

Application for Funding Development Phase

**About this form**

This form enables you to make an application for funding over \$100,000 from the Provincial Growth Fund for activities in the Development Phase of a project.

You will need to use the Express Form if your application is for an activity under \$100,000 or the Standard Form if your application is for an actual Project (i.e. delivery of an asset).

These forms are available on the [Provincial Growth Fund website](#)

Purpose of the Provincial Growth Fund

The Provincial Growth Fund aims to lift productivity potential in the provinces. Its priorities are to enhance economic development opportunities, create sustainable jobs, enable Māori to reach their full potential, boost social inclusion and participation, build resilient communities, and help meet New Zealand's climate change targets.

Completing this form

Please complete all sections fully and accurately. Square brackets and italics indicate guides.

Please see the PGF website, or contact your regional relationship manager, for further support.

Submitting your application

All completed forms must be emailed to PGF@mbie.govt.nz with a clear subject heading.

If you are a Trust (or applying on behalf of a Trust), then you must provide a copy of your Trust Deed.

Next Steps

Applications will be assessed for eligibility, as well as how well they will deliver on the aims of the Provincial Growth Fund. One of our team will be in contact regarding your application.

Funding Agreement

The template funding agreements can be found on the [Provincial Growth Fund website](#)

Public disclosure

The Provincial Development Unit is responsible for leading the Provincial Growth Fund's design, administration and monitoring its operation in consultation with other government agencies. In the interests of public transparency, successful applications may be published by the Provincial Development Unit (PDU). Commercially sensitive and personal information will be redacted by reference to the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982. Please identify by highlighting any information in your application that you regard as commercially sensitive or as personal information for the purposes of the Privacy Act 1993.

Part A: Key Details

Please note that if the funding agreement will not be with the applicant (i.e. applying on behalf of another organisation), then please complete this application from the perspective of that organisation.

1. Proposal Title:

2. Please provide a very brief description of the project/activity:

To provide a coordination and management resource to drive the development and implementation of six iconic tourism developments in the Ruapehu District.

3. Please provide the details of the applicant organisation/entity for which funding is being requested:

Legal Name:	Ruapehu District Council
Entity Type:	Local Authority
Registered Offices / Place of Business:	59-63 Huia Street, Taumarunui
Identifying Number:	<i>[e.g. Company Number, NZBN, Trust / society number, etc. if applicable]</i>
Organisation's Website:	<i>www.ruapehu.govt.nz</i>

4. Please provide the contact details for a person as a key point of contact):

Contact Name and Role:	Warren Furner, Manager Land Transport / Economic Development		
Email Address:	Privacy of natural persons	Telephone:	Privacy of natural persons

5. Please describe the principal role or activity of the applicant organisation.

Ruapehu District Council is a Territorial Authority subject to the Local Government Act 2002 (the Act), subpart 1, Section 10 – as follows:

10 Purpose of local government

(1) The purpose of local government is—

(a) to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and
(b) to meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses.

(2) In this Act, good-quality, in relation to local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions, means infrastructure, services, and performance that are—

(a) efficient; and
(b) effective; and
(c) appropriate to present and anticipated future circumstances.

Acting in the role of a local authority under subpart 2, section 10 of the Act, the Ruapehu District Council submits the following application to the Provincial Growth Fund.

6. This project will be based in the region of:

7. What type of funding is this application for:

[Note: the most appropriate funding type will be determined by the PDU in consultation with the applicant]

8. What is the activity / funding start and end date?

Start Date:	Commercial Information	Completion Date:	Commercial Information
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9. Has this project / activity been previously discussed with any part of Government? Yes: No:

- If Yes, please describe which part of government, and what the outcome of the discussions were.

Discussion have been held with the regional SRO (Di Grennell), MBIE Tourism (Iain Cossar), MBIE Bridgett Sullivan. This application is a direct result of those discussions on the best way to progress the Ruapehu Regional Visitor Development Plan. Communications outlining those discussions is attached as Attachment 2 Attachement withheld - Commercial Information

10. Have you previously received any Government funding for this Project/Activity? Yes: No:

- If Yes, please list which part of the Government, when the funding was received, and how much under Q11.

