

Wānanga mō Te Ratonga Whenua Māori

Key Insights – Te Kaha Wānanga on proposed Māori Land Service

9 October 2016

16 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.”

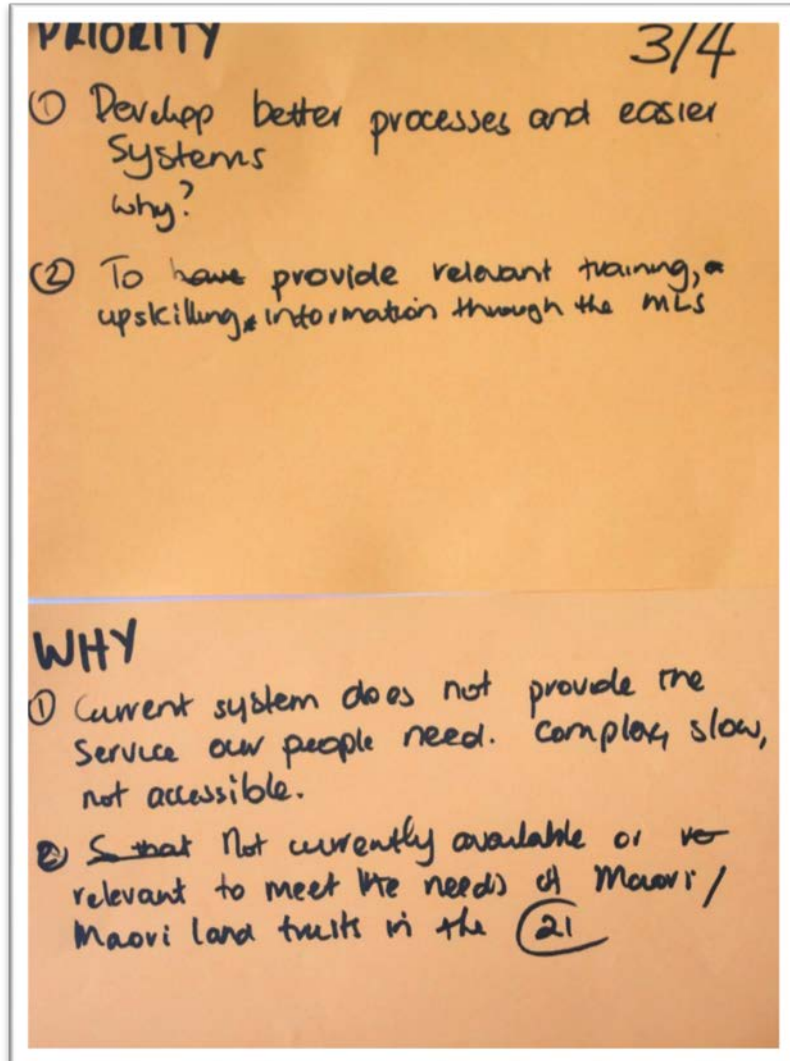
Disclaimer: This document contains information collected from the Wānanga held on the above date. It is a record of the key insights and is not a verbatim recording of the Wānanga. This material is one of a number of design inputs that will inform the final design of the proposed Māori Land Service.

Te Kaha – Wānanga



Te Kaha

Key insights from wānanga tables (written and oral)



BETTER PROCESSES AND EASIER SYSTEMS

It starts with our tīpuna, and more recently, reforms for Māori Land. We've been trying to fit ourselves within a forced system. If we reverse out of this we need processes and systems that make it better and easier to access Māori information.

The current system does not provide the information our people need as it is complex, slow and not accessible.

