

Te Manawhenua Forum mō Matamata-Piako



Kaupapataka Wātea | Open Agenda



Notice is hereby given that an ordinary meeting of the Te Manawhenua Forum mō Matamata-Piako will be held on:

Ko te rā | Date: Tuesday 14 April 2026
Wā | Time: 10:00
Wāhi | Venue: Council Chambers
35 Kenrick Street
TE AROHA

NGĀ MEMA | MEMBERSHIP

Tiamana Chairperson:	Hinerangi Vaimoso	Mema Tūturu Principal Member:	Mema Tautoko Alternate Member:
Ngāti Hauā	Rangitonga Kaukau		Tumohe Clarke
Ngāti Hinerangi	Dianna Vaimoso		Hinerangi Vaimoso
Ngāti Maru	Craig Solomon		Waati Ngamane
Ngāti Rāhiri-Tumutumu	Jill Taylor		Norm Hill
Ngāti Pāoa	Tahauariki Thompson		Glenice Puke
Ngāti Whanaunga	Michael Baker		Gavin Anderson
Raukawa	Leo Whaiapu		Andrea Julian
Ngāti Tamaterā	Arama Ngapo		<i>Vacant</i>

Te Kaunihera ā-rohe o | Matamata-Piako District Council
Koromatua | Mayor: Ash Tanner
Koromatua Tautoko | Deputy Mayor: James Sainsbury
Kaunihera ā-Rohe | District Councillor: Rewiti Vaimoso

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Ā-TIKANGA | PROCEDURAL

1	Whakatūwheratanga o te hui Meeting Opening	3
2	Karakia Prayer	3
3	Ngā whakapāha/Tono whakawātea Apologies/Leave of Absence	3
4	Panui i Ngā Take Ohore Anō Notification of Urgent/Additional Business	3
5	Whākī pānga Declarations of Interest	3
6	Whakaaentanga mēneti Confirmation of Minutes	3

NGĀ PŪRONGO A NGĀ ĀPIHA | OFFICER REPORTS

7	Pūrongo me whakatau Decision Reports	
7.1	Confirmation of the Iwi Aspirations Statement	4
7.2	Making Good Decisions - Resource Management Act Hearing Commissioner Training	10
7.3	Retrospective approval of the submission on the Ngāti Rāhiri Tumutumu Claims Settlement Bill	25
8	Ngā Pūrongo Whakamārama Information Reports	
8.1	Civil Defence Emergency Management	29

1 Whakatūwheratanga o te hui | Meeting Opening

The Tiamana | Chairperson is to open the meeting.

2 Karakia | Prayer

The karakia is to be performed.

3 Ngā whakapāha/Tono whakawātea | Apologies/Leave of Absence

At the close of the agenda no apologies had been received.

4 Pānui take ohorere | Notification of Urgent Business

Section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (as amended) states:

“An item that is not on the agenda for a meeting may be dealt with at that meeting if-

- (a) The local authority by resolution so decides; and
- (b) The presiding member explains at the meeting, at a time when it is open to the public,-
 - (i) The reason why the item is not on the agenda; and
 - (ii) The reason why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.”

Section 46A(7A) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (as amended) states:

“Where an item is not on the agenda for a meeting,-

- (a) That item may be discussed at that meeting if-
 - (i) That item is a minor matter relating to the general business of the local authority; and
 - (ii) the presiding member explains at the beginning of the meeting, at a time when it is open to the public, that the item will be discussed at the meeting; but
- (b) no resolution, decision or recommendation may be made in respect of that item except to refer that item to a subsequent meeting of the local authority for further discussion.”

5 Whākī pānga | Declaration of Interest

Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest they might have in respect of the items on this Agenda.

6 Whakaaetanga Mēneti | Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes, as circulated, of the ordinary meeting of Te Mana Whenua Forum mō Matamata-Piako, held on 10 February 2026

7 Pūrongo me whakatau | Decision Reports

7.1 Confirmation of the Iwi Aspirations Statement

CM No.: 3156432

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to present the Te Manawhenua Forum Iwi Aspirational Statement for endorsement, and to seek agreement to progress the statement to Council for consideration as part of the Long Term Plan and wider strategic direction (through strategies and plans).

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

The Iwi Aspirational Statement is intended to guide how Te Ao Māori perspectives and mana whenua aspirations can be meaningfully reflected in Council's strategic direction, including the Long Term Plan (LTP). It signals a continued shift toward stronger partnership, more consistent engagement, and greater visibility of iwi priorities across Council decision making.

This report seeks endorsement of the Iwi Aspirational Statement and agreement to progress it to Council for consideration.

Tūtohunga | Recommendation

That:

1. **The Iwi Aspiration Statement be received.**
2. **The Forum recommends to Council that the Iwi Aspirational Statement be received and considered as part of the development of the Long-Term Plan and wider strategic direction (through strategies and plans).**

Horopaki | Background

Te Manawhenua Forum was established to provide a space for Mana Whenua to engage with Council on matters of shared interest, with a focus on building strong, enduring relationships and supporting meaningful participation in decision making.

Over time, the Forum has moved beyond information sharing toward more strategic kōrero, particularly in relation to how Te Tiriti values and principles can be reflected in Council practice, and how Mana Whenua aspirations are taken into consideration.

Through a series of hui, Forum members have worked collectively to articulate a shared aspirational statement. This has included refining whakaaro across a number of key areas such as partnership, cultural visibility, environmental stewardship, representation, and Māori economic development. Staff have supported this process by helping to translate these aspirations into a format that can be understood within Council planning frameworks, including the Long Term Plan (LTP).

This work has also been informed by parallel discussions with Council on the development of the LTP, including early thinking on the Vision and Community Outcomes, and how community feedback is being used to shape strategic direction. This has created a timely opportunity to align the aspirations of Te Manawhenua Forum with Council's longer term planning processes.

The Iwi Aspirational Statement is intended to guide how mana whenua perspectives can be reflected in Council's strategic direction and decision making.

Ngā Take/Kōrerorero | Issues/Discussion

The Iwi Aspirational Statement sets out a collective vision for the district, grounded in Te Ao Māori and supported by key pou including Tiriti-based relationships, cultural vibrancy, kaitiakitanga, meaningful representation, Māori economic development, and acting in good faith.

