



NGĀTI MUTUNGA
O WHAREKAURI
IWI TRUST



2025 SPECIAL ELECTION OF TRUSTEE

CANDIDATE INFORMATION BOOKLET



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1 Introduction

This booklet outlines information which may be of interest to you as a candidate in the 2025 Ngāti Mutunga o Wharekauri Iwi Trust (the Trust) Special Election for the Te Waipounamu trustee representative.

It has been prepared as a guide to assist possible candidates and others interested in election issues with general information on the election.

Candidates or other persons requiring more detailed information should contact the Independent Returning Officer, Warwick Lampp at iro@electionz.com or on 0800 666 031.

Independent Returning Officer

The Trust has appointed Warwick Lampp from electionz.com as the Independent Returning Officer. Warwick works for electionz.com, an election management company based in Christchurch.

electionz.com has been conducting elections in New Zealand since 2000.

The role of the Independent Returning Officer (IRO) is to conduct the election in accordance with the trust deed, as well as in accordance with standard election management practices. Subject to the trust deed the IRO has complete and final control over how the election is carried out.

The IRO is responsible for all staff, systems, resources, policies, procedures and actions to ensure that the democratic process is carried out with utmost integrity, security and fairness for all parties.

Queries regarding the actions or performance of the IRO for the Ngāti Mutunga o Wharekauri Iwi Trust should be directed in the first instance to Ward Kamo, Pouwhakahaere/Election Secretary, wardkamo@nmow.iwi.nz

2 Governance & Trustee Requirements

Purpose and Objectives of the Trust

The Trust was established in 2004 as a Mandated Iwi Organisation under the Māori Fisheries Act 2004.

The Trust has been established to hold and manage on behalf of Ngāti Mutunga o Wharekauri Iwi, assets derived from the Treaty of Waitangi Fisheries settlement. Trustees have a legal responsibility to administer the Trust to ensure proceeds from the Trust assets are returned to the beneficiaries of the Trust. Trustees are responsible for the prudent management of some \$40 million in assets and \$900,000 in distributions each year.

In carrying out their duties the elected Trustees will be guided by the provisions of the trust deed. Section 1.1 of the trust deed stipulates that:

1.1 The Trust will, in the conduct of its business and the administration of the Trust Fund, be guided by the principles embodied in:

- (a) Tino Rangātiratanga;
- (b) Tikanga;
- (c) Kaitiakitanga;
- (d) the Treaty of Waitangi; and
- (e) the Kaupapa of this Trust Deed

The Trust Deed also stipulates that “the Trust Fund shall be applied by the Trustees towards any purpose or purposes that advances the cultural, social or economic standing of, or is otherwise beneficial to, any or all Ngāti Mutunga o Wharekauri, provided that such purpose or purposes are charitable under New Zealand law. Without limiting the generality of this clause, the purpose or purposes may include the pursuit of the following particular objects and purposes, by the exercise of Trustee’s powers conferred and defined in clause 7”.

Anyone intending to seek election to the Trust should familiarise themselves with the provisions and requirements of the trust deed. A copy of the trust deed is available from the Trust office.

Governance

Trustees are required to act in the best interests of the Trust. By definition this means that although Trustees are elected on a regional basis, they must exercise their duties in the collective interests of all beneficiaries.

Five of the seven Trustees represent the Wharekauri (Chatham Islands) nomination region, with one Trustee representing the Te Ika-a-Māui (North Island) nomination region and one Trustee representing the Te Waipounamu (South Island) nomination region.

The trust deed requires the Trustees to retire by rotation on a progressive basis. Ordinarily a Trustee’s term is for three years.

The current Trustees of the Ngāti Mutunga o Wharekauri Iwi Trust and the expiry of their elected terms are:

- Wharekauri (Chatham Islands) Trustees – Monique Croon and Deena Whaitiri (2026 AGM), John Preece and Megan Lanauze-King (2027 AGM), Melodie Eruera-Fraser (2025 AGM),
- Te Ika-a-Māui (North Island Region) – Di Grennell (2027 AGM)
- Te Waipounamu (South Island Region) – Paula Page (2025 AGM)

Nominations are now sought to fill one Te Waipounamu representative, previously held by Paula Page, for a three year term.

Candidate Eligibility

General

Prospective candidates need to be aware of the requirement to act in the interests of the Trust and should not seek nomination if they are not prepared to do that or they have interests in other organisations that conflict with this fundamental objective. To clarify this further, nomination papers for the Trust now include clauses requiring candidates to declare that they:

- a. have not previously been removed as a trustee; and
- b. are not acting under the direction of any other person or entity, or by agreement with any other person or entity.

Candidates will also be required to complete a Ministry of Justice - Request for Criminal Conviction History form and submit with their nomination.

