

# Quarterly Report to Ministers

Q4: APRIL-JUNE 2024



MINISTRY OF BUSINESS, INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT HĪKINA WHAKATUTUKI

**Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa** New Zealand Government



### Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) Hīkina Whakatutuki – Lifting to make successful

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#### **SEPTEMBER 2024**

**Cover photo:** Greenhouse facilities, as part of Leaderbrand Future Farms project. See page 16 for more information on this project.

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Kānoa Regional Economic Development & Investment Unit

Kānoa – Regional Economic **Development & Investment** Unit (Kānoa – RD) is responsible for delivering government investment in New Zealand's regions to build their economies, grow businesses and strengthen communities. From infrastructure investments to skills training initiatives and Māori economic development programmes, Kānoa – RD supports a wide variety of regional projects across New Zealand.

Kānoa – RD works with other government organisations, industry bodies, communities, iwi and local government to deliver and manage strategic, regionally focused economic interventions and the associated investment funding.

This report is a quarterly update that shows the progress of, and impact made by, government investments managed by Kānoa – RD across New Zealand, in the April – June 2024 quarter.

Kōpū marine precinct

### CRHL CROWN REGIONAL HOLDINGS LIMITED

CRHL is an asset holding company established in 2019 to hold loan, equity and asset investments managed by Kānoa – RD. The purpose of the Board is to provide oversight and independent advice in relation to current investments held by CRHL and potential future investments. The Minister of Finance and Minister for Regional Development each hold 50 per cent of the issued ordinary shares in CRHL on behalf of the Crown.

Investments held in CRHL are managed by Kānoa – RD under a management agreement, with oversight from CRHL's Board. CRHL Directors are consulted on matters related to investment management and have a role in providing independent commercial advice to Kānoa – RD and decision-making Ministers on investment proposals valued at \$3.00 million and over. The Board does not make decisions on new investments.

As at 30 June 2024, the CRHL portfolio consists of 187 loans with a total contract value of \$1.02 billion. See page 29 for more information about CRHL.

# Current portfolio

There are 2,758\* projects totalling \$4.58 billion under Kānoa – RD's direct and indirect management. Kānoa – RD has supported the completion of 1,941 of these projects, and 820\* remain active across the following funds:

#### **Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF)**

#### \$1.20 billion total funding

See page 27 for details on the progress of RIF

Funding to boost productivity, resilience and prosperity in New Zealand's regions by investing in new and existing infrastructure assets.

#### **Provincial Growth Fund (PGF)**

#### \$3.04 billion total approved funding

#### 631 active projects (\$1.52 billion)

Funding to help grow regional economies. In May 2020, \$640.00 million was repurposed from the Fund to help regional New Zealand recover from the economic impact of COVID-19 (PGF Reset).

#### **Regional Strategic Partnership Fund (RSPF)**

#### \$185.25 million approved

#### 47 active projects (\$153.09 million)

Designed to invest in projects identified as regional economic development priorities to make regional economies stronger and more resilient.

#### North Island Weather Events Primary Producer Finance Scheme (NIWE PPFS)

#### \$142.91 million approved

#### 36 active projects (\$132.78 million)

Funding to help North Island land-based primary producers that were severely impacted by the North Island Weather Events in early 2023.

#### Strategic Tourism Assets Protection Programme (STAPP)\*\*

#### \$106.55 million approved

#### 44 active projects (\$65.27 million)

Funding intended to protect the assets in the tourism landscape that form the core of our essential tourism offerings to ensure their survival through the disruption caused by COVID-19.

#### **Regional Investment Opportunities - NZ Upgrade Programme**

### \$206.02 million approved

#### 6 active projects (\$130.95 million)

Investment in land, sea and air projects which will create jobs, enhance regional economic development opportunities, and increase infrastructure resilience.

#### COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund - Infrastructure Reference Group (CRRF)

#### \$696.32 million approved

#### 54 active projects (\$340.35 million)

Funding to support local government and businesses to recover economically from COVID-19, investing in climate resilience, flood protection, transformative energy, large-scale construction, and connectivity.

#### COVID-19 Response - Worker Redeployment Package

#### \$96.39 million approved

#### 1 active project (\$0.41 million)

Funding to help redeploy workers affected by the economic impact of COVID-19. This created immediate short-term employment opportunities while also supporting regional assets.

#### **Chatham Island Renewable Energy Generation**

\$10.00 million approved1 active project (\$10.00 million)Funding to support a renewable energy source on the Chatham Islands.

# Wood Processing Growth Fund (Ministry for Primary Industries fund, managed by Kānoa – RD)

#### \$2.00 million approved

#### 1 active project (\$2.00 million)

Designed to help wood processors increase New Zealand's onshore wood processing capacity. The fund focuses on high value, long-lived wood products for domestic and export markets.

#### **Queenstown Economic Transformation and Resilience Fund**

#### \$3.25 million approved

#### 2 active projects (\$3.25 million)

Funding to support diversification beyond tourism for the Queenstown economy.

\*Individual projects may be counted against multiple funds, sectors and lead agencies. This means totals can be less than the sum of individual categories. Data is correct as at 30 June 2024.

\*\*STAPP figures on this page include loans for Inbound Tourism Operators (ITOs). ITO funding came from the STAPP allocation, but these loans are not held by Crown Regional Holdings Limited.

# Progress to date across all funds

**Regional Development Funding Snapshot** 



Approved funding



\$2.06 billion



Contracted funding

S11.17

Additional expenditure

\*

billion



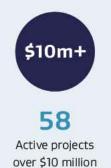
billion Paid funding



2,758 Projects



Active projects



1,941 Completed projects

\*For information on how additional expenditure is calculated, please see pages 23-24.

Individual projects may be counted against multiple funds, sectors and lead agencies. This means totals can be less than the sum of individual categories. Data is correct as at 30 June 2024.

# Projects completed within the April–June 2024 quarter

This quarter, a total of 41 projects under Kānoa – RD's direct and indirect management were completed.

#### Kānoa – RD managed completed projects

Of the 41 completed project, 17 were project managed directly by Kānoa – RD. The following section provides a summary of each project completed in the quarter, spotlighting some with further detail.



Aerial image of the completed Lindvart Park sports facility

### Mid-North Sports Package - Lindvart Park, Sportsville Kaikohe

#### Kaikohe & Districts Sportsville Incorporated - \$6.86 million CRRF grant

Construction of new sports facilities to service the Far North, accommodating 25 different sports, Including upgraded court facilities, upgraded enhanced roading, improved car parking and safer access to the Lindvart Park public recreation ground in Kaikohe. Most of the construction elements were manufactured locally, along with the design and architectural work. The project will increase community resilience by providing a space where people can improve their health and well-being through sports and recreation. The facility will also attract more people to Kaikohe, bringing benefits to the local economy. Construction of a section of the Waipaoa stopbank, protecting a large area of crops.

# Waipaoa River Flood Control Scheme

#### **Gisborne District Council**

#### - \$7.50 million CRRF grant

Gisborne District Council received \$7.50 million in grant funding through the CRRF to upgrade 15-kilometres of stopbank in critical areas along the Waipaoa River. The project secured an additional \$2.50 million in co-funding from Gisborne District Council. The project increased the stopbank height by up to 1.80 meters and the top crest was widened up to four meters. This work aims to protect the eastern side of the river between Gisborne city and Poverty Bay, taking into account climate change effects out to 2090.

