



Raukawa Settlement Trust and Taupō District Council Co-Governance Committee Agenda

Tuesday, 24 March 2026

1pm – 3pm

Council Chamber, Level 1, 67 Horomatangi Street,
Taupō

Co-Chairs	Trustee Deb Davies Taupō District Councillor - To be elected
Deputy Co-Chairs	To be elected
Raukawa Settlement Trust	Trustee Deb Davies (Co-Chair) Trustee Steven Oxenham Trustee James Whetu Trustee Nachele Griffiths Trustee Kataraina Hodge (alternate)
Taupō District Council	Mayor John Funnell Cr Kylie Leonard Cr Wahine Murch Cr Yvonne Westerman Cr Hope Woodward
Raukawa Settlement Trust Staff	Anaru Begbie – Group Manager – Pūtake Taiao Ashanti Neems – National Strategy Manager – Te Kohae, Pūtake Taiao Andrea Julian – Regional Strategy Manager – Te Uraura, Pūtake Taiao Mihawaatara Hohepa – Raukawa Strategy Manager – Te Maruao, Pūtake Taiao Zoe Thomas – Policy Advisor – Te Uraura, Pūtake Taiao Ebony Nicholas – Administrator – Te Uraura, Pūtake Taiao Eden Kelly – Policy Advisor – Te Kohae, Pūtake Taiao Vikki Hayes - Business Strategy Manager – Te Ārohirohi, Pūtake Taiao
Taupō District Council Staff	Julie Gardyne - Apiha Iho Matua – Chief Executive David Rameka – Iwi Partnerships & Co-Governance Manager Hadley Tattle – GM People and Community Partnerships Nick Carroll – Policy Manager Heather Williams – Resource Consents Manager Joanne Walton – Programme Manager Sarah Lealand – Three Waters Manager Michael Cordell - Asset Manager Wastewater – Heneriata Oneroa – Co-Governance Management Partner Karen Watts – Senior Committee Advisor
Quorum	Four (4) made up of two (2) members from each organisation (1) one of which must be a Co-Chair or Deputy Co-Chair

Raukawa Settlement and Taupō District Council Co-Governance Committee

REPORTING TO:	Raukawa Settlement Trust and Taupō District Council
CONSTITUTION:	Equal number of elected Members of Taupō District Council (Council) and Trustees of Raukawa Settlement Trust (the Trust).
	The Co-Governance Committee will be Co-Chaired by a member of each organisation.
QUORUM:	Four (4) made up of two (2) members from each organisation.
MEETING FREQUENCY:	Annually (or more often if agreed).
OBJECTIVE:	To give effect to the guardianship provisions as provided for pursuant to clause 5 of the Joint Management Agreement between the organisations.

SCOPE OF ACTIVITY:

1. The Co-Governance Committee as guardian of the Joint Management Agreement will ensure that the Joint Management Agreement is being implemented to the satisfaction of both organisations and in accordance with the principles set out in Clause 2 of the Joint Management Agreement.

SUPPORT FOR THE CO-GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE:

1. The venue for the meetings will alternate between the offices of the Te Arawa River Iwi Trust and those provided by the Taupō District Council.
2. Both organisations will provide secretariat support for the Co-Governance Committee alternating agenda and minute duties.
3. Minutes will be approved by the Co-Chairpersons prior to circulation which will be within a fortnight of the meeting.
4. The Co-Chairs will be the spokespersons for the Co-Governance Committee.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

1. The Co-Governance Committee may invite staff members from both organisations to attend the meetings for technical support.

