

Wānanga mō Te Ratonga Whenua Māori

Key Insights – New Plymouth Wānanga on proposed Māori Land Service

1 October 2016

39 Attendees

Whatungarongaro te tangata, toitū te whenua.

As man disappears from sight, the land remains.

“To Māori, land is everything. Land provides our sense of identity, belonging, and continuity.”

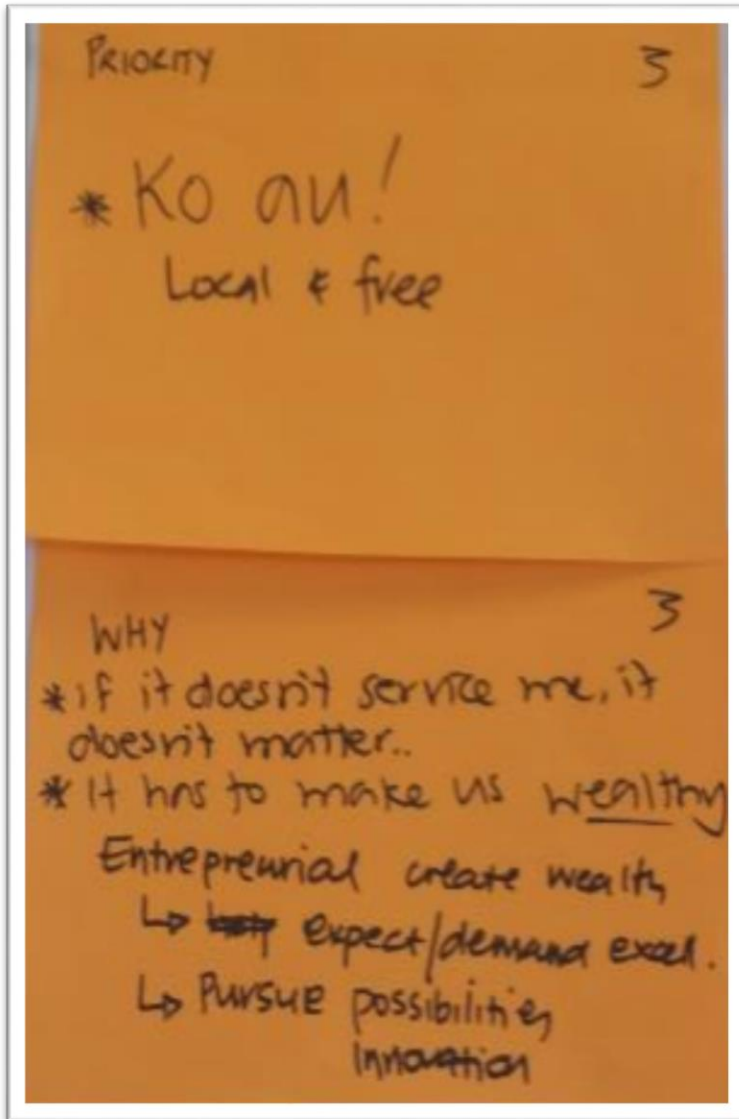
Disclaimer: This document contains information collected from the Wānanga held on the above date. It is a record of the key insights and is not a verbatim recording of the Wānanga. This material is one of a number of design inputs that will inform the final design of the proposed Māori Land Service.

New Plymouth – Wānanga tables



New Plymouth

Key insights from wānanga tables (written and oral)



Ko au! Ko au! Ko au!

It's all about me, it needs to respect and reflect me. You should be based close to me, I do not want to get on a computer. It has to be local, it has to be free and it has to make us wealthy. We have done poor, that is not what I want for our future .

MLS needs to service us and the way that we view the world. The way that we view economic development is different to Pākehā.

I love whenua but I don't want to be poor.

MLS needs to more that just transfer land from one owner to another.