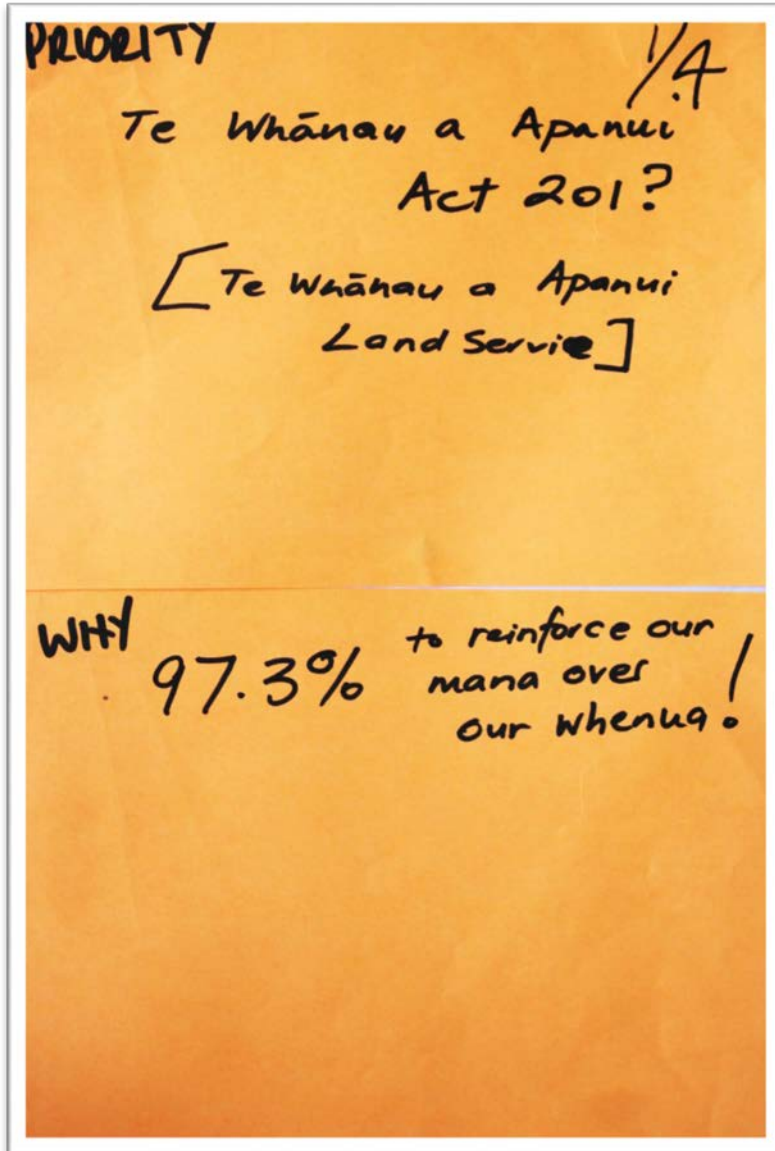
- Make it easier because at the moment it's a burden
- Beneficiaries want easier access to information
- Plain writing so that everyone understands decisions made

Provide relevant training and upskilling and information through the MLS

- Essential that Trustees are educated in their roles and understand their obligations
- Communication back to the beneficiaries/shareholders
- Owners sometimes don't understand what they have agreed to and sometimes give the mana to Trustees
- Powers of the Trust – too much power will be inheriting our land and we would like to improve things for our mokopuna

Te Kaha

Key insights from wānanga tables (written and oral)



TE WHĀNAU-A-APANUI LAND SERVICE

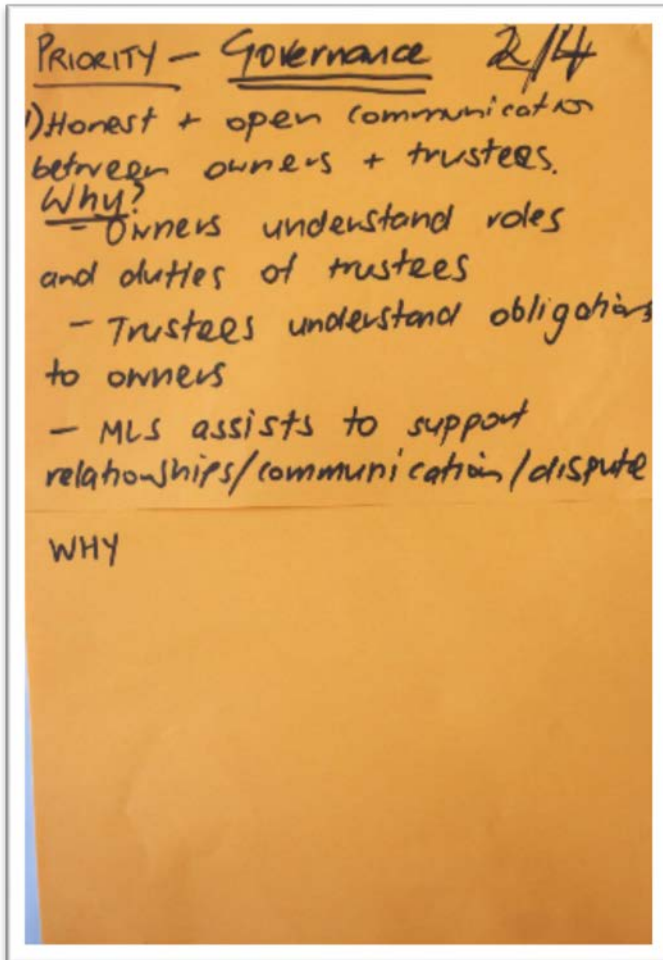
We need to pass a Te Whānau a Apanui Act, and from this, the Te Whānau a Apanui land service will be established.

