

Kaipara Wharves funding transfer update

1. At the RED Ministers' meeting on 29 January 2019, RED Ministers approved part of the transport components for the Kaipara Package be funded through the Provincial Growth Fund (PGF). The funding included an approved amount of \$950,000 for Wharves analysis by Kaipara District Council. The funding was then transferred from Vote Business, Science and Innovation (BSI) to Vote Transport.
2. In order to simplify the process for the various stakeholders being Kaipara District Council, New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA), and the Provincial Development Unit (PDU), the PDU will be recommending that the \$950,000 for the Wharves funding be transferred back to Vote BSI.
3. By reversing the decision there will be one government agency monitoring the project and signing off the works. This will reduce the risk of any time delays between government agencies. This also aligns with the approach taken for previous wharves projects, including Paihia Wharf and Russell Wharf, where funding was held in Vote BSI and the PDU held the contracts for delivery. These funding and delivery arrangements reflect the tourism applications of these projects, and the local councils' ownership of the connecting local road infrastructure.
4. NZTA and the Ministry of Transport (MOT) have been consulted and have raised no concern over PDU's request to transfer the funding back to Vote BSI.
5. MOT will be completing an in-principle expense transfer for various PGF projects over the coming months, of which the Kaipara Wharves \$950,000 will be included. Following confirmation of the in principle transfer in October 2019, a further briefing will be prepared for RED Ministers to transfer funds of \$950,000 back from Vote Transport to Vote BSI in the 2019/20 financial year.
6. This process will not slow down delivery of the project, as there is sufficient appropriation available under Vote BSI.