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

1. Co-Governance Committee Standing Orders between Raukawa Settlement Trust and Taupō District Council.
2. Joint Management Agreement between Raukawa Settlement Trust and Taupō District Council

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1.	Apologies
2.	Introductions
3.	Election of Co-Chairs and Deputy Co-Chairs for the triennium Co-Chairs: Trustee Deb Davies and Cr _____ Deputy Co-chairs: Trustee _____ and Cr _____
4.	Welcome to the Raukawa Settlement Trust and Taupō District Council Co-Governance Committee
5.	Receipt of minutes from Co-Governance Committee meeting held Thursday, 5 December 2024
6.	Taupō District Council Chief Executive Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He Whare Hono o Tūwharetoa • Hadley Tattle, General Manager - People and Community Partnerships • Reforms
7.	Raukawa Settlement Trust Chief Executive Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raukawa Settlement Trust and Taupō District Council relationship
8.	Report from Joint Working Party to Co-governance Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update from Council's policy team – Nick Carroll <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ District Plan changes submissions close 19 March and more information can be found here. ○ Reform of the Resource Management Act and Council's submission ○ Council's submission on Simplifying Local Government proposal ○ Council's submission on rates capping proposal ○ Update on Long-term Plan process ○ Update on Annual Plan process • Update from Local Water Done Well team – Joanne Walton <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Water Services Delivery Plan • Update from Asset Manager – Wastewater – Michael Cordell • Update from Council's Resource Consent Team – Heather Williams • Update from Iwi Partnerships & Co Governance Team – David Rameka
9.	Meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next JWP meeting and Co-Governance committee induction and meeting
10.	Closing comments from Co-chairs
11.	Karakia Whakamutunga

ATTACHMENTS

1. *Item 4: Welcome to the Raukawa Settlement Trust and Taupō District Council Co-Governance Committee*
2. *Item 5: Minutes from Co-Governance meeting held Thursday 5 December 2024*
3. *Item 7: Raukawa Settlement Trust and Taupō District Council relationship*
4. *Item 8: Local Water Done Well Update*
5. *Item 8: Wastewater Environment Performance Standards impact on Mangakino Wastewater Treatment Plant*

4. WELCOME TO THE RAUKAWA SETTLEMENT TRUST AND TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL CO-GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Author: Karen Watts, Senior Committee Advisor

Authorised by: David Rameka, Iwi and Co-Governance Manager

TE PŪTAKE | PURPOSE

To provide information to support members of the Raukawa Settlement Trust and Taupō District Council Co-Governance Committee in their role.

NGĀ KŌRERORERO | DISCUSSION

As this is the first meeting between the partners for this triennium, some information is set out below to support members, and some input is sought from members for future engagements.

General

The Raukawa Settlement Trust and Taupō District Council Co-Governance Committee was established to give effect to the provisions pertaining to a Joint Management Agreement between the partners under the Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Raukawa and Te Arawa River Iwi Waikato River Act 2010.

The terms of reference of the committee are included with this agenda.

Livestream

The Taupō District Council Chamber enables hui to be recorded and livestreamed to the Taupō District Council You Tube channel. This triennium all of the Taupō District Council monthly meetings, workshops and committee meetings will be recorded and livestreamed. Committee members are encouraged to discuss whether they would like to also record and livestream from item 5 onwards of today's meeting, and meetings held in the Taupō District Council Chamber going forward.

WHAKAKAPINGA | CONCLUSION

It is recommended that the information is received.

NGĀ TŪTOHUNGA | RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Raukawa Settlement Trust and Taupō District Council Co-Governance Committee

1. receives the information provided to support members in their role for the 2025-28 Triennium; and
2. livestreams / does not livestream meetings held in the Taupō District Council Chamber to Taupō District Council's You Tube Channel.

NGĀ TĀPIRIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS



Raukawa Settlement Trust

Taupō District Council

**Raukawa Settlement Trust and Taupō District Council
Governance Committee Meeting**

10am – 12pm Thursday 5 December 2024
1/11 Raukawa Way, Tokoroa

Membership:

Raukawa Charitable Trust appointed members:

Deb Davies, Steven Oxenham, Paraone Gloyne, Nachele Griffiths
Kataraina Hodge (alternate)

Taupō District Council appointed councillors:

Cr Karam Fletcher, Cr Kylie Leonard, Cr Kirsty Trueman

Attendees:

Trustee Deb Davies (Co-Chair)

