

Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee Agenda

Rā Date:	Monday, 7 April 2025
Wā Time:	10.30am
Tauwāhi Location:	Microsoft Teams, (Online)
Huihuinga Gathering	Tame Te Rangi (Chair), Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua Amy Macdonald (Deputy Chair), Northland Regional Council Georgina Curtis-Connelly, Te Uri o Hau Greg Sayers, Auckland Council Jack Craw, Northland Regional Council John Blackwell, Northland Regional Council Michael Tana, Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua Michelle Carmichael, Auckland Council Tracy Davis, Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara
Tae Mai In Attendance	Justine Daw, Pou Tātaki, Kaipara Moana Remediation (KMR) Emma Doré, Amo-Pākihi, KMR Ben Hope, Ringa-Pārongo, KMR Marina Ford, Ringa Taki Hononga Mana Whenua Relations Advisor, KMR Lily Grace Lambert, PA to Pou Tātaki and Governance Support, KMR Celia Solomon Te Kani, Ministry for the Environment (MfE) (Observer) Fiona Kemp, Environs, Te Uri o Hau Victoria Kurupō, Environs, Te Uri o Hau Alyssce Te Huna, Environs, Te Uri o Hau Alex Rogers, Department of Conservation
Northland Regional Council Livestreaming staff members	Meloney Tupou and Callum Anderson, Northland Regional Council

The Chair declared the meeting open at 10.35am.

KARAKIA TĪMATANGA / WHAKATAU

The Chair welcomed Debra Brewer and Tracy Davis, the new Joint Committee members from Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara.

NGĀ WHAKAPAHĀ | APOLOGIES (ITEM 2.0)

Moved (Macdonald/Tana)

That the Joint Committee:

1. Receive the apologies from Members Debra Brewer, Kerrin Leoni and Taiāwhio Wati for non-attendance.

NGĀ WHAKAPUAKANGA | DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (ITEM 3.0)

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES (ITEM 4.1)

Report from Lily Grace Lambert, PA to Pou Tātaki and Governance Support

Moved (Blackwell/Carmichael)

That the Joint Committee:

2. Confirm the minutes of the KMR JC Meeting held on 24 February 2025 as a true and correct record, subject to the amendments discussed in the meeting.

Carried

Secretariat note:

Member Tana asked for a correction to the name of the Te Arawa River Iwi Trust (TARIT) [Corrected]

Member Carmichael asked that the wording of her question about the Kōrero Tuku Iho Reference Rōpū membership be amended to clarify that her question related to representation by community interests. [Corrected]

Marina Ford further clarified that while the rationale for the membership of the Reference Rōpū was clearly outlined in the Kōrero Tuku Iho Terms of Reference, a key consideration in confirming appropriate membership of the Rōpū was to support the Kaimahi in delivering the project. In particular, as the project is engaging with sensitive information and eliciting culturally important datasets, appropriate Rōpū membership was critical to ensure the project was undertaken in a culturally safe and appropriate manner to safeguard all of those involved.

JOINT COMMITTEE ACTION TRACKER (ITEM 5.1)

Report from Lily Grace Lambert, PA to Pou Tātaki and Governance Support

Moved (Curtis-Connelly/Craw)

That the Joint Committee:

1. Receive the report 'Joint Committee Action Tracker'.

Carried

JOINT COMMITTEE FORWARD WORKPLAN (ITEM 5.2)

Report from Lily Grace Lambert, PA to Pou Tātaki and Governance Support

Moved (MacDonald/Curtis-Connelly)

That the Joint Committee:

1. Receive the report 'Joint Committee Forward Workplan'.

Carried

Secretariat note:

The Pou Tātaki clarified that the interests paper that is usually presented in April has been moved to the July meeting to ensure we capture the interests of new Joint Committee members Tana, Brewer and Davis.

Member Blackwell asked that we highlight the differences in the Kaipara Moana catchment from other parts of the country when we submit the Draft Annual Report to the Ministry for Environment and when we are speaking with Ministers. The environmental conditions in the catchment are quite different from those in other regions, and there is a risk they will not fully value KMR's contribution if they do not have knowledge of our geography, weather and communities.

