

Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee Minutes

Rā Date:	Monday, 23 February 2026
Wā Time:	10.30am
Tauwāhi Location:	Wellsford Community Centre,
Huihuinga Gathering	Tame Te Rangi (Chair), Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua Debra Brewer, Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Georgina Curtis-Connelly, Te Uri o Hau Greg Sayers, Auckland Council (AC) Guy Wishart, Auckland Council Ivan Wagstaff, Auckland Council Jack Crow, Northland Regional Council (NRC) John Blackwell, Northland Regional Council Kelly Retimana, Te Uri o Hau Pita Tipene, Northland Regional Council Tracy Davis, Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara
Tae Mai In Attendance	Emma Doré, Acting Pou Tātaki, KMR Lisette Rawson, Amo-Rauora Koāwa, KMR Sophie Bone, PA to Pou Tātaki and Governance Support, KMR Natalie Jarufe, Ringa-Pārongo - Communications and Governance Lead, KMR Marina Ford, Mana Whenua Relations Lead, KMR Duncan Kervell, Consultant, KMR

The Chair declared the meeting open at 10.34am.

KARAKIA | WHAKATAU

TAHITAHĪ | HOUSEKEEPING

Sophie Bone, KMR, provided an overview of Housekeeping and Emergency Procedures.

NGĀ WHAKAPAHĀ | APOLOGIES (ITEM 2.0)

Moved (Sayers /Davis)

That the Joint Committee:

1. Receive the apologies from Member Mike Tana.

Carried

Secretariat Note:

The Chair also noted apologies from Observers, Aoife Broad - Ministry for the Environment (MfE), and Jonathan Gibbard (NRC).

NGĀ WHAKAPUAKANGA | DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (ITEM 3.0)

No interests were declared by the Members.

NGĀ KŌRERO KUA WHAKAAEA | CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES (ITEM 4.1)

Report from Sophie Bone, PA to Pou Tātaki and Governance Support.

Moved (Craw/Blackwell)

That the minutes of the Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee meeting held on 24 November 2025 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Carried

Time was taken for Whakawhanaungatanga, as it was the first time many Members had met after local body elections, iwi elections and other replacements.

JOINT COMMITTEE ACTION TRACKER (ITEM 5.1)

Report from Sophie Bone, PA to Pou Tātaki and Governance Support.

Moved (Curtis-Connelly / Blackwell)

That the Joint Committee:

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

Carried

Secretariat Note:

Sophie Bone provided an overview of the Action Tracker, explaining that it is used to record and monitor member queries and requests, and is updated and presented at each JC hui. Members Sayers and Craw noted to new members that KMR is an exceptional organisation to serve as a governor, with KPIs regularly exceeded and a proactive, tight-knit Maurikura team. Craw also acknowledged the strong leadership of Justine Daw in bringing KMR to its current level of success.

JOINT COMMITTEE FORWARD WORKPLAN (ITEM 5.2)

Report from Sophie Bone, PA to Pou Tātaki and Governance Support.

Moved (Brewer/Curtis-Connelly)

That the Joint Committee:

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

Carried

Secretariat Note:

Sophie Bone provided an overview of the Forward Workplan, explaining that it outlines upcoming high-level work programme items for the Joint Committee. She noted that the Workplan is regularly updated and presented at each JC hui to maintain visibility of priorities and workflows.

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CHAIR (ITEM 6.1)

Report from Sophie Bone, PA to Pou Tātaki and Governance Support.

Moved (Curtis-Connolly/Tipene)

That the Joint Committee:

1. Accept nominations of Local Government Members for the role of Deputy Chair on the KMR Joint Committee
2. Appoint a Deputy Chair by holding a vote.

Carried

Motion to elect John Blackwell as Deputy Chair

Moved (Craw/Tipene)

Vote: Jack Craw, Pita Tipene, Greg Sayers, Georgina Curtis-Connolly, Tracy Davis

Motion to elect Guy Wishart as Deputy Chair

Moved (Wagstaff/Brewer)

Vote: Guy Wishart, Ivan Wagstaff, Debra Brewer

Abstained: John Blackwell, Kelly Retimana, Tame Te Rangī

Apology: Mike Tana

By virtue of show of hands, the Chair declared John Blackwell Deputy Chair of the KMR Joint Committee.

