

MINUTES

HERENGA Ā NUKU AOTEAROA, OUTDOOR ACCESS COMMISSION

BOARD MEETING

20 May 2025

Wellington

The meeting commenced at 9:10am.

Board members in attendance:

D Cameron, H Logan, H Mexted, D Rewi and J Young

Also in attendance:

P Culling (Acting Chief Executive), S Day (Communications Manager), D Macredie (Strategic Relationships Manager), M Grose (GIS Manager) and J Yang (Principal Advisor – Corporate, minutes)

Opening comments

Karakia timatanga – D Rewi

D Cameron welcomed Board members and staff.

1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

Confirm Agenda

The Board confirmed the agenda for the meeting.

Conflicts of Interest

D Rewi declared that his family is part of the iwi involved in land blocks that form part of Te Ara Tipuna project.

2. Confirmation of minutes

The minutes of the Board meeting held on 25 February 2025 were circulated and read.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **confirmed** the minutes of 25 February 2025 as a true and correct record of the meeting.

Moved H Mexted **Seconded** H Logan **Carried**

Matters arising from the minutes

There were no issues arising from the minutes

3. Acting chief executive's report

The Board discussed the chief executive's report for May 2025.

P Culling gave a summary of each area: corporate, operations, strategic relationships, geospatial and communications and engagement.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **noted** the chief executive's report for May 2025.

Moved H Logan **Seconded** D Rewi **Carried**

4. Health and safety report

P Culling presented the health and safety report as of 20 May 2025. This regular report covers accidents, near misses, ongoing issues, actions taken, initiatives, and other relevant matters. There have been no incidents, near misses, or newly identified hazards since the last report.

Management is still working with Te Araroa on the health and safety addendum to the MOU. A draft will be presented to the Board when it is ready.

The Board requested further information about how staff, including Te Araroa staff, and RFAs report on health and safety.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **noted** Herenga ā Nuku's 20 May 2025 health and safety report.

Moved D Rewi

Seconded D Cameron

Carried

Part A – items for decision

5. Statement of Performance Expectations

S Day updated the Board on the Statement of Performance Expectations (SPE) and the related performance survey and budget preparation.

The Minister has approved the draft SPE with no comments or changes.

Treasury has issued new advice on how to structure annual reports. One key addition is that annual reports should clearly show how agencies are working towards government targets.

The Board noted that we have not had a new Letter of Expectations from the Minister for two years. The most recent Letter of Expectations was received from Minister Whaitiri on 8 April 2023. As this is the case, we will need to rely on the Statement of Intent, which has been approved and signed off by the current Minister, to show that we are following government direction.

The Board recommended that it be stated clearly in the SPE that it follows the strategic direction set in the Statement of Intent, approved by the current Minister.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **approved** the Statement of Performance Expectations 2025-2026. If the Budget does not result in further changes to the Statement of Performance Expectations 2025-2026, this approved version will be provided to the Minister.
- b. **noted** that Budget 2025 may result in changes to the Statement of Performance Expectations 2025-2026. If this occurs, the Board will consider

and approve a new version of the Statement of Performance Expectations to be provided to the Minister.

- c. **noted** that we have received Treasury advice on the new annual report process.

Moved H Mexted **Seconded** J Young **Carried**

6. Delegations to the acting chief executive

P Culling presented the delegation of authority to the active chief executive for the Board's approval.

The delegation of authority was approved by the Board on 29 April 2025 at a special virtual meeting.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **signed** the delegation of authority to the acting chief executive under the Crown Entities Act, which was approved by the Board on 29 April 2025.

Moved D Camerson **Seconded** D Rewi **Carried**

7. Risk Management Policy

J Yang presented the Risk Management Policy for the Board's approval.

The Board also discussed some emerging issues and potential risks:

- issues raised in the Public Service Commissioner's speech on the challenges facing the public service, particularly around the overall efficiency of smaller Crown agencies
- whether there is a need for an impact/influence matrix for managing stakeholder relationships
- succession planning
- whether there is a need for a crisis management plan and a communications plan around this

- business continuity plan – this is already in place, but should be updated

Resolved: The Board:

- approved** the Risk Management Policy.

