MINUTES

HERENGA Ā NUKU AOTEAROA, OUTDOOR ACCESS COMMISSION

BOARD MEETING

26 February 2026

Online

The meeting commenced at 2:00pm.

Board members in attendance:

D Cameron (chair), H Logan, H Mexted, D Rewi and J Young

Also in attendance:

D Wildy, (Chief Executive), P Culling (Deputy Chief Executive), S Day (Communications Manager, minutes), R Whinam (senior accountant CA)

Opening comments

D Cameron welcomed Board members and staff.

1. **Apologies**

No apologies were received.

Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts were declared.

Part A – item for decision

2. **Budget projections and key assumptions**

Following the Board Meeting held on 17 February 2026, the Board requested that a detailed budget forecast be prepared. The chief executive provided budget projections to allow the Board to assess the medium-term financial implications of any material decisions it may take.

The Board had two decisions to make:

- Whether to confirm the in-principle decision on funding of Pocket Maps
- What approach should the chief executive take back to the chair of Te Araroa Trust regarding an offer of funding from the commission to the trust?

Te Araroa Trust

The Board noted the need to balance the reputational and financial impacts on the commission. Any decision will deplete our reserves and put pressure on our future decision-making capacity.

The Board supported option three for funding of Te Araroa as having the least negative impact on FY2029 forecast and on reserves.

ACTION: Chief executive to convey to Te Araroa Trust the Board's support for Option Three, with a review to be made prior to the end of the three-year term.

ACTION: Chief executive to develop a narrative, based on workshop notes, that articulates our perspective on the reasons, timeline and process for resolving the relationship with Te Araroa Trust, and share it with Te Araroa Trust.

ACTION: Chief executive to provide a memo to the Minister confirming the Board's decision to fund Te Araroa Trust, as outlined in Option Three, and to articulate the good relationship between the two organisations, notwithstanding the trust's decision to seek more independence.

Pocket Maps

The Board supported providing funding for the rebuild of Pocket Maps.

Level of reserves

The Board noted that it needs to decide on the minimum level of reserves to maintain before it starts making cuts to stay within the Budget.

The Board noted that a detailed budget discussion would take place at the April meeting of the audit and risk committee and the May Board meeting as part of its discussion about the draft Statement of Performance Expectations.

Resolved: The Board:

a. **Endorsed** Option Three, outlined in the paper, as the preferred option over a three-year period, showing good faith with respect to increased funding in the first year, while having a limited long-term impact on the commission's closing equity in FY2029. Any further support beyond three years cannot be provided at this time and may be considered by the Board after a review prior to the conclusion of the agreed 3-year funding period.

Moved	H Mexted	Seconded	D Rewi	Carried

b. **Directed** the management team to draft a reserves policy for the Board to consider.

c. **Endorsed** the in-principle decision to proceed with rebuilding Pocket Maps, but to keep it under advisement for operational risks.

Moved	H Logan	Seconded	J Young	Carried

Part C – other business

3. Accommodation

The chief executive gave a verbal update on the commission's search for new office accommodation.

4. Next meeting

The next Board meeting will be held in Wellington on 18-19 May 2026.

The meeting closed at 3.30 pm.

D Cameron

Board Chair