Carried

KŌRERO TUKU IHO – WHAKATAUIRA DELIVERY UPDATE (6.2)

Report from Marina Ford, KMR Mana Whenua Relations Lead

Moved (Curtis-Connolly/Craw)

That the Joint Committee:

1. Receive the 'Kōrero Tuku Iho – Whakatauirā Delivery Update' report by Marina Ford dated 23 February 2026.
2. Note that the delivery entity for the Kōrero Tuku Iho Whakatauirā, focused within the Hukatere Peninsula, has changed from Tinopai Resource Management Unit to the Waihaia Marae Trust.
3. Ratify the Waihaia Marae Trust to deliver the second Kōrero Tuku Iho Case Study on the Hukatere Peninsula.

Carried

Secretariat Note:

Chair Te Rangī outlined the Kōrero Tuku Iho pathway, noting its focus on capturing local stories, histories, values, and the natural features significant to the catchment. He confirmed that the Joint Committee will receive the findings from the Poutō Pātaka Kai Whakatauirā at a future hui. Members also discussed the

ecological significance of the Poutō Lakes Whakatauirā and the importance of understanding the Mauri of the Kaipara when guiding remediation work.

Members sought clarification on any anticipated support the new delivery entity might require, financially or with transitional issues. Marina Ford advised that the proposal remains unchanged, will use funding already approved by the Joint Committee, and that the Waihau Marae Trust has strong relationships with local landowners already engaged or preparing to participate.

The Chair reiterated that KMR is a voluntary programme, supported through a clear Expression of Interest (EOI) process that all individuals and entities must use when seeking funding. He emphasised that JC members can encourage proactive use of the EOI process to promote KMR's kaupapa. The Chair reminded members that funding is granted solely on the strength of submitted EOIs.

Members discussed sediment-monitoring responsibilities, noting that this work sits with the Auckland and Northland Regional Councils. They also acknowledged historic NIWA monitoring and the inconsistent monitoring intervals currently being undertaken.

DRAFT SIX MONTH PROGRESS REPORT (2025-2026) (6.3)

Report from Emma Doré, Acting Pou Tātaki

Moved (Craw/Davis)

That the Joint Committee;

1. Receive the report 'Draft Six Month Progress Report' by Emma Doré, dated 23 February 2026.
2. Approve in principle the 'Six Month Report' attachment
3. Delegate the power to the Chair and Deputy Chair to approve a final draft of the 'Six Month Report' for provision to MfE, with the Pou Tātaki also delegated power to make minor editorial changes prior to submission if required.

Carried

Secretariat Note:

Member Craw thanked Emma Doré and the Maurikura team for an excellent report, noting that KPIs had again been exceeded, particularly in fencing achievements. He also acknowledged the well-worded statement addressing current LO uncertainties around future compliance expectations. Members discussed the need for increased communications to reach new Landowners, noting a slowdown in new EOIs and that many current projects were return applicants. Members highlighted that, given the profile of many landowners in the catchment, engagement is most effective through peer-to-peer relationships.

Lisette Rawson provided a verbal update on current and planned engagement, including the Te Orewai Native Nursery Open Day, which resulted in new EOIs. She noted that a new Communications and Engagement Strategy is being developed and welcomed ideas from members on engaging communities where KMR is less visible.

Member Blackwell suggested promoting the 'Grant West' story to help engage with drystock farmers.

POU TĀTAKI REPORT (ITEM 6.4)

Report from Emma Doré, Acting Pou Tātaki

Moved (Curtis-Connelly/Brewer)

That the Joint Committee:

1. Receive the 'Pou Tātaki Report' by Emma Doré dated 23 February 2026

Carried

Secretariat Note:

Members discussed the changing political environment, including proposals to disestablish MfE and Regional Councils, and the uncertainty caused by delays in regulatory processes such as the Freshwater Farm Plans.

