

WELLINGTON SCIENCE CITY PROPOSAL

Overall Purpose

Make Wellington a vibrant, resilient, and adaptable centre of research, science and innovation before 2030 by bringing the research community closer together to increase collaboration and performance.

Te Ara Paerangi – Future Pathways Programme

We want to create a modern, future-focussed research system for New Zealand. It needs to be adaptable for a rapidly changing future, resilient to changes, and connected; to itself, to industry, to public sector users of research, and internationally. Such a system should reflect New Zealand's unique opportunities and challenges. It will embed Te Tiriti across the design and delivery attributes of the system, and enable opportunities for mātauranga Māori. It will also recognise that research is a global undertaking and seek to stand alongside the best systems in the world.

Sapere Report

Review of the opportunity in the Wellington region for an integrated approach to Research, Science and Innovation system property investment was conducted by Sapere. Report findings conclude that co-location would assist the Future Pathways Programme and the following three clusters of capacity and capability were identified:

- Public health and well-being
- Climate resilience and adaption, natural hazards and ecosystem health, conservation and natural resources
- Advanced manufacturing and materials, energy futures and biotechnology

CRI Shareholding Ministers support

CRI Shareholding Ministers have expressed their support and want to ensure that property investment works towards creating a more connected, adaptable and resilient research, science and innovation system for New Zealand.

Outcomes – Phase One

To develop options and a recommended configuration for the institutional footprint within the Wellington region that best supports enhanced performance of the RSI system, a plan that outlines the process and decision points to achieve this and an estimate of potential costings for consideration by Ministers.

Participating Organisations

NIWA, ESR, GNS Science, Callaghan Innovation, Victoria University of Wellington - Te Herenga Waka, University of Otago - Te Whare Wānanga o Ōtākou, Massey University - Te Kunenga ki Pūrehuroa, MetService - Te Ratonga Tiorangi and Te Papa Tongarewa.

Product and Timeline

Phase one of the proposal is to develop options and a recommended configuration for the institutional footprint within the Wellington region that best supports enhanced performance of the RSI system, a plan that outlines the process and decision points to achieve this and an estimate of potential costings for consideration by the Ministers.

Phase one will produce products at two levels – cluster working group level and panel level. Written reports will be provided by the three clusters along with a short-written report provided by the panel. The panel will present the reports to the Minister in December 2022.