

Regional Economic Development

Weekly Report

7 – 13 March 2020

To: Hon Shane Jones

Minister for Regional Economic Development

Fletcher Tabuteau

Under-Secretary to the Minister for Regional Economic
Development



Contents

1. Dashboard updates.....	3
1.1 Proposals received by the Provincial Development Unit (PDU) (as at 8 March 2020) 3	
1.2 Progress of proposals received by the PDU (as at 8 March 2020)	3
1.3 Headline PGF Numbers as at 31 January 2020 (monthly)	3
1.4 Job numbers as at 31 January 2020 (monthly)	3
2. Upcoming announcements	4
3. Priority updates	4
4. Delivery of projects update.....	5
4.1 Top priority projects of interest.....	5
4.2 Other projects	6
4.3 Te Ara Mahi (TAM)/He Poutama Rangatahi (HPR) update	7
4.4 Major upcoming project deliverables – due this month.....	7
5. Policy Updates	8
5.1 Policy.....	8
Appendix 1 – Completed Briefings, Aides Memoire & Reports	9
Appendix 2 – Upcoming Cabinet Papers, Briefings, Aides Memoire & Reports	10
Appendix 3 – Official Information Act requests	11
Appendix 4 – Ministerial Correspondence	13
Appendix 5 – Parliamentary Questions	14
Appendix 6 – Proactive Release	15

1. Dashboard updates

1.1 Proposals received by the Provincial Development Unit (PDU) (as at 8 March 2020)

New proposals received in week ending 8 March 2020	18
Total proposals received to 8 March 2020	1,586

* Includes applications and expressions of interest

1.2 Progress of proposals received by the PDU (as at 8 March 2020)

Stage	Count*
Awaiting assessment	104
Being assessed	189
Unsuccessful	827
Approved	466
Total received	1,586

* These figures include all proposals that have come through the PDU's application and decision-making process.

Please note that the reported total figure has increased by 16, despite the Unit having received 18 new applications. This anomaly is due to two applications having been transferred to One Billion Trees for processing.

1.3 Headline PGF Numbers as at 31 January 2020 (monthly)

Total PGF funding committed	Total funding contracted	Total funding paid to date
\$2,873.4m	\$1,196.5m	\$449.8m

1.4 Job numbers as at 31 January 2020 (monthly)

Number of people employed in PGF-supported projects	2,401*
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* Based on information provided by funding recipients on contracted projects.

2. Upcoming announcements

Announcements planned for the next week			
Date	Location	Announcement	Additional Information
13 March	Whakatāne/ Ōpōtiki	Whakatāne Harbour and Riverfront, Ōpōtiki Regional Digital Hub	Minister Jones
Commercial Information	Commerc	Commercial Information	Commercial Information
20 March	Kaitaia	Digital Connectivity Kaitaia Hub Commercial Inform Commercial Information	TBC

3. Priority updates

Project name	Description/ update
COVID 19 Virus	<p>PDU officials accompanied Ministers Twyford, Nash and O'Connor in Nelson on 10 March to meet with key business leaders and mayors to better understand impacts of the COVID 19 virus on the region and sectors, and explore any potential government interventions.</p> <p>The PDU is aware that COVID 19 has the potential to heavily impact regions that rely on sectors such as tourism and forestry and is working in the regions and across agencies to understand the impacts and ways that people and projects can be supported..</p>

