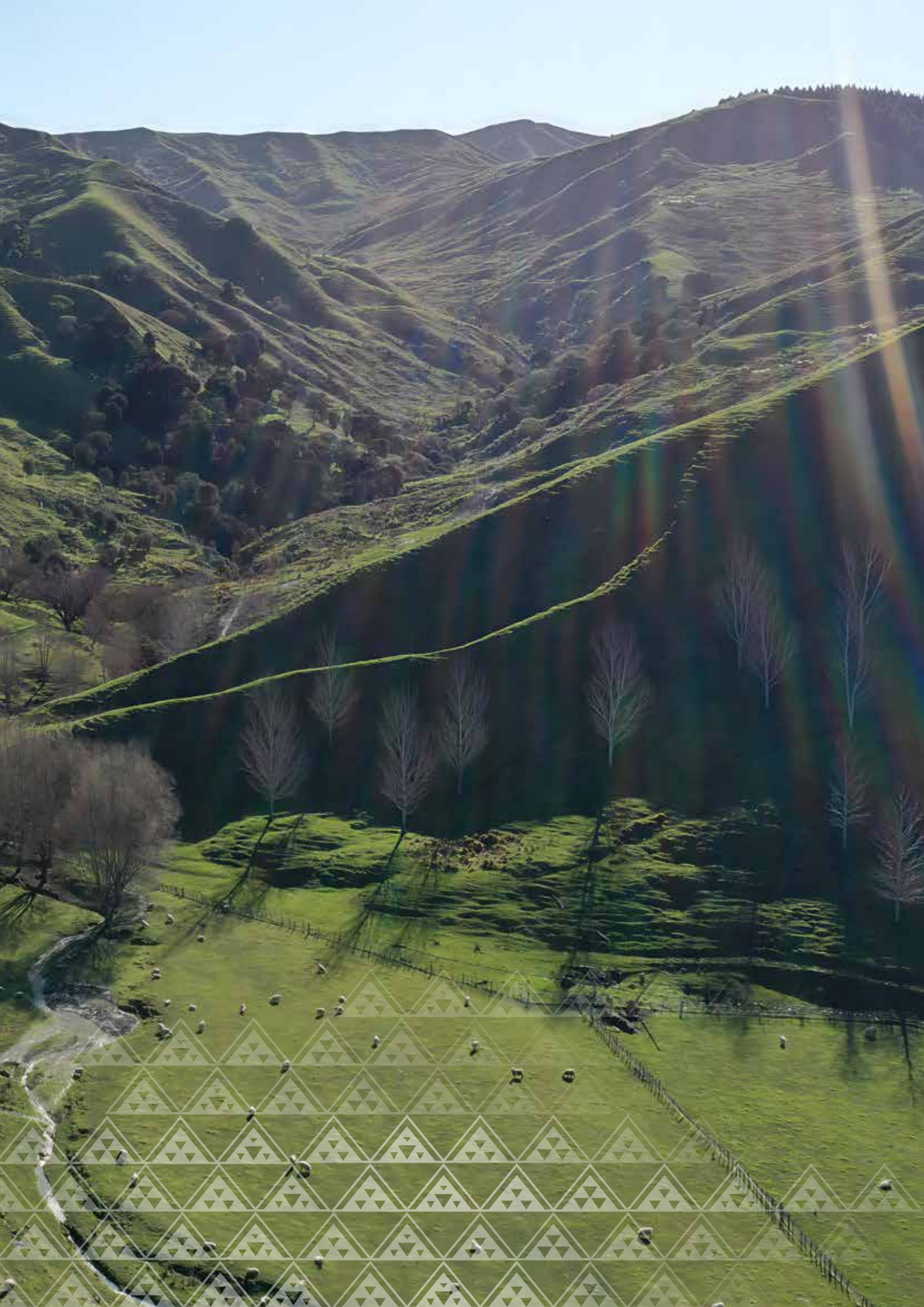


2025

Te Pūrongo ā-Tau

Annual Report





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This report has been prepared to meet the requirements of Section 150 of the Crown Entities Act 2004.

Cover image: Section 186 Block V Longwood S D (Ouetoto MR) in Murihiku, Photo: James Beck

Inside cover image: Pahaoa 3B2

Tēnā koutou katoa

He tātai whetū ki te rangi, he tātai tangata ki te whenua.

He tātai whakapapa ki muri, he tātai whakapapa ki mua.

He tātai hononga nō te whenua, mō te whenua e kore e ngaro.

Tihei mauri ora!

Ki te Minita Whanaketanga Māori

He hōnore ki ahau te tuku atu i te Pūrongo ā tau o Te Kaitiaki Māori mō te tau i mutu i te 31 o Māehe 2025.

Nāku noa, nā
Dr Charlotte Severne ONZM
Kaitiaki Māori | Māori Trustee

Tau atu, tau mai, e rerekē tonu ana ngā taipitopito i roto i te pūrongo ā-tau nā te tini āhuaranga ka tae atu ki a Te Tumu Paeroa.

Heoi, ka ū tonu ko te whakakitenga; E tiaki tika ana i ngā whenua Māori i te inamata tae ki te anamata.

Ia te tau ka kite atu i ngā āheinga me ngā wero hou, ā, ko tō tātou whakakitenga tonu tērā e ārahi ana i te pūtakenga o a tātou mahi.

I te tau kua hori, kua whai hua taku whai wāhi atu ki ngā māngai oti noa ki ētahi minita o te kāwanatanga, kia kōrerohia te pito mata o ngā whenua Māori. E koa ana te ngākau i ngā panonihanga ā-kaupapa here nei, ā-whakature nei, e hāpai ana i te pito matatanga.

Kua kaha tā Te Tumu Paeroa kimi rautaki kia whakatutuki i ngā mahi whenua me te whakawhanake i ngā āheinga mā ngā whenua Māori.

I te tau kua hori, nā te Māori Development Fund tātou i riro i te 2.4 miriona tāra kia āta tirohia ngā āheinga o roto i ngā mahi ahuone, ahunga miraka, ahunga ngahere, ahunga tāpoi, ahunga pūngao ngāwhā, ahunga pūngao kōmaru, ahunga pūngao hau anō hoki.

E koke kē ana tēnei mahi, ā, ka whāia tonutia ki te tau kei te heke mai.

Hei āpitianga, kua tutuki i a tātou te 630,000 tāra kia whakahou i ngā pūnaha i ngā whenua Māori nā Te Ringa Hāpai Whenua Fund.

Ko ngā whakahoutanga i whāia kia tika te ū ki ngā waeture, kia tika ngā taiapa, ngā mahi whakatō tipu ki ngā taiao-wai, te whakarauora o ngā kūkūwai, te whakapakari anō hoki i ngā pūnaha wai.



Katoa, katoa kua 5 miriona tāra neke atu tā Te Tumu Paeroa whakapiki, whakapakari i te wāriu o ngā whenua Māori i te tau kua hori.

Ahakoia kua rua tau kē nō te huripari o Gabrielle, arā tonu ētahi whakatikahanga matatini mā tātou ki te Tairāwhiti. Kia maharatia te hirahira o ā tātou mahi, nō te whenua te mana, ko te whenua anō. Ka poipoia ināianeī mō āpōpō.

Ko tā ngā kaimahi o Te Tumu Paeroa, kua whakahaerehia te whakarauoratanga o ngā whenua nō ngā ahu whenua 113. Nā te pūtea tautoko hoki o Te Puni Kōkiri i tutuki ai tēnei mahi ki tōna 2.5 miriona tāra.

He tūranga hāerere tāku. Ka nui hoki te maringa nui nā te mea i taea e au te tūtaki, te whakawhanaunga atu, kanohi-ki-te-kanohi ki ētahi o ngā kaupapa hirahira i te ao Māori: i te tau kua hori i tae atu ki te tangihanga o Kīngi Tuheitia, i whai wāhi atu ki te koroneihana o Kuini Nga wai hono i te po, i tae atu ki ngā maharatanga o Waitangi. I tae atu ki ngā whakanui rautau i Paremata, ki te hākari o Matariki, ki ngā pō riro taonga o Ahuwhenua, tae rawa ki a tātou hui taratī anō hoki.

E mōhio nei tātou he mea nui ngā hononga ki ngā kaiwhakahaere whenua Māori pēnei i Te Kooti Whenua Māori, ki ngā mana whenua, ki ngā kaipupuri, ngā kairīhi whenua. Mā te mahitahi me te poipoia i ēnei hononga e tutuki pai ai ā tātou wawata.

E koke tonu ana tā Te Tumu Paeroa aro ki te mana motuhake, ki te mātauranga me ngā pūkenga ā ngā kaipupuri whenua. Ko te hiahia kia tōtika tonu ai te pūnaha mō te hunga e aru ana kia tū motuhake rātou.

I tēnei wā tonu, kua tata ki te 100 taratī e whakamahi ana i tērā tukanga, ā, kua kite hoki i tā te marea kaha uru atu ki te mahi whakangungu kaiwhakahaere mā ngā rēhitatanga ki te Tū Tiaki.

I tērā tau i wānanga tahi ki te Karauna, ka riro ki a tātou tētahi Crown Funding Agreement hou, kua whakamanahia nō tēnei tau 2025 tae noa ki te tau 2029.

Ka rawe hoki ēnei pārongo, me te aha, nā ēnei ka mārama tā tātou whakamahere tika i te tuarihanga atu o ngā rauemi tatuoko ki a tātou whāinga matua i ngā tau e kainamu mai ana.

Tēnā koutou katoa

He tātai whetū ki te rangi, he tātai tangata ki te whenua.

He tātai whakapapa ki muri, he tātai whakapapa ki mua.

He tātai hononga nō te whenua, mō te whenua e kore e ngaro.

Tihei mauri ora!

To the Minister for Māori Development

I am honoured to present the Annual Report for the Māori Trustee for the year ended 31 March 2025.



Nāku noa, nā

Dr Charlotte Severne ONZM

Kaitiaki Māori | Māori Trustee

Year to year, the content in this Annual Report changes as the context in which Te Tumu Paeroa operates is not static. What doesn't change though, is our vision: Ensuring whenua Māori is protected and enhanced, now and for generations to come.

While each new year brings new challenges and opportunities, our vision firmly anchors our work and gives us a clear sense of purpose.

In the last year I have had very productive dialogue with Government ministers and senior officials about unlocking the potential of whenua Māori, and I'm heartened to see legislative and policy changes on the horizon to support this.

Te Tumu Paeroa has been very active in carrying out the necessary work to explore land use and development opportunities on whenua Māori. Last year, we received a \$2.4 million grant from the Māori Development Fund to assess the feasibility of a pipeline of new opportunities in horticulture, dairy, forestry, tourism and geothermal, solar and wind energy production. This mahi is already well underway and will continue this coming year.

In addition, this last year we completed more than \$630,000 worth of infrastructure improvements on whenua Māori with the support of grant funding then available through Te Ringa Hāpai Whenua Fund. Improvements focused on regulatory compliance, and included fencing, riparian planting, wetland restoration and enhancement of water supply and infrastructure.



In total, Te Tumu Paeroa has completed more than \$5 million worth of land and capital improvements on whenua Māori in the last financial year.

More than two years on from Cyclone Gabrielle, we are continuing to manage some of the more complex remediation work in Tairāwhiti. It acts as a constant reminder that the work we do to protect and enhance the whenua needs to be future-focused.

Te Tumu Paeroa kaimahi have project managed whenua restoration for 113 affected trusts, with support of Te Puni Kōkiri's Sediment and Debris Fund overseeing expenditure of approximately \$2.5 million.

My role takes me all sorts of places to kōrero about this work, and more. It was a big year for te ao Māori and I had the opportunity to connect with people kanohi-ki-te-kanohi at Kīngi Tūheitia's tangi and Kuini Ngā Wai Hono i te Po's coronation, at Waitangi commemorations, at our centennial celebrations at Parliament, Matariki hākari, and Ahuwhenua Trophy events, as well as our regular advisory trustee hui.

Whether it's working closely with our whenua Māori administration partners, such as Te Kooti Whenua Māori | Māori Land Court, or with mana whenua, landowners or lessees, we know that nurturing relationships and working together gets us closer to our shared goals.

Te Tumu Paeroa has continued its focus on enhancing landowners' self-governance skills and knowledge, and to streamline the process for owners wanting to transition to self-governance.

We now have nearly 100 trusts in that process and have seen a positive uptake of owners registering for the Tū Tiaki governance training we offer.

Last year we completed negotiations for a new Crown Funding Agreement, which is now in place for 2025 to 2029. This is very good news as it allows us to confidently plan how we will employ our resources to meet our strategic priorities in the coming years.

About us

The Māori Trustee is appointed to act as a trustee to administer Māori freehold land and other assets on behalf of the beneficial owners.

Te Tumu Paeroa is the organisation that supports the Māori Trustee to carry out her statutory duties, functions and responsibilities.

Our vision

Ko Te Tumu Paeroa tēnei, te tauawhi nei, te taunaki nei, te tiaki nei ngā whenua Māori mō nāianeī, mō āpōpō hoki.

Ensuring whenua Māori is protected and enhanced, now and for generations to come.

Who we are

The Māori Trustee is appointed, usually by Te Kooti Whenua Māori | Māori Land Court, to act as a trustee for Māori freehold land and other assets on behalf of the beneficial owners.

Te Tumu Paeroa is the organisation that supports the Māori Trustee to carry out her administrative duties, functions and responsibilities.

The Māori Trustee is appointed by the Minister for Māori Development under the Māori Trustee Act 1953. The current Māori Trustee, Dr Charlotte Severne, was reappointed for a five-year term in October 2021.

The Māori Trustee, with the support of Te Tumu Paeroa, currently administers around a third of all Māori land trusts.

What we do

We provide professional trustee services for whenua Māori. We do this by carrying out the terms of trusts and ensure the whenua is protected and enhanced for future generations.

Where the Māori Trustee has been appointed as responsible trustee of a Māori land trust, we provide a range of services that support the owners and trustees.

This will most often include holding owner hui, leasing the property on behalf of the trust, ensuring the land and finances are managed according to regulations, looking at opportunities for development, distributing income to owners from trust funds and working with owners interested in self-administration of their whenua.

The Māori Trustee may have other roles with ahu whenua trusts, such as custodian trustee, or acting as an agent.

Where we work

The Māori Trustee administers around 5.6 per cent of whenua Māori across Aotearoa. This mahi is split across three rohe, with four tari:

- » Pou Tāhū (Rotorua tari)
- » Pou Tokomanawa (Tūranganui-a-Kiwa | Gisborne tari)
- » Pou Tuarongo (Te Whanganui-a-Tara | Wellington and Whanganui tari)

Our values

Te Tumu Paeroa's organisational values guide our approach to the work we do. Tōtika, kotahitanga, manaakitanga and mana underpin our day-to-day mahi, guiding our judgement, choices, actions, and behaviour. They are central to the commitment Te Tumu Paeroa has to the whenua and its owners, now and for generations to come.



Tōtika | Professionalism
Te tika o te tū



Mana | Integrity
Te ihi, te wehi, te wana



Kotahitanga | Unity
Te raranga i te tira



Manaakitanga | Respect
Te akiaki i te mana

Kapa Pou Arahi

Te Tumu Paeroa's Senior Leadership Team



**KAITIAKI MĀORI
MĀORI TRUSTEE**

Dr Charlotte Severne ONZM
(Ngāti Tūwharetoa,
Ngāi Tūhoe)



**POUTIRIWĀ
DEPUTY MĀORI TRUSTEE
POU NGĀRAHU
GENERAL COUNSEL**

Greg Shaw



**POU ARAHI TUARĀ
TAONGA TRUST &
PROPERTY DIRECTOR**

Sonya Rimene
(Rangitāne, Kahungunu,
Te Arawa, Kāi Tahu)



**POU ARAHI RANGATŌPU
CORPORATE SERVICES
DIRECTOR**

Martin Eadie

TĀNE WILSON (Ngāi Tūhoe, Ngāti Porou), Pou Arahi Ohu Ringa Raupā | Enterprise Delivery Director until June 2024

The Kapa Pou Arahi are supported by:



**KAITAUTARI PĀRONGO
MATUA
CHIEF INFORMATION
OFFICER**

Ruth Russell



**POU ARAHI KŌPURA
SENIOR INVESTMENTS
MANAGER**

Chris Rich



**KAIHAUTŪ WHAKAMARU
RISK & ASSURANCE
MANAGER**

Tim Signal

TE HĀMUA NIKORA (Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Kōhohi, Te Whakatōhea), Pou Tikanga until August 2024

Audit and Risk Committee



INDEPENDENT CHAIR

Pat Waite QSM



INDEPENDENT MEMBER

Whaimutu Dewes
(Ngāti Porou and
Ngāti Rangitīhi)



INDEPENDENT MEMBER

Ngila Bevan

Investment Committee

- Dr Charlotte Severne
- Greg Shaw (Chair)
- Chris Rich
- Stuart Munro

2024-25

Māori Trustee Outcomes Framework



Vision

Ko Te Tumu Paeroa tēnei, te tauawhi nei, te taunaki nei, te tiaki nei ngā whenua Māori mō nāianei, mō āpōpō hoki.

Ensuring whenua Māori is protected and enhanced, now and for generations to come.



Critical impacts

The Crown’s investment, formalised in a funding agreement between the Māori Trustee and the Minister for Māori Development, assists the Māori Trustee to promote, advance or achieve the following critical impacts:

- » Landowners of whenua Māori are engaged in matters relating to their whenua.
- » The capability of Māori landowners is developed to maximise self-governance and administration of whenua Māori by its owners.
- » Landowners of Māori land are proud of the condition of their whenua and how it is being cared for.
- » Use and development potential of Māori land is being realised.



Our 2024-25 strategic priorities

- » Owners have timely access to accurate and insightful information to engage in the governance and administration of their whenua.
- » Evaluate and implement opportunities with owners and relevant stakeholders to improve the use and development of whenua Māori.
- » Owners’ interests are protected through our response to challenges and emerging risks that impact whenua Māori.
- » Owners and stakeholders have confidence that our systems and information underpinning our services are secure and efficiently managed and maintained.



Our outcomes

The Māori Trustee reports quarterly to the Crown on its critical impacts, Crown funded outputs, and on the ways in which the Office is positively contributing to the social, economic and cultural well-being of owners of whenua Māori and their whānau.

Year at a glance

Our numbers change every year, but our impact doesn't. Here's a snapshot of our mahi in 2024-25.

1,696

Trusts and other entities administered by Te Tumu Paeroa

\$5.3m

Worth of land and capital improvements made

1,324

Trusts for which the Māori Trustee is responsible trustee

2,160

Advisory trustees

77,176

Hectares of whenua managed

10

Entities we provide business support to

\$150m

Market value of client funds managed

336

Owner meetings held

16,166

Enquiries to Ratonga Āwhina Kiritaki | Client Services



2,047

Succession orders processed

7,104

New owner shares created

106,354

Owner accounts maintained

\$5.7m

Distributions paid to owners

1,748

New owner accounts

60.2%

Owners we hold contact details for

1,619

Leases administered



Long-time lessee of Motukawa 2B 15A, Kerry Whale, talks with its owners and Te Tumu Paeroa kaimahi about recent improvements on the whenua.

Protecting and enhancing the whenua

Our core purpose is to provide professional trustee services that protect and enhance whenua Māori for generations to come.

With a diverse range of land blocks to administer – from streamside wetland to hill country farmland, from less than a hectare to more than 2,000 – this involves a great diversity of activities.

It includes operating enterprises, managing property leases, undertaking capital works and investments, restoring wetlands and waterways, scoping future improvements and developments, ensuring environmental compliance and representation through advocacy and submissions.

Mihikeita Tawhara, an owner of Puketapu 3C 5A3, talks with kaimahi about plans for the block.





Helping hand for whenua Māori infrastructure

More than 20 whenua Māori blocks across Aotearoa have been given some much-needed aroha thanks to support from Te Ringa Hāpai Whenua Fund.

Te Ringa Hāpai Whenua was a contestable fund administered by Te Puni Kōkiri, aimed at supporting whenua Māori owners to realise aspirations for their land.

Te Tumu Paeroa secured more than \$630,000 from the fund this financial year to support 23 Māori Trustee-administered blocks with infrastructure works and to meet environmental compliance standards. This included fencing to exclude stock from waterways, addressing sediment, erosion and nutrient issues on the most at-risk blocks, and investing in new infrastructure such as stockyards and water storage and reticulation.

Pou Tāhū Mātanga Taiwhenua | Rural Specialist Brooke Sinclair says that as well as being an opportunity to make infrastructure upgrades, it was a chance to look at the whenua as a whole, how it's operating now, and enhancing it for future needs.

“Our team takes a really practical approach, that includes a te ao Māori perspective, in that everything is interconnected, including the people – we listen to the owners, the lessees and approach every project with future generations in mind.”

This included creating independent water sources with solar-powered pumps, water storage systems, solar-powered electric fencing and the planting of thousands of native shrubs and trees to enhance the health of the waterways.

“It's worked really well being able to do the fencing, but at the same time enhance the biodiversity and sustainability,” says Brooke.

Waikato blocks Whangape 72A2 and 72B1 had more than 2,250 metres of stock exclusion fencing installed around waterways, two solar-powered pumped water



The new Pahaoa 2B steel cattle and sheep handling yards.

systems put in, along with two large water storage tanks and eight new stock water troughs.

After kaimahi spotted a natural spring on the 72B1 block, they also created a new dam as an alternative water source now that waterways had been fenced.

Further south, Te Kawa A1C had nearly 1,000m of new electric fencing installed around waterways and, after a natural spring was identified as an alternative stock water source, two adjacent hillsides were retired and planted with more than 4,000 native trees and shrubs.

Two blocks near Marton, Reu Reu 1 Sec 33 B2 and Reu Reu 3B 2B also had a boost – a solar-powered water pump system with a 30,000-litre water tank now provides a reliable, year-round stock water source, bringing the potential for higher rentals and returns for owners.

Other work carried out included releasing riparian plantings, removal of invasive species and installation of non-invasive willows for erosion control.



A now retired hillside and riparian fencing at Te Kawa A1C.



New stockyards increase rental return

A joint investment from two Wairarapa block trusts and a Te Puni Kōkiri fund has boosted rental returns for the land.

New, high-quality steel cattle and sheep handling yards have been built at Pahaoa 2B, replacing the dilapidated wooden structures, putting stock out of the way of a flood-prone area of the land and closer to road access.

“The investment will make the block attractive to local farmers for decades to come, ensuring there are ongoing returns for the owners of the two blocks,” says Pou Tuarongo Kaitohutohu Taiwhenua | Rural Advisor James Beck.

Te Tumu Paeroa kaimahi were successful in obtaining \$125,000 in funding from Te Ringa Hāpai Whenua Fund for this work and, after owners agreed to reserve distributions in 2016 for capital development, the trusts could also contribute.

The improvements have resulted in a higher annual rental return, which will now benefit owners, and also creates a more attractive frontage, says James.



23

Whenua Māori blocks protected & enhanced



25,781m

New fencing installed



12,541

Native plants in the ground



5

Solar-powered water reticulation systems installed



105,000L

Water tank storage



14

New stock troughs



1

new spring-fed dam



Protecting native taonga

Planting, fencing and other restoration activities are commonplace on the whenua Māori blocks the Māori Trustee administers, but it's not every day we protect endangered species while doing it.

Protecting the habitat of a nationally endangered giant land snail is one of the biodiversity wins that Te Tumu Paeroa has had this year.

One part of an ecologically significant, high priority wetland, Perawiti's Wetland, sits on Manawatu Kukutauaki 3 Sec 2A1A2.

The wetland was once kahikatea forest, and although some still stand, it's mostly the harakeke, toetoe and raupo that have remained. Alongside other numerous native plant species and the wildlife they support, it makes the wetland one of the largest and most diverse in the area.

In 1993, a survey recorded the presence of a rare native snail subspecies, *Powelliphanta traversii koputaroa*. The land snail is naturally uncommon, but its wetland forest habitat has also been severely reduced with forest clearance and wetland drainage – the snail is now nationally endangered.

The portion of Perawiti's Wetland on the Māori Trustee administered block is now fully fenced to keep grazing cattle out, thanks to a Horizons Regional Council biodiversity grant. This year Te Tumu Paeroa contracted 420 metres of fencing around the wetland, which also keeps cattle safe from predator control in the wetland margin.

Left: The habitat of this nationally endangered land snail, *Powelliphanta traversi koputaroa*, has been protected on a Manawātū block administered by the Māori Trustee.

Photo: Matt Ward/ iNaturalist



Digging deep

A new water bore on a whenua Māori block in Himatangi takes owners one step closer to their aspirations.

The owners of Himatangi 3A3G2, north of Foxton, now have an independent water source and a more competitive market offering thanks to a project completed this year.

The 100-hectare block previously relied on water connections with neighbouring properties, but they now have a water bore which gives them an independent water source.

Work on the bore began in early June 2024, but after drilling to the expected depth of 30 metres the contractor was unable to find good quality water.

At a meeting of owners in late June, which included a site visit, the attendees were able to see the work already done, and approve the extra cost involved in digging to 53 metres to access good quality water.

Around half the block is currently leased to a neighbouring dairy farmer, more than 47 hectares was planted in pine for harvest by later generations and, in partnership with Horizons Regionals Council, a two-hectare wetland is being restored.

Pictured above: Owners of Himatangi 3A3G2 and kaimahi at a site visit last year.

Partnering for better policy

What started as conflicting district plan submissions from two kaupapa Māori organisations has resulted in a partnership that amplifies the important work they are both doing.

Every year the Ratonga Whakamaru Rawa | Asset Management Team evaluate and comment on up to 20 submissions on proposed policies, plans, regulations and laws.

“A lot of well-intentioned policy and legislation fails to recognise the unique attributes of Māori freehold land,” says Kaihautū Whakamaru Rawa | Asset Manager Vanesa Griffiths. “Sometimes the way a policy is worded, or because of what’s included or not included – it can have unintended consequences for owners of Māori freehold land. We try to change that,” says Vanesa.

Other kaupapa Māori organisations seek to influence at the policy design stage in the same way – and while we all have the shared goal of wanting Māori to thrive, each organisation has unique aspirations and constraints.