This is the first stage of a larger project which will upgrade 64-kilometres of stopbanks and carry out flood mitigation works along the Waipaoa river. This work is expected to be completed in 2027.

#### Opening

A dawn service and blessing for the completion of this project was held on 19 April 2024. The dawn service provided opportunities to observe the improvements made and to better understand the stopbank's impact to the surrounding regions during severe weather events.

#### Outcomes

The stopbank has shown its effectiveness protecting the surrounding areas during Cyclones Hale and Gabrielle. During Cyclone Gabrielle, it is estimated that water at a height of up to 1.00 metre would have flowed towards Gisborne city if the increased



FILLER TIVE ALMAN HALAMAN DUNNE



TOP: A section of the stopbank protecting the Ormand Township during a flood event in 2022. BOTTOM: A section of the stopbank protecting crops and residential areas during a flood event in 2022.

stopbanks had not been in place. This investment is therefore believed to have protected approximately 10,000 people and \$7.00 billion of assets, including major transport links.

The investment has allowed Gisborne District Council to accelerate flood control and protection work in the region and reduced the flood risk for the surrounding 7,000 hectares, land which contains community infrastructure, commercial and residential areas. The investment has also enabled additional investment in cycleways on the stopbanks, cattle stops, signage, and gates.

### Nukumaru Station Road Extension

#### South Taranaki District Council - \$7.00 million CRRF grant

This project funded a new, safe access road for the Wainui Beach community and local commercial parties, including Silver Fern Farms Limited and the local metal quarry. In the past flooding events have caused disrupted access to the quarry and Silver Fern Farms. The new road has increased commercial resilience for these two major employers in the district, as well as surrounding farms.

The importance of cultural values and community engagement were prioritised by the council throughout the build and proved to be successful, with the local community expressing gratitude at the road opening ceremony.

### Tihei Tamatea! He Ringa Whānau Ora - Programme to address social challenges in Tamatea

#### Central Hawke's Bay District Council - \$0.49 million PGF grant

Commencing in 2020, He Ringa Whānau Ora supported two "Navigator" roles in Tamatea, Central Hawke's Bay. These community-based roles supported delivery of a programme for whānau to address drug issues, gang cultures, intergenerational cycles of whānau harm and other complex needs. It also offered support for holistic wellbeing, employment, financial literacy and other education. Over the duration of the programme 38 whānau were engaged, with eight participants achieving employment.

### Support for employment into collision repair industry in Tai Tokerau/ Northland

#### Smart Trade Solutions Limited - \$0.83 million PGF grant

Delivery of a programme to support Tai Tokerau/ Northland youth into employment within the collision repair industry by recruiting new apprentices, improving retention of existing tradespeople and upskilling of employers and businesses within the region. The programme supported 36 new people to enter the workforce or begin apprenticeships, with 59 per cent of the cohort made up of Māori participants.

### Environment Canterbury Climate Resilience Programme (CRP) – Ashley Rakahuri River Protection and Fairway Management

### Canterbury Regional Council

### - \$0.92 million CRRF grant

Improvement of a 21-kilometre section of the river between Ashley Gorge and the Ōkuku River confluence, as well as the Ōkuku River (seven kilometres upstream of the Grey River confluence). The result of funding this programme is that the river now has greater areas of habitat for fish and bird species and is more visible to the wider community, encouraging more conversation about long-term engagement with the waterways. All of the contracts for this project were awarded to local businesses who were impacted by COVID-19.

### Environment Southland CRP - Gore Stopbank Upgrade

### Environment Southland

### - \$2.56 million CRRF grant

Upgrading a stopbank along a section of the Mataura River, increasing its strength and height. This has reduced flood risks for east Gore's community assets (such as the local library and the Central Business District) with improved protection from the potential impact of high river flows and flood events. The project provided opportunity for those involved to learn skills related to earthmoving and stopbank construction, which has not occurred in the area at this scale in recent decades.

# Training and Employment initiatives at Te Poho o Tuāriki in Marton

#### Nga Wairiki - Ngati Apa Charitable Trust - \$0.86 million PGF grant

Provision of training, pastoral support and employment brokerage services in Marton. These support services provided relief from immediate and long-term employment needs by delivering programmes to assist the transition from education to employment. Over its duration, local training and employment partnerships were formed linking students and providers. The project also gave local employers access to trained workers, thereby maximising employment opportunities for local people.



Michelle and Jenna (Mentors) in front of a mural in Ara Rau

# Ara Rau Work Hub Establishment (Bay of Plenty)

#### **Priority One**

#### - \$0.87 million PGF grant

Priority One, the economic development organisation for the Western Bay of Plenty, received \$0.87 million in grant funding through the PGF to establish an employment and skills hub, to connect employers, young job seekers and other service providers. Cofunding of \$0.22 million was provided by Priority One towards this project. The funding also enabled the establishment of two Navigator Mentor roles to help deliver services.

#### Outcomes

The programme connects rangatahi to education, employment and training opportunities. The two new Navigator Mentor roles filled a much-needed work gap by closely working with individuals and facilitating personalised pathways into work or training, focusing on decreasing the number of rangatahi not in employment, education or training (NEETs). In 2023 a total of 198 people were provided support through the programme with a total of 65 people placed into employment or training.

Target numbers demonstrate the programme has been effective in placing NEETs into training and employment. The programme has effectively established a key connection for rangatahi within the

> RIGHT: Photos of rangatahi who have gained qualifications or employment through Ara Rau Pathways to Work

community, as evidenced by the number of referrals, and walk-ins accessing services.

Kānoa – RD worked closely with Ara Rau's Operations Manager to transition the hub to the Ministry of Social Development's (MSD) – He Poutama Rangatahi programme. The focus on one-on-one work plans for each rangatahi is providing a combination of purposeful training, short courses, support to attain licences and personal introductions to employers. The open-door policy of Ara Rau enables school leavers, job seekers and new residents to the area to access employment support.





Opening event for Mātaatua Ki Marae

# Ruatāhuna Marae Renovation Cluster (Bay of Plenty)

#### **Xcel Builders**

#### - \$4.94 million PGF grant

Xcel Builders Limited received \$4.94 million in grant funding through the PGF to renovate a group of marae including Ōpūtao, Kakanui (Tīpapa), Tatahoata, Uwhiārae, Mātaatua (Te Urewera - Paramount Marae for Tuhoe), Ōhāua te Rangi, Te Wai-iti and Mātaatua ki.

#### Opening

The opening of Mātaatua ki, one of the ten marae, took place on 6 April 2024, shortly after celebrating its 100th anniversary since its official opening in 1924. Minister for Regional Development, Hon Shane Jones, was among those in attendance at the event and delivered a speech. This also marks the end of renovations for the Ruatāhuna marae renovation cluster.