Rather than being a standalone document, the intent is for these aspirations to influence how Council works across its full range of functions. This includes strategy and policy development, infrastructure planning, service delivery, and engagement processes.

Recent Council work on the LTP has focused on defining a draft Vision and Community Outcomes, alongside identifying priority areas through community feedback. There is a clear opportunity to align the Forum's aspirations with this work in a way that is practical and enduring.

Initial discussions with staff have identified a number of areas where this alignment could occur, including:





- Embedding partnership approaches more consistently across the Vision and Community Outcomes
- Strengthening the Māori participation in decision making section of the LTP, in partnership with the Forum
- Reflecting mātauranga Māori and environmental stewardship within infrastructure and resilience planning
- Supporting Māori economic development as part of the broader economic development approach
- Creating more structured opportunities for Mana Whenua input into key strategies and projects.

This supports a more sustainable and effective way of working and aligns with Council's obligations under the Local Government Act 2002 to provide for Māori participation in decision making.

This report seeks endorsement from Te Manawhenua Forum to progress the Iwi Aspirational Statement to Council, and to continue working alongside staff to refine how these aspirations are reflected through the LTP and wider Council processes.

Te Tākoha ki ngā Hua mō te Hapori me te here ki te whakakitenga o te Kaunihera | Contribution to Community Outcomes

Matamata Piako District Council's Community Outcomes are set out below:

MATAMATA-PIAKO TŌ MĀTOU WĀHI NOHO OUR PLACE		MATAMATA-PIAKO DISTRICT COUNCIL TE ARA RAUTAKI STRATEGIC DIRECTION	
TŌ MĀTOU WHAKAKITENGA OUR VISION Matamata-Piako District is vibrant, passionate, progressive, where opportunity abounds. 'The heart of our community is our people, and the people are the heart of our community.'			
TŌ MĀTOU WHĀINGA MATUA OUR PRIORITIES (COMMUNITY OUTCOMES)			
			
He wāhi kaingākau ki te manawa A place with people at its heart	He wāhi puawaitanga A place to thrive	He wāhi e poipoi ai tō tātou taiao A place that embraces our environment	He wāhi whakapapa, he wāhi hangahanga A place to belong and create

- All the community outcomes are relevant to the Iwi Aspirational Statement.

Ngā Tāpiritanga | Attachments

[A. Iwi Aspiration Statement_TMF_2026](#)

Ngā waitohu | Signatories

Author(s)	Tayla Bamber Kai-whakahaere ā-Tūhono Iwi Relationship Advisor	
	Tuatahi Nightingale-Pene Pou Tūhono Iwi Relationship Manager	
Approved by	Kelly Reith Hautū Rangatōpū, Tāngata me ngā Hononga Group Manager Corporate, People & Relationships	

Introduction

With a shared commitment to building a strong and inclusive community, Te Manawhenua Forum members and the Matamata-Piako District Council (MPDC) have come together to develop an aspirational vision for the district's future. This document reflects the collective aspirations and priorities identified by Manawhenua representatives via the Forum to guide the long-term growth and development of the district while intending to honour the Te Tiriti.

Te Tiriti o Waitangi is widely recognised as a founding document of Aotearoa New Zealand. It reflects an enduring relationship between iwi and the Crown and affirms the place of iwi as tangata whenua within this district.

While Te Tiriti was an agreement between Iwi and the Crown, its significance extends to everyone who calls this place home. It provides a foundation for how we can live and work together, recognising Manawhenua identity, authority, and connection to place, while creating space for all communities to belong and contribute.

In this context, Te Tiriti offers an opportunity to build a shared future grounded in respect, partnership, and active participation, where the aspirations of Manawhenua help guide the wellbeing of the whole district.

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to highlight the aspirational vision of Manawhenua as a type of written statement and declaration that outlines the aspirations, goals, and ideals of Manawhenua who contributed to the vision of our district.

Vision

A thriving and inclusive community in the Matamata-Piako District that honours and embraces Te Ao Māori, fostering strong partnerships and recognising the potential of Māori Economic Development for long-term district growth.

Aspirational Values

1. Tiriti-based Relationship

We envision a district where the relationship between Manawhenua and Council is founded on the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. This relationship is characterised by mutual respect, open communication, and meaningful partnerships that uphold the mana and interests of both parties.

We aim to maintain a strong and genuine partnership between the Matamata-Piako District Council (MPDC) and Manawhenua. Ensuring the obligations outlined in the Treaty are upheld with the commitment to support, empower, and actively engage ensuring voices are heard and aspirations are considered in all Council processes, including decision-making.

We will allocate dedicated resources within the Council to support Manawhenua engagement priorities and foster collaborative relationships.

2. Puāwaitanga o Te Ao Māori - Cultural Vibrancy and Respect

Recognising the significance of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, we aim to understand their implications and uphold our obligations today. Our district values and celebrates Māori culture, language, and heritage. We prioritize the widespread use and understanding of Te Reo Māori, creating an environment where it is spoken and appreciated.

We strive to integrate Mātauranga Māori and Tikanga Māori into everyday life, promoting and fostering a district-wide acceptance with an understanding and appreciation through initiatives, such as local history education in schools and cultural awareness programmes, including the upskilling for Councillors and staff.

We embrace cultural diversity, ensuring everyone feels safe, included, and celebrated within a community anchored in Te Ao Māori. Toi Māori (Māori art) holds a special place in our district. We encourage the presence of Tāmoko, Toi, Pūoro in public spaces, and celebrations that showcase Māori culture. It is our goal to make Māori expression an integral part of our district's identity.

3. Kaitiakitanga – Environmental Stewardship

Embed Mātauranga Māori into MPDC's environmental strategy (including climate change) and overall planning processes, ensuring that the district's landscapes, parks, reserves and infrastructure reflect Te Ao Māori.

Collaborate with Manawhenua on sustainable planning, water management, consents, waste management, and other initiatives that protect and enhance the environment.

4. Tū Rangatiranga – Meaningful Representation

Ensure that Manawhenua perspectives and priorities are clearly included in Council strategies, policies, and decision-making processes. Explore opportunities for co-governance arrangements and continue to build Manawhenua representation within governance structures.

