

# Wai113 Forum Northern Planning Unit



The Wai 113 claim forum established a group to shape its plans for the February Waitangi Tribunal hearings. The group has met twice to explore arrangements for the venue, catering and care of the Tribunal and hearing attendees.

Dennis Emery chaired the meeting which included claimants and hapū members. The group support the Forum's recommendation that the powhiri and the hearing be held at Manfield Stadium.

Jerald Twomey submitted a draft budget for consideration by the forum and is subject to Crown Forestry Rental Trust funding criteria.

The Forum has agreed to employ a hearings facilitator to work with hapū and claimants, providers and witnesses to organise and host the hearings. The planning group are shaping a job description and will invite expressions of interest once completed.

Finally, the group is working on risk management around issues that may impact on the hearings such as deaths or acts of God. The wisdom and matauranga of Ngāti Kauwhata kaumātua will guide us through any such difficulties.

At the upcoming judicial conference Judge Fox and her fellow panel members will hear final submissions and make final decisions for the 2020 hearing schedule.