



**Ngāti Kahungunu**

ki Wairarapa Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua Settlement Trust

# Trust Deed Review

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**Hui Information Booklet**

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MAY-JUNE 2026



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Image: Group photo, 2025 AGM. Image credit: Geoff Walker.

# 1 Te pūtake

## What is all this about?

This document provides whānau with information to consider ahead of our upcoming Trust Deed Review Engagement Hui (May-June 2026), including:

What a Trust Deed is

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Why we are reviewing our Trust Deed

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What is included in our current Trust Deed

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Feedback we have received to date

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How you can provide additional feedback

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Next steps in our process

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## 2 He kōrero mō tātou

### Who we are

Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua are mana whenua of the biggest land mass area in the North Island of Aotearoa New Zealand. Our rohe extends from Turakirae in the south, to the headwaters of the Manawatū Awa in the Ruahine Ranges in the north, to Poroporo at Cape Turnagain on the eastern coast.

Census 2023 data reports that there were 17,181 people who whakapapa to Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua. Of these, 14,409 whakapapa to Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa, and 2,772 whakapapa to Ngāti Kahungunu ki Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua.

As of 1 May 2026, we have 10,986 uri registered with the Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua Settlement Trust (8,523 adults and 2,463 tamariki).

Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua signed our Deed of Settlement with the Crown in 2021, with resulting legislation enacted in 2022. The settlement includes cultural, financial and commercial redress and establishes a new Te Tiriti relationship, He Kawenata Hou, as a post-settlement partnership between our iwi and the Crown.

Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua Settlement Trust (the Trust) is the Post-Settlement Governance Entity (PSGE) responsible for receiving and administering settlement assets on behalf of our people. The Settlement Trust has 12 Trustees appointed by our nine Hapū Karanga.

Current Trustees are:

<b>Akura</b>	<b>Taura Te Whata</b>
<b>Hurunui-ō-Rangi Marae</b>	<b>Justina Webster</b>
<b>Ngāi Tūmapūhia-ā-Rangi</b>	<b>Patrick Mason</b>
<b>Ngāti Hinewaka</b>	<b>Haami Te Whaiti</b>
<b>Papawai Marae</b>	<b>Paora Ammunson</b>
<b>Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua</b>	<b>Hayden Hape, Kaylene Kani, Bryan Te Huki, Jono Harrison</b>
<b>Te Hika a Papauma ki Whakataki Marae</b>	<b>Robin Potangaroa</b>
<b>Te Ore Ore Marae</b>	<b>Huria Robens</b>
<b>Wairarapa Moana</b>	<b>Noelene Reti</b>

The Settlement Trust has three subsidiary entities that carry out certain functions on our behalf:

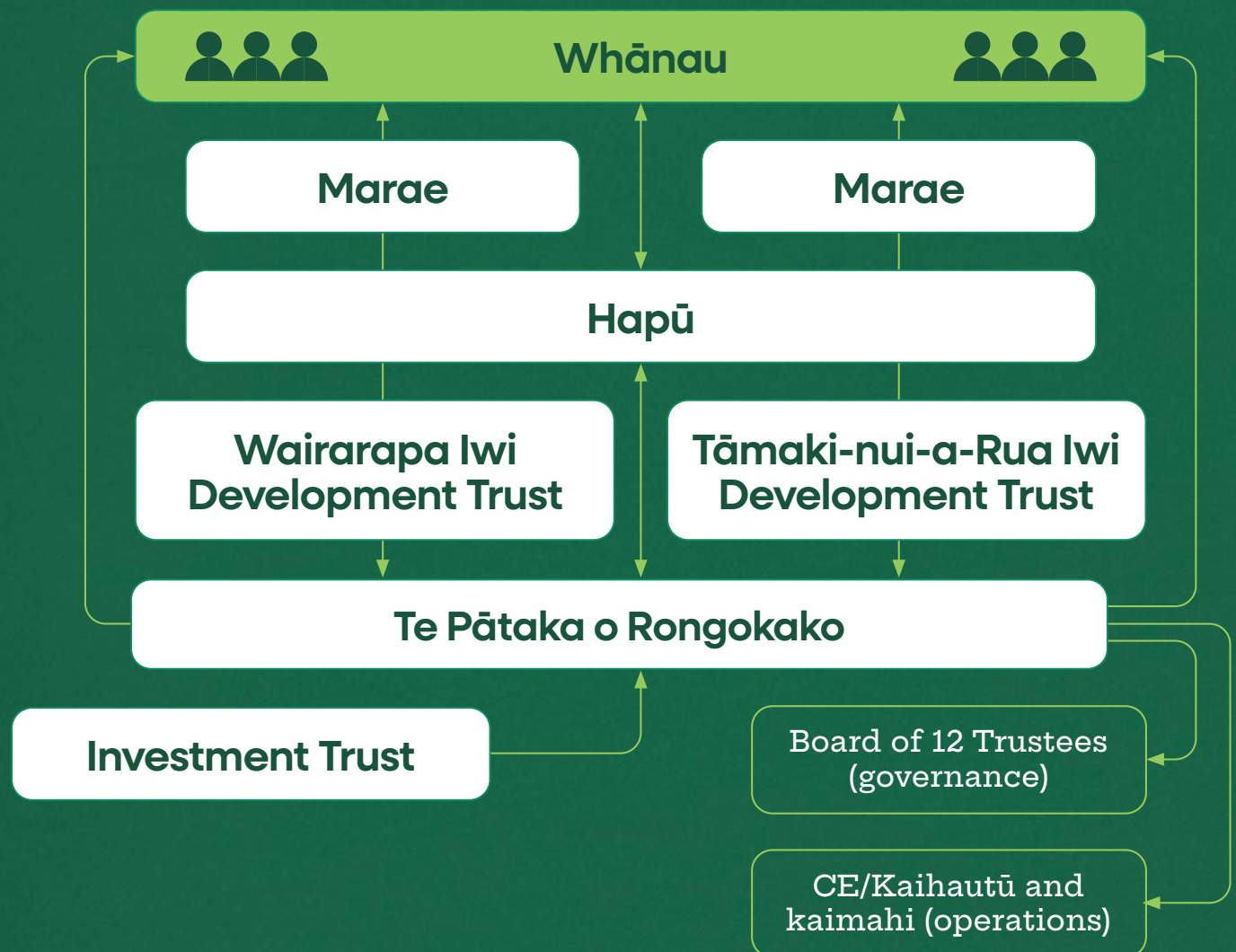
**Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua Investment Trust:** our commercial entity, which invests pūtea prudently to gain capital growth and provide operating income.

**Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Iwi Development Trust and Ngāti Kahungunu ki Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua Iwi Development Trust:** our cultural, environmental and social entities, that work with our hapū and marae to realise their aspirations.

In January 2026, the Settlement Trust confirmed with whānau we would adopt a new trading name, **Te Pātaka o Rongokako**.

Although our legal name remains Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua Settlement Trust, publicly we will be known as Te Pātaka o Rongokako. This new name represents our fundamental role as a pātaka for our hapū and whānau, while carefully managing our shared resources. Rongokako is our tipuna, uniting and inspiring our iwi, and reminding us of our hononga.

## ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Iwi Development Trust, Ngāti Kahungunu ki Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua Iwi Development Trust and our Investment Trust each have their own Trust Deed and their own Board of Trustees. Any changes to our overall Trust Deed will flow through to the Trust Deeds for Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Iwi Development Trust, Ngāti Kahungunu ki Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua Iwi Development Trust and Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua Investment Trust, so we are all aligned.

# 3 Te tirohanga whānui

## Overview

### WHAT IS A TRUST DEED?

The Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua Settlement Trust Deed (the ‘Trust Deed’) is the document that sets out the rules, practices, kawa and tikanga for how the Trust must govern, to protect our settlement.