Encourage the fostering of relationships with the Major Stakeholders within the district.

5. Pakihi Whakawhanaketanga – Economic Development

Promote and Support Māori Economic Development as a meaningful contributor to the growth and prosperity of the Matamata-Piako District. Encourage developers to engage with Manawhenua, recognise historical context, and make direct contributions to Manawhenua.

Recognise and appropriately resource Manawhenua for their perspectives and expertise, ensuring a mutually beneficial relationship.

6. Ngākau Pūmau - Act in Good Faith

Act in good faith in all interactions, doing what we say we're going to do, and supporting transparency and trust between the Council and Manawhenua.

Conclusion

This aspirational vision represents the collective commitment to create a district anchored in Te Ao Māori, where cultural vibrancy, respect, and inclusivity are woven into the fabric of our community. By working together, we will ensure the long-term prosperity, well-being, and sustainable development of Matamata-Piako District, nurturing a district where the values and aspirations of Manawhenua and the broader community are harmoniously integrated.

7 Pūrongo me whakatau | Decision Reports

7.2 Making Good Decisions - Resource Management Act Hearing Commissioner Training

CM No.: 3155920

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek a decision on a nomination for a Te Manawhenua Forum representative to undertake the Making Good Decisions Foundation Course to become a Resource Management Act 1991 Hearing Commissioner.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

Te Manawhenua Forum Heads of Agreement states: “Council will pay for a maximum of one representative nominated by the Forum in each three yearly election period to undertake training as a Resource Management Act 1991 hearing commissioner to establish a suitable pool of qualified commissioners. Council may ask the Forum to nominate further representatives if the need arises.”

The Making Good Decisions Foundation Course helps councillors and independent commissioners make better decisions under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). Commissioners must be accredited to sit on RMA hearing panels.

A copy of the Te Manawhenua Forum Heads of Agreement is attached for information.

Tūtohunga | Recommendation

That:

1. **The Forum nominate _____ to undertake the Making Good Decisions Foundation Course - Resource Management Act Hearing Commissioner training.**

Horopaki | Background

The Making Good Decisions foundation course is run by WSP Environmental Training Centre on behalf of the Ministry for the Environment. The purpose is to help councillors, community board members, and independent commissioners make better decisions under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). It provides RMA decision-makers with the skills needed to run fair and effective hearings, and to make informed decisions.

The Making Good Decisions Programme Foundation Course covers 10 modules and is run over two days. There is an e-learning module and pre assessment that needs to be completed prior to attending the course which counts for 20% of the final result. There is also a post assessment on completion of the course which counts for 80% of the final result.

Further information on the course including upcoming dates can be found here:

[MGD Foundation Course 2026 - WSP New Zealand Limited - Environmental Training Centre](#)

Council staff have received a nomination for a Forum representative to undertake training as a Resource Management Act Hearing Commissioner.

Ngā Take/Kōrerorero | Issues/Discussion

Accreditation

Accreditation through completing the Making Good Decision Course is required for individuals who wish to be appointed as a decision maker on RMA hearing panels. It is the role of consent authorities to appoint decision-makers to RMA hearing panels.

Under section 39B the RMA, appointees on hearing panels must have accreditation to make decisions on:

- applications for resource consent;
- notice of requirements given under section 168 or 189;
- requests under clause 21(1) of Schedule 1 for a change to be made to a plan;
- reviews of resource consents;
- applications to change or cancel resource consent conditions;
- proposed policy statements and plans that have been notified; and
- any hearing of an objection under section 357C of the RMA.

The requirement is for all members of RMA hearing panels given authority by a local authority under sections 34 or 34A to be accredited, unless there are exceptional circumstances.





Completion of the Making Good Decisions Course will allow the Forum member to be appointed as an independent hearing commissioner by any local authority.

Ngā Whiringa | Options

The Forum may choose to nominate one member to undertake the course during the current term.

Te Tākoha ki ngā Hua mō te Hapori me te here ki te whakakitenga o te Kaunihera | Contribution to Community Outcomes

Matamata-Piako District Council’s Community Outcomes are set out below:

MATAMATA-PIAKO TŌ MĀTOU WĀHI NOHO OUR PLACE		MATAMATA-PIAKO DISTRICT COUNCIL TE ARA RAUTAKI STRATEGIC DIRECTION	
TŌ MĀTOU WHAKAKITENGA OUR VISION			
Matamata-Piako District is vibrant, passionate, progressive, where opportunity abounds. ‘The heart of our community is our people, and the people are the heart of our community.’			
TŌ MĀTOU WHĀINGA MATUA OUR PRIORITIES (COMMUNITY OUTCOMES)			
			
He wāhi kaingākau ki te manawa A place with people at its heart	He wāhi puawaitanga A place to thrive	He wāhi e poipoi ai tō tātou taiao A place that embraces our environment	He wāhi whakapapa, he wāhi hangahanga A place to belong and create

All of the above community outcomes are relevant to this report.

Pānga ki te pūtea, me te puna pūtea | Financial Cost and Funding Source

Any expenditure would be met from the Te Manawhenua Forum budget.

Ngā Tāpiritanga | Attachments

[A.↓](#) Te Manawhenua Forum Heads of Agreement 2023

Ngā waitohu | Signatories

Author(s)	Stacey Edwards Kaitohu Kāwana Governance Advisor	
Approved by	Tamara Kingi Kaiārahi Kāwana Governance Team Leader	
	Sandra Harris Pou Kaupapahere, Rāngai Mahitahi me te Kāwana Policy, Partnerships and Governance Manager	



Kawenata

Heads of Agreement

**Ngā Mana Whenua o
Matamata-Piako**

**Te Mana Whenua Forum
Mo Matamata-Piako**

rāua ko

and

**Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o
Matamata-Piako**

**Matamata-Piako District
Council**



Ngā Ihirangi | Contents

Kupu Whakataki Introduction.....	3
Hītori History	3
Ngā Tautuhinga, Whakamārama hoki Definitions and Interpretation.....	5
Ngā Mema Membership	5
Ngā Mātapono o Ngā Mana Whenua Principles of the Forum	6
Kaupapa o Ngā Mana Whenua Purpose of the Forum.....	6
Ngā hui Meetings	8
Te Pūtea Expenses	9
Te Aha Noa General	10
Te Tirohanga Anō Review	10



Kupu Whakataki | Introduction

He whakatū tēnei Kawenata i tētehi rōpū e kiia nei ko Ngā Mana Whenua Mō Matamata-Piako e taea ai e Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Matamata-Piako te mahi ngātahi me ngā mana whenua, i tēnei wā ahu ake, ki ngā rohenga ā-ture o Matamata-Piako.