4. Delivery of projects update

4.1 Top priority projects of interest

Project name	Description/ update
<p>Commercial Information - Withdrawn project</p>	<p>Commercial Information - Withdrawn project</p> <p>Commercial Information - Withdrawn project</p> <p>Commercial Information - Withdrawn project</p> <p>Commercial Information - Withdrawn project</p> <p>Amount: \$Commercial Information Region: Commercial Information Status: Commercial Information - Withd (approved)</p>
<p>Tomarata Bridge (Kaipara Roding)</p>	<p>The Tomarata Bridge in Mangawhai reopened on 13 March 2020. Repairs to this bridge were part of the Kaipara Kickstart programme which will improve the safety and resilience of Kaipara's road network. This is now complete.</p> <p>Amount: \$Commercial Information Region: Tai Tokerau Status: Complete</p>
<p>Sarjeant Gallery Te Whare o Rehua Whanganui Redevelopment</p>	<p>Construction of the Sarjeant Gallery will begin in the next few weeks. There will be a sod-turning ceremony on 24 March 2020 to which you and the Under-Secretary have been invited.</p> <p>Amount: \$12.000m Region: Manawatū-Whanganui Status: Contracted</p>
<p>Te Waiariki Ngawha Springs Enhancement and Redevelopment Project</p>	<p>This project will enhance and redevelop Te Waiariki Ngawha Springs near Kaikohe in the mid-north of Tai Tokerau, and will be a key site between attractions on the east and west coasts of the region. Foundations were poured on 9 March 2020.</p> <p>Amount: \$1.790m Region: Tai Tokerau Status: Contracted</p>

4.2 Other projects

Project name	Description/ update
<p>Commercial Information</p> <p>[Redacted]</p>	<p>Prejudice to negotiations</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>Amount: \$[Redacted] Region: [Redacted] Status: [Redacted]</p>
<p>Regional Digital Hub in Gisborne</p>	<p>As reported last week, the recipient has confirmed the approved contractors and has the contract to sign. [Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>Amount: \$400,000 Region: Tairāwhiti Status: [Redacted]</p>
<p>Technical Study for The Whale Trail</p>	<p>The recipient plans to submit the project's technical study on time. The discussions between the recipient and local iwi regarding the Kaikoura part of the trail are ongoing.</p> <p>Amount: \$322,000 Region: Te Taihu Status: Contracted</p>
<p>Ruatoria Aerodrome Development Project</p>	<p>PDU officials met with representatives from Eastland Group and the Ruatoria Papa Rererangi Charitable Trust this week to agree on the maintenance and management of the project. [Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>Amount: \$100,000 Region: Tairāwhiti Status: [Redacted]</p>

4.3 Te Ara Mahi (TAM)/He Poutama Rangatahi (HPR) update

Tairāwhiti update

The Tairāwhiti Road Transport Programme (TRTP) <http://eastlandwood.co.nz/growing-our-people/trt/> has been operating since 2018 with Ministry of Social Development and Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment funding, the latter through the Sector Workforce Employment Programme. TRTP has recently been successful in securing Provincial Growth Fund funding of just under \$1 million. This has allowed the programme to build resilience and capacity. In 2019, 86 drivers completed the programme and Comme are now employed.

Although the COVID 19 situation has seen a sharp downturn in log truck usage, this is being used as an opportunity for experienced drivers to use their time mentoring new drivers and training on equipment that is normally in use.

A Careers Expo is being held in Gisborne on 6 and 7 April and the TRTP and its key stakeholders will be present. Programme representatives will talk to students from the area on careers in the industry and the benefits of having a truck licence.

4.4 Major upcoming project deliverables – due this month

Contract Title	Region	Condition
Hundertwasser Arts Centre and Wairaru Māori Art Gallery	Tai Tokerau	The roof is now close to completion and the first parapet will soon be ready to be poured. A Viennese representative is to travel to New Zealand to inspect the first section of tiling that is currently underway.
Kaipara Kickstart	Tai Tokerau	The Hub at Ruawai will soon commence operation.
Kaipara Moana (Wharves)	Tai Tokerau	Construction on the Dargaville Pontoon is to commence.
Sarjeant Gallery Te Whare o Rehua Whanganui Redevelopment	Manawatū-Whanganui	Construction and initial groundworks are due to begin at the end of the month.

5. Policy Updates

5.1 Policy

Upper North Island Supply Chain work programme to May 2020

Ministry of Transport (MoT) officials met last week with two key Auckland iwi groups to discuss the Upper North Island Supply Chain Strategy (UNISCS) work programme – the Independent Māori Statutory Board (IMSB), and the five Marutūāhu iwi whose interests include Manukau and the Firth of Thames.