So when Te Tumu Paeroa and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu (Te Rūnanga) made seemingly contradictory submissions on the Proposed Te Tai o Poutini Plan and Timaru District Plan at the end of 2022, there was a conversation to be had.

“It was a robust but warmly received conversation,” says Vanesa. “We were actually saying the same things but saw them being achieved in different ways.”

Initially the kōrero was about reconciling differences on the Proposed Te Tai o Poutini Plan, but Te Rūnanga Senior Environmental Advisor Planner Rachael Pull soon saw it as a chance to set the foundations for future work together.

“It was clear we weren’t at cross-purposes, we wanted the same thing – we just needed to wordsmith it in ways that didn’t hinder each other,” says Rachael.

Following a hui between Māori Trustee Dr Charlotte Severne and Te Rūnanga Chief Executive Officer Ben Bateman, kaimahi from their respective organisations drafted a direction that has shaped the conservations with Papatipu Rūnanga and councils on the future use of Māori land.

Leaning into those differences and coming back to what we agree on, has demonstrated the value of working together.

KAIHAUTŪ WHAKAMARU RAWA
VANESA GRIFFITHS

Rachael says the agreement is fairly simple: “We both agree that Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga have rangatiratanga within their takiwā [territory], and that Māori land needs to be enabled throughout the takiwā – and that they’re two separate issues that don’t overlap.”

Both national and local policy determining how Māori land is used can often miss important

nuances experienced by owners of Māori freehold land – the partnership is about ensuring that in seeking to correct this, they are not stepping on one another’s toes. But it’s also a way to build each other up.

“We presented evidence together at the Timaru District Plan hearing on Māori land early in 2025, and I think that gave our concerns and recommendations more weight with the decisionmakers,” says Rachael.

The teams have since worked together on areas of concern in upcoming policy, ensuring the right people are being asked to provide comment and making use of their respective skills and knowledge.

“Our goal is to protect and enhance whenua Māori for future generations,” says Vanesa. “This partnership, leaning into those differences and coming back to what we agree on, has demonstrated the value of working together to do that.”

TO READ SUBMISSIONS MADE BY THE MĀORI TRUSTEE OVER THE LAST YEAR, GO TO WWW.TETUMUPAEROA.CO.NZ

Lessee Kerry Whale (fourth from left below) had a chance to show some of the owners of Motukawa 2B 15A improvements on the whenua last year.

Whakapapa connections



More than 200 hectares of whenua Māori north of Taihape has a new lease of life after an investment by its owners and support from the long-time lessee.

Turangareere Trust owns Motukawa 2B 15A near Taihape, with the Māori Trustee supporting in her role as responsible trustee.

Over the last few years, a 25,000-litre water storage tank with a solar-powered water system was installed, 10 new stock water troughs placed, another 2km worth of drainage put in to expand the grazing area, a woolshed roof replaced, and riparian fencing completed.

The work was paid for by the Trust with rental income banked, and lessee Kerry Whale did some of the

work himself at no cost, as well as leveraging his local networks to get other work done for a good price.

A group of owners were able to visit the whenua and see the work for themselves before Easter 2024.

“We did the work ‘cause it needed to be done,” says lessee Kerry Whale. “It was pretty cool, showing the whānau, they don’t often get up there to see their land.”

Kerry has been leasing the block for sheep and beef grazing, as well as a smaller adjacent general land block also owned by the Trust, since 2016.



Kerry has a unique perspective – he’s a whenua Māori owner himself, and his whānau and the owners of Motukawa 2B 15A share a tūpuna, Akatarewa.

“Yeah, I think sharing that lineage, that whakapapa, does change the way I farm.

“You’ve got that intrinsic motivation to get up and do the work right. And maybe that’s a different approach from what some others might take, in terms of cost and things like that.”

The primary block that Kerry runs, also north of Taihape, is whānau land, and was administered by the Māori Trustee until 2022.

The land was handed down to him and his siblings through his grandmother, the only remaining member of the whānau after the 1918 influenza decimated the community.

Part of the motivation to transition back to self-governance, says Kerry, was to get the whānau more involved.

“We had 40 people at our last meeting. Some of them had never been on that land. And that’s spiritual, standing on the land that your tūpuna stood on,” he says.

“We were all sitting in the sun, we had kai, we had our cup of tea, and we were sharing stories about our tūpuna.”

The fragmentation of blocks resulting from Māori land administration legacies has contributed to descendants not having a sense of responsibility, a sense of kaitiakitanga for the land, he says.

Kerry counts himself lucky to have two sons involved and interested in carrying on the legacy, but the next generation face increasing challenges – financial, social and environmental challenges.

Climate change is already changing things, says Kerry. The timing of frosts, dry spells, rainfall – all of it’s becoming more unpredictable and is already exacerbating issues like facial eczema in livestock.

“How resilient can you really be? It’s more about flexibility, building flexibility into your systems,” says Kerry. “The work we’ve done at Motukawa gives us a degree of flexibility.”

Another challenge is the intergenerational loss of farming skills among young Māori.

Kerry has returned to teaching at Taihape Area School this year so he can do something about that – he’s teaching a small group of Year 11 students basic agricultural skills, more than half of whom are Māori.



Koro Bingy (Pat) Wilson checks out the reeroofed woolshed on Motukawa 2B 15A.

Waimarino 6C 2B 2 south of Taumarunui was one of 13 blocks this financial year to benefit from funding for fencing and planting, resulting from a partnership with Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui.



Ki uta, ki tai

An iwi-led initiative aimed at restoring the health of Aotearoa's longest awa has woven in Māori Trustee-administered whenua, and the kaimahi that care for it.

The Mouri Tūroa project, led by Whanganui River post-settlement governance entity Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui, aims to install 290 kilometres of waterway fencing, undertake pest and weed control, and develop native plant nurseries to eco-source 600,000 plants for riparian areas.

The Māori Trustee administers 32 whenua Māori blocks in the whitua, from the headwaters to the mouth of the Whanganui.

So, when Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui secured Jobs for Nature funding for their project in 2022, Te Tumu Paeroa kaimahi jumped at the chance to work with them – and landowners and lessees – to improve the blocks.

Mātanga Tuarā Kawea | Trust Specialist Novena McGuckin says working in partnership with iwi leaders, marae committees and other Māori landowner organisations like Morikaunui and Ātīhau-Whanganui Incorporations has been a great process for the team.

“I think being part of Mouri Tūroa encouraged collaboration with iwi – it's really important to collaborate, because we all want the same thing,” she says.

Novena says it gave the team a chance to build stronger relationships with all who work to protect the awa and its tributaries and talk openly about the shared aspirations and goals they all had.

The first Mouri Tūroa-Māori Trustee project kicked off in 2023, and the last was finished in early 2025. In that time, there have been Mouri Tūroa-funded improvements on 13 blocks – this includes more than 23,000 metres of fencing.

In some cases earthworks and culverting, paid for with trust funds, was undertaken to prepare for fencing and planting.

A highlight for the team was being able to give some aroha to blocks near Taumarunui, says Novena.

“Those are the blocks that because of where they are situated, out of Taumarunui, have historically been left out. There hasn't been much available for them.”

If a whenua Māori block isn't leased or doesn't have any other sort of trust income, explains Novena, there is usually no way to make the improvements – but

Nō te whenua te mana

February 2025 marked two years since Cyclone Gabrielle struck parts of Te Ika a Māui leaving a path of damage and impacting whānau, communities and the whenua.

Te Tumu Paeroa continued its project to help remediate many of the cyclone-affected blocks in Tairāwhiti, Wairoa and Heretaunga rohe with funding from Te Puni Kōkiri Sediment and Debris Fund.

This year more than \$2.5 million worth of remediation work was undertaken on 113 land blocks under the Māori Trustee's administration.

The Sediment and Debris Fund has supported work such as clearing or reworking sediment on productive whenua, restoring track access, clearing dams to support stock water and managing woody debris.

Some of the work was impacted by the effects of ongoing adverse weather as well as the limited availability of contractors to support the recovery efforts, especially in some of the remote areas of Tairāwhiti.

"Much has been achieved as part of remediation efforts across the most affected regions and many communities have been working together to build their resilience capabilities," says Dr Charlotte Severne.

Dr Severne acknowledges the funding support received that has enabled remediation work on whenua Māori blocks that she administers, which returned it to a productive state so it can continue to provide income for the owners.

"Remediation is only one part of the recovery journey. We need to be continually learning from these events and working collaboratively to ensure we keep our whānau and communities safe."

Te Tumu Paeroa continues to strengthen its relationships with local authorities and enhance its GIS mapping capabilities to ensure it can respond quickly and efficiently when these events occur.

 **12,940m**
Fences installed in the Whanganui River catchment this financial year

 **24,000**
Native trees and shrubs planted on Māori Trustee administered blocks

when there is an opportunity for external funding to do so, it can make a big impact.

While the project is aimed at mitigating soil erosion, improving water quality, and enhancing biodiversity within the Whanganui River catchment, it's also about reconnecting uri with the awa and traditional practices, and reclaiming tikanga, Novena says.

Further riparian planting is planned for winter 2025 with funding secured by Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui. This will include around 31,000 plants allocated to whenua Māori administered by the Māori Trustee.



One of the Whanganui catchment blocks, Waimarino 6C 2B 2.

Engaging owners

Te Tumu Paeroa works on behalf of more than 100,000 owners of whenua Māori.

A vital part of our work is connecting with owners, understanding their aspirations for the whenua, and ensuring they feel confident in our trustee services and the care we are providing for their whenua.

Te Tumu Paeroa and Māori Land Court kaimahi, trustees and whānau at Morero Marae after a workshop in Taumarunui.





Challenge accepted

Building connections with more than 100,000 whenua Māori owners comes with challenges. But as a Te Tumu Paeroa Trust Specialist explains, it's worth it.

Whanganui-based Novena McGuckin has been working alongside landowners for more than 20 years.

There's one particular group of owners that she has been working with for about a decade.

"I've told them I don't want to come back, meeting after meeting, hearing them talk about self-governance – they've got the pūtea, they've got the knowledge, they've got the capability to do that. I want to see them do that before I retire. It's on my bucket list."

Both Novena and the owners are happy that the application is now with the Māori Land Court to appoint the owners as responsible trustees.

While it's become easier to engage owners over the last decade, there are still significant challenges, says Novena.

Many owners are living far from their whenua, including across the Tasman. Some don't have the resources to travel to attend meetings or can't take time off work to attend online. Many owners are older people and struggle with technology.

There are also historical legacies to contend with – including the mamae of past whenua confiscation and ongoing fragmentation.

"Some of the parents didn't want their children to go through the hardships and upsets, they didn't want them to experience that," says Novena.

The exponential number of owners of whenua Māori is also an issue. "They say it's only worth a blade of grass, why would I come to a meeting?"

Despite the barriers, Novena says you have to keep trying to reconnect owners with their land.

"It's about our values – it's really important in terms of kaitiakitanga, it's forming that relationship with our owners, it's about mana whenua, it's about the mana of the people."



Mātanga Tuarā Kawea Novena McGuckin says engaging younger generations is crucial.

Te Tumu Paeroa hold more than 300 meetings of owners every year, giving owners information about the land, their whenua trust's financial position, and facilitating discussion about future opportunities.

"I love going out to owners' meetings," says Novena. "I get excited when they bring their whānau along, so that they can succeed, and they can learn."

Bringing younger generations in early is important, says Novena, and thinking ahead to succession and preparing them for those roles through resources like Te Tumu Paeroa's governance training Tū Tiaki.

"If we engage early with owners, with one generation, I encourage them to bring their whānau, their children along, so they can hear what's going on."

The motivation for engaging with Te Tumu Paeroa for many owners is about working toward self-governance, and for others about hanging on to the land because it's where they're from, says Novena.

"They say that's their connection, that's their whakapapa, it's about mana whenua for them. Our whānau came from this land, our tupuna had this whenua."



Building connections at Te Matatini

Being at the heart and soul of te ao Māori paid off for Te Tumu Paeroa, with a chance to kōrero whenua Māori with more than 400 people.

A team from Te Tumu Paeroa set up at Te Matatini o Te Kāhui Maunga 2025 in late February, sharing a space with kaimahi from Te Kooti Whenua Māori | Māori Land Court, The Waitangi Tribunal and Te Puni Kōkiri to talk whenua Māori connections and potential with festival goers.

Over the course of the five-day national festival, Te Tumu Paeroa kaimahi spoke to more than 400 people, resulting in landowners updating their contact details, searching for their names in the on-site whenua database and registering for the online client portal, My Whenua.

Stall visitors ranged from kaumātua with little knowledge of Te Tumu Paeroa that needed to sit in the shade for a while, to Māori Land Court judges.

Kaimahi say every interaction was valuable to grow public and landowner awareness of Te Tumu Paeroa. Working side-by-side with other organisations working in Māori land administration was also beneficial, with kaimahi able to talk to one another about ways to improve collaboration between the organisations.



Te Tumu Paeroa kaimahi with partners at Te Matatini 2025 connected with whenua Māori owners, and one another.



336

Meetings of owners held



72,648

Visitors to the Te Tumu Paeroa website



65

Enquiries received a day, approximately



9,436

Followers across three social media channels



16,195

Owners and their whānau members signed up to My Whenua

Ka pū te ruha, ka hao te rangatahi

Working alongside Te Tumu Paeroa kaimahi are more than 2,000 advisory trustees, most of them owners, who act as a voice for the aspirations of the collective.

Until last year, whenua Māori owner Nepia Winiata wasn't even aware there were meetings of owners held, let alone advisory roles for owners.

But when he attended his first meeting early this year, he didn't hesitate to volunteer for the job.

"I wanted to take a proactive role, as an owner – I didn't even know there were advisory trustees until the meeting.

"We've got an obligation as landowners to be involved, it's as simple as that. We've got a taonga that's been gifted, passed down, I don't think we should just discard that."

Nepia is one of the newest of more than 2,000 advisory trustees for land administered by Te Tumu Paeroa. While the advisory trustees don't have any legal obligations, their role as a representative voice for owners is an important one.

One of the first things he would like to do as an advisory trustee, says Nepia, is connect with other owners of Ohau 3A2 Sec 6 – and get a few more showing up to the meetings.

"I was quite shocked to see only a few owners there – one of which was my cousin, but the others I didn't know.

"I would be keen to explore with other owners what else we could do with the land."

Often owners are happy to just keep doing what they are doing – holding on to it, he says.

"What I've discovered is most people want to hang on to the land because of the whakapapa link, it's their whānau land, regardless of how big or small," says Nepia.

Nepia says he has always known about the whenua, and his father had been clear he would be leaving it to him and only him to reduce fragmentation of the



5
Regional advisory trustee
hui with Māori Trustee



2,160
Advisory trustees currently
working alongside us



Advisory trustee Nepia Winiata (third from left) with other owners of Ohau 3A2 Sec 6 at a recent meeting of owners.

shares. But for a variety of reasons, he hasn't been involved until now.

For one, he was 400km away in Te Awamutu leading Te Wānanga o Aotearoa as its Kaiwhakatere Chief Executive until February.

Now in retirement, he's already working on getting his own sons involved with the block.

One even visited the block to see for himself the wetland fencing and solar powered water reticulation systems installed on the block thanks to Te Ringa Hāpai Whenua Fund (see page 16 for more).

"Owners need to talk to their children. First, about the land if they don't already know – how much it is, where it is – and then what their vision is for the land.

"Each landowner has their own autonomous voice when they depart this world, but my view is don't fragment the shares anymore, because it just erodes your voice over the next generations."



Taonga transition

Thousands of whenua Māori records are being digitised and moved to a fit-for-purpose storage facility as part of the organisation’s multi-year transition to the Cloud.

As the needs of whenua Māori landowners evolve, the technology used to support these needs should also adapt, says Ruth Russell, Kaitautari Pārongo Matua | Chief Information Officer for Te Tumu Paeroa.

After developing a Māori Data Sovereignty Framework to underpin the work ahead, Ruth’s team set about transforming the way whenua Māori information was held and accessed by the organisation.

“Data carries the mana, tapu and mauri of the person and land it represents – and once you acknowledge that, it changes the way you handle and manage the data,” Ruth explains.

In May 2024, Te Tumu Paeroa signed an agreement to become one of the first tenants of Microsoft’s Aotearoa data centre.

“We have a whakatauki: ‘Aho roroa uaua hautū, aho popoto hautū marika’ – a kite with a short string is easier to control, a kite with a long string is more difficult to control but it benefits from the high winds,” says Ruth.

“Having our data in Aotearoa means we can have those high winds and the short string, enjoying the comfort and peace of having the data close, while being able to engage more easily with owners and support partners.”

Some data has previously been stored in Australia, and this is now being migrated back to New Zealand.

Other data is not yet digitised – it is a physical file stored in Te Tumu Paeroa offices.

These files are gradually being catalogued, digitised and then the originals stored at an off-site, fit-for-purpose facility.

Running through all these processes is a strong commitment to respecting tikanga.

“When we started the digitisation process, we gifted the team doing it an ipu so that they could practice wai whakanoa after working with the documents too – they can use the water in the ipu to remove the tapu. We also have this set up for the records we are still holding,” says Ruth.

New tools for a new generation

The work programme to transition the organisation’s data to the Cloud also enables tools such as image recognition, chatbots and machine learning to be used, says Ruth.

For example, machine learning could be used to support the processing of succession orders or, alongside image recognition, could be used after an extreme weather event to quickly assess damage to whenua.

The team has also been trialling the use of generative AI in the workplace, with training provided and close monitoring to ensure it’s being used responsibly, and all possible security issues are considered.

“We have seen some really great productivity gains in the testing phases, but we’ve also been aware of its pitfalls, that’s why the monitoring and training is so important,” says Ruth.

Developing capability


We invest in developing the capability of owners to prepare them for future governance and administration roles in respect of whenua Māori.

We also support Māori in work, education and housing.

Whenua Māori landowner
Valma Wallace at a recent hui.







A small part of Pukaingataru B12, featuring its kiwifruit orchard, a shared venture with producer Seeka.

Titiro whakamuri haere whakamua

Thanks to the foresight of their predecessors, a group of whenua Māori owners have transitioned to self-governance of their land and just completed their first full kiwifruit harvest.

In the 1980s, explains trustee Tina Ngatai, the owners of Te Puke block Pukaingataru B12 agreed to reserve all rental income to support their long-term goal of returning the land to owner-led governance.

It took around 40 years, but eventually they had close to a million dollars in the bank, the global kiwifruit market was booming, and there was an opportunity to develop a joint venture with kiwifruit producer Seeka.

“It’s wonderful that the owners and trustees made that decision then, because now we have a kiwifruit orchard – but we wouldn’t have been able to fund that if we hadn’t retained those rentals for more than 20 years,” says Tina.

The trust is now in its fifth year of that partnership with Seeka, sharing both costs and profits 50-50. And with more than 48 hectares of land, the trustees are also beginning to explore both expansion of the kiwifruit enterprise and other aspirations for the land.

They recently commissioned a study on what the land would have been like in pre-European times and are starting conversations on what the future might look like.

“It’s an interesting exercise,” says Tina. “One of the things that came out was that we’d like to see birds flying above our land and hear their calls. At the moment it’s all flat green rolling pasture – it’s lovely, but there’s nowhere for the birds to rest.

“We’d like to find a way to restore some of the gullies to natives, create biodiversity corridors and return the land to something that benefits the moana,” says Tina.

The orchard isn’t far from Te Awa o Ngātoroirangi Maketū Estuary, which was once an important mahinga kai and is now being actively restored to health after decades of degradation.

“Logic dictates that our groundwater probably flows straight down to the estuary, so we’d like to ensure that what comes off our land and flows onwards is as clean as we can get it,” she says.

While the kōrero about the future has already started, Tina says it’s really about what the next generation of trustees and owners want to do – but now they are self-governing, it’s entirely up to them.

I do it for the love of my people and because I’m trying to leave a legacy for my children and grandchildren.

TINA NGATAI, TRUSTEE

Leaving a good governance legacy

Tina had the advantage of 30 years' experience in whenua Māori governance and knew what needed to happen to transition their block to self-governance. But there were still multiple challenges, she says.

Trust governance transitioned from the Māori Trustee to owner trustees in August 2024 when both parties were prepared and ready for it.

Tina says after the Māori Land Court issued the order, the Te Tumu Paeroa Trust Coordinator supporting them was hugely helpful, making sure they had everything they needed to start the new chapter for their whenua.

Tina says the most important thing to do is make sure you have all the right building blocks in place, including an accountant and a bank account, so you can confidently go into self-governance.

“Getting good governance training is really important to start with. If you're going to take over, you need to make sure you've sorted how you're going to manage the money, have good processes, have good advisors,” says Tina.

“It took us about three months to open a bank account under these new rules – I've never signed so many forms in my life.”

Tina says though that putting this all in place is a key step in the self-governance transition.

“I don't think any trust, even if you're just a little lease block, should go and try and manage it on their own and do their own accounting, because there's nothing worse than your relations accusing you of taking money because you didn't know how to keep your books. It's helpful to have accountants to cushion you from that.”

It's important to consider readiness for self-governance, says Tina. It could be that being administered by the Māori Trustee is the right thing for some at the moment – but that doesn't mean you shouldn't be involved.

“You should still be involved, turn up to the meetings, know what's happening and be holding them to account.”

Being in whenua Māori governance can be tough sometimes, says Tina, but it's about the next generation of owners.

“I do it for the love of my people and because I'm trying to leave a legacy for my children and grandchildren. I think that's why we all do it.”



Four of the owners of Pukaingatara B12 are now proudly administering the block. From left to right: Simon Barakat, Tina Ngatai, Richard Tumarāe and Airini Hepi.

The self-governance journey

Owners can choose to take on responsibility for governance of the whenua from the Māori Trustee at any time. The technical process of transitioning to self-governance is simple enough: owner support, replacement trustee election and Māori Land Court orders confirming appointment of the new trustees.

However, every group of owners is on their own unique self-governance journey. The steps required will depend on the numbers of owners, the complexity of the land being managed, future aspirations of owners, owner-trustee skill set and sometimes, unfortunately, the financial position of the trust. Currently, between 10 to 15 trusts complete the transition each year.

Standing in guardianship

Māori land administration comes with high expectations, from both tauwi law as well as from whānau, hapū and iwi.



231

Te Tumu Paeroa's online governance toolkit, Tū Tiaki, sets whenua Māori owners up for success in governance.

New registrations for Tū Tiaki this year

The interactive modules support owners of whenua Māori to go at their own pace and take what they need – from better understanding of what's happening with their land, to upskilling to be an advisory trustee, to working toward self-governance.

Supporting Māori farming talent

Our team look forward to getting on gumboots for the Ahuwhenua Trophy field days each year. But it's more than just a day out on the farm – it's a chance to support excellence in whenua Māori farming.

Te Tumu Paeroa are long-time sponsors of the Ahuwhenua Trophy, proudly supporting Aotearoa New Zealand's longest running and most prestigious agriculture competition.

Māori Trustee Dr Charlotte Severne, who also supports Ahuwhenua in her role as a member of the Trophy's Management Committee, says for her the awards are about acknowledging the next generation of kaiahuwhenua.

"I love seeing the excellence across all the Māori-led operations that enter the awards, but I especially love to hear about the incredible work rangatahi are doing in farming and growing," she says.

"It's our young people who carry the kaupapa forward, of protecting and enhancing the whenua, and every year I see better and better use of research and innovation to do that – but they're also growing sustainable businesses," says Dr Severne.

As the country's largest Māori freehold land administrator, the Māori Trustee and her supporting organisation Te Tumu Paeroa, have strong incentive to build and recognise capability in Māori farming.



The 2024 Young Māori Farmer finalists with Te Tumu Paeroa's Whenua Services Manager Sam Vivian-Greer (centre) while being hosted by Restore Native's founder Adam Thompson on the study tour they undertake as finalists.

Photos: alphapix.nz

"A large amount of whenua Māori is used for primary production, including whenua we administer, and it makes a significant contribution to our economy," says Dr Severne.

"The entrants coming through the Ahuwhenua Trophy show that Māori bring a unique perspective to agriculture, because they're kaitiaki as well as farm managers – we want to make sure that Māori continue and are celebrated for that intergenerational work."

WMI Farm 4 had an appreciative audience at last year's Ahuwhenua Trophy field day.





Tainui farm manager Ben Purua has found his passion.

Comeback kid

It was second time's a charm for Tainui dairy farm manager Ben Purua, who took out the 2024 Ahuwhenua Young Māori Farmer Award.

He was a finalist in 2021 but missed out on the crowning glory that year – only to make a comeback this time.

Ben's journey to becoming a Waimakariri Lands farm manager could also be described as a comeback. After a rough start in life, he landed himself in juvenile detention and later in Waikeria Prison.

But it's where he got his start in farming – at one of Waikeria's working farms. It sparked a passion in him and set him on a different path, he says.

"Farming has been my saviour. I don't know where I would have been today without it. It saved my life, saved my family and I hope I can now help other families to break the cycle," says Ben.

Ben now uses his personal story to encourage more young people to consider a future in farming through public speaking and community volunteering.

Wairarapa winners



WMI Farm 4 Manager Kim Turner rewarded for her efforts.

From Wairarapa to Waikato, from wasteland to winning – Wairarapa Moana ki Pouākani Incorporation were honoured as Ahuwhenua Trophy winners for 2024.

The Incorporation (WMI) runs 12 dairy farms as well as two forestry blocks in South Waikato and is the largest supplier to milk processor Miraka.

Wairarapa Moana hapū were given the Waikato lands as compensation in 1916, following the Crown's acquisition of the Moana in 1896.

They have since turned the land from isolated, unproductive scrublands to industry-leading farms that don't compromise the health of the whenua.

WMI won the award for its operations at Farm 4 which, under the management of two women and with a high-care, high-efficiency operating model, has returned an average of \$5,500 a hectare over the last few years.



Soldiers' legacy

In the midst of World War One, a small group of people set out to support Māori soldiers in their efforts. More than a century later, the seeds they sowed are benefiting soldiers' descendants.