He hiahia nō Te Kaunihera rātou ko ngā māngai o ngā Mana Whenua ki te whakahaere i tēnei Kawenata hei whakaatu i ngā take pū o tā rātou mahi ngātahi i ngā kaupapa te here nei i a rātou.

Ko Ngā Mana Whenua he komiti tūturu o Te Kaunihera.

This Heads of Agreement provides for a forum called the Te Manawhenua Forum Mo Matamata-Piako (“Forum”) where the Matamata-Piako District Council (“Council”) and Māori who have mana whenua in respect of the jurisdictional boundaries within Matamata-Piako district can forge an ongoing effective and meaningful partnership.

The Council and Mana Whenua representatives of the district wish to enter into this Heads of Agreement which is intended to reflect the basis upon which they will conduct their affairs of common interest.

The Forum is formalised as a standing committee of the Council.

Hītori | History

The following section sets out the history of the development of the Te Mana Whenua Forum Mo Matamata-Piako.

Following the introduction of the Local Government Act 2002 Council was committed to establish and maintain appropriate links with mana whenua to foster effective relationships with them as representatives of the district’s iwi authorities. Discussions with Iwi led to Council establishing Te Mana Whenua Forum Mo Matamata-Piako (“Forum”) in 2004 as a mechanism for Council to meet its obligations.

The Forum was originally formalised as a standing committee of Council at its meeting on 8 July 2004 where Forum members were invited to the official signing. At that meeting Council resolved that:

- *The following be the constitution of Te Manawhenua Forum Mo Matamata-Piako as a standing committee of Council.*
- *The Council hereby constitutes a standing committee of the Council to be known as Te Manawhenua Forum Mo Matamata-Piako.*
- *The initial composition of Te Manawhenua Forum Mo Matamata-Piako shall be as follows:*



Names of Members:

○ Mayor A Wilcock	Council
○ D. Mayor James Thomas	Council
○ Cr Gary Thompson	Council
○ Te Ao Marama Maaka	Ngāti Hauā
○ Rangitonga Kaukau	Ngāti Hauā
○ Kathy Ngamane	Ngāti Maru
○ Waati Ngamane	Ngāti Maru
○ Tahauariki Thomson	Ngāti Pāoa
○ Glenys Puke	Ngāti Pāoa
○ Leo Whaiapu	Raukawa
○ Andrea Julian	Raukawa
○ Jill Taylor	Ngāti Rāhiri-Tumutumu
○ June McCaskill	Ngāti Rāhiri-Tumutumu
○ Hinerangi Vaimoso	Ngāti Hinerangi
○ Phil Smith	Ngāti Hinerangi
○ Michael Baker	Ngāti Whānaunga
○ Gavin Anderson	Ngāti Whānaunga

- *Te Manawhenua Forum Mo Matamata-Piako may at any time appoint a new Chairman by resolution.*
- *The quorum required for any meeting of Te Manawhenua Forum Mo Matamata-Piako shall be six members, and must include at least one member of the Council.*
- *Notwithstanding clause 30(7) of the 7th Schedule of the Local Government Act 2002, Te Manawhenua Forum Mo Matamata-Piako shall not be discharged before the 13th day of October 2007.*
- *All proceedings and actions of Te Manawhenua Forum Mo Matamata-Piako shall be in accordance with the Heads of Agreement between Te Manawhenua Forum Mo Matamata-Piako and the Council.*

The Forum held its first formal meeting on 24 September 2004.

The Heads of Agreement provides for a review of the protocols and performance of the parties based on the purpose and principles of the agreement. During 2011 and 2012 Forum members worked on a review of the original Heads of Agreement. Council approved a revised Heads of Agreement on 26 September 2012. The revised agreement was subsequently approved by the Forum at its meeting on 4 December 2012.

During 2017/18 Forum members again worked on a review of the Heads of Agreement. Council and the Forum agreed to a revised Heads of Agreement on 5 December 2017.



Ngā Tautuhinga, Whakamārama hoki | Definitions and Interpretation

To aid in the interpretation of this Heads of Agreement the following terms apply unless the context requires otherwise:

- “Council” means the Matamata-Piako District Council;
- “Forum” means the Te Manawhenua Forum Mo Matamata-Piako which is a standing committee of Council;
- “Heads of Agreement” means this signed copy of the Heads of Agreement between Council and the Forum members
- “mana whenua” means the territorial rights, power and authority from the land – associated with the current and historical possession/occupation of tribal lands within the Matamata-Piako district.
- “Taurahere” means binding strands into one as threads - individuals or groups who join together to fulfil a common purpose or goal, that share kinship ties, similar aspirations and who either, live outside their tribal territories or are urban based. Taurahere is about acknowledging other Iwi.

Ngā Mema | Membership

Membership of the collective Forum shall comprise of:

- Matamata-Piako District Council (the Mayor and Deputy Mayor are appointed members)
- Ngāti Hauā
- Ngāti Rāhiri-Tumutumu
- Raukawa
- Ngāti Maru
- Ngāti Tamaterā – who have decided not to appoint a member but may so at any time
- Ngāti Whānaunga
- Ngāti Pāoa;
- Ngāti Hinerangi and
- Any other members that the Forum may agree to in the future, upon formal application.

Te rehita ā-hapu; ā-iwi | Iwi/hapu registration

There is a due process for any group to request participation in the Forum. Upon application the Forum shall consider the request, and may consider issues such as what membership the Forum should hold, what constitutes an iwi/hapu, and what membership size is suitable to ensure the Forum is effective and efficient. The Forum will provide a recommendation to Council who in turn will make a decision on Forum member Iwi/hapu representation.