IMSB Chair David Taipari and Chief Executive Brandi Hudson attended the meeting. [REDACTED] Commercial Information [REDACTED]

Those attending the Marutūāhu meeting included Paul Majurey (Ngāti Maru and Chair of the Marutūāhu Collective). The meeting noted that historical treaty claim negotiations will be an important consideration.

Both groups appreciated the opportunity to engage, and requested further information. A workshop is being scheduled.

MoT Deputy Chief Executive Nick Brown will visit Hamilton and Tauranga next week to meet with representatives of the Port of Tauranga, the Bay of Plenty Regional Council and Tauranga City Council as well as local iwi. In Hamilton, he will meet with the partners in the Waikato's Future Proof Growth Strategy, including Waikato Regional Council and Hamilton City Council as well as tāngata whenua. He will also meet with representatives of Tainui Group Holdings, which co-owns the Ruakura Inland Port with the Port of Tauranga.

PDU Officials also recently met with the Infrastructure Commission, Te Waihanga, as part of the ongoing commitment to share information at key stages of the project.

Contact: Isabel Poulson, Manager Strategy and Policy, Privacy of natural persons

Appendix 1 – Completed Briefings, Aides Memoire & Reports

Tracking #	Title	Minister/ USEC	Signed out by	Date sent
2563 19-20	Commercial Information	Jones, USEC	Isabel Poulsen	09 Mar
2572 19-20	Update on PGF Supported Roads Projects	Jones	Mark Jacobs	05 Mar
2632 19-20	Whakatāne and Ōpōtiki PGF Announcements	Jones, USEC	Nicki Sutherland	10 Mar
2669 19-20	Commercial Information - Prejudice to negotiations	Jones	David van der Zouwe	15 Mar

Appendix 2 – Upcoming Cabinet Papers, Briefings, Aides Memoire & Reports

Tracking #	Title	Minister/ USEC	Signed out by	Due Date
TBC	Event Briefing: Palmerston North/Whanganui	Jones	Kate Styles	17 Mar
TBC	Event Briefing: Gisborne	Jones	Nicki Sutherland	18 Mar
2675 19-20	Regional Economic Development Minister's Meeting	RED	David van der Zouwe	18 Mar
TBC	Event Briefing: QE Health Announcement	Jones	Nicki Sutherland	18 Mar
TBC	Event Briefing: Northland	Jones	Nicki Sutherland	20 Mar
TBC	Event Briefing: Kerikeri	Jones	Nicki Sutherland	3 April
TBC	Event Briefing: Southland	Jones	Kate Styles	7 Apr
TBC	Event Briefing: Canterbury	Jones	Kate Styles	8 Apr
TBC	Event Briefing: West Coast	Jones	Kate Styles	9 Apr
TBC	Event Briefing: Queenstown	Jones	Kate Styles	14 Apr
TBC	Event Briefing: Chatham Islands	Jones	Ben Dalton	17 Apr
TBC	Event Briefing: Nelson	USEC	Kate Styles	14 Apr

Appendix 3 – Official Information Act requests

Ministerial OIA					
Tracking #	Name	Date received	Due to Minister	Status	Request
OIA424	Privacy of natural persons	3 Mar	20 Mar	Scoping	Request for drought correspondence and information
OI425	Privacy of natural persons	3 Mar	20 Mar	Scoping	Commercial Information - Declined project

