

Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee Minutes

Rā Date:	1 May 2023
Tāima Time:	12pm – 3pm
Tauwāhi Location:	Te Aroha Pā, Araparera
Tuhinga Present	Tame Te Rangi (Chair), Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua Amy Macdonald, (Deputy Chair), Northland Regional Council Georgina Curtis-Connelly, Te Uri o Hau Greg Sayers, Auckland Council Jack Craw, Northland Regional Council John Blackwell, Northland Regional Council Michelle Carmichael, Auckland Council Virginia Warriner, Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua
I Tae Mae In Attendance	Justine Daw, Pou Tātaki, Kaipara Maurikura Brooke Waterson, Wai Tātai, Kaipara Maurikura Griffin Hope, Pūtohu-Hononga Hapū Hapori, Kaipara Maurikura Lisette Rawson, Amo-Rauora Kōawa, Kaipara Maurikura Sophie Bone, PA and Governance Support, Kaipara Maurikura Stephanie Versteeg, Amo-Rautaki Pākihi, Kaipara Maurikura William Wright, Ringa-Hononga Mana Whenua, Kaipara Maurikura Celia Witehira, Kōrero Tuku Iho Project Manager Duncan Kervell, Consultant Ilka Pelzer, Kaitātari Matua Senior Analyst, Ministry for the Environment (Observer) Jonathan Gibbard, Tāhūhū Rangapū Chief Executive, Northland Regional Council (Observer) Marina Hetaraka, Kaitātari Matua Senior Analyst, Ministry for the Environment (Observer)

The Chair declared the meeting open at 12.06.

Ngā whakapahā | Apologies (Item 1.0)

Moved (Macdonald / Craw)

1. That the apologies from Cherie Povey, Jane Sherard, Kerrin Leoni and Taiāwhio Wati for non-attendance be received.

Carried

Nga 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)

Report from Sophie Bone, PA and Governance Support

Moved (Sayers / Macdonald)

1. That the minutes of the Kaipara Moana Remediation Meeting held on 27 February 2023, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Carried

Joint Committee Action Tracker (Item 5.1)

Report from Sophie Bone, PA and Governance Support

Moved (Blackwell / Warriner)

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

Carried

Joint Committee Forward Workplan (Item 5.2)

Report from Sophie Bone, PA and Governance Support

Moved (Carmichael / Craw)

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

Carried

Soil Conservation Operational Strategy and Action Plan (Item 6.1)

Report from Stephanie Versteeg, Amo-Rautaki Pākihi

Moved (Macdonald / Sayers)

That the Joint Committee:

1. *Receive* the report 'Soil Conservation Operational Strategy and Action Plan' by Steph Versteeg, dated 1 May 2023.
2. *Note* that the appendices summarise feedback from the Joint Committee, and the proposed approach for a landscape approach to reducing sediment into the Kaipara Moana.
3. *Endorse* the Soil Conservation Operational Strategy and Action Plan set out in Attachments Two and Three, which will allow KMR staff to begin to implement this.
4. *Note* that recommended approach takes into account feedback received from Joint Committee members, including feedback received prior to, during and following the Joint Committee workshop on 27 March 2023.

5. *Note that the recommended approach also takes into account feedback received from the project’s external Reference Group.*
6. *Note that the accompanying draft Annual Work Plan for Year 4 proposes a remediation budget and Key Performance Indicators that assume full implementation of the proposed Soil Conservation Operational Strategy and Action Plan, and both may need to be revised depending on Joint Committee decisions on this report.*

Carried

Secretarial Note:

Joint Committee members agreed that recent weather events have starkly highlighted the need to grow the range of interventions that KMR can support across the landscape (i.e. beyond waterways).

A member raised the opportunity for KMR to align western science and Te Ao Māori through the Soil Conservation Strategy. KMR staff agreed that the Kōrero Tuku Iho Strategy would support this, as one of the two foundational strategies for KMR. In the meantime, ahead of Kōrero Tuku Iho, KMR was working in practical ways (e.g. through the Field Advisor training) to develop cultural awareness and good operational practice.

A member asked about KMR’s role in engaging with forestry companies, and supporting landowners to mitigate the effects of forestry debris (slash). KMR staff advised that this was being explored through the Navigator Project process, as well as KMR sediment reduction projects on forestry land. On SilvoPasture, KMR staff acknowledged the importance of ensuring that no weedy species were endorsed for use. Proposed approaches, which would include species selection, would be brought back to the Joint Committee as part of further work to implement the Soil Conservation strategy.

Members highlighted the importance of effective training and support for the Field Advisors who will help implement the Soil Conservation strategy. KMR staff agreed, noting that Field Advisors were key to the programme’s success. KMR staff were already considering a new operating model for Field Advisors as they are a ‘single point of failure or success’ for KMR, and lead the quality of service and advice to landowners.