11. Please set out the proposed sources of funding for the Project:

Source of Funding: <i>[please indicate where all other funding is sourced from, noting who the funder is]</i>	\$ (excluding GST)	Status / Commentary <i>[i.e. received / confirmed / in principle]</i>
Provincial Growth Fund Funding (through this application)	\$ <small>Commercial Inform</small>	Application Stage
Ruapehu District Council Overheads including IT, vehicle, accommodation, HR, admin support	\$ <small>Commercial Inform</small>	Committed
Total:	\$ <small>Commercial Inform</small>	

Part B: Project Description

12. This application is: “a stand-alone activity” or “in support of a wider project/programme”

13. Will additional funding likely be applied for in the future? Yes: No:

- If Yes, please describe at a high level, what this may include, and when this is likely to be applied for.

A series of business cases are likely to be applied for to support funding of critical tourism projects (the six iconic opportunities) as described in the RRVDP. The RRVDP is attached as Attachment 1. Attachment withheld - Commercial Information

14. What type of activity is this application for?

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Feasibility study | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Business case | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Report | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Creation of an action plan | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Research or surveys | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Workshops or consultation | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Capability building (Education / training) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (please specify) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Programme management and coordination of a series of project teams delivering on Iconic tourism developments

15. Please provide a detailed description of this activity for which funding is being applied:

The RRVDP identifies six iconic projects to grow tourism and regional prosperity in the Ruapehu District and the wider Manawatu-Whanganui region. The projected increase in visitor spend is from approximately \$Commercial Information

██████████ In discussion with government officials we have identified a preferred model of implementation which includes the appointment of a Programme Coordinator role to manage the business case preparation, enhance strategic relationships and to ensure that benefits flow back to the community via skills, training and crucially employment.

Specifically the role will have the following functions:

- *Intellectual leadership, negotiation and collaboration on matters where the individual tourism projects relate to wider strategic issues in the region – for example how to shape up these investments that supports long term management of visitors in Tongariro National Park*
- *Liaison with project managers and teams on the six iconic projects to ensure progress and management of issues*
- *Engagement with the local leadership (governance) group including agenda management and follow up of key issues*
- *Liaison with key stakeholders in the tourism sector*
- *Contract management and oversight of funding contracts that are entered into through PGF funding and other mechanisms*
- *Interaction with central government to ensure engagement and cohesion with sector policy and funding settings*
- *Interaction with local and regional government, including initiatives such as Accelerate25 and Te Pae Tawhiti*
- *Engagement with iwi so their interest are integrally reflected in governance and decision making processes and so that processes enable their participation in strategy and direction*
- *Enable the pursuit of the core objectives of the regional action plan and PGF in particularly through economic development with a focus on Maori*

16. How does this project demonstrate additionality within the region?

Work on developing and enhancing the tourism opportunity in Ruapehu has been underway since the identification of the opportunities in the Manawatu-Whanganui Regional Action Plan and the inception of Accelerate25. The Ruapehu District Council has worked with central government, iwi and business leaders to deliver the RRVP. That work has been completed and attention has now turned to implementation.

As a result of engagement with senior officials an implementation pathway has been identified and the purpose of this bid is to seek assistance for implementation. The model that government favours for advancing these six key projects is pursuing them as individual bids through the Provincial Growth Fund, with their own contracts in place, with an individual project manager appointed for each project, and a small reference group or steering group in place for each project. To facilitate that a programme coordinator is needed.

The bid is focussed on developing six iconic visitor experiences in the Ruapehu District and of equal importance ensuring that the benefits of additional visitor spend flow through to local communities. These are new opportunities and are of regional significance.

Investment in the iconic projects themselves is likely to come from multiple sources. Essentially government assistance is being requested at a coordination level given that the district is small with a ratepayer base of less than 10,000 and finds resourcing development alone a real challenge.

Tourism development is identified in the MW regional growth study and action plan as critical and a key opportunity to unlock potential in the region and in particular, the Ruapehu district. The aim is to generate \$Commercial Information dollar in Visitor expenditure by Commercial Information up from the current Commercial Information and grow an additional Commercial Information jobs.

17. How is the project connected to regional (and sector) stakeholders and frameworks?

[Please provide an overview, including any evidence where appropriate of any relevant local and regional support, either via existing regional development mechanisms (i.e. regional plans), or through any other relevant body (i.e. council, iwi, hapū, or other representative group). If you do not have support, please explain why not and how you intend to get it]

The proposed project falls into the priority actions identified in the Manawatu-Whanganui Regional Economic Action Plan. It has been formally endorsed and supported by the governance group of Accelerate25 and has the active involvement and support from the chair of Te Pae Tawhiti. Accelerate25 is charged with facilitating the implementation of the regional action plan. As such the proposed project is a strategic priority for the Manawatu-Whanganui region.