#### Examples of things that the Trust Deed covers includes:

Rules about how to run Trustee elections

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How our uri are represented (e.g. Hapū Karanga and number of Trustees)

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Roles and responsibilities of Trustees

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Plans that need to be developed

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Rules on auditing processes

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The process for holding Annual and Special General Meetings.

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You can view or download the full Trust Deed on our website at

[www.kkwtnr.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/Signed-PSGE-Trust-Deed-2017.pdf](http://www.kkwtnr.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/Signed-PSGE-Trust-Deed-2017.pdf)

A full list of all the Trust Deed sections and schedules is in the Appendix of this booklet at page 15.

### WHY ARE WE REVIEWING OUR TRUST DEED?

The current Trust Deed was adopted in 2017, when we were still working through our settlement negotiations. A lot has changed since 2017! We are now in our post-settlement phase, moving forward with intention and energy.

We made a commitment to undertake a review after five years of the Trust Deed being in place. The review is about assessing how well the Trust Deed is working – are the existing arrangements working well or do changes need to be made?

Whāia Legal conducted an initial legal review in 2022, with updated recommendations in late 2024. We are now in the process of building on this legal review, to ensure our hapū and whānau voice is heard and considered in our proposed amendments. We will take these proposed amendments to our registered uri for resolution (voting) at a Special General Meeting (SGM).

A summary of the legal review recommendations is at page 11.

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**More information on the Special General Meeting (SGM) is under Next Steps at page 14.**

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## WHY DOES IT MATTER?

We must review our Trust Deed to ensure that it has strong, fair governance practices and standards, and complies with all legal requirements.

The Trust Deed must be a relevant, living document that meets current best practice and is legally robust. It must be fit for purpose and serve our Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua uri well.

## OUR PROCESS TO DATE

As part of our Trust Deed Review, we have completed these actions:

Engaged Whāia Legal to conduct a legal review in 2022, updated in 2024, with initial recommendations made at that time

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Sought feedback from our Trustees on the Trust Deed

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Provided a Trust Deed Review update at our AGM on 24 January 2026

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Completed an online survey over January and February of this year.

**See page 12 for a summary of results and feedback from the online survey.**

We are now planning to hold Trust Deed Review hui with our registered uri, in Mangakino, Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua, Wairarapa and online. Please see below our hui schedule:

DATE	START TIME	LOCATION
23 May 2026	10am	Pouākani Marae, 57 Moana Crescent, Mangakino
27 May 2026	6pm	The Hub, 23 Gordon Street, Dannevirke
9 June 2026	6pm	Online meeting (via Zoom)
20 June 2026	10am	Wairarapa Events Centre, 50 Holloway Street, Carterton

## 4 Te Ture a te Tarati

### Our Trust Deed

Our current Trust Deed is over 100 pages long. It has 29 sections with 11 schedules, which provide extra detail. A full list of all the sections and schedules is included as an Appendix at page 15.

So, to help make it easier we have summarised the key parts here.

This is an overview of what's in our Trust Deed. There are rules for governance and management (simply put – who we are, what we are here to do and how we must do it).

#### **THE TRUST MUST:**

Manage settlement assets carefully for current and future generations of uri

Advance iwi cultural, social, environmental, and economic wellbeing

Establish and maintain a Register of Members

Support hapū, marae and whānau development

Engage with hapū, marae and whānau on matters affecting their interests

Protect and enhance taonga tuku iho, including mātauranga Māori and wāhi tapu

Be anchored in Te Tiriti principles and tikanga Māori

Represent iwi interests with Crown, local government and external partners, be your advocate and voice to protect your interests.



## **TO DO THIS, THE TRUST CAN OR MUST:**

Establish commercial subsidiaries or joint ventures, delegate functions to committees, subsidiaries, or agents while retaining oversight

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Acquire, hold, manage, lease, or dispose of property and assets

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Employ staff, contractors, or advisors

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Enter into contracts, agreements, and partnerships

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Develop strategic plans, policies, frameworks and approve budgets.