Kōrero Tuku Iho Update (Item 6.2)

Report from William Wright, Ringa-Hononga Mana Whenua and Celia Witehira, Kōrero Tuku Iho Project Manager

Moved (Curtis-Connelly / Carmichael)

That the Joint Committee:

1. *Receive* the report titled ‘Kōrero Tuku Iho Update’ by Celia Witehira, Kōrero Tuku Iho Project Manager and dated 19 April 2023.
2. *Note* that this report provides an update on progress under Kōrero Tuku Iho Stage 1 and provides a proposal for Stage 2 design and implementation.
3. *Approve* the following:
 - The Kōrero Tuku Iho Reference Rōpū Terms of Reference (Attachment 1); and
 - The draft Kōrero Tuku Iho Proposal ‘Kaitiakitanga in the Kaipara’ (Attachment 2).
4. *Agree* that further work will be undertaken to understand and integrate the proposed budget into the KMR Annual Work Plan (Year 4).

Carried

Secretarial note:

A member asked if Kōrero Tuku Iho Strategy was considering Intellectual Property rights and Data Sovereignty. The presenter assured members that the Reference Rōpu was exploring this thoroughly. The role of Iwi/Hapū Environmental Management Plans was discussed, with the KMR team agreeing that they could inform and be incorporated into Kōrero Tuku Iho, as relevant. The team also articulated the concept of Kaitiaki in Practice, with a focus on localised stories and hearing from the awa and whenua. The link between wellness of the land and wellness of the people was also recognised with Kōrero Tuku Iho aiming to measure the wellbeing of the Whenua, Mauri, and how that correlates to the health of Tangata. Kōrero Tuku Iho was acknowledged as central to KMR's work as one of only two foundational strategies. Given this mandate, the delivery process for Kōrero Tuku Iho would be fully funded, although it was acknowledged that the case study areas may include activities that KMR cannot fund under its contract with the Crown.

Annual Work Plan (Year 4) (Item 6.3)

Report from Stephanie Versteeg, Amo-Rautaki Pākihi

Moved (Craw / Warriner)

That the Joint Committee:

1. *Receive* the report 'Year 4 Annual Work Plan (Draft)' by Steph Versteeg, dated 1 May 2023, (*Attachment 1*).
2. *Note* the draft Year 4 Work Plan budget totals \$14.380 million (total programme value excluding GST).
3. *Note* the Year 4 Work Plan budget and KPIs will continue to change as modelling is refined and it becomes clearer what Year 3 budget needs to carry over into Year 4.
4. *Note* there are inherent challenges in modelling uptake of remediation activity, as KMR is a voluntary programme, and uptake can be highly variable depending on weather, human capacity, and the economy.
5. *Note* that given the uncertainties in KMR's operating environment, we have taken a moderate approach to estimating uptake in Year 4, which can be revised as the year progresses, if required.
6. *Approve* for submission the draft Work Plan (Year 4) (*Attachment 1*) to the Ministry for the Environment for review and comment, as per the requirements of the KMR Programme Deed of Funding, subject to any feedback from the Joint Committee.
7. *Note* that the Ministry can request any reasonable modifications to the draft Work Plan (Year 4) within 20 working days.
8. *Approve* to delegate to the Joint Committee Chair and Deputy Chair approval of a final draft Work Plan for provision to MfE and finalisation of the Work Plan as needed following MfE review.
9. *Note* the Joint Committee will receive for information the finalised Year 4 Work Plan in July.
10. *Approve* a reduction of \$110,000 in the Remediation Grants and Partnerships budget, with the money re-allocated as follows:
 - a. \$50,000 to Capability Workforce and Development to cover costs of nursery engagement and coordination in the lead up to winter planting;

- b. \$50,000 to Soil Conservation Strategy to cover costs of strategy development and planning for implementation; and
- c. \$10,000 to New Partnerships and Opportunities to cover costs incurred in scoping new partnerships.

Carried

A member asked about KMR support for landowners who will need to meet expected future Freshwater Farm Plan (FFP) requirements. KMR staff responded that it is likely that only minor tweaks will be required to KMR's Sediment Reduction Plan to comply with FFPs. This was a topic of discussion at the next Joint Committee workshop.

A member asked if the contribution in the Annual Work Plan from NRC would remain the same (yes), and encouraged the team to continue to set aspirational key performance indicators, even if they were sometimes not able to be achieved. The KMR staff confirmed the key performance indicators in the Annual Work Plan were moderately aspirational.

Pou Tātaki Report (Item 6.4)

Report from Justine Daw, Pou Tātaki

Moved (Blackwell / Curtis-Connelly)

That the Joint Committee:

1. Receive the report 'Pou Tātaki Report', by Justine Daw dated 1 May 2023.

Whakamutunga | Conclusion

The meeting concluded at 3.04pm.