Whaiwāhi ki ngā Mana Whenua | Appointment to the Forum

Under Clause 31 Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002 Council may delegate to any Committee the appointment of any non-elected members to any committee. Council has delegated to Te Manawhenua Forum mo Matamata-Piako the appointment of non-elected members to Te Manawhenua Forum mo Matamata-Piako.

It is considered that Forum members must be representative of mana whenua within the Matamata-Piako District and individual Iwi representation is a matter for respective Iwi to determine. Each of the identified member groups of the Forum shall nominate two representatives, one of which is the principal spokesperson. Both representatives may attend the meetings. The second representative will act at meetings in the absence of the principal representative. The Mayor is the principal for the Council, the Deputy Mayor is the alternate.

Following each Council election, the Forum, its membership and delegations shall be re-constituted by Council.

Ngā Mātapono o ngā Mana Whenua | Principles of the Forum

The Forum recognises the following principles for maintaining a strong and meaningful relationship between Council and mana whenua:

- Mutual respect and adherence to atuaanga (spirituality)
- Respect of taha Māori (wellbeing) and tikanga Māori (customs, protocols)
- Respect for the raNgātīratanga (self-determination, autonomy) of Iwi – the right to organise as Iwi
- Protection of mana whenua
- Protection of wahi tapu (sacred places), natural resources, cultural materials and taonga (treasures) Māori
- Meaningful and mutually beneficial participation of Māori in the Council
- Regard for the principles of the Te Tiriti o Waitangi (Treaty of Waitangi) as contemplated by the empowering legislation

Kaupapa o ngā Mana Whenua | Purpose of the Forum

The purpose of the Forum is to facilitate mana whenua contribution to Council's decision making and strengthen partnership and engagement between Council and iwi/hapu.

The purpose of the Forum does not substitute individual consultation and engagement of Iwi by the Council.



Ngā kawenga a ngā Mana Whenua | General functions of the Forum

The Forum will consider any matter to promote the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of the Māori communities for today and for the future, taking a sustainable development approach. This may include but is not limited to contributing to policy development, input into special projects, reserve management processes and receiving presentations from external organisations or individuals (e.g. regional council, government departments, and community groups). The Forum will agree on an annual work programme to prioritise efforts and resources. This work programme will be considered by Council as part of its budgeting process.

Ngā kawenga motuhake a ngā Mana Whenua | Specific functions of the Forum

In order to give effect to the principals and purpose set out above Council delegates the following to the Forum:

- Appoint any non-elected members to the Forum in accordance with this agreement.
- Appoint up to two representatives to sit as members on any Council working party as requested by Council. Council establishes working parties on an issue-by-issue basis and will invite the nominated Forum representatives to join as a member of any relevant working parties. These working parties usually report back to Council or its committees with recommendations.
- Consider any request by the Council to accept a delegation of a function of Council. The Forum must act in accordance with a delegation it has accepted.
- Appoint a minimum of two representatives to form the Waitangi Day Celebration organising committee each year, to work with staff on the district wide celebrations.
- Develop an annual work programme each year.
- Develop and adopt goals, strategies and policies and programmes for consideration by Council, if outlined in the Annual work programme (see below).
- Council will pay for a maximum of one representative nominated by the Forum in each three yearly election period to undertake training as a Resource Management Act 1991 hearing commissioner to establish a suitable pool of qualified commissioners. Council may ask the Forum to nominate further representatives if the need arises.
- Monitor the Long Term Plan/Annual Plan implementation for matters relating to mana whenua interests.
- Recommend to Council actions to enhance mana whenua capacity to contribute to decision-making including providing advice and recommendations
- Assist in the collation and monitoring of performance data for the Māori specific community outcomes/indicators
- Receive Iwi/hapu management plans on behalf of Council.
- In December each year, the Forum will recommend to Council a budget for the following financial year to be included within the Annual Plan or Long



Term Plan to undertake a suggested work programme. If Council agrees to the proposed work programme, the Forum shall oversee the implementation of that work programme

- Support a joint Council and Forum meeting each year (refer to review section below).
- Support the Mayor through the Tuia Rangitahi programme (note: this is funded separately from the Forum)
- Represent the District iwi in engagements with Waikato Regional Council and government agencies.
- Engage with external agencies (such as government departments) on work they wish to undertake within the district.

Ngā kawenga me ngā whakaritenga a te Tiamana, a tōna tuarua rānei | Functions and duties of the Chair person or his/her delegate

- Act as the Forum representative at events hosted by Council e.g. ANZAC Day;
- Provide regular updates to Council following each Forum meeting.

Ngā kawenga a Te Kaunihera hāngai pū ki ngā Mana Whenua | Council's duties to Forum

The Council must provide the Forum with the information that it needs to identify business of the Council that relates to the Forums purpose. Council has an obligation to consult the Forum on matters affecting mana whenua and give consideration to the Forum's advice.

It is to be acknowledged the limitations on resources Council can and are willing to provide may result in the purpose of the Forum not being fully realised within the Forum's timeframes.

Council is committed to fulfil its obligations to consult with individual iwi/hapu as required by legislation – for example under the Resource Management Act 1991 and Treaty of Waitangi settlement legislation relating to individual Iwi.

Consultation with the Forum does not substitute for such engagement, and shall be in addition to individual Iwi engagement.

Ngā hui | Meetings

Following each Council election, the Forum shall appoint a Chairperson.

The Forum shall meet regularly for either formal meetings or workshops as required, provided that meeting costs do not exceed the budget allocated to the performance



of the Forum's functions each financial year. The Forum meeting schedule will be confirmed at the December meeting of the Forum each year.

Ngā Whakaritenga me Ngā Mēneti | Agendas and Minutes

Council is responsible for the production and distribution of agendas and minutes.

Council will advise respective members of the Forum of proposed agenda items by email, at least 15 working days prior to the meeting (five days prior to the meeting agenda closing). Forum members are invited to respond with any additional items to be included on the agenda within the set timeframe (one day prior to the meeting agenda closing) to allow Council staff time to add the item to the meeting agenda.

It is recognised that there may be times when a meeting of the Forum is not required, if so, all members must agree that a meeting is not required. All parties are to convey and be advised of this in writing.

Forum meetings will be held in the Council Chambers, Te Aroha unless otherwise agreed by all Forum members.

