

MUSEUM OF NEW
ZEALAND
TE PAPA
TONGAREWA

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PO Box 467
Wellington
New Zealand

Telephone
64-4-381 7249
www.tepapa.govt.nz



30 September 2025

Tēnā koe

Re: Official Information Act (OIA) Request – Karanga Aotearoa Repatriation to Whangārei

I refer to your OIA request of 21 August 2025 for:

All correspondence (internal and external), reports compiled, hui minutes, advice, Ministerials, financial accounts, financial assistance given to Te Waiariki Ngāti Kororā Ngāti Takapari Hapū Iwi Trust relating to all Karanga Aotearoa work in the Whangārei rohe with the Trust since June 2022.

Te Papa recently responded to two OIA requests regarding the same topic and so most of the content you have requested is publicly available. You will find the relevant information on the [OIA response webpage of our website](#). Please see the responses titled *OIA request 'kōiwi to be repatriated to Whangārei'* and *OIA request 'Karanga Aotearoa Repatriation'*.

Additional information in scope of your request has been compiled and is attached to this letter. Information has been withheld in accordance with s(9)(2)(a) of the OIA. Other information was redacted as it is 'out of scope' of your request.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request, please contact OIA@tepapa.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

Anna Berwick

Head of Governance and Strategy

Background notes of hui and meetings in the Taitokerau during Sept 2024

By Te Herekiele Herewini – Pouwhakahaere Kaupapa Pūtere Kōiwi

Date: 1 Oct 2024

1. Tuesday – 17 Sept at 5 pm with Te Waiariki, Korora and Takapari.

Address is 1/7 Poto Street, Morningside Whangarei.

Meeting cancelled at Ngātiwai's request

Background – There are kōiwi tangata housed in Te Papa's wāhi tapu with provenance to this iwi collective's takiwā namely Pātaua and Taiharuru. There are also other kōiwi tangata that have provenance to locations in greater Whangarei such as Manaia, Waipu and Waikaraka where several hapū/iwi have overlapping interests to those locations.

Kaupapa

- There are 20 tūpuna to return to these hapū and iwi.
- Kōrero will be about updated research report, any pātai they may have.
- Timeline for securing the safe return of these tūpuna to their wā kāinga.

Follow-up. Apologised to s 9(2)(a) and indicated we can meet at another time, and reimburse them for their costs of arranging hui.

2. Wednesday - 18 Sept at 4 pm with (Out of Scope)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

3. Wednesday - 18 Sept at 6 pm with (Out of Scope)

(Out of Scope)

4. Thursday 19 Sept at 5 pm with Out of Scope

[Redacted]

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

(Out of Scope)

**ITEM 7. POU WHAKAHAERE KAUPAPA PŪTERE KŌIWI – UPDATE
FROM MAY 2024 TO DECEMBER 2024.**

Executive summary	This paper provides an overview of the work undertaken and supported by Karanga Aotearoa from May 2024 to December 2024.
Recommendation	Please note that the paper below is provided for your information and comment.

From: Dr Te Herekiele Herewini

To: Repatriation Advisory Panel

Karanga Aotearoa Repatriation Programme

(Out of Scope)

(Out of Scope)

Tai Tokerau Repatriation

In September 2024 with the support of Haami Piripi, Hinerangi Himiona and Susan Thorpe, Karanga Aotearoa met with (Out of Scope) and other iwi and hapū of Whangarei to discuss the return of kōiwi tangata belonging to the greater Whangarei rohe.

The outcome of the main hui is that the iwi of Whangarei have established a Kaumātua Kaunihera that will guide the return of kōiwi tangata and provenance research, however, where there is kōiwi tangata with confirmed provenance to specific locations in Whangarei, the associated hapū of those locations will lead the conversations and arrangements for the return of their tūpuna. These hapū and iwi include (Out of Scope) Te Waiariki – Kororā – Takapari, (Out of Scope) . (Out of Scope) .

International Mahi

(Out of Scope)

Background notes of hui and meetings in the Taitokerau during April 2025

By Te Herekiele Herewini – Pouwhakahaere Kaupapa Pūtere Kōiwi

Date: 1 May 2025

Date: Sunday 20 April 2025

Time: 10 am

Venue: Te Ora Hou, s 9(2)(a)

Invited to attend Te Waiariki, Ngāti Kororā, Ngāti Takapari Trust hui.

Background – This iwi collective has been actively engaged with Karanga Aotearoa since 2022 and has been in communications regarding kōiwi tangata with provenance to their takiwā.

Te Herekiele Herewini attended the hui on behalf of Karanga Aotearoa to talk about the process of return of kōiwi tangata from Te Papa and funding. There were about 20 people in attendance at the hui.

