

AGENDA

Extraordinary Council Meeting

Membership:

Kahika - Mayor Moko Tepania - Chairperson
Kohepu - Deputy Mayor Chicky Rudkin
Cr Arohanui Allen
Cr Rachel Baucke
Cr Ann Court
Cr Felicity Foy
Cr Hilda Halkyard-Harawira
Cr Tāmāti Rākena
Cr Davina Smolders
Cr Kelly Stratford
Cr John Vujcich

Wednesday, 15 April 2026

Time: 9:00 AM

Council Chamber

Memorial Ave

Kaikohe

Far North District Council
Extraordinary Council Meeting
will be held in the Council Chamber, Memorial Ave, Kaikohe on:
Wednesday 15 April 2026 at 9:00 AM

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1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA / OPENING PRAYER

Ka tuku mātou kia kaha mai ngā māngai kua whiriwhirihia mō Te Kaunihera o Te Hiku o te Ika ki te mahi me te ngākau auaha me te whakamahi i ngā pūkenga me te mātauranga i roto i ngā wānanga me ngā whakataunga kia whakatūria ai tētahi Hapori e matatika ana, e tū kotahi ana ka mutu ka whakapiki anō i te oranga o tō tātou rohe, ka whakatau anō i ngā take o te rohe i runga i te tika me te pono.

We ask that through Council discussions and decisions the representatives we have elected may govern the Far North District with imagination, skill and wisdom to achieve a fairer and more united Community that enhances the wellbeing of our district and solves the District's problems efficiently and effectively.

2 NGĀ WHAKAPĀHA ME NGĀ PĀNGA MEMA / APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members need to stand aside from decision-making when a conflict arises between their role as a Member of the Council and any private or other external interest they might have. This note is provided as a reminder to Members to review the matters on the agenda and assess and identify where they may have a pecuniary or other conflict of interest, or where there may be a perception of a conflict of interest.

If a Member feels they do have a conflict of interest, they should publicly declare that at the start of the meeting or of the relevant item of business and refrain from participating in the discussion or voting on that item. If a Member thinks they may have a conflict of interest, they can seek advice from the Chief Executive Officer or the Manager - Democracy Services (preferably before the meeting).

It is noted that while members can seek advice the final decision as to whether a conflict exists rests with the member.

[Elected Member - Register of Interests](#)

3 NGĀ TONO KŌRERO / DEPUTATIONS

No requests for deputations were received at the time of the Agenda going to print.

4 NGĀ KŌRERO A TE KAHIKA / MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

5 NGĀ PŪRONGO / REPORTS

5.1 EXTERNAL APPOINTMENTS TO TE KUAKA COMMITTEE FOR MĀORI STRATEGIC RELATIONSHIPS

File Number: A5664706

Author: Marlema Baker, Te Kuaka Committee Coordinator

Authoriser: Aaron Taikato, Manuhautū Te Hono – Group Manager Te Hono

TAKE PŪRONGO / PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to amend the terms of reference for Te Kuaka Committee for Māori Strategic Relationships (“Te Kuaka”) to confirm representation from Te Kahu o Taonui and Hapū with memorandum of understanding.

WHAKARĀPOPOTO MATUA / EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Te Kuaka Committee for Māori Strategic Relationships was established to provide Te Tiriti based leadership and partnership between Far North District Council (Council) and Iwi/Hapū across Te Tai Tokerau. The Committee’s effectiveness relies on the direct participation of Iwi and Hapū leadership, appointed through their own democratic and tikanga based processes.
- At its meeting of 1 April 2026, Council resolved to adopt amendments to the Appointment of Non-Elected Members (Appointed Members) to Committees of Council Policy. Those amendments expressly recognise the democratic mandate conferred through Iwi and Hapū election and nomination processes and confirm that Iwi/Hapū nominees to Te Kuaka Committee are not required to participate in FNDC internal suitability or assessment processes, while still requiring formal appointment by Council resolution to comply with clause 31, Schedule 7, LGA 2002.
- This report gives effect to that amended policy position and to the intent of Te Kuaka Committee’s Terms of Reference by making the following recommendation to Council.

