



# Manatu Whakaaetanga Partnership agreement

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Mō Te Runanga o Ngāti Waewae me Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio ka hono tahi koPoutini Ngāi Tahu  
ki Te Kahui o Poutini

Between Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae and Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio together known as Poutini Ngāi Tahu  
and Westland District Council -Te Kahui o Poutini

Rā whakamana (date of agreement): 18 December 2025 to 18 December 2028

Whakataukī:

***Naku te rourou nau te rourou ka ora ai te iwi***

***With your basket and my basket the people will thrive***

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## 1. Te Kaupapa Matua (Purpose of this Partnership Agreement)

This Partnership Agreement (PA) sets out the framework for an ongoing relationship between Westland District Council and Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae and Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio. The purpose of this agreement is to outline the partnership objectives, principles, expectations and deliverables of the partnership between Poutini Ngāi Tahu, and Council.

Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae and Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio and the Council are committed to the long-term success of the partnership and enduring relationship, therefore will participate fully and contribute adequate resourcing at all levels

## 2. Te Tahuhu o te Waka Hourua (Partnership Background)

### 2.1 Ngā Rōpu (Parties):

#### Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae

Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae is the mandated representative body of Ngāti Waewae. The Rūnanga is a non-profit incorporated society with charitable status. It administers the iwi estates and assets within its takiwā (boundaries).

The takiwā of Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae is centered in Arahura and Hokitika and extends from the north bank of the Hokitika River to Kahurangi and inland to the Main Divide. Together with a shared interest with Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio in the area situated between the north bank of the Pouerua River and the south bank of the Hokitika River.

#### Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio

Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio is the mandated representative body of Ngāti Mahaki. The Rūnanga is a non-profit incorporated society with charitable status. It administers the iwi estates and assets within its Takiwā.

The takiwā of Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio is centred at Mahitahi (Bruce Bay) and extends from the south bank of the Pouerua River to Piopiotahi (Milford Sound) and inland to the Main Divide. Together with a shared interest with Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae in the area situated between the north bank of the Pouerua River and the south bank of the Hokitika River.



## **2.2 Te Rohe (Area covered by PA)**

This PA relates to the geographical area defined as the Westland District as per Schedule A.

## **2.3 Te Hanga o Te Waka Hourua (Establishment of the partnership)**

Ngāi Tahu has developed a unique organisational structure based on innovative legislation to ensure it can act and speak as a single entity. This structure, known as Papatipu Rūnanga, ensures the organisation can perform effectively and that the views of its members are heard and acted upon. Papatipu Rūnanga exist to uphold the mana of their people over the land, the sea and the natural resources. Each of the 18 Papatipu Rūnanga appoints a tribal member to represent its interests at Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, the governing council overseeing the tribe's activities. Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae and Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio are Papatipu Rūnanga of the Westland Rohe / Takiwā.

Collectively they are known as Poutini Ngāi Tahu.

Poutini Ngāi Tahu are Mana Whenua of Westland District, representing the early inhabitants of the lands here over the past millennium. As such Poutini Ngāi Tahu have a deep connection and commitment to the environment, economy, people and communities of the District. To this end, Poutini Ngāi Tahu have been consistent in their desire as Mana Whenua, to be more involved in the planning and decision making of Westland District Council and believe a stronger partnership could achieve this.

## **3. Te Pūnaha Waka Hourua (Partnership Model)**

In 2018 the Council invited Poutini Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga to participate as non-voting councillors in Council Meetings and also as full members of the Risk and Assurance Committee as follows:

1. Kaiwhakahaere (Chairs) of Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae and Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio attend and participate in council meetings and the business of Council, in acknowledgement of, and to further strengthen, Council's partnership with the Mana Whenua of Westland.

Council includes the Kaiwhakahaere (Chairs) of Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae and Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio as full members of the Risk and Assurance Committee, and any other committee or subcommittee appointed during the Triennium

The Terms of Reference for the Standing Committees and Subcommittee of Council will be updated to reflect this as necessary. Council has statutory and legal obligations to improve communication, consultation and its relationship with Tangata Whenua and Māori, to take account of the principles of the Tiriti ō Waitangi, and to facilitate participation by Māori in council decision-making processes.

The Council believes that participation of Poutini Ngāi Tahu kaiwhakahaere as full members of the Risk and Assurance Committee and any other committee or subcommittee appointed during the triennium and also participating in Council Meetings as non-voting councillors will not only strengthen the Council's partnership relationship with Iwi, Hapū and Rūnanga residing in Westland District, but will also bring social and economic benefits to the community.

