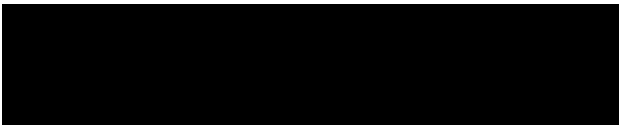


7 July 2026

REF: OIA88697

 **S9(2)(a)**

Tēnā koe

Request for Official Information: Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Hine Deed of Trust

Thank you for your correspondence of 16 June requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

1. *“All recorded, documentary, and gazetted evidence held by your agency proving that the Te Rūnanga o Ngātihine Māori Executive Committee was legally, statutorily dissolved or formally removed from the New Zealand Māori Council network;*
2. *any legal opinions, internal assessments, or verification checks performed by your agency to confirm that the “Māori Executive” referred to in section II of the 1993 deed can lawfully be interpreted as an independent group outside of the Māori Community Development Act 1962;*
3. *any active and valid corporate registration data held by your agency for this trust, noting that its separate Charitable Trust status was terminated by the Crown in 2010.”*

This letter also responds to your 17 June request under the Act to the Minister of Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations, which was transferred to Te Tari Whakatau for response.

A response to your request is set out below.

We have interpreted your request to relate to the 1993/1996 Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Hine (TRONH) Deed of Trust and the legal standing of this deed. We are declining your request for information under section 18(e) of the Act, on the basis that the requested information is not held by Te Tari Whakatau.

Our 16 March response to your 20 February request under the Act provided information on the Crown’s process for recognising a mandate and information on TRONH’s mandate process. We recommend you discuss the matters raised in this request under the Act with TRONH, who are currently undertaking mandate voting hui. For more information on TRONH’s mandate process or for information on attending voting hui, please contact tearatikaongatihine@gmail.com.

For further information on the mandating process as it applies to ngā hapū o Ngāpuhi, please see our website: [Te Tari Whakatau - Mandate step of Treaty settlement negotiations](#), or our [FAQ](#) section. For

information on the settlement process as a whole, see our webpage: [Te Tari Whakatau - Treaty settlement negotiation process](#).

Our response to your request will be proactively released

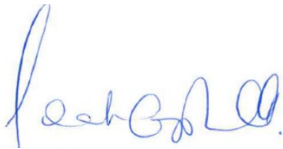
After considering our response to your request, we can advise that it will be published no earlier than 20 working days from the date of this letter at www.whakatau.govt.nz. Your personal and other identifying information will be removed.

If you have any concerns about the information in this response being published on our website, please contact us by emailing officialcorrespondence@whakatau.govt.nz.

You have the right under section 28(3) of the Act to seek an investigation and review of this response. Information about how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Should you have any queries or require further information, please contact Amy Hourigan, Analyst, at Amy.Hourigan@whakatau.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Leah Campbell'.

Leah Campbell
Director