#### Outcomes

Mātaatua marae is situated on land gifted by Ngāti Whakaue for Tūhoe descendants during the early 1900s and holds immense cultural significance for Tūhoe. The marae has provided the community a vital meeting point and will continue to nurture Tūhoe's history and identity for future generations. In the 1950s, the marae became a central meeting point for members of Tūhoe and Ngāti Whare, who moved from their homelands in Te Urewera to take up employment within the burgeoning forestry industry, whose local milling centre was in Rotorua. The upgrade meant that taonga have been restored, with porch and dining hall upgrades ensuring future generations of Tūhoe to manaaki whānau, iwi and the community can utilise the space. Reconnecting descendants with the marae will now be the priority.

The Ruatāhuna Cluster of ten marae included some very isolated marae in the Ruatāhuna region. The marae were renovated by a core group of local tradesmen, with additional local labourers from each marae employed.

In total, 349 marae across the country were renovated through the Marae Renovation Programme, a \$96.60 million fund allocated through the PGF to enable the restoration and refurbishment of these important community hubs. This programme provided much-needed jobs, creating a total of 3,556 job opportunities, and for many marae it was the first time they had been able to offer paid work to their communities.

The investment into these marae has been a boost to regional economies through wages and spending on building materials and services. It also provided meaningful employment for those who were impacted by the economic downturn created by COVID-19. SPOTLIGHT PROJECT

Köpű Marine Precinct

# Kōpū Marine Precinct (Waikato)

#### Thames-Coromandel District Council

#### - \$8.20 million CRRF grant

Thames-Coromandel District Council was approved \$8.20 million in grant funding through the CRRF to build essential marine servicing infrastructure at the Kōpū Marine Precinct and Industrial area.

This will support and

enhance the existing Hauraki Gulf mussel industry.

#### Opening

On 21 June 2024, the Deputy Prime Minister, Rt Hon Winston Peters, and Minister for Regional Development, Hon Shane Jones, attended the opening and blessing of the Kōpū Marine Servicing and Business Precinct alongside local business owners, operators and key stakeholders in the aquaculture sector.

#### Outcomes

The Waikato region has a large aquaculture industry. In 2023 the region produced \$91.60 million in aquaculture exports (source: Aquaculture New Zealand). The project aims to play a part in supporting the region's goal to double the value of its aquaculture exports over the next 20-years.

The Thames-Coromandel region can now take advantage of its growing marine servicing industry as the 80-metre commercial wharf and floating pontoon will enable in-water marine servicing and marine loading, and attract servicing opportunities from surrounding regions. This will increase





TOP: Kõpū Marine Precinct during construction BOTTOM: Kõpū Marine Precinct opening event

productivity, capacity and support diversification of the region's aquaculture industry. This will also increase employment, economic growth and resilience in the region. It is estimated that this investment will generate 100 new jobs, and \$58.80 million in economic benefit over the next 30 years.

\*This is not counted in the Completed Project count. Significant works were completed during this quarter; however this project is active in system due to administrative requirements.

#### Tūranga Horticulture Development

#### Te Aitanga ā Māhaki Trust - \$0.05 million RSPF grant

In July 2023 Ministers approved a \$5.00 million loan and \$0.05 million grant from the RSPF to develop 19-hectors of underutilised Māori freehold land into pip fruit horticulture in Gisborne.

The grant portion of the investment was approved to engage a commercial contractor to undertake pre-physical works due diligence on the proposed development. The due diligence report is now complete and recommended proceeding with full development of the project, which is now underway.

### Development of Ruakākā Recreation Centre

#### Ruakākā Recreation Centre Incorporated - \$2.50 million CRRF grant

Construction of Stage one of a new recreation centre at Ruakākā. Works included a new gymnasium and meeting rooms. This project has benefited the area's growing population and created new jobs and training opportunities.

### Establishment Te Whare a Wāina Aotearoa - New Zealand Wine Centre including an experimental future vineyard.

#### Marlborough Research Centre Trust - \$3.79 million PGF Ioan

Establishment of a New Zealand Wine Centre in Blenheim, creating an integrated innovation, research and education centre and hub for grape and wine research. The funding allowed construction of the centre as well as the construction and development of an Experimental Future Vineyard (EVF), a world leading research asset. Plant & Food Research will operate the EFV and will develop research programmes alongside the Marlborough Research Centre, national and local government.

The centre supports sustainable growth in the sector by making use of automation and robotic technologies to prepare for a digital future and upskills local winemakers as demand for New Zealand's wine offshore continues to grow.

### **Redevelopment of Ruapekapeka Road** Far North District Council

### - \$8.74 million PGF grant (payment via TIO)

Upgrades to Ruapekapeka Road, from State Highway 1 to the Ruapekapeka Pā site. Works delivered included widening and sealing Ruapekapeka Road, drainage improvements, road shape correction and corner improvements. The upgrade has provided a resilient route that is fit for purpose, and enhanced the visitor experience and journey through Ruapekapeka. Funding for the road was approved soon after a \$2.00 million PGF grant to Te Ruapekapeka Trust to develop the Ruapekapeka Pā site. This site of national historical importance was the location for one of the key battles of the New Zealand wars and one of the pivotal moments in 19th century history in Aotearoa.

### Environment CRP - Rangitata 2019 Flood Recovery

#### Canterbury Regional Council - \$5.40 million CRRF grant

Five workstreams were delivered to improve flood resilience for the Rangitata and Lower Waitaki river communities and repair damage to existing flood infrastructure, caused in a flood event in December 2019. This included repair work for 12 sites with significant erosion; targeted weeding and planting of native species across five restoration sites; scientific investigations on the current state of the Rangitata River; and additional infrastructure work to strengthen the flood protection assets. This has provided a higher level of flood protection to local roads, railroad, power lines, bridges, irrigation ponds, and neighbouring communities.

In addition to climate change resilience, the project provided a significant boost to small-medium local earthworks and tree planting contractors. Work opportunities were created for Te Kete Tipuranga o Huirapa employees (Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua environmental contractors), specifically younger workers, to expand their skill set and gain further industry knowledge.



STAPP Ioan recipient Monarch Wildlife Cruises Photo credit: Monarch Wildlife Cruises Limited

#### Kānoa – RD Managed STAPP Loans

Kānoa – RD provided ongoing support following the disruption caused by COVID-19 as part of the essential New Zealand tourism offering, benefitting the regions by ensuring the survival of assets in the tourism landscape that form the core of our essential tourism offerings. The following STAPP loans were repaid this quarter:

Project Title	Recipient	Total Funding
Fiordland Expeditions Limited	Fiordland Expeditions Limited	\$70,000
Monarch Wildlife Limited	Monarch Wildlife Cruises and Tours	\$130,000

### Partner Agency Managed Projects

During this quarter a total of 24 projects were completed by our partner agencies.

Allocation:	Tourism Infrastructure Fund		
Partner Agency:	Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment		
Total Projects:	10		
Total Funding:	\$2.40 million		
These ten projects	were funded through the Tourism Infrastructure Fund to develop tourism-related infrastructure.		
Allocation:	Te Uru Rākau		

Partner Agency:	ncy: Ministry for Primary Industries			
Total Projects:	14			
Total Funding:	\$4.86 million			
These 14 projects were funded through the One Billion Trees programme to plant trees, develop the provision of self-sustained ablution pods at freedom camping and visitor hot spots, and aimed to increase restoration planting in the Karapiro and Mangaonua catchments.				

