

# TE KAWA O TE UREWERA

## Submission Comment on the Draft Document

20 July 2017

On behalf of the Lions Te Urewera Education Centre in the Waimana Valley within Te Urewera I offer the following comments on the Draft Te Kawa O Te Urewera document.

Firstly I would like to congratulate those responsible for the development of Te Kawa O Te Urewera as a framework to encompass future management policy of Te Urewera.

Te Kawa O Te Urewera talks in depth of the management of people for the benefit of Te Urewera and calls for collaboration, trust and confidence between people who value and commit to a relationship with the land. In addition to this, there is a requirement to build respectful relationships among all people and their cultures with Te Urewera.

It is therefore relevant that methods of achieving respect among people within Te Urewera need to form part of management policy for Te Urewera.

To create effective behavioural change within Te Urewera there is need for specific standards of behaviour designed for Te Urewera that identifies acceptable behaviour relevant to New Zealand Law and cultural standards.

By identifying and maintaining standards within Te Urewera we are forming a common bond between people. This shall then lead on to collaboration, trust and confidence between those people who seek to form a relationship with the land. In turn this process shall ensure that the Te Urewera Management Board and Tribal Authorities of Te Urewera shall gain the confidence of local people and manuhiri enabling them to manage Te Urewera within the concepts of Te Marae Te Urewera and Te Kawa O Te Urewera. This shall further create a positive response in the wider community towards Te Urewera and the Tuhoe people which can only be beneficial to all concerned.

Unfortunately Te Kawa O Te Urewera does not identify a pathway towards creating respect among people within Te Urewera. To achieve this in the first instance there is a requirement to set specific behavioural standards for people within Te Urewera that applies to all.

The Te Urewera Management Board in conjunction with Tribal Authorities are mandated and responsible to ensure this process is put in place as an effective tool in the management of Te Urewera. Although this may seem to constitute quite a challenge given the variety of personnel and opinions within and around Te Urewera the concept is really quite simple. Sometimes the simple things in life are the most effective and mostly accepted.

With that in mind and as a starting point here is a simple flow chart towards building respect among people within Te Urewera based on the application of common sense and process.