Around 1917 a group of influential Māori, including Sir Āpirana Ngata, fundraised £3800 and established the Māori Soldiers Fund for the benefit of First World War soldiers.

With continued donations, they were able to buy a small farming block in Wairoa in 1925 and start generating an income that would sustain the fund.

A century later, that block is part of award-winning Hereheretau Station, a 2600-hectare sheep and beef farm with six full-time staff that generates enough

income to support dozens of soldiers' descendants in their education each year.

The Māori Soldiers Trust Act was passed in 1957 by an Act of Parliament, vesting the block and its accounts in the Māori Trustee and establishing a Trust Committee which meets annually.

The Station funds the Māori Trustee-administered Sir Āpirana Ngata Memorial Scholarship. All Māori taura are eligible but priority is given to those who whakapapa to Māori soldiers.

Hereheretau hui

The Māori Soldiers Trust Committee meet once a year, and in February 2025 were delighted to be hosted by the kaimahi at Hereheretau Station and Ngāi Te Ipu at Whakakī Marae. In October 2024, Mr Tawehi Munro, Mr Julian Sewell, Mr Hone Dalton, Mr Kemp Solomon and Mr Darrin Waitere joined Ms Jill Cotter, Mr Eugene Whakahoehoe and the Māori Trustee as trustees for the Māori Soldiers Trust Committee.

Dr Charlotte Severne ONZM (centre) at Hereheretau Station with Te Tumu Paeroa kaimahi, station kaimahi, and committee members.



Hereheretau Station has best season in a decade

Situated between Wairoa and Māhia, the Māori Trustee-administered Hereheretau Station has had one of its best seasons in a decade.

With significant rainfall in late 2024 leading to excellent pasture cover, they now have surplus stock feed. The team also took advantage of higher stock prices, selling below target weights but at a price which increased cash flows.

Mātanga Ratonga Whenua Matua | Senior Whenua Services Specialist Hadlee Cade, who oversees Hereheretau's farm operations, said he felt the station was back on track after extreme weather events in the last two financial years, and he was pleased with the year's results.

"The farm team are all very happy with the performance of the station and the excellent work life balance they get, especially in summer – there's lots of after-work diving and hunting," he says.

The station was a finalist in the People and Development category of the 2024 Beef + Lamb New Zealand Awards, acknowledging the mahi the team does to support, build capability and retain its staff.

A focus for the next financial year will be building new shepherds' quarters. The existing housing, in which three full-time staff live in year-round, is past its economic life and needs to be replaced with purpose-built accommodation that meets the shepherds' living requirements.

The kaupapa matters

More than \$100,000 in education grants were given to descendants of Māori veterans this year, thanks to the ongoing success of Hereheretau Station.

There were close to 200 applicants for the Sir Āpirana Ngata Memorial Scholarship this year, more than triple the number received in 2023.

Applicants range from rangatahi fresh out of kura to single parents starting a career later in life. Their pursuits are similarly varied, from law and engineering to sports science and general surgery.

But a common thread in their applications is a desire to support Māori and use their education for the benefit of their people.



\$101,000

Total education grants



48

Scholarship Recipients



193

Applications

Māmā, weightlifter, coach and PhD candidate Jamie Ogilvy (Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki and Te Aitanga a Maahaki) is one of the 2024 scholarship recipients doing just that.

Motivated to support wāhine Māori to stay active and well, she's researching how te

ao Māori values can be used to strengthen her coaching approach by, for example, drawing on atua to frame and power up an exercise or centring whanaungatanga to create safe fitness spaces.

Of the scholarship, Jamie says that as well as enabling her to put more time into study, it was affirmation that: "... the kaupapa does matter and our people are important".

PhD candidate Haukapuanui Vercoe, who has received contributions toward his study for the last three years, says scholarships like this support taurira like him to contribute to whānau, hapū and iwi in the same way their tūpuna did.

"My koroua [Major Henry Te Reiwhati Vercoe OBE DSO DCM] is the reason I am eligible for



Top: Candidate Haukapuanui Vercoe has worked closely with hapū while researching marae resilience.

Bottom: PhD candidate Jamie Ogilvy is calling on the atua to lift her weight.

this scholarship. Although he received no formal education, upon returning from war, koro Te Reiwhati was instrumental in the establishment of education programmes for Māori. So, in receiving this scholarship, I must acknowledge my koroua for the work he did in his lifetime and it is my duty to honour and continue his legacy."

Housing for hauora

Te Tumu Kāinga, a Māori Trustee administered charity, built six new homes for whānau this year.

Te Tumu Kāinga is the trading name for the Auckland and Onehunga Hostels Endowment Trust, an independent statutory trust with charitable entity status committed to helping Māori access healthy, affordable housing.

Established in 1850, the assets of the Trust are vested in and administered by the Māori Trustee.

Over time, the Trust has adapted to meet the changing accommodation needs of Māori in the community, including through the provision of hostel accommodation to support Māori trade trainees and school students.

Te Tumu Kāinga works with partners across Aotearoa to invest in housing projects and pathways to ownership programmes for whānau Māori. Key partners this year were the Housing Foundation and CORT Community Housing.



6

New homes built this year



13

Whānau in rent-to-buy initiatives



6

Whānau completed the journey to home ownership

Warmer, safer whānau homes

A \$1 million grant from Te Tumu Kāinga enabled Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira to make repairs and upgrades to the homes of 21 Ngāti Toa whānau over the last two years.

A great blessing, over the moon, forever grateful and transformative – these are just a few of the phrases used by whānau who benefited from the mahi.

The work ranged from fixing broken windows and rotten floorboards, to new bathrooms and heating and insulation, with the ultimate goal to deliver warmer, healthier, safer homes for each whānau.

During the repair programme, black mould and asbestos were revealed and removed.

One whānau said they had been worried about walking in the kitchen because the floorboards were so rotten; another said they felt they were going to fall through their deck; whilst another said whānau members had fallen down the home's outdoor ramp owing to its steep incline and unsteady handrail.

The repair programme has addressed not only the physical safety issues, it has also lifted spirits.

“What a great impact this has made for auntie’s wellbeing. [It has had a] positive impact on her health and longevity and has uplifted her spirits immensely,” reported one of the whānau in the programme.

“I didn't realise the impact that the renos would have on Aunty. The upgrades really have had a positive impact on Aunty’s wairua.”

Another said it had given their parents more independence and reduced concerns about their safety around the home. Others said it has taken a long-held financial stress from their whānau.



Returning home after three months to find tradies busy at their respective tasks was in short beneficial to my recovery and overall health.

My spirits lifted. The warm embrace of whanaungatanga enveloped me, with a sense of belonging and pride.

A NGĀTI TOA MEMBER AFTER SEEING THE TE TUMU KAINGA FUNDED REPAIRS ON HER HOME

One of the contractors supporting the work said they noticed the sense of security and relief the improvements had fostered too.

“Whānau can now sleep soundly in warmer surroundings, our elders can move around without fear of accidents, and families can gather in spaces that are not only safe but welcoming,” the tradesperson said.

“These tangible changes have a ripple effect, improving not just the physical surroundings but also the overall wellbeing and mental health of the residents.”

Nearly three-quarters of the repair jobs completed in the Porirua, Nelson and Blenheim homes were done by iwi businesses or Māori contractors, which gave the work a greater significance.

“It was incredibly hard to see our whānau living in houses that were in such poor condition. Witnessing firsthand the struggles they faced due to inadequate housing was heart-wrenching,” said a tradesperson who had been on the job since it started in 2022.

“However, the experience of being able to make their homes warmer and more comfortable has been immensely fulfilling. Knowing that our efforts directly improved their living conditions brings a deep sense of pride and accomplishment.”

The work was completed in June 2024.



21

Homes repaired for Ngāti Toa whānau since 2022



91

Repair jobs completed



74%

Repair work completed by iwi businesses or Māori contractors

Our organisation

With a diverse range of business activities, we have an equally diverse staff with wide-ranging skills and experiences.

The organisation is committed to supporting its kaimahi to use their strengths and skills, and to improve and learn so that they can deliver professional and impactful services for whenua Māori and its owners.

Te Tumu Paeroa kaimahi Vance
Pereka, Novena McGuckin and
Teremai Poutini.







Putting Te Tumu Paeroa back on the stage

Some extra waiata practise ahead of the Māori Trustee's centennial commemorations has led to the revival of Te Tumu Paeroa's kapa haka roopu, building connection and confidence along the way.

After performing at the 100-year commemorations at Parliament in August 2024, Te Tumu Paeroa's kaimahi were invited by Te Puni Kōkiri to join the organisation's weekly kapa haka practises.

Four Te Tumu Paeroa kaimahi – Hinematererangi Mackey-Pasene, Arapata White, Queenisha Davis, and Karlee Selwyn – then proudly joined Te Puni Kōkiri on stage at public sector kapa haka showcase Te Kōnohete in November.

Te Kōnohete was initiated by the Ministry of Justice in 2004 as a way for kaimahi to celebrate and showcase waiata, te reo and tikanga Māori. Twenty years later, there are around 20 public sector organisations that participate regularly in the annual event.

"Then an idea emerged," says roopu leader Queenisha Davis. "Why not create a similar wāhi, a special space, right here at Te Tumu Paeroa?"

Together they have done just that, and a dedicated group of Te Tumu Paeroa's kaimahi are now working towards showcasing their kapa haka skills at Te Kōnohete 2025.

"We used to participate, and for whatever reason we stopped – but we can all be back on that stage, I want to put Te Tumu Paeroa back on the stage," says Queenisha.

But it's so much more than the performance, she says.

"It's a community we've built from kapa haka, it's a safe space, it's an hour a week that feels really good. And it's a way to connect."

They're connecting with each other, she says, but also with the narratives and histories of different iwi and hapū – through studying the waiata they are performing before putting it into action.



It's a community we've built from kapa haka, it's a safe space, it's an hour a week that feels really good.

ROOPU LEADER, QUEENISHA DAVIS

There is also a focus on being inclusive and giving everyone a chance to stretch their skills and build their confidence in te ao Māori.

"It's a chance for everyone to learn something new – I've even picked up a guitar for the first time – and for non-Māori to have a chance to be woven into te ao Māori too," says Queenisha.

Asked why it's important to nurture Māoritanga in the workplace, Queenisha says it's about building the capability and confidence kaimahi need to work with owners.

"There's a generational shift happening – in 20 years' time most of our owners are going to be fluent in te reo and tikanga and karakia, they're going to expect the same from our staff. We need to move with the times."

Top: A tari kapa haka practise being led by Queenisha Davis (front right). Right, top to bottom: Kaimahi Arapata White on guitar; Te Puni Kōkiri and Te Tumu Paeroa staff on stage together at Te Kōnohete 2024; and kaimahi Sam O'Connor.



Poipoia te kākano, kia puāwai

A programme to nurture rangatahi into the tech industry the Māori way has blossomed this year.

He Kākano is a two-year internship programme, a collaboration between Te Tumu Paeroa, Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira, Datacom, Te Puni Kōkiri, and now online investment platform Sharesies, designed as an alternative pathway to support Māori into tech.

Developed by Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira and Te Tumu Paeroa, it involves a series of placements at each organisation, in which they are exposed to a variety of mahi and supported to complete IT micro-credentials. Underpinning the experience is whakawhanaungatanga from both Ngāti Toa and Te Tumu Paeroa.

The first Pia Kākano, Karlee Selwyn, moved to her third placement at Datacom in January 2025, and the second Pia Kākano Ruka Feite started his first placement with Te Tumu Paeroa in February 2025.

Kaitautari Pārongo Matua | Chief Information Officer at Te Tumu Paeroa, Ruth Russell says it's exciting to see a cohort develop now.

"That concept of starting with a seed and growing has really come to pass," says Ruth. "Karlee is now tuakana to Ruka, and that's really cool to see."

Karlee says building strong connections in each organisation and with peers in similar positions has been very important, especially now she has transitioned to a corporate setting.

"Coming into a large corporate environment in the city, I noticed it. That I was from te ao Māori and I was coming into a te ao Pākehā space," says Karlee.

"At first, I was intimidated, but I think because of the way the programme is set up – like, with the regular check-ins I have with my contacts in Te Tumu Paeroa, and with Ruka, and with others who have started jobs in town.

"We've literally been calling it cuddle catch-ups – it's made me feel comfortable in this new environment."

Datacom welcomed Karlee with a mihi whakatau on her first day, and she says workplace customs like this go a long way toward making all feel welcome.

Having Māori in leadership positions, says Karlee, can be a way to make these sorts of changes – and seeing Māori in leadership, particularly wāhine, shows her what's possible.

"Having representation is huge, to see you can do it – you don't have to give up your life or give up your Māoriness to do this. It's making sure [rangatahi] know what options are out there, and showing them those options are attainable," says Karlee.

Karlee says, as a person who didn't have a tech or IT background before she came into the role, that she's been surprised by how useful her 'soft skills' have been in the job.

"A lot of what I am doing is talking to people, and understanding how someone I am working with is feeling that day. Being able to make connections – that's a lot more important than I thought it was."

Second Pia Kākano, Ruka Feite – who already has a Bachelor of Science (Computer Science) – has also been surprised by the variety of mahi Te Ohu Pārongo | Information Team at Te Tumu Paeroa do.

"What surprised me so far is the wide variety of work that an IT department does and as well as the inclusion and involvement of other teams in an organisation," says Ruka.

Working on everything from the IT service desk to cybersecurity, as well as joining the kapa haka roopu, has made him feel more connected and integrated into the workplace, says Ruka.

He says he's looking forward to his placements with Datacom and Sharesies too, and that the varied experiences an internship like this offer is very beneficial for rangatahi.



You don't have to give up your life or give up your Māoriness to do this.

PIA KĀKANO
KARLEE SELWYN



What surprised me so far is... the inclusion and involvement of other teams [with IT].

PIA KĀKANO
RUKA FEITE

Mātanga Tuarā Kawea | Trust Specialist Novena McGuckin loves the new Whanganui tari.



Room to move

Whanganui kaimahi now have more room to move after a shift to new premises this year.

The Whanganui-based staff had been in a small office in Wicksteed St since 2014, quickly outgrowing it and soon leasing the office downstairs.

“It was very cramped,” says long-time Te Tumu Paeroa kaimahi Novena McGuckin. “It wasn’t fit for purpose – it was only meant to house three staff.”

Now with nine kaimahi based in Whanganui, the premises have room for everyone, including space for owner hui, as well as a kitchen bench to eat lunch at and a couch to kōrero from on breaks.

The offices were opened with a dawn blessing in April, with kaimahi moving in shortly afterward.

Rotorua-based kaimahi have also been in a new office building since July. The move came after a decision was made to bring the Pou Tāhū team together in one office, resulting in the closure of the Kirikiriroa office.

The new office in Rotorua accommodates the consolidated Pou Tāhū team.



Kia huri, kia tahi, kia manawa reka

Taking time to learn, connect and reflect is important to our work at Te Tumu Paeroa – which is why we set aside a day or so each year to do that together as an organisation.

Tū Whakarauika, our annual all-staff hui, was held online this year to reduce costs, giving organisers a chance to bring a local lens to the schedule.

Held in mid-May 2024, the hui theme was Kia huri, kia tahi, kia manawa reka – be change, be engaged, be curious; and the intent was to use this mindset to grow understanding about the future of trusteeship.

Keynote speakers were beamed into regional meeting rooms via Zoom: Māori Land Court Chief Judge Caren Fox, Māori business leader Dan Te Whenua Walker and Hon Nanaia Mahuta gave whakaaro on everything from whakapapa and identity to the history of whenua Māori and its future.

In regional offices, local speakers delivered some kanohi-ki-te-kanohi inspiration and learning: Paul Te Poa Karoro Morgan CNZM, QSO in Te Whanganui-a-Tara, Roku Mihinui in Rotorua, Michelle Paki in Kirikiriroa and Hayden Turoa in Whanganui.

Māori Trustee Dr Charlotte Severne said bringing kaimahi together to reflect on the wider context of the work we do was important.

“We’re an intergenerational organisation and we’re trying to break some of the moulds, so it’s important we understand both where we’ve come from, as well thinking about how we unlock that future potential,” she says.

One of the key ways to move forward, says Dr Severne, is engagement – ensuring kaimahi are engaged and committed to the work, as well as growing engagement with owners.

“We want to see our people, our whānau, owners engaged, and administering and governing their own land – that’s our purpose.

“When employees are engaged with their work, and committed, we all benefit. It means they will go out and build strong relationships with community and owners and support them toward that goal.”

Although unable to come together as a whole team in-person, feedback from kaimahi was that there was still a sense of whakawhanaungatanga over the two-day hui. Manaakitanga was also demonstrated, with kaimahi donating non-perishable food for local foodbanks and community organisations.



Kaimahi heard from inspiring speakers during Tū Whakarauika, clockwise from left, Judge Caren Fox, Nanaia Mahuta and Paul Te Poa Karoro Morgan.

Kaimahi by the numbers



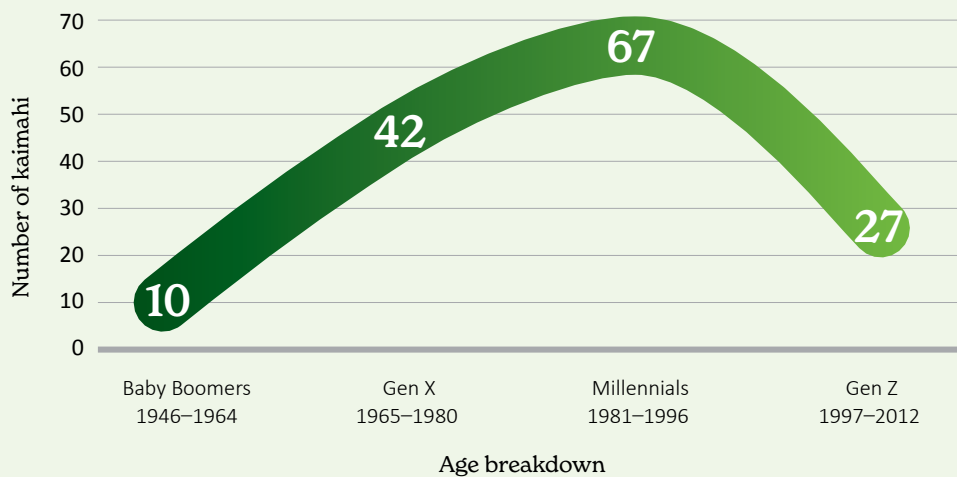
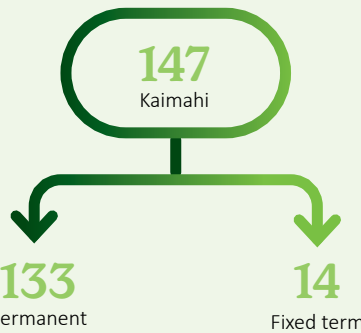
102

Wāhine



45

Tāne



Employee remuneration

This table presents the remuneration banding (in \$10,000 bands) of all permanent and fixed-term kaimahi earning above \$100,000 per annum, employed under New Zealand terms and conditions as at 31 March 2025.

The allocation of a remuneration band is based on an employee’s base salary only (and is not FTE adjusted). It does not include allowances or employer superannuation contributions.

Salary bands above \$220,000 have been combined to protect the privacy of those employees.

SALARY BANDS (\$000)	EMPLOYEE NUMBERS 2025	EMPLOYEE NUMBERS 2024
100-109	14	16
110-119	10	8
120-129	9	7
130-139	4	2
140-149	3	1
150-159	6	4
160-169	7	1
170-179	1	2
180-189	1	-
190-199	-	2
200-209	2	-
210-219	2	1
Over 220	5	7
	64	51



Set up for success

A new kaimahi induction is fast becoming part of Te Tumu Paeroa's tikanga, grounding newcomers in the kaupapa and building whakawhanaungatanga.

Hei Timotimo, a two-day induction programme for kaimahi, had its inaugural session in May 2024, with 37 new team members benefiting from the wānanga before the end of the financial year.

Kaiwhakawhanake | Trainer Marty Te Moananui, the driving force behind the induction, says he was inspired by his own experience starting in the organisation in 2023.

"People were asking me, what does Te Tumu Paeroa actually do? I didn't have my elevator pitch, I didn't know how to explain it," says Marty.

Although there was already online training and meet-and-greets with managers, there was no formal induction programme that gave new kaimahi a broad understanding of the organisation, the history and complexities of Māori land administration and why it was important mahi.

Hei Timotimo, a colloquial phrase for a snack, was the solution – wānanga which would deliver bite-sized pieces of information about all parts of the organisation and the context we work in.

The training team have structured activities around the lifecycle of the entities that Te Tumu Paeroa works with and centred on a whenua Māori owner's perspective. This includes providing the necessary historical, cultural and administrative context that helps kaimahi understand why their day-to-day work really matters.



102

Training courses completed by kaimahi



37

New kaimahi inducted

The challenge for the training team, says Marty, has been delivering for a diverse group of people who all bring different skills, experience and knowledge to the organisation.

It's about building whakawhanaungatanga, creating relationships... so they start off connected.

KAIWHAKAWHANAKE
MARTY TE MOANANUI

"We have Māori who have been brought up on the marae, urban Māori who may not be connected to their culture as much as they might like, Pakeha whose families have been here for many generations, Pakeha who are quite new in New Zealand, and people who speak English as a second language," Marty says.

Each participant names a different part of the induction as the best part, he says, and after Hei Timotimo the training team can support them to learn more about whatever piques their interest or highlights an area for growth.

The wananga's activities are as participatory as possible and cover a large variety of topics – from the Māori Land Court to Māori data sovereignty, from te ao Māori values to distributions, and from organisational systems to the unique attributes of the regions we work in.

Marty says there are tweaks and improvements every time the team run it, and he's motivated by a desire to entrench the programme in the organisation's culture.

"I want it to be part of the tikanga of working here. We already have mihi whakatau for new kaimahi, and we time the inductions around this, and I want this to be another component of the way we do things. As much as anything it's about building whakawhanaungatanga, creating relationships within the cohort so they start off connected."

Te Tumu Paeroa is committed to investing in its kaimahi, with ongoing learning and development opportunities available after they have settled into the role too.

As well as interactive, online training available for kaimahi to engage in at their own pace, staff can apply for external training. In the last year more than 40 kaimahi built their skills through courses on everything from first aid to biodiversity management.



One of the Hei Timotimo class' of 2024, above, and left, new kaimahi learning as they go.
Top left photo: Molly Tebo.

Champion kaimahi

Health and safety are critical to the work our kaimahi do – whether that's on the farm, on the road or in the office.

Alongside well-developed and regularly reviewed policies and procedures, we like to acknowledge the work that staff do every day to keep themselves and one another healthy and safe with Te Matahiwa, Health & Safety Champions nominations.

"It's always good to acknowledge when someone has gone above and beyond what is required of

them," says Kaitohutohu Taumarumarū Matua | Senior Advisor Risk & Assurance Edward Bailey.

"I think it helps promote an environment where kaimahi are more likely to report health and safety concerns and respond proactively to them when they occur."

This year we have celebrated the efforts of eight kaimahi for a range of actions, from supporting an injured colleague with first aid, to maintaining office security, to organising activities for Mental Health Awareness Week.

Our performance

As an organisation funded by fees for services and Crown appropriation, it's imperative we are transparent and accountable for our work. This is measured by outputs agreed with the Crown or, when not funded by the Crown, determined by the Māori Trustee. We measure our performance against these so we can see where there's room for improvement and where we're exceeding expectations.



Kaitohutohu Tuarā Taonga Kennan O'Brien and advisory trustee Kahukuraiti Brown at a recent hui in Tairāwhiti.



Statement of responsibility

Under the Crown Entities Act 2004, the Māori Trustee is responsible for the preparation of financial statements, the statement of service performance and the statement of trust monies, and for the judgements made in them.

The Māori Trustee is responsible for any end-of-year performance information provided under Section 19A of the Public Finance Act 1989.

The Māori Trustee is responsible for the establishment and maintenance of internal control systems to provide reasonable assurance as to the integrity and reliability of financial reporting.

In the opinion of the Māori Trustee, these financial statements, the statement of service performance and the statement of trust monies for the year ended 31 March 2025, set out on pages 56 to 115, fairly reflect the financial position and operations of the Māori Trustee.



Martin Eadie

Pou Arahi Rangatōpu | Corporate Services Director

Acting for the Māori Trustee pursuant to section 9 of the Māori Trustee Act 1953

25 July 2025



Independent Auditor's Report

To the readers of the Māori Trustee and group's financial statements and performance information for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The Auditor-General is the auditor of the Māori Trustee (the Trustee) and its controlled entities (collectively referred to as "the Group"). The Auditor-General has appointed me, Lianne Austin, using the staff and resources of Ernst & Young to carry out the audit of the financial statements and the performance information of the Trustee and Group on his behalf.

OPINION

We have audited:

- » the financial statements of the Trustee and Group on pages 78 to 115, that comprise the statement of financial position and statement of trust monies as at 31 March 2025, the statement of comprehensive revenue and expenses, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date and the notes to the financial statements that include accounting policies and other explanatory information; and
- » the performance information of the Trustee and Group on pages 56 to 74.

In our opinion:

- » the financial statements of the Trustee and Group on pages 78 to 115:
 - » present fairly, in all material respects:
 - » its financial position as at 31 March 2025; and
 - » its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended; and
 - » comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Reporting Standards; and
- » the performance information on pages 56 to 74:
 - » presents fairly, in all material respects, the Group's performance for the year ended 31 March 2025, including for each class of reportable outputs:
 - » its standards of delivery performance achieved as compared with forecasts included in the funding agreement with the Minister for Māori Development;
 - » its actual revenue and output expenses as compared with the forecasts included in the funding agreement with the Minister for Māori Development; and
 - » complies with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand.

Our audit was completed on 25 July 2025. This is the date at which our opinion is expressed. The basis for our opinion is explained below. In addition, we outline the responsibilities of the Māori Trustee and our responsibilities relating to the financial statements and the performance information, we comment on other information, and we explain our independence.