TŪTOHUNGA / RECOMMENDATION

That Council

1. confirms the following appointments to Te Kuaka Committee for Māori Strategic Relationships:

- i) **Mane Tahere, representing Te Kahu o Taonui,**
- ii) **Wallace Rivers, representing Te Kahu o Taonui**

iii) **one (1) representative nominated by each of the following Hapū/Iwi entities holding signed MOUs with Council, should they choose to appoint a representative:**

1. **Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa**
2. **Te Rūnanga a Iwi o Ngāpuhi**
3. **Te Rūnanga o Te Rarawa**
4. **Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Hine**
5. **Ngāti Rēhia**
6. **Ngā Manga Atawhai – Te Roroa**
7. **Whanaungatanga ki Taurangi (representing: Ngāti Kuri, Te Aupōuri, Ngāi Takoto, Te Rarawa, Ngāpuhi, Whaingaroa, Ngāti Whātua)**
8. **Te Whiu Hapū**

2. confirm that all appointed Hapū/lwi members shall be appointed by formal Council resolution in accordance with clause 31, Schedule 7, Local Government Act 2002, with full speaking and voting rights as provided for in the Te Kuaka Committee Terms of Reference.

1) TĀHUHU KŌRERO / BACKGROUND

Council has established Te Kuaka Committee as a standing committee of Council to provide leadership, advice, and decision-making grounded in Te Tiriti o Waitangi partnership. The Committee's Terms of Reference expressly contemplate the appointment of non-elected lwi and Hapū representatives to ensure authentic Māori participation in Council governance.

The Local Government Act 2002 provides statutory authority for local authorities to appoint non-elected members to committees, including granting those members full speaking and voting rights:

- [Clause 30, Schedule 7, LGA 2002](#) – enables a local authority to appoint committees.
- [Clause 31, Schedule 7, LGA 2002](#) – provides that a committee may include persons who are not members of the local authority, provided they are appointed by resolution.
- [Section 81, LGA 2002](#) – requires local authorities to establish and maintain processes to provide opportunities for Māori to contribute to decision-making.

Council already applies this legislative framework across a number of Standing and Joint Committees that include non-elected members appointed by Council resolution, including (but not limited to):

- Joint Committees with lwi and other partners.
- Specialist advisory committees where external expertise or representation is required.

At its meeting on 1 April 2026, Council resolved to adopt amendments to the *Appointment of Non-Elected Members to Committees of Council Policy*. The amendments identified that the Policy required updating to clearly recognise the democratic mandate conferred through lwi and Hapū election and nomination processes. The amended policy now explicitly excludes lwi/Hapū nominees to Te Kuaka Committee from the internal FNDC suitability or assessment processes, while retaining the requirement for formal appointment by Council resolution.

2) MATAPAKI ME NGĀ KŌWHIRINGA / DISCUSSION AND OPTIONS

Option 1 – Approve the appointment of non-elected Hapū and lwi members (*Recommended*)

Council approves the appointment of TKOT nominees and hapū nominees with signed MOUs, subject to formal Council resolution.

Advantages:

- Gives effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi partnership and section 81 LGA 2002 obligations.
- Aligns with Te Kuaka Committee Terms of Reference and the amended Appointed Members Policy.
- Recognises and respects lwi/Hapū democratic and tikanga-based nomination processes.
- Strengthens Māori leadership, legitimacy, and decision-making capability of Te Kuaka Committee.

Disadvantages:

- Increases committee membership, which may require careful meeting management.

Option 2 – Defer appointments until a later Council meeting

Council delays appointments pending further information or confirmation of nominees.

Advantages:

- Allows additional time for administrative confirmation.

Disadvantages:

- Undermines timely Iwi/Hapū participation.
- Risks damaging relationships with Iwi/Hapū partners.
- Delays implementation of Council's amended policy intent.

Option 3 – Decline to appoint non-elected members

Council decides not to appoint non-elected members at this time.

Advantages:

- No immediate administrative change.

Disadvantages:

- Inconsistent with Te Kuaka Committee's purpose and Terms of Reference.
- Inconsistent with Council's policy adopted on 1 April 2026.
- Fails to meet Te Tiriti-based partnership expectations and section 81 LGA 2002 obligations.

TAKE TŪTOHUNGA / REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

Option 1 is recommended as it best maintains and gives effect to the intent of Te Kuaka Committee for Māori Strategic Relationships, ensuring genuine Te Tiriti based partnership, shared leadership, and meaningful Māori participation in Council governance.

If Council approves the recommendations in this report:

Hapū with signed MOUs will be invited to confirm whether they wish to appoint a representative and to provide nominee details.

