

# Regional Economic Development

**Weekly Report**

**6 – 9 April 2020**

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**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 5 April 2020)

<b>New proposals received in week ending 5 April 2020</b>	9
<b>Total proposals received to 5 April 2020</b>	1,636*

Includes applications and expressions of interest

\*\* Received 9 new proposals but total only gone up 7, one project/application for the West Coast Ports confirmed out of RIO not PGF, the other was an existing approval which has been confirmed as an additional approval to an existing proposal so counted as one when previously 2 (Northland Water Storage & Use Stage 2).

### 1.2 Progress of proposals received by the PDU (as at 5 April 2020)

Stage	Count*
Awaiting assessment	88
Being assessed	215
Unsuccessful	860
Approved	473
<b>Total received</b>	<b>1,636</b>

\* 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 29 February 2020 (monthly)

Total PGF funding committed	Total funding contracted	Total funding paid to date
\$2,881.8m	\$1,255.6m	\$469.5m

### 1.4 Job numbers as at 29 February 2020 (monthly)

<b>Number of people employed in PGF-supported projects</b>	1,849*
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\* Based on information provided by funding recipients on contracted projects.

## 2. Priority updates

Topic	Description/ update
Social Wellbeing Governance Group (SWGG)	The SWGG, chaired by Murray Reade, has been set up in Northland to protect and advance wellbeing for Northlanders. This is an inter-agency group which includes iwi representation. The existing Skills and Employment Steering Group has been incorporated into this group whilst COVID-19 impacts remain.

## 3. Delivery of projects update

### 3.1 Top priority projects of interest

Project name	Description/ update
Tairāwhiti Rooding Package	PDU Officials have been working with Gisborne District Council to manage any impacts of COVID-19 on the package. The Council feels confident that there will be minimal disruption to its intended programme, should the lockdown end when expected.
	The Council has varied its contract for the package which now includes specific social procurement outcomes weighted at 45%. The Council aims to have all tenders released to market by the end of April.
	<b>Amount:</b> \$137.000m   <b>Region:</b> Tairāwhiti   <b>Status:</b> Contracted
Government Garden Cultural Quarter	The building consent for stage one has been issued and a stage two consent application was submitted on 30 March 2020. The recipient expects this to be issued by the end of April. Full construction for this project is due to start in May, subject to the COVID-19 lockdown being lifted.
	<b>Amount:</b> \$9.800m   <b>Region:</b> Bay of Plenty   <b>Status:</b> Contracted
Kaikōura Marine Development Programme - Wakatu Quay	The Council is tendering for the demolition of buildings at Wakatu Quay. A project manager will be engaged.
	<b>Amount:</b> \$9.800m   <b>Region:</b> Canterbury   <b>Status:</b> Contracted
Opuke Thermal Pools and Spa	The design phase for this project is nearly complete. The construction phase will begin once the COVID-19 lockdown has lifted. Building consent is being sought during the lockdown period.
	<b>Amount:</b> \$7.500m   <b>Region:</b> Canterbury   <b>Status:</b> Contracted
Whakarewarewa Forest – phase 3	Long Mile Road has been completed and the second Forest Hub is tracking to plan with an estimated completion date of April/May 2020 depending on the duration of the lockdown. Construction on the forest loop has begun (although currently on hold) and should be completed by August 2020. Planning requirements and affected party consultation is underway for the CBD Loop trail. The features and digital infrastructure for both loop trails will be completed as part of the cultural overlay work with mana whenua partners within the next two months.
	<b>Amount:</b> \$6.426m   <b>Region:</b> Bay of Plenty   <b>Status:</b> Contracted

Te Wairoa E Whanake	The Council will be able to accelerate the building demolition and this will happen immediately post-lockdown, subject to an engineer's report.
	<b>Amount:</b> \$4.800m   <b>Region:</b> Hawke's Bay   <b>Status:</b> Contracted

### 3.2 Other projects

Project name	Description/ update
Regional Digital Hub Proposal - Te Pae Tata	The design and launch preparations for the Regional Digital Hub has been continuing as much as possible, given the limits of the lockdown. The launch has been delayed as the community facility where the Hub will be located is closed until we move to Alert Level Two or less. The Hub is likely to provide relief and stimulus to the business community following the impacts of COVID-19 and the recipient is recruiting a manager for the Hub.
	<b>Amount:</b> \$400,000   <b>Region:</b> Manawatū-Whanganui   <b>Status:</b> Contracted
Regional Digital Hub in Wairoa	The COVID-19 lockdown has put the establishment of the Regional Digital Hub on hold. Before this, the Council was running ahead of schedule, however, the availability of contractors and resourcing will determine the impact on its timelines once lockdown has been lifted. The Council anticipates that this will delay the project by around 4-6 weeks.
	<b>Amount:</b> \$400,000   <b>Region:</b> Hawke's Bay   <b>Status:</b> Contracted
Wood Processing Capability Assistance	Dr Mark Smith is to provide a draft Tairāwhiti regional wood processing strategy and wood processing aspirations report shortly. This was due 31 March 2020.
	<b>Amount:</b> \$100,000   <b>Region:</b> Tairāwhiti   <b>Status:</b> Contracted