BASIS FOR OUR OPINION

We carried out our audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Professional and Ethical Standards and the International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Responsibilities of the auditor section of our report. We have fulfilled our responsibilities in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MĀORI TRUSTEE FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND THE PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

The Māori Trustee is responsible on behalf of the Trustee and Group for preparing financial statements and performance information that are fairly presented and comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand.

The Māori Trustee is responsible for such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable it to prepare financial statements and performance information that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements and the performance information, the Māori Trustee is responsible on behalf of the Trustee and Group for assessing the Trustee and Group's ability to continue as a going concern. The Māori Trustee is also responsible for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless there is an intention to merge or to terminate the activities of the the Trustee and Group, or there is no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Māori Trustee's responsibilities arise from the Crown Entities Act 2004, the Public Finance Act 1989 and the Māori Trustee Act 1953.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE AUDITOR FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND THE PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements and the performance information are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit carried out in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements are differences or omissions of amounts or disclosures and can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of readers taken on the basis of these financial statements and the performance information.

For the budget information reported in the financial statements and the performance information, our procedures were limited to checking that the information agreed to the Trustee and Group's budget approved by the Māori Trustee and the funding agreement with the Minister for Māori Development.

We did not evaluate the security and controls over the electronic publication of the financial statements and the performance information.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. Also:

- » We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and the performance information, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- » We obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Trustee and Group's internal control.
- » We evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Māori Trustee.
- » We evaluate the appropriateness of the reported performance information which reports against the Trustee and Group's framework for reporting its performance.

- » We conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the Māori Trustee and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Trustee and Group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements and the performance information or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Trustee and Group to cease to continue as a going concern.
- » We evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements and the performance information, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements and the performance information represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- » We obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial statements and performance information of the entities or business within the Trustee and Group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements and the performance information. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the Trustee and Group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with the Māori Trustee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit. Our responsibilities arise from the Public Audit Act 2001.

OTHER INFORMATION

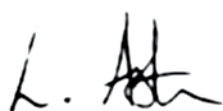
The Māori Trustee is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included on pages 4 to 49 but does not include the financial statements and the performance information, and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements and the performance information does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of audit opinion or assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements and the performance information, our responsibility is to read the other information. In doing so, we consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements and the performance information, or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on our work, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

INDEPENDENCE

We are independent of the Trustee and Group in accordance with the independence requirements of the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the independence requirements of Professional and Ethical Standard 1: International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners (including International Independence Standards) (New Zealand) (PES 1) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. In addition to the audit, we provided market remuneration data to the Group, which is compatible with those independence requirements. Other than the audit and these engagements, we have no relationship with or interests in the Trustee and Group.



Lianne Austin
Ernst & Young
On behalf of the Auditor-General
Wellington, New Zealand

Statement of service performance

The Māori Trustee is listed in Schedule 4 of the Public Finance Act 1989 as being required to prepare a statement of service performance in compliance with the requirements of the Crown Entities Act 2004.

In a letter dated 5 August 2009, the Minister of Finance, empowered by Section 45N (2) of the Public Finance Act, granted the Māori Trustee the following exemptions from the provisions of the Crown Entities Act:

- » An exemption from providing “an assessment against the intentions, measures and standards set out in a statement of intent prepared at the beginning of the financial year”. This exemption recognises that the Māori Trustee is not required, under Schedule 4 of the Public Finance Act, to prepare a statement of intent. However, the Annual Report must provide the information necessary to enable an informed assessment to be made of the operations and performance for the financial year.
- » An exemption from preparing a statement of service performance “in respect of any class of outputs that is not funded (in whole or in part) by the Crown”. This exemption addresses outputs not directly funded in whole or part by the Crown.

This statement of service performance reports against the outputs stated in the funding agreement between the Minister for Māori Development (on behalf of the Crown) and the Māori Trustee.

The total cost of outputs for the year ended 31 March 2025 is summarised below:

	2025		2024
	ACTUAL \$000	BUDGET \$000	ACTUAL \$000
Crown appropriation	17,845	17,471	18,786
Trust services	11,550	13,932	12,836
Registry services	2,554	2,754	2,442
Governance and capability development	243	249	204
Property management	5,399	6,419	6,560
Common Fund management	401	435	370
Land development	1,558	2,129	1,693
Business support	1,358	1,468	1,383
Enablement funding	238	262	206
Total cost allocated	23,301	27,648	25,694
Shortfall in Crown appropriation	(5,456)	(10,177)	(6,908)

The shortfall between the Crown’s contribution to the eight output areas is met by current year fees and commissions and, where required, reserves.

The total cost of operating the Office of the Māori Trustee is as follows:

	2025	2024
	\$000	\$000
Cost of outputs	23,301	25,694
Cost of management and support services to the General Purposes Fund (GPF)	1,962	1,782
Occupancy costs paid for the GPF	1,309	1,147
Total cost of operating the Office of the Māori Trustee	26,572	28,623

The reduction in the operating costs for the Māori Trustee was largely due to two factors:

- » Rationalisation of expenditure in response to the Government’s fiscal savings objectives in Budget 2024.
- » Te Tumu Paeroa embarked on a programme of work to move its business information technology (IT) systems to Microsoft 365 and Azure Cloud. The goal of the Hōtaka Whakauru Kapua | Cloud programme is to ensure the Māori Trustee has reliable, appropriate and supported systems for the future. During this process, some of the costs for customising, configuration and integrating the systems met the criteria for recognition as intangible assets. This resulted in some payroll and consultancy costs associated with the developed intangible assets being capitalised.

Scope of appropriation

The Crown appropriation is a contribution to services provided in the eight output areas.

The appropriation is intended to assist the Māori Trustee to carry out her statutory and other legal responsibilities with respect to whenua Māori.

On 31 March 2025, the Māori Trustee signed a new funding agreement with the Minister for Māori Development. This new agreement set the funding at the levels set out in Budget 2024 for the four-year term of the agreement from April 2025 to March 2029.

The funding will remain at that level unless varied through Crown budgetary processes.

Impact

This continuation of the reduction in Crown contribution has been fully accounted for within the Māori Trustee’s current budget without any material impact on service delivery or operations more generally.

The non-Crown contribution is funded from current year fees and, where that is insufficient to meet operating costs, past year fee reserves.

The Crown contribution as a percentage of annual operating expenses is projected to reduce over the term of the new funding agreement if fiscal savings do in fact continue with no variation through Crown budgetary processes.

During 2024-25, the Māori Trustee reviewed its fees for services and implemented measures for further cost reductions that did not impact its ability to carry out its core trustee services and meet its legal responsibilities.

The Māori Trustee’s funding model relies on past fee reserves to meet shortfalls in funding, and the Māori Trustee has a programme of work under consideration to assess the sustainability of this funding model, in view of the reduced level of Crown contribution. This assessment will inform discussions with the Crown during future Crown budgetary processes to ensure the Māori Trustee can carry out funded services and meet its legal responsibilities.

Service performance reporting

PBE FRS 48 is a standard that establishes requirements for improved reporting of service performance information to meet the needs of users of general purpose financial reports. This standard aligns with the Māori Trustee’s progress towards more integrated reporting, designed to improve the visibility and relevance of information about the Māori Trustee’s activities for Māori landowners, government, the community, and other stakeholders.

Disclosure of judgements

In determining key service performance information for each output area, the Māori Trustee has used judgement based on indicators that align with the Māori Trustee's vision, purpose, strategic priorities and annual business activities.

While the Māori Trustee does have discretion over these, the Office of the Māori Trustee seeks to maintain consistency across years where appropriate and to determine service performance information that is relevant, reliable, neutral, understandable, and complete.

The Māori Trustee's purpose is a dedicated professional trustee for Māori and the Office's vision is to ensure that whenua Māori is protected and enhanced, now and for generations to come. This vision and purpose guide the selection of measures that are based on externally validated information and likely to be comparable with other professional trustees and land administrators.

The selected measures were agreed with the Minister for Māori Development (on behalf of the Crown) and the Māori Trustee and are identified in Schedule 1 of the Crown Funding Agreement signed by the parties in March 2020.

Outputs that do not receive funding from the Crown

Services to the General Purposes Fund

The Māori Trustee administers and provides other services to the General Purposes Fund, a fund established by Section 23 (1) (c) of the Māori Trustee Act 1953. These services are outside the scope of the eight output areas the Crown contributes appropriation funding for.

Outputs delivered to the General Purposes Fund

Investment management: Prudently managing the investment of financial assets within the General Purposes Fund, now and for future generations.

Funds administration: Administering a loan portfolio for the benefit of Māori and other permitted statutory purposes, including to support Māori entities to improve and make necessary capital investment for the benefit of whenua Māori.

Enablement funding: Funding the establishment and operation of businesses and joint ventures on whenua Māori to unlock land use and economic potential.

Governance: Governance and oversight of financial and non-financial assets within the General Purposes Fund.

Administrative and other support: Administrative and other support to the operation of the General Purposes Fund, including legal, tax, finance, communications, risk, HR and IT services.

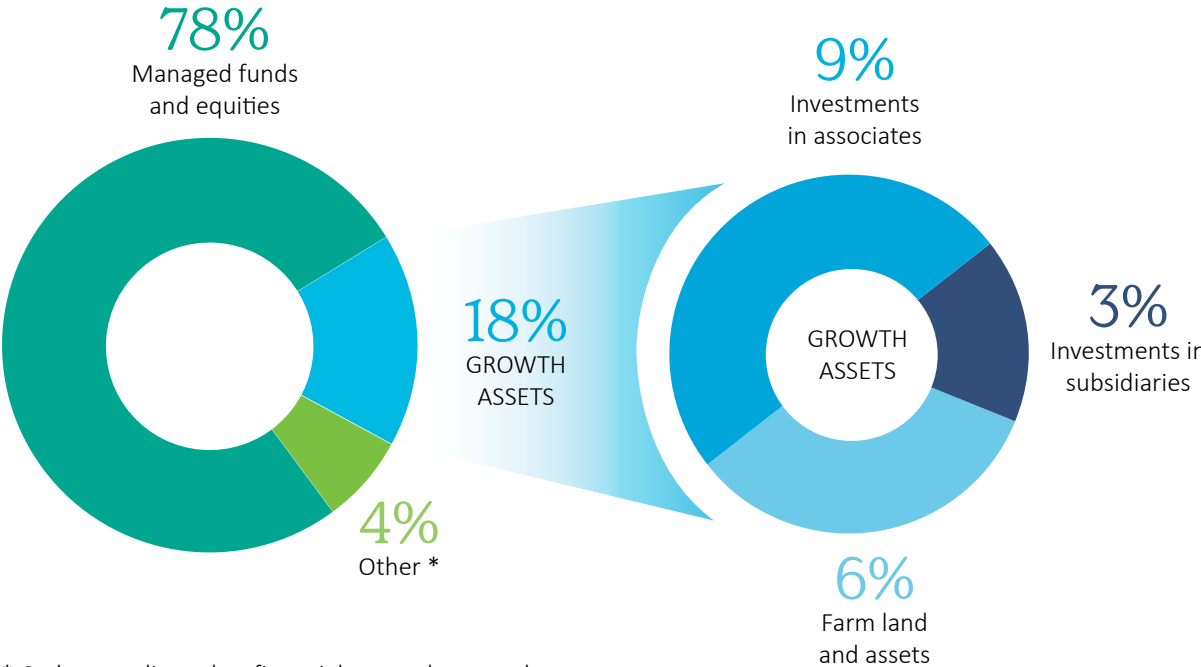
Cost of delivering outputs to the General Purposes Fund

During the year ended 31 March 2025, the Māori Trustee attributed \$1.962 million in operating costs to the delivery of outputs to the General Purposes Fund (compared to \$1.782 million in 2024) as follows:

	2025	2024
	ACTUAL \$000	ACTUAL \$000
Output		
Investment management	87	79
Funds administration	98	89
Enablement funding	395	359
Governance	535	486
Administrative and other support	847	769
Total costs attributable to General Purposes Fund	1,962	1,782

Composition of the General Purposes Fund

As at 31 March 2025, the General Purposes Fund had assets valued at \$178 million (compared to \$174 million in 2024). These assets were held as follows:



* Carbon credits, other financial assets, loans and receivables and cash and cash equivalents.

Outputs that receive funding from the Crown

Output 1. Trust services

Most whenua Māori is collectively owned, and it is usual for the land block to be managed under a Māori land trust. There are several different types of trusts, but the Māori Trustee most commonly works with ahu whenua trusts. When the Māori Trustee is the responsible trustee, she is required to carry out the terms of the trust order. This may include calling owner hui at specific intervals, making trust review applications to the Māori Land Court and responding to owner enquiries.

Meetings of owners

The Māori Trustee is entrusted to administer whenua Māori as responsible trustee for approximately 1,324 Māori land trusts (compared to 1,323 in 2024).

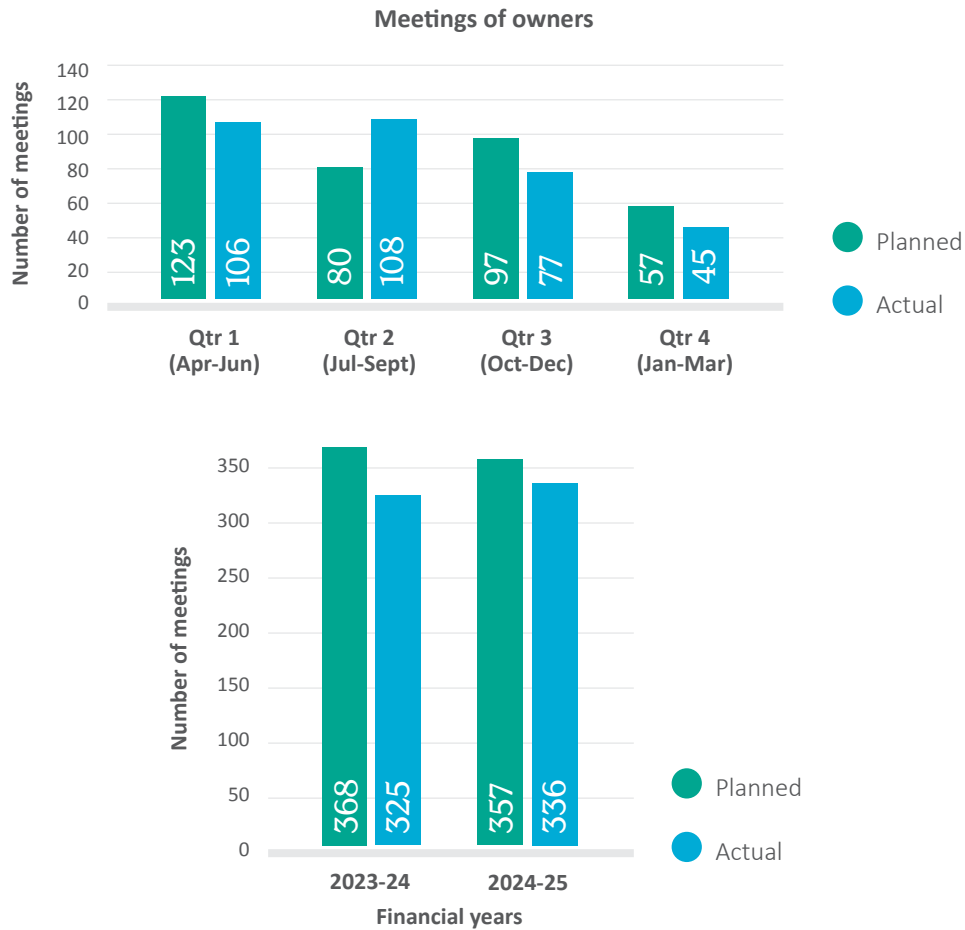
Meetings of beneficial owners of these trusts are held at intervals required by the terms of the trust and otherwise when the Māori Trustee considers a meeting would be helpful to update or engage with owners on matters relating to the administration of their trust and whenua.

Ratonga Tuarā Taonga | Trust and Property held 94 per cent of its planned meetings of owners this year, up from 88 per cent in the previous financial year.

Attendance at owner meetings increased as a percentage of total owners of those trusts holding meetings compared to the previous year (2.5 per cent compared to 2.2 per cent in 2024).

The same or increased owner attendance was achieved in 69.9 per cent of cases (up from 60 per cent in 2024) compared to the last meeting for those trusts.

Owners attending meetings receive Pūrongo Whenua, a report to owners that provides key information about the administration of their trust and the whenua. These reports can also be accessed by owners through My Whenua, Te Tumu Paeroa's online client information portal, and are posted out to owners on request. This year, 16.4 per cent of owners (6,195) who did not attend owner meetings were able to access these reports through My Whenua. This is up slightly, from 16 per cent of owners in 2024.

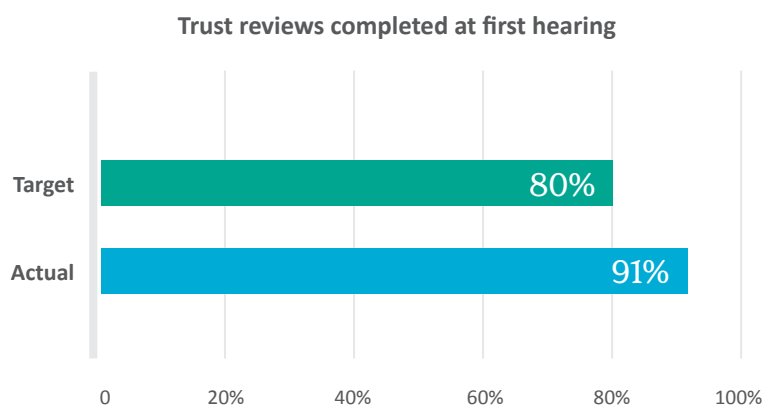


Trust reviews

The Māori Trustee’s administration of Māori land trusts as responsible trustee is periodically reviewed by the Māori Land Court.

Trust reviews are carried out for individual trusts and beneficial owners of those trusts are invited to attend the trust review hearing. Trust reviews provide the Court with an opportunity to assess whether the trustee is administering the trust properly.

This year, Te Tumu Paeroa filed 150 trust review applications with the Māori Land Court, up from 96 in 2024. Trust reviews concluded at the first hearing indicate the Court is satisfied that the Māori Trustee is administering the trust properly and there are no matters which need to be addressed. Ninety-one per cent of trust reviews were completed at the first hearing, against a target of 80 per cent and up from 86 per cent in 2024.



Enquiries

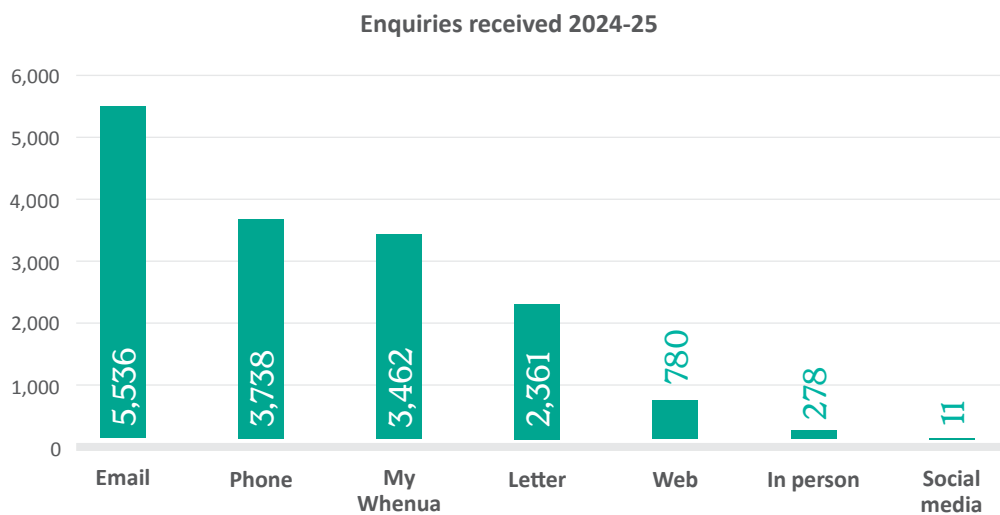
Enquiries increased this financial year, from 15,774 in 2024 to 16,166 this year. This is around 65 enquiries every working day.

All enquiries are recorded in the Office's customer relationship management database to ensure they are tracked and proactively managed by Ratonga Āwhina Kiritaki | Client Services.

Ninety-four per cent of this year's enquiries were acknowledged within seven days and 94 per cent were addressed within 30 days of receipt. This compares to 93 per cent of enquiries acknowledged within seven days in 2024, and 96 per cent addressed within 30 days of receipt.

Of the 63 complaints received by Te Tumu Paeroa (up from 57 in 2024), 67 per cent were resolved within 60 days (compared to 97 per cent in 2024).

More than a third of client enquiries were via email, and nearly a quarter via phone. These proportions do not differ significantly from the previous financial year.



Output 2. Registry services

For every land block the Māori Trustee administrators, Te Tumu Paeroa is provided with list of beneficial owners from Te Kooti Whenua Māori | Māori Land Court. Each owner has shares in this block of land (also called interests). The number of shares is determined by succession orders given by the court based on the whakapapa of the shares.

When an owner of Māori Trustee-administered land dies, Te Tumu Paeroa encourages whānau of the deceased to apply to the court to have their rights to succeed to the interest determined.

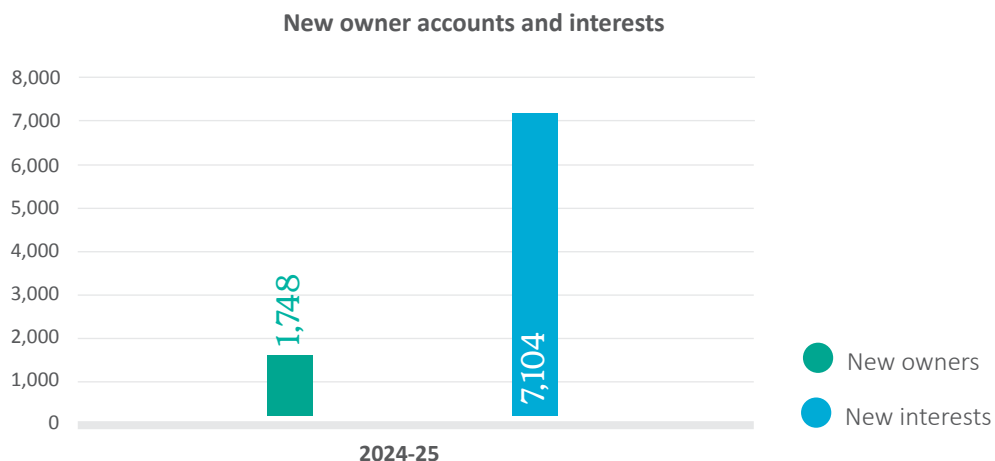
If they do so, Te Tumu Paeroa receives a copy of the Court's succession order, at which time they can update the register of owners and open new owner accounts for the successors. If contact details for the new owners are also received, Te Tumu Paeroa can send invitations to meetings and information about the administration of the trust and whenua they have interests in.

Te Tumu Paeroa continues to work alongside Te Kooti Whenua Māori | Māori Land Court to improve processes that centre whenua Māori owners and meet the respective requirements of the organisations.

Owner accounts

There are now 106,354 owners on Te Tumu Paeroa's register, up from 105,183 owners in 2024. They are the beneficial owners of 1,696 trusts and other Māori Trustee-administered entities (compared to 1,708 in 2024). The number of owners and trusts change year-to-year as trusts are transitioned to self-governance, or the Māori Trustee becomes responsible trustee for a new trust or entity, or succession orders are processed.

This year 1,748 new owner accounts were created (up from 1,419 new accounts in 2024) and 7,104 owner interests in whenua were added to the register of owners (in 2024, 5,080 interests were added).



Owner contact information

Ensuring we have correct, up-to-date contact information for our owners and trustees is a priority for the organisation. This year, we updated contact details for 3,462 owners (compared to 3,546 the year before) and contact details for 165 new owners were added (compared to 93 in 2024).

Te Tumu Paeroa kaimahi attended Taikura Kapa Haka in June and Te Matatini ki te Kāhui Maunga in February this financial year, providing information to attendees about Māori land ownership and supporting owners to update their contact information.

In addition, Ratonga Āwhina Kiritaki | Client Services managed two campaigns focused on updating contact information for owners and advisory trustees. In total, these campaigns resulted in 806 changes to client contact information, compared to 32 changes in 2024.

Succession order processing

In the year ended 31 March 2025, Te Tumu Paeroa loaded 95 per cent of new succession orders within 30 days of receiving them from Te Kooti Whenua Māori | Māori Land Court. This was up 13 percentage points from 2024 and significantly more than the target of 80 per cent. Ninety-seven per cent of the new orders received were loaded within 60 days.

Te Tumu Paeroa has a significant historical backlog of legacy succession orders – orders received prior to the current reporting period which have not yet been processed. It has implemented a plan to address this backlog and is prioritising according to planned owner hui. That is, if the trust is due for a hui, as per the trust order, these succession orders will be prioritised.

If legacy orders processed during the reporting year are taken into account, 41 per cent of the succession orders were loaded within 30 days of receiving them and 42 per cent within 60 days. This is compared to 20 per cent and 23 per cent respectively in 2024, which demonstrates progress on this issue.

