

Kai Ora Fund Presentation

Meeting: Council Briefing
Date of meeting: 04 March 2020
Reporting officer: Jenny Rooney, Community Funding Coordinator

Purpose/Ngā whāinga

To provide Council with background information about the Kai Ora Fund to support the presentation by representatives of the funding committee.

Context/Horopaki

The Kai Ora Fund was developed in 2015 as an initiative to support communities and groups to improve access to healthy food, increase food security and promote economic. The fund is a partnership between Mahitahi Hauora PHE (previously Te Tai Tokerau Primary Health Organisation and Manaia Health PHO), Kaipara District Council, Far North District Council, Te Puni Kōkiri, Northland Inc, Whangarei District Council, and Northland District Health Board.

The Kai Ora Fund uses a community development approach to addressing food security to acknowledge that many people, Whānau, marae, groups and communities are passionate about food, health and sustainability. By providing support via the Kai Ora Fund, the hope is to increase the capacity of these groups and empower and enable them to make their ideas and projects a reality in their communities.

The funding model also has a focus on:

- self-sufficiency, equity and prioritising groups with food security and accessibility issues;
- strengthening Whānau, hāpu and iwi; and
- partnership and cooperation within and between groups.

The main activity of the project is to provide small grants to enable communities to develop and trial their own solutions and initiatives that increase access to and availability of healthy food in their region and/or community. An additional aspect of the project is to support and strengthen connections between these people, groups and communities.

The fund has a wide reach throughout Northland, 92 projects have been supported and a strong network of 'movers and shakers' has been established across the region. Seven projects have received funding in the Kaipara region. The current funding round is open now and closes on 23 March 2020.

Kaipara District Council contributes \$5,000 (GST exclusive) per annum to the fund and provides knowledge, skills and connections including supporting the Kai Ora Network of projects in the Kaipara Region. A representative from Kaipara District Council is a member of the committee who awards the grants.

The Kai Ora Fund received the Commendation for Inclusive Growth award at the Economic Development New Zealand 2019 Best Practice Awards.

Representatives from the Kai Ora Fund partnership will be giving a presentation about the fund to the three council's elected members in early 2020 to enable a good understanding of the project.

The Ministry of Social Development has indicated they would like to support the future growth of the fund, the Kai Ora fund project team will submit a funding proposal by March 2020.

Next steps/E whaiake nei

Representatives from Northland Inc and Mahitahi Hauora PHE will present the Kai Ora Fund to Council.