# Milestones and events during the quarter

#### Opening of LeaderBrand Future Farms facility, Tairāwhiti

On 19 April 2024, Minister for Regional Development, Hon Shane Jones, officially opened the completed facility in Tairāwhiti. The site was blessed by Morehu Pewhairangi of Te Aitanga a Mahaki iwi the day before in a private ceremony with the greenhouse team.

Gisborne Covered Production Limited received a \$17.00 million loan through the PGF to develop 11.15 hectares of greenhouses in Gisborne, as part of LeaderBrand's Future Farms project. The aim of the project is to increase crop growth year-round in a more sustainable manner.

So far, the project has resulted in improved soil structure, the introduction of new technology in the form of electronic harvesters, the creation of a 100 per cent sustainable recycled water supply, and a reduction in fertiliser and chemical use by 50 per cent. It has also ensured an increased yield and more consistent supply of higher quality crops throughout the year, creating benefits for consumers.

The poor crop supply caused by wet weather events in winter 2023 had a significant flow on effect to the market, with large price increases for consumers. Growing in greenhouses is roughly 20 times faster in winter than traditional outdoor growing methods. The facility has enabled faster turnaround of products and more volume for consumers. In addition to increased sustainability, this results in more consistent supply during winter, meaning less impact on costs to the consumer. Employment outcomes include job security throughout winter for those working in the facility, helping to support Tairāwhiti's \$62.50 million horticulture and fruit industry.

Richard Burke, LeaderBrand's Chief Executive, "This project has not only allowed us to invest in our business and the region's future, but it has also ensured that we can guarantee the supply of leafy greens yearround. Ensuring food security and finding more ways to feed Kiwis with healthy and affordable fresh produce is a big motivator for all of us."



Gordon McPhail, General Manager of Farming, Minister for Regional Development Hon Shane lones and Leaderbrand's Founder and Director, Murray McPhail, at the official opening of LeaderBrand

#### Opening of Poutō Wharf, Tai Tokerau/Northland

On 7 June 2024, close to 100 people gathered to celebrate the opening of Poutō Wharf. Waikaretu kaumatua Ben Hita led a blessing for the wharf, and tamariki from the local kura performed waiata and haka throughout the proceedings. Associate Minister for Regional Development, Hon Mark Patterson, Kaipara District Council Mayor Craig Jepson, MP for Northland Grant McCallum, and Ben Hita shared ribbon cutting duties.

Kaipara District Council received \$4.95 million in grant funding through the PGF for the Kaipara Wharves project. This included the construction of the Dargaville pontoon and Poutō wharf, as well as construction of a new gangway and pontoon in Pahi, alongside upgrades to Pahi's existing wharf. Together, these projects support the water-based transport network across Kaipara Harbour, connecting communities and supporting and attracting residents, businesses and tourists. With the opening of the \$2.94 million wharf in Poutō, the Kaipara Harbour Wharves project is now complete.

The opening of the new wharf ends more than six decades without a local wharf for the settlement, and is expected to boost tourism and the economy for the isolated Poutō community and beyond. It is a key link between Tai Tokerau/Northland and the rest of the country and there is opportunity for sea-based transport via Poutō to be developed in the future. The 60-metre long timber wharf was built to be 2.30 metres above the current highest tide, allowing for about half a metre's sea level rise by 2070.

Craig Jepson, Kaipara District Mayor, *"Having a wharf down here unlocks opportunities for business, for moving produce and people around the district and down to Auckland, for developing tourism ventures, ventures like cycle tours and horse riding tours, low impact adventures that bring high value to our district. This will all help to showcase and support our district."* 





Photo credit: Kaipara District Council

Associate Minister for Regional Development, Hon Mark Patterson, Kaipara District Council Mayor Craig Jepson, MP for Northland Grant McCallum, and Ben Hita open Poutō Wharf.

Photo credit: Te Ao Mãori News/Susan Botting Local Democracy Reporter Northland

#### Opening of Ōtorohanga Kiwi House, Waikato

On 4 May 2024, the Minister for Conservation, Hon Tama Potaka, alongside local MP Barbara Kuriger attended the opening of the Ōtorohanga Kiwi House.

The Ōtorohanga Kiwi House Charitable Trust (the Trust) was approved \$2.00 million in grant funding through the CRRF to complete and open innovative, locally designed 'zoo labs'. The project includes construction of an Information Centre, Nocturnal House with augmented reality interactive space, and several free-flight aviaries, as well as refurbishment and rebuild of existing enclosures and breed-for-release and pre-release facilities.

The Ōtorohanga Kiwi House is the first zone of the redevelopment, 'Taonga o Kawakawa' meaning 'Treasure of Kawakawa'. The new wētā laboratories, along with two animal training rehabilitation and quarantine facilities, make up the first zone while the Trust is also working towards becoming the world's first Living Building Challenge accredited zoo.

The climate-controlled, purpose-built 'zoo labs' aim to protect the future of New Zealand's unique and threatened Mahoenui Giant Wētā population and provide the best conditions for captive breeding, including climate change engineering. Temperature sensors feed live data back to computers at the facility, allowing the zoo lab staff to provide the wētā with an optimum living environment.

The Ōtorohanga Kiwi House is run by a charitable trust which has decades of success in breeding Brown Kiwi and other endangered wildlife for release back to the wild.

Minister for Conservation, Hon Tama Potaka, "This is a great expression of kotahitanga in action where the community, iwi, and government have got together to get it done solely because it is the right thing to do."





Photo credit: Christel Yardley / Stuff

Photo credit: Otorohanga Kiwi House

#### Unveiling of Kaitaia Town Square, Tai Tokerau/Northland

On 5 June 2024, the Minister for Regional Development, Hon Shane Jones, attended a dawn blessing ceremony to mark the completion of the Te Hiku Revitalisation Project.

The Far North District Council received \$7.66 million in grant funding through the CRRF for community infrastructure improvements to the towns of Kaitaia, Awanui and Ahipara, known as the Te Hiku Revitalisation Project.

The funding allowed the council to complete pathways, car parking, lighting, seating, and art works in the areas of Ahipara, Kaitaia and Awanui. With the unveiling of the town square in Kaitaia, the revitalisation project is now complete. The project will attract people to the town centre, thereby increasing spend and supporting local businesses.

In addition to the employment opportunities brought to the region, the project has also enabled a range of benefits for the 66 businesses that supported the delivery of the project. Of the 66 businesses, 48 were local, and 60 per cent were Māori owned. Benefits included mentoring from established local business, Far North Roading, and training and certification opportunities to support future tendering opportunities with councils. It also brought opportunities for Māori carvers and artists that were employed to create unique pieces of art celebrating the rich history and heritage of Te Hiku. The project generated 200 part-time and full-time jobs over the four-year course of redevelopment.



Photo: RNZ / Peter de Graaf

Photo credit: NZ Herald/Northern Advocate

#### **Opening of Saxton Creek Upgrade**

On 12 April 2024, Associate Minister for Regional Development, Hon Mark Patterson, attended the opening of the final stage of the project alongside Nelson Mayor Nick Smith and other officials.