Te Ture me Ngā Ōta Pū | Legislation and Standing Orders

Formal meetings of the Forum will be called in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Following each Council election, the Forum shall adopt standing orders for the duration of the triennium.

Quorum - The quorum required for any meeting of the Forum shall be four Iwi members who are entitled to vote plus a member of Council.

Voting Rights - Where the principal and alternate representatives attend meetings only the principal representative shall be entitled to vote. Where both the principal and alternate representative attend any meeting both will have full speaking rights but only one single Iwi member vote.

Te Pūtea | Expenses

In fulfilling its statutory duties, Council may require assistance and advice from the Forum. In such cases, the Forum will be adequately resourced by Council both financially and non-financially. The Council will make provision for such resourcing through its budgetary processes. This would include meeting fees and expenses for the two representatives and resourcing to undertake the work programme (refer to specific functions of the Forum).



Te Utu | Remuneration

It is agreed that remuneration will be paid in the form of a meeting allowance and mileage reimbursement for attendance by appointed members at formal meetings of the Forum called in accordance with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987. The meeting allowance and mileage shall be that set by Council from time to time.

Remuneration for workshop attendance will be determined on a case by case basis for each workshop, and will be dependent on funding available. If Council invites Forum member/s on any working party then the meeting allowance and mileage will be payable.

Te Aha Noa | General

The Forum is recognised as a standing committee of Council; however, this does not affect or undermine the Tino Rangātiratanga (self-determination) of the members of the Forum.

The Forum acknowledges that the interpretation, application and operation of these protocols are subject to the relevant empowering legislation, accountability frameworks and financial constraints.

The operation of the Forum does not restrict the ability of the Council to form specific relationships or agreements with individual Iwi or Iwi groups.

The operation of Forum will be supported by Council staff in the preparation of agendas, minutes as required by legislation and technical advice as resources allow.

Te Tirohanga Anō | Review

The protocols and performance of the parties shall be reviewed each year by way of a joint Forum and Council meeting to discuss issues relating to the Forum based on the purpose and principles of this Heads of agreement.

All parties acknowledge that the relationship and partnership between Iwi and Council is an evolving process. As such, Iwi may seek to progress discussions regarding the independence of the Forum and its functions as part of future reviews.

Ngā Whakarerekētanga Iti Noa | Minor Amendments

The Heads of Agreement can be amended at any time, without being re-signed by Forum members, to allow for changes in membership and re-appointments. Council staff are authorised to update this Heads of Agreement for minor and necessary amendments such as the ability to add alternates without further member agreement. Signed at Te Aroha thisday of 2019.



Mayor A Wilcock
Matamata-Piako District Council

Deputy Mayor J Thomas
Matamata-Piako District Council

Te Ao Marama Maaka (Principal)
Ngāti Hauā

Rangitonga Kaukau (Alternate)
Ngāti Hauā

Jill Taylor (Principal)
Ngāti Rāhiri-Tumutumu

June McCaskill (Alternate)
Ngāti Rāhiri-Tumutumu

Leo Whaiapu (Principal)
Raukawa

Andrea Julian (Alternate)
Raukawa

Glenice Puke (Principal)
Ngāti Pāoa

Tahauriki Thompson (Alternate)
Ngāti Pāoa



Kathy Ngamane (Principal)
Ngāti Maru

Waati Ngamane (Alternate)
Ngāti Maru

Michael Baker (Principal)
Ngāti Whānaunga

Gavin Anderson (Alternate)
Ngāti Whānaunga

Dianna Vaimoso (Principal)
Ngāti Hinerangi

Phil Smith (Alternate)
Ngāti Hinerangi



7 Pūrongo me whakatau | Decision Reports

7.3 Retrospective approval of the submission on the Ngāti Rāhiri Tumutumu Claims Settlement Bill

CM No.: 3156005

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek retrospective endorsement from the Te Manawhenua Forum for the submission on the Ngāti Rāhiri Tumutumu Claims Settlement Bill.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

This report is asking the Forum to retrospectively confirm the submission already made on the Ngāti Rāhiri Tumutumu Claims Settlement Bill. Forum is also asked to consider whether any changes or further guidance is needed from iwi partners before formally endorsing the Ngāti Rāhiri Tumutumu Claims Settlement Bill, which resulted in a submission being lodged externally on behalf of the Te Manawhenua Forum.

Tūtohunga | Recommendation

That:

1. **The Forum receives the report.**
2. **The Forum retrospectively endorses the submission lodged on behalf of the Te Manawhenua Forum.**

OR

3. **The forum endorses the submission lodged on behalf of the Te Manawhenua Forum, and requires the following amendments:**

OR

4. **The Forum does not endorse the submission lodged on behalf of the Te Manawhenua Forum.**

Horopaki | Background

In June 2009, the Crown proposed a regional approach for Treaty settlements to iwi and hapū with interests in the Hauraki region. The twelve iwi of Hauraki, including Ngāti Rāhiri Tumutumu, formed the Pare Hauraki Collective for the purpose of negotiating collective redress for shared interests in the Hauraki region.

In June 2011, the Crown recognised the mandate of the Ngāti Rāhiri Tumutumu negotiators to negotiate the settlement of historical Treaty of Waitangi claims on behalf of Ngāti Rāhiri Tumutumu through both collective and iwi-specific negotiations.

The Ngāti Rāhiri Tumutumu Claims Settlement Bill was introduced to Parliament on 29 October 2025. The first reading was held on 4 November 2025. After the bill passed the first reading, it was





sent to Select Committee. Submissions opened on 5 November 2025 and were closed on 3 December 2025.

The Bill is in its second reading.

[Ngāti Rāhiri Tumutumu Claims Settlement Bill](#)

Te Tākoha ki ngā Hua mō te Hapori me te here ki te whakakitenga o te Kaunihera | Contribution to Community Outcomes

Matamata Piako District Council's Community Outcomes are set out below:

MATAMATA-PIAKO TŌ MĀTOU WĀHI NOHO OUR PLACE		MATAMATA-PIAKO DISTRICT COUNCIL TE ARA RAUTAKI STRATEGIC DIRECTION	
TŌ MĀTOU WHAKAKITENGA OUR VISION Matamata-Piako District is vibrant, passionate, progressive, where opportunity abounds. 'The heart of our community is our people, and the people are the heart of our community.'			
TŌ MĀTOU WHĀINGA MATUA OUR PRIORITIES (COMMUNITY OUTCOMES)			
			
He wāhi kaingākau ki te manawa A place with people at its heart	He wāhi puawaitanga A place to thrive	He wāhi e poipoi ai tō tātou taiao A place that embraces our environment	He wāhi whakapapa, he wāhi hangahanga A place to belong and create

All of the community outcomes are relevant to this report.

