

Regional Economic Development

Weekly Report

25 – 29 May 2020

To: Hon Shane Jones

Minister for Regional Economic Development

Fletcher Tabuteau

Under-Secretary to the Minister for Regional Economic
Development



IN-CONFIDENCE

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1. Dashboard updates

1.1 Proposals received by the Provincial Development Unit (PDU) (as at 24 May 2020)

New proposals received in week ending 24 May 2020	18
Total proposals received to 24 May 2020	1,729*

*Includes applications and expressions of interest

1.2 Progress of proposals received by the PDU (as at 24 May 2020)

Stage	Count*
Awaiting assessment	117
Being assessed	199
Unsuccessful	915
Approved	498
Total received	1,729*

* These include all proposals that have come through the Provincial Development Unit's application and decision-making process. Application numbers may differ from project numbers as multiple applications may result in a single project or vice versa.

1.3 Headline Provincial Growth Fund (PGF) Numbers (as at 30 April 2020) (monthly)

Total PGF funding committed	Total funding contracted	Total funding paid to date
\$2,869.5m	\$1,457.5m	\$544.4m

1.4 Job numbers (as at 30 April 2020) (monthly)

Number of people employed in PGF-supported projects	2,595*
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* Based on information provided by funding recipients on contracted projects.

3. Delivery of projects update

3.1 Top priority projects of interest

Project name	Description/ update
Parihaka Visitor Facilities	The contract for this project was executed this week. This project is part of the Historic Sites of National Significance allocation and is a notable project for the region due to the size of the agreement with a Māori Trust.
	Amount: \$14.000m Region: Taranaki Status: Approved
Hundertwasser Arts Centre and Wairaru Māori Art Gallery	Physical works for this project were able to recommence under Alert Level Three conditions; in response to the acceleration of construction, the funding recipient employed more resources to manage the increased level of health and safety requirements. It is likely they will need to employ even more resources to catch up on the time lost during the lockdown. The final flat concrete pour has been completed and the internal fit out commenced last week.
	Amount: \$ <small>Commercial Information</small> Region: Northland Status: Contracted

3.2 Other projects

Project name	Description/ update
Transition from pastoral leasing to active management of Waima Topu B Trust farm operations	The contract for this Whenua Māori project has been executed and the project has commenced. A project manager has been engaged and has begun the supporting work needed to instigate the transition from a pastoral leasing farm to a high performance beef farm.
	Amount: \$991,800 Region: Northland Status: Contracted
Te Rimu Trust - Lime Orchard Development	Te Rimu Trust has engaged <small>Commercial Information</small> to perform a Water Take Ecological Assessment to inform the Water Take Consent. It is likely that funds set aside for contingency will be utilised to support this. Once completed, the Trust will be able to receive their consent.
	Amount: \$871,459 Region: Tairāwhiti Status: Contracted
The Food Factory	The first Food Factory tenant, Little Beauties, moved in on 20 May 2020. Little Beauties is a scale-up business that processes local produce into dried fruit products (e.g. kiwifruit, feijoas and boysenberries). They will have <small>Commercial Information</small> staff on-site doing added-value production. The second tenant, Fresh2U, is planned to move into the space on Monday. There is a pipeline of enquiries from prospective tenants and further promotion of the site, alongside a new website, will be happening in the next few days. A plan for communications is currently being formulated.
	Amount: \$778,000 Region: Top of the South Status: Contracted

The Camera Obscura Sculpture	Work recommenced on the Camera Obscura site at the beginning of May 2020, seeing the completion of the block work. The steel exterior of the structure is being fabricated off-site. Commercial Information [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
	Amount: \$458,853 Region: Northland Status: Contracted
Kaipara Kickstart: Roads, Kai and Moana Activation	Commercial Information [REDACTED] As a result of community engagement, the Kaipara Wharves Feasibility Study has been finalised despite the COVID-19 lockdown period. Additionally, the Activation Plan for the Kai for Kaipara project has been drafted and will be finalised once further engagement with stakeholders has occurred.
	Region: Northland Status: Contracted

4. Policy update

4.1 Provincial Growth Fund Limited (PGFL)

Provincial Growth Fund Limited (PGFL)	
A Cabinet paper seeking approval to transition PGFL from a passive holding company to an active company is with your office for review and consideration.	
Contact:	Isabel Poulson, Manager Strategy and Policy, Privacy of natural persons

5. Annual review and estimates hearing

Thursday 25 June – Estimates Hearing	
The PDU will provide draft supplementary question responses and hot topics to the Minister's Office on Friday 12 June for their review. MBIE will appear before the Economic Development Science and Innovation Committee on 4 June. MBIE will give the overall presentation, with Deputy Chief Executives on hand to answer questions in their respective areas.	
Minister Jones has been invited to appear before the Economic Development Science and Innovation Committee on 25 June for the Regional Economic Development portfolio 2020/21 estimates of appropriation. Robert Pigou, Head of the PDU, and MBIE Chief Executive, Carolyn Tremain, will attend to support the Minister. The PDU will provide draft supplementary question responses and hot topics to the Minister's Office on Friday 12 June for their review.	
Contact:	Lydia Jarman, Senior Advisor to the Head of the PDU, Privacy of natural persons