

Hon Paul Goldsmith

Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage
Minister of Justice
Minister for Media and Communications
Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations



18 September 2025

Kipa Munro
On behalf of Ngā Hapū o te Takutai Moana

By email: kipa@ngatirehia.co.nz

Tēnā koe

Confirmation of Ngā Hapū o te Takutai Moana as a hapū grouping

Thank you for the Ngā Hapū o te Takutai Moana hapū grouping proposal and accompanying letter, received on 12 June. I acknowledge the work that has been undertaken to get to this point.

I am pleased to confirm Ngā Hapū o te Takutai Moana (encompassing Ngāti Rēhia, Ngāti Rāhiri, Ngāti Kawa, Te Ngare Hauata) as a hapū grouping for the purposes of seeking a mandate to negotiate a comprehensive settlement of the historical Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi claims of those hapū. The Crown is committed to working with Ngā Hapū o te Takutai Moana to develop a mandate strategy.

I note Te Ngare Hauata is also included in the Ngā Pūriri Pūmau o Te Waimate me Taiāmai hapū grouping. I expect, as you develop your mandate strategy, that you will continue to discuss, with them and officials, how Te Ngare Hauata will be represented during Treaty settlement negotiations. It is important your claimant communities are given clear information about this when you seek a mandate from them.

I am advised you have indicated your willingness for other hapū to join your grouping. The Crown does not intend to confirm further hapū groupings in the Bay of Islands so I ask you to actively encourage remaining hapū to join you. Larger groupings will ensure shared interests can be appropriately managed and the full range of redress is available.

For the same reasons, while I have recognised two hapū groupings in the Bay of Islands (you and Te Whakaaetanga), I expect you both to work with officials to develop an approach to negotiations that includes a regional negotiation table where appropriate. I have communicated this to Te Whakaaetanga and will seek an update on the progress of these discussions in due course.

I have approved a total of \$200,000 as a contribution to costs for Ngā Hapū o te Takutai Moana to submit a final deed of mandate. The first \$50,000 will be released to you immediately. A further three tranches of \$50,000 will be available as milestones in the mandate process are

reached and upon proof of expenditure showing prior funding was used appropriately. A table outlining standard funding milestones, for discussion with officials to ensure these reflect your proposed mandate process, is attached for your reference.

I wish to acknowledge the constructive way you have engaged with my officials to reach this point and I look forward to hearing about your progress over the coming months.

If you have any questions, please contact Alexandria Mellows, Negotiation and Settlement Manager on 027 239 6787 or Alexandria.Mellows@whakatau.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā



Hon Paul Goldsmith
Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations

cc. Aroha Herewini (Project Manager), aroha.herewini@kaupare.co.nz

Tranche Release	Milestone
\$50,000	Ministerial confirmation of hapū grouping
	Claimant definition drafted
	Draft Mandate Strategy submitted Reviewed by Te Tari Whakatau and Te Puni Kōkiri
\$50,000	Draft Mandate Strategy agreed and released for public consultation
	Submissions received and feedback considered
\$50,000	Final Mandate Strategy agreed and endorsed
	Mandate hui and voting
	Draft Deed of Mandate submitted
	Draft Deed of Mandate reviewed by Te Tari Whakatau and Te Puni Kōkiri Feedback incorporated
\$50,000	Draft Deed of Mandate agreed and released for public consultation
	Submissions received and feedback considered
	Draft Deed of Mandate finalised in light of feedback Te Tari Whakatau and Te Puni Kōkiri consult and review
	Te Tari Whakatau and Te Puni Kōkiri report to Ministers on recognition of Deed of Mandate
	Mandate recognised
TBC	Standard matrix mandate funding as required to cover any remaining legitimate costs already incurred