Nelson City Council received \$7.50 million in grant funding through the CRRF to undertake flood resilience upgrade works in Stoke, Nelson, for Stage 4 of the Saxton Creek Upgrade.

The completed Saxton Creek Upgrade now runs over two kilometres from Ngati Rārua Street (Upper Champion Road) to State Highway 6, improving the capacity of the creek and culverts, which provides increased flood resilience for key transport links, houses, and downstream industrial properties. It also created enhanced environmental outcomes, including for stream ecology.

The project created 69 fulltime jobs, work for project management engineers, and demand for supplier materials. The update increases the area's resilience from a 1 in 5-year to a 1 in 100-year flood event protection level, preventing flooding of Main Road Stoke and commercial properties of Wakatu Industrial Estate.

Associate Minister for Regional Development, Hon Mark Patterson, **"These projects are the sorts of things that you hardly notice in your daily lives, but when a storm hits, you're very happy that this infrastructure exists."** 



Photo credit: Nelson City Council

#### Opening of Matai Medical Research Institute, Tairāwhiti

On 19 April 2024, the Minister for Regional Development, Hon Shane Jones, opened the Mātai Medical Research Institute at Childers Road in Gisborne. This marks the completion of Stage one of the larger vision to develop a purpose-built multi-level campus spanning the remaining two and a half hectares at the Childers Road location (Stage two).

Matai Medical Research Limited (Mātai) was approved a total of \$9.00 million in grant and loan funding through the PGF and RSPF to establish a purpose-built research facility Commercial Information

, providing the Tairāwhiti community with access to advanced imaging.

The campus will be a hub for medical and health innovation in New Zealand, leading growth in medical imaging expertise, medical research, neuroscience, bioengineering and technology start-ups.

Mātai employs 21 people, including high value roles such as physicists and mathematicians. It has also hosted 51 summer research internships in a programme that blends science, research, innovation, mātauranga Māori, leadership, and community engagement.

Some of Mātai's research programmes include:

- A study focussed on Tairāwhiti youth using MRI and associated health services seeking to increase health outcomes.
- > A new model for prostate cancer screening, which undertakes early MRI to gain a more accurate diagnosis.
- Working with international partners and regional rugby teams, including Gisborne Boys High School, to better understand the effects of brain impacts and how better detection and management can lead to improved long-term outcomes.
- > Pregnancy health study using advanced MRI.
- > Shape and growth modelling in cerebral palsy.
- > Imaging and modelling markers of early-stage dementia.



A state of the art GE Healthcare 3 Tesla MRI machine at the Mātai Medical Research Institute



The completed Matai Medical Research Institute

# Impact of Investments

### Recent analysis has shown that government funding administered by Kānoa – RD has had positive impacts on workforces in the regions

Kānoa – RD is using impacts reporting to gather information from recipients on the impacts of funding. Funding recipients are asked to complete an online questionnaire six months after first receiving funds, and then every six months after that, to monitor impacts over the course of the project.

Some key findings from 25 impacts reporting responses in 2023/24 highlight the benefits of investment for local workforces:

- 95 per cent of responses say funding has enabled them to employ more of the services of local businesses, while 58 per cent employed more of the services of Māori businesses.
- 80 per cent of organisations surveyed employed locals, with 30 per cent employing all locals.
- > 73 per cent say funding has led to more skilled workers in the region.
- 50 per cent of organisations trained or upskilled staff, with 15 per cent training or upskilling all staff.

### Funding for the PGF reset and CRRF projects is also boosting employment and supporting jobseekers in the regions

Significant numbers of local, Māori and previously unemployed workers have been employed because of funding allocated through the PGF reset\* and CRRF. In total, since May 2020, a maximum of:

- > 5,449 local workers have been employed.
- > 2,438 Māori have been employed.
- > 808 previously unemployed workers have been employed.

# TABLE ONE: Maximum number of local, Māori and previously unemployed workers at any given time

Job category	PGF reset	CRRF	Total
Local	1,822	3,627	5,449
Māori	1,155	1,284	2,438
Previously unemployed	527	281	808

Note: job categories are not mutually exclusive workers may be counted in more than one category

\*In May 2020, \$640.00 million was repurposed from the PGF to help regional New Zealand recover from the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.



### 95% use more of local

business services



58% use the services of Māori businesses



80% of surveyed businesses employed locals



73% say funding has led to more skilled workers



# Another indicator of the employment impact of government funding administered by Kānoa – RD is economic impact modelling

Updated economic impact modelling to the end of the 2023/24 financial year provides new estimates of workers employed as a result of the paid investment in projects across all funds administered by Kānoa – RD, and the associated co-investment the paid funding has unlocked.

The regions with the most paid and co-funding investment combined are Tai Tokerau/Northland (\$934.18 million) and Bay of Plenty (\$850.83 million). This has resulted in an estimated 5,000+ FTEs employed in each region over the course of the funding.

The modelling estimates about 3,000 FTEs have been employed in each of the Waikato and Manawatū/Whanganui-Horowhenua regions due to paid funding and co-investment, and more than 2,000 FTEs employed in Tairāwhiti.

#### TABLE TWO: Estimated employment impact of paid investment and co-funding by region, 2023/24 FY

	Region	Paid funding	Co-funding	Estimated employment impact (FTE)
1	Tai Tokerau/Northland	\$713.26m	\$220.92m	5,257
2	Bay of Plenty	\$532.42m	\$318.41m	5,147
3	Waikato	\$241.79m	\$303.59m	3,266
4	Manawatū-Whanganui/Horowhenua	\$259.09m	\$161.21m	2,929
5	Tairāwhiti	\$357.12m	\$120.15m	2,329
6	Southland	\$155.29m	\$212.22m	1,906
7	Hawke's Bay	\$270.59m	\$84.31m	1,704
8	Canterbury	\$96.38m	\$194.13m	1,273
9	West Coast	\$198.51m	\$103.61m	1,121
10	Otago	\$150.31m	\$65.42m	932
11	Taranaki	\$80.81m	\$72.15m	869
12	Te Tau Ihu/Top of the South	\$81.24m	\$72.36m	739
13	Wairarapa	\$18.70m	\$9.52m	185
14	Chatham Islands	\$17.90m	\$0.37m	112
15	Kāpiti	\$8.81m	\$9.73m	103

The economic impact modelling uses input-output multipliers to determine the direct, indirect, and induced impacts of investment. This is based on the BERL model, which uses input-output multipliers from Statistics New Zealand. For example, an investment to build a factory will create jobs in that factory (direct impact). The factory will require a range of materials that need to be manufactured and supplied (indirect impact). Employees of the organisations with both direct and indirect impacts will earn money and spend it on things like food, clothes, or entertainment (induced impact).

These impacts result in more expenditure, added GDP, and more jobs in an economy.

