

TAIWHENUA HUI NOTES

HOSTED BY
WHANGAROA PAPA HAPŪ

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Kia ora ngā uri o Whangaroa,

He mihi nui ki a koutou i tae mai ki te hui Taiwhenua, kanohi ki te kanohi me te ipurangi.

We acknowledge the strong participation, with over 50 attending in person and 41 joining us online. This level of engagement reflects the importance of this kaupapa.

We also acknowledge the whakaaro shared both at the hui and through the submissions received on the Draft Mandate Strategy. Together, this collective input provides an important foundation to help guide the next steps.

The hui was designed as a space to present a summary of the submissions and to provide an opportunity for whānau and hapū to engage and offer feedback.

While a workshop-style format was planned, the hui naturally moved into open kōrero. Although this differed from the planned approach, it provided space for voices to be heard and for people to share their views, concerns, and aspirations.

TAIWHENUA HUI

Saturday 28 March, 2026

12:00-4:00PM

Attendees: 50+ in person,
41 online

SUBMISSIONS THEMES

The submissions reflected consistent whakaaro across whānau:

- A strong desire for clear, accessible information about the process
- The need for greater transparency in how decisions are made and communicated
- Interest in understanding governance and representation structures
- A call for meaningful hapū engagement before key decisions are progressed
- Questions around areas of interest, boundaries, and participation

Feedback loop: while these were intended to be explored further, the hui shifted into open kōrero, and these areas will continue to be considered as part of the ongoing process.

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ACROSS THE HUI

What We Heard

- Strong support for hapū-led decision-making, with hapū determining their own representation and direction
- A continued call for transparency, including access to information and clarity of process
- Concerns around timing and pace, with many expressing the need to slow down
- The importance of protecting hapū autonomy, rangatiratanga, and whakapapa connections
- The need for direct engagement with hapū and marae, particularly on boundaries
- A strong and shared focus on future generations and outcomes for our mokopuna

The kōrero was, at times, passionate and emotional, reflecting both the history carried by our people and the significance of the decisions ahead.

What This Tells Us

- No decisions were made at this hui, as it was a forum for feedback
- The hui provided space for listening, engagement, and sharing whakaaro
- The consistency between submissions and hui kōrero highlights shared areas of focus moving forward
- The level of participation reinforces the importance of continuing to create spaces for our people to be heard
- There is a clear need for ongoing kōrero, clarity, and connection at hapū level

Closing Reflection

This process has highlighted the strength of our people — in our voices, our whakaaro, and our willingness to engage.

There is passion in our people, and that matters. Our role is to continue this journey in a way that seeks to:

- honour that participation and whakaaro
- strengthen understanding
- support unity where possible
- and create a pathway that benefits our mokopuna

We remain committed to walking alongside our people as this kōrero continues.

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NEXT STEPS

In response to what we have heard, the following actions will be progressed:

1. Continued engagement with hapū through further hui and direct discussions
2. Providing clearer and more accessible information to support understanding
3. Creating further opportunities for whānau and hapū to participate and contribute