In addition to the above, the trust deed also lists the following general restrictions on candidates for election as Trustees :

- (1) A person shall not be permitted to be a trustee if he or she:

- (a) is under eighteen years of age;
- (b) is not a registered beneficiary who is, [at the time of nomination and election,] resident in the relevant nomination region in terms of clause 11.2;
- (c) is bankrupt and or has within the last five years been adjudged bankrupt;
- (d) is a person who has within the last 10 years been convicted of a criminal offence punishable by a term of imprisonment of two or more years;
- (e) is a person who is, or has ever been, disqualified from being a director of a company registered under the Companies Act 1993;
- (f) is a person who is mentally disordered within the meaning of the Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 1992; or
- (g) is a person who is subject to a property order made under section 30 or section 31 of the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988.

- (2) Subject to clause 11.4(3), an employee of the Trust or director of an [AHC] or other corporate entity may be nominated for election as a trustee, but if elected must forthwith resign his or her position as an employee or director as the case may be.

Nomination Region Criteria

Section 3.5 of the trust deed lists the following residency terms for Wharekauri nomination region candidates. Candidates for the Wharekauri nomination region must meet this criteria:

"Ahi-kaa Tuturu Beneficiaries" means those beneficiaries who have resided and continue to reside on Wharekauri for a period of at least three consecutive years provided however that:

- (f) an absence from Wharekauri for a period of up to and including 21 consecutive days shall not constitute a break in the continuity of residence;
- (g) an absence from Wharekauri for a cumulative period of up to and including 90 days in any calendar year shall not be deemed to constitute a break in the continuity of residence;
- (h) an absence from Wharekauri for a period of more than 21 consecutive days or for a cumulative period of more than 90 days in any calendar year shall be deemed to constitute a break in the continuity of residence unless such absence is due in whole or substantial part to:
 - (i) employment in commercial fisheries based in Wharekauri, or
 - (ii) serious illness, or such other exceptional circumstances as may be recognised from time to time by the trustees by special resolution.

Section 11 of the trust deed lists requirements for the make-up and operation of the Trust.

Section 11.2(a) requires that the Trustees include five (5) Ahi-kaa Tuturu Adult Registered Beneficiaries who ordinarily reside in the Wharekauri Nomination Region.

Section 11.2(b) requires that the Trustees include one (1) Adult Registered Beneficiary who is ordinarily resident in the South Island ("the Te Waipounamu Nomination Region").

Section 11.2 (c) requires that the Trustees include one (1) Adult Registered Beneficiary who is ordinarily resident in the North Island ("the Ika-a-Māui Nomination Region").

Term of Office:

Both representative positions will expire at the 2028 Annual General Meeting.

3 Election Timetable

Key Dates

4 September 2025 (Thursday)	Nominations open. First public notice calling for nominations placed in the NZ Herald, Taranaki Daily News, Dominion Post and Christchurch Press newspapers and in the Chatham Community Focus.
25 September 2025 (Thursday)	Nominations close 12 noon. Candidates advised to the Trust. Voting register closes at 12 noon.
14 October 2025 (Tuesday)	Voting papers lodged (if election required). Voting opens.
5pm, 9 December 2025 (Saturday)	Voting day and Election Meeting. Internet and postal voting closes at 5pm (NZ time). Voting at the Annual General Meeting closes when the Election meeting is declared closed. Ballot box available at Annual General Meeting for voting in person (no proxy voting).
By 19 December 2025 (Friday)	Final election result sent to Trust and confirmed to candidates.
As soon as possible after 19 December 2025	Final election result posted to Trust website and published in Chatham Community Focus.

4 Nominations

Key Dates:

- Nominations open on Thursday 4 September 2025.
- Nominations close at 5pm on Thursday 25 September 2025.

Nomination Papers

Each nomination must be made on the official nomination paper. Nomination papers are available from the Returning Officer and can be requested by:

Email: iro@electionz.com

Free Phone: 0800 666 031

Nomination forms are also available from the Trust office.

Lodgement of Nomination Papers

Nominations close at 5pm on Thursday 25 September 2025.

- Completed nomination papers must be received in the hands of the Chief Executive Officer/Election Secretary of Ngāti Mutunga o Wharekauri Iwi Trust no later than the above time and date.
- Nomination papers can be returned to the Trust Office or emailed to honetibbble@nmow.co.nz
- Once lodged, nomination papers are checked to ensure that the candidate and nominators are on the Register and satisfy all nomination criteria.
- Nominations must be accompanied by a brief candidate profile of the candidate and a completed MOJ check form. A photo of the candidate can also be submitted. (See page 8 for further details on the format of candidate profile statements).
- The lodgement of nomination papers should not be left to the last minute. Should a nomination paper be lodged late on the day nominations close, and be incorrectly completed or refer to an ineligible nominator, there may be insufficient time to correct the situation and the nomination paper could be invalidated.

Please do not leave lodging your nomination to the last minute.

