Te Kaunihera o Te Hiku o te Ika Far North District Council	**Authorising Body**	Council
	Status	Standing Committee
COUNCIL COMMITTEE	**Title**	Te Kuaka Committee for Māori Strategic Relationships Terms of Reference
	Terms of Reference Adoption	11 December 2025
	Responsible Officer	General Manager Te Hono (vacant)

Kaupapa / Purpose

To provide strategic leadership and guidance that strengthens Te Ao Māori perspectives within Council decision-making, ensuring genuine Te Tiriti-based partnership and leadership between FNDC and Iwi/Hapū.

Ngā Huānga / Membership

The Committee will comprise of no less than 4 elected members and external representation. Kahika / Mayor Moko Tepania is an ex-officio member of all Committees.

Cr Tāmati Rākena (Chairperson)

External Appointment (Deputy Chairperson)

Kohepu / Deputy Mayor Chicky Rudkin

Cr Arohanui Allen

Cr Hilda Halkyard-Harawira

Cr Kelly Stratford

Te Kahu o Taonui Representation

Hapū with a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Council

Kōrama / Quorum

The quorum at a meeting of the Committee is 4 members.

Ngā Hui / Frequency of Meetings

The Committee shall meet 8 weekly.

Ngā Apatono / Power to Delegate

The responsibilities, duties and powers of the Committee are subject to the prohibition on delegation of powers under Clause 32(1), Schedule 7, Local Government Act 2002, and any other restrictions on delegation under any other relevant legislation.

Te Kuaka Committee for Māori Strategic Relationships may not delegate any of its responsibilities, duties or powers however it may establish working groups to consider issues within the committee's areas of responsibilities noting that working groups have no decision-making powers.

Ngā Herenga Paetae / Responsibilities

The Committees responsibilities are described below:

- Build and sustain genuine, high-trust relationships based on Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles.
- Support strategic partnerships that empower communities, hapū, and iwi to shape their own development.
- Facilitate collaboration across sectors to invest in quality infrastructure and initiatives.
- Develop frameworks for partnership engagement.
- Identify and prioritise strategic relationships with iwi, hapū, government agencies, and key stakeholders.
- Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of partnerships.
- Provide advice to the governing body on relationship strategies and opportunities.
- Ensure that the work of Te Kuaka is carried out in a way that enhances the social, economic, cultural, and environmental wellbeing of the Far North District
- Recommend to Council, aspects of importance to Māori for incorporation into the development of the Strategic documents (e.g. Te Ao Māori Framework, Annual Plan, Long Term Plan, District Plan)
- Manaaki To assist Council as appropriate in conducting and maintaining effective, good faith working relationships with the Māori community (e.g. Iwi Hapu Environmental Management Plans)
- Recommend to Council aspects that the Far North District Council could pursue to develop and or enhance Māori capacity to contribute to Council's decision-making processes.

Ngā Ture / Rules and Procedures

Council's Standing Orders and Elected Member Code of Conduct apply to all meetings.

Reporting and Review of Committee Terms of Reference

In December of each year, the Responsible Officer alongside Democracy Services will submit a report to Council. The report will summarise the activities of the Committee and how it has contributed to the Council's governance and strategic objectives. This will look at whether the Council are meeting the full requirements of the Committee Terms of Reference and whether any amendments are required to the Committees terms of reference to increase efficient and effective decision making.

The Terms of Reference of the Committee will be reviewed as part of this report but can be amended by Council at any point throughout the term.