Output 3. Governance capability development

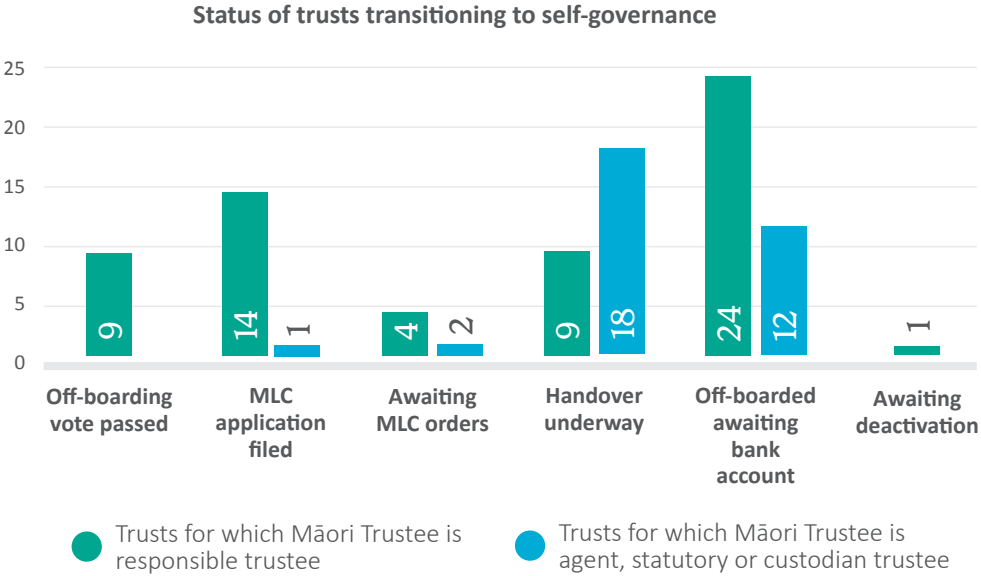
Te Tumu Paeroa is committed to supporting owners of whenua Māori to self-govern and administer their whenua.

We do this by encouraging landowners to become advisory trustees, working alongside us to administer the land according to owner aspirations; assisting them to develop their governance capability; and supporting them with the administrative process of transitioning to self-governance when they are ready.

Transition to self-governance

In the year to 31 March 2025, 17 trusts completed their transition to self-governance (compared to 14 in 2024) and a further 96 trusts were in the process of transitioning from Māori Trustee administration to owner trusteeship (up slightly from 93 in 2024).

The legal and administrative requirements of making this transition mean that some trusts can take several years to complete it.



Governance capability

Supporting new responsible trustees through governance training, where required, is an important part of the mahi of Te Tumu Paeroa.

Tū Tiaki, the whenua Māori governance programme co-created by Te Tumu Paeroa, gives owners and trustees the opportunity to access online training and resources to support their journey to owner trusteeship.

The programme is promoted at owner hui and other engagement events, as well on the organisation’s digital communication channels: its websites, newsletters and social media.

This year 231 people have registered for Tū Tiaki, bringing the total registered users to 406 since its launch in June 2023.

Output 4. Property management

Most of the whenua administered by Te Tumu Paeroa is leased on behalf of the owners. Te Tumu Paeroa provides complete management of the property. This includes marketing, negotiating and reviewing leases, organising property inspections and, if the Māori Trustee is the responsible trustee, creating and updating asset management plans.

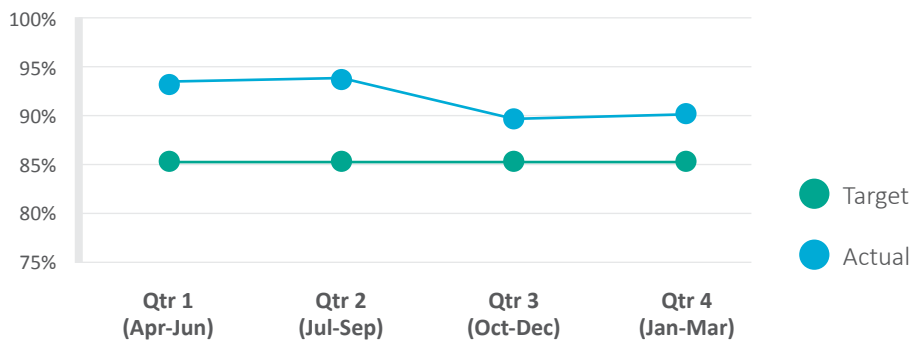
Much of the whenua is leased for agriculture or horticulture. The rent for the property may be used for the cost of administration, property maintenance, compliance costs and capital investments. The trust order usually outlines what should happen to any money left after costs, and this is sometimes returned to owners as distributions, unless the owners have decided to keep it in reserve for future investments or for grants to support their community.

Leasing

This year, Te Tumu Paeroa was able to secure rental at or above market rates in 92.2 per cent of its negotiations with lessees of Māori Trustee-administered whenua. This was up from 89.6 per cent in 2024 and against a target of 85 per cent.

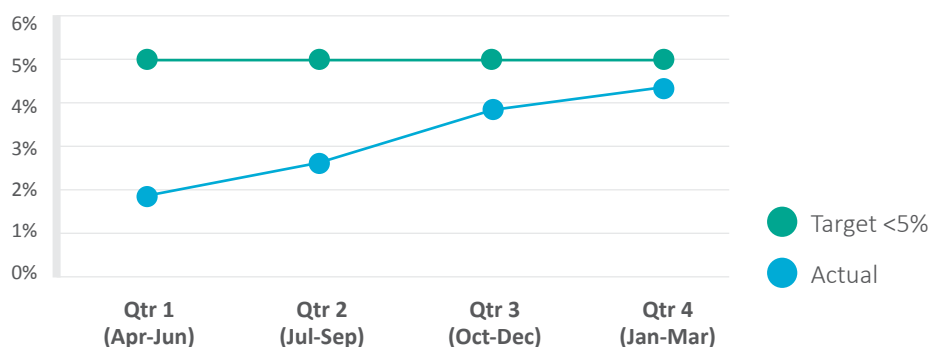
Rental arrears continue to be well-managed, with 90+ days rental arrears at 4.26 per cent – above the 2024 figure of 1.51 per cent but below the target of five per cent. Against a rental roll of \$17.5 million (2024: \$17 million), the ability to maintain low rental arrears provides additional funds for trust distributions and capital expenditure.

Rent negotiated at or above valuer’s recommendation*



*For rentals below \$2,000 per annum, the market value is established by reference to market data which includes rent assessments during inspections, desktop valuation, regional rent data and the recommendations from specialist property kaimahi.

90+ day rent arrears



Te Tumu Paeroa has focused on positive engagement with tenants and prospective tenants, and our work to proactively manage tenant lease non-compliance continues to contribute to improved outcomes for the whenua and its owners.

The property vacancies as a proportion of all whenua managed by the Māori Trustee rose above the five per cent target in the 2024-25 financial year, averaging 5.3 per cent compared to 4.9 per cent in 2024.

Whenua managed by the Māori Trustee includes forestry blocks, whenua under covenants, owner-occupied whenua and untenable whenua (e.g. land-locked whenua). Of the whenua available for tenancy, 91 per cent had an active tenancy in the four months leading up to 31 March 2025.

Asset management

Asset Management Plans have now been completed for all trusts where the Māori Trustee is responsible trustee.

Te Tumu Paeroa has worked with specialists to complete 1,393 Asset Management Plans (1,393 had been completed by the end of 2024 financial year). These documents support planning and decision-making relating to the whenua and improvements, including identifying necessary capital works, investment, maintenance, and alternative use options.

Of the trusts that held meetings this year and had an approved Asset Management Plan, 85 percent (compared to 75 percent in 2024) were presented information from their Asset Management Plans, against a target of 100 percent. This information was presented in a variety of formats as necessary for each trust, such as the Asset Management Plan summary, Land use potential and Property asset register.

Output 5. Common Fund management

The Common Fund is a pool of funds that is administered by the Māori Trustee. Every trust the Māori Trustee administers is a member of the Common Fund, as is every beneficial owner of each trust.

All monies due to a trust, such as rental income, are received into the Common Fund and all outgoings, such as the payment of rates, are paid out of each trust's Common Fund account.

The cash balance of the Common Fund is invested to create additional income for members over and above the income derived from leasing or the trust's normal business activity.

Clients with accounts in the Common Fund are eligible to receive distributable income in accordance with the Māori Trustee Act 1953.

Under Section 26 of the Māori Trustee Act 1953, distributable income is paid to all Common Fund account holders with balances at the end of each month.

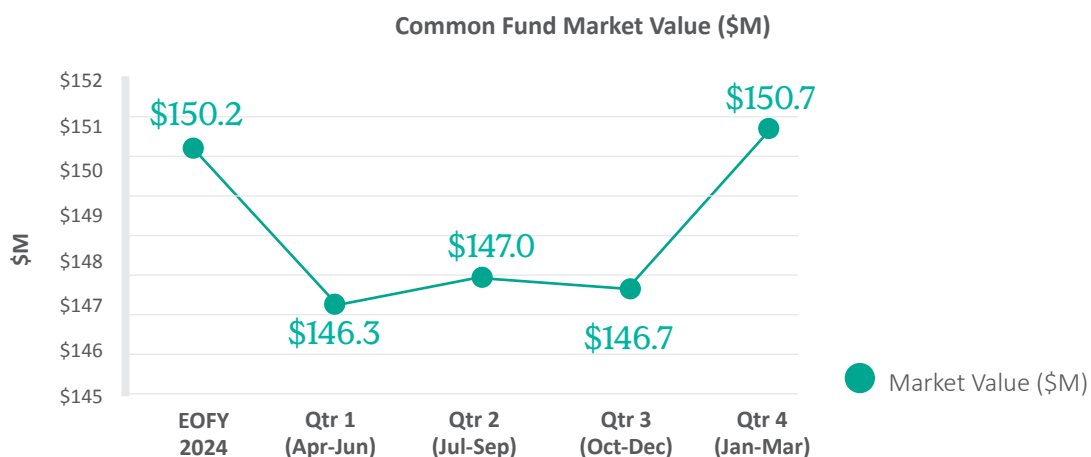
Common Fund performance

As at 31 March 2025, the Common Fund held \$151 million (2024: \$150 million) of client funds. This represents more than 106,000 individual and entity accounts.

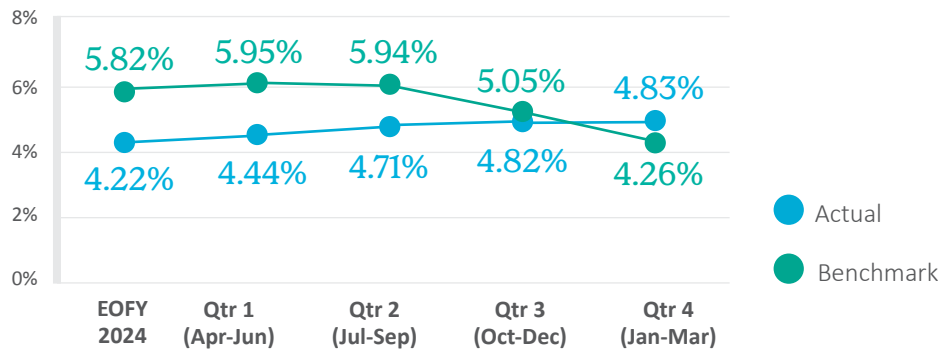
The Common Fund's returns increased during the year, but below the benchmark throughout this period.

The Reserve Bank of New Zealand incrementally reduced the Official Cash Rate (OCR) from 5.5 per cent in mid-2024 to 3.75 per cent in February 2025, with further drops anticipated as inflation fell domestically and globally. This enabled the Common Fund to invest at higher rates.

However, the benchmark is based on the 6-month bank term deposit rates available for investment today, whereas the Common Fund has a range of investment maturities, so there is a lagged effect. If interest rates move down quickly, the Common Fund exceeds the benchmark and vice versa.



Common Fund performance against benchmark



Note: The Benchmark is the 12-month rolling Reserve Bank of New Zealand 6-Month Deposit Rate and the actual is the 12-month rolling return.

Distributions to clients

This year the total amount of distributable income paid to account holders was \$5.7 million, an increase from \$4.9 million in 2024. In addition, \$6.28 million was paid by trusts we administer as trustee or agent to owners as distributions, an increase from \$5.4 million in 2024.

Where no information is held, Te Tumu Paeroa continues to seek to obtain bank account information from individual Common Fund account holders so that balances held in the Common Fund from trust distributions and distributable income can be paid out to them.

Common Fund investments

Common Fund investments during the year were made in accordance with the Fund's Statement of Investment Policies and Objectives (SIPO).

Output 6. Land Development

The whenua that the Māori Trustee administers often has great potential. We invest in the ongoing protection of the land, including the costs associated with maintaining regulatory compliance and maintaining existing assets. We also deliver works that create new assets or add value to existing assets, taking it further toward realisation of that potential.

Protection and development

During the financial year, 240 land or capital improvement projects or initiatives impacting 211 trusts, at a cost of \$5.287 million, were undertaken. This compares to 139 projects at a cost of \$1.3 million in the previous financial year, impacting 115 trusts.

Sixty-two per cent of this amount, \$3.3 million, was spent on protection (compared to 16 per cent in 2024, with \$211,113 spent on protection). The remaining 38 per cent, \$2 million, was spent on whenua development (compared to 84 per cent, \$1.1 million, in 2024).



Included in these land and capital improvements, \$2.5 million was spent across 113 trusts on restoring whenua impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle (in 2024, \$1.8 million was spent across 18 trusts). This work was funded by a grant from Te Puni Kōkiri Sediment and Debris Fund.

In 2024, Te Tumu Paeroa received \$637,000 from Te Puni Kōkiri Te Ringa Hāpai Whenua Fund. This fund supports Māori freehold landowners to realise their aspirations for their whenua. This includes infrastructure development initiatives on whenua Māori that support economic, cultural, social, and environmental projects. This funding was utilised on projects to support 29 trusts administered by the Māori Trustee.

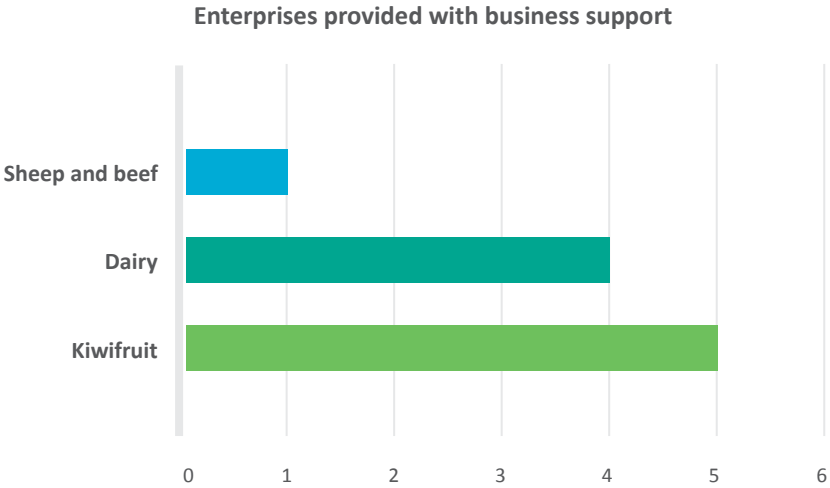
Farm Environment Plans

Farm Environment Plans assist in ensuring new and impending environmental regulatory requirements are considered in farm planning. From these Farm Environment Plans, all the associated actions identified have been costed and uploaded to the individual land block records held in the client record management (CRM) system of Te Tumu Paeroa.

This year, Te Tumu Paeroa completed 144 Farm Environment Plans (FEPs) for whenua where the Māori Trustee is responsible trustee, up from 80 in 2024. A total of 675 FEPs have been completed for priority blocks under the Māori Trustee's administration, building from 531 in 2024.

Output 7. Business support

As part of the work to help whenua Māori and its owners thrive, Te Tumu Paeroa provides business support to entities or enterprises on land administered by the Māori Trustee. This ranges from leading farming and horticulture operations to health and safety management, as well as assessing opportunities for improvements and investments.



Consolidated businesses under management

Despite the challenging economic environment, our primary sector enterprises continue to adjust accordingly and have performed well during this period. Good production levels on the farms and orchards as well as high commodity prices have resulted in higher-than-expected distributions.

AGRICULTURE

The farming enterprises have had an excellent season with many of the economic factors affecting the previous season lessening in the 2024-25 financial year.

A significant increase in prices received for beef and lamb increased the value of the livestock sold across all farming enterprises. Fonterra’s record high payout for the season has supported the dairy businesses to rebuild cash surpluses, enabling debt repayment and capital development works to be completed. The impacts of the drought experienced by some of the dairy businesses was mitigated by the payout increasing profitability.

The cost of farm inputs has remained high, which led the farm teams to focus on controlling expenditure and remain agile to get the best value for all expenditure. The Ratonga Whenua | Whenua Services team has implemented multiple development plans across the farming enterprises with a major focus on growth, efficiency, and sustainability.

HORTICULTURE

Orchards across the portfolio have performed better than anticipated, achieving record-breaking tray amounts driven by meticulous management from both the respective orchard managers and Ratonga Whenua | Whenua Services team.

Favourable growing conditions have also positively influenced performance. Although winter chilling hours from the previous season contributed to a resurgence of Psa (Kiwifruit vine canker), the swift implementation of strategies mitigated any negative impact.

The higher returns from production have positioned the enterprises positively, with orchards attaining KiwiStart and storage incentives on top of tray prices.

Four of the five kiwifruit enterprises have had a profitable season. However, due to a biological infestation, the financial performance of one enterprise was compromised.

Overall, the season has been a milestone for the industry, reflecting the commitment of growers to producing high-quality kiwifruit and meeting global demand.

Health and safety

Te Tumu Paeroa continues to identify health and safety initiatives to tautoko the health, safety and wellbeing of its kaimahi.

Implementation of EROAD fleet management devices has added another layer of control and monitoring of vehicles to ensure kaimahi are safe while travelling for hui and whenua visits.

The rollout of satellite phones for key leadership roles has increased our organisational resilience to natural disasters and other business interruption events.

Ongoing development of monitoring and reporting standards are being implemented to ensure best practice is maintained across all Person Conducting a Business or Undertaking (PCBU) entities.

Te Tumu Paeroa is working collaboratively with other farming operation organisations to share best practices in health and safety and is represented in industry health and safety governance fora.

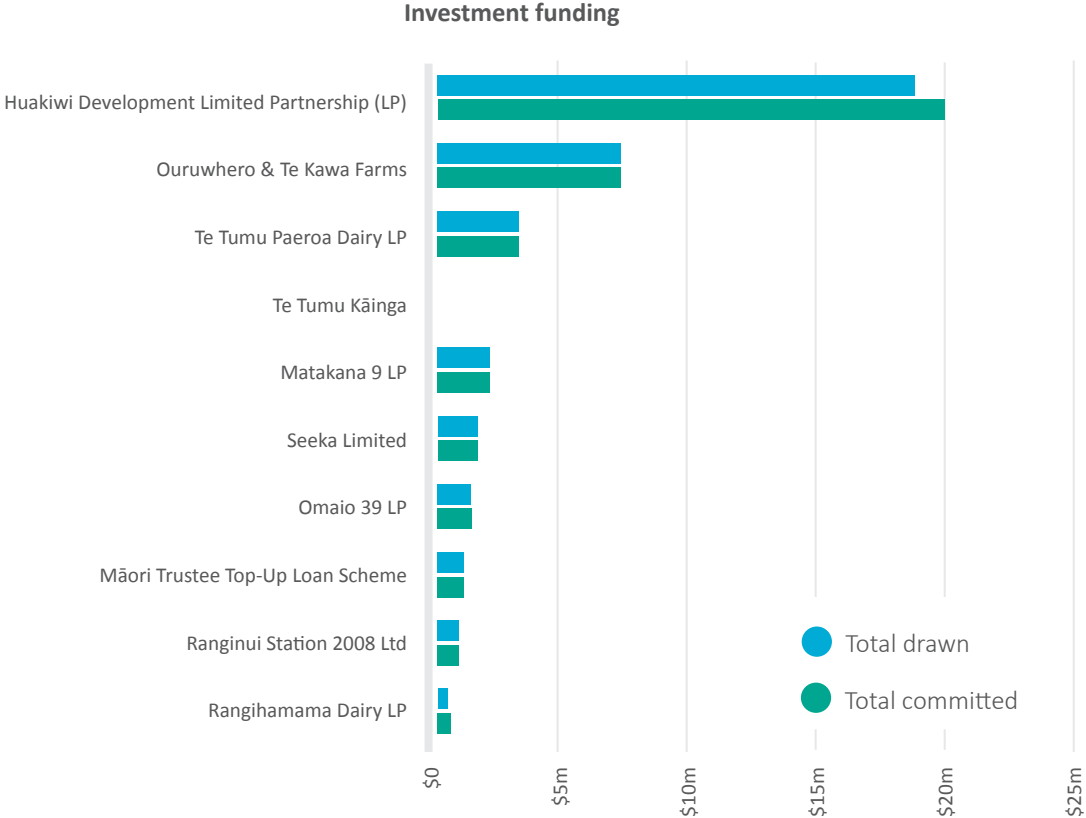
There were zero significant health and safety incidents reported this financial year (also zero in 2024). A significant incident is an incident that requires reporting to WorkSafe New Zealand or immediate action.

Output 8. Enablement funding

Enablement funding, or enablement assets, are investments made by the Māori Trustee from the General Purposes Fund. These investments assist in the development of whenua Māori and seek to generate better returns for beneficial owners through changing land use. These investments are either made directly by the Māori Trustee or in partnership with others. Current investments include three dairy farms and 10 kiwifruit orchards.

Advances from the Māori Trustee’s General Purposes Fund are used towards the feasibility, development or operation of Māori enterprises. During this year, no new advances were made.

The percentage of General Purposes Fund committed to enablement funding was 22 per cent of the fund value as at 31 March 2025 (one percentage point less than in 2024).



Our financial statements

Statement of comprehensive revenue and expense

Statement of financial position

Statement of changes in equity

Statement of cash flows

Statement of trust monies

Notes to the financial statements





Statement of comprehensive revenue and expense

For the year ended 31 March 2025
in New Zealand Dollars

	NOTE	GROUP			PARENT	
		2025 ACTUAL \$000	2025 BUDGET \$000	2024 ACTUAL \$000	2025 ACTUAL \$000	2024 ACTUAL \$000
Revenue						
Fees and commissions		6,099	5,472	4,584	6,161	4,636
Revenue from Crown		17,845	17,471	18,786	17,845	18,786
Grant revenue		708	755	491	708	491
Interest revenue		357	322	467	357	466
Farm and land revenue		4,416	3,000	3,624	-	-
Dividends		232	330	108	1,979	1,171
Other revenue		97	390	220	459	524
Total revenue	3	29,754	27,740	28,280	27,509	26,074
Expenses						
Employee benefits	4	16,220	17,652	15,966	15,894	15,620
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	13,14,18,19	1,662	2,079	895	1,150	708
Farm and land expenses	5	1,839	2,500	2,033	-	-
Other expenses	6	11,246	12,114	12,373	11,160	12,321
Total operating expenses		30,967	34,345	31,267	28,204	28,649
Net deficit from operations		(1,213)	(6,605)	(2,987)	(695)	(2,575)
Other gains						
Reversal of impairment	12, 13, 14	112	-	14	1,833	14
Share of associates' net surplus	14	2,516	400	1,017	-	-
Total other gains		2,628	400	1,031	1,833	14
Surplus/(deficit) for the Māori Trustee		1,415	(6,205)	(1,956)	1,138	(2,561)
Other comprehensive revenue and expense						
Share of equity accounted investments' other comprehensive revenue	14	253	-	30	-	-
Increase in financial assets at fair value	11, 15, 17	10,907	6,350	16,048	10,539	15,999
Gain/(loss) on asset revaluation	18, 19	1,300	255	(143)	1,300	(143)
Total comprehensive revenue for the Māori Trustee		13,875	400	13,979	12,977	13,295

Explanations of major variances against budget are provided in note 30.

Statement of financial position

As at 31 March 2025
in New Zealand Dollars

	NOTE	GROUP			PARENT	
		2025 ACTUAL \$000	2025 BUDGET \$000	2024 ACTUAL \$000	2025 ACTUAL \$000	2024 ACTUAL \$000
Current assets						
Cash and cash equivalents	8	5,922	4,096	5,454	5,089	4,681
Debtors and other receivables	9	5,304	4,045	5,576	4,898	5,429
Loans and receivables	12	249	-	302	249	302
Biological assets	16	1,608	1,172	1,172	-	-
Equities	17	139,798	131,675	131,108	139,798	131,108
Inventory	10	1,100	838	838	-	-
Total current assets		153,981	141,826	144,450	150,034	141,520
Non-current assets						
Loans and receivables	12	55	430	242	55	242
Investments	11	965	597	597	-	-
Investments in subsidiaries	13	-	-	-	6,378	5,096
Equity accounted investments	14	17,503	15,755	15,755	15,981	15,118
Other financial assets	15	2,979	2,720	2,720	2,979	2,720
Property, plant and equipment	18	13,444	11,867	11,860	12,034	10,439
Intangible assets	19	7,301	8,964	6,321	6,842	5,830
Total non-current assets		42,247	40,333	37,495	44,269	39,445
Total assets		196,228	182,159	181,945	194,303	180,965
Current liabilities						
Payables	20	1,762	2,334	2,148	1,483	1,916
Deferred revenue	21	1,098	-	421	1,098	421
Employee benefits	22	763	734	647	763	647
Total current liabilities		3,623	3,068	3,216	3,344	2,984
Non-current liabilities						
Employee benefits	22	39	-	38	39	38
Total non-current liabilities		39	-	38	39	38
Total liabilities		3,662	3,068	3,254	3,383	3,022
Equity						
Total equity attributable to Māori Trustee		189,514	177,084	176,939	187,878	176,201
Reserves		3,052	2,007	1,752	3,042	1,742
Total equity		192,566	179,091	178,691	190,920	177,943
Total liabilities and equity		196,228	182,159	181,945	194,303	180,965

Explanations of major variances against budget are provided in note 30.