# Economic impact modelling also shows the impact regional investment has had on the whole economy

As at the end of June 2024, **total paid investment of \$3.59 billion** from government funding administered by Kānoa – RD has an associated **\$2.06 billion of co-investment.** 

Combined, this paid investment and co-funding has been estimated to provide an additional total impact nationally of:



# Progress on the Minister for Regional Development's three portfolio objectives

Progress against the Regional Development portfolio priorities is set out below:

#### 1. Establish a RIF with \$1.20 billion in capital funding over the Parliamentary term

**IMPACT:** Grow regional economies by improving resilience and increasing productivity through investment in regional infrastructure.

The RIF is a \$1.20 billion capital infrastructure fund that opened on 1 July 2024.

#### Progress during the April – June 2024 quarter:

- > On 20 May 2024 Cabinet agreed to establish of the RIF.
- > On 17 June 2024 Cabinet agreed to detailed settings and approved the drawdown of funding.
- A RIF Ministers Group was established to consider policy recommendations, as well as a Regional Development Ministers Group (RDMG) to make RIF investment decisions on applications for up to \$35.00 million.

# 2. Develop a sustainable funding model for Regional Development investments, including the operation of CRHL

**IMPACTS:** Contribute to improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the public service. Lift New Zealand's productivity and economic growth to increase opportunities and prosperity for all New Zealanders.

#### Confidential advice to Government



# 3. Improve the management of high-risk projects and increase the transparency of reporting in the Regional Development portfolio

#### **IMPACT:** Strengthen public confidence in our democracy.

#### Progress during the April – June 2024 quarter:

- Officials aim to focus on how Kānoa RD can assess and communicate the risks and value of the funds it manages at a portfolio level.
- Officials have engaged with independent risk experts to advise on opportunities to strengthen risk frameworks that Kānoa – RD use for both grants-based and loan/equity-based projects.

#### Intended progress for the July – August 2024 quarter:

 Officials will complete enhanced risk assessment criteria to improve the management of cost pressures emerging from existing Kānoa – RD funded projects.

# Kānoa – RD operational progress



#### RIF

- > Confidential advice to Government
- > On 29 July 2024, the RDMG Ministers met for the first time and agreed to:
  - provide grant funding for 42 flood resilience projects for 60 per cent of the total project cost, totalling \$101.10 million.
  - provide grant funding of \$5.80 million to support wastewater infrastructure at Parihaka.
  - consider two sites of national significance projects at their next meeting (Waitangi Grounds and Ratana).
- > Six RIF position papers to help guide applicants were agreed to by RIF Ministers.
- Applications are being assessed when received and investment proposals presented to ministers on a twomonthly basis.

#### Progressing Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Limited (In Liquidation and Receivership) (RAL)

Kānoa – RD officials have continued to support the Crown's commercial interests in RAL. RAL's Receivers completed the sale of its Tūroa ski field assets and operations to Pure Tūroa Limited (PTL) in April 2024. PTL was provided with \$3.05 million of Crown support as part of the conditions of the sale.

In March 2024, Ministers publicly announced that RAL's Receivers would be provided with \$7.00 million of Crown support, stating that if no acceptable commercially led solution can be found within the next year, there will be no additional government funding for RAL's Whakapapa ski operations.

RAL's Receivers commenced an expression of interest process to sell its Whakapapa ski field assets and operations in April 2024. The two-staged process closed in June 2024. The outcome of this process is commercially sensitive. Any announcements will be made in due course.

#### **NIWE PPFS**

NIWE PPFS closed on 30 June 2024, with the last application approved on 25 June 2024.

A total of \$142.91 million, of the \$200.00 million available, has been approved across 32 applications, of which:

- > 30 are contracted
- > two are in the process of being contracted (as at 20 August 2024).

As at 20 August 2024, a total of \$83.35 million has been drawn down across 28 contracts.

Next steps include finalising the reporting framework and the ongoing management of NIWE PPFS.



Planting carried out by NIWE PPFS recipient The Fresh Fruit Company of New Zealand Limited.

# CRHL progress during the April – June 2024 quarter

The Board continues to meet regularly to discuss the operations of CRHL and review the management of its investments.

#### **Progress update:**

- As at 30 June 2024, the CRHL portfolio consists of 187 loans with a total contract value of \$1.02 billion.
- As at 30 June 2024, 22 STAPP loans, worth approximately \$35.67 million, have been repaid in full, with \$3.43 million partially repaid.
- The remaining 39 STAPP loans worth approximately \$59.48 million\* are scheduled to be repaid in full before April 2027, with four loans worth \$6.33 million expected to be repaid in the next quarter.
  - This programme was stood up during COVID-19 to support key tourism businesses to stay afloat. Providing loans to businesses during this time was risky, however having the loans repaid is evidence the scheme was successful in helping businesses survive the economic impacts of COVID-19.
- Loan repayments have been increasing, improving the Crown's net cash position. By 30 June 2024, \$65.29 million of principal repayments had been received on CRHL's loans.
- The level of repayments received means that CRHL has paid a dividend to the Crown (\$19.17 million), a share buyback from shareholding Ministers (\$58.06 million), and reduced the level of unsubscribed share capital (\$40.00 million). The net effect of these three actions means the central Government's cash position has improved by \$117.23 million.
- The CRHL Statement of Intent for the period 2024-2027 and the CRHL Statement of Performance Expectations 2024 – 2025 were sent to shareholding Ministers for review in May 2024, with the final version sent to shareholding Ministers on 27 June 2024 for presenting in the House of Representatives.
- The Board is providing commercial advice on potential investments in relation to the RIF prior to Regional Development Ministerial Group decision-making.
- The Board continues working closely with Audit New Zealand to ensure a smooth 2024 audit process in line with a 'no-surprises' approach.







\$1.02b contract value of CRHL portfolio loans



\$35.67m Value of 22 STAPP loans repaid in full



repaid CRHL loans



\$117.23m is the amount the central government's cash position has improved by

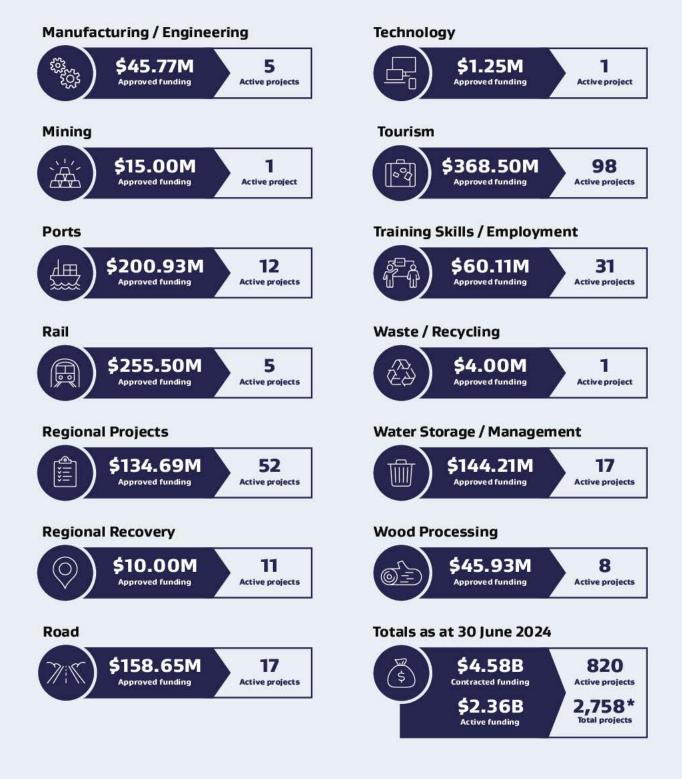
\*ITO funding came from the STAPP allocation, but these loans are not held by Crown Regional Holdings Limited. These figures therefore exclude five active STAPP loans, which are counted on page 3.

