disestablished. Budget carried forward into FY2021-22.	965,000	0	1,000,000	1,965,000	0	0	0	0
Soil Conservation Nursery – Strategy and Scoping	Project to assess supply of soil conservation plants such as poplars. Project disestablished and replaced by the Year 2 ‘Soil Conservation Strategy’, to assess a range of space-planting, afforestation and retirement options for highly erodible land, to be completed first quarter 2022. Balance of budget carried forward.	44,000	18,000	0	62,000	0	0	0	0
Advisor Training & Accreditation	Developing and providing training for up to 50 new remediation advisors by 2023 with accompanying employment opportunities. Project commenced, with first tranche of training planned for spring 2021. Project being progressed in FY2021-22 and FY2022-23 and budget carried forward.	550,000	90,000	0	640,000	0	9,401	0	9,401
DIGITAL SYSTEMS & TOOLS									
Digital tools – design, preparation and procurement	Planning, decision-making, and procurement to secure a grant invoicing and accounting system, and a farm planning tool tailored to the needs of the KMR. Project largely completed and budget carried forward into FY2021-22.	140,000	40,000	0	180,000	44,020	44,510	0	88,530

FEP Accounting Framework - Fresh Water Management Tool	Building a water quality accounting framework for KMR by expanding the Freshwater Management Tool under development by Auckland Council into the northern Kaipara catchment. Tool will support investment decision-making, farm plan prioritisation, and accounting and reporting water quality outcomes, with a timeframe for completion in late 2022. Initial scoping undertaken. Project being progressed in FY2021-22 and FY2022-23, and balance of budget carried forward.	1,320,000	224,000	0	1,544,000	0	7,150	0	7,150
MATAURANGA / SCIENCE & MONITORING									
Te Paiaka - Native Root Project	Research project to determine the plants most effective for riparian planting (and where on the stream-bank to plant) to minimise and mitigate stream-bank erosion. Project completion in late 2021. Project being progressed in FY2021-22 and balance of budget carried forward.	0	174,000	0	174,000	0	66,484	0	66,484
Matāuranga Māori Strategy	Providing a strategy to ensure Mātauranga Māori can contribute, in conjunction with western science approaches, to the KMR and remediation projects, including using local knowledge and understanding to enhance remediation design and prioritisation. Project moved to the 2021/22 work programme and budget carried forward.	80,000	23,000	0	103,000	0	0	0	0
South Kaipara Streams – Stage 1	Trialling a new methodology to assess stream-bank erosion hotspots on a regional scale. Project progressed with completion in late 2021. Project being progressed in FY2021-22 and budget carried forward.	66,000	37,000	0	103,000	13,640	33,288	0	46,928

Eroding Land Features	Categorisation, improved understanding, and mapping of highly erodible land, bringing together resources and data sets already available to help define where KMR supported projects should be located and prioritised. Project commenced with completion scheduled for first quarter 2022. Project being progressed in FY2021-22 and balance of budget carried forward.	220,000	18,000	0	238,000	10,000	8,927	0	18,927
Wetland Features	Automating the geospatial identification of wetlands greater than 500m ² using existing resources and data, and new data generated from oblique aerial photography. Aerial photography undertaken and project progressed with completion scheduled for first quarter 2022. Project being progressed in FY2021-22 and balance of budget carried forward.	220,000	18,000	0	238,000	35,000	6,847	0	41,847
TOTAL 2020/21 Work Programme		7,452,000	1,908,000	3,668,000	13,028,000	587,585	1,235,109	75,290	1,897,984

Financial Summary

	Cash contributions				In kind contributions			Total expenditure
	MFE	Councils	Landowners / Other	Total cash contributions	Council	Landowners / Other	Total in kind expenditure	
Funding	\$9,638,000	\$726,656	\$13,432	\$10,378,089				
Workstream expenditure								
Remediation Implementation	\$276,667	\$184,982	-	\$461,649	\$77,523	\$75,290	\$152,813	\$614,462
Governance, Management & Planning	\$189,623	\$220,710	-	\$410,333	\$366,950	-	\$366,950	\$777,283
Engagement & Communications	-	\$71,388	-	\$71,388	\$21,452	-	\$21,452	\$92,839
Capability & Workforce	\$18,635	\$102,863	-	\$121,498	\$22,036	-	\$22,036	\$143,534
Digital Systems & Tools	\$44,020	\$40,000	-	\$84,020	\$11,660	-	\$11,660	\$95,680
Mātauranga Māori / Science & Monitoring	\$58,640	\$46,439	-	\$105,079	\$69,107	-	\$69,107	\$174,186
Total expenditure	\$587,585	\$666,381	-	\$1,253,966	\$568,728	\$75,290	\$644,018	\$1,897,984
Funding carried over to 2021/22	\$9,050,415	\$60,275	\$13,432	\$9,124,122				