Trustee Steven Oxenham

Trustee Nachele Griffiths

Cr Kirsty Trueman (appointed Co-Chair for the purposes of this hui)

David Rameka (TDC Kaimahi)

Heneriata Oneroa (TDC Kaimahi)

Libby O'Brien (TDC Kaimahi)

Anaru Begbie (RCT Kaimahi)

Andrea Julian (RCT Kaimahi)

Mihiwaatara Hohepa (RCT Kaimahi)

Jess Webber (RCT Kaimahi)

Cliff Kelly (RCT Kaimahi)

Zoe Thomas (RCT Kaimahi)



Raukawa Charitable Trust and Taupō District Council Joint Management Agreement Co Governance Committee Meeting Minutes

Opening Kōrero – *Deb Davies*

- Deb set the platform, sharing about her experience when the Joint Management Agreement between RCT and TDC were originally being put together. Set the intention of this co governance hui, wanting it to be about our relationship. Setting this hui as casual, as wanted to be able to interact, in a more informal manner. Intending for the hui to be about collaboration. Also because quorum was not met, due to only one TDC joint management committee member attending.
- For the purpose of this meeting, Cr Kirsty Trueman was appointed co-chair, on behalf of TDC, to sit alongside Deb.

Moved – D Davies, Seconded – S Oxenham

Whakawhanaungatanga – *All*

- Introductions

Who is Raukawa – *Steven Oxenham*

- Video
- That Raukawa is mandated by 16 marae, and the extent of our takiwā covers a large area in the central North Island. Recognising the ties between iwi, such as the connection with Tūwharetoa, both in our shared stories and the overlap with our takiwā. Wanting us as a group to have aspirations, and as an iwi for us to have higher bars. Also explained was the structure of Raukawa, from the Raukawa Settlement Trust (RST), to Raukawa Iwi Development Limited (RIDL), and the Raukawa Charitable Trust (RCT). RCT being the operational part of the organisation.

Background – *Deb Davies*

- The journey of how we got to our JMA, that was shared in the opening kōrero. That the JMA works to a point, and we are continuing on our journey, building our relationship. The interconnected nature of Raukawa, and the intrinsic connection across iwi and council regions.

Roles & Responsibilities – *Deb Davies*

- Our role, as a co governance committee, is to work collaboratively. To make decisions collectively that are best for our communities, for our people, both iwi and council. But that's not to say we can't challenge. It is with the focus of working together.

Next Steps, Direction Setting



(Presentation, no reports or resolutions to approve)

- **Climate Change Strategy – Anaru Begbie**

RCT key objectives include ensuring resources are managed sustainably, preserving cultural heritage, and building community resilience. It is understood that those can't be achieved on their own, so looking to work collaboratively, and foster partnerships. Looking to see if there is alignment, with council's work, and opportunity in this space.
- **Civil Defence Emergency Management Response – Andrea Julian**

Looking ahead, in the wake of Cyclone Gabrielle. The importance of marae, and integration between work being done by both iwi and council. TDC have just completed a Community Response Plan and assessed the practicalities of what might happen in a scenario.
- **Marae Resilience – Anaru Begbie**

RCT are looking at marae resilience, and how to equip marae in response to extreme weather events, and any climate change activity. The biggest risks in Taupō district are floods, or eruptions. Using marae resilience as an opportunity.
- **Tira Hoe – Mihiwaatara Hohepa**

RCT recently received funding, for the creation and delivery of a Te Awa Kōrero project. In the very early stages of the project, but about reconnecting whānau, marae, iwi back to the awa.
- **Gold Clams – Anaru Begbie**

A multi-organisational response to gold clams, lots of groups working together. Wanting more awareness of the gold clams, the risks and the consequences, of gold clams as an issue. RCT recognising that it is largely a WRC and MPI response, but finding it a problem. The possibility of iwi-led response, and the effectiveness that can have. The importance of relationships and working collaboratively to be more impactful.
- **Local Water Done Well – Anaru Begbie**

Acknowledged RCT face challenges but are keen to partner with councils in this space.
- **Fast Track Approvals – Andrea Julian**

Acknowledged RCT face challenges in this space. RCT are trying to position themselves so they are mandatorily consulted ahead of the lodgement of Fast Track Consent Applications.
- **Mana Whakahono a Rohe – Andrea Julian**

Proposing the possibility of developing a mana whakahono a rohe agreement, between RCT and TDC. Looking at it as another way to have conversations, and strengthen the relationship. Also thinking about the limitations of the JMA, and the opportunity of a mana whakahono a rohe to extend beyond activities on the surface of water.