Ngā Tāpiritanga | Attachments

[A.1. TMF Submission on Ngāti Rāhiri Tumutumu Claims Settlement Bill](#)

Ngā waitohu | Signatories

Author(s)	Tuatahi Nightingale-Pene Pou Tūhono Iwi Relationship Manager	
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Approved by	Kelly Reith Hautū Rangatōpū, Tāngata me ngā Hononga Group Manager Corporate, People & Relationships	
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Item of business :

Ngāti Rāhiri Tumutumu Claims Settlement Bill

Submission name :

Matamata Piako District Council Te Manawhenua Forum

Comments

We fully support this bill and wish our whanaunga the very best as they approach the final stages.

Recommendations

We proudly recommend this bill to the house.

8 Ngā Pūrongo Whakamārama | Information Reports

8.1 Civil Defence Emergency Management

CM No.: 3156816

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update TMF on Council's response to two recent severe weather events in January and February 2026 alongside other CDEM updates.

The report:

- Summarises the nature of the events and Council's operational response
- Highlights what worked well across the organisation and with partner agencies
- Identifies key learnings and opportunities to further strengthen emergency management capability
- Signals emerging considerations for Council as severe weather events become more frequent and expectations continue to evolve.

Provides Local Regional and National CDEM updates including, Local Work Program, iwi/Māori representation on the Coordinating Executive Group, Marae Preparedness, Local Welfare arrangements.

This report is provided for information and awareness, and to support ongoing continuous improvement in Council's approach to emergency management.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

This report updates Te Manawhenua Forum (TMF) on Council's response to severe weather events in January and February 2026, alongside key local, regional, and national CDEM updates.

Council's response to both events was effective, supported by early monitoring, clear leadership, strong cross-team coordination, and timely public communications. Staff across the organisation demonstrated professionalism and flexibility, and the February event highlighted the value of regional mutual aid, with MPDC staff supporting neighbouring councils.

The events have identified opportunities to further strengthen readiness for larger or more prolonged events, clarify escalation arrangements, and manage the increasing pressure that more frequent weather events place on staff capacity and budgets. Learnings will inform ongoing improvements, including planning, training, and a scheduled CDEM exercise in May 2026.

The report also outlines progress on local marae preparedness, proposed improvements to local welfare arrangements, and regional and national CDEM developments, including changes to governance, work programmes, and the evolving legislative context.

This report is provided for information and assurance, and to support Council's ongoing continuous improvement in emergency management capability.

Tūtohunga | Recommendation

That:

1. The information be received.

Horopaki | Background

Council has recently responded to two severe weather events in January and February 2026. While different in scale and location, both events required coordinated emergency management responses and tested organisational readiness.

Overall, the responses were effective and well managed. Early monitoring, clear leadership, strong cross-team collaboration, and timely public communications helped minimise impacts and support community safety. Staff across the organisation demonstrated professionalism and a strong willingness to step into emergency roles, often working extended hours to support response and recovery.

The events also provided valuable learnings. These include the need to continue strengthening readiness for larger or prolonged events, improving clarity around incident management escalation, and recognising the increasing pressure that more frequent events place on staff capacity and operational budgets.

The February event highlighted the benefits of regional mutual aid, with MPDC staff supporting neighbouring councils under CDEM arrangements. This provided valuable real-world experience for staff and reinforced the importance of reciprocal inter-council support.

Looking ahead, the report notes emerging considerations for Council, including:

- Options to better smooth response and recovery costs as severe weather events become more frequent
- Opportunities to grow and recognise staff capability in emergency management across the organisation
- The evolving national context, including the proposed Emergency Management Bill and increasing expectations around preparedness and resilience.

Learnings from these events will inform ongoing improvements and be incorporated into future planning, training, and the Council's scheduled CDEM exercise in May 2026.

LOCAL

Marae Ake Ake Ake

On 24 March we held another Marae Ake Ake Ake session, focused on Marae Emergency Preparedness planning and understanding the local hazard risks within Matamata-Piako (both natural and man-made). We had representation from Kai-a-te-Mata, Rukumoana, Raungaiti, Rengarenga, Tui Pā and Ūkaipō Marae, we also had a representative from Kerepēhi Marae.

Raungaiti Marae advised that they have been actively progressing in their preparedness planning by utilising the Te Puni Kōkiri Marae Preparedness Plan as a base, additionally they facilitated a safety, hazard and risk workshop locally which helped understand any vulnerabilities, gaps with their local preparedness. We mentioned that Civil Defence are eager to attend these workshops in future and are happy to facilitate these as well with a mind not to take over, but to build relationships, provide any guidance and/or Civil Defence concepts that may be applicable and of use to the workshop/planning process.

The current Group Marae Preparedness Planning template is being revised. In lieu of an updated template, we at MPDC have taken a lead in producing a template that includes crucial information around the vulnerabilities to each hazard, in addition to information about what to do before, during and after each hazard with reference to the NEMA GetReady website for consistent messaging.

Once the template is created, we will work with marae to create a plan which includes scientific information / modelling specific for each marae. We would then like to walk-through these plans as part of marae visits. This will provide local context for our staff and test the feasibility of the proposed plan. We can then collaborate and further develop the plan with any agreed changes. On occasions marae visits may occur before plans are developed.

Local Welfare Arrangements

On Friday 27 March 2026 we received confirmation from the Group Welfare Manager endorsing a conditional appointment for Constanza Baigent as our Trainee Local Welfare Manager.

There are recommended training and development activities Constanza will need to complete to be appointed to the position.

Constanza is one of our Community Development & Partnerships Advisors within Council. Her current role will complement the role and responsibilities of a Civil Defence Local Welfare Manager.

