

KAI – FOOD ACTION PLAN

GOAL:

**‘Regenerative systems and affordable, fresh,
healthy food, grown and available locally.’**

*“It [kai] is the great connector that joins us to our tupuna [ancestors], our mokopuna [descendants] our whānau [families], te taiao [the environment], and each other.”
(Royal, 2005)*

1. FNRCCT LED ACTIVITY

‘CREATE A (SUSTAINABLE) HEADQUARTERS’

WHY:

Visionary – Demonstrates and promotes mana motuhake – self-reliance (localism) in action

Practically - provides a central, secure base for Trust activities, including:

- Community connection, networking and celebrations
- Key storage & distribution point for Community Distribution Network (Outposts/Hubs)
- Education & knowledge sharing (i.e. gardening, food preservation, etc)
- Celebrating & preserving traditions/traditional approaches
- Co-operative social enterprises hub
- Administration activities
- Opportunity for Food Co-op (community kitchen, mobile abattoir base, etc)
- Operating current activities, including community housing potential

WHAT:

ACTION	DESCRIPTION	COMPLETED	COMMENT
Undertake due diligence	Includes valuations, business plan, project plan	Jul 2025	Underway
Develop Funding model	Includes seed funding, public/private models	Jul 2025	Followed by securing funding if due diligence is ‘positive’
Secure Property (if appropriate)	Property Purchase negotiated & agreed	Dec 2025	
Ownership	Take ownership	Apr 2026	Commence operating
Operation	Commence operation	Apr 2026	All logistics, governance and operating requirements in place & underway

2. COMMUNITY AND FNRCCT LED ACTIVITY

‘CREATION OF A COMMUNITY DISTRIBUTION NETWORK’

WHY:

- Increases and promotes access and availability to locally grown, fresh, natural food
- Supports and encourages local growers, producers and ‘hunter-gathers’ (of all sizes)
- Supports community ‘hubs’ and/or networks, which will organically grow and evolve
- Encourages a co-op approach to food distribution – community ‘owned and operated’
- Reduces wastage, including the need for regional/national transportation methods
- Ultimately celebrates ‘buy local’ by walking the talk

Note: the development and launch of this Distribution Network may be reliant on the (above) Headquarters being up and running.

WHAT:

ACTION	DESCRIPTION	COMPLETED	COMMENT
District Directory of Growers/Producers (Communications)	Complete list of all those active in the food space in Tai Tokerau - Northland	Sept 2025	Underway. Helps inform. Creates a picture of production activities, creates connected & engaged network, highlights gaps
Network Implementation Plan (NIP)	Develop a plan to implement a community distribution network, covering <i>all</i> aspects of the activities	2026	Detailed plan to research, develop & create a distribution network, including core team, community drivers, physical outlets, comms, transportation, methods, suppliers, consumers, etc (Need to identify ‘Driver’)
Community Leads Network	As part of the NIP identify & support development and framework for local ‘leads’ to own and drive delivery	2026	Who will run them? How will they run them? How are they connected? What do they need to succeed?
Seed funding	Secure seed funding to implement plan	2026	This includes pūtea, resources, volunteers, etc
Legislation review	Ensure and address legislation to allow ease of activity	2026	
Promotion/Education Campaign	To raise awareness, encourage buy-in & participation	2026	Bring the people with us. Celebrate and inspire inclusion
Launch	Network up and running	2026	Managed, supported, monitored

3. IDENTIFIED COMMUNITY-LED ACTIVITIES*

* Supported by FNRCT as appropriate.

‘OTHER COMMUNITY LED ACTIVITIES’

The following projects/ideas have been identified at the Kai Hui for action and/or evolving.

WHAT:

ACTION	DESCRIPTION	COMPLETED	COMMENT
KEY: Propagate Knowledge	Grow a culture of passion & intergenerational knowledge for self-reliance	Ongoing	A culture that values & thrives from its relationship with whenua. Tamariki need to be involved.
Regenerative Approaches	Part of above. Moving to regenerative approaches	Ongoing	Focus on farming & soils, but much wider than this
Community Gardens Development & Support	Thriving educational garden hubs and community gardens, supported by a strong, involved network	Ongoing	Consider sustainability: - Economics (subscriptions) - Collaboration between gardens - Increased visibility of gardens - Resource for educational activities & coordinators - Incorporating ‘crop swaps’
Petfood for biodiversity (Business case for Kaero)	Utilising possums and other wild animals for pet food. Supporting biodiversity outcomes; offering locally produced product; & local employment	Date TBC	Feasibility study and survey to be completed in collaboration with interested parties. See the Korowai O Te Ngahere sustainable conservation discussion document.
Seed management	Using & preserving seeds	Date TBC	Seed banks, sales, etc Noting this is already informally undertaken Likely to get ‘cemented’ when HQ is up and running
Legislation to actively promote local	Continual review to determine roadblocks	Ongoing	Advocacy role Includes policy, regulations, etc
Support of locally owned businesses, where there is alignment			Example: Banana/Kawakawa project
Local Communications	Local radio station and/or newspaper	Dec 2025	To identify ‘Driver’