

5 March 2018

Hon. Andrew Little, Minister for Treaty Negotiations
Parliament
Wellington 6140

Ngati Mutunga o Wharekauri Settlement

Tena koe e te Minita,

Thank you for the initial introductory meeting with us on 26 February 2018 and for the interest you showed in achieving the resolution of overlapping claims and satisfactory Treaty settlements for both Ngāti Mutunga o Wharekauri and Moriori in the unique circumstances of the Chatham Islands. I understand that our meeting has been followed by a conference call with Maui Solomon and OTS officials have since informed us that they intend to release 'memoranda' on contested sites this week.

I am obliged to inform you that any decision based on these 'memoranda' or any other advice from your officials that would result in the transfer of large areas of land (beyond the two areas of Pitt Island previously indicated) on an exclusive basis to Moriori will give rise to a new and serious breach of the Treaty of Waitangi.

Before making any decisions on this matter, I therefore ask that you meet with us so that you may obtain substantive information on Ngāti Mutunga o Wharekauri customary interests from us directly, rather than in summarised and edited form from your officials. If you think it appropriate to include Moriori in such a face to face meeting we would support that arrangement.

Naku noa na,

Tom McClurg
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Ngāti Mutunga o Wharekauri Iwi Trust

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