Moved H Mexted **Seconded** D Rewi **Carried**

8. Reporting annually on the state of public outdoor access

S Day presented a proposal that Herenga ā Nuku report annually on the state of outdoor public access.

This publication's purpose would be to assess the overall status of public outdoor access on a yearly basis. It would establish us as a credible and influential voice on outdoor access issues.

The Board discussed the proposed report and agreed it would be a good way to help build public engagement and provide value in the public access space. However, it noted that it would be a big undertaking. The report needs to be focused and supported by good data. Due to the large scope, the workload may be too much to commit to publishing regularly.

The Board supported management to undertake more work to develop the report. The draft will be presented to the Board for consideration and approval before publication.

Resolved: The Board:

- endorsed** the plan to develop a State of Outdoor Public Access Report.
- directed** management to present the draft report on the state of outdoor public access to the Board for consideration and approval before publication.

Moved H Logan **Seconded** J Young **Carried**

9. Revocation of the Tunnel Beach Walkway

K Douglas sought technical approval to revoke the Tunnel Beach Walkway.

Due to slips in the area, a new, safer and more practical route for the walkway has been developed by DOC, the controlling authority for the Walkway. As the new track is on a recreation reserve and does not align with the previous walkway easement areas, the walkway status is no longer needed.

Management confirmed that the new track has been gazetted as recreation reserve status.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **approved** the revocation of the Tunnel Beach Walkway, due to it no longer being suitable for use as a walkway and due to DOC and Herenga ā Nuku agreeing that it is no longer appropriate to retain the walkway status as the current land status secures public access.

Moved D Rewi

Seconded J Young

Carried

Part B – items for noting

10. Audit and Risk update

P Culling provided the draft minutes from the Audit and Risk Committee meeting on 22 April 2024.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **discussed** the draft audit and risk committee meeting minutes.

Moved H Mexted

Seconded D Rewi

Carried

11. Quarterly report for Q3 2024-2025

J Yang presented the Q3 report as submitted to MPI.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **noted** the quarterly report dashboard covering Q3 2024-2025, as presented to MPI.

Moved D Rewi **Seconded** J Young **Carried**

12. Stakeholder Survey 2025 Report

S Day presented the results from the 2025 survey of stakeholders.

The Board noted that the less detailed but less costly survey provided less information than previous annual surveys. The commission did not have the capacity to analyse and act on the data provided in the previous surveys. The new survey only intends to provide data necessary to report on our annual performance measurement targets.

The Board also noted there was much lower engagement with tangata whenua stakeholders on this survey.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **noted** the Stakeholder Survey 2025 report.

Moved D Rewi **Seconded** J Young **Carried**

13. Responding to challenges from the Public Service Commissioner

S Day presented some issues for consideration, as raised by the Public Service Commissioner.

The Board noted that Herenga ā Nuku has very specific and focused functions. It may be appropriate for the Board Chair to have a discussion with the Minister about expectations. We continue to request a meeting with the Minister.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **noted** the Public Service Commissioner, Sir Brian Roche's speech about the role of the Public Service.
- b. **provided advice** to guide the management team for scenarios that may arise in response to the questions the Commissioner has raised.

Moved D Rewi **Seconded** H Logan **Carried**

14. Engagement strategy update

S Day presented an updated engagement strategy that aligns with the Statement of Intent 2024-2028.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **noted** the engagement strategy.

Moved D Rewi **Seconded** J Young **Carried**

15. Primary sector industry relationships

D Macredie presented an update on relationships within primary industries and strategic opportunities with the sector.

The board agreed with the current direction and noted the engagement with Beef + Lamb New Zealand and the Forest Owners Association.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **noted** the work currently being undertaken with the Forest Owners Association and Beef + Lamb New Zealand.
- b. **provided** any other comments or guidance based on experiences with the primary sector relating to social licence or public access.

Moved D Cameron **Seconded** D Rewi **Carried**

16. Closing comments

The Board chair thanked everyone for their attendance.

D Rewi closed the meeting with a karakia whakamutunga.

17. Next meeting

The next Board meeting will be held online on 19 August 2025.

The meeting closed at 1.45pm.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D Cameron', with a long, flowing horizontal stroke extending to the right.

D Cameron

Board Chair