After the karakia and mihi, Te Herekiele was invited to present about the Karanga Aotearoa Repatriation Programme, and the process of return domestically. Therefore, from Te Papa to the hapū/iwi.

There were a number of questions including:

(1) What are the details of the provenance of the kōiwi tangata?

Response – All the details we have regarding provenance are in draft Kōiwi Tangata Reports. We can send the updated reports to the trust.

(2) How are the tūpuna returned to the iwi?

Response – Iwi can come to Te Papa to uplift their kōiwi tangata or Te Papa can return them to one of their marae.

(3) What type of funding is available to support the return of the kōiwi tangata?

Response - We provide funding for wānanga, travel, uplift, transport, freighting and ceremonies when they return to their takiwā.

(4) Why is Te Papa involved in this mahi, and how does Te Papa benefit from this mahi?

Response – This is important and significant mahi for Te Papa, which is about reconciling the misdeeds of the past with regards to the looting and thief of kōiwi tangata which were traded overseas.

Matua Taipari was also present at the hui, and he indicated it was appropriate for all hapū and iwi to work together to bring the kōiwi tangata home to Whangarei from Te Papa. Te Herekiele also supported this statement. Matua Taipari also indicated that he felt the best term to use for referring to the ancestral remains is tangata as opposed to tupuna. As some of the human remains may come from hoariri that died at locations of battle, and therefore not necessarily from the location of uplift or burial.

At the end of the presentation Te Herekiele left the hui.

Following the hui, Te Herekiele was notified by Pereri Mahanga that he was now the main contact for Te Waiariki, Ngāti Kororā, Ngāti Takapari Trust, as prior to this the main contact was s 9(2)(a).

Date: Tuesday 22 April 2025

Time: 11 am.

Venue: North Tec

Meeting with Matua Taipari.,

Kaupapa: Update meeting

In attendance: Aperahama Kerepiti-Edwards (Ngātiwai Chair), Whaea Neta, s 9(2)(a), scribe and taiohi of Ngātiwai.

Kōrero. The focus of the meeting included kōrero about Te Papa's engagement with hapū and iwi belonging to Whangārei. The group is concerned with Te Papa actively engaging with iwi beyond Ngātiwai that included Te Waiariki, Ngāti Kororā, Ngāti Takapari as well as Ngāti Kahu o Torongare. They asked questions about whether Te Papa had funded these other groups, and they requested that Te Papa cease all funding and engagement with these groups.

Unfortunately, I did not anticipate this type of questioning from the group and failed to respond proactively to their questions. Although I did agree that Te Papa would consider not funding the other hapū and iwi. However, following this hui, I did think it was appropriate to seek advice from the leaders of these other hapū and iwi of Whangārei.

Matua Taipari also indicated his aim for all hapū and iwi to work together regarding the return of the kōiwi tangata with provenance to Whangārei Te Rerenga Parāoa.

To facilitate this strategy, Matua Taipari indicated his wish to have hui a rohe for Whangārei hapū/iwi to build an agreement/whakaaetanga that all the kōiwi tangata return at one time to Whangārei.

My response to this strategy is that Te Papa would need to receive formal letters from the Kahui Kaumātua that was signed by all the leaders/rangatira of those iwi/hapū that have agreed to follow and tautoko Matua Taipari's return strategy.

Outcome: We have received letters from Matua Taipari regarding his support for a combined return of kōiwi tangata to Whangārei, however, these letters have only one signatory, namely of Matua Taipari and not by other rangatira/leaders of other hapū/iwi of Whangārei.

Other Whangārei hapū/iwi continue to seek funding for repatriation hui and wānanga for kōiwi tangata with provenance to Whangārei Rerenga Parāoa.

