TE RŌPŪ WHAKAMANA I TE TIRITI O WAITANGI

Wai 3300

E PĀ ANA KI *CONCERNING*	te Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975
Ā, *AND*	Tomokia ngā tatau o Matangireia – the Constitutional Kaupapa Inquiry

---

HE PĀNUI WHAKAHAU A KAIWHAKAWĀ MATUA DR C L FOX

MEMORANDUM-DIRECTIONS OF CHIEF JUDGE DR C L FOX CONVENING A JUDICIAL CONFERENCE IN NOVEMBER 2026

7 Ākuhata 2026

Purpose

1. This memorandum-directions confirms the arrangements for the next judicial conference to be held in November 2026 for Tomokia ngā tatau o Matangireia – the Constitutional Kaupapa Inquiry (Wai 3300).

Procedural background

2. On 2 July 2025, as the Chairperson, I released the Waitangi Tribunal's *Strategic Direction 2025–2035*, which sets the Tribunal's strategic goals for delivering its inquiry work programme over the next 10 years. The Tribunal expects that the Wai 3300 inquiry will be completed by 2029, as outlined in the Strategic Direction.[1]

3. In memorandum-directions dated 20 August 2025, I indicated to parties that, to achieve the Tribunal's target, it would be necessary to begin the interlocutory process of the Wai 3300 inquiry as soon as possible, and earlier than may initially have been anticipated (Wai 3300, #2.6.63 at [10]).

4. Parties were further advised that the Tribunal has resourcing for a total of five hearing weeks to conclude the Wai 3300 inquiry. Given the number of participating claims, I signalled that a prescriptive approach would need to be adopted in determining which witnesses the Wai 3300 panel will hear from out of all those who file evidence. This approach is necessary to ensure we utilise the limited hearing resources most efficiently (Wai 3300, #2.6.63 at [13]).

5. Accordingly, I released a revised draft interlocutory timetable and advised parties that a judicial conference would be held in November 2026 to discuss initial hearing planning and for the Tribunal to hear submissions on any hearing protocols and milestones (Wai 3300, #2.6.63(b)). Parties were invited to submit on the proposed interlocutory timetable by 18 September 2025 (Wai 3300, #2.6.63 at [14]).

6. On 30 March 2026, I convened a judicial conference at which, among other matters, the appropriate timing for claimants to produce a draft interim statement of issues and relief was discussed (Wai 3300, #2.6.85 at [34] – [36]). In memorandum-directions dated 17 April 2026, I invited further submissions from the parties on this matter by 28 April 2026 (Wai 3300, #2.6.85 at [37]).

7. Following the consideration of parties' submissions, in memorandum-directions dated 8 May 2026, I released the following updated interlocutory timetable considered to meet the needs of all parties and the Tribunal (Wai 3300, #2.6.86 at [26]):

Milestone	Date	Who
Research programme completed	December 2026	Tribunal
Final amended statements of claim	March 2027	Claimants
Draft statement of issues and relief	April 2027	Claimants

[1] Te Rōpū Whakamana i Te Tiriti o Waitangi | Waitangi Tribunal, Strategic Direction: 2025 – 2035 (2025), Strategic Direction 2025–2035.

Crown response to draft statement of issues	May 2027	Crown
Confirm Tribunal statement of issues	June 2027	Tribunal
Draft hearing programme	June 2027	Claimants
Crown responses, acknowledgements, and/or concessions	June 2027	Crown
Confirm hearing programme, procedures and protocols, and filing milestones ahead of first hearing	July 2027	Tribunal
Hearings commence	August 2027	All parties

Next Steps

8. I now confirm that a judicial conference will be held on **Friday 6 November 2026** via audio-visual link (AVL) for the Tribunal to hear parties' submissions on forward inquiry planning, including:

   (a) a draft hearing programme with proposed dates, locations, claimant allocations for each hearing (noting the current five-week allocation for hearing time);

   (b) hearing protocols and milestones;

   (c) the sufficiency of the current five-week allocation for hearing time; and

   (d) any further business.

9. Accordingly, I invite all parties to file written submissions on the matters at [8] above by no later than **5 pm, Thursday 22 October 2026**.

Me tuku atu te Kairēhita i tētehi kape o tēnei whakahau ki ērā ki te rārangi whakamōhio mō Wai 3300, Tomokia ngā tatau o Matangireia – the Constitutional Kaupapa Inquiry.

The Registrar is to send a copy of this direction to all those on the distribution list for Wai 3300, Tomokia ngā tatau o Matangireia – the Constitutional Kaupapa Inquiry.

WHAKAPŪMAUTIA ki Te Whanganui-a-Tara i te 7 o te Ākuhata 2026

Kaiwhakawā Matua Dr C L Fox
Tumuaki
TE RŌPŪ WHAKAMANA I TE TIRITI O WAITANGI