A further administrative update will be completed to record appointed members and update the Te Kuaka Committee membership schedule.

3) PĀNGA PŪTEA ME NGĀ WĀHANGA TAHUA / FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGETARY PROVISION

External members are entitled to meeting fees and reimbursements in accordance with Council policy. These costs are provided for within existing Democracy Services and governance budget

ĀPITIHINGA / ATTACHMENTS


1. **Terms of Reference / Delegations - Te Kuaka Committee for Māori Strategic Relationships - A5443633** [↓](#) 

Hōtaka Take Ōkawa / Compliance Schedule:

Full consideration has been given to the provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 S77 in relation to decision making, in particular:

1. A Local authority must, in the course of the decision-making process,
 - a) Seek to identify all reasonably practicable options for the achievement of the objective of a decision; and
 - b) Assess the options in terms of their advantages and disadvantages; and
 - c) If any of the options identified under paragraph (a) involves a significant decision in relation to land or a body of water, take into account the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral land, water sites, waahi tapu, valued flora and fauna and other taonga.
2. This section is subject to Section 79 - Compliance with procedures in relation to decisions.

He Take Ōkawa / Compliance Requirement	Aromatawai Kaimahi / Staff Assessment
State the level of significance (high or low) of the issue or proposal as determined by the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy	Low – Governance appointments are consistent with existing policy and practice
State the relevant Council policies (external or internal), legislation, and/or community outcomes (as stated in the LTP) that relate to this decision.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Local Government Act 2002 (<i>Clause 30, Schedule 7, Clause 31, Schedule 7, Section 81</i>). – Te Kuaka Committee Terms of Reference. – Appointment of Non-Elected Members Policy (amended 1April 2026)
State whether this issue or proposal has a District wide relevance and, if not, the ways in which the appropriate Community Board's views have been sought.	The views of the Community Boards have not been sought as this is a Council/Governance decision. Yes, this has Districtwide relevance in relation to Governance and Māori strategic relationships across the District
State the possible implications for Māori and how Māori have been provided with an opportunity to contribute to decision making if this decision is significant and relates to land and/or any body of water. State the possible implications and how this report aligns with Te Tiriti o Waitangi / The Treaty of Waitangi.	Directly supports Te Tiriti-based partnership, Māori participation, and leadership in decision-making.
Identify persons likely to be affected by or have an interest in the matter, and how you have given consideration to their views or preferences (for example – youth, the aged and those with disabilities).	Iwi and Hapū partners engaged through their own representative nominations processes
State the financial implications and where budgetary provisions have been made to support this decision.	No additional cost beyond existing budgets
Chief Financial Officer review.	This report has not been reviewed by the Chief Financial Officer as costs are captured within existing financial budgets.

 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 and revised 5 March 2026
	Responsible Officer	Manuhautū Te Hono - Group Manager Te Hono

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, and to provide recommendations to full Council. This includes strengthening Council's relationship with Iwi and Hapū by promoting effective partnership models, improving engagement practices, championing shared decision-making, and adding value to relationships with Māori.

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.

All committee members will have full speaking and voting rights.

Cr Tāmami Rākena (Chairperson)

External Appointment (Deputy Chairperson)

Kohepu / Deputy Mayor Chicky Rudkin

Cr Arohanui Allen

Cr Hilda Halkyard-Harawira

Cr Kelly Stratford

Cr Davina Smolders

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:

1. Build and sustain genuine, high-trust relationships based on He Whakaputanga and Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
2. Continue with the development and implementation of Te Kuaka - Te Pae ki Tawhiti 2040 Strategic Intent.
3. Support strategic partnerships that empower communities, Hapū, and Iwi to shape their own development.
4. Oversee Te Pae o Uta Te Ao Māori Framework
5. Facilitate collaboration across sectors to invest in quality infrastructure and initiatives.
6. Develop and approve frameworks for partnership, engagement, monitoring and reporting.
7. Identify and prioritise strategic relationships with Iwi, Hapū, Government agencies, and key stakeholders.
8. Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of partnerships.
9. Provide direction to the Council on relationship strategies and opportunities.
10. Ensure Te Ao Māori perspectives inform Council strategic and operational work.
11. 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)
12. 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.

6 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA / CLOSING PRAYER

7 TE KAPINGA HUI / MEETING CLOSE