The project has the support of the Ruapehu District Council and its Maori council.

There has been ongoing engagement with iwi through the development of the RRVP and we are in the process of establishing a leadership group as we head into implementation.

18. How will your project lift productivity potential in the regions?

[We want to understand how your project will meet the primary objective of the fund: “to lift productivity potential in the regions”. Please provide a description of this and where relevant, please cover how your project contributes to the following outcomes:

PGF Outcome	✓	How will the project positively or negatively impact this outcome in the region(s) identified?
1. Increase economic output	✓	The RRVDP including the six iconic projects aims to double visitor spend by Commercial Information
2. Enhance utilisation of and/or returns for Māori assets	✓	Maori make up nearly 40% of the district population and have considerable interests in land and water. Treaty negotiations are underway with respect to Tongariro National Park
3. Increase productivity and growth	✓	Doubling visitor spend in the district and increasing employment by Commercial people will significantly improve local and regional growth
4. Increase local employment and wages (in general and for Maori)	✓	Increase workforce from Commercial to Commercial with a focus on jobs for younger people, Maori and returning residents
5. Increase local employment, education and/or training opportunities for youth (in general and for Māori)	✓	see above. A number of initiatives are already underway including a jobs and recruitment fair and process run via Commercial Information , cadetships and local employment through Commercial Information , ongoing work with central govt. agencies such as TPK and MSD.
6. Improve digital communications, within and/or between regions	<input type="checkbox"/>	[Insert your relevant commentary here]
7. Improve resilience and sustainability of transport infrastructure, within and/or between regions	✓	Separate bid planned for carbon neutral transport infrastructure in and around Tongariro National Park
8. Contribute to mitigating or adapting to climate change	✓	Separate bid planned for carbon neutral transport infrastructure in and around Tongariro National Park
9. Increase the sustainable use of and benefit from natural assets	✓	The RRVDP is predicated on an ethos of protecting and enhancing the natural and cultural values of the mountains, rivers and national parks.
10. Enhance wellbeing, within and/or between regions	✓	The project is a keep enabler of prosperity in the MW region. It also links through well established connections with Taupo and Rotorua.
Total number of outcomes project contributes to	9/10	

Part C: Project Delivery

[Please note – this section refers to the actual activity associated with this application.]

19. Please provide an overview of the project management approach / plan for this activity.

[We would like you to demonstrate:

- *How the activity will be managed from your organisation?*
It will be managed by a senior manager at RDC, Warren Furner, and governed by a local leaders group including Maori and Business leaders
- *What involvement is required by the Provincial Development Unit?*
MBIE has identified Kiri Goulter as a dedicated resource to assist implementation of the RRVDP.
- *What other partners are required for successful delivery?*
Other key partners are iwi, tourism business leaders, neighbouring councils and central government
- *What project management practices will be in place?*
RDC has an established history of project management and will apply its practices to this project
- *Who are the key personnel within the organisation relating to this project?*
The key personnel are Warren Furner, Manager Land Transport / Economic Development, Don Cameron Mayor Ruapehu District, Clive Manley, Chief Executive RDC
- *Please attach a copy of your health and safety policy that will apply for this project.]*
This is available if required. RDC has an extensive H&S policy.

20. Please provide us with a project plan, where possible please attach a schedule (i.e. Gantt chart):

[Please use the following table to describe the activities of the project. Please use as many lines as it takes to provide us with the appropriate detail]

#	Project Activity	Responsible:	Date / Period:
1	Agree funding	RDC / PDU	Commercial Information
2	Local leadership group in place	RDC	Commercial Information
2	Advertise programme coordinator	RDC	Commercial Information
3	Appoint programme coordinator	RDC	Commercial Information
4	Programme coordinator employed	RDC	Commercial Information
5	Project implementation	RDC	Commercial Information

21. Please provide a complete breakdown of the costs of the project:

[Note that figures in this table must align with other figures provided in Q11. Please use as many lines as it takes to provide us with the appropriate detail. If more suitable, please attach a budget spreadsheet to this application]

Cost Description:	\$ (excluding GST)
Programme Coordinator remuneration	\$ Commercial Inform
Programme Coordinator disbursements	\$ Commercial Inform
Overheads (vehicle, IT etc – RDC)	\$ Commercial Inform
Total	\$ Commercial Inform

22. Please provide a description of why Government funding is required to deliver this project?

This is about coordination and maximising the value from a series of key tourism development projects. This sort of role is not able to be funded from the commercial sector. Individual projects will have a large private sector investment component. RDC is seeking this assistance given its small ratepayer base of less than 10,000.