The agreed model provides for the following mechanisms to enable Poutini Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga participation in council decision making:

- The Kaiwhakahaere (Chairs) of Te Rūnanga o Ngati Waewae and Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio attend and participate in Council Meetings and the business of Council.
- The appointment of Kaiwhakahaere (Chairs) of Te Rūnanga o Ngati Waewae and Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio as full members of the Risk and Assurance Committee of Council and any other committee or subcommittee appointed during the triennium

#### **4. Ngā Whāinga (Goals of the Partnership)**

The parties commit to the following goals for the partnership under this PA:

- To provide a framework for the parties to work together towards improving Westland;
- To provide mechanisms and resources that assist Poutini Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga to participate in Council policy, planning, and other decision-making processes;
- To facilitate the sharing of information to build a better understanding that enhances collaboration and strategic thinking about Westland’s future;
- To identify strategic opportunities to work closely together for the betterment of Westland District;
- To actively support and promote the initiatives and assets of the parties, and
- To build iwi capacity and capability to partner with local government.

#### **5. Ngā Mātāpono me Ngā Uaratanga (Principles & Values of the Relationship)**

##### **5.1 Ngā Mātāpono (Partnership Principles)**

All parties agree to honour the following principles in the conduct of the relationship. We will work together in good faith to safeguard and promote the mutual interests of the parties in improving outcomes for the whānau of Poutini Ngāi Tahu, and people of Westland District by:

- Respecting the tino rangatiratanga of Poutini Ngāi Tahu;
- Acting in ways that enhance the mana of all parties;
- Creating and fostering a high trust relationship and environment that allows the parties to work together while growing within their own tikanga (customs, obligations and conditions) and pursuing their own interests and priorities;
- Working toward solutions with rationality; free of prejudice or agenda and honesty of purpose;
- Resolving any differences simply, effectively and in a manner that supports a long term, intergenerational partnership;
- Ensuring parties do not tarnish the reputation of each other via public declarations or media releases
- Seeking opportunities to share skills, knowledge and information;
- Acknowledging Council's interest in the development and promulgation of strategy, policy and legislation on behalf of Westland ratepayers and residents and in managing the allocation of public financial resources.

The Parties understand that: the economic, social and cultural well-being of Poutini Ngāi Tahu; the relationship of Poutini Ngāi Tahu and their culture and traditions with ancestral lands, waters, sites, wāhi tapu, and associated taonga; the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi; and the kaitiakitanga responsibilities of mana whenua are all matters relevant to the purpose of the Act.

All parties also acknowledge the Council's guiding principles of good governance for elected members to Council:

- The Elected Members Code of Conduct that follows is based on the following general principles of good governance:
  - **Public Interest:** members should act solely in the public interest.
  - **Integrity:** members should not act or take decisions to gain financial or other benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends, or place themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might inappropriately influence them in their work.
  - **Tāria te wā and kaitiakitanga/stewardship:** members should use long-term perspective when making decisions. Decisions, which impact on past, current and future generations, also affect collective well-being.
  - **Objectivity:** members should act and take decisions impartially, fairly, and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias.
  - **Accountability:** members will be accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and will submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this.
  - **Openness:** members should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner and not withhold information from the public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for so doing.
  - **Honesty:** members should be truthful and not misleading.
  - **Leadership:** members should not only exhibit these principles in their own behaviour but also be willing to challenge poor behaviour in others, wherever it occurs.

## 5.2 Ngā Uaratanga o Poutini Ngāi Tahu (Poutini Ngāi Tahu Values)

All parties agree to honour the following values in the conduct of the relationship:

- Whanaungatanga (*Relationships*)  
We will respect, foster and maintain important relationships within the organisation, within the iwi and within the community.
- Manaakitanga (*Looking after our people*)  
We will pay respect to each other, to iwi members and to all others in accordance with our tikanga (customs).
- Tohungatanga (*Expertise*)  
We will pursue knowledge and ideas that will strengthen and grow Poutini Ngāi Tahu and our community.
- Kaitiakitanga (*Stewardship*)  
We will work actively to protect the people, environment, knowledge, culture, language and resources important to Poutini Ngāi Tahu for future generations.
- Tikanga (*Appropriate action*)  
We will strive to ensure that the tikanga of Poutini Ngāi Tahu is actioned and acknowledged in all of our outcomes.
- Rangatiratanga (*Leadership*)  
We will strive to maintain a high degree of personal integrity and ethical behaviour in all actions and decisions we undertake.

