



Update on previous actions from 5 November RED Ministers' meeting

| PGF proposal | Action | Status |
|--|--|--|
| Kiwirail Palmerston North Regional Economic Growth Hub | PDU to explore best way to deliver project with safeguards, including ensuring it doesn't become a private tolling operation. | Not yet commenced |
| Manfeild National Driver Training Centre | PDU to work with applicant to finalise structure of PGF investment, comprising \$ ^{Commercial Information} loan for CapEx and \$ ^{Commercial Information} loan for OpEx. | Papers prepared for RED Ministers 6 Dec requesting \$ ^{Commercial Info} million be treated as a grant |
| Commercial Information -declined project | | |
| Predjudice to Negotiations | | |
| Commercial Information - declined project | | |
| Commercial Information | | |
| Prejudice to Negotiations | | |
| Commercial Information - Withdrawn project | | |
| LeaderBrand | PDU to negotiate with applicant on commercial terms of PGF loan. | Apryll and Andrew (MPI) meeting with |



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| | | the applicant on 6 December |
| Matai Labs | PDU to confirm Trust has appropriate beneficiary structure. Third-party funds to be held in escrow account before PGF money is released. | Developing draft contract for applicant to view |
| Oceania Marine 550T Travel Lift | PDU to negotiate loan with applicant. Conditions to include verification of civil works costs. | Underway |
| Opuke Thermal Pools and Spa | PDU to negotiate loan for full amount requested (\$7.5 million) and further test regional support for the project prior to releasing funding. | Underway |
| Northland Water Storage | Ministers agreed to delegate decision-making on this project to the Ministers for Economic Development and Regional Economic Development, with support from the PDU. | PDU in progress of providing supporting information |
| Prejudice to Negotiations | | |
| Paihia Wharf | PDU to notify applicant. | Complete |
| DEV report back | PDU officials to raise this at next RED Officials meeting. | On agenda for 6 December RED Ministers' meeting |



PDU update on skills, digital connectivity and water

Employment, skills and capability update

1. Following Cabinet's October decisions regarding PGF investment in employment, skills and capability, the PDU is:
 - Identifying skills and employment opportunities within existing PGF pipedrive applications, and working with applicants to get these investment ready
 - working in the regions to identify the particular employment needs and priorities (through regional employment investment portfolios) with the purpose of bringing forward to the PGF applications that will support local people into local employment opportunities, and that address gaps in existing government support programmes including coordination
 - building our own capacity and processes to deliver on the anticipated \$82.4m of investment this year.
2. To date the work encompasses both employment readiness and support programmes for rangatahi not in employment, education or training; as well as support for employers. We have had an initial focus on Te Taitokerau/Northland; Te Tairāwhiti and Manawatū-Whanganui regions. As we move into the new year we will extend the focus into other regions and a broader range of initiatives.

Digital

3. The PDU is working closely with MBIE, Te Puni Kōkiri and Crown Infrastructure Partners to firm up an agreed approach and costings to the third element of PGF funding for digital connectivity – local connectivity. As outlined in the October cabinet paper, this will have a focus on marae connectivity and civic-business digital hubs. Initial propositions for local connectivity would include funding being allocated for digital connection of marae at a subsidised rate, marae based digital training, local civic-business digital hubs, and supplementary funding for these depending on demand. A briefing will be provided to Ministers around mid-December, with papers for RED Ministers to be submitted approximately in late January.

Water

4. The PDU is working closely with MPI and other partner agencies, to progress water storage applications that have been received/expected to be submitted to the PGF. All water storage proposal applications should be guided by the principles in the PDU position paper on water storage, which have been considered by RED Ministers. To date, five water storage related applications have been approved, across the Northland, Bay of Plenty, and Tairāwhiti regions, with about five applications currently undergoing assessment or awaiting decision making processes. Further, there are several potential proposals which have been invited to submit a full application, and which are expected to be received over the next few months. Further investigation of opportunities for Māori land development with water storage will align with the approach in the cabinet paper being submitted on the PGF and the proposed Whenua Maori capital fund, unlocking Māori land potential.