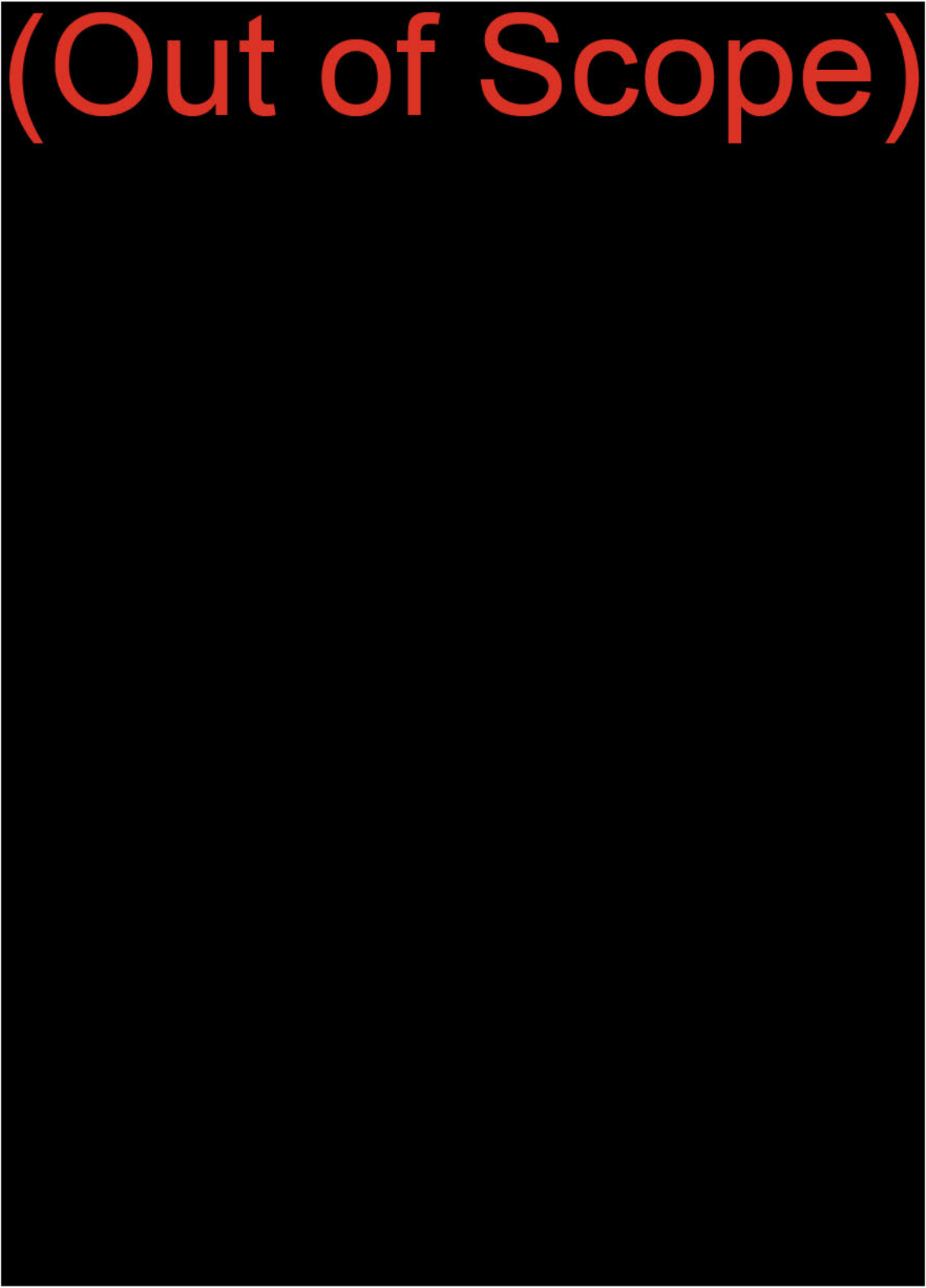
Date: Wednesday 23 April 2025

Time: 9 am

Venue: Kamo High School. Whangārei.

Meeting with (Out of Scope)

(Out of Scope)



From: Arapata Hakiwai <ArapataH@tepapa.govt.nz>

Sent: Monday, 23 June 2025 4:19 pm

To: OIA <OIA@tepapa.govt.nz>; Sina Ete <Sina.Ete@tepapa.govt.nz>

Subject: Fw: Formal Complaint and Official Information Act Request - Domestic Return of Koiwi to Whangārei Rohe

Kia ora Sina. This is the email that was sent to us.

Nga mihi

Arapata

From: Pikiake Development <s 9(2)(a)>
Sent: Friday, June 20, 2025 8:16:48 PM
To: Arapata Hakiwai <arapata.hakiwai@tepapa.govt.nz>; Te Herekietie Herewini <teherekietieh@tepapa.govt.nz>
Cc: Taipari Munro <s 9(2)(a)>; Hinerangi Himiona <s 9(2)(a)>
Subject: Formal Complaint and Official Information Act Request - Domestic Return of Koiwi to Whangārei Rohe

You don't often get email from s 9(2)(a) [Learn why this is important](#)

Kia ora Arapata and others,

I write this email of complaint in frustration following Uncle Taipari's continued guidance and direction to offered to Te Papa officials which has been completely ignored.

My formal complaint relates to the decision of Te Papa to release tūpuna kōiwi to Te Waiariki Ngāti Kororā Ngāti Takapari Hapū Trust this week. This decision flies in the face of kōrero outlined face to face at Hihiaua and follow up correspondence by our rangatira Uncle Taipari.

