

## COVER SHEET

1. Pathways Horowhenua Feasibility Study Application	For: Approve
<b>Background &amp; context:</b>	<b>Recommendation:</b>
<p><b>Applicant Organisation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Life to the Max Horowhenua Trust (LMHT)</li> </ul> <p><b>Location:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Horowhenua District</li> </ul> <p><b>Proposal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To investigate the education to employment interface within Horowhenua</li> </ul> <p><b>Funding Sought:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Total project value: \$<small>Commercial Info</small></li> <li>PGF Funding: \$50,000</li> </ul> <p><b>Background:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Horowhenua is a socially deprived district with high unemployment (7.3%), average education achievement and a failing education to employment interface is resulting in a large number of NEETS (19.4%).</li> <li>The level of work readiness of Horowhenua young people has been identified as a key issue that needs to be addressed in order to prepare the workforce for the growth that the Horowhenua is experiencing.</li> </ul>	<p><b>We recommend that the SRCs:</b></p> <p><b>a) Note</b> The Feasibility Study will assess whether a Horowhenua based skill and talent enabler is the most feasible solution to unlock Horowhenua's workforce potential improving educational, economic and social outcomes in Horowhenua.</p> <p><b>b) Note</b> The feasibility Study will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analyse and conduct a full assessment of the education to employment interface in Horowhenua, investigating the overlaps, gaps, and opportunities, with a focus on how the Horowhenua can better transition young people aged 15-24 from education to employment; and</li> <li>Conduct an assessment of the Horowhenua Labour Market, identifying opportunities and risks that will influence the design of future student/youth pathways.</li> </ol> <p><b>c) Note</b> Pathways Horowhenua is aligned with Horowhenua's Growth Strategy.</p> <p><b>d) Note</b> Pathways Horowhenua also links with Accelerate 25 Manawatu- Whanganui as a skills and talent enabler.</p> <p><b>e) Note</b> strong support from MSD. MSD advise that Pathways Horowhenua has partnered with the local MSD Youth Service provider and has trialed employability mentoring with young people, which has led to positive outcomes.</p>

	<p><b>f) Note</b> strong community support with letters from Horowhenua District Council, The Horowhenua COL (Taitoko and Kere Kere) – comprising eighteen schools, and The Horowhenua NZ Trust.</p> <p><b>g) Support</b> the recommendation to <b>Approve</b> \$50,000 from the PGF fund towards Pathways Horowhenua Feasibility Study subject to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreement between the PDU and LMHT as to the project deliverables, and associated detailed budget;</li> <li>• PDU agreement to the proposed project management structure; and</li> <li>• PDU agreement of the consultant/consultant firm contracted to undertake the work.</li> </ul>
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**PGF criteria that this proposal supports.**

PGF Criteria	Assessment Commentary	Rating (1✓ to 5✓)
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**Link with fund and government outcomes**

Creates permanent jobs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This Feasibility Study will determine whether a skills and talent enabler is feasible</li> <li>• The collaboration with local employers is expected to lead to increases in job opportunities for local unemployed</li> </ul>	✓✓✓
Delivers benefit to the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analysis from the study will be very beneficial in Horowhenua growth planning.</li> <li>• By increasing the skills and capabilities of young people, Pathways Horowhenua will improve the link with business leading to improved employment outcomes</li> </ul>	✓✓✓
Increased utilisation and returns of Maori asset base		
Enhanced sustainability of natural assets		

Mitigation of climate change effects		
<b>Additionality</b>		
Adding value by building on what is already there	The Feasibility Study will determine whether a skills and talent intermediary will connect the local stakeholders/opportunities to improve educational, economic and social outcomes. The intended skills and talent intermediary would be a completely new asset in Horowhenua.	✓✓
Acts as a catalyst for productivity potential in the region	The Feasibility Study will assess whether it is feasible to form a skills and talent intermediary. The applicant states that this is required due to significant growth, whilst there are a number of employment opportunities available there is high unemployment and a high number of NEETS. It will be determined in the Feasibility Study whether this would be a catalyst for unlocking productivity potential.	✓✓✓
<b>Connected to regional stakeholders and frameworks</b>		
Alignment with regional priorities	Pathways Horowhenua is well aligned with Horowhenua's Growth Strategy.  IT also links with Accelerate 25 Manawatu- Whanganui as a skills and talent enabler.	✓✓✓✓
Support from local governance groups (inc Councils, Iwi/Hapu)	Strong community support with letters from Horowhenua District Council, The Horowhenua COL (Taitoko and Kere Kere), and The Horowhenua NZ Trust.	✓✓✓✓
<b>Governance, risk management and project execution</b>		
Robust project management and governance systems	Existing governance and management model for the pilot will be utilised	
Risk management approach	•	
Future ownership / operational management	•	
<b>The purpose of this briefing is to consider recommending PGF funds to the Pathways Horowhenua Feasibility Study</b>		

**Risks Issues:**

- The ability of applicant to deliver the feasibility study – The PDU will work with the applicant to determine the project structure and deliverables. The applicant has a good track record working with MSD on previous initiatives.

**Eligibility points of note:**

- *Due diligence:* Full due diligence is to be completed. It is a condition of approval that due diligence is to be to the satisfaction of the Head of PDU Investment team.
- *Conflict(s) of interest:* Based on the information provided no conflict of interest is evident noting that full due diligence will inform this item further.
- *Illegal Activity:* Based on the application information provided and feedback from other agencies there is no indication that the applicant or project has been involved in, or associated with illegal activity.
- *Alignment with Regional development plans:* Pathways Horowhenua is aligned with Horowhenua’s Growth Strategy.
- *Commercial funding availability:* Given the nature of the project which is to complete a feasibility study access to commercial funding is not considered a feasible option.

**Consultation undertaken or implications:**

<b>Legal</b>	N/A	<b>HR</b>	N/A	<b>Finance</b>	N/A	<b>MBIE policy</b>	N/A	<b>Other</b>	TPK, MSD
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**Supporting proposal:**

Yes

**Appendices:**

Yes - Applications and supporting letters are as annexes

**Sponsor(s):**

N/A

**Manager/Author of paper:**

Nick Hough, Investment Team