- Resource Consent Strategy – *Andrea Julian*

RCT intending to bring the Resource Consent Strategy to Taupō DC's resource consents team.

- Ngā Wāhi Tūturu – *Jess Webber*

There is work being done on Te Ia o te Awa, an RCT project that is looking at ngā wāhi tūturu sites of cultural significance. The area of this project is currently bordering the Taupō district. Looking ahead, RCT have worked on a plan change with South Waikato District Council, to add Raukawa ngā wāhi tūturu sites into the District Plan, so there could be an opportunity for RCT and TDC to work on something similar.

Karakia – *Steven Oxenham*

Meeting closed at 11:49am.

DECISION PAPER

TO: Raukawa Settlement Trust and Taupō District Council Co-Governance Committee

FROM: Anaru Begbie, Group Manager - Pūtake Taiao **DATE:** 24 March 2025

SUBJECT: Strengthening the Raukawa–Taupō District Council Relationship under the Joint Management Agreement

PURPOSE

The purpose of this paper is to support the strengthening of the relationship between Raukawa and Taupō District Council under the Joint Management Agreement (JMA).

It seeks to provide context for the JMA, reaffirm its intent, and create space for a shared understanding of how both parties can work together in a way that gives practical effect to the agreement moving forward

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Raukawa Charitable Trust:

- I. Receive this report and note its contents
- II. Approve the recommendation XXXX

BACKGROUND

The JMA between Raukawa and TDC was established under the Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Raukawa and Te Arawa River Iwi Waikato River Act 2010. It is an enduring agreement that reflects a broader shift toward co-management and shared responsibility for the Waikato River and its catchment.

At its core, the JMA is intended to provide for “an enduring relationship between the Parties... based on recognition of individual mana, respect, and understanding”. It also signals a commitment by both parties to operate in a way that embraces co-management, shared decision-making, and a collective responsibility for restoring and protecting the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River.

The agreement is grounded in Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato, which provides the overarching direction for the management of the river and its catchment. The Waikato region has a long history of partnership through this framework, demonstrating that iwi and local government can work together in a way that delivers meaningful environmental, cultural, and community outcomes.

Within this context, the JMA is both a statutory obligation and an opportunity — an opportunity to build a relationship that is fit for purpose and capable of responding to current and future challenges.

Ko Raukawa Mātou

A strong relationship begins with a clear understanding of who we are.

Raukawa is a large iwi with a deep and enduring connection to our takiwā, which spans a significant portion of the central North Island. Our takiwā is defined by traditional rohe, stretching from Maungatautari in the north to Te Pae o Raukawa in the south, and across to Te Kaokaoroa-o-Pātetere in the east. It is an area rich in natural resources, cultural history, and intergenerational knowledge.

Over generations, Raukawa have developed tikanga that reflects a profound relationship with the environment. This is expressed through our role as kaitiaki, with responsibilities to preserve, protect and manage natural and physical resources for future generations. At the same time, Raukawa are active contributors to the regional economy and community — as landowners, investors, employers, and ratepayers.

Our marae remain the foundation of our identity, anchoring our people within the rohe and connecting us to our whakapapa and responsibilities. Today, Raukawa continues to grow and evolve, with strong governance, operational capability, and a clear set of aspirations for the future.

Understanding this context is important. The JMA is not simply a relationship with an organisation — it is a relationship with an iwi that carries intergenerational responsibilities and a long-term commitment to the wellbeing of this place.