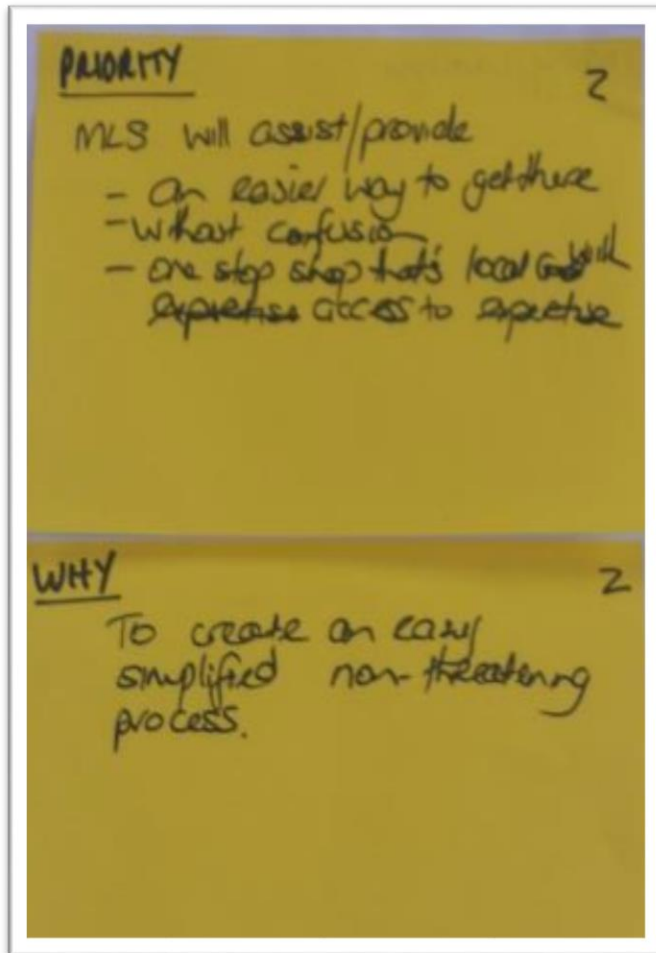
We need to be courageous. We need to be hugely innovative and entrepreneurial - MLS needs to support that.

We've spent years bringing our young ones up with education, yet we are a bit slow at moving over. This service has to allow young people to be a part of this. MLS needs to appeal to them.

There are lots of different roles within the land not everyone has to just milk cows. We need the whole gamut. There are so many opportunities attached to land, but in my opinion our focus is so narrow. If we're going to set up MLS we need all the resources, not just advice.

New Plymouth

Key insights from wānanga tables (written and oral)



SIMPLE NON -THREATENING PROCESSES

Te mate o te whenua ko te mate o te tāngata. Te mauri o te whenua ko te mauri o te tāngata - The devastation of land has been the devastation of our people the wellbeing of the land will be the wellbeing of the people.

I have a nephew that my father gave all our land to. He now lives in Australia. My mother has tried to get the shares back to someone living in NZ. With a service such as MLS there should be a pathway to correct that. MLS is a damn good idea.

I don't see myself as a land owner it takes me away from land. I am the land, it is me. I am the ocean and the water and I have a responsibility like the rest of us.

We are in favour of a better, simpler, iwi friendly process - especially as we struggle to find out who is who.

We are all looking to create an easier simpler way forward with our land and with our people. There is a lot of trauma and mamae. Inherited hapū conflict has been at the expense of devastating our whānau but it does not take away our connection, our whakapapa.

All of us have whānau living overseas and we need a MLS that can connect to them.

New Plymouth

Key insights from wānanga tables (written and oral)

PRIORITY ●●●

The highest standard of human and financial resources to support development

- * advice that is accurate and timely
- * governance training for all ages
- * funding to support development
- * ^{practical} support to access these resources

WHY

Not one acre more
If we do nothing we will lose what we have.

THE HIGHEST STANDARD OF HUMAN AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT

We have a problem with trying to hang on to what little land we have. There is a wish that there be a high standard from within the Māori services group. There was a wish that there would be human and financial resources to support ongoing development. I have to take ownership of that because we have a problem of land coming back. After 80 years we have 300 acres of land back, no fences, roads, water, or power, but the lease discussed those things being retained. Māori Land should not be leased, other than within the whānau group - all the returns should come back to the hapū.

Our group wants the advice to be accurate and timely, and we have a wish to access good training, governance training, land management advice on what best suits your block of land. Lost land should be addressed. There should be funding to support development for practical things, not just advice. We went to a hui on mānuka honey - we all wanted to know how to develop that business but that hui was a disappointment. All that was on offer was advice. MLS has the opportunity to satisfy our people.

Not one acre more - if we do nothing, we will lose what little we have.

New Plymouth

Key insights from wānanga tables (written and oral)

PRIORITY

Develop MLS structure & services as a one stop shop / one portal to access a range of information & links across central & local authority systems. Ensure that MLS is mobile, has a local presence or a role by role basis that forms & maintains key relationships delivering:

- advocacy;
- communication;
- education; and
- increasing the capacity of trustees, owners

WHY

- Effective, efficient use of resources
- cost effective
- reduction in duplication
- More likely to meet the needs of Māori landowners
↳ reduced layers, people to try & talk to.