Te Papa do not appreciate the distress and angst caused for our kaumātua and within our hapū because of this decision. We now have haukāinga hapū members now on guard at the proposed burial site.

The division in our hapū and stress caused I place squarely at the feet of Te Papa Officials - Karanga Aotearoa governance and operations knew full well the concerns amongst our people.

As an uri of Ngā Hapū o Whangārei inc Te Waiariki, and Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea (Ngātiwai) I make a request via the Official Information Act 1982 for all correspondence (internal and external), reports compiled, hui minutes, advice, Ministerials, financial accounts relating to all Karanga Aotearoa work in the Whangārei rohe and Aotea (Ngātiwai) inclusive since Oct 2022.

I look forward to hearing how Te Papa plans to right the wrong that has been dealt to our people and receive the requested documentation to reflect on the decisions made by officials and the clear breaches of Te Tiriti o Waitangi to our kaumātua, hapū and iwi.

Nga mihi, na

Huhana Lyndon

ph: s 9(2)(a)

"Ma te huruhuru ka rere te manu"

Building capacity and capability

From: [Pereri Mahanga](#)
To: [Te Herekiele Herewini](#); [Michelle Beattie](#)
Subject: Re: Update meeting
Date: Monday, 23 June 2025 2:54:08 pm

Kia ora kourua

Thursday be better for me

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Te Herekiele Herewini <TeHerekieleH@tepapa.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, June 23, 2025 2:34:24 PM
To: Pereri Mahanga <s 9(2)(a)> Michelle Beattie
<s 9(2)(a)>
Subject: Update meeting
When: Wednesday, 25 June 2025 12:00 pm-1:00 pm.
Where: Microsoft Teams Meeting; Aroha - rua (4 pax)

Kia ora kōrua,

- De-brief meeting re: uplift 19 June 2025
- Planning for kōiwi tangata returning from Harvard in early August

Ngā mihi,

Te Herekiele

Microsoft Teams [Need help?](#)

(Out of Scope)

For organizers: [Meeting options](#)

From: [Te Herekiele Herewini](#)
To: [Pereri Mahanga](#); [Michelle Beattie](#)
Subject: Re: Te Hikinga - Uplift Ceremony on 19 June 2025
Date: Thursday, 26 June 2025 11:57:09 am
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Ka pai, hei te 12.15 pm. Te Herekiele

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From: Pereri Mahanga <s 9(2)(a)>
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 11:51:01 AM
To: Te Herekiele Herewini <teherekiekieh@tepapa.govt.nz>; Michelle Beattie <s 9(2)(a)>
Subject: Re: Te Hikinga - Uplift Ceremony on 19 June 2025

Kia ora Te Herekiele

Can we start our online meeting at 12.15pm?

Thanks,
Pereri

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From: Te Herekiele Herewini <teherekiekieh@tepapa.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, June 23, 2025 2:30:14 PM
To: Michelle Beattie <s 9(2)(a)> Pereri Mahanga <s 9(2)(a)>
Subject: RE: Te Hikinga - Uplift Ceremony on 19 June 2025

E pai ana, I'll send the invite through for Wednesday.

Ngā manaakitanga,

Te Herekiele

From: Michelle Beattie <s 9(2)(a)>
Sent: Monday, 23 June 2025 2:17 pm
To: Pereri Mahanga <s 9(2)(a)> Te Herekiele Herewini <teherekiekieh@tepapa.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: Te Hikinga - Uplift Ceremony on 19 June 2025

Kia Ora,

Kei te pai, I am happy to have a hui with you both. I will be available on Wednesday at 12pm.

Kia Ora rawa atu,
Michelle Beattie

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Pereri Mahanga <s 9(2)(a)>
Sent: Monday, June 23, 2025 1:29:50 PM
To: Te Herekietie Herewini <teherekietieh@tepapa.govt.nz>; Michelle Beattie
<s 9(2)(a)>
Subject: Re: Te Hikinga - Uplift Ceremony on 19 June 2025

Ka pai



Pereri Mahanga
HOE RANGATIRATANGA
SOVEREIGN INDEPENDENCE
Kia tū ake tō tātou mana ake o Te Waiariki
Te Waiariki will stand firm to preserve, protect and affirm that which is ours.
Te Waiariki | Ngāti Kororā | Ngāti Takapari

From: Te Herekietie Herewini <teherekietieh@tepapa.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, June 23, 2025 1:27 PM
To: Pereri Mahanga <s 9(2)(a)> Michelle Beattie
<s 9(2)(a)>
Subject: RE: Te Hikinga - Uplift Ceremony on 19 June 2025

Kia ora anō Pereri,

s 9(2)(a) Michelle. E pai ana tērā, I can wait until a time suits
Michelle.