## **THE TRUST MUST FOLLOW RULES FOR:**

Complying with legislation and settlement obligations

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Managing your funds prudently, including through investment policies or external managers, consistent with risk management policies

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Reporting and meetings, including AGM, quorum, decision making, and collective responsibility

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Consulting for significant decisions

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Resolving disputes and issues.

## **THE DEED SETS RULES ON REPRESENTATION AND THE TRUSTEES:**

Sets number of Trustees, term, eligibility and appointment – currently 12 Trustees representing nine Hapū Karanga (eight Wairarapa and four Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua) for three-year terms

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Election process, procedures for removal, resignation and filling vacancies

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Kaumātua representation or advisory roles

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Subsidiaries must have both Wairarapa and Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua Hapū Karanga representation.



## COMPARISON WITH OTHER TRUST DEEDS

As part of the Trust Deed Review, we have considered how our 2017 Trust Deed compares with more recent Post-Settlement Governance Entity (PSGE) Trust Deeds. This helps us to see what changes we could propose to make our Trust Deed more up to date.

The following table shows areas where our Trust Deed could be improved to reflect modern PSGE Trust Deeds.

<b>PURPOSE, VISION AND CULTURAL FOUNDATIONS</b>	<p>Modern deeds have more detail about cultural leadership and long-term wellbeing outcomes.</p> <p><b>Example:</b> Explicit embedding of tikanga, kawa, and mātauranga Māori in governance and operations.</p>
<b>BENEFICIARIES AND REPRESENTATION</b>	<p>Representation models today enable more digital tools.</p> <p><b>Example:</b> More detailed rules for digital participation (online voting, virtual AGMs).</p>
<b>GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE</b>	<p>Modern deeds focus on capability, professionalism, and independence.</p> <p><b>Example:</b> Clearer competency frameworks for Trustees (finance, tikanga, governance, risk).</p>
<b>POWERS OF TRUSTEES</b>	<p>Modern deeds provide clearer accountability for Trustees.</p> <p><b>Example:</b> Stronger risk management and investment governance frameworks.</p>
<b>SUBSIDIARIES AND GROUP STRUCTURE</b>	<p>Modern structures better protect iwi assets.</p> <p><b>Example:</b> Stronger protection of cultural assets from commercial risk.</p>
<b>ACCOUNTABILITY AND REPORTING</b>	<p>Modern deeds expect more frequent reporting.</p> <p><b>Example:</b> Clear KPIs for social, cultural, environmental, and economic outcomes.</p>
<b>CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP</b>	<p>Modern deeds embed cultural and environmental responsibilities more deeply.</p> <p><b>Example:</b> Integration of mātauranga Māori into decision making.</p>
<b>AMENDMENTS AND MAJOR DECISIONS</b>	<p>Modern deeds provide clearer, more democratic ways to make changes.</p> <p><b>Example:</b> Clearer definition of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What requires your approval</li> <li>• What Trustees can amend themselves.</li> </ul>

## LEGAL REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS

Whāia Legal reviewed our 2017 Trust Deed in 2022 and provided updated legal recommendations in 2024. The legal review noted that the Trust Deed is long and complex. It recommended that the Trust Deed is updated to fit with the Trusts Act 2019 and reflect best practice for Post-Settlement Governance Entities (PSGEs).

### Key legal recommendations:

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**1 INCORPORATE THE TRUST**

This would limit the personal liability of Trustees and enable more efficient management of Trust assets.

**2 PROVIDE FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT TRUSTEE (NOT A REGISTERED MEMBER)**

This would provide independence and reduce any potential political/relationship tension.

**3 MODIFY INVESTMENT OBLIGATION TO ALLOW FOR CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT**

This would allow the Trust to make cultural investments that do not necessarily provide a commercial return.

**4 CLARIFY THE RULES FOR TRUSTEES TO MONITOR THE PERFORMANCE OF SUBSIDIARIES**

This would ensure Trustees can rely on the skills and expertise of subsidiary Trustees.