23. What are the proposed deliverables if funding is approved?

[Please use the following table, consider what deliverables there will be, when, and whether there are any payments associated with them and against what criteria payment should be made. If it is a single deliverable with single payment, please just use one line]

#	Description	Payment criteria:	Invoice Value \$ (Exc. GST)	%	Invoice Date:
1	Initiation payment	Recruitment completed	\$ Commercial Info	[Comm %]	Commercial Information
2	Progress payments	6 monthly progress reports vs agreed KPIs to MBIE tourism. 4 x payments Commercial Information	\$ Commercial Info	[Comm %]	Commercial Information
3			\$		
4			\$		
5			\$		

24. Please provide an overview of the applicant’s relevant skills and experience for delivering a projects of this nature:

Ruapehu District Council has invested considerable resource in developing tourism in the district. Through the RRVDP it understands priorities and how they need to be addressed. It works extensively with its communities and with Maori. RDC has significant experience in developing and successfully implementing large projects, for example roading and three waters infrastructure.

25. Please explain the Governance arrangements for this project:

A local leaders group is currently under development with advice and input from Privacy of natural persons, and Bridget Sullivan from MBIE. As a minimum the group will includes members from RDC, Iwi Commercial Information, key business leaders and central government.

26. What procurement process has been undertaken (i.e. selection of a provider), or will be undertaken, and how will that be managed?

Recruitment of the programme coordinators will be undertaken by RDC and will align with their recruitment and procurement policies established by Council.

27. What risks are associated with the delivery of this activity?

#	Risk	Mitigation approach	Rating
1	Recruitment unsuccessful	Repeat recruitment	L
2	Lack stakeholder engagement	Establish and engage local leadership with clear terms of reference	M
3			
x			

28. What is the future intent (at this stage) relating to the project? Has there been any assessment of future viability of the project undertaken?

*The future intent is to have established sound local governance and to have delivered business cases for a series of iconic visitor experiences and to have worked with others to continue to shape sustainable tourism in the district
There is likely to be ongoing conversation with iwi, government and stakeholders to ensure that operating models support the best outcomes for local and regional communities*

Part D: Declarations

Commercial Information

29. Has this activity ever been declined Crown Funding in the past?
30. Is the applicant or the contracting entity insolvent or subject to any insolvency action, administration or other legal proceedings?
31. The contracting entity is compliant and will continue to comply with all applicable laws, regulations, rules and professional codes of conduct or practice including but not limited to health and safety and employment practices
32. Is any individual involved in the application, the proposed contracting entity or the project, an undischarged bankrupt?
33. Is any individual under investigation for, or has any individual been convicted of, any offence that has a bearing on the operation of the project?
34. Are there any actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest that the applicant or any of the key personnel have in relation to this project.
 “In a small country like ours, conflicts of interest in our working lives are natural and unavoidable. The existence of a conflict of interest does not necessarily mean that someone has done something wrong, and it need not cause problems. It just needs to be identified and managed carefully...”
<https://www.oag.govt.nz/2007/conflicts-public-entities>

If you answered “Yes” to any of the above, please provide a description below:

RDC is aware of and works to meet all its legal obligations

By completing the details below, the applicant makes the following declaration about its application for Provincial Growth Fund funding for the project (“application”):

- I have read, understand and agree to the Terms and Conditions of applying for Provincial Growth Fund funding which are attached as Appendix 1;
- The statements in the application are true and the information provided is complete and correct, and there have been no misleading statements or omissions of any relevant facts nor any misrepresentations made;
- I have secured all appropriate authorisations to submit the application, to make the statements and to provide the information in the application;
- I consent to this application being publically released if funding is approved. I have identified the commercially sensitive and personal information.
- The applicant warrants that it has no actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest (except any already declared in the application) in submitting the application, or entering into a contract to carry out the project. Where a conflict of interest arises during the application or assessment process, the applicant will report it immediately to the Provincial Development Unit by emailing PGF@mbie.govt.nz; and
- I understand that the falsification of information, supplying misleading information, or the suppression of material information in this application, may result in the application being eliminated from the assessment process and may be grounds for termination of any contract awarded as a result of this application process.

