
In attendance:

Trustees: David Battin (Chair), Dan Jex-Blake, Ron Aitken, Te Pūoho Katene and Warren Williams were present in person.

Trust Tairāwhiti executive team members: Doug Jones – Chief Executive Officer, Alex Hawea – General Manager Māori Economy, Audine Grace-Kutia – General Manager Hapori, Hayden Green – General Manager Economic Development, Laura Stonehouse – Chief Financial Officer and Melonie Brouwer – Board Secretary were present in person.

Trustee Katene opened the meeting with a karakia.

- 2.0 Open meeting – Public included
- 2.1 Apologies: Trustee Nicki Sutherland and Cultural Advisors Tā Derek Lardelli and Lady Rose Gould-Lardelli.
- 2.2 Declaration of trustee and CEO interests taken as read and noted.
Updates to the interests registers of Trustee Williams and Trustee Katene will be presented at the March Board meeting. It was noted that Trustee Katene's wife, Beth Tupara-Katene, is the Kaihautū of Tāmanuhiri Tūtū Poroporo Trust (Ngāi Tāmanuhiri).
- 2.3 Confirmation of Agenda and Late items.
The trustees will have board only time at the conclusion of the closed meeting.
- 2.4 Approval of Open Minutes and Matters Arising
 - 2.4.a Approval of the open minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9 December 2025
The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9 December 2025 were taken as read and approved.

Unanimous Approval

The CE updated Trustees on our continued support of Manaaki Tairāwhiti, including work led by GM Hapori Audine Grace-Kutia and Data and Information Lead Malcolm Mersham to strengthen the regional wellbeing dataset and inform the Social Investment Agency (SIA) funding proposal.

Trustees considered whether the Trust should become a shareholder in a proposed new Manaaki Tairāwhiti entity. Following discussion, the view was that a shareholder position is not appropriate. While Trustees support the principle that government investment in social services should match the Trust's contribution, becoming a shareholder could create future capital expectations, particularly given the scale of funding being sought and the potential matched philanthropic pathway under SIA.

Trustees agreed that Trust Tairāwhiti's role is best positioned as a strategic partner and observer remaining at the table to influence and align regional priorities, without assuming governance or financial obligations.

Trustees reaffirmed their support for the kaupapa and agreed to continue engagement in this capacity.

- 2.5 Action register noted.
- 2.6 Strategy and decision making – Nil
- 2.7 Beneficiary Presentations and Public Forum - Nil
- 2.8 Board Updates
 - 2.8.a CEO quarterly report 1 October 2025 – 31 December 2025 taken as read.

Trustees noted that community funding is now substantially committed across the Community Fund, Feasibility Fund, and Community Facilities Fund, with allocations clearly aligned to the Trust's

strategic priorities. The Regional Event Fund is fully allocated for the current financial year, reflecting sustained demand and active community engagement.

The Wellbeing Survey dataset has been consolidated across all languages, with weighted analysis expected by the end of Q1 2026. Trustees acknowledged the importance of this dataset in informing evidence-based decision-making and strengthening regional advocacy.

Business support activity remains strong, including delivery of AI workshops and targeted sector engagement initiatives. Progress continues in the City Centre, with vacant shopfront activations underway and heritage façade upgrades scheduled to commence shortly. Tourism performance remains steady relative to national trends, supported by strong domestic visitation and a gradual recovery in international markets.

Trustees acknowledged the ongoing balance between active programme delivery and preservation of capital. The Board noted that Trust Fund capital remains preserved in real terms, with prudent stewardship underpinning long-term financial sustainability.

Trustees acknowledged and thanked staff for their continued support of emergency response and community events along the Coast, noting the professionalism and commitment shown during recent regional pressures.

2.8 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC FROM PROCEEDINGS

Moved by Trustee Stoltz and seconded by Trustee Katene.

DRAFT

SECTION 48 - LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT 1987

THAT: The public be excluded from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting, namely for discussion or decision on agenda items:

- 3.0 Strategy and Decision Making
- 4.0 Risk management
- 5.0 Operational Updates
- 5.2 Approval of closed minutes and matters arising

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

Item No.	General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter check	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Item 3.0	Strategy and decision making	Sections 7(2)(b(ii)) (c) (f) (h) (i) (j)	48(1) (a)
Item 4.0	Risk management	Sections 7(2) (a) (f)	48(1) (a)
Item 5.0	Operational updates	Sections 7(2)(b(ii)) (c) (f) (g) (h) (i) (j)	48(1) (a)
Item 5.2	Approval of closed minutes and matters arising	Sections 7(2)(a)(b(ii)) (c) (f) (g) (h) (i) (j)	48(1) (a)
	Appendices	Sections 7(2) (b(ii)) (f)	48(1) (a)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

Content

Section 7(2) (a) To protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons

Section 7(2) (b) (ii) To protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

Section 7(2) (c) Protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information:

- i. Would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied; or
- ii. Would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest.

Section 7(2) (f) Maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through:

- iii. The free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members of officers or employees of any local authority, or any persons to whom Section 2(5) applies, in the course of their duty; or
- iv. The protection of such members, officers, employees and persons from improper pressure or harassment.

Section 7(2) (g) Maintain legal professional privilege.

Section 7(2) (h) Enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.

Section 7(2) (i) Enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)

Section 7(2) (j) Prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage.

That the following people be permitted to remain at this meeting after the public has been excluded:

- i. Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, General Manager Economic Development, General Manager Hāpori, General Manager Māori Economy and Board Secretary for items 3.0 – 5.0.

because of their knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation the matters being discussed because of their role and work performed.

The public excluded minutes follow and are not publicly available. There being no further business the public meeting closed at 9:30am.

CHAIR
DAVID BATTIN