- Due to changes within NZPost delivery network you should **NOT** rely on the postal system if you are intending to post your nomination. There is no guarantee of delivery time.
- If absolutely necessary nomination papers **can** be mailed to the Pouwhakahaere/Election Secretary, **but** should they be **received after** the close of nominations, the nomination is **invalid**. It is recommended anyone mailing nomination papers takes a copy of the completed form before mailing it.
- Email or phone confirmation of an accepted nomination will be given to each candidate as soon as the nomination paper is verified.

Processes After the Close of Nominations

Once nominations have closed, a list of all candidates will be provided to the Trust, for publication on the Trust's website and will be emailed to those candidates who have supplied an email address.

If an election is required, voting documents will be prepared with candidate names appearing alphabetically on the voting documents, with Surname first, followed by their Christian names, i.e.:

Lampp Warwick

A public notice of the election, listing the candidates and election details will be advertised after the close of nominations.

Voting packs will be mailed to registered members from Tuesday 14 October 2025, with voting closing at 5pm on Tuesday 9 December 2025. Each voter pack will consist of a voting paper, a candidate profile sheet and a return envelope for those wishing to vote by post.

5 Enrolment, Campaigning and Vote Processing

Enrolment Requirements

Anyone who is 18 years old or over and who holds the appropriate whakapapa is entitled to enrol on the members register. If an election is required, voting papers will be sent to all those members whose names appear on the register as at 5pm on Thursday 25 September 2025. Enrolments can continue to be accepted up to the close of voting for this election. Anyone enrolling after Thursday 25 September 2025 will be issued a special voting paper which will be subject to verification.

Enrolment forms are available from the Trust office or on-line at: www.nmow.co.nz/register/form

Each application requires the member to provide full name, address, contact and whakapapa details.

Campaigning

- Election campaigning by candidates can commence at any time.
- No election material can contain any untrue statement defamatory of any candidate
- No election material may contain an imitation voting paper which has the names of the candidates with any direction or indication as to the candidate a person should vote for, or in any way contain such direction or indication likely to influence the voter.
- Voting papers are not permitted to be collected from electors by candidates or persons on their behalf. Each elector is required to post or deliver his or her own voting paper to the Returning Officer, or vote online.

Any acts committed by candidates that constitute criminal offences will be referred to the Police for their action.

Electoral Rolls

The electoral roll (being the register of verified members of the Trust as at 25 September 2025) is **not** available to candidates for electioneering purposes.

Vote Processing and Election Result

The processing of the voting papers is being carried out by *electionz.com* at its premises at 3/3 Pukaki Road, Christchurch. Electors voting by post should return their completed voting papers in the reply paid return envelope to The Returning Officer, Ngāti Mutunga o Wharekauri Iwi Trust, PO Box 3138, Christchurch 8140. After the close of voting the Election Secretary will arrange for AGM votes to be sent to the Returning Officer.

Once any voting papers have been received *electionz.com* staff will open, batch, checked, scanned and process the voting papers in the presence of the Returning Officer.

The official result will be finalised on or before Friday 19 December 2025 and will be circulated to candidates with email addresses as soon as it is finalised. The official election result will be posted on the Trust website and advertised in the Chatham Community Focus within 15 days of release.

6 Candidate Profile Statements

Candidate Profiles

The trust deed requires candidates intending to stand for election as a trustee to submit a short profile statement with the nomination form. These are collated by the Independent Returning Officer and, in the event that an election is required, will be forwarded to registered members with the voting papers.

Candidate Profile Statements

- Must not exceed 250 words in total (excluding the candidate's name).

The word limit will be strictly enforced

- Must be provided electronically as a Word .doc file.
- It is **recommended** that the candidate profile be structured on the following basis:

Short Pepeha:

Tribal Affiliation:

Occupation:

Current Qualifications:

Personal Interests:

Community involvement:

Candidate statement:

- Must be confined to information concerning the candidate, and the candidate's policies and intentions if elected
- May include a recent (i.e. less than one year old) photograph of the candidate only (i.e. not part of a group)

Photos should preferably be in an electronic, format (scanned as a jpeg attachment on email), but hard copy photos will be accepted and scanned at 300 dpi by the Independent Returning Officer. (N.B. photos will not be returned to candidates)

- The English or Māori text must be plain black and white text, but special formatting (macrons, bold, italics, underlining, quote marks,) is permitted.

7 Remuneration and Board Meetings

Board Meetings

There are a minimum of 6 trustee hui per annum. These are generally held on the last Wednesday of each month, on Wharekauri. In addition there is an AGM round that requires all trustee participation. Further hui may be called from time to time and at short notice and trustees are expected to either attend in person or participate by conference call.

Queries

For assistance with nomination or election queries, contact the election helpline on 0800 666 031 or email iro@electionz.com.

Remuneration & Expenses

The Trust has adopted the following remuneration schedule for trustees:

- Trustee - **\$15,000 pa**
- Deputy Chair - **\$18,000 pa**
- Chair - **\$26,000 pa**
- Per Diems and Travel allowance are currently under review