Draft Annual Work Plan 2025-2026 (ITEM 6.1)

Report from Justine Daw, Pou Tātaki and Emma Doré, Amo-Rautaki Pākihi presenting the report Draft Annual Work Plan (2025-2026)

Moved (Craw/Davis)

That the Joint Committee:

1. Receive the report 'Draft Annual Work Plan 2025-2026' by Justine Daw and Emma Doré, dated 7 April 2025 (Attachment 1).
2. Note the draft Annual Work Plan budget for the 2025-2026 financial year totals \$17.195 million (total programme value excluding GST).
3. Note the draft Work Plan budget and KPIs will continue to change as modelling is refined and it becomes clearer what Year 5 budget needs to carry over into Year 6.
4. Note that modelling uptake of remediation activity is inherently challenging, as KMR is a voluntary programme, and uptake can be highly variable depending on weather, human capacity, and the economy.
5. Note that as KMR did last year and reflective of the ongoing uncertainties in KMR's operating environment, a suite of delivery ranges in 2025-2026 have been estimated, the lower bound of which represents the formal Key Performance Indicators for the programme, which KMR is expected to meet.
6. Approve submission for the draft Work Plan (Attachment 1) to the Ministry for the Environment for review and comment, as per the requirements of the KMR Programme Deed of Funding, subject to any feedback from the Joint Committee.
7. Note that the Ministry can request any reasonable modifications to the draft Work Plan within 20 working days from submission.
8. Agree delegation to the Joint Committee Chair and Deputy Chair approval of a final draft Work Plan for provision to MfE and finalisation of the Work Plan as needed following MfE review.
9. Note the Joint Committee will receive for information the finalised Work Plan in October due to the timing of the external audit.

Carried

Secretariat note:

Member Blackwell noted there are no monitoring activities in the draft Annual Plan and asked to consider if the monitoring of a farm/property working with KMR in the catchment would provide results that will support KMR in the future. The Pou Tātaki noted that Auckland Council and Northland Regional Council have the responsibility for environmental monitoring under legislation, but acknowledged that this was a topic of conversation with the Crown and that we did expect the draft Annual Plan to evolve as a result.

Member Carmichael asked about the reference to afforestation of highly erodible hill areas, and if this included pine forest and the potential of its use. The Pou Tātaki noted that KMR does not invest in any pine, and only a small number of carefully selected non-wilding exotics. She agreed that KMR could use language that made this clearer.

Member Carmichael asked if there were any learnings from Cyclone Gabrielle about exotic species that responded well or poorly to the storms, and if KMR could incorporate that into our findings. The Pou Tātaki noted that KMR was always open to new evidence about the trees and plant species we used, and that we kept a watching brief on new research of relevance. The Chair noted that it would be best for KMR to retain a flexible and objective perspective/position that has a connection to the locality of the sites related to the river sites they run on to.

Member Blackwell asked whether we monitor species post planting. The Pou Tātaki confirmed that KMR currently monitors plantings at various times after planting to check on survival depending on the specie (e.g. at six weeks after planting, six months, one year (where co-funders required a further check). While KMR was only 3 ¼ years old and so none of our plantings were old enough yet, there was also an intent to monitor at five years after planting.

Member Carmichael asked to consider the opportunity of the shoreline adaption plan project for Auckland Council with the changes to the water levels and effect on the shoreland, with opportunity to the buyout of the land and the land affected by the cyclone and the use of that land being decided. The Pou Tātaki confirmed that KMR had spoken to Auckland Council several times on this project and more generally about coastal inundation-prone (and flood-prone) areas, and had discussed how we might help with these areas which would likely to be regenerated or replanted. The project was not yet at a stage where concrete collaborations were able to be scoped.

Update on Kōrero Tuku Iho (Presentation) (6.2)

Presented by Marina Ford, Victoria Kurupō and Alyssce Te Huna.