# Sector Snapshot

#### **Advanced Manufacturing**







\*Individual projects may be counted against multiple funds, sectors and lead agencies. This means totals can be less than the sum of individual categories. Data is correct as at 30 June 2024.

# **Regional Snapshot**

Auckland \$1.30M 1 Approved funding Total projects **Bay of Plenty** \$332.07M 72 Approved funding Total projects Canterbury \$68.89M 64 Approved funding **Total projects** Chatham Islands \$13.57M 5 Approved funding **Total projects** Hawke's Bay \$209.08M 59 Approved funding Total projects Kāpiti \$0.34M 1 Approved funding Total projects Manawatū-Whanganui/ Horowhenua \$171.71M 52 -Approved funding Total projects National \$201.49M 97 Approved funding Total projects Otago \$95.41M 52 Approved funding **Total projects** Southland \$69.38M 27 Approved funding **Total projects** 

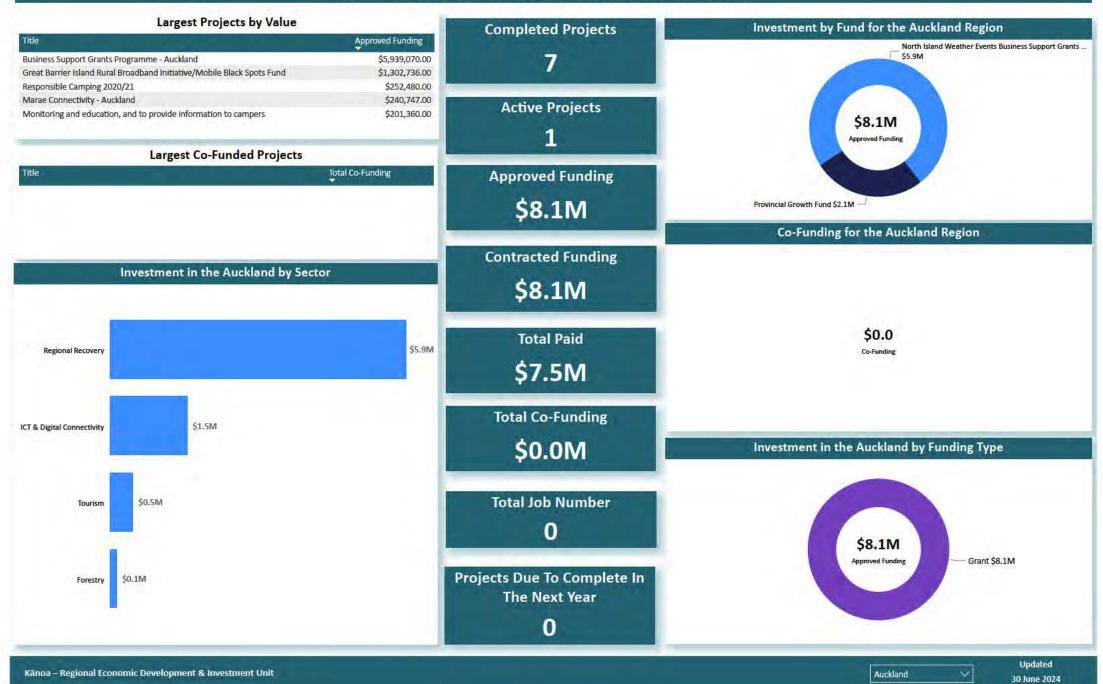


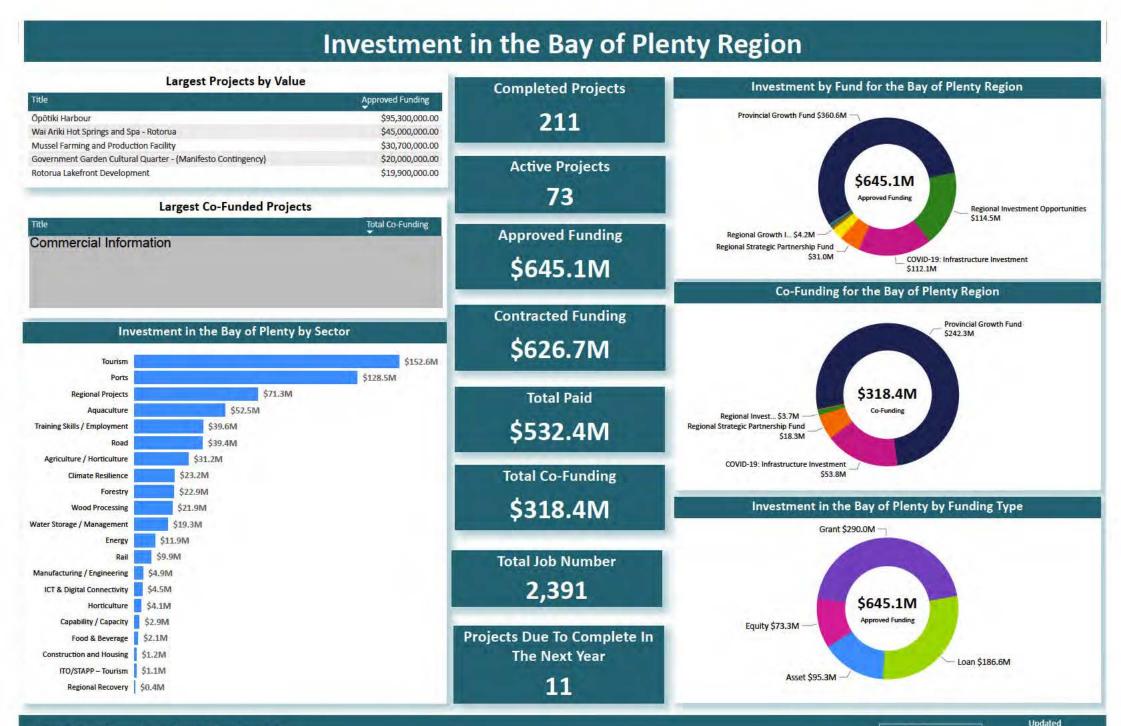
\* Individual projects may be counted against multiple funds, sectors and lead agencies. This means totals can be less than the sum of individual categories.