We have mana whenua for our tribal area and the Act will set out our relationship with the Crown; and because we own 97.3% of our whenua, the service will reinforce our mana over our whenua. We are a whānau focused iwi, we are related, connected and affected. Though we have our squabbles, we also have unbreakable connections through our connections to the land.

Whānau a Apanuitanga and tikanga.

Te Kaha

Key insights from wānanga tables (written and oral)



WE NEED TO CATCH UP WITH THE WORLD

21st Century come alive within TWA, we need to catch up with the world.

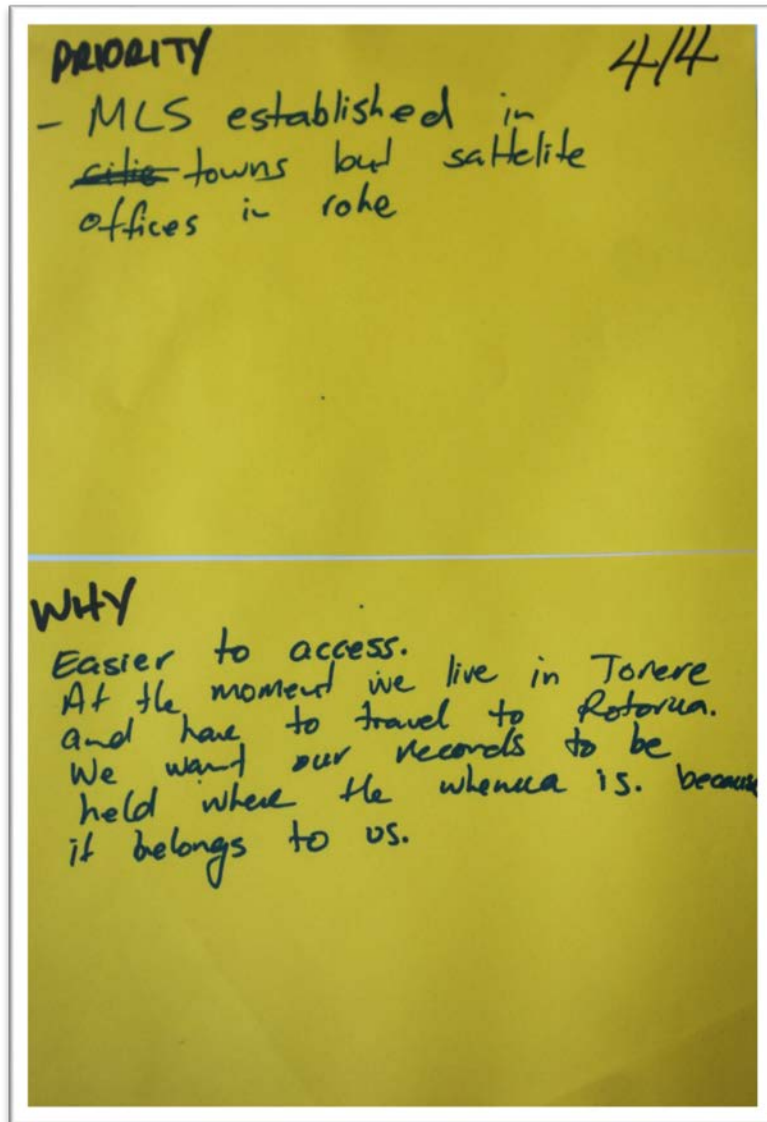
Because the current systems don't work, they're too slow, complex and inaccessible. We have to travel to either Gisborne or Rotorua.

They know their immediate areas but not good with ours i.e. Rotorua or Gisborne.

- Systems we can all understand
- We could go to Whakatāne, at least they know who we are - although they don't truly understand our issues here
- Land Trusts – fragmentation of shares
- It is important our shares are kept together and kept alive
- Ensure whānaungatanga is kept alive
- They should still have access to scholarships and information
- Land Trust groups, MLS in Whakatāne – needs to be simple
- Health of our land
- NZTA, huge need issues here in TWA – needs to be addressed
- Access to whakapapa information, make use of old MLC records, password protected (2 stop place for this information)
- Preserve the mana of our whenua here in TWA

Te Kaha

Key insights from wānanga tables (written and oral)



EASIER ACCESS

The proposed MLS should be established in the cities with satellites in provincial/rural areas.

It should be managed by capable staff and the administrative function from the MLC should be included into the new service.

At the moment we live in Tōrere and have to travel to Rotorua. We want our records to be held where the whenua is because it belongs to us.

Priorities

- MLS should develop a user friendly form
- Allow electronic signatures for whānau members overseas
- Whakapapa how far will we go back for our mokopuna
- Leave most processes with the MLC, makes it easier for the land owners
- No fees