

Minutes – Regional Economic Development delegated Ministers meeting, 6 December 2018, 10.45-11.45am

Item		Decision	Comment and action
1.	PGF position papers		
1a.	Skills, infrastructure and EDAs	APPROVE	Ministers endorsed public release of position paper.
1b.	Waste	APPROVE	Ministers were broadly comfortable with the position paper, noting only that the proposed approach to capping the number of proposals (i.e. at between 10-20) could be problematic. Ministers also wanted to ensure that the position did not crowd out private sector activities. Officials agreed to remove reference to a capped number of proposals and instead focus on encouraging proposals that align with agreed principles, with proposals to be considered on a case-by-case basis. Action: PDU to finalise position paper in preparation for being publicly released.
1c.	Water storage	APPROVE	Ministers have initiated a working group to identify specific opportunities for the PGF to invest in water storage to enable Maori landowners to bring land into production. Action: Minister Jones' Chief Policy Advisor and PDU to work with the Working Group.
2.	PGF proposals for report-back		
2a.	Waiapu Package report-back	DEFER	Officials noted that the Ministry of Primary Industries could contribute \$ <small>Commercial Information</small> through its Erosion Control Fund and discussed potential funding options through the PGF. Ministers did not see a strong alignment with PGF criteria at the level of funding sought but would be comfortable with the PGF co-funding a smaller proportion of the proposal. They directed officials to report back on other mechanisms for funding the project, given Crown commitments through the Ngati Porou's Treaty settlement. Action: MPI to lead work across agencies to provide RED Ministers with a briefing on funding for the proposal.
2b.	Manfeild National Driving Centre project terms review	APPROVE	Ministers approved provision of OpEx in the form of a grant of \$ <small>Commercial Information</small> . This was a correction to the minutes of the last RED Ministers meeting. Action: PDU to work with applicant to finalise \$<small>Commercial Information</small> for OpEx.

Commercial Information -declined project

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			Action: PDU to advise delegated Ministers (Jones and Parker) on application before next RED Ministers meeting.
Commercial Information - declined project			
3.	PGF proposals for decision		
Commercial Information - declined project			
Commercial Information - declined project			
3c.	Clutha Gold Cycle Trail	DEFER	<p>PDU noted that it had formed its recommendation to approve a grant of \$1.50M (i.e. substantially lower than the \$^{Commercial In} requested) based on feedback from MBIE's Cycle Trail team.</p> <p>Ministers expressed an interest in approving funding for the project, and directed officials to identify a package to focus on 'must haves'. Ministers Jones and Twyford were delegated responsibility for decisions on the application.</p> <p>Action: PDU to provide delegated Ministers (Jones and Twyford) with a briefing on funding for the revised proposal.</p>

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Prejudice to Negotiations			
Commercial Information - declined project		Commercial Infor	Prejudice to Negotiations
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4.	General business		
4a.	PGF funding for sector infrastructure investments		Ministers discussed the potential for bringing robotic technologies into the primary sector to scale up production. Ministers saw this investment as important for whole sectors, rather than individual companies and from engagements with robot

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			<p>specialists, they believe that this could be done within PGF investment levels. This is consistent with the approach PGF has considered to regard to investing in sector infrastructure and will be a priority area of consideration in 2019.</p> <p>Action: PDU/MBIE and NZTE to engage to provide Ministers with advice early in 2019 for investments in this area, including those which deliver greater scale and 'volume to value.'</p>
4b.	Layout of RED Ministers papers		<p>Ministers requested that the A3 tables include a column containing summary of advice from the IAP.</p> <p>Action: PDU to change formatting of A3 tables for next RED Ministers meeting.</p>
4c.	Appointment of Deputy-Chair of the IAP		<p>Ministers requested that Rosie Mercer be appointed Deputy-Chair of the IAP.</p> <p>Action: MBIE to write letter to Rosie formalising the appointment.</p>

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