**5 ADOPT A CODE OF CONDUCT FOR TRUSTEES**

This would provide clearer lines of accountability.

**6 ELIMINATE ‘WAKA JUMPING’ LEADING INTO TRUSTEE ELECTIONS**

Once nominations for a Trustee election are notified, no Adult Registered Member would be able to apply to change their Hapū Karanga for voting purposes until new Trustees take office.

This ensures fairness of representation and protects the validity of the election process.

**7 TIDY UP TERMS AND CORRECT REDUNDANT MATTERS**

This would ensure the Trust Deed is up to date, accurate and only refers to current statutes (laws).

# 5 Ngā kōrero ā mohoa

## Feedback so far

### ONLINE SURVEY

We shared an online survey with whānau in January and February 2026 and received nearly 100 responses. We asked several pātai to gather key themes and understanding, including:

How well do you think the Settlement Trust reflects uri, hapū and iwi aspirations?

Which kaupapa should the Trust prioritise over the next 5-15 years?

Do you understand how the Trust makes its decisions?

Do you feel that uri, hapū and iwi understand how the Trust makes its decisions?

How well do you think the current governance structure represents uri, hapū and iwi?

How confident are you that the Trust acts in the best interests of both current and future members and uri?

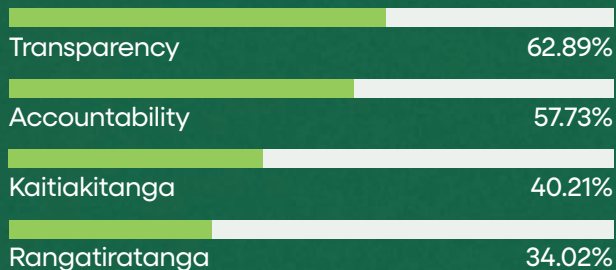
What values should guide any changes to the Trust Deed?

### HIGH LEVEL RESULTS

This shows an example of the level of agreement and/or support that was shown by respondents for some key questions from our survey.

For example, when asked to choose the top four values (from a multichoice list) that should guide any Trust Deed changes, 62.89% of respondents selected 'Transparency' and 57.73% selected 'Accountability'.