Ngā mihi,

Te Herekieke

From: Pereri Mahanga <s 9(2)(a)>
Sent: Monday, 23 June 2025 1:24 pm
To: Te Herekieke Herewini <teherekiekieh@tepapa.govt.nz>; Michelle Beattie <s 9(2)(a)>
Subject: Re: Te Hikinga - Uplift Ceremony on 19 June 2025

Kia ora Te Herekieke

Michelle on sick leave with s 9(2)(a) at s 9(2)(a)s 9(2)(a) The hope is that she will see this email an reply for when we can catchup.



Mauri tū, Mauri ora!

Pereri Mahanga

HOE RANGATIRATANGA

SOVEREIGN INDEPENDENCE

Kia tū ake tō tātou mana ake o Te Waiariki

Te Waiariki will stand firm to preserve, protect and affirm that which is ours.

Te Waiariki | Ngāti Kororā | Ngāti Takapari

From: [Te Herekiele Herewini](#)
To: [Sina Ete](#)
Cc: [Shaadiya-Lee Filoa](#)
Subject: Summary of meeting with Te Waiariki Ngāti Kororā Ngāti Takapari dated 26 June 2025
Date: Tuesday, 23 September 2025 9:59:19 am

Kia ora Sina,

I also wanted to follow up to indicate that I also had a –

Begin

Follow-up meeting with Te Waiariki, Ngāti Kororā, Ngāti Takapari on Thursday 26 June 2025 from 12 noon to 1 pm.

The meeting was with Pereri Mahanga and Michelle Beatie.

Here are the notes from the meeting. They are as follows:

- Two OIA requests have been received, one from Huhana Lyndon and the other from Rose Wellington;
- Although Te Papa is an autonomous crown entity, it is still required to follow the OIA legislative process and will respond accordingly;
- Te Waiariki, Ngāti Kororā, Ngāti Takapari will prepare information for their membership;
- Two kōiwi tangata are returning from the USA in August 2025; and
- Te Waiariki, Ngāti Kororā, Ngāti Takapari would like images of the handover ceremony.

End

Ngā mihi,

Dr Te Herekiele Herewini
Pou Whakahaere Kaupapa Pūtere Kōiwi | [Head of Repatriation](#)
Karanga Aotearoa Repatriation Programme
Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa
Te Whanganui a Tara | [Wellington](#)
Aotearoa | [New Zealand](#)

From: [Te Herekiele Herewini](#)
To:
Cc:
Subject:
Date:

(Out of Scope)

Kia ora Sina,

I also wanted to follow up to indicate that I also had a –

Begin

Follow-up meeting with Te Waiariki, Ngāti Kororā, Ngāti Takapari on Friday 4 July 2025 from 12 noon to 1 pm.

The meeting was with Pereri Mahanga and Michelle Beatie.

I did not have permission to video record the meeting, so here are the notes from the meeting. They are as follows:

- Karanga Aotearoa needs to undertake further provenance research before it can confirm the provenance of those kōiwi tangata returning from the USA.
- These kōiwi tangata will return to Te Papa and will be cared for in the Wāhi Tapu until the provenance research is completed.
- Te Waiariki, Ngāti Kororā, Ngāti Takapari are aware of kaumātua hui in Whangarei regarding the return of kōiwi tangata presently housed at Te Papa.
- Te Papa will be in touch with you regarding the OIA request from Huhana Lyndon and Rose Williams.

End

Ngā mihi,

Dr Te Herekiele Herewini

Pou Whakahaere Kaupapa Pūtere Kōiwi | [Head of Repatriation](#)

Karanga Aotearoa Repatriation Programme

Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa

Te Whanganui a Tara | [Wellington](#)

Aotearoa | [New Zealand](#)

Īmēra | [Email: teherekiekieh@tepapa.govt.nz](mailto:teherekiekieh@tepapa.govt.nz)

Waea pūkoro | [Mobile: +64 29 59\(2\)\(a\)](#)

MA (Hons) - University of Auckland Waipapa Taumata Rau, Aotearoa New Zealand.

PhD – Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington, Aotearoa New Zealand.

Fellow – Georg-August University Göttingen, Germany - Sensitive Provenance Research Project.