Full name:

Clive Anthony Manley

Title / position:

Chief Executive, Ruapehu District Council

Signature:

Privacy of natural persons

Date:

5 October 2018

Appendix 1 – Terms and Conditions of this Application

General

The terms and conditions are non-negotiable and do not require a response. Each applicant that submits a request for Provincial Growth Fund (“PGF”) funding (each an “application”) has confirmed by their signature on the application that these terms and conditions are accepted without reservation or variation.

The Provincial Growth Fund is a government initiative which is administered by the Provincial Development Unit, a unit within the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment. Any reference to the Provincial Development Unit in these terms and conditions, is a reference to MBIE on behalf of the Crown.

Reliance by Provincial Development Unit

The Provincial Development Unit may rely upon all statements made by any applicant in an application and in correspondence or negotiations with the Provincial Development Unit or its representatives. If an application is approved for funding, any such statements may be included in the contract.

Each applicant must ensure all information provided to the Provincial Development Unit is complete and accurate. The Provincial Development Unit is under no obligation to check any application for errors, omissions, or inaccuracies. Each applicant will notify the Provincial Development Unit promptly upon becoming aware of any errors, omissions, or inaccuracies in its application or in any additional information provided by the applicant.

Ownership and intellectual property

Ownership of the intellectual property rights in an application does not pass to the Provincial Development Unit. However, in submitting an application, each applicant grants the Provincial Development Unit a non-exclusive, transferable, perpetual licence to use and disclose its application for the purpose of assessing and decision making related to the PGF application process. Any hard copy application or documentation supplied by you to the Provincial Development Unit may not be returned to you.

By submitting an application, each applicant warrants that the provision of that information to the Provincial Development Unit, and the use of it by the Provincial Development Unit for the evaluation of the application and for any resulting negotiation, will not breach any third-party intellectual property rights.

Confidentiality

The Provincial Development Unit is bound by the Official Information Act 1982 (“OIA”), the Privacy Act 1993, parliamentary and constitutional convention and any other obligations imposed by law. While the Provincial Development Unit intends to treat information in applications as confidential to ensure fairness for applicants during the assessment and decision making process, the information can be requested by third parties and the Provincial Development Unit must provide that information if required by law. If the Provincial Development Unit receives an OIA request that relates to information in this application, where possible, the Provincial Development Unit will consult with you and may ask you to confirm whether the information is considered by you to be confidential or still commercially sensitive, and if so, to explain why.

The Provincial Development Unit may disclose any application and any related documents or information provided by the applicant, to any person who is directly involved in the PGF application and assessment process on its behalf including the Independent Advisory Panel (“IAP”), officers, employees, consultants, contractors and professional advisors of the Provincial Development Unit or of any government agency. The disclosed information will only be used for the purpose of participating in the PGF application and assessment process, which will include carrying out due diligence. If an application is approved for funding, information provided in the application and any related documents may be used for the purpose of contracting.

In the interests of public transparency, if an application is approved for funding, the application (and any related documents) may be published by the Provincial Development Unit. Commercially sensitive and personal information will be redacted by reference to the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

Limitation of Advice

Any advice given by the Provincial Development Unit, any other government agency, their officers, employees, advisers, other representatives, or the IAP about the content of your application does not commit the decision maker (it may be Senior Regional Officials, Ministers or Cabinet depending on the level of funding requested and the nature of the project) to make a decision about your application.

This limitation includes individual members of the IAP. The IAP's recommendations and advice are made by the IAP in its formal sessions and any views expressed by individual members of the IAP outside of these do not commit the IAP to make any recommendation.

No contractual obligations created

No contract or other legal obligations arise between the Provincial Development Unit and any applicant out of, or in relation to, the application and assessment process, until a formal written contract (if any) is signed by both the Provincial Development Unit and a successful applicant.

No process contract

The PGF application and assessment process does not legally oblige or otherwise commit the Provincial Development Unit to proceed with that process or to assess any particular applicant's application or enter into any negotiations or contractual arrangements with any applicant. For the avoidance of doubt, this application and assessment process does not give rise to a process contract.