Departmental OIA						
Tracking #	Name	Date received	Due to Minister	Due to requestor	Status	Request
1920-0227	Privacy of natural persons	13 Aug	1 Nov	8 Oct	Gathering Information	Ruapehu Alpine Lifts - questions
1920-0901	Privacy of natural persons	16 Dec	11 Mar	18 Mar	Minister's Office	Documents relating to the following grant of PGF funding
1920-1154	Privacy of natural persons	17 Dec	27 Feb	5 Mar	Scoping	Copies of PDU protocols, processes, NDAs and other documents
1920-1220	Privacy of natural persons	11 Feb	3 Mar	10 Mar	Minister's Office	Prejudice to negotiations
1920-1234	Privacy of natural persons	12 Feb	4 Mar	8 Apr	Gathering information	Up to date spreadsheet of the PDUs projects
1920-1240	Privacy of natural persons	12 Feb	4 Mar	8 Apr	Gathering information	Why all announced projects stated data spreadsheet was removed from the website
1920-1279	Privacy of natural pers	20 Feb	12 Mar	19 Mar	Review	Info for transparency around water security in our local community and PGF
1920-1301	Privacy of natural persons	24 Feb	16 Mar	23 Mar	Gathering Information	Request for spreadsheet displaying PGF funding data
1920-1314	Privacy of natural persons	26 Feb	18 Mar	25 Mar	Scoping	Kawerau Off-Highway Road (Sequal Lumber Ltd) map
1920-1329	Privacy of natural persons	27 Feb	19 Mar	26 Mar	Scoping	Commercial Information
1920-1342	Privacy of natural persons	1 Mar	20 Mar	27 Mar	Scoping	PDU correspondence, lists, and minutes re: Northland or Waikato Drought
1920-1372	Privacy of natural persons	5 Mar	26 Mar	2 Apr	Scoping	Information relating to PGF funding for Northland and other projects
1920-1377	Privacy of natural persons	5 Mar	26 Mar	2 Apr	Scoping	Invoices relating to PGF Launch Event since the establishment of the PGF

Appendix 4 – Ministerial Correspondence

Ministerial Correspondence				
Tracking #	Name	Date received	Due to Minister	Subject
SJ3811	Privacy of natural persons	17 Feb	16 Mar	Commercial Information - Withdrawn project
SJ3935	Privacy of natural persons	26 Feb	25 Mar	Concerns out about roads in Mahia and the funding from the PGF
SJ3942	Privacy of natural persons	27 Feb	26 Mar	Commercial Information - Withdrawn project
SJ3881	Privacy of natural persons	27 Feb	26 Mar	Prejudice to negotiations
SJ3878	Privacy of natural persons	27 Feb	26 Mar	Prejudice to negotiations
SJ3870	Privacy of natural persons	27 Feb	26 Mar	Prejudice to negotiations
SJ3872	Privacy of natural persons	27 Feb	26 Mar	Prejudice to negotiations
SJ3901	Privacy of natural persons	28 Feb	27 Mar	Prejudice to negotiations
SJ3899	Privacy of natural persons	28 Feb	27 Mar	Prejudice to negotiations
SJ3918	Privacy of natural persons	3 Mar	30 Mar	Prejudice to negotiations
SJ3929	Privacy of natural persons	3 Mar	31 Mar	Prejudice to negotiations
SJ3928	Privacy of natural persons	3 Mar	31 Mar	Prejudice to negotiations

Appendix 5 – Parliamentary Questions

Written Parliamentary Questions				
Tracking #	From	Date received	Due to Office	Question
PQ 3716 (2020) – PQ 4030 (2020)	Chris Bishop	12 Mar	16 Mar	64 x WPQs pertaining to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amounts paid • Amounts allocated • Staff numbers • Applications • Funded projects • Travel • Launch events • Ashburton Second Urban Bridge

Appendix 6 – Proactive Release

Documents for Proactive Release			
Name / Document Type	Quantity	Due for release	Status
Cabinet Papers	1	TBC	On Hold
Regional Economic Development Weekly Reports	16	From 16 March	Preparing
Applications	204	From 16 March	Various
Funding Agreements	218	From 16 March	Various
Regional Economic Development Ministers Meeting Papers	35	From 16 March	Minister's Office
Position Papers	0	N/A	N/A
Senior Regional Officials Meeting Papers	16	From 16 March	Sign-out
Independent Advisory Panel Meeting Papers	17	From 16 March	Sign-out
Business Cases / Feasibility Studies	2	From 16 March	Preparing

Released this week	
Name / Document Type	Quantity Released
Applications	3
Funding Agreements	3
Regional Economic Development Ministers Meeting Papers	nil
Senior Regional Officials Meeting Papers	nil
Independent Advisory Panel Meeting Papers	nil
Business Cases / Feasibility Studies	2