NGĀTI TAKA (aka NGĀTI TAKAPARI) HAPŪ TRUST

*Ko Pukearengarenga te maunga ki tuawhenua
Ko Te Rehuotāne te maunga ki tai
Ko Whakairiora te maunga tapu
Ko ēnei ngā maunga tūwatawata
E tū te pō e tū te ao
Ko Ngunguru te moana, ko Ngunguru te awa
Ko Ngunguru te marae, ko Paratene Te Manu te Whare!
Ko te hapū nei, ko Ngāti Taka!
Tū mai rā i te pō i te ao nei!*

17th July 2025

Karanga Aotearoa Repatriation Programme
Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa

Dr Te Herekiele Haerehuka Herewini
Head of Repatriation

Email: s 9(2)(a)

Arapata Hakiwai
Kaihautū | Māori Co-leader

Email: s 9(2)(a)

Shaadiya-Lee Filoa
Kōiwi Tangata Repatriation Coordinator

Email: s 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koutou e ngā rau rangatira o Te Papa,

Tihei ki te rangi, mauri ora ki te whenua

RE: Concerns Regarding the Recent Repatriation Process Involving Kōiwi to Te Tai Tokerau

Ngāti Taka (aka Ngāti Takapari) Hapū Trust writes to you as the representative body of Ngāti Taka (aka Ngāti Takapari) hapū, located along the eastern coastline of Whangārei, Te Tai Tokerau. We write to introduce ourselves, acknowledge your important mahi, and express our deep concerns regarding the recent repatriation of kōiwi associated with ngā hapū o Whangārei back to Te Tai Tokerau.

Ko wai mātou?

We are the uri of Henare Te Moananui, Paratene Te Manu, and Mata Te Kura, all great-grandchildren of our tupuna Te Rangitūkiwaho. Our hapū takes its name from a significant battle between Te Rangitūkiwaho and Te Tirarau I of Ngāti Ruangāio (now widely recognised as Te Parawhau), above Punaruku. Our connection to these lands and waters from Ngunguru and Tutukākā to The Middle Gable (Te Ihu o Manaia) and toward Matapouri remains unbroken.

We are proud descendants of Paratene Te Manu, a distinguished warrior whose name adorns the whare hui at Ngunguru Marae. Our hapū is committed to upholding hapū rangatiratanga, recognising the mana of other hapū in Whangārei, while asserting our own mana motuhake – which we have never ceded.

Acknowledgement of Karanga Aotearoa Repatriation Programme, Te Papa

We wish to express our appreciation for the incredible work carried out by the Karanga Aotearoa Repatriation Programme. We understand the sensitive and complex nature of repatriating kōiwi and taonga, and we commend your efforts to return ancestral remains to their rightful people in a culturally respectful way.

In particular, we acknowledge the repatriation of kōiwi stolen from Te Tai Tokerau, including from Taiharuru, in the late 1800s by Andreas Reische, an Austrian taxidermist. We understand a number of tūpuna were identified as being from Te Tai Tokerau, with one such tupuna who was buried on Hauturu (Tautai, father of Paratene Te Manu) to be a direct ancestor of Ngāti Taka. We respect the kaupapa which determines that repatriations are to be led by iwi and hapū, with support from Te Papa, and with the tikanga resting with the appropriate tangata whenua.

Our Grievance

Therefore, it is with great sadness and frustration that we express our deep disappointment in how the recent repatriation process which occurred in May 2025 was conducted. Kaumātua from our hapū and other local hapū had repeatedly called for open, hapū-wide kōrero regarding this process and appropriate location for re-interment. These requests were ignored. Indeed, the Kāhui Kaumātua o Terenga Parāoa met both prior to and following the discovery of the recent uplift of kōiwi by Te Waiariki Ngāti Kororā, Ngāti Takapari Hapū Iwi Trust. At the hui held after the uplift, there was deep pōuritanga and significant concern expressed about the consequences for the whānau involved. It must be emphasised that this entity is a Trust — not the kaumātua who hold the ancestral mana and cultural whakapapa required to engage appropriately with tapu matters such as kōiwi.

It appears the group **‘Te Waiariki Ngāti Kororā, Ngāti Takapari Hapū Iwi Trust’** proceeded to uplift the kōiwi without the collective consent of the various local hapū / iwi or our Taumata Kaumātua. They acted unilaterally, self-authorising their involvement and excluding other hapū and kaumātua from involvement in key decisions. No

opportunity was made available for our collective hapū to be present to welcome the kōiwi home, nor tangi at the re-interment. This caused significant and ongoing distress to our people. The mamae will not repair easily.

