

Kauri Protection Governance Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Date	19 March 2026	Time	10am- 3pm
Chair for this meeting	Alan Cockle (Co-Chair Māori)		
Governance members	Alan Cockle Sandra Heihei Rachel Kelleher Jill Taylor Ken Hughey Brent Beaven (on behalf of Ben Reddiex) Debbie Martin (On behalf of Thomas Hohaia)		
Tiakina Kauri	John Walsh, Director Pest Management, Biosecurity New Zealand Michael Hogg, Manager, Tiakina Kauri Management Agency Chanchal Chawla, Programme Coordinator, Tiakina Kauri Management Agency		
Presenters	Ian Horner – Principal Scientist Andrew Harrison – AHC Limited		
Observer	Olive Heihei		
Apologies	Thomas Hohaia Ben Reddiex (Co-chair) Crown		
Venue	MPI Auckland Office		

Key discussion and decisions -

1. Introduction and Welcome

- Alan Cockle started the meeting with karakia and welcomed everyone.

Key discussion and decisions -

- Mike shared the news that Thomas Hohaia had requested to step down from the group effective immediately (after ~3 years) and the Governance group discussed and acknowledged his contribution to the Kaupapa.

Te mihi maioha ki i a ia i tōna mahi rangatira mō tā tātou rākau Kauri.

- Debbie Martin was introduced as the stand-in representative for the Kauri Ora CoLab for this hui.
- Brent Beavan introduced himself as the new Strategic Programmes Manager at DOC. This role leads the departments Kauri protection programme.
- Chanchal introduced herself as programme coordinator in the Tiakina Kauri team and is also covering responsibilities previously held by Rebecca (former business manager). Alana Webb (principal adviser) is on maternity leave; her absence noted.
- Publish Minutes: The meeting was recorded to support accurate minutes; it was agreed minutes will be published and shared with other channels such as OAG to improve coordination and transparency.

Action 1: Mike to work with the Kauri Ora CoLab iwi leaders to appoint a permanent replacement for Thomas Hohaia on the Governance Group.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

- Minutes of the previous meeting were circulated and taken as read.
- Outstanding actions from the previous meeting were noted as being resolved or scheduled to be resolved in this meeting.
- Annual report feedback previously provided by the governance group (October meeting) was confirmed as completed and sent to Minister.

3. Paper: NPMP Review (Presentation by Andrew Harrison)

- Andrew presented the report to the group and facilitated discussion about the findings and recommendations from the review.



PA NPMP
Review_presentation

- The overall finding was that the programme is moving positively and is now more integrated and stronger. Treaty partnerships are becoming more genuine, supported by growing iwi and community-led delivery, though progress is uneven. Progress has been made in public awareness, surveillance, and vector management, though some targets are still unclear or incomplete.
- However, reporting and planning currently show only Tiakina Kauri funded activity, not the full NPMP system, creating a visibility gap. Partners want clearer, system-wide prioritisation to align national and local planning.

- Funding uncertainty threatens progress, and blended funding options should be explored, with clarity on who will lead the work.
- Need for a long-term, multi-generational strategy with clear measures and sustainable funding.
- Mike thanked Andrew for his report, and the group discussed the findings and recommendations. The Governance Group broadly agreed to the recommendations, with Regional Councils requesting further discussion regarding compliance, specifically with Recommendation 15.
- Mike noted that the next steps included briefing the Biosecurity minister updating him on the review and intention to publish the report. The management agency has accepted and acknowledged recommendations and is incorporating them into planning, with input needed from governance on priorities.

Decisions:

- a) The governance group broadly agreed with the review findings and recommendations.*
- b) The governance group requested the management agency to prioritise the development of a strategic plan.*

*Actions 2: **Tiakina Kauri**: prepare and send a memo to the Minister noting receipt of the independent review, summarising recommendations, confirming publication intent.*

*Action 3: **Governance Group**: To draft a response document that outlines feedback on Andrew's review and its recommendations.*

*Action 4: **Tiakina Kauri** to schedule follow up meeting with **Regional councils** regarding Recommendation 15.*

4. Presentation: Feasibility of PA Management - Ian Horner

- Ian Horner provided an overview of 20+ years of research on Kauri Dieback (PA) and its management and the key message that this programme has a high feasibility value.
- Emphasized “*know your enemy*”—the importance of understanding the pathogen to manage it effectively.
- Tiakina Kauri and Ian will work on recording his presentation for sharing with a wide audience.
- *Slide Pack to be Inserted: (pending receipt from Ian)*

