

20 April 2021

Keith Ikin, Chair, Maniapoto Maori Trust Board

Tavake Afeaki, Legal Counsel for Te Whakaminenga o Rereahu

Tēnā kōrua,

### **Upcoming vote on whether to commence a process to amend the Maniapoto mandate**

This letter clarifies the impact of any group withdrawing from the Maniapoto Māori Trust Board's (MMTB) mandate to negotiate a Treaty settlement for Ngāti Maniapoto.

In September 2020, Te Whakaminenga o Rereahu initiated the mandate amendment process under the Ngāti Maniapoto Deed of Mandate. The next step is for a vote to be held on *whether a formal process should commence* to change the MMTB mandate. The vote will be open between 20 April and 7 May. All members of Maniapoto (this includes all descendants of Rereahu), aged 18 or over, whether registered with the MMTB or not, are able to vote.

If there is at least 75% support in this vote to commence a formal process to change the mandate, the MMTB will organise information hui across the motu where Maniapoto will be asked to consider and vote a second time on a specific change that removes particular hapū and their claims from the MMTB mandate.

### **Withdrawal from the mandate does not mean that the group who withdraws will get a separate negotiation or settlement**

If hapū succeed in withdrawing from the MMTB mandate through this process:

- They will not be able to benefit from the Ngāti Maniapoto settlement; and
- They will not necessarily get a separate negotiation or settlement because the Crown is not currently considering any further Large Natural Groups in Te Rohe Pōtae region.

If the withdrawn hapū wished to enter negotiations, they would need to:

- Discuss this with the Crown and work to determine the scope of a Large Natural Group (LNG), if any;
- The Minister would need to recognise the group as an LNG; and
- The claimant community would need to develop a mandate strategy and a deed of mandate that meets Crown policy.

### **Withdrawal is likely to affect the size, scope and timing of the Ngāti Maniapoto settlement**

Depending on who, if anyone withdraws, the Crown would need to carefully consider how withdrawal might affect the *size, scope and timing of the* redress set out in the Maniapoto deed of settlement:

- Size – the group proposed to be settled under the MMTB mandate would be smaller and this could reduce the financial redress;
- Scope – the Crown would need to consider the location of redress and whether particular redress should be removed; and
- Timing – the MMTB settlement would be significantly delayed.

If you have any questions arising from this letter, please contact James Mitchell, Negotiation and Settlement Manager at: [james.mitchell@tearawhiti.govt.nz](mailto:james.mitchell@tearawhiti.govt.nz).

Nāku noa, nā



Lil Anderson

**Chief Executive**