Clarifying Representation: Ngāti Taka Speaks for Ngāti Taka

Ngāti Taka Hapū (aka Ngāti Takapari) formally withdrew from the Te Waiariki Ngāti Kororā Trust in 2020 following a series of hapū hui and due to the lack of consultation and mandate. This withdrawal was formally communicated in writing and reaffirmed in 2022 by the Taumata Kaumātua. At that time, a clear directive was issued that Te Waiariki Ngāti Kororā Trust was not to use our tribal names for their Trust and that the taumata supported the written withdrawal of numerous whānau lines along with the withdrawal of Ngāti Taka (aka Ngāti Takapari) Hapū. In September 2022, Ngāti Taka established its own Charitable Trust—**Ngāti Taka (aka Ngāti Takapari) Hapū Trust**—which is the sole and legitimate representative body for our hapū.

We therefore **reject any representation of our hapū by the Te Waiariki Ngāti Kororā, Ngāti Takapari Hapū Iwi Trust**. They do not speak for us, nor do they hold the authority to make decisions or carry out actions on our behalf. They represent only their registered members and not Ngāti Taka.

This Trust has repeatedly and inappropriately claimed to represent Ngāti Taka in various forums and processes, including the recent repatriation of kōiwi. These actions reflect a **concerning pattern of behaviour**—stepping over hapū lines, hapū mana Motuhake, ignoring the authority of kaumātua, and disregarding tikanga by excluding other hapū from proper consultation. Our kaumātua made repeated and respectful requests to slow down and allow for open kōrero with all hapū whose rohe the kōiwi were taken from. These requests were ignored. Instead, the kōiwi were uplifted by that Trust without kaumātua consensus or involvement from the wider hapū, including ours.

This has caused significant hurt and grievance within our whānau. Not only were we excluded (via our distaste to attend hui called by a Trust that misrepresents us) from decisions relating to tūpuna of direct descent to us, but our hapū name has been misused in actions that breach tikanga and undermine hapū rangatiratanga.

Our Requests:

- We respectfully ask that **Te Papa recognises and upholds Ngāti Taka (aka Ngāti Takapari) Hapū Trust as the only body authorised to speak and act on behalf of Ngāti Taka**, and that future engagement, particularly around matters as sensitive and sacred as repatriation, reflect this.
- That future repatriations involving kōiwi traced to our rohe or whakapapa include formal consultation with Ngāti Taka Hapū Trust. Should an iwi presence be required, Ngātiwai stands as the stronger voice connected to our hapū and has been the sole iwi to offer us consistent support. While we wish to be consulted

where appropriate, we defer to the decisions of the Kāhui Kaumātua o Terenga Parāoa, in whom we place our trust to uphold tikanga.

- That the misrepresentation of our hapū by Te Waiariki Ngāti Kororā, Ngāti Takapari Hapū Iwi Trust be acknowledged, and steps be taken to ensure appropriate hapū representation moving forward.
- That Te Papa provides a detailed explanation of the process followed in recognising the said Trust as representatives in this recent repatriation and in releasing the kōiwi to them.

We share your commitment to upholding tikanga, restoring mana, and bringing our ancestors home with dignity. It is in this spirit that we raise these concerns, so that future processes may better reflect the principles of manaaki, whanaungatanga, and tino rangatiratanga.

We of Ngāti Taka maintain and protect our people, lands, wāhi tapu, waterways, and airways, including our taonga, and seek to deal with environmental issues, including those matters that Ngāti Taka deems to be within its sphere of concern.

Ngā manaakitanga,

Co-Chairs

Rose Wellington – s 9(2)(a)

Mark Hawkins – s 9(2)(a)

Ngāti Taka (aka Ngāti Takapari) Hapū Trust

s 9(2)(a)

From: [Te Herekiele Herewini](#)
To: [Pereri Mahanga](#); [Michelle Beattie](#)
Subject: Te Papa and Te Waiariki, Korora, Takapari Update meeting

Kia ora kōrua,

Update meeting. Let me know if this time works or not?

Ngā mihi,

Te Herekiele

Microsoft Teams Need help? <<https://aka.ms/JoinTeamsMeeting?omkt=en-US>>

(Out of Scope)

From: [Te Herekiele Herewini](#)
To: [Shaadiya-Lee Filoa](#)
Subject: RE: Please place these docs in Pou mataaho
Date: Friday, 18 July 2025 1:43:00 pm
Attachments: [Background notes Taitokerau during April 2025.docx](#)

Kia ora Shaadiya-Lee,

Please find attached the updated version of the record of meetings in April 2025 with Whangarei iwi/hapū.

Please replace the earlier version I sent on 16 July with the one I have attached to this email.

Ngā mihi,

Te Herekiele

From: Te Herekiele Herewini
Sent: Wednesday, 16 July 2025 1:24 pm
To: Shaadiya-Lee Filoa <Shaadiya-Lee.Filoa@tepapa.govt.nz>
Subject: Please place these docs in Pou mataaho

Kia ora Shaadiya-Lee,

Please put a copy of each of these files into the following domestics files including:

- (Out of Scope)
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- Te Waiariki, Ngāti Kororā, Ngāti Takapari.

