

NGĀTI AWA PROTOCOL FOR DEALING WITH *KOIWI* OR *TAONGA TUTURU OR SITES OF SIGNIFICANCE*

UNEARTHED DURING CONSTRUCTION OPERATIONS

1. Background
   1. This protocol relates the resource consent application by Whakatāne District Council (WDC) to consolidate the management of all its stormwater infrastructure within the Whakatāne Township under a Comprehensive Stormwater Consent (CSC).
   2. Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa has prepared this Protocol for Dealing with Koiwi or Taonga Tuturu or sites of significance in the event that *koiwi, sites* or other *taonga* are unearthed during the course of operations.
   3. Accordingly, this protocol records those procedures.
2. Definition

In this protocol the following terms have the meanings set out herein:

* 1. “*Koiwi*” means human remains such as skeletal material.
  2. “*Taonga*” means cultural artefacts such as implements; weapons or decorations traditionally and historically utilised by tangata whenua and includes parts or the remains thereof. Archaeological features such as rua (caves) and pits are also taonga. People can gain a greater understanding of the way that pre-European Maori lived.
  3. “*Site*” means the relevant location within the subdivision land.

1. **Unearthing of *Koiwi* or other *Taonga***

The following procedures will be adopted.

* 1. Immediately if it becomes apparent or is suspected by workers at a site, koiwi or taonga have been uncovered, all activity in the immediate area (i.e. with 10m) will cease.
  2. The plant operator will shut down all machinery or activity in the immediate area and advise the on-site supervisor or contractors or client of the occurrence.
  3. The on-site Supervisor or contractor or their client will take the following immediate steps to:
  4. Secure the area in a way that ensures the site, koiwi or taonga remain untouched
  5. Notify Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa (07 307 0760) Louvain Street, PO Box 76, Whakatane,that it is suspected that a site, koiwi or taonga have been uncovered at the site.
  6. Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awastaff, will contact the appropriate hapū representatives and kaumatua to act guide and advise the developers and any other parties as to the appropriate course of action.
  7. The site Manager will notify the New Zealand Police and Heritage NZ that it is suspected that the site, koiwi and taonga have been uncovered at the site.
  8. Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa staff, hapū representatives, iwi representatives and kaumatua have discretion to agree and request the attendance of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist in the event that this Heritage NZ is unable to send an officer to the site.
  9. The site Manager will ensure that all site staff are available to meet and guide Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa staff, hapū representatives and kaumatua, Police, or Heritage NZ staff to the site, assisting with any requests that they may make.
  10. If Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa staff, hapū representatives, iwi representatives and kaumatua are satisfied that the site, koiwi or taonga are of significance to them, they will decide how they are to be dealt with and will communicate such decision to the land owner, NZ Police and such other parties as are considered appropriate. Note that the Ngāti Awa Research & Archives Centre at Louvain House, Louvain Street, Whakatane is a registered collector of artefacts. An alternative destination for artefacts is the Whakatane Museum.

* 1. The land owner shall ensure that Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa staff, hapū representatives, iwi representatives and kaumatua are given the opportunity to undertake karakia (prayer) and such other religious or cultural ceremonies and activities at the site as may be considered appropriate in accordance with tikanga Maori (Maori custom and protocol).

**Advice Notes:**

1. Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa requests that copies of this Protocol are appended to all property files and Land Information Memoranda for each parcel of land subject to the proposed activity.
2. Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa Ngati Awa Claims Settlement Act 2005 includes Protocols for Engagement with the Ministry of Heritage and Culture and the Historic Places Trust. Any artefacts found on land within the Ngati Awa rohe will be subject to return to Ngati Awa who will seek ownership and custodianship of the artefact in perpetuity.

Signed for (applicants name)

Signed for Te Runanga o Ngati Awa



Dated this 8th day of December 2022