## 5.3 Ngā Kaunihera tūruapō (Council Vision)

All parties respect the following Council Vision in the conduct of the relationship:

“By investing in our people, caring for the environment, respecting the Mana Whenua cultural heritage, and enabling investment, growth, and development we will enrich our district and the people that reside here.”

## 6. Ngā Pito Mata (Agreed Expectations)

The following outlines the expectations of each party across aspects of the partnership.

### 6.1 Westland District Council agrees to:

- Provide information to the Kaiwhakarite who act on behalf of Papatipu Rūnanga to assist the operations of Papatipu Rūnanga and to build the capability of Poutini Ngāi Tahu to participate in Council decision-making.
- Provide governance support and training to Kaiwhakarite appointed to Council and Council committees.
- Consider joint submissions to central government with Papatipu Rūnanga when appropriate.
- Work together with Papatipu Rūnanga on the formulation, design and execution of work to implement the Council's statutory responsibilities towards Poutini Ngāi Tahu.
- Work together with Papatipu Rūnanga to increase the participation of Māori in Council processes and initiatives generally.
- Promote opportunities for Poutini Ngāi Tahu within Council.

### 6.2 Poutini Ngāi Tahu agree to:

- Develop views and provide input on Council policy, plans, strategy and operations that may impact on Poutini Ngāi Tahu, and the Westland community.
- Actively keep Poutini Ngāi Tahu whānau engaged- across multiple channels including direct engagement with Poutini Ngāi Tahu stakeholders monthly, on partnership related progress and to inform Poutini Ngāi Tahu input into Council decision-making.
- Provide information to Council to assist the mutual goals of each party.
- Consider joint submissions to central government with Council when appropriate.
- Work with Council on the formulation, design and execution of work to implement the Council's statutory responsibilities towards Poutini Ngāi Tahu.
- Promote the participation of Poutini Ngāi Tahu in Council processes and initiatives generally.
- Promote opportunities for Poutini Ngāi Tahu within Council.

## 7. Ngā Hua o Te Waka Hourua (Agreed Deliverables)

Nothing in this PA shall be understood to require Council to use Poutini Ngāi Tahu or to require Poutini Ngāi Tahu to provide any services to Council, except as may be set forth in any contractual agreement between the parties.

### 7.1 Ngā Hua o Te Kaunihera (Westland District Council agrees to):

At its sole discretion, and subject to each nominee:

- I. in the Council's reasonable opinion having the necessary skills, attributes and knowledge; and
- II. complying with any requirements of Council, including signing confidentiality undertakings,

appoint the Kaiwhakahaere (Chairs) of Te Rūnanga o Ngati Waewae and Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio as full members of the Risk and Assurance Committee of Council and any other committee or subcommittee appointed during the triennium other than the Chief Executive Remuneration Committee.

At its sole discretion, and subject to each Kaiwhakahaere

- I. in the Council's reasonable opinion having the necessary skills, attributes and knowledge; and
- II. Complying with any requirements of Council, including signing confidentiality undertakings, invite the Kaiwhakahaere of Te Rūnanga o Ngati Waewae and Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio to attend and participate in Council Meetings and the business of Council as non-voting councillors.

## **7.2 Poutini Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga agree to:**

- Upon request by Council, and pursuant to Schedule C, recommend suitable Kaiwhakarite (representatives) from the members of Papatipu Rūnanga for appointment on to Council committees, working groups and other advisory groups and procure consent from each representative to sit on any such committee. Should at any time and for any reason there is no person nominated by Papatipu Rūnanga appointed Papatipu Rūnanga will promptly nominate a suitably qualified person.
- Upon request by Council, recommend suitable representatives from Poutini Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga for appointment on to working groups and other advisory groups and procure that each representative has given their consent to sit on any such working group and other advisory group.

## **8. Ngā Whakaritenga (Terms of the PA)**

### **8.1 Te Roa (Term of PA)**

This PA commences upon signing by all parties.

This PA is considered significant by Council therefore this PA may only be terminated by the mutual agreement of the parties, after conducting the following processes:

- Poutini Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga to consult with its members to endorse or reject disestablishment of the partnership.
- Council to secure a majority resolution from Elected members to disestablish the partnership subject to undertaking a section 83 Local Government Act 2002 Special Consultative Procedure.