MLS NEEDS TO BE LOCAL AND A ONE STOP SHOP

Any service provided needs to be local, be a one stop shop, and take out all of the layers and all of the bureaucracy that we currently have to deal with - and it needs to be mobile.

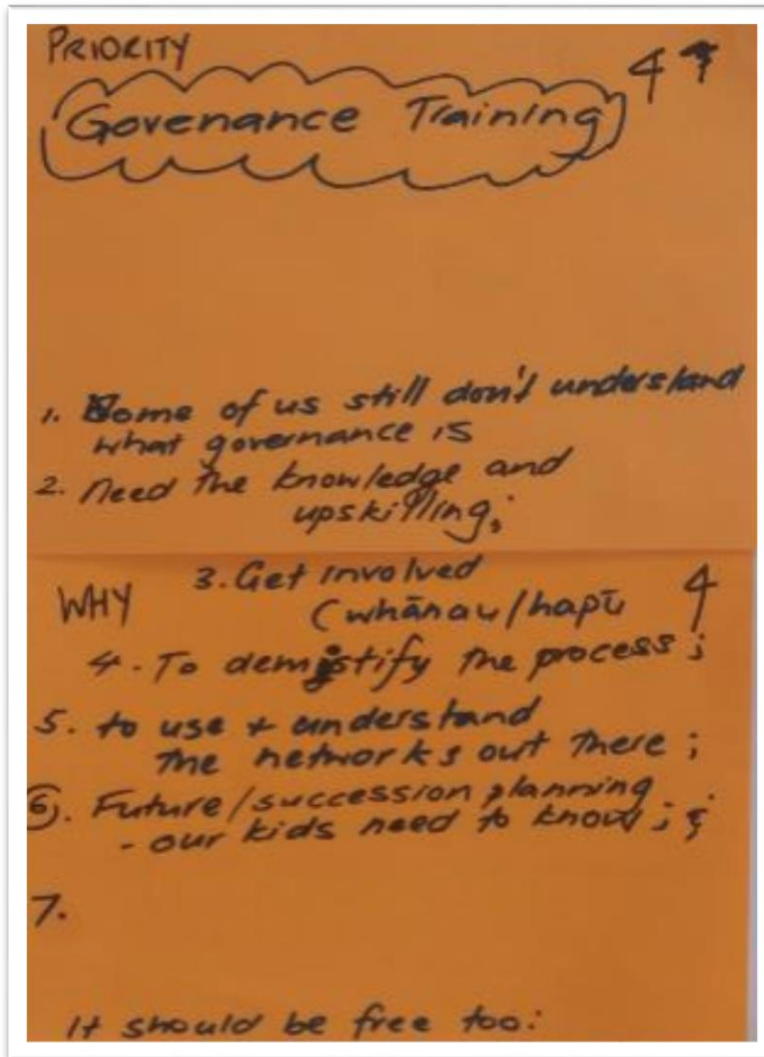
MLS needs to provide advocacy, communication and education. A lot of land ownership is by a process of the Crown. The mahi from my perspective is the dis-engagement of our people to the whenua. Not knowing where to go is as bad as having to do things multiple times to get to one thing.

MLS needs to determine the aspirations of the people and to fulfil that to create wealth. The land will sustain us but we need to think about how to do that. While in Hawai'i they talked about the 'fat lands' and what that means for the lands and for the people.

The pressure and demand has to come from our people to do things differently so mokopuna can be proud of what we leave them.

New Plymouth

Key insights from wānanga tables (written and oral)



GOVERNANCE TRAINING

Some of us don't understand what governance is. Some of our whānau are in a situation of not even knowing who to ring.

We need education for our youth. Demistify all the processes so we don't get the run around when we make a call: 'how do you set up a trust?'

We need access to information, and free resources. The run around is eliminated.

A lot of a people don't have access to a computer. We talked about apps and really clear simple pathways to find what we are looking for.

Bring our kids through, and make a clearer path for them.

Resourcing wealth, innovation and entrepreneurship.

New Plymouth

Key insights from wānanga tables (written and oral)



FUND LAND DEVELOPMENT

To provide whānau opportunities to interact with our land in a sustainable way and to develop the potential of our land and the skills of our people.

Assist in looking at different areas and look at options and opportunities that could be available.

We need to explore broad options.

Anything: honey, a night club, a village.....