Statement of changes in equity

For the year ended 31 March 2025
in New Zealand Dollars

NOTE	GROUP			PARENT	
	2025 ACTUAL \$000	2025 BUDGET \$000	2024 ACTUAL \$000	2025 ACTUAL \$000	2024 ACTUAL \$000
Equity at beginning of year					
General Purposes Fund – balance of GP Fund	123,365	123,365	122,902	123,199	123,371
General Purposes Fund – MT operating funds	46,148	46,148	41,629	46,148	41,629
Appropriation account	(11,507)	(11,507)	(4,599)	(11,507)	(4,599)
Financial assets through other comprehensive revenue and expense	18,933	18,933	2,885	18,361	2,362
Asset revaluation reserve	1,752	1,752	1,895	1,742	1,885
Total equity at beginning of year	178,691	178,691	164,712	177,943	164,648
Transfers from statement of comprehensive revenue and expense for the year					
General Purposes Fund – balance of GP Fund	4,465	362	463	3,935	(172)
General Purposes Fund – MT operating funds	2,659	-	4,519	2,659	4,519
Appropriation account	(5,456)	(6,567)	(6,908)	(5,456)	(6,908)
Financial assets through other comprehensive revenue and expense	10,907	6,350	16,048	10,539	15,999
Asset revaluation reserve	1,300	255	(143)	1,300	(143)
Total comprehensive revenue and expense	13,875	400	13,979	12,977	13,295
Equity at end of year					
General Purposes Fund – balance of GP Fund	127,830	123,727	123,365	127,134	123,199
General Purposes Fund – MT operating funds	48,807	46,148	46,148	48,807	46,148
Appropriation account	(16,963)	(18,074)	(11,507)	(16,963)	(11,507)
Financial assets through other comprehensive revenue and expense	29,840	25,283	18,933	28,900	18,361
Asset revaluation reserve	3,052	2,007	1,752	3,042	1,742
Total equity at end of year	192,566	179,091	178,691	190,920	177,943

Explanations of major variances against budget are provided in note 30.

Statement of cashflows

For the year ended 31 March 2025
in New Zealand Dollars

	NOTE	GROUP			PARENT	
		2025 ACTUAL \$000	2025 BUDGET \$000	2024 ACTUAL \$000	2025 ACTUAL \$000	2024 ACTUAL \$000
Cashflows from operating activities						
Fees and commissions		6,613	5,472	4,578	6,676	4,618
Revenue from Crown		17,845	17,471	18,261	17,845	18,261
Investment revenue		549	652	536	1,830	1,557
Other revenue		97	390	220	459	524
Grant revenue		1,385	755	912	1,385	912
Farm and land revenue		3,896	3,000	3,588	-	-
Employee benefits		(16,103)	(17,581)	(15,944)	(15,777)	(15,598)
Suppliers		(11,409)	(10,872)	(11,886)	(11,338)	(11,658)
Farm and land expenses		(2,275)	(2,500)	(2,033)	-	-
Goods and services tax (GST) received/(paid)		(109)	36	123	(141)	-
Net cash from/(to) operating activities	23	489	(3,177)	(1,645)	939	(1,384)
Cashflows from investing activities						
Loans and receivables repaid		-	114	-	-	-
Sale of investments		-	-	96	-	-
Term deposits matured/(invested)		-	-	10	-	-
Disposal of funds and equities		69,943	-	-	69,943	-
Investment in funds and equities		(68,353)	5,783	-	(68,353)	-
Disposal of property, plant and equipment		75	-	-	32	-
Property, plant and equipment purchased		(922)	(210)	(836)	(737)	(632)
Intangible assets purchased		(1,752)	(4,268)	(647)	(1,752)	(647)
Loans and receivables (advanced)/repaid		337	-	375	336	375
Investment in equity accounted investments		651	-	679	-	-
Net cash to investing activities		(21)	1,419	(323)	(531)	(904)
Net movements in cash and cash equivalents		468	(1,758)	(1,968)	408	(2,288)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		5,454	5,454	7,422	4,681	6,969
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March	8	5,922	3,696	5,454	5,089	4,681

GST has been presented on a net basis. Investment and maturity of term deposits have also been reported on a net basis. Explanations of major variances against budget are provided in note 30.

Statement of trust monies

For the year ended 31 March 2025
in New Zealand Dollars

The Māori Trustee holds funds and accounts under Section 23 of the Māori Trustee Act (1953).

The transactions through these accounts and the balances at 31 March 2025 are not included in the Māori Trustee's financial statements. Balances in these accounts were as follows:

	COMMON FUND		SPECIAL INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS	
	2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Funds held in trust	149,861	151,025	261	231
Represented by:				
Cash	5,431	7,058	40	12
Bonds	84,430	87,967	221	219
Term deposits	60,000	56,000	-	-
	149,861	151,025	261	231

STATEMENT OF TRUST

The Common Fund represents monies received by the Māori Trustee, under sections 23 and 25 of the Act, in trust for persons entitled to receive them. All Common Fund monies are guaranteed by the Crown under Section 27 of the Act.

Special Investment Accounts are investments made in accordance with Section 24 of the Act.

The funds invested in the Māori Trustee Common Fund generated investment income and were charged a management fee as follows:

	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Common Fund investment income	7,223	5,964
Management fee	(1,524)	(1,069)
Distributable income	5,699	4,895

Funds held in Trust at 31 March 2025 included monies received from Te Puni Kōkiri under the Sediment and Debris Removal Fund which was part of the Cyclone Gabrielle response. In 2024, the Sediment and Debris Removal Fund received \$11m cash (which included GST) and at 31 March 2025, \$632k was still held in the Common Fund as the committed work was still underway (2024: \$7.9 million). In June 2024, \$5m cash (which included GST) was returned to Te Puni Kōkiri as the deadline to spend the funds had been reached.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

1. Reporting Entity

The Māori Trustee is a Corporation sole established under the Māori Trustee Act 1953 (the Act) and is domiciled in New Zealand. The fundamental role of the Māori Trustee is to work with Māori landowners to protect and enhance their assets now and for future generations. The Māori Trustee has designated itself as a Public Benefit Entity (PBE) for financial reporting standards purposes.

These financial statements have been prepared in terms of Section 23 of the Act for the General Purposes Fund and the Appropriation Account. The Māori Trustee operates and manages trust accounts on behalf of clients under Section 23 of the Act. The trust account transactions and balances are not included in the Māori Trustee's financial statements. These are included in the statement of trust monies. These consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 comprise the controlling entity and its controlled entities referred to as the 'Group'.

The General Purposes Fund represents funds held by the Māori Trustee in its own right and includes accumulated net fees and commissions earned after 1 July 2009. The Appropriation Account was established on 1 July 2009 under the Māori Trustee Amendment Act 2009 to account for revenue received from the Crown.

The financial statements for the Māori Trustee are for the year ended 31 March 2025 and were approved by the Māori Trustee on 25 July 2025.

2. Basis of preparation

These financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, and the accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the period. Where applicable, certain comparatives have been reclassified to comply with the accounting presentation adopted in the current year to ensure consistency with the current year classification.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with New Zealand Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (NZ GAAP).

As the Māori Trustee in fulfilling its role holds assets in fiduciary capacity for Māori landowners as its primary business, the Māori Trustee is publicly accountable for the purposes of financial reporting.

The financial statements comply with Public Benefit Entity (PBE) standards and have been prepared in accordance with Tier 1 PBE standards.

These financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars (\$), which is the Māori Trustee's functional currency. All amounts have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars unless stated otherwise.

BUDGET FIGURES

The budget figures were approved by the Māori Trustee. The budget figures were prepared in accordance with NZ GAAP and are consistent with the accounting policies adopted by the Māori Trustee for the preparation of the financial statements.

BASIS OF MEASUREMENT

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis, except where modified by revaluation of certain items of property, plant and equipment, equities and other financial assets. The methods used to measure fair value are detailed in the specific accounting policies.

USE OF JUDGEMENTS AND ESTIMATES

In preparing these financial statements in conformity with PBE accounting standards, the Māori Trustee has made judgements, estimates and assumptions concerning the future. These estimates and assumptions may differ from the subsequent and actual results. Estimates and assumptions are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors including expectation of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The estimates, judgements and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

The useful lives of assets have been based on historical experience. In addition, the condition of the assets is assessed annually and considered against the remaining useful lives. Adjustments to useful lives are made when considered necessary.

Critical judgements in applying accounting policies

The Māori Trustee has exercised the following critical judgements in applying the accounting policies.

- » Impairment of financial and non-financial assets – The Māori Trustee assesses the impairment of assets at each reporting date by evaluating conditions specific to the Māori Trustee and to the particular asset that may lead to impairment. If an impairment trigger exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined.
- » Revaluation of property, plant and equipment – The Māori Trustee assesses the fair value of the Ouruwhero and Te Kawa farms in property, plant and equipment at each reporting date by completing a property valuation, which evaluates market conditions at balance date.
- » Employee Benefits – The Māori Trustee makes assumptions in calculating employee benefits that are payable beyond 12 months of balance date, such as long service leave, which are calculated on an actuarial basis, taking into account years of service, years until entitlement, the likelihood that staff will reach the point of entitlement, and the net present value of the estimated cashflows.
- » Revenue – The Māori Trustee makes judgement when recognising and categorising revenue as revenue from exchange and non-exchange transactions.
- » Loans and receivables – The Māori Trustee makes assumptions in determining the fair value of loans and other receivables. As fair value is the amount that the loans could theoretically be sold into the market where unrelated buyers and sellers would set a price that reflects any concessions (e.g. below market interest rates such as those applied to the Top Up Loan Scheme) and risks of borrowers defaulting, a number of assumptions have been applied for financial reporting. The key assumptions in determining the fair value are the timing of principal and interest repayments and the expected default rate over the loan terms.
- » Grant revenue – The Māori Trustee has made judgements in determining whether they are acting as a principal or agent for the purposes of recognising grant revenue.
- » Developed assets – The Māori Trustee has made judgements on the capitalisation of some implementation costs under the Cloud Programme. Where configuration, customisation and integration costs result in resources that are controlled by the Māori Trustee and future economic benefits are expected from these costs, they have been treated as intangible assets.

BASIS OF CONSOLIDATION

Leases

Leases that do not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of an asset are classified as operating leases. Operating lease payments are recognised on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease in the statement of comprehensive revenue and expense.

Term deposits

Investments in term deposits are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs. For term deposits, impairment is established when there is objective evidence that the Māori Trustee will not be able to collect amounts due according to the original term of the deposit.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value.

Goods and services tax (GST)

All items in the financial statements are exclusive of GST, except for receivables and payables, which are presented on a GST-inclusive basis. Where GST is not recoverable as input tax, it is recognised as part of the related asset or expense.

The net amount of GST receivable or payable to the Inland Revenue is included as part of receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

The net GST paid to or received from the Inland Revenue, including the GST relating to investing and financing activities, is classified as a net operating cashflow in the statement of cashflows.

Commitments and contingencies are disclosed exclusive of GST.

Any transactions reported in the notes to the statement of trust monies are reported on a GST-inclusive basis to reflect the receipts and payments within the Common Fund.

Equity

Equity is measured as the difference between total assets and total liabilities. Equity is disaggregated and classified into the following components:

- » General Purposes Fund – funds held by the Māori Trustee in its own right. This has been further disaggregated to disclose the funds that have accumulated from the Māori Trustee's operations (net fees and commissions).
- » Appropriation Account – established under the Māori Trustee Amendment Act 2009 to account for revenue received from the Crown.
- » Financial assets through other comprehensive revenue.
- » Asset Revaluation Reserve(s).

Statement of cashflows

The statement of cashflows has been prepared using the direct approach subject to the netting of certain cashflows. The make-up of cash and cash equivalents in the statement of cashflows is the same as that for cash and cash equivalents in the statement of financial position.

Operating activities include cash received from all revenue sources and cash payments made for the supply of goods and services.

Investing activities include the acquisition and disposal of non-current assets and other investments not included in cash and cash equivalents.

Financing activities include activities that result in changes to the size and composition of equity.

ACCOUNTING STANDARDS ISSUED NOT YET EFFECTIVE

A number of new standards are effective for annual periods beginning after 1 April 2024 with earlier application permitted. The Māori Trustee has not yet early adopted these new or amended standards in preparing these financial statements. Those which may be relevant to the Māori Trustee are set out below. The Māori Trustee does not plan to adopt these standards early.

2024 Omnibus Amendments to PBE standards

2024 Omnibus Amendments to PBE Standards is an amending Standard that updates PBE IPSAS 1 and PBE IAS 12.

The amendments to PBE IPSAS 1 provide further guidance on the current/non-current distinction in the Statement of financial position. Application of these amendments is required for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2026. Application is permitted for accounting periods that begin before 1 January 2026 but have not ended or do not end before 21 November 2024.

The amendments to PBE IAS 12 include disclosure requirements under the international tax reform. However, these amendments are not applicable to the Māori Trustee as it is exempt from income tax.

3. Revenue

	GROUP		PARENT	
	2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Revenue from non-exchange transactions				
Fees	3,784	2,660	3,846	2,712
Less fees forgiven/written off	(400)	(393)	(400)	(393)
Revenue from Crown	17,845	18,786	17,845	18,786
Interest revenue from lending	40	39	40	39
Grant revenue	708	491	708	491
Total revenue from non-exchange transactions	21,977	21,583	22,039	21,635
Revenue from exchange transactions				
Commissions	1,244	1,269	1,244	1,269
Common Fund management fees	1,471	1,048	1,471	1,048
Interest revenue from investment	317	428	317	427
Farm revenue	4,416	3,624	-	-
Dividends	232	108	1,979	1,171
Other revenue	97	220	459	524
Total revenue from exchange transactions	7,777	6,697	5,470	4,439
Total revenue	29,754	28,280	27,509	26,074

Revenue is recognised and measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable to the extent that it is probable that economic benefits will flow to the Māori Trustee and that the revenue can be reliably measured.

Revenue is comprised of:

- » Non-exchange transactions – Revenue from Crown, fees, interest revenue from lending and grant revenue.
- » Exchange transactions – Commissions, common fund management fees, interest revenue from investment, dividends, rent, farm revenue, director’s fees and other revenue.

Revenue from Crown

Revenue from the Crown is recognised as revenue when the Māori Trustee is entitled to receive the funding.

The Māori Trustee received revenue from the Crown in accordance with the funding agreement signed in March 2020 and the variation to the funding agreement between the Minister for Māori Development and the Māori Trustee signed in November 2024. The revenue in the current financial year is \$17,845,000 (2024: \$18,786,000). A new funding agreement was signed in March 2025 for a four-year term ending 31 March 2029.

Fees and commissions

The Māori Trustee can only deduct commissions upon actual receipt of trust monies. Therefore, commissions are recognised on a cash basis and fees on an invoice basis.

Interest

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts the estimated cashflows associated with a financial instrument over the expected life of the instrument.

Farm Revenue

Farm Revenue is recognised and measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable to the extent that it is probable that economic benefits will flow to the Partnership and that the revenue can be reliably measured.

Dividends and equivalents

Dividends are recognised when the Māori Trustee's right to receive payments is established. Where the Māori Trustee's investment entitles it to dividends paid at a predetermined rate of return, any dividend payment that exceeds the accumulated predetermined return due is treated as a repayment of capital.

Grant revenue

The recognition of grant revenue depends on whether the grant comes with any stipulations imposed on the use of a transferred asset.

Stipulations that are 'conditions' specifically require the Māori Trustee to return the inflow of resources received if they are not used in the way stipulated, resulting in the recognition of a liability that is subsequently recognised as non-exchange revenue as and when the 'conditions' are satisfied.

Stipulations that are 'restrictions' do not specifically require the Māori Trustee to return the inflow of resources received if they are not utilised in the way stipulated, and therefore do not result in the recognition of a non-exchange liability, which results in the immediate recognition of grant revenue.

During the reporting period, the Māori Trustee secured grant funding from Te Puni Kōkiri to ensure compliance of whenua Māori with new environmental regulatory requirements and to enhance the productivity of Māori assets through economic development of whenua Māori. The recognition of revenue related to these grants is contingent upon the specific stipulations attached to each grant. For grants with stipulations requiring the return of unspent funds, revenue is not recognised until these conditions are met. Conversely, for grants with restrictions, revenue is recognised upon receipt by the Māori Trustee.

4. Employee benefits

	GROUP		PARENT	
	2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Salaries and wages	15,757	15,476	15,431	15,130
Defined contribution plan employer contributions	455	421	455	421
Increase/(decrease) in employee entitlements	(15)	50	(15)	50
Short-term employee benefits	23	19	23	19
Total employee benefits	16,220	15,966	15,894	15,620

Superannuation schemes

Obligations for contributions to KiwiSaver is accounted for as defined contribution superannuation schemes and are expensed in the statement of comprehensive revenue and expense as incurred.

5. Farm and land expenses

	GROUP		PARENT	
	2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Administration expenses	54	15	-	-
Feed	342	322	-	-
Lease payments	12	14	-	-
Repairs and maintenance	119	158	-	-
Stock movement	(583)	(100)	-	-
Other farm expenses	1,895	1,624	-	-
Total farm and land expenses	1,839	2,033	-	-

6. Other expenditure

	GROUP		PARENT	
	2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Audit fees for parent - EY	194	169	194	169
Audit fees for subsidiary	45	39	-	-
Impairment of loans and receivables current year	52	86	52	86
Occupancy	1,309	1,147	1,309	1,147
Consultants' fees	5,152	5,995	5,152	5,995
Legal fees	150	129	150	129
Travel	579	571	579	571
Telecommunications	170	148	170	148
Printing and stationery	80	93	80	93
Insurance	149	125	149	125
Software licences and maintenance	2,106	2,361	2,106	2,361
Loss on disposal/write-off assets	42	13	1	-
Bad debts - loans and receivables written off	62	34	62	34
Other operating costs	1,156	1,463	1,156	1,463
Total other expenditure	11,246	12,373	11,160	12,321

The figure for audit fees for parent and audit fees for subsidiary consist of the audit of the Māori Trustee's financial statements.

Within consultants' fees, there is expenditure for \$2,600 (2024: \$9,425) to EY for other services. The service provided was the purchase of general market remuneration survey data (2024: purchase of general market remuneration survey data, as well as an explanation of this survey data).

7. Taxation

	GROUP	
	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Reconciliation between tax expense and accounting surplus		
(Deficit)/Surplus before tax	1,415	(1,956)
Tax at 28% (2024: 28%)	396	(548)
<i>Tax effect of:</i>		
Parent company deficit/(income) not taxable	(319)	729
Non-taxable income	(77)	(181)
Tax expense	-	-

Figures above are presented only for the Group as the Parent is exempt from tax. There is zero tax expense (2024: \$Nil) and no offsetting movements (2024: \$Nil).

The Parent, the Māori Trustee, is exempt from income tax as a public authority. Accordingly, no provision has been made for income tax for the Parent. All controlled entities of the Parent are taxpayers. The accounting policies applied in respect of the controlled entities are as follows:

Income tax expense comprises both current and deferred tax. Income tax expense is charged or credited to the Statement of Comprehensive revenue and expense, except when it relates to items charged or credited directly to equity, in which case the tax is charged to equity.

Current tax is the expected tax payable on the taxable income for the year, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at reporting date and any adjustments to tax in respect of previous years.

Deferred tax is recognised using the balance sheet method, providing for temporary differences between the carrying amount of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the carrying amounts used for taxation purposes.

The amount of deferred tax provided is based on the expected manner of realisation of the asset or settlement of the liability, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at each reporting date. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are not discounted. A deferred tax asset is recognised in the financial statements for all deductible temporary differences and for the carry forward of unused tax losses and unused tax credits only to the extent that it is probable that future taxable surpluses will be available against which the asset can be utilised. Deferred tax assets are reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that the related tax benefit will be realised. Unrecognised deferred tax assets are reassessed at each balance sheet date.

8. Cash and cash equivalents

	GROUP		PARENT	
	2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Cash at bank and on hand	932	869	99	96
Deposits at call	4,990	4,585	4,990	4,585
Total cash and cash equivalents	5,922	5,454	5,089	4,681

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS POLICY

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand, cash at bank, and deposits at call and short-term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less, which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and are subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

The carrying value of cash at bank, deposits on call and short-term deposits with maturities less than three months approximates their fair value.

9. Debtors and other receivables

	GROUP		PARENT	
	2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Non-exchange receivables				
Trade debtors	187	256	187	256
Sundry receivables	4,746	4,838	4,348	4,838
Exchange receivables				
Prepayments	371	482	363	335
Total debtors and other receivables	5,304	5,576	4,898	5,429

Debtors and other receivables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method, less provision for impairment.

A provision for impairment of debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the Māori Trustee will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivable. Financial difficulties of the debtor, default payments or debts more than 60 days overdue are considered objective evidence of impairment. The Māori Trustee conducts a detailed impairment test and provides for doubtful debts in relation to specific debtors when it is clear that they will not be able to make payment. The process in place allows

the Māori Trustee to provide an accurate indication of expected credit loss for individual customer segments. Accordingly, there is no further expected credit loss (ECL) provided for. Refer to note 26 for more detail on expected credit loss.

The amount of the provision for impairment is the difference between an asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cashflows, discounted at the original effective interest rate. The carrying amount of the asset is reduced through the use of a provision account, and the amount of the loss is recognised in the statement of comprehensive revenue and expense. When a debtor is uncollectable, it is written off against the provision account.

The carrying value of debtors and other receivables approximates their fair value. Trade debtors are non-interest bearing and generally on monthly terms. An impairment loss is recognised when there is objective evidence that an individual trade debtor is impaired. All debtors past due have been assessed for impairment.

10. Inventory

Inventory consists of crops grown on bearer plants in Omaio 39 Limited Partnership and Matakana 9 Limited Partnership. Inventory assets are valued based on quotable market prices issued by Zespri (OGR per tray) less costs to sell. An independent valuation is obtained annually to determine the fair value of the crop at year end and the estimated costs to sell. Any change in fair value of inventory is recognised in the net surplus or deficit.

The fair value of inventory was estimated to be \$1,100,424 (2024: \$838,084). Gain or (loss) arising in fair value less cost to sell was \$262,340 (2024: \$35,655).

11. Investments

	QUANTITY	GROUP		PARENT	
		2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Shares – Fonterra Co-Operative Group Limited	192,581	896	528	-	-
Shares – Ballance Limited	7,676	69	69	-	-
Total investments		965	597	-	-

Investments in listed shares are stated at fair value using quoted market prices. Investments are subsequently measured at fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense. Any dividend income derived from these investments are recognised in the net surplus or deficit.

12. Loans and receivables

	GROUP					
	Gross \$000	2025 Impairment \$000	Net \$000	Gross \$000	2024 Impairment \$000	Net \$000
Current portion						
Loans and mortgages	481	(285)	196	595	(334)	261
Conversion Fund loans	56	(3)	53	41	-	41
Total current portion	537	(288)	249	636	(334)	302
Non-current portion						
Loans and mortgages	502	(458)	44	629	(409)	220
Conversion Fund loans	2,422	(2,422)	-	2,495	(2,485)	10
Other advances	16	(5)	11	17	(5)	12
Total non-current portion	2,940	(2,885)	55	3,141	(2,899)	242
Total loans and receivables	3,477	(3,173)	304	3,777	(3,233)	544

The carrying value of debtors and other receivables approximates their fair value. Trade debtors are non-interest bearing and generally on monthly terms. An impairment loss is recognised when there is objective evidence that an individual trade debtor is impaired. All debtors past due have been assessed for impairment.

	PARENT					
	Gross \$000	2025 Impairment \$000	Net \$000	Gross \$000	2024 Impairment \$000	Net \$000
Current portion						
Loans and mortgages	481	(285)	196	595	(334)	261
Conversion Fund loans	56	(3)	53	41	-	41
Total current portion	537	(288)	249	636	(334)	302
Non-current portion						
Loans and mortgages	502	(458)	44	629	(409)	220
Conversion Fund loans	2,422	(2,422)	-	2,495	(2,485)	10
Other advances	16	(5)	11	17	(5)	12
Total non-current portion	2,940	(2,885)	55	3,141	(2,899)	242
Total loans and receivables	3,477	(3,173)	304	3,777	(3,233)	544

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted on an active market. Loans and receivables include loans and mortgages, Conversion Fund loans and other advances.

Loans made at nil or below-market interest rates are initially recognised at the present value of their expected future cashflows, discounted at the current market rates of return for similar financial instruments. The loans are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. The difference between the face value and present value of the expected future cashflows of a loan is recognised in the net surplus or deficit as impairment.

These assets are initially recorded at fair value plus transaction costs and are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method less provision for impairment.

A provision for impairment of loans and receivables is established when there is objective evidence that the Māori Trustee will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivable. Financial difficulties of the debtor, default payments or debts more than 60 days overdue are considered objective evidence of impairment.

The amount of the provision for impairment is the difference between an asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cashflows, discounted at the original effective interest rate. The carrying amount of the asset is reduced through the use of a provision account, and the amount of the loss is recognised in the statement of comprehensive revenue and expense. When an asset is uncollectable, it is written off against the provision account.

Loans and mortgages are classified as current assets if principal repayments are due within 12 months of balance date or if the principal amount is overdue at balance date. All other amounts are classified as non-current assets.

The carrying value of loans and receivables approximates their fair value. Movements in the provision for impairment of loans and receivables are as follows:

	GROUP		PARENT	
	2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Provision for impairment at 1 April	3,233	3,161	3,233	3,161
Movement in provisions during the year	(60)	72	(60)	72
Provision for impairment at 31 March	3,173	3,233	3,173	3,233

All loans and receivables have been reviewed at balance date and impaired where necessary to approximate their fair value.

The ageing profile of loans and receivables at year end is detailed below.

	GROUP					
	Gross \$000	2025 Impairment \$000	Net \$000	Gross \$000	2024 Impairment \$000	Net \$000
Not past due	839	(535)	304	1,066	(531)	535
Past due over 90 days	2,638	(2,638)	-	2,711	(2,702)	9
Total loans and receivables	3,477	(3,173)	304	3,777	(3,233)	544

	PARENT					
	Gross \$000	2025 Impairment \$000	Net \$000	Gross \$000	2024 Impairment \$000	Net \$000
Not past due	839	(535)	304	1,066	(531)	535
Past due over 90 days	2,638	(2,638)	-	2,711	(2,702)	9
Total loans and receivables	3,477	(3,173)	304	3,777	(3,233)	544

Impairment in the 'Not past due' category includes the fair value impairment of loans that have an interest rate of 0%.

CONVERSION FUND LOANS

Conversion fund loans were established under the Māori Affairs Act 1953. The Māori Trustee is either applying funds from distributions to the repayment of such loans or converting loans to an interest-free loan with repayment terms.

MĀORI TRUSTEE TOP-UP LOAN SCHEME

During the 2021 financial year, the Māori Trustee established the Top-Up Loan Scheme as part of the organisation's response to COVID-19. The scheme advanced \$1.28m to 177 Māori business owners who had successfully applied for the Inland Revenue Department (IRD)'s Small Business cashflow Loan Scheme (SBCLS).

