

## MEDIA RELEASE – 8 October 2025

## Ngāti Kahungunu Condemns Attempted Attack on Hawke's Bay Mosque

Ngāti Kahungunu lwi Incorporated stands in unwavering solidarity with the Muslim community following the attempted white supremacist terrorist attack on the Baithul Mokarram Masjid in Hawke's Bay.

Chairman Bayden Barber expressed deep concern at the systemic failures that allowed this threat to go undetected by national intelligence, and the lack of meaningful media coverage that failed to name the ideologies behind the attack.

"This was not just an attack on a mosque, it was an attack on the safety, dignity, and rights of our communities," said Mr Barber. "Ngāti Kahungunu condemns all forms of racism, Islamophobia, and white supremacy. We must call these threats by name and confront them with collective action."

Ngāti Kahungunu echoes the calls made by the People's Action Plan Against Racism in Aotearoa (PAPARA) for urgent government response, including:

- Prioritising the leadership and wellbeing of Muslim communities.
- Fully implementing the Royal Commission's recommendations on countering racially motivated violence.
- Publicly acknowledging white supremacy and Islamophobia as ongoing dangers.

In the spirit of kotahitanga, Ngāti Kahungunu will explore ways to support the affected mosque, review internal safety protocols across iwi spaces, and strengthen cross-community advocacy against racism and extremism.

"We stand with our Muslim whānau, not just in words, but in action. Our shared future depends on courageous leadership, structural change, and a commitment to justice," said Mr Barber.

## **ENDS**

Ngāti Kahungunu Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated is a Mandated Iwi Organisation/Authority. Ngāti Kahungunu is the third largest iwi. Geographically the tribe has the second longest coastline in the country from Paritū in the North to Turakirae in the South. Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated maintains an independent position to provide research, advice and advocate for the interests, rights, values, beliefs and practices of Ngāti Kahungunu alongside our whānau and hapū. Our mission is to enhance the mana and well-being of Ngāti Kahungunu.