

# You spoke We heard

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to making Te Ture Whenua Māori Bill the most significant change to Māori land law in 20 years.

# Te Ture Whenua Māori Reform: Where We Are Now

**580+**  
submissions

**170+**  
hui

**3000+**  
landowners

Te Ture Whenua Māori Bill is the result of six years of consultation, and a long conversation since 1998. Around 100 changes have been made to the Bill in response to submissions from whānau, Māori land trusts, Māori land incorporations, academics and Māori Land Court judges. Each contribution has strengthened the Bill.

The principles or pou that underpin the Bill are a desire by Māori land owners for mana motuhake (greater autonomy over their own land), whakawhanake (a greater ability for Māori land owners to use their land) and taonga tuku iho (protecting its ownership so it can be handed down to future generations).

## Taonga Tuku Iho

- More protection against land sales and alienation
- No gifting or sale of collectively owned Māori land
- Reinforces association to land through whakapapa
- Tikanga-based dispute resolution

## Mana Motuhake

- More decision-making by owners, not requiring Court approval
- More participation; every owner can have a voice
- More choice: trusts can stay as they are, or make a new structure
- Parties can agree their own outcomes in disputes

## Whakawhanake

- Enhanced Māori land register for accurate & accessible records
- Easier succession
- Support and resources for Māori land owners to develop their land if they want
- A new Māori Land Service to support owners and governance entities

## He take anō

As a result of extensive consultation, other important issues will also be dealt with as part of Te Ture Whenua Māori Reform:

- Greater protection for Māori land in the Public Works Act
- Removes 2 ha limit for marae and urupā nonrateability
- Ability for Councils to write off rates for unused and unoccupied Māori land
- Māori Land Court's jurisdiction extended to deal with matters involving Māori land
- Whenua Māori Fund to help land owners explore options for the use of their land