

Appendix S

Summary of Complaint re Mandate Voting Process and MPWCT response

Following the voting process, a series of allegations of improper process were raised on behalf of the Ngati Hinemanu me Ngati Paki Heritage Trust (NHNPHT) directly to the Minister. Mōkai Pātea Waitangi Claims Trust obtained a written response from the Returning Officer, Independent Election Services Limited, and responded to the allegations in full. This is an abridged summary of the allegations and response.

Summary of Complaint	MPWCT response
<i>That individuals not registered with MPWCT had received contradictory and inconsistent advice on the process concerning the "green form"</i>	<p>This allegation is rejected.</p> <p>Consistent advice given to voters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voting Information form stated that Special votes required identification of whakapapa for verification by the MPWCT membership committee • The Special Voting form included the whakapapa chart • The mandate strategy set out the process for verification • The MPWCT website included that information • The mandating hui explained the requirements for special votes to include whakapapa verification • When queries were raised with IES, the consistent information was given
<i>There was no whakapapa verification form in the special voting pack</i>	The whakapapa verification form is on the MPWCT registration form, and the Special Voting information specified that the voter must have his or her whakapapa verified in order to vote
<i>Allegation of Irregularity – Breakdown of Special Vote numbers</i>	<p>Of the 255 special votes that were not allowed, the Returning Officer has provided us with his reasons for that decision. 196 special votes (approximately 77%) were disallowed because the voter had not completed the application for verification.</p> <p>Only 44 special votes (17%) were disallowed because the Membership Committee had advised the Returning Officer that an application for verification had not been approved.</p>
<i>Breach of justice not to allow NHNPHT member on Membership Committee</i>	<p>The composition of the Membership Committee is set out under the Deed of Trust, and in the mandate strategy.</p> <p>If NHNPHT has information to provide to support a particular application for verification, then such information will be properly considered by the Membership Committee.</p>