Ngā mihi,

Dr Te Herekiele Herewini
Pou Whakahaere Kaupapa Pūtere Kōiwi | [Head of Repatriation](#)
Karanga Aotearoa Repatriation Programme
Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa
Te Whanganui a Tara | [Wellington](#)
Aotearoa | [New Zealand](#)
Imēra | Email: teherekieleh@tepapa.govt.nz
Waea pūkoro | Mobile: +64 29 [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)

MA (Hons) - University of Auckland Waipapa Taumata Rau, Aotearoa New Zealand.

PhD – Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington, Aotearoa New Zealand.

Fellow – Georg-August University Göttingen, Germany - Sensitive Provenance Research Project.

From: [Pereri Mahanga](#)
To: [Te Herekietie Herewini](#)
Cc: [Michelle Beattie](#); [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Subject: Fw: Kōiwi Update meeting
Date: Friday, 1 August 2025 1:00:55 pm
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Outlook-inrkyh4w.png](#)

Tēnā koe Te Herekietie

I was hoping that we could of had discussion to do with OIA, as of yesterday we received the OIA as well as email correspondance.

We will keep in contact with you for further Updates.

 **Nā**
Pereri Mahanga
HOE RANGATIRATANGA
SOVEREIGN INDEPENDENCE
Kia tū ake tō tātou mana ake o Te Waiariki
Te Waiariki will stand firm to preserve, protect and affirm that which is
ours.
Te Waiariki | Ngāti Kororā | Ngāti Takapari

From: Te Herekietie Herewini <teherekietieh@tepapa.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, July 31, 2025 4:17 PM
To: Pereri Mahanga <[s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)>
Subject: RE: Kōiwi Update meeting

Kia ora Pereri,

Yes of course, what time suits you and Michelle?

Ngā mihi,

Te Herekietie

From: Pereri Mahanga <[s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)>
Sent: Tuesday, 29 July 2025 11:45 am
To: Te Herekietie Herewini <teherekietieh@tepapa.govt.nz>
Subject: Kōiwi Update meeting

Tēnā koe Te Herekietie

Can we organise to have an update online Hui, Thursday 31st August 12.30pm.



Nā
Pereri Mahanga
HOE RANGATIRATANGA
SOVEREIGN INDEPENDENCE
Kia tū ake tō tātou mana ake o Te Waiariki
Te Waiariki will stand firm to preserve, protect and affirm that which is ours.
Te Waiariki | Ngāti Kororā | Ngāti Takapari

From: [Te Herekiele Herewini](#)
To: [Pereri Mahanga](#)
Cc: [Michelle Beattie](#); [Langdon Bradley](#)
Subject: Re: Kōiwi Update meeting
Date: Friday, 1 August 2025 2:22:20 pm
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Outlook-inrkyh4w.png](#)

Aroha Mai, your meeting request said 31 August, so I didn't think it was urgent. The OIA is very straightforward and matter of fact. NGA mihi, Te Herekiele

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Pereri Mahanga <s 9(2)(a)>
Sent: Friday, August 1, 2025 1:00:41 PM
To: Te Herekiele Herewini <teherekieleh@tepapa.govt.nz>
Cc: Michelle Beattie <s 9(2)(a)> Langdon Bradley <s 9(2)(a)>
Subject: Fw: Kōiwi Update meeting

Tēnā koe Te Herekiele

I was hoping that we could of had discussion to do with OIA, as of yesterday we received the OIA as well as email correspondance.

We will keep in contact with you for further Updates.

 Nā
Pereri Mahanga
HOE RANGATIRATANGA
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ours.
Te Waiariki | Ngāti Kororā | Ngāti Takapari

From: Te Herekiele Herewini <teherekieleh@tepapa.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, July 31, 2025 4:17 PM
To: Pereri Mahanga <s 9(2)(a)>
Subject: RE: Kōiwi Update meeting

Kia ora Pereri,

Yes of course, what time suits you and Michelle?

Ngā mihi,

Te Herekieke

From: Pereri Mahanga <s 9(2)(a)>
Sent: Tuesday, 29 July 2025 11:45 am
To: Te Herekieke Herewini <teherekiekieh@tepapa.govt.nz>
Subject: Kōiwi Update meeting

Tēnā koe Te Herekieke

Can we organise to have an update online Hui, Thursday 31st August 12.30pm.



Nā
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Te Waiariki | Ngāti Kororā | Ngāti Takapari