

2 August 2022

Oral Submission

Heretaunga Tamatea Settlement Trust to the Hearings Panel
on the Proposed District Plan - Central Hawkes Bay District Council

Chair and members of the Hearings Panel, tēnā koutou

Introduction

1. My name is Elizabeth Graham. I am the Chairperson of the Heretaunga Tamatea Settlement Trust (the Settlement Trust), which is the post-settlement governance entity. It was established to manage and administer the settlement redress negotiated with the Crown in settlement of the historical Treaty Claims of Heretaunga and Tamatea.
2. I have held the role since the Trust's formation in June 2016.
3. I am the representative for Pukehou Marae on the Settlement Trust, though my whakapapa also connects me to Mataweka Marae, in Waipawa.
4. I was also the Deputy Chair for He Toa Takitini, which was the pre-settlement entity that negotiated the Treaty Settlement. Direct negotiations with the Crown commenced formally in 2009 though I have been involved from the very early stages in 2003. That saw the beginning of internal discussions between the hapū and marae of Heretaunga Tamatea as to the following:
 - a. whether to form a collective grouping for the negotiations; and
 - b. whether to proceed through to the Waitangi Tribunal or to direct negotiations with the Crown.
5. The hapū and marae of Tamatea worked alongside Heretaunga throughout the negotiations but to this day Tamatea considers itself to be a significant and independent grouping of marae and hapū.
6. I am also the Acting Deputy Principal at Te Aute College and have held teaching roles since 2003 and other roles since 1978.

Heretaunga Tamatea Settlement Trust

7. This evidence to the Hearing panel is presented by the Heretaunga Tamatea Settlement Trust [HTST]
8. HTST was established in 2016 as the post settlement governance entity for Heretaunga Tamatea. HTST administers the Heretaunga Tamatea Treaty settlement signed between Heretaunga Tamatea and the Crown.

9. The Rohe of Heretaunga Tamatea comprises around 1.5 million acres of land extending from the Tūtaekuri River in the north, following the ridge of the Ruahine Ranges south to Takapau, then turning seawards to Pōrangahau. The rohe contains five primary river systems, and includes all alluvial plains systems fueled by the Heretaunga and Ruataniwha aquifers. All the Central Hawke's Bay District is within this area.

Representation

10. It is important to understand the interrelation between the marae and hapū of Tamatea with their Heretaunga whanaunga and also the wider relationship of all marae and hapū with the Settlement Trust.
11. There are 23 marae represented on the Settlement Trust. Nine (9) of these are located within the Central Hawke's Bay District.
12. These marae represent in excess of 47 hapū, some 100's if we go beyond 1840.
13. Within Ngati Kahungunu there is also an iwi-wide organization called Ngati Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated and a series of Taiwhenua for six regions within Ngati Kahungunu. One of these Taiwhenua is in Heretaunga and the other is in Waipukurau, serving the needs of the Tamatea/Central Hawke's Bay Māori community.
 - a. Rongomaraeroa is one such marae;
 - b. Ngāti Kere is one such hapū;
 - c. Ngā marae me ngā hapū o Tamatea is a natural alliance of the Tamatea marae and hapū;
 - d. Te Taiwhenua o Tamatea is a thriving entity providing social and other services to the Māori community of Central Hawke's Bay. It also administers some the settlement redress, in particular Whatumā. This organization has been in existence for many decades, which carries a certain senior status.
 - e. The Settlement Trust has common membership with all of the above and administers redress on their behalf, though it does have its own status and is both independent and interdependent with its marae, hapū and membership.
14. Each group or entity has its own mana and legal standing though there are reciprocal obligations to respect the mana of each, enabling and enhancing each other wherever possible. This is a unique arrangement compared to other iwi groupings throughout Aotearoa but it is a reflection of the history of Ngati Kahungunu and how it has traditionally organized itself.
15. The Treaty Settlement extends to all of the subgroupings. Two additional beneficiaries groupings are:
 - a. Aorangi Māori Trust Board, which received a discrete settlement within the Heretaunga Tamatea Settlement and also connected to the Whatumā redress; and