Costs and expenses

The Provincial Development Unit is not responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by you in the preparation of an application.

Exclusion of liability

Neither the Provincial Development Unit or any other government agency, nor their officers, employees, advisers or other representatives, nor the IAP or its members will be liable (in contract or tort, including negligence, or otherwise) for any direct or indirect damage, expense, loss or cost (including legal costs) incurred or suffered by any applicant, its affiliates or other person in connection with this application and assessment process, including without limitation:

- a) the assessment process
- b) the preparation of any application
- c) any investigations of or by any applicant
- d) concluding any contract
- e) the acceptance or rejection of any application, or
- f) any information given or not given to any applicant(s).

By participating in this application and assessment process, each applicant waives any rights that it may have to make any claim against the Provincial Development Unit. To the extent that legal relations between the Provincial Development Unit and any applicant cannot be excluded as a matter of law, the liability of the Provincial Development Unit is limited to \$1.

Nothing contained or implied in or arising out of the PGF documentation or any other communications to any applicant shall be construed as legal, financial, or other advice of any kind.

Inducements

You must not directly or indirectly provide any form of inducement or reward to any IAP member, officer, employee, advisor, or other representative of the Provincial Development Unit or any other government agency in connection with this application and assessment process.

Governing law and jurisdiction

The PGF application and assessment process will be construed according to, and governed by, New Zealand law and you agree to submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of New Zealand courts in any dispute concerning your application.

Public statements

The Provincial Development Unit and any other government agency, or any relevant Minister, may make public in whole or in part this application form including the following information:

- the name of the applicant(s)
- the application title
- a high-level description of the proposed project/activity
- the total amount of funding and the period of time for which funding has been approved
- the region and/or sector to which the project relates

The Provincial Development Unit asks applicants not to release any media statement or other information relating to the submission or approval of any application to any public medium without prior agreement of the Provincial Development Unit.

Appendix 2 - Operational criteria for all tiers of the Fund

Link to Fund and government outcomes

- Demonstrate the ways in which the project will contribute to lifting the productivity potential of the region
- Demonstrate how the project contributes to the Fund's objectives of:
 - more permanent jobs
 - benefits to the community and different groups in the community
 - increased utilisation and returns for Māori from their asset base (where applicable)
 - sustainability of natural assets (e.g. water, soil integrity, the health and ecological functioning of natural habitats)
 - mitigating or adapting to climate change effects, including transitioning to a low emissions economy
- Clear evidence of public benefits (i.e. benefits other than increased profitability for the applicant)
- Are in a Government priority region or sector

Additionality

- Project is not already underway, does not involve maintenance of core infrastructure or assets (except for rail and transport resilience initiatives), and does not cover activities the applicant is already funded for (funding could be considered to increase the scale of existing projects or re-start stalled projects)
- Demonstrated benefit of central Government investment or support
- Detail of any supporting third party funding (and any funding sought unsuccessfully)
- Acts as a catalyst to unlock a region's productivity potential
- Demonstrated links to other tiers of the Fund and related projects, to maximise value of Government investment

Connected to regional stakeholders and frameworks

- Evidence of relevant regional and local support, either through existing regional development mechanisms, or through another relevant body such as a council, iwi or other representative group (or reasons for any lack of local support)
- Has been raised and discussed with the region's economic development governance group
- Alignment with, or support for the outcomes of, any relevant regional development plan, Māori development strategy or similar document (whether regional or national)
- Demonstrated improvement in regional connectedness (within and between regions)
- Leverage credible local and community input, funding, commercial and non-commercial partners
- Utilise existing local, regional or iwi/Māori governance mechanisms

Governance, risk management and project execution

- Evidence of robust project governance, risk identification/management and decision-making systems and an implementation plan appropriate to the size, scale and nature of the project
- Future ownership options for capital projects, including responsibility for maintenance, further development, and other relevant matters
- Benefits and risks clearly identified and quantified, depending on the scale of the initiative
- Evidence of potential exit gates and stop/go points, and a clear exit strategy
- Clearly identifies whole of life costs (capital and operating)
- Dependencies with other related projects are identified
- Evidence of sustainability after conclusion of PGF funding
- Adequacy of asset management capability (for capital projects)
- Compliance with international obligations (where relevant)