They agreed that the best approach was to continue with business as usual and remain proactive until more was known. Chair Te Rangi noted historical Treasury analysis showed a \$3.94 return for every dollar invested, which Ministers responded well to. He emphasised the importance of preparing for potential changes in government and maintaining certainty around the MoU.

Members discussed the potential for research to further support KMR's programme, and highlighted the significant capacity of several large philanthropic landholders in the Kaipara catchment who are open to native planting and land-use change. Members also noted that various Crown-led trading schemes—such as the ETS and biodiversity credits—may influence future opportunities. The discussion emphasised the importance of KMR preparing and positioning the programme to take advantage of these developments.

Member Retimana suggested engagement with land agents—who often have long-standing knowledge of farm operations and land blocks — could be incorporated into the new communications plan. Doré added that while this targeted engagement had not been necessary previously, the updated plan will broaden engagement across different communities and networks. The Chair highlighted KMR's strong existing relationships with sector partners such as HortNZ, Fonterra, and Beef + Lamb, and noted the intention to establish catchment reference groups to connect these networks and strengthen engagement. Member Curtis-Connelly acknowledged the Cawthron self-nomination and other nominations, and provided congratulations to the Maurikura on the co-funding relationships already established.

LUNCH BREAK 12.35 – 1.07pm

Bi-Annual GIS Spatial Analysis (Verbal Updates) – Duncan Kervell (Consultant)

Secretariat Note:

Members discussed the monitoring responsibilities of each Council, as well as wider organisational integration. Members also asked whether the data provided in the presentations was shareable, and we were able to identify high value, highly erodible potential projects in neighbouring properties. Duncan Kervell confirmed that potential projects were easily identifiable, but the Chair reminded Members that although the tools were capable, KMR is strictly a voluntary programme, and it is not in KMR's mandate to identify, contact and seek out projects with Landowners. Staff confirmed that a Communications and Engagement Strategy was in development, and Lisette Rawson informed members that the Field Advisors were given support in identifying engagement opportunities, provided tools and resources, and encouraged to network in different community spaces. Duncan Kervell clarified that the gap in projects in the southern areas of the catchment is not likely to be due to a lack of KMR capacity or capability, as Field Advisors are active in the area. He noted that some landowners remain hesitant due to regulatory and industry uncertainties, and that the variety of land parcel and use types — including some that are ineligible — also contributes to the slower uptake.

Member Sayers asked about the on-the-ground situation with forestry. Duncan Kervell explained that commercial forestry operates under its own set of rules, but KMR engages with these landowners when they are looking to retire areas or change their forestry profile, with the greatest traction occurring in sub-economic or retiring areas.

Members then discussed the future of the Intellectual Property (IP) created through the programme, and how this might be used on conclusion. They queried whether this should be explored now. Staff shared that the IP was jointly owned by the signatories, so future use would be at their decision. The Chair noted that addressing this would require dedicated capacity, which is currently limited, and emphasised that immediate priorities take precedence.

He confirmed that KMR differentiates between commercial, lifestyle, and other property types, as the work required varies. In response to questions about subdivision, Lisette clarified that KMR has funding restrictions relating to subdivision areas, and the number of such properties changes over time so it is reviewed as needed.

The Chair explained that the intention is to engage directly with Landowners (LOs), rather than land managers, forestry entities, or contractors. He questioned where operational responsibility should begin and end. Members sought clarity on whether KMR was able to map out exclusions of ineligible properties. Duncan Kervell shared that it was possible to model it, and it could be used to support the communications strategy, but this hadn't been a priority to date given that the reduction in EOIs is a new and evolving issue. Member Brewer highlighted the importance of strengthening connections across the southern area of the catchment emphasising that despite busyness, effective engagement requires strong community buy-in and clear messaging.

Member Wagstaff noted the Rodney Local Board's support for local conservation groups and suggested sharing their engagement insights with KMR. Duncan Kervell responded that Partnership Forums in South Kaipara already involve many of these groups, so agreed there is an opportunity to work collaboratively.

Karakia Mutunga

Whakamutunga (Conclusion)

The meeting concluded at 2.16 pm.