- b. Te Aute College, the iconic boarding school. Te Aute College received a significant and discrete settlement within the settlement, to provide for the sustainability of the College. This recognised the iconic nature of the School, the historical gifting of land for the College and its role in producing renown leaders of the calibre of:
- i. Sir Apirana Ngata,
 - ii. Sir Maui Pomare,
 - iii. Te Rangi Hiroa (Sir Peter Buck) and
 - iv. Sir Pita Sharples, to name a few.

Scope of Evidence

16. HTST acknowledges the Hui on 10 August, and the opportunity that is to follow, where submitters can discuss their submission orally and raise key issues.
17. Our submission is to be read alongside that of Stephen Daysh to avoid repetition. HTST also endorses the submission of Ngā Hapū me Ngā Marae o Tamatea.
18. HTST would like to highlight the Crown Apology to Heretaunga Tamatea, recorded at section 10(g) of the Heretaunga Claims Settlement Act 2018, the Crown said
“The Crown looks forward to restoring a relationship with the hapū of Heretaunga Tamatea that is built on trust, co-operation, and respect for each other and the Treaty of Waitangi and its principles.”
19. To that end, the proposed District Plan offers opportunities to restore the relationship through enabling provisions that provide for the aspirations.
20. The settlement represented less than 1% of the scale of the loss and was never intended to amount to compensation in the Crown’s words. Through the Honorable Chris Finlayson, the redress was to provide a platform for development for the Heretaunga and Tamatea hapū. HTST looks to the drafters of this proposed plan to provide for that development through enabling and possibly completely new provisions.
21. In our submission we focused on the landholdings of Whatumā, Pukeora, and Te Aute College and providing for special zonings that will allow for those landholdings to be developed to their full potential, capacity and capability. This may require providing for a mix of varying developments and uses particular to these single land holdings. In that regard this could provide for the cultural, spiritual, historical, social and economic restoration of the Tamatea Hapū.
22. The aspirations for HTST are wider than providing for Papakainga and/or Marae development alone. Our focus is to fulfill our obligations to past generations and provide for future generations by maximising the platform for development through housing and wider economic development opportunities. Enabling provisions within the PDP are essential in this regard.

Key Issues

1. The officer's report discusses their understanding of the concerns and aspirations of the submitters in relation to Māori owned land. The scope of our evidence is for the PDP to provide for more than our aspirations for papakainga. HTST's vision and aspirations for our whānau o ngā hapū o Tamatea are to provide for the return of its members to the kainga, to live, socialize and work within the Tamatea rohe. This will lead to, and enable, future economic growth across the district.
2. This is the obligation under our Settlement to provide the opportunities for our members, both born and yet to be born, to prosper and thrive and become economically successful. The role of the PDP is significant in this regard in materializing these opportunities.
3. The redress was intended by the Crown to provide the platform for development for the hapū of Tamatea. This does require recognition that Tamatea hapū are now better positioned to participate in its development in all spheres. Being able to access water is key. This is discussed in other submissions endorsed by HTST.
4. HTST's obligations and duties, i.e its mandate, is to ensure that the redress provided in our settlement brings about the purpose of cultural, spiritual, historical, social and economic revival of its hapū members.

Conclusion

5. Settlement of the Treaty grievances with the Crown brings a unique opportunity for development and positions tangata whenua to better engage with the Crown and local and regional territorial authorities. It brings a significant capital sum of new money into the region; this will lead to the return home of many who for generations have lived outside the region.
6. This return and revival will bring a depth in identity that was taken away and suppressed following the urban migration that was encouraged in former times.
7. HTST looks forward to the forthcoming wananga to discuss issues with other tangata whenua submitters on the PDP.