### **8.2 Hunga Honohono (Lead Contacts)**

To provide for consistent and effective communication between Poutini Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga and Council, each Rūnanga will appoint a Kaiwhakarite (representative) to serve as its central point of contact on matters relating to this PA. For the purposes of the PA this will be the Kaiwhakahaere (Chairs) of Te Rūnanga o Ngati Waewae and Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio.

### **8.3 Ngā Whakaturetanga (Statutory and Contractual Obligations)**

The parties acknowledge that Westland District Council's relationship with and obligations to Poutini Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga are subject always to the statutory responsibilities, functions and powers of the Council and that this PA will not require the Council to act in any way contrary to its obligations pursuant to Council or under its statutory responsibilities, or pursuant to any contractual obligations it has established with other parties. Also, nothing in this PA will preclude Poutini Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga from furthering the interests of its members as it sees fit.

### **8.4 He Whanaungatanga Whanui (Non-exclusive Relationship)**

The parties acknowledge that agreements under this PA do not create an exclusive relationship and each party may develop other appropriate relationships.

## 8.5 Te Mana Māngai (Representations)

The parties agree that they will not make any statement on the other's behalf to any third party without the express authorization of the other party.

## 8.6 Kōrero Huna (Confidentiality)

The parties agree that unless otherwise required by law or by mutual agreement, all information shared in the partnership will be open to the public unless the information is of a sensitive nature and either party requests (in writing) it remains confidential.

The parties also acknowledge that information relating to or produced by the relationship may be required to be released under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987. In the event that information is requested under this Act, all parties will cooperate to make the information available.

## 8.7 Panonitanga (Review and Variation of PA)

This PA records a commitment to a long-term ongoing relationship. The parties acknowledge that over time the nature and focus of the relationship will evolve to reflect changing circumstances. Therefore, the parties will meet solely for the purpose of reviewing this PA every three years and within three months of the start of a new Council triennium, or otherwise as mutually agreed.

The parties may at any time and by mutual agreement amend this agreement to reflect any changes to the goals of the relationship as they reflect changing circumstances, and any other changes all parties agree are necessary.

## 8.8 Whakatau Nawe (Dispute Resolution)

The parties will act at all times in good faith and with the goal of preserving their relationship. However, in the event of a dispute the parties agree to the following process:

- a. In the first instance the agreed representatives of the parties will meet and attempt to resolve the dispute;
- b. If following "a." the dispute is not resolved the parties will engage in mediation through an agreed process.

### Signatories

Date: 18 December 2025

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Helen Lash  
Mayor;  
Westland District Council

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Francois Tumahai  
Kaiwhakahaere;  
Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae

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Paul Madgwick  
Kaiwhakahaere;  
Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio

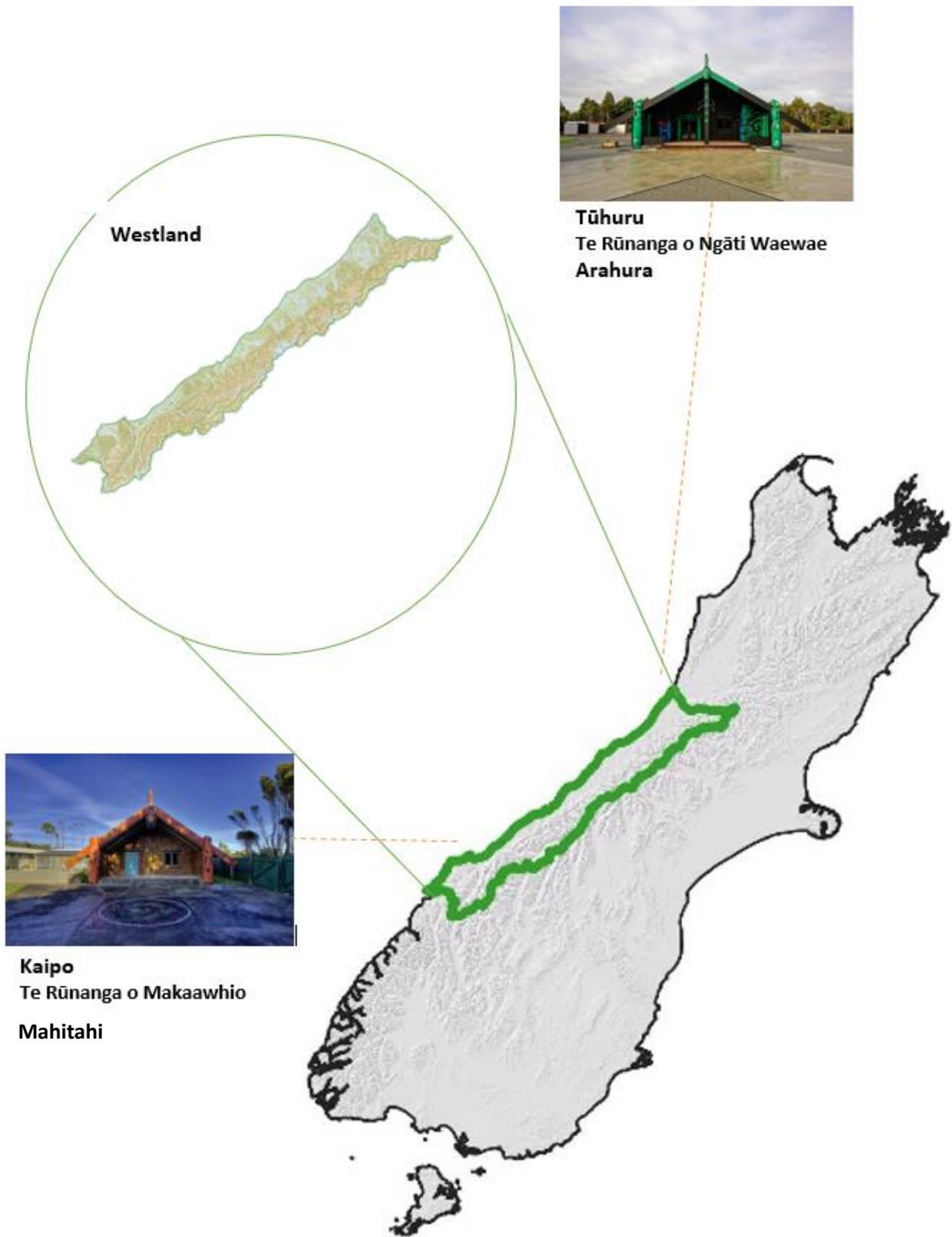
### In the presence of:

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Barbara Phillips  
Chief Executive; Westland District Council

# Schedule A: Westland Rohe

Westland District



## Schedule B: Council Committee Appointments

### 1. Appointment of Kaiwhakarite (Representatives) (to Committees)

- a. After Poutini Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga Kaiwhakarite have been elected in accordance with their trust deed, Poutini Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga will provide the Council with nominations to Council and other bodies.

#### ("Committees")

- b. At the time that the Committees are reconstituted following the Council's Triennial elections, the Council will treat all persons sitting on the prior Committees as being re-nominated by Poutini Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga, unless Poutini Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga provide new nominations to Council at that time.

### 2. Filling vacancies

If, at any time and for any reason:

- a. The Council requests in writing that Poutini Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga nominate a person for appointment to a Committee;
- b. The Council has not appointed, or has removed, any Kaiwhakarite nominated by Poutini Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga for appointment to a Committee; or
- c. Poutini Kāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga has requested that a Kaiwhakarite nominated by it be removed from a Committee,

Poutini Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga will promptly nominate to Council a suitably qualified Kaiwhakarite from its members for addition to that committee or other body.

### 3. No obligation to appoint

The Council will not be obligated to appoint any Kaiwhakarite nominated to a Committee, in particular, if:

- a. The Kaiwhakarite is not suitably qualified for the Committee; or
- b. The Kaiwhakarite does not sign a confidentiality agreement on terms approved by the Council

### 4. No tenure once appointed

The Council may remove, at any time and at its sole discretion, any Kaiwhakarite that has been appointed to a Committee. However, any such removal of any nominated Kaiwhakarite will be undertaken in accordance with the objectives, principles and values of the Partnership Agreement.

### 5. Assurance

Poutini Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga will procure and ensure that each Kaiwhakarite nominated by it to sit on a Committee:

- a. Effectively represents Poutini Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga on the Committee;
- b. Appropriately prepares for any Committee meeting;

- c. Attends and contributes to all Committee meetings, except where there is a valid reason for their absence; and
- d. Complies with the obligations and standards generally imposed by Council on members of the Committees, including meetings and decision-making requirements;
  - (i) any applicable Code of Conduct;
  - (ii) Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and any other relevant legislation;
  - (iii) Standing Orders/Nga Tikanga Whakahaere Hui
  - (iv) Rules regarding Conflict of Interests and Pecuniary Interests.