Secretariat note:

The Chair asked if there were landowners at the wānanga and whether the Poutō school had been engaged with as KMR promotes general relationships with all schools through sponsorship and support for planting days and such events. The Kōrero Tuku Iho team confirmed that they were engaging with landowners on an individual level and that they were in contact with the school.

Member Tana asked about the representatives from the different marae, and whether they have been engaged with. The Kōrero Tuku Iho team noted that they have previously and recently reached out directly to the various marae, however they were not able to engage at this time due to other commitments.

Alyssce acknowledged the recommendation from Member Craw to connect with Jackie Bird from NRC, with whom she is already working.

DOC Community Agreement (Item 6.3)

Report from Justine Daw, Pou Tātaki and Alex Rogers, DOC on the proposed Community Agreement between DOC and KMR.

Moved (Macdonald/Curtis/Connelly)

That the Joint Committee:

1. Note the opportunity to reduce sediment risk by supporting KMR projects on DOC-administered riparian strips in the catchment (*Attachment 1*).
2. Note the Community Agreement be piloted in the Auckland region, with a mutual intent to extend it across the full Kaipara Moana Catchment in time, subject to due process.

3. Endorse the Kaipara Maurikura proceeding to operationalise the proposed KMR/DOC Community Agreement (Attachment 2).

Carried

Secretariat note:

The Members discussed the proposed Agreement including the importance of having senior-level DOC signature of the Agreement; how KMR would check for sites of cultural importance (ArchSite); the importance of being clear about how the arrangement would work in practice and testing this through 1-2 early pilot projects; the need to ensure regular checks of plant survival (as usual in KMR projects); the importance of appropriate planting (KMR always uses local, ecosourced plants); the value of potentially prioritising specific locations under the collaboration to increase sediment-reduction and boost conservation values; and the need for effective two-way communication between DOC and KMR to ensure any wrinkles are ironed out early).

The Deputy Chair asked about extending the Agreement into Northland, how this would be managed and timeframes for this. Alex Rogers noted that the DOC Regional Operations Director for the Northern North Island has begun an iwi engagement model and that that approach would be important to support landowners and groups with the rollout. There was no timeframe on this, but DOC was prioritising this engagement and would, through KMR, keep the Joint Committee up to date on progress. The Deputy Chair responded that if needed that NRC could help support this engagement.

Member Davis noted that Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara have been working closely with DOC staff and offered the support of the Trust in this work.

Pou Tātaki Report (Item 6.4)

Report from Justine Daw, Pou Tātaki to provide the Kaipara Moana Remediation (KMR) Joint Committee on progress in key elements of KMR delivery.

Moved (Carmichael/Craw)

That the Joint Committee:

1. Receive the report 'Pou Tātaki Report', by Justine Daw dated 7 April 2025.

Carried

Secretariat note:

Member Blackwell asked whether KMR might be in a position to choose which landowners/groups we worked with this year based on risk/opportunities as opposed to working with all landowners. The Pou Tātaki noted that already KMR takes a risk-based approach to what activities we support and where those activities occur. However as half the Kaipara Moana catchment was erosion-prone, and one eight was highly erodible, it was not a question of working with some landowners and groups, and not others – it was expected that almost every land parcel in the catchment (if not every land parcel) had areas of high risk on it. KMR would also await the results of the Kōrero Tuku Iho project, one of the key foundations of KMR, before developing any longer-term investment strategy.

Member Carmichael asked about the cost benefit analysis outlined in the report, and whether the value of tourism and the value of community resilience and other more local activities were included in the analysis. The Pou Tātaki replied that tourism values were taken into account, as well as social and economic aspects that were known and could be valued using the methodology (e.g. jobs, training, flood resilience).

The Deputy Chair acknowledged the work undertaken by the Pou Tātaki and staff, and the importance of having cost benefit analysis of this sort available for Ministers.

Member Tana asked to consider the benefit of an asset register, and whether the value of this be explored in the future by KMR. The Pou Tātaki noted this suggestion, and indicated that it tied into wider work to better articulate the short-, medium- and long-term values of KMR's work.

Karakia Mutunga

Whakamutunga (Conclusion)

The meeting concluded at 12.53pm.