The Raukawa–Taupō District Council Joint Management Agreement

The JMA provides a clear framework for how Raukawa and TDC are expected to work together. It sets out shared responsibilities across key areas including planning, resource consents, monitoring, and policy development. It also establishes governance and operational structures to support this work.

However, what is equally important are the principles that underpin the agreement.

The JMA commits both parties to working in good faith, maintaining open and transparent communication, engaging early on matters of mutual interest, and operating on a “no surprises” basis. It recognises that the relationship will evolve over time, and that both parties bring different perspectives, knowledge, and expertise to the table.

It also makes clear that co-management requires change. It requires both parties to move beyond traditional ways of working and to actively participate in shared decision-making processes.

These principles are not aspirational add-ons. They are central to how the JMA is intended to function. Where they are not given effect to, the agreement itself becomes difficult to realise.

The operational elements of the JMA have been in place for some time, and there is an established framework through the Joint Working Party and the Governance Committee. At the same time, it is fair to say that the governance relationship between Raukawa and TDC is still developing. Like many partnerships of this nature, it takes time to build shared understanding, trust, and confidence in how the relationship works in practice.

There have also been changes across both organisations — in leadership, staffing, and priorities — which naturally influence how the relationship evolves over time. Within that context, the JMA should be seen as a living arrangement, one that continues to grow and adapt as both parties work together.

The upcoming hui provides an opportunity to further establish that governance relationship — to move beyond the mechanics of the agreement and focus on how we work together at a strategic level.

Emerging Challenges

The current environment presents a number of external challenges that make this work even more important.

There are significant reforms underway in relation to the Resource Management Act, with ongoing uncertainty around what future planning and environmental management frameworks will look like. At the same time, there are broader questions being raised about the role and function of local government through potential changes to the Local Government Act.

These shifts create a level of uncertainty for both iwi and councils. They also highlight the importance of strong, locally grounded relationships that can provide stability and continuity, regardless of changes at the national level. This is further compounded by wider global pressures, including ongoing conflicts and economic instability, which continue to drive cost of living increases and place additional strain on communities and local government alike.

Within this context, there is an opportunity for Raukawa and TDC to demonstrate leadership. The Waikato region has already shown, through Te Ture Whaimana and the wider co-management arrangements, that partnership models can work. There is an opportunity to continue to build on that legacy and to show what effective co-governance and co-management can look like in practice.

By strengthening the relationship at a local level, both parties are well placed to contribute to broader conversations about how these models can inform future national approaches.

Approach to the Upcoming Hui

Given this context, it is proposed that the upcoming co-governance hui focuses primarily on the relationship between Raukawa and TDC.

This would involve taking a step back from specific work programmes and creating space to:

- Revisit the purpose and intent of the JMA
- Share a clearer understanding of Raukawa — who we are and the role we play within the rohe
- Reflect on how the JMA is intended to operate at a governance level
- Discuss what a strong and effective partnership looks like in practice
- Consider how both parties can continue to give effect to the principles of the JMA

This approach is intended to support a shared understanding and to provide a platform for future work, including projects and initiatives, to be progressed more effectively.

Looking Forward

Strengthening the relationship under the JMA is not a one-off exercise. It is an ongoing process that will continue to evolve over time.

Looking ahead, there are a number of areas where this relationship can continue to grow.

One is building familiarity and understanding across both organisations. As new people come into roles, there is an opportunity to ensure they have a clear understanding of the JMA, the role of Raukawa, and how the relationship operates.

Another is continuing to embed the principles of early engagement and open communication. These are already reflected in the JMA, and over time can become standard practice across all areas of work.

There is also an opportunity to further utilise the structures within the JMA — particularly the Governance Committee and the Joint Working Party — to provide both strategic direction and operational alignment.