5. Paper: National Operational Plan and Funding - Mike Hogg

Key discussion and decisions -

- Mike talked to the need to refresh the short-term priorities for the National Operational Plan (NOP) for the 2026–2028 period. These updated priorities are shaped by Andrew’s review findings as well as the direction provided by the governance group. The updated priorities will be taken through a consultation process and subsequently incorporated into the NOP.
- The group noted that recent compliance work has been challenging due to limited resourcing, but a new Compliance Lead starting in April will support progress on the National Compliance Plan and work with regional councils to address resourcing needs and ensure a more consistent compliance approach.
- The group discussed the current funding position. And John talked to the possibility of securing \$2M in BNZ reprioritised operational funding this year—optimistic but not yet confirmed.
- Ken asked about the ability to direct IVL funding to the Kauri programme. John noted that Minister Hoggard wrote to Minister Potaka on the matter and a response declining this option has recently been received. The group noted the strong alignment with the Kauri programme and the criteria for the IVL and resolved to write to the Minister for Conservation.
- Debbie noted the cost of the LINZ platform and Mike talked to the composition of this funding and the critical nature of the Kete Arounui platform to the programme. It was confirmed that LINZ has been absorbing costs and had written to MPI that it would not be able to continue to do so on renewal of our MOU. The cost reflects the full service and is considered a core piece of programme infrastructure.
- The group discussed the need to move funding toward strategy development and deprioritise some other work (such as cost-benefit analysis) in the short term if needed.
- A strategic discussion is required to clarify the programme’s priorities and determine how these priorities will guide the allocation and distribution of available funds.
- The group supported exploring a consultant to lead the strategy development, and Andrew was suggested as a possible option (subject to availability and procurement practices).
- Rachel noted that there could be a reduction in surveillance training needs (and therefore costs) in a year of more constrained operational funding.
- Table 2 of the paper was discussed as a provisional investment profile (pending budget confirmation) with confirmed budget for presentation in June Governance Meeting.

Decision: The Governance Group agreed with the key short-term priorities outlined in the report.

Action 5: Governance Group to draft a letter supporting for Kauri as a priority for IVL funding.

Key discussion and decisions -

Actions 6: Jill to have follow up hui with Mike (with support from Olive) to develop a pathway for Strategy planning vision.

Action 7: Tiakina Kauri to initiate updating and consultation of National Operational Plan based on proposed short-term priorities in Table 1.

6. Paper: Reporting System- Mike Hogg

- Mike talked to the Annual Reporting paper and the need to expand the programme's reporting scope. The group agreed to use the current reporting tools to develop a clearer picture of programme performance. This includes
 - All crown baseline investment in Kauri
 - Targeted rates
 - Philanthropic investment
 - In-kind and volunteer work (where possible)
- Rachel noted that this would take substantial work from Regional councils to produce but all agreed that it was a necessary step. This would be a key focus of Alana Webb's replacement which Mike is in the process of recruitment for.
- The group discussed the need to shift from numerical and financial based reporting to objective-based reporting with improvements to be made over time to better demonstrate outcomes nationwide.

Decision: Agreed to the recommendations expanding the current reporting.

7. Paper: Tiakina Kauri Governance Risk Register - Mike Hogg

- Discussion on the risk register regarding current and new risks for the programme.
- Group requested a revision of the risk rating for 007 Mana whenua trust/confidence, this is to be increased to High, with residual risk remaining Medium, this reflects the higher inherent risk as well as the work undertaken by the management agency to mitigate the risk.
- Group requested the addition of a new risk focussing on strategic direction. Wording to be drafted and incorporated to the risk register.

Action 8: Tiakina Kauri to update the risk register with adjusted risk 007 and new risk regarding strategic direction.

8. Any other business

No

Details of next meetings

Date	Venue
25.06.2026	TBC

Key discussion and decisions -

List of actions

Sr. No	List of Actions	By Whom	By when	Status
1.	Mike to work with the Kauri Ora CoLab iwi leaders to appoint a permanent replacement for Thomas Hohaia on the Governance Group.	Tiakina Kauri	June Hui	Complete
2.	Briefing to the Biosecurity Minister noting receipt of the independent review, summarising recommendations, confirming publication intent.	Mike	ASAP	Complete
3.	To draft a response document that outlines feedback on Andrew's review and its recommendations.	Governance Group	TBC	
4.	Schedule follow up meeting with Regional councils regarding Recommendation 15.	Mike and Rachel	April	Complete
5.	Draft a letter supporting for Kauri as a priority for IVL funding.	Ken on behalf of Group (excluding Ben)	TBC	Complete
6.	Follow up hui with to develop a pathway for Strategy planning vision.	Jill and Mike (support from Olive)	June	Underway
7.	Initiate updating and consultation of National Operational Plan based	Tiakina Kauri	June	Underway

Key discussion and decisions -

	on proposed short-term priorities in Table 1.			
8.	Update the risk register with adjusted risk 007 and new risk regarding strategic direction.	Tiakina Kauri	June Hui	Updated