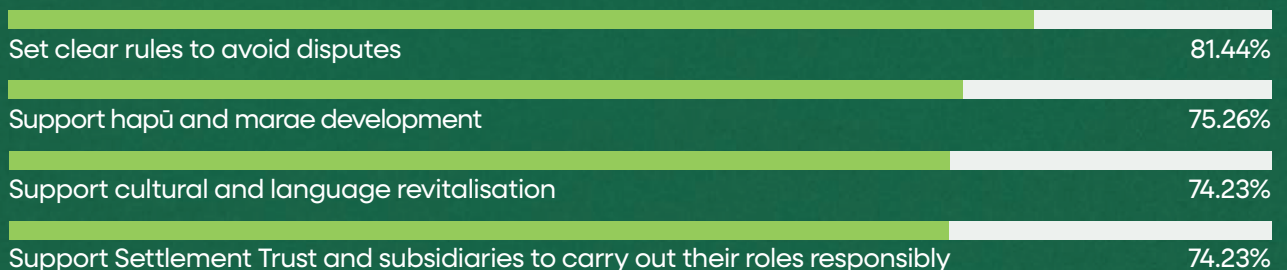
#### VALUES TO GUIDE TRUST DEED CHANGES



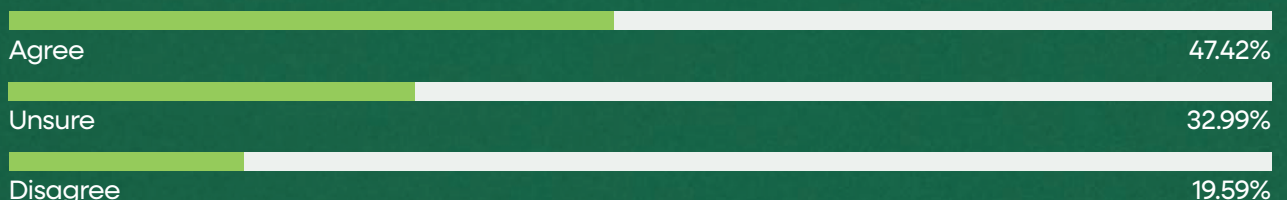
#### KAUPAPA PRIORITY 5-15 YEARS



#### MOST IMPORTANT FOR TRUST DEED TO



#### CURRENT MODEL OF 12 TRUSTEES STILL APPROPRIATE



## SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK AND CONSIDERATIONS

Here is a summary of key feedback received from the online survey, presented by theme. We have included some things to consider based on the feedback received and how these could inform possible changes to the current Trust Deed.

THEME	FEEDBACK SUMMARY	THINGS TO CONSIDER
<b>REPRESENTATION &amp; GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE</b>	Fair hapū representation, skills-based Trustee selection, Trustee qualifications, even numbers, chair appointment process.	Review Trustee eligibility, selection criteria, and leadership appointment processes. Consider balancing representation and capability frameworks.
<b>STRATEGIC DIRECTION &amp; VISION</b>	Requests for long-term strategy (5-10-100 years), milestones, mokopuna-focused decision-making.	Clarify purpose statements or strategic obligations of Trustees (e.g., requirement for strategic planning).
<b>TRANSPARENCY &amp; ACCOUNTABILITY</b>	Calls for financial transparency, consolidated accounts, audits of dividends, clearer limits on Trustee powers, CE accountability.	Clarify financial reporting obligations, audit requirements, and accountability frameworks between Trustees and management.
<b>REGISTRATION INTEGRITY &amp; DATA ACCURACY</b>	Incorrect whakapapa records, fraud concerns, member verification.	Strengthen verification procedures, appeals process, and protections against fraudulent registration.
<b>TRUSTEE ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES &amp; REMUNERATION</b>	Clearer role definitions, remuneration structure, accountability mechanisms.	Clarify Trustee roles, remuneration framework, and accountability provisions.
<b>COMMUNICATION</b>	Members want regular updates, newsletters, pānui, clearer communication, outreach to off-rohe uri, and accessible information.	Clarify formal reporting expectations (e.g., annual and interim reporting to members). Clarify communication mechanisms (AGM, pānui, digital engagement).
<b>TE AO MĀORI &amp; CULTURAL FOUNDATIONS</b>	Strengthening te reo Māori, cultural revitalisation, mana whenua restoration, marae support.	Strengthen recognition of te ao Māori values and cultural outcomes in the deed purpose clauses.
<b>SUPPORT FOR WHĀNAU</b>	Support for disadvantaged whānau, marae support, expanded grants portfolio, off-rohe engagement.	Clarify grant categories, beneficiary eligibility, and funding priorities.
<b>FINANCIAL DISTRIBUTION &amp; DIVIDENDS</b>	Deliver dividends, audit payouts, review rohe-based allocations.	Clarify dividend policy, auditing requirements, and allocation mechanisms.
<b>MEMBER PARTICIPATION &amp; OPENNESS</b>	Requests for open forums, opportunities to speak at meetings, and additional submission channels.	Clarify member participation rights, consultation processes, and submission opportunities.

## 6 Te ara ki mua

### Next steps

Once we have held our engagement hui, we will consider all your feedback. Together with the legal review recommendations, we will start working on the proposed amendments to the Trust Deed.

The proposed amendments will be written as resolutions to update the Trust Deed, and these will be shared with you.

A **Special General Meeting (SGM)** will then be held for all our adult registered members to vote. For the proposed amendments to be adopted, at least:

75% of the members who vote, must vote in support, and;

20% of all our adult registered members must vote.

This can be in person at the SGM or by postal or digital vote, as determined by the Trustees.

We will provide plenty of notice of the proposed amendments, and the date for the SGM, once these are confirmed.