More broadly, there is an opportunity to position this relationship as an example of what effective partnership can look like. In a time of national change and uncertainty, strong local relationships provide a foundation for resilience and innovation.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Raukawa Settlement Trust and Taupō District Council Co-Governance Committee:

1. Receive this paper.
2. Agree that the primary focus of the upcoming JMA co-governance hui will be on strengthening the relationship between Raukawa and Taupō District Council.
3. Task the Joint Working Party with co-developing a work programme that reflects the shared interests and priorities of both parties, and gives practical effect to the intent of the JMA.
4. Note the opportunity for both parties to demonstrate leadership in the co-management space, particularly in the context of ongoing national reforms and uncertainty within the resource management and local government systems.

CONCLUSION

The JMA between Raukawa and Taupō District Council provides a strong foundation for working together. It is grounded in legislation, guided by clear principles, and supported by established structures.

The opportunity now is to continue to build the relationship that sits alongside that framework.

The upcoming hui provides a chance to focus on that relationship — to strengthen understanding, to align on purpose, and to set a direction for how we work together moving forward.

In doing so, Raukawa and TDC can not only give effect to the intent of the JMA, but also contribute to a broader model of partnership that reflects the aspirations of Te Ture Whaimana and the future of environmental governance in Aotearoa.

Ngā mihi,

Anaru Begbie
Group Manager
Pūtake Taiao
Raukawa Charitable Trust

8 UPDATE REGARDING LOCAL WATER DONE WELL

Author: Joanne Walton, Programme Manager

Authorised by: Sarah Lealand, Three Waters Manager

TE PŪTAKE | PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on key work being undertaken by Taupō District Council for three waters.

NGĀ KŌRERORERO | DISCUSSION

Taupō District Council adopted its Water Services Delivery Plan on 24 June 2025. The plan outlined Taupō District Council's intention to remain with an inhouse delivery model for its water services, while keeping close to the Waikato Waters group as a minor shareholder. Our plan was accepted by the Secretary for Local Government on 17 September 2025. The plan can be viewed on our website here [Water Services Delivery Plan - Taupō District Council](#)

Council is now focused on the implementation of its Plan, which includes financial separation of our water services business for systems and reporting, preparing for Commerce Commission information disclosure requirements, and establishment of a Water Services Committee to improve governance oversight (the first meeting was held 12 March).

As part of the development of its first Water Services Strategy in 2027, Council has undertaken to review its service delivery model, and to implement a shared services agreement with Waikato Waters. A final decision on joining Waikato Waters will be made by 2030.

WHAKAKAPINGA | CONCLUSION

It is recommended that the Committee receives the information.

NGĀ TŪTOHUNGA | RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Raukawa Settlement Trust and Taupō District Council Co-Governance Committee receives the update on Local Water Done Well.

NGĀ TĀPIRIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

Nil

8 UPDATE ON WASTEWATER ENVIRONMENT PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

Author: Michael Cordell, Asset Manager – Wastewater and SCADA

Authorised by: Sarah Lealand, Three Waters Manager

TE PŪTAKE | PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on Wastewater Environment Performance Standards (WEPS) and the impact on the Mangakino Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP).

NGĀ KŌRERORERO | DISCUSSION

New wastewater standards (regulations under the Water Services Act 2021) came into effect on 19 December 2025; these establish a nationally consistent framework for wastewater treatment and consenting.

Taupō District Council is assessing how these standards apply to the Mangakino Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), which may require an update to the existing resource consent application or potentially a new application.

The first stage of this work is a formal Land Class Assessment, required under the discharge to land standard, to evaluate the suitability of the land receiving wastewater and the associated environmental risks. This assessment is currently underway. The findings will inform Mangakino's consent conditions. Council expects to have initial results in the next month and will keep stakeholders informed as the work progresses.

Link: <https://www.taumataarowai.govt.nz/wastewater-sector/wastewater-standards>

WHAKAKAPINGA | CONCLUSION

It is recommended that the Committee receives the information.

NGĀ TŪTOHUNGA | RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Raukawa Settlement Trust and Taupō District Council Co-Governance Committee receives the update on Wastewater Environment Performance Standards.

NGĀ TĀPIRIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

Nil