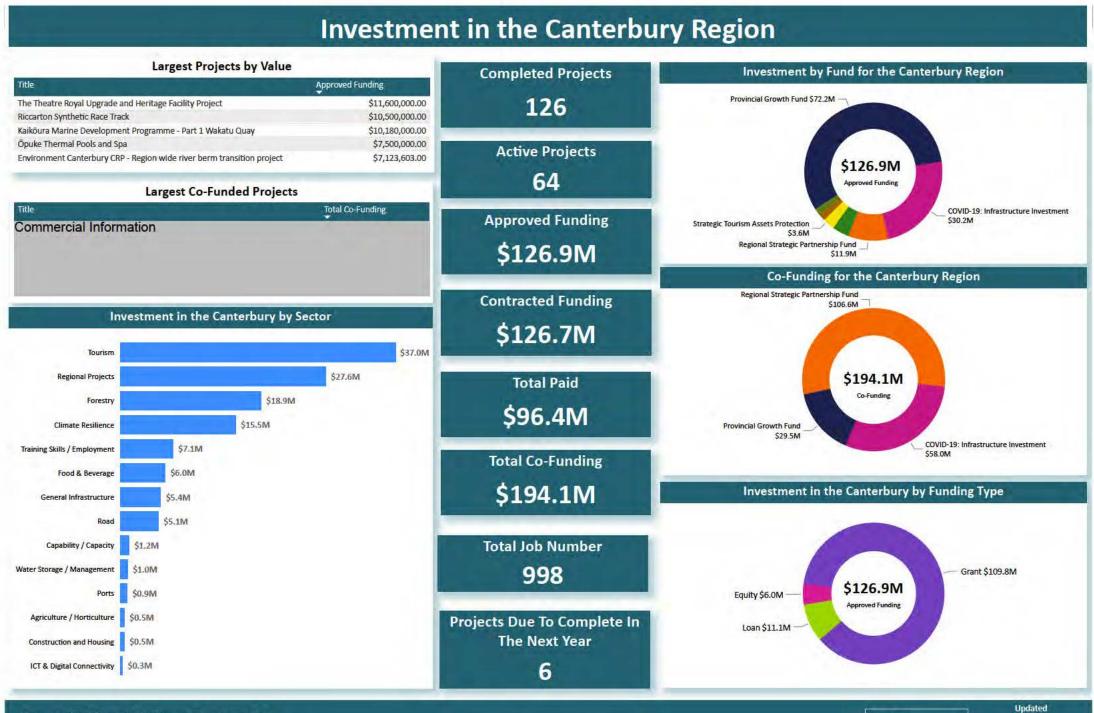
# Regional Dashboards

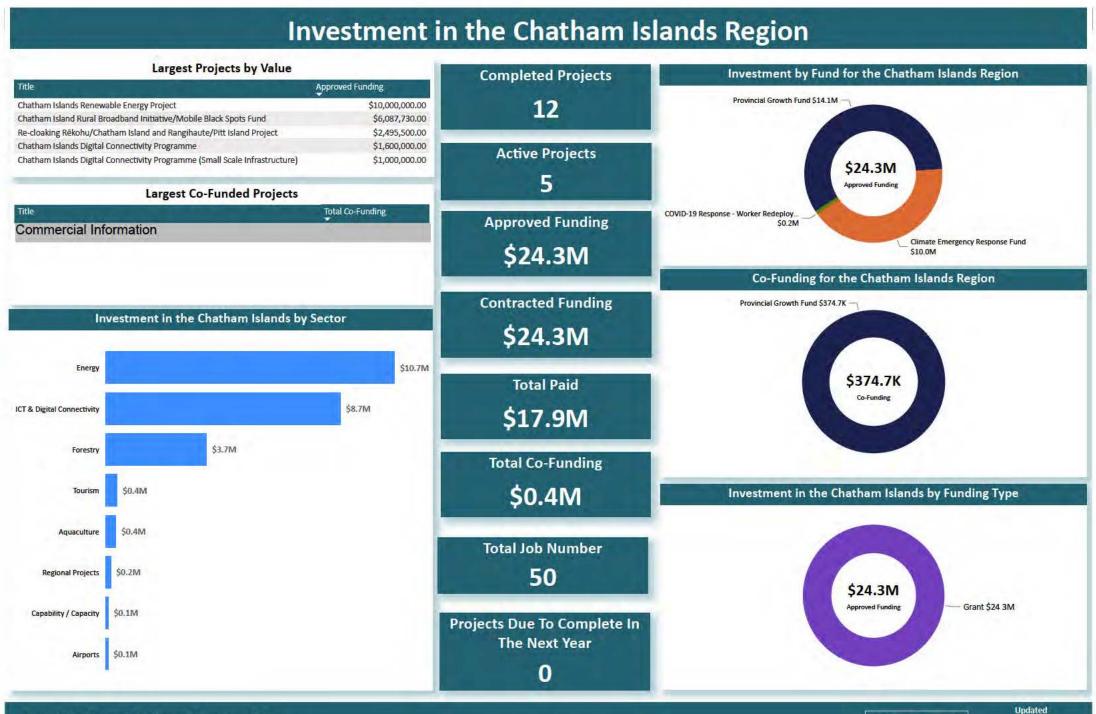
The following pages provide an overview for each region, including a breakdown of investment by sector and fund.

## **Investment in the Auckland Region**

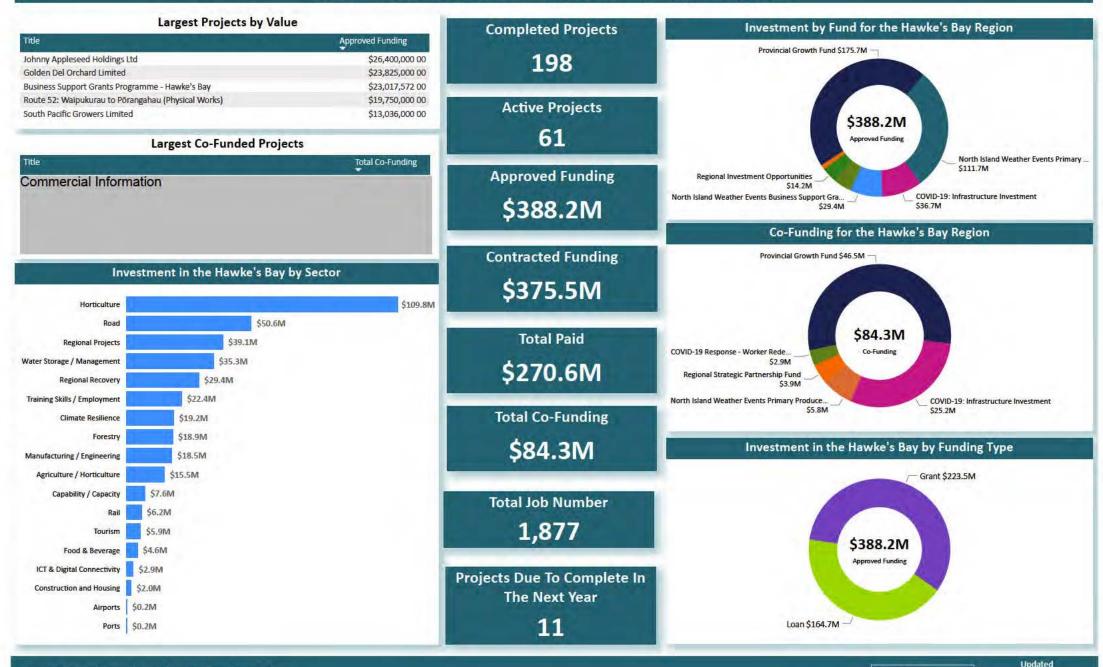