We will advertise the SGM and the proposed amendments on Facebook and our website.

Please ensure your contact details are up to date in our registration database, so we can send you information via email and voting packs in the post for the Trust Deed Review amendments.

## 7 Whakapā mai

### Contact us

Here is our engagement hui schedule for the Trust Deed Review:

DATE	START TIME	LOCATION
23 May 2026	10am	Pouākani Marae, 57 Moana Crescent, Mangakino
27 May 2026	6pm	The Hub, 23 Gordon Street, Dannevirke
9 June 2026	6pm	Online meeting (via Zoom)
20 June 2026	10am	Wairarapa Events Centre, 50 Holloway Street, Carterton

Copies of our hui agenda (including what we will cover on the day) will be made available as a separate document.

If you can't attend any of the hui and would like to send us your feedback on the Trust Deed Review, please email: [administration@kkwtnr.org.nz](mailto:administration@kkwtnr.org.nz)

# Appendix

## Full list of Trust Deed (2017) sections and schedules

Our current Trust Deed is over 100 pages long. It has 29 sections with 11 schedules. The schedules provide more detail for certain sections.

Here is the full list of sections and schedules from the current Trust Deed (2017), as a reference if you wish to read specific parts of the document.

1. Definitions and Interpretations (refer page 14)	14. General Meetings (refer page 33)
2. Establishment, Purpose and Principles of Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua Settlement Trust (refer page 22)	15. Conflicts of Interest (refer page 37)
3. Elections, Powers and Meetings of Trustee and Trustees (refer page 25)	16. Prohibition of benefit or advantage (refer page 38)
4. Chief Executive Officer and Other Employees (refer page 26)	17. Remuneration and expenses (refer page 39)
5. Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua to establish subsidiaries (refer page 26)	18. Liability of Trustees (refer page 39)
6. Application of Income (refer page 26)	19. Indemnity and Insurance (refer page 39)
7. Marae Restoration, Maintenance and Development Fund (refer page 28)	20. Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua Settlement Trust not to be brought into disrepute (refer page 40)
8. Reconnection of Ngāti Kahungunu ki Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua to their lands (refer page 28)	21. Review of Trust Deed (refer page 42)
9. Plans (refer page 29)	22. Amendments to Trust Deed (refer page 42)
10. Annual Reports, Accounts and Auditor (refer page 30)	23. Addition to and removal of cultural assets in tenth schedule (refer page 43)
11. Plans and Reports of Subsidiaries (refer page 31)	24. Resettlement (refer page 44)
12. Disclosure of plans, reports and minutes (refer page 32)	25. Winding Up (refer page 44)
13. No disclosure of sensitive information (refer page 33)	26. Archiving of records (refer page 44)
	27. Dispute resolution (refer page 44)
	28. Custodian Trustee (refer page 46)
	29. Perpetuities (refer page 46)

<b>FIRST SCHEDULE</b>	Membership of Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua and Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua Register	(refer page 47)
<b>SECOND SCHEDULE</b>	Election of Trustees	(refer page 52)
<b>THIRD SCHEDULE</b>	Kaumātua	(refer page 67)
<b>FOURTH SCHEDULE</b>	Trustees' Powers and Duties	(refer page 68)
<b>FIFTH SCHEDULE</b>	Proceedings of the Trustees	(refer page 70)
<b>SIXTH SCHEDULE</b>	Chief Executive Officer and other employees	(refer page 75)
<b>SEVENTH SCHEDULE</b>	Subsidiaries and the Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua Group	(refer page 76)
<b>EIGHTH SCHEDULE</b>	Procedure for passing special resolutions	(refer page 81)
<b>NINTH SCHEDULE</b>	Hapū Karanga	(refer page 86)
<b>TENTH SCHEDULE</b>	Cultural Lands	(refer page 97)
<b>ELEVENTH SCHEDULE</b>	Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua area of interest	(refer page 98)



# Ngāti Kahungunu

ki Wairarapa Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua Settlement Trust