The Local Welfare Committee arrangement currently is a shared arrangement with Hauraki and Thames-Coromandel District Councils (has been in place since Thames Valley CDEM). We are proposing that Matamata-Piako break away from that current arrangement and develop a Welfare Committee that is truly local and allows us to have frequent and consistent meetings with Welfare organisations, community support groups and local Iwi/Māori within our district, as opposed to the once per year scheduling due to accommodating three councils.

As part of the Waikato CDEM Marae Preparedness Work Programme, we are also wanting to include Iwi/Māori representation as part of each Local Welfare Committee. If we move away from the current arrangement, this will allow us to keep local issues at the forefront of our planning and decision making. Having Iwi/Māori representation will ensure that our annual Welfare Business Plans (reviewed in June) includes and incorporates the wider Māori community and ensures that emergency messaging reaches the right audience.

REGIONAL (GROUP)

Coordinating Executive Group (CEG)

The CEG is made up of senior council executives (often Chief Executives or delegated representatives) and emergency services leaders. Their role is to provide professional, technical, and operational oversight to support the Joint Committee.

CEG is responsible for:

- Developing and maintaining CDEM plans
- Coordinating activities across agencies
- Ensuring readiness and capability development
- Overseeing operational arrangements during emergencies

Our CEG representative is Ally van Kuijk.

The last CEG meeting was held on 13 March 2026 and commenced with a whakatau ceremony to facilitate the welcoming process of iwi/Māori to the CEG.

Te Nehenehenui (Maniapoto) & Raukawa representatives attended.

Previously, the Joint Committee and CEG endorsed the inclusion of Māori representation and a CEG huarahi (pathway) was devised and accepted.

The progression of Māori representation within the CEG reflects a deliberate and meaningful shift toward partnership-based emergency management in the Waikato region.

Group Plan Actions 2025 – 2030

- The Strategic Group Plan 2025–2030 came into effect 1 October 2025. The Group Plan Actions set out what the Group needs to do to deliver the outcomes identified in the Strategic Group Plan 2025 – 20230.
- A Regional Work programme and Local Implementation Plan has been developed, and a revised 18-month work program was approved by CEG on 13 March 2026.
- A Local Implementation Plan has been developed, and a revised 18 month Local Implementation Plan was also approved by CEG on 13 March 2026. The approval of revised Local Plan means local quarterly reporting can commence.
- On 30 March 2026 the Joint Committee approved CDEM Long Term Plan Measures which will be included in our LTP cycle.

These LTP measures are:

- 25 percent (averaged over 12 months) of council staff are trained to ITF intermediate course level (or equivalent as defined in the Waikato CDEM Group training and exercise plan training pathway). Data for this measure will be based on individual council HR and training records.
- Statutory CDEM roles (Controller and Recovery Manager) and Local Welfare Manager positions are filled or accessible (based on the associated policy, or by MOU/Agreement) or have an active appointment process in place. Data for this measure will be based on individual council HR and training records.
- At least one independently assessed *full / functional exercise or an EOC activation that triggers an AAR (in alignment with CDEM Group policy) is to occur annually. (This is currently an LTP Measure).

The Joint Committee is responsible for:

- Providing political leadership and oversight
- Approving the Group Plan and major policies
- Making decisions on regional emergency management priorities
- Ensuring councils meet their responsibilities under the CDEM Act

Our Joint Committee Representative is Mayor Tanner with alternative Andrew McGiven.

Regional Coordination of Annual Exercises

In February 2026, the Waikato CDEM Group Office provided an Exercise Framework for a severe weather exercise scenario. All councils, (excluding those who have recently activated in response to an emergency) will utilise this scenario and further develop their own areas of testing for this mandated exercise.

Matamata-Piako staff will be exercising on 21 May 2026 with around forty staff involved for around six hours.

NATIONAL

The following section is to inform Te Mana Whenua about activities that are happening at a National level.

- Legislation, Strategies and Plans:

In June 2025 the Government released “Strengthening Emergency Management A Roadmap for Investment and Implementation” Cabinet agreed to this Roadmap in principle, subject to further policy work, the passage of enabling legislation, and availability of new funding through future budgets.

- It was clear from this Roadmap that the roles and responsibilities for councils will increase. This will also have long term planning and funding implications.

On 3rd December 2025 the Waikato CDEM Group provided proposed feedback on behalf of the Group for the Rates Target Model. Our staff have reviewed and contributed to the submissions which will were tabled at CEG in Late January 2026.





On 9th December 2026 the Emergency Management Bill was introduced into Parliament. When passed the Bill will replace the existing Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002.

On 13 February 2026, on behalf of the Waikato CDEM Group a ‘Joint Committee Submission Subgroup’ provided a submission to the Bill (No2) to the Governance and Administration Committee.

To date there have been no further updates on the EM Bill (No2) which is progressing through the select committee process.

Te Tākoha ki ngā Hua mō te Hapori me te here ki te whakakitenga o te Kaunihera | Contribution to Community Outcomes

Matamata-Piako District Council’s Community Outcomes are set out below:

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Matamata-Piako District is vibrant, passionate, progressive, where opportunity abounds. ‘The heart of our community is our people, and the people are the heart of our community.’			
TŌ MĀTOU WHĀINGA MATUA OUR PRIORITIES (COMMUNITY OUTCOMES)			
			

He wāhi kaingākau ki te manawa A place with people at its heart	He wāhi puawaitanga A place to thrive	He wāhi e poipoi ai tō tātou taiao A place that embraces our environment	He wāhi whakapapa, he wāhi hangahanga A place to belong and create
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The community outcomes relevant to this report are as follows:

- He wāhi kaingākau ki te manawa | A place with people at its heart
- He wāhi puawaitanga | A place to thrive
- He wāhi e poipoi ai tō tātou taiao | A place that embraces our environment
- He wāhi whakapapa, he wāhi hangahanga | A place to belong and create

Ngā Tāpiritanga | Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

Ngā waitohu | Signatories

Author(s)	Andy BuBear Pou Whakahaere Whakararu Emergency Management Manager	
	Toka Wolfswood Āpiha Whakahaere Whakararu Emergency Management Officer	
Approved by	Ally van Kuijk Hautū Tipu me te Whakamatua Group Manager Growth & Regulation	