

IN THE MATTER of the Resource Management Act
1991

AND

IN THE MATTER of Hearing Submissions and Further
Submissions on the Proposed Waikato District Plan

**MEMORANDUM BY COUNCIL TO HEARING COMMISSIONERS RELATING TO MAAORI
AREAS AND SITES OF SIGNIFICANCE
27 May 2021**

May it please the Hearing Commissioners:

1. In a memorandum by Council dated 29 March 2021, I outlined my updated response to the submission from Ruruhia Cila Henry [812.1] in light of the feedback received from landowners.
2. The submission from Mrs Henry relates to the *Corner of Gordonton Road and Piako Road* and was covered in the 29 March 2021 memorandum at paragraphs 4 to 17. My revised recommendation was shown on Map 4 of that memorandum.
3. I have considered this matter further and feel it would benefit the Hearings Panel if I provided further mapping information on this.
4. There are two areas of interest to Maaori in this area; one being the urupaa known as the Gordonton Cemetery and one being the land of the former Karamu Paa.
5. It is noted that the land parcel boundaries along the Komakorau Stream do not match the present physical location of the stream.
6. I have identified the urupaa on Map 1, below, in green. This area generally follows the property boundary of 970 Gordonton Road, however it excludes the area of land located on the opposite (north-eastern) side of the Komakorau Stream.
7. The area of interest for Maaori in regard to the urupaa is both the more-recently established and maintained cemetery as well as the area of bush to the north-east of the marked graves. It is understood that this area of bush is part of the historic urupaa.

Map 1: Area of the Gordonton cemetery/urupaa.



8. Dr Des Kahotea has recently more-accurately identified the paa on Map 2, below, in orange. Dr Kahotea has advised me that the area of the paa follows the contour line on the top of

the flat area above the stream. Although it is not labelled on this map, the contour line Dr Kahotea is referring to is the 25m contour line.

Map 2: Karamu Paa as identified by Dr Des Kahotea.



Planners Response

9. I recommend that the spatial areas identified in Map 1 and Map 2, above, be recognised and protected as Maaori Sites of Significance in the District Plan in response to submission [812.1].
10. As noted in my memorandum of 29 March, Dr Bryan Bang Acting Manager for the Board of the Waikato Diocesan Trust seeks that should the Hearings Panel decide to allow the submission in respect of the urupaa, then the definition of "earthworks" in respect of Maaori sites/areas of significance should be reconsidered to include the digging of graves.

Dated at Ngaruawahia this 27th day of May 2021

Sheryl Paekau, Kaiwhakamahere