RECENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

These are some of the questions that have been raised with the Trust in relation to the ***Amended and Redrafted Trust Deed***.

Some of the questions are broader than the Trust Deed process and relate to accountability and financial expenditure of the Trust for the year ending 31 March 2025. The audited accounts for that year were presented at the AGM held on the 28 of September 2025, held at Raetihi.

Please note that this document will be updated regularly as new questions are received and responses are developed. If you wish to raise any further questions, please contact our tari by phone 0800 AWA TUPUA (0800 292 88782) or email office@ngatangatatiaki.co.nz.

The process

The Trust Deed required a review by 2019. It started in 2022, the report finished in November 2022, and we're only voting now. What happened?

- The Trust made a strong effort to engage with uri. This included holding a series of hui across the rohe, as well as in major cities where large numbers of Whanganui uri live, along with online sessions.
- This was followed up by an independent facilitator, using the same approach, including additional online hui. These huis were widely publicised including via email pānui, on our social media channels, and via the Trust's website.
- Uri were also able to provide their thoughts in writing to the independent team.
- The Trust acknowledges that overall participation was low.
- Most who did attend hui were less interested in the Trust Deed changes and more focused on reconnecting with others. There was a clear sense that people were missing home and valued the opportunity to come together.
- The delays have related to our Trust Deed review coinciding with the review of the Māori Fisheries Act. Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui is a mandated iwi organisation under this act and therefore required to amend its Trust Deed to meet any legislative change. The discussions on the amendments to the Māori Fisheries Act 2024 began in 2023 and the Trust needed to wait for the amendments to be finalised.
- In addition to this, the Trust Act was reviewed in 2019 and these legislative amendments needed to be included as well.
- NTT also held a Trustee election process in 2024. A decision was made to put the Deed

amendments, and review on hold until after the election process.

- The Trust also decided to hold the review over to the 2026 financial year due to the cost of the election falling in 2025. Further amendments and legal review meant the Special Resolution process now extended into the 2027 financial year.
- While we recognize the time has been delayed it was required to ensure everything was brought together into one process for the Amended and Ratified Trust Deed Special Resolution.

After that, hapū were never given a draft Deed to consider or propose changes to. We're voting on a finished document. Why no consultation on the draft?

- The Trust also sought input through engagement with Te Matua a Rohe.
- After the efforts noted above, the Trust formed the view that it had made a genuine and reasonable attempt to gather feedback from uri.
- On that basis, it moved forward with the work to review the Trust Deed including consideration of the legislative changes.

I voted for the Whanganui Land Settlement, but I haven't received my voting pack. Shouldn't I be registered?

The Whanganui Land Settlement database is separate to the Whanganui Iwi Database.

The Whanganui Iwi Database held by Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui was established back in the late 1980's for the Whanganui River Settlement Negotiations and covers all the of the Whanganui Iwi descendants of Paerangi and Ruatipua. Our old people decided a long time ago we would settle the River first and the lands would follow.

The Whanganui Land Settlement database is different for the lands negotiated from Pipiriki down to Whanganui City based.

So, you may be registered on either one or both, separately.

Yes, Confusing! If you are unsure give us a call on 0800 AWA TUPUA or email office@ngatangatatiaki.co.nz and we can check you are registered or if your details are up to date.

Legal advice

The Information Booklet refers to legal advice confirming the changes are for the collective benefit. Will you share that advice, or a summary of it? If not, can you

at least tell us which changes are required by the Fisheries Act and which are the Trust's own decisions?

The Trust received the following advice in relation to the Māori Fisheries Amendment Act 2024 (MFAA) amendments:

a. Front page:	The Māori Fisheries Amendment Act 2024 (MFAA) comes into force on 26 July 2026 and amendments are not effective until the enforcement date. The Trust has adopted this as the date for the Amended and Restated Deed of Trust for Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui (the Deed).
b. Page 6:	The MFAA inserts various references to Aotearoa Fisheries Limited (AFL), therefore I have recommended including a definition consistent with the MFAA.
c. all contents	The MFAA made changes to the shareholding in AFL. Voting shares currently held by Te Ohu Kaimoana will be cancelled and all income shares will be converted into ordinary share. A global edit occurred across the Deed replacing references to incomes share with ordinary shares. Income shares definition has been replaced with Ordinary shares described on page 9 of the Deed.
d. Page 30	The MFAA inserted a requirement for Mandated Iwi Organisations (MIO) to direct the exercise of rights of a shareholder of AFL by any of its Asset-Holding Companies (AHC) or subsidiaries into the strategic governance requirements. Clause 13.a, 13.b and 13.c have been amended as a result of this.
e. Schedule 5	The MFAA required the list of matters to be covered in the Annual Plan. These are detailed on page 82.