The Top-Up Loan Scheme provided 5-year loans to eligible Māori businesses to manage the impact of lower cashflows due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Borrowers under the Top-Up Loan Scheme are charged interest at 3%

per annum on amounts outstanding for a maximum term of 5 years. The scheme did not require borrowers to provide any collateral or security to support their borrowings.

At 31 March 2025, 96 borrowers had fully repaid their loans and the unpaid loans were \$502,000. Once the loans became repayable, the Māori Trustee collected information on each borrower's profile to assess the default risk and determine the fair value of each loan. The discount rate applied was the average base rate for unsecured business loans from New Zealand financial institutions.

The Top-Up Loan scheme figure is reflected in the non-current loans and mortgages in loans and receivables. Loans are discounted at a rate of 10%, reflecting the market rate of return on comparable unsecured business loans.

Original loan issued \$000	Repayments \$000	Provision for default \$000	Loans written off \$000	Impairment loss \$000	Net loans 31 March 2025 \$000	Net loans 31 March 2024 \$000
1,280	(778)	(309)	(144)	(5)	44	220

13. Investments in subsidiaries

	PARENT	
	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Te Tumu Paeroa Dairy Ltd Partnership	3,438	2,156
Matakana 9 Limited Partnership	1,721	1,721
Omaio 39 Limited Partnership	1,219	1,219
MTD 1 Limited	-	-
M9 Limited	-	-
O39 Limited	-	-
Total investments in subsidiaries	6,378	5,096

The consolidated financial statements comprise the financial statements of the Māori Trustee, and its wholly owned and controlled entities. Controlled entities are those entities over which the Māori Trustee has the power to govern the financial and operating policies to obtain benefits from their activities.

Investments in subsidiaries are carried at cost less impairment in the Māori Trustee's Parent financial statements. Impairment is assessed by comparing the cost of the investment to the fair value of the net assets of the subsidiary.

Details of its subsidiaries are as follows:

MTD1 Limited (100%)

MTD1 Limited is the general partner for Te Tumu Paeroa Dairy Limited Partnership, which was created in May 2013. As the general partner, MTD1 Limited has responsibility for the management and control of the business and partnership. There were no transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025 (2024: \$Nil).

Te Tumu Paeroa Dairy Limited Partnership (100%)

Te Tumu Paeroa Dairy Limited Partnership is wholly owned by the Māori Trustee. Fair value is determined using net asset values as most of the Limited Partnership's assets are measured at fair value. The recoverable amount of the investment is the fair value less costs to sell. As part of impairment testing conducted as at 31 March 2025, it was identified that the investment was no longer impaired. The impairment recorded in the 2020 year of \$1,281,730 was therefore reversed (2024: \$Nil).

M9 Limited (100%)

M9 Limited is the general partner for Matakana 9 Limited Partnership, which was created in April 2016. As the general partner, M9 Limited has responsibility for the management and control of the business and partnership. There were no transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025 (2024: \$Nil).

Matakana 9 Limited Partnership (100%)

The partnership is engaged in developing a kiwifruit orchard and producing kiwifruit. The Limited Partnership leases land from Matakana 9 Trust. At the end of the lease the assets owned by the partnership transfer to the trust. At 31 March 2025, no impairments were identified from the impairment testing conducted (2024: \$Nil).

O39 Limited (100%)

O39 Limited is the general partner for Omaio 39 Limited Partnership, which was created in April 2016. As the general partner, O39 Limited has responsibility for the management and control of the business and partnership. There were no transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025 (2024: \$Nil).

Omaio 39 Limited Partnership (100%).

The partnership is engaged in developing a kiwifruit orchard and producing kiwifruit. The Limited Partnership leases land from Omaio 39 Trust. At the end of the lease the assets owned by the partnership will transfer to the trust. At 31 March 2025, no impairments were identified from the impairment testing conducted (2024: \$Nil).

RISKS MANAGEMENT STRATEGY RELATED TO AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES FOR WHOLLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED ENTITIES

The Group's wholly owned and controlled entities are exposed to the following risks relating to kiwifruit orchards and dairy farms:

- » Regulatory and environmental risks- The Group is subject to laws and regulations in New Zealand. The Group has established environmental policies and procedures aimed at compliance with local environmental and other laws.
- » Supply and demand risk- The Group is exposed to risks arising from fluctuations in the price and sales volumes of milk solids and kiwifruit. When possible, for kiwifruit the Group manages this risk by aligning the timing of the release of its picked fruit to the market to supply and demand. Management performs regular industry trend analyses to target early/late start premiums after allowing for storage costs.
- » Climate and other risks- The Group's kiwifruit orchards and dairy farms are exposed to the risk of damage from extreme weather events such as storms, high winds and drought. Changes in global climate conditions could intensify one or more of these events.

Periods of drought and associated high temperatures may increase the risk of vine damage for kiwifruit and reduction of pasture for dairy operations. In addition to their effects on yields, extreme weather events may also increase the cost of operations. The Group has extensive processes in place aimed at monitoring and mitigating these risks through proactive management and early detection.

The Group has incorporated considerations for climate change into its orchard development practices, such as the establishment and maintenance of boreholes to mitigate drought, fire breaks and increased monitoring during fire danger periods. Physical risks arising from fires and drought are to a great extent subject to risk transfer and thereby within the Group's property and business interruption insurance programmes. However, if the frequency and severity of these events increase as a result of climate change, the cost of such insurance coverage may increase.

The financial statements of the wholly owned and controlled entities are prepared for the same reporting period as the Māori Trustee, with the exception of Te Tumu Paeroa Dairy Limited Partnership, which has a 31 May balance date to align with farming practice. Intercompany transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between the controlled entities and the Group are eliminated. Investments in controlled entities are subject to annual review for impairment.

The subsidiaries of the Group are incorporated/established in New Zealand and undertake their business in New Zealand.

14. Equity accounted investments

Equity accounted investments are accounted for using the equity method of accounting in the consolidated financial statements. Under the equity method, equity accounted investments are carried at cost plus post-acquisition changes in the Māori Trustee's share of the net assets of the equity accounted investments, less provision for impairment.

The Māori Trustee's share of post-acquisition surplus/(deficit) and other comprehensive revenue/ (expense) is recognised in the statement of comprehensive revenue and expense. The cumulative post-acquisition movements are adjusted against the carrying amount of the investment.

Equity accounted investments are recorded at cost less any impairment losses in the Parent's financial statements and are accounted for using the equity method of accounting in the Group financial statements.

The financial statements of equity accounted investments are prepared for the same reporting period as the Māori Trustee, with the exception of: Rangihamama Dairy Limited Partnership and RDF1 Limited, which have a 31 May balance date to align with farming practice.

The financial statements of Equity Accounted Investments are prepared using consistent accounting policies.

A joint venture is an arrangement in which the Māori Trustee has joint control, while an associate is an entity in which the Māori Trustee has significant influence, but not control or joint control over the financial and operating policies.

The Māori Trustee investments in joint ventures include Rangihamama Dairy Limited Partnership, RDF1 Limited, Huakiwi Developments Limited Partnership and Huakiwi Services Limited.

Equity accounted investments are comprised as follows:

	EQUITY HOLDING		GROUP		PARENT	
	2025 %	2024 %	2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
RDF1 Limited (JV)	50	50	-	-	-	-
Rangihamama Dairy Limited Partnership (JV)	50	50	2,139	1,271	617	617
Huakiwi Services Limited (JV)	50	50	-	-	-	-
Huakiwi Developments Limited Partnership (JV)	50	50	15,364	14,484	15,364	14,501
Total equity accounted investments			17,503	15,755	15,981	15,118

Movements in the carrying amounts of equity accounted investments are as follows:

	GROUP		PARENT	
	2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Joint Ventures				
Opening balance at 1 April	15,755	15,428	15,118	15,118
Share of net surplus/(deficit)	2,516	1,017	-	-
Share of other comprehensive revenue/(expenditure)	253	30	-	-
Distributions made during the year	(1,117)	(720)	-	-
Contributions made during the year	424	-	424	-
Impairment of investments during the year	(328)	-	-	-
Reversal on impairment of investments during the year	-	-	439	-
Total equity accounted investments	17,503	15,755	15,981	15,118

Summarised financial information of equity accounted investments is as follows:

	GROUP					
	2025			2024		
	Rangihamama Dairy Limited Partnership	Huakiwi Developments Limited Partnership	Total	Rangihamama Dairy Limited Partnership	Huakiwi Developments Limited Partnership	Total
\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	
Joint ventures						
Current assets	1,268	12,433	13,701	542	9,008	9,550
Non-current assets	3,182	19,546	22,728	2,281	20,340	22,621
Current liabilities	(175)	(595)	(770)	(259)	(381)	(640)
Non-current liabilities	-	-	-	(26)	-	(26)
Net assets	4,275	31,384	35,659	2,538	28,967	31,505
Revenue	3,064	12,220	15,284	1,888	8,645	10,533
Total net surplus/(deficit)	2,060	3,478	5,538	368	1,725	2,093
<i>Share of total comprehensive revenue</i>						
Net surplus/(deficit) after tax	804	1,712	2,516	154	863	1,017
Other comprehensive revenue/(expenditure)	226	27	253	30	-	30
Total share of comprehensive revenue	1,030	1,739	2,769	184	863	1,047

RANGIHAMAMA DAIRY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP AND RDF1 LIMITED

Rangihamama Dairy Limited Partnership is a partnership between the Māori Trustee and the Omapere Taraire E & Rangihamama X3A Ahu Whenua Trust to run a joint venture dairy farm. The Omapere Taraire E & Rangihamama X3A Ahu Whenua Trust and the Māori Trustee have appointed RDF1 Limited as general partner to manage the partnership business. The company is 50% owned by Omapere Taraire E & Rangihamama X3A Ahu Whenua Trust and 50% by the Māori Trustee.

The Māori Trustee has committed uncalled capital in Rangihamama Dairy Limited Partnership of \$183,292 (2024: \$183,292). At 31 March 2025, no impairments were identified from the impairment testing conducted (2024: \$Nil).

HUAKIWI DEVELOPMENT LIMITED PARTNERSHIP AND HUAKIWI SERVICES LIMITED

Huakiwi Development Limited Partnership was created in March 2017 between the Māori Trustee and Quayside Holdings Limited and is engaged in developing kiwifruit orchards and producing kiwifruit in New Zealand. The Māori Trustee and Quayside Holdings Limited have appointed Huakiwi Services Limited as general partner to manage the partnership business. The company is 50% owned by Quayside Holdings Limited and 50% by the Māori Trustee.

The Māori Trustee has committed uncalled capital in Huakiwi Development Limited Partnership of \$851,000 (2024: \$1,275,000).

At 31 March 2025, at the parent level, there was a reversal of prior impairment losses of \$439,019 (2024: \$Nil) identified from the impairment testing conducted. At the group level, impairments losses of \$328,265 (2024: \$Nil) were identified from the impairment testing conducted.

There are no contingent liabilities relating to the Parent's interests in its equity accounted investments.

The Equity Accounted Investments of the Māori Trustee are all incorporated/established in New Zealand.

15. Other financial assets

	GROUP		PARENT	
	2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Opening balance at 1 April	2,720	2,820	2,720	2,820
Impairment reversal/(loss)	(275)	-	(275)	-
Gain/(loss) on revaluation of shares	534	(100)	534	(100)
Closing balance at 31 March	2,979	2,720	2,979	2,720

Other financial assets are measured at fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense as the Māori Trustee has no significant influence over the investment. At the end of each reporting period, the Māori Trustee will assess if there is any objective evidence of impairment for its investments.

TRG NATURAL PHARMACEUTICALS LIMITED (IN LIQUIDATION)

Māori Trustee holds 91,507 shares at \$3.00 per share in TRG Natural Pharmaceuticals Limited (TRG), which makes Māori Trustee a 2.06% shareholder in TRG. TRG is the 100% shareholder of Honeylab Limited. Māori Trustee has not been appointed as a director and does not have the capacity to influence operating and financial policies or to participate in decision making. During the year, an impairment of \$274,521 has been recognised due to TRG going into liquidation on 18 December 2024 (2024: No impairments were identified from the impairment testing conducted).

RANGINUI STATION LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

At 31 March 2025, no impairment loss has been recognised (2024: \$Nil). Fair value is determined using discounted cashflows based on historical distribution trends.

SEEKA LIMITED

At 31 March 2025, the Māori Trustee holds 711,299 shares (2024: 711,299 shares) in Seeka Limited. The share price as at 31 March 2025 was \$3.60 per share (2024: \$2.85 per share).

16. Biological assets

	GROUP		PARENT	
	2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Opening balance at 1 April	1,172	1,172	-	-
Livestock losses	(60)	(41)	-	-
Change in fair value due to biological transformation	516	272	-	-
Change in fair value of livestock due to price changes	126	(130)	-	-
Increase/(decrease) due to sale	(146)	(101)	-	-
Closing balance at 31 March	1,608	1,172	-	-

Biological assets include livestock measured at fair value less costs to sell.

Livestock are measured at estimate of market value at reporting date. The estimated market return less selling cost is established by reference to current and expected sales returns when available, in the event market data is not available an assessment is made based on historical data.

Progressive Livestock determines livestock market value by using sales that have taken place at the time of the valuation. Sales figures are based on similar types of stock that were being traded either through paddock sales or sold at auction. The valuation was performed 1 June 2025.

Matakana 9 Limited Partnership and Omaio 39 Limited Partnership hold bearer plants recorded at cost, in accordance with for profit accounting standard NZ IAS 16 Property, Plant and Equipment, because the bearer plants are exempt and excluded from the scope of accounting standard NZ IAS 41 Agriculture.

The Group applies PBE accounting standards for reporting and, hence, on consolidation, the bearer plants, previously reclassified to biological assets in accordance with PBE IPSAS 27 Agriculture, have been reclassified back to property, plant and equipment in accordance with PBE IPSAS 17 Property, Plant and Equipment.

17. Equities

Equities comprise of units in managed funds and are measured at fair value of the investment through valuation techniques using observable inputs through other comprehensive revenue and expense which are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs.

After initial recognition, these investments are measured at their fair value with gains and losses recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense.

The Group has invested in New Zealand, Australian and International Unit Trusts which are managed by external Investment Managers. Investment reports from the Investment Managers are received to provide a basis for the valuation. The Investment Managers value the investments using valuation techniques using observable inputs. The Managed Funds are held as follows:

	GROUP		PARENT	
	2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
New Zealand fixed interest funds	10,805	10,129	10,805	10,129
Australasian equities	11,077	10,718	11,077	10,718
International equities	79,884	75,328	79,884	75,328
International fixed interest funds	38,032	34,933	38,032	34,933
Total equities	139,798	131,108	139,798	131,108

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Group minimises credit risk by transacting all cash management, fixed interest investment and interest rate risk management activity with counter parties that are of high credit quality as determined by international credit rating agencies (e.g. Standard & Poor's or Moody's). This policy enables higher dollar value exposures to parties assessed by rating agencies as being most able to meet their obligations.

The Group holds equities of \$139.80 million (2024: \$131.11 million). These are comprised of portfolios of unit trusts managed by the Group's investment managers. Together with the Group's statement of investment policies and objectives, the Group ensures prudent management of a well-diversified portfolio of assets.

18. Property plant and equipment

	GROUP								
	2025								
	IT Equipment	Office Equipment	Furniture & Fittings	Motor Vehicles	Land	Buildings	Farm Assets	Work in progress	Total
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Cost									
Balance at 1 April 2024	1,268	240	234	401	8,652	1,099	2,512	330	14,736
Additions	290	-	250	197	-	-	184	-	921
Disposals	(96)	(2)	-	(53)	-	-	(102)	-	(253)
Revaluations	-	-	-	-	1,043	71	-	-	1,114
Transfers	-	-	330	-	-	-	-	(330)	-
Balance at 31 March 2025	1,462	238	814	545	9,695	1,170	2,594	-	16,518
Depreciation and impairment losses									
Balance at 1 April 2024	(1,109)	(229)	(203)	(244)	-	-	(1,091)	-	(2,876)
Depreciation	(119)	(8)	(44)	(53)	-	-	(152)	-	(376)
Disposals	64	2	-	53	-	-	59	-	178
Balance at 31 March 2025	(1,164)	(235)	(247)	(244)	-	-	(1,184)	-	(3,074)
Carrying amount									
At 31 March 2025	298	3	567	301	9,695	1,170	1,410	-	13,444
At 31 March 2024	159	11	31	157	8,652	1,099	1,421	330	11,860

	PARENT							
	2025							
	IT Equipment	Office Equipment	Furniture & Fittings	Motor Vehicles	Land	Buildings	Work in progress	Total
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Cost								
Balance at 1 April 2024	1,268	240	234	401	8,652	1,099	330	12,224
Additions	290	-	250	197	-	-	-	737
Disposals	(96)	(2)	-	(53)	-	-	-	(151)
Revaluation	-	-	-	-	1,043	71	-	1,114
Transfers	-	-	330	-	-	-	(330)	-
Balance at 31 March 2025	1,462	238	814	545	9,695	1,170	-	13,924
Depreciation and impairment losses								
Balance at 1 April 2024	(1,109)	(229)	(203)	(244)	-	-	-	(1,785)
Depreciation	(119)	(8)	(44)	(53)	-	-	-	(224)
Disposals	64	2	-	53	-	-	-	119
Balance at 31 March 2025	(1,164)	(235)	(247)	(244)	-	-	-	(1,890)
Carrying amount								
At 31 March 2025	298	3	567	301	9,695	1,170	-	12,034
At 31 March 2024	159	11	31	157	8,652	1,099	330	10,439

PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT POLICY

Property, plant and equipment consists of land, IT equipment, office equipment, furniture and fittings, motor vehicles and farm assets.

Land and buildings are measured at fair value at balance date determined annually by an independent qualified valuer.

Property, plant and equipment (excluding land and buildings) is measured at historical cost, less accumulated depreciation and impairments.

Farm assets comprise bearer plants and other farm assets. Bearer plants are held with the primary objective of generating a predetermined return and this is restricted to the term of the leases (including rights of renewal) for the land that orchard businesses operate on. No further future economic benefits are expected from use of the assets beyond the earlier of the date the predetermined return is achieved and capital is paid back or the end of the lease. The recoverable amount for the bearer plants are based on the discounted cashflows that are generated from them.

There are no restrictions over the title to items of property, plant and equipment, nor are any property, plant and equipment assets pledged as security for liabilities.

Depreciation is charged to the statement of comprehensive revenue and expense on all property, plant and equipment, other than work in progress. Depreciation is calculated on a straight line basis at rates estimated to allocate the cost of an asset over the estimated useful life.

The estimated useful lives and associated depreciation rates of the asset classes are as follows:

IT Equipment	33%	3 years
Office Equipment	20%	5 years
Furniture and Fittings	20%	5 years
Motor Vehicles	20%	5 years
Buildings	Not depreciated	

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted prospectively, if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

For farm assets, these are depreciated at the appropriate rates relevant to the industry/underlying lease arrangements.

Additions

The cost of an item of property, plant or equipment is recognised as an asset only when it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with it will flow to the Māori Trustee and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. Work in progress is recognised at cost less impairment and it is not depreciated.

In most instances, an item of property, plant or equipment is initially recognised at its cost. Where an asset is acquired at no cost, or for a nominal cost, it is recognised at its fair value as at the date of acquisition.

Disposals

Property, plant and equipment assets are derecognised when disposed of or when no further future economic benefits are expected from use of the assets. Gains and losses on disposal are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount of the asset. Gains and losses on disposal are included in the statement of comprehensive revenue and expense.

Revaluations

The carrying values of revalued assets are assessed annually to ensure that they do not differ materially from fair value. If there is evidence supporting a material difference, then the off-cycle asset classes are revalued. The net revaluation results are credited or debited to other comprehensive revenue and expense and are accumulated to an asset revaluation reserve in equity for that class of asset.

Where this would result in a debit balance in the asset revaluation reserve, this balance is not recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense but in surplus or deficit. Any subsequent increase on revaluation that reverses a previous decrease in the value recognised in the surplus or deficit will be recognised first in the surplus or deficit up to the amount previously expensed, and then in other comprehensive revenue.

On subsequent sale of a revalued property, the attributed revaluation surplus remaining in the asset revaluation reserve is directly transferred to retained earnings.

An independent valuation was conducted by Doyle Valuations Ltd who are registered valuers and property consultants based on physical inspection of the Ouruwhero and Te Kawa farms on 26 March 2025. The valuers primarily applied the direct sales comparison approach using data from sales in the past 12 months of properties with comparable location, land use, scale and levels of production. Doyle Valuations Ltd are experienced valuers with extensive market knowledge in the types and location of the investment property owned by the Māori Trustee.

19. Intangible assets

	GROUP			
	2025			
	Carbon Credits \$000	Acquired and developed software \$000	Licenses \$000	Total \$000
Cost				
Balance at 1 April 2024	3,706	4,767	708	9,181
Additions	-	1,752	-	1,752
Revaluation increase/(decrease)	186	-	-	186
Balance at 31 March 2025	3,892	6,519	708	11,119
Amortisation and impairment losses				
Balance at 1 April 2024	-	(2,643)	(217)	(2,860)
Impairment loss	-	(101)	-	(101)
Amortisation	-	(825)	(32)	(857)
Balance at 31 March 2025	-	(3569)	(249)	(3,818)
Carrying amount				
At 31 March 2025	3,892	2,950	459	7,301
At 31 March 2024	3,706	2,124	491	6,321

	PARENT 2025		
	2025		
	Carbon Credits	Acquired and developed software	Total
	\$000	\$000	\$000
Cost			
Balance at 1 April 2024	3,706	4,767	8,473
Additions	-	1,752	1,752
Revaluation increase/(decrease)	186	-	186
Balance at 31 March 2025	3,892	6,519	10,411
Amortisation and impairment losses			
Balance at 1 April 2024	-	(2,643)	(2,643)
Impairment loss	-	(101)	(101)
Amortisation	-	(825)	(825)
Disposals	-	-	-
Balance at 31 March 2025	-	(3,569)	(3,569)
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2025	3,892	2,950	6,842
At 31 March 2024	3,706	2,124	5,830

INTANGIBLE ASSETS POLICY

Intangible assets consist of acquired computer software, software modified for use, licenses purchased from Zespri Group Limited and carbon credits.

Acquired computer software licenses are capitalised on the basis of the costs incurred to acquire and bring to use the specific software. Costs that are directly associated with the development of software for internal use are recognised as an intangible asset. Staff training costs are recognised as an expense when incurred. Costs associated with maintaining computer software are recognised as an expense when incurred.

Developed software includes costs directly associated with resources created in the customisation, configuration, integration and enhancement of Cloud Services to fit business needs where the Māori Trustee has control over the resources and expects to gain future economic benefits. Costs and fees that convey only the right of access to application software under Software as a Service Arrangements are recognised as an expense when incurred.

Costs incurred with development and maintenance of Māori Trustee's website are recognised as an expense when incurred.

Acquired software and developed software are measured at historical cost less accumulated amortisation and impairments.

The estimated useful lives and associated amortisation rate of the asset class are as follows:

Carbon Credits	N/A	Unlimited
Acquired and developed software	33% - 100%	1-3 years
Licenses	4.4% - 7.5%	20-23 years

Amortisation methods, useful lives and residual values are reviewed at each reporting date and adjusted if appropriate.

Carbon credits (NZUs) are initially measured at cost. Subsequently, at each reporting date, the NZUs are measured at fair value.

Any increase in the carrying amount is recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense and accumulated in equity as revaluation reserve. The increase shall be recognised in surplus or deficit to the extent that it reverses a revaluation decrease of the same asset previously recognised in surplus or deficit.

Any decrease is recognised in surplus or deficit. The decrease is recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense to the extent of any credit balance in the revaluation reserve in respect of that asset.

Amortisation is charged to the statement of comprehensive revenue and expense on all intangible assets, other than work in progress and carbon credits. Amortisation is calculated on a straight-line basis at rates estimated to allocate the cost of an asset over the estimated useful life.

There are no restrictions over the title to intangible assets nor are any intangible assets pledged as security for liabilities.

CHANGE IN USEFUL LIFE ESTIMATES

In the 2024 year, the Māori Trustee conducted a review of the useful life of intangible assets, which resulted in changes in the expected usage of software. The software previously had useful lives ranging between 3 to 5 years, however, is now expected to be disposed of in the 2026 financial year due to a planned move to a cloud-based system.

IMPAIRMENT OF NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS

Property, plant and equipment and intangible assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment is recognised in the statement of comprehensive revenue and expense for the amount by which the carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use. Value in use for non-cash generating assets is determined as the depreciated replacement cost where the future economic benefits are not dependent on the assets ability to generate cashflows. Losses resulting from impairment are reported in the surplus or deficit.

Cash-generating assets and non-cash generating assets are distinguished by reviewing the assets' primary objective. Cash-generating assets are those assets held with the primary objective of generating a commercial return and non-cash generating assets are those assets from which the Māori Trustee does not intend to realise a commercial return.

20. Payables

	GROUP		PARENT	
	2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Payables under exchange transactions				
Creditors	853	995	853	995
Accrued expenses	733	868	487	637
Total payables under exchange transactions	1,586	1,863	1,340	1,632
Payables under non-exchange transactions				
GST payable	176	285	143	284
Total payables under non-exchange transactions	176	285	143	284
Total payables	1,762	2,148	1,483	1,916

Payables represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Māori Trustee prior to the end of the financial year.

Payables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

As payables are non-interest bearing and are normally settled on monthly terms, their carrying value approximates their fair value.

21. Deferred revenue

	GROUP		PARENT	
	2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Current portion				
Grant revenue	1,098	421	1,098	421
	1,098	421	1,098	421

DEFERRED INCOME POLICY

Liabilities are recognised in relation to inflows of resources from non-exchange transactions when there is a resulting present obligation as a result of the non-exchange transactions, where both:

- » It is probable that an outflow of resources embodying future economic benefit or service potential will be required to settle the obligation, and
- » The amount of the obligation can be estimated reliably.

22. Employee benefits

	GROUP		PARENT	
	2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Current portion				
Accrued salaries and wages	194	61	194	61
Annual leave	543	555	543	555
ACC liabilities	22	22	22	22
Retirement and long service leave	4	9	4	9
Total current portion	763	647	763	647
Non-current portion				
Retirement and long service leave	39	38	39	38
Total non-current portion	39	38	39	38
Total employee benefits	802	685	802	685

Employee benefits include accrued salaries and wages, annual leave earned, ACC liabilities, and retiring and long service leave entitlements.

Employee benefits expected to be settled within 12 months of balance date are measured at the undiscounted current rates of pay and the accrued entitlements.

Employee benefits that are payable beyond 12 months of balance date, such as long service leave, are calculated on an actuarial basis, which takes into account years of service, years until entitlement, the likelihood that staff will reach the point of entitlement, and the net present value of the estimated cashflows.

The present value of retirement and long service leave obligations are determined on an actuarial basis. These determining factors include discount rate, salary inflation, years of service, years until entitlement, and the likelihood that staff will reach the point of entitlement. Any changes to these factors will affect the net present value of the estimated cashflows and the carrying amount of the liability.

Expected future payments are discounted using New Zealand government stock rates. A discount rate of 5.30% (2024: 5.43%) and an inflation factor of 3.00% (2024: 3.00%) were used based on historical and future salary inflation patterns.

23. Reconciliation of net operating surplus with net cashflows from operating activities

	GROUP		PARENT	
	2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Net surplus	1,415	(1,956)	1,138	(2,561)
Add/(deduct) non-cash items				
Depreciation	376	361	224	205
Amortisation of intangible assets	856	546	825	515
Impairment losses/(gains)	482	86	153	86
Share of equity accounted investments' net deficit/(surplus)	(2,516)	(1,017)	-	-
(Increase)/decrease in fair value of inventory	(262)	(36)	-	-
Movement in biological assets	(436)	-	-	-
Bad debts on loans and advances	4	(8)	4	(8)
Distribution from equity accounted investments	42	41	(424)	-
Reversal of impairment	(112)	(14)	(1,833)	(14)
Interest income on loans and advances	(40)	(39)	(40)	(39)
Add/(deduct) movements in working capital				
(Increase)/decrease in debtors and other receivables	272	(610)	531	(622)
Increase/(decrease) in payables, deferred revenue and employee benefits	408	1,001	361	1,054
Net cashflows from operating activities	489	(1,645)	939	(1,384)

24. Commitments

Commitments are future expenses and liabilities to be incurred on contracts entered into before balance date.

Cancellable commitments that have penalty or exit costs explicit in the agreement are reported at the minimum future payments, including the value of the penalty or exit cost. Commitments include:

- » Non-cancellable operating leases for property, which are measured as the future payments due under the lease contract.
- » Other non-cancellable commitments for consulting contracts, which are measured as the future payments due under the contracts.

	GROUP		PARENT	
	2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Lease commitments as lessee				
Less than 1 year	934	866	934	866
1 year to 2 years	874	866	874	866
2 years to 5 years	2,463	2,447	2,463	2,447
Greater than 5 years	7,901	8,404	7,901	8,404
Total lease commitments as lessee	12,172	12,583	12,172	12,583

The Māori Trustee leases its head office and regional office premises. A significant portion of the non-cancellable operating lease expense relates to the lease of the Wellington head office which has a termination date of 30 November 2028.

25. Contingent liabilities and assets

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are disclosed at the point at which the contingency is evident.

Contingent assets are disclosed if it is probable that the benefits will be realised. Contingent liabilities are disclosed if the possibility that they will crystallise is not remote.

UNCLAIMED MONIES (1963 TO 1993)

A contingent liability of \$7,644,000 (2024: \$7,644,000) relates to beneficiary monies paid out by the Māori Trustee under section 30(9) of the Māori Trustee Act 1953 to the Māori Education Trust, the Māori Purposes Fund Board and the New Zealand Māori Council. This section was later substituted by section 2(1) of the Māori Trustee Amendment Act 1996, which became effective on 24 June 1996. The Māori Trustee will be liable to make payment to beneficiaries who establish an entitlement in the future.

COMPENSATION LEASES

The Māori Trustee administers leases where compensation is payable to the lessee on expiry or resumption of a lease.

In some of these cases, the Māori Trustee is required by the Māori Vested Land Administration Act 1954 to advance to owners monies required to meet compensation payments, where sums set aside during the course of the lease prove to be insufficient. Advances that the Māori Trustee may be required to make upon resumption of such leases is not quantifiable at this time.

In other cases where the lease provides for compensation to be paid to the lessee, and there are insufficient funds held on behalf of the owners, the Māori Trustee is not required by statute to provide these funds. However, the Māori Trustee may be called upon to provide a loan from the General Purposes Fund to assist owners to meet the obligations to lessees to pay for improvements. The value of such advances is not quantifiable at this time.

PRE-1990 FOREST

A number of Māori land Trusts administered by the Māori Trustee as Responsible Trustee or as Custodian Trustee own 'pre-1990 forest' (as defined under the Climate Change Response Act 2002). The Māori Trustee has the obligations of the legal landowner of 'pre-1990 forest' under the Climate Change Response Act (2002).

If 'deforestation' (as defined under the Act) of any pre-1990 forest were to occur, the Trusts concerned would need to meet the deforestation liability by the surrender of NZUs or Kyoto-compliant emissions units (except where the Environmental Protection Authority has determined that responsibility for the deforestation lies with a third party e.g. the holder of a forest right or lessee). If a land Trust that the Māori Trustee administers as Responsible Trustee or Custodian Trustee did not have sufficient emissions units to meet a deforestation liability and did not have, or could not obtain, third party finance to acquire sufficient emissions units to meet the deforestation liability, the Māori Trustee as legal landowner would need to ensure that the affected Trust acquired emissions units to meet the deforestation liability.

The potential costs (if any) are unable to be quantified at this time. Factors that would impact quantification in the event of deforestation include the number of hectares subject to deforestation (and accordingly the number of emissions units that need to be surrendered), whether the emissions units held by an affected Trust are sufficient to meet the deforestation liability and, if not, the cost to acquire additional emissions units at the time

26. Financial instruments

The Māori Trustee is party to financial instruments as part of its normal operations. Financial instruments include:

- » Financial assets – cash and cash equivalents, debtors and other receivables, loans and receivables, equities, investments and other financial assets.
- » Financial liabilities – payables.

Purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on the date when the Māori Trustee becomes party to a financial contract. Financial assets are derecognised when the right to receive cashflows from the financial assets have expired or been transferred.

Financial instruments are initially recognised at fair value plus transaction costs. Subsequent measurement of financial instruments depends on the classification of the financial instrument.

The carrying amounts of each category of financial assets and financial liabilities are as follows:

	NOTES	GROUP		PARENT	
		2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Financial assets not measured at fair value					
<i>Financial assets held at amortised cost</i>					
Cash and cash equivalents	8	5,922	5,454	5,089	4,681
Debtors and other receivables	9	4,933	5,094	4,535	5,094
Loans and receivables	12	304	544	304	544
		11,159	11,092	9,928	10,319
Financial assets measured at fair value					
<i>'FVOCRE' equity instruments</i>					
Equities	17	139,798	131,108	139,798	131,108
<i>'FVOCRE' other investments</i>					
Other financial assets	15	2,979	2,720	2,979	2,720
Investments	11	965	597	-	-
		143,742	134,425	142,777	133,828
Total financial assets		154,901	145,517	152,705	144,147
Financial liabilities not measured at fair value					
<i>Other financial liabilities</i>					
Payables	20	1,762	2,148	1,483	1,916
Total financial liabilities		1,762	2,148	1,483	1,916

IMPAIRMENT – FINANCIAL ASSETS

The Māori Trustee acts as trustee for majority of its customers. In this role, the Māori Trustee controls the bank accounts for majority of its customers and has processes in place to identify an expected credit loss immediately. There is no exposure to significant credit risk, and loans and receivables are impairment tested for all individual customer segments. This process is deemed to be predictive of the expected credit loss. Accordingly, there is no further expected credit loss provided for. The gross carrying amount of a financial asset is written off when the Māori Trustee has no reasonable expectations of recovering a financial asset in its entirety or a portion thereof.

FAIR VALUE HIERARCHY

For those instruments recognised at fair value in the statement of financial position, fair values are determined according to the following hierarchy:

- » Quoted market price (level 1) – Financial instruments with quoted prices for identical instruments in active markets.
- » Valuation technique using observable inputs (level 2) – Financial instruments with quoted prices for similar instruments in active markets or quoted prices for identical or similar instruments in inactive markets and financial instruments valued using models where all significant inputs are observable.

» Valuation techniques with significant non-observable inputs (level 3) – Financial instruments valued using models where one or more significant inputs are not observable. The following table analyses the basis of the valuation classes of financial assets measured at fair value in the Statement of Financial Position.

		LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	TOTAL
		GROUP			
	NOTES	2025 \$000	2025 \$000	2025 \$000	2025 \$000
Equities (Reclassified to Level 2 this year)	17	-	139,798	-	139,798
Other financial assets	15	2,561	-	418	2,979
Investments	11	896	69	-	965
		3,457	139,867	418	143,742
		GROUP			
	NOTES	2024 \$000	2024 \$000	2024 \$000	2024 \$000
Equities	17	131,108	-	-	131,108
Other financial assets	15	2,027	-	693	2,720
Investments	11	528	69	-	597
		133,663	69	693	134,425
		PARENT			
	NOTES	2025 \$000	2025 \$000	2025 \$000	2025 \$000
Equities (Reclassified to Level 2 this year)	17	-	139,798	-	139,798
Other financial assets	15	2,561	-	418	2,979
		2,561	139,798	418	142,777
		PARENT			
	NOTES	2024 \$000	2024 \$000	2024 \$000	2024 \$000
Equities	17	131,108	-	-	131,108
Other financial assets	15	2,027	-	693	2,720
		133,135	-	693	133,828

FAIR VALUE

The fair value of all loans and receivables is equivalent to the carrying amount disclosed in the Māori Trustee's statement of financial position.

Equities are measured at fair value of the investment through valuation techniques using observable inputs (Level 2) through other comprehensive revenue and expense.

Other financial assets are measured at fair value using valuation techniques with significant non-observable inputs (Level 3) through other comprehensive revenue and expense.

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS RISK

The Māori Trustee's activities expose it to a variety of financial instrument risks, including market risk, credit risk and liquidity risk. The Māori Trustee has a series of policies to manage the risks associated with financial instruments and seeks to minimise exposure from financial instrument risks.

MARKET RISK

Sensitivity analysis

If the price at 31 March 2025 had fluctuated by plus or minus 0.5%, the effect would have been to increase/decrease other comprehensive revenue and expense by:

	GROUP		PARENT	
	2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
0.5% increase/(decrease) in price would increase/(decrease) the other comprehensive revenue and expense	703	658	699	656

Commodity analysis

Te Tumu Paeroa Dairy Limited Partnership (TTPDLP) is exposed to commodity price risk as a result of its agreement with Fonterra to supply milk products. In the 2025 year TTPDLP supplied Fonterra with 223,696kg of milk with an average price of \$10.36. A 0.5% increase/ (decrease) in the price of milk would increase/ (decrease) the other comprehensive revenue and expense by \$11,591.

Omaio 39 Limited Partnership is exposed to commodity price risk as a result of its agreement with Seeka Growers Limited to supply kiwifruit. In the 2025 year Omaio 39 Limited Partnership supplied Seeka Growers Limited with 41,791 trays of Gold3 with an average price of \$8.39. A 0.5% increase/ (decrease) in the price of Gold3 would increase/ (decrease) the other comprehensive revenue and expense by \$1,754. Omaio 39 Limited Partnership also supplied Seeka Growers Limited with 19,096 trays of Hayward with an average price of \$5.69. A 0.5% increase/ (decrease) in the price of Hayward would increase/ (decrease) the other comprehensive revenue and expense by \$543.

Matakana 9 Limited Partnership is exposed to commodity price risk as a result of its agreement with Seeka Growers Limited to supply kiwifruit. In the 2025 year Matakana 9 Limited Partnership supplied Seeka Growers Limited with 57,679 trays of Gold3 with an average price of \$8.39. A 0.5% increase/ (decrease) in the price of Gold3 would increase/ (decrease) the other comprehensive revenue and expense by \$2,421. Matakana 9 Limited Partnership also supplied Seeka Growers Limited with 27,608 trays of Hayward with an average price of \$5.69. A 0.5% increase/ (decrease) in the price of Hayward would increase/ (decrease) the other comprehensive revenue and expense by \$785.

INTEREST RATE RISK

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cashflow of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in interest rates. The Māori Trustee is exposed to interest rate risk on those financial instruments that have fluctuating interest rates.

The investments that have floating or variable interest rates are as follows:

		GROUP		PARENT	
		2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Cash and cash equivalents sensitivity analysis					
Weighted average effective interest rate	%	4.22	6.46	4.29	6.63
1% increase/(decrease) in interest rates would increase/(decrease) interest revenue and equity	\$000	59	55	51	47

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a third party will default on its obligation to the Māori Trustee, causing a loss to be incurred. Credit risk arises from the financial assets of the Māori Trustee, which comprise cash and cash equivalents, term deposits, debtors and other receivables, and loans and receivables.

CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS AND TERM DEPOSITS

Cash, cash equivalents and term deposits are invested with registered banks and are therefore considered to have low credit risk.

The following table analyses the credit quality of financial assets that are neither past due nor impaired, with reference to Standard and Poor's or equivalent credit ratings (if available) or to historical information about counter party default rates. Cash and cash equivalents are exposed to short-term ratings.

	GROUP		PARENT	
	2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Cash and cash equivalents				
A-1+	1,497	1,455	672	688
A-1	4,425	3,999	4,417	3,990
Total cash and cash equivalents	5,922	5,454	5,089	4,678

DEBTORS AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

There are no material concentrations of credit risk with respect to debtors and other receivables.

LOANS AND RECEIVABLES

The Māori Trustee has issued mortgages under section 32 of the Māori Trustee Act 1953 and section 248 of the Māori Affairs Act 1953, Conversion Fund loans and other advances.

Advances under section 32 of the Māori Trustee Act 1953 may or may not be secured.

Advances under section 248 of the Māori Affairs Act 1953 may or may not be secured. Where security is taken, the security is a memorial of charge over land.

The Conversion Fund was abolished by the Māori Affairs Amendment Act 1987, which effectively vested the Conversion Fund assets in the Māori Trustee. Conversion Fund loans are 'presumed advances' and are not secured, but the Māori Trustee owns shares in the land to which the Conversion Fund loans relate. The Māori Trustee has made impairment provisions for the loans.

Other than credit risks listed above, The Māori Trustee does not hold any collateral or other credit enhancements for financial instruments that give rise to credit risk.

LIQUIDITY RISK

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Māori Trustee will not have sufficient funds to meet commitments as they fall due.

Cash and cash equivalents and term deposits

The Māori Trustee monitors forecast cash requirements daily. Surplus funds are invested for terms appropriate for the expected cash requirements. A minimum buffer is maintained, which provides access to funds in excess of the forecast cash requirements.

The table below analyses the Māori Trustee's financial liabilities into maturity groupings based on the remaining period from end of year to the contractual maturity date.

FINANCIAL LIABILITIES

	GROUP		PARENT	
	2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
Less than 6 months	1,762	2,148	1,483	1,916
Total financial liabilities	1,762	2,148	1,483	1,916

UNIT PRICE RISK

The group is exposed to unit price risk to the extent that there is a movement in the pricing of the unit trusts that the group holds in managed funds.

The summary quantitative data about the Group's exposure to unit price risk as reported to the management of the Group is as follows.

	GROUP		PARENT	
	2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
1% increase/(decrease) in the prices of units held in Managed Funds would increase/(decrease) other comprehensive revenue and expense	1,397	1,311	1,397	1,311
Total unit price risk	1,397	1,311	1,397	1,311

27. Capital management

The Māori Trustee's capital is its equity, which is comprised of accumulated funds. Equity is represented by net assets. The Māori Trustee is subject to the financial management and accountability provisions of the Māori Trustee Act 1953.

The Māori Trustee manages its equity as a by-product of prudently managing revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities, investments and general financial dealings to ensure that the Māori Trustee effectively achieves its strategies and remains a going concern.

28. Related parties

TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING RELATED ENTITIES

Related party disclosures have not been made for transactions with related parties that are within a normal supplier or client relationship on terms and conditions no more or less favourable than those that it is reasonable to expect the Māori Trustee would have adopted in dealing with the party at arm's length in the same circumstances.

The entities, the nature of the relationship and the types of transactions which the Group entered into during the Māori Trustee are detailed below:

RELATED ENTITY	NATURE OF RELATIONSHIP
MTD 1 Limited	Wholly owned entity
Te Tumu Paeroa Dairy Ltd Partnership	Wholly owned entity
M9 Limited	Wholly owned entity
Matakana 9 Limited Partnership	Wholly owned entity
O39 Limited	Wholly owned entity
Omaio 39 Limited Partnership	Wholly owned entity
RDF1 Limited	Investment in joint venture
Rangihama Dairy Limited Partnership	Investment in joint venture
Huakiwi Services Limited	Investment in joint venture
Huakiwi Developments Limited Partnership	Investment in joint venture
Seeka Limited	Non-current other investment
Crown	Appropriation funding
Ranginui Station Limited Partnership	Non-current other investment
TRG Natural Pharmaceuticals Limited (In liquidation)	Non-current other investment

The Māori Trustee from time to time appoints senior employees as directors on the boards of subsidiaries, associates, Joint Ventures and substantial investments.

In addition to the transactions noted below, employees of Te Tumu Paeroa sometimes perform certain work for the subsidiaries and associates for no charge, as part of the business performance monitoring process.

The following transactions were entered into with related parties during the year:

TE TUMU PAEROA DAIRY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

The Māori Trustee holds a 100% interest in the partnership. The Māori Trustee maintains a lease with its wholly owned subsidiary which occupies this property and charged rent of \$371,000 (2024: \$371,000) which is eliminated in the group accounts. No additional capital contribution was made (2024: \$Nil). \$500,000 cash distributions were paid to the Māori Trustee during the year (2024: \$150,000). The Māori Trustee received \$Nil in directors' fees (2024: \$Nil).

During the year, the Māori Trustee made no reimbursements to the partnership for development expenditure incurred on the farms (2024: \$Nil).

Intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in the Group financial statements.

MATAKANA 9 LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

The Māori Trustee holds a 100% interest in the partnership. The Māori Trustee made no capital contribution (2024: \$Nil) during the year and received a distribution of \$100,000 (2024: \$250,000) and received no directors fees (2024: \$Nil).

Intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in the Group financial statements.

OMAIO 39 LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

The Māori Trustee holds a 100% interest in the partnership. The Māori Trustee made no capital contribution during the year (2024: \$Nil), received a distribution of \$150,000 (2024: \$50,000) and received no directors fees (2024: \$Nil).

Intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in the Group financial statements.

RANGIHAMAMA DAIRY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

The Māori Trustee holds a 50% interest in the partnership. The Māori Trustee did not make any capital contributions during the year (2024: \$Nil) and received a distribution of \$150,000 (2024: \$100,000).

HUAKIWI DEVELOPMENTS LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

The Māori Trustee holds a 50% interest in the partnership. The Māori Trustee made a capital contribution of \$Nil (2024: \$Nil) during the year, received a distribution of \$936,000 (2024: \$604,000), and received directors' fees of \$50,000 (2024: \$40,000).

RANGINUI STATION LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

The Māori Trustee has a 5.26% interest in the company. The Māori Trustee made no capital contribution during the year (2024: \$Nil) and received a distribution of \$42,000 (2024: \$Nil).

TRG PHARMACEUTICALS LIMITED (IN LIQUIDATION)

The Māori Trustee has a 2.06% interest in the company. The Māori Trustee made no capital contribution during the year (2024: \$Nil) and received no distribution (2024: \$Nil).

CROWN

The Crown is the major source of revenue for the Māori Trustee.

Appropriation revenue from the Crown of \$17,845,000 (2024: \$18,786,000) is provided pursuant to a funding agreement signed in March 2020 and the variation to funding agreement signed in November 2024 by the Māori Trustee and the Minister for Māori Development for a five-year term until 31 March 2025. A new funding

agreement was signed in March 2025 by the Māori Trustee and the Minister for Māori Development for a four-year term until 31 March 2029, with the funding for \$17,845,000 per annum.

The funding provided by the Crown enables the Māori Trustee to fulfil statutory and other common law obligations. The statement of service performance reports against the outputs detailed in the funding agreement. Payment for these services is managed by Te Puni Kōkiri on behalf of the Crown.

The Māori Trustee signed a grant funding agreement with Te Puni Kōkiri of \$2,400,000 under the Māori Development Fund, aimed at improving the productivity of Māori assets through economic development of whenua Māori, by providing an economic platform to build on the capability and capacity of Māori landowners. \$1,200,000 of this grant was received in the current financial year, and as at 31 March 2025, \$237,000 has been recognised as grant income, with the remaining funds being treated as deferred revenue.

The Māori Trustee also received a grant through Te Puni Kōkiri of \$637,884 for the Te Ringa Hāpai Whenua investment fund. The Māori Trustee acted as an agent on behalf of other parties during this transaction, and therefore these funds were not treated as grant revenue. As at 31 March 2025, \$539,584 has been utilised, with the remaining funds being treated as deferred revenue.

GENERAL PURPOSES FUND EQUITY

The equity of the General purposes fund has been disaggregated in order to identify the equity that has accumulated over the years from the net fees and commissions generated from the Māori Trustee's operations since 1 July 2009 (MT Operating Fund). The balance of the MT Operating Fund included in the General Purposes Fund was \$48.8m (2024: \$46.1m).

STATUTORY ROLE

A principal role of the Māori Trustee is to provide trustee services as responsible or custodian trustee to trusts established by the Māori Land Court under Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993, including Māori land trusts and Kaitiaki Trusts. The Māori Trustee is also declared to be the trustee of a certain trusts created by statute. Examples include determination as statutory trustee under the Māori Reserved Land Act 1955 and under the Māori Soldiers Trust 1957. The Māori Trustee receives remuneration for trustee services rendered to these trusts as prescribed by or determined in accordance with the Māori Trustee Act 1953 and Māori Trustee Regulations 2009. The Māori Trustee is also empowered to accept appointments to carry out agency services for trusts, including trusts established by the Māori Land Court. The Māori Trustee has no governance role in respect of these appointments; but is again remunerated for agency services rendered as prescribed by or determined in accordance with the Māori Trustee Act 1953 and Māori Trustee Regulations 2009.

For the year ended 31 March 2025, the Māori Trustee earned \$5,090,053 in fees and commissions (2024: \$3,980,761).

Two of the Māori Trustee's wholly owned subsidiaries lease parcels of land at market rate from the following trusts that the Māori Trustee administers as responsible trustee; Matakana 9 Trust and Omaio 39 Trust. The assets that the subsidiaries own under these leases will be transferred to the landlord at the end of the lease (Note 13).

The Māori Trustee is able to lend monies under the Māori Trustee Act 1953. Loans made to Trusts, agencies and landowners are generally at market interest rates. Loans advanced to replace Conversion Fund loans are non-interest bearing (Note 12).

At 31 March 2025, the Māori Trustee held in trust \$632k cash which was part of the Sediment and Debris Removal Fund of \$11m (plus GST) received from Te Puni Kōkiri on behalf of trusts that had suffered significant damage from Cyclone Gabrielle.

Key Leadership Personnel Compensation

	GROUP		PARENT	
	2025 \$000	2024 \$000	2025 \$000	2024 \$000
<i>Senior Leadership Team</i>				
Remuneration	1,352	1,617	1,352	1,617
Full-time equivalent members	4	5	4	5
Total key leadership personnel remuneration	1,352	1,617	1,352	1,617
Total full time equivalent members	4	5	4	5

Key leadership personnel comprise of the Māori Trustee, Deputy Māori Trustee, Corporate Services Director and Trust and Property Director.

29. Subsequent events

There have been no events subsequent to balance date that would materially affect the financial statements.

30. Explanation of significant variances against budget

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE REVENUE AND EXPENSE

Revenue

Revenue from fees and commissions was higher than budgeted and prior year, largely due an increase in the Common Fund Management Fee from 0.75% to 1%, the introduction of the Client Account Management Fee of \$10 for client accounts, and the recovery of costs related to the administration of grants to Common Fund entities.

Revenue from crown was higher than budgeted but lower than the prior year. This was due to a 6.5% reduction in the baseline funding as part of the NZ government's fiscal savings objectives in the 2024 budget.

Farm revenue was significantly higher than budgeted due to good performance from enterprises above expectations during the year.

Expenditure

Employee benefits were less than budgeted due to the remuneration review not containing any market-based movements during the year, as well as an increase in vacancies in Pou Tahu following reorganisation and closure of the Hamilton office.

Depreciation, amortization and impairment was less than budgeted due to the impact of changes in the delivery mode of the Cloud Program, with the Financial Information Management System, Te Pito Finance Online going live post year end, and Customer Relationship Management system, Tui scheduled to go live in 2026.

Other expenses were less than budgeted largely due to a reduction in consultancy fees during the year, as well as a reduction in software licences and maintenance resulting from changes in the Cloud delivery model requiring less licences to be purchased.

Other gains/ (losses) and other comprehensive revenue and expense

Financial assets at fair value were higher than budgeted due to the increase in the valuation of managed funds. This was down on the prior year due to volatility in the last three months of the financial year because of trade tensions in overseas markets.

Asset revaluations were higher than budgeted due to positive market sentiment on land values following improved commodity prices.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**Assets**

Equities are higher than budgeted due to improved market conditions exceeding expectations.

Statement of cash flows

Operating cashflows were higher than budgeted due largely to an increase in fees and commissions than budgeted and a decrease in employee benefits paid during the year.

Net cashflows from investing activities were lower than budgeted due to a lower level of funds and equities sold and purchased during the year.







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