Voting

Only registered members can vote. Most of our people aren't on the database. Is that a fair mandate for changes that last generations?

The 2023 Census population for Te Ātihaunui-a-Pāpārangi was **16,863**. The Whanganui Iwi Database held at Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui currently has **11,753** whānau members registered. Of those registered there are **8,153** eligible voters (over 18 years of age).

Anyone aged 18 or over who is registered on the Whanganui Iwi Database can vote.

If they are not registered, or their details have changed, they can update them now so their voting pack reaches them.

Uri can register or update by calling 0800 AWA TUPUA (0800 292 88782) or email the office at office@ngatangatatiaki.co.nz.

Accountability

Te Matua a Rohe is being removed. It was the only formal hapū oversight body in the Deed. What replaces it?

- Te Matua a Rohe was established to maintain a relationship with Tūpuna Rohe. Its role was to give advice and guidance to the Trust and report back to Hapū. It had an advisory role rather than formal hapū oversight.
- It worked well at the beginning, but overtime attendance dropped and it has not work as well as first hoped. When whānau were asked in our 2022 review, many were unsure about its role and why it existed.
- Under the updated Deed, the role of appointing the two Advisory Trustees, will move to the Trust using the same criteria as now.
- The connection with hapū continues through Te Rūnanga o Te Awa Tupua, which stays and grows.
- The Trust remains committed to engaging directly with hapū. The Trust, alongside the operational team, continues to support and maintain these connections.
- All Hapū and uri are invited and welcome to attend the Trust Annual General Meeting, this year it will be held on the 27th of September (venue TBC).

Advisory Trustees were formerly appointed by Te Matua a Rohe. They'll now be appointed by the Trustees themselves. How does that strengthen hapū oversight?

The appointment of Advisory Trustees by NTT Trustees means that any skills or experience gaps can be filled through the selection of the Advisory Trustees.

Has any former Trustee been employed or contracted by the Trust in the last six years?

Yes.

If so, was there a stand-down period?

No, this not a requirement.

Were those roles advertised?

All employee roles are advertised. Contracted roles are not always advertised due to the specialist nature and expertise required, these are always sanctioned by the Trust.

Does the Trust maintain a conflicts of interest register, and can beneficiaries see it?

Yes, the Trust maintains a Conflict of Interest register. The register is an internal document and forms part of the decision-making process. Audit and Risk Committee, with an independent Chair, assists NTT Group in managing organisation risks across activities.

Uri can be assured that conflicts are identified, managed, and regularly reviewed through the Trust's annual audit processes, in line with its legal and fiduciary responsibilities.

The Trust spent $7.63 million last year. $360,000 reached marae?

Yes, the NTT Group spent $7.63m during the year ending 31 March 2025. The breakdown of this is on page 15 of the Supplementary Documents for 2025, it is further broken down on page 24.

Page 24 describes the administration costs of the group, operating expenses including the contracts to deliver Mouri Tūroa and other projects totaling $3.2m, and the total spend in Whanganui Iwi Development and Growth of $1.46m.

The Annual Report for 2025 describes the scale and nature of work completed. You can find the reports here and on our website:

- Annual Report
- Supplementary Document

Please note that The Group received $7.32m to support this work. This is also detailed on page 15 and described further on page 23.

Two senior staff were paid $433,000 between them. How do we explain that ratio to our people?

The 2025 Supplementary documents report describes key management personnel of 2.6 full-time equivalents with aggregate remuneration of $433,000.

The remuneration reflects the responsibility of the roles, and expectation to protect Te Awa Tupua, and the intergenerational asset base valued at Year End 31 March 2025 at $131 million.

The remuneration is based on market analysis and rates in similar types of roles.

The accounts show $692,000 in professional services and consultancy fees—nearly twice as much as all 36 marae received combined. Can you tell us who was paid, and what for?

The professional services and consultancy fees are inclusive of all costs across the group entities and include investment portfolio management fees, tax advice and legal fees on a range of matters including legislative changes.

Professional services are required to support the running of a company. In the case of a Trust this is particularly important due to smaller internal resources and the varied responsibilities of the organisation.

Many of the community programmes promoted by the Trust are funded by Genesis Energy, not by our own settlement pūtea. How much of the Trust's own investment income reached marae and hapū last year?

While the Trust does administer grants to marae, whānau, hapū and iwi, most of our work, and responsibility, is protecting what has been achieved through Te Awa Tupua Act 2017.

In this financial year the Group received $682,877 in Grants and Donations (Genesis Energy and others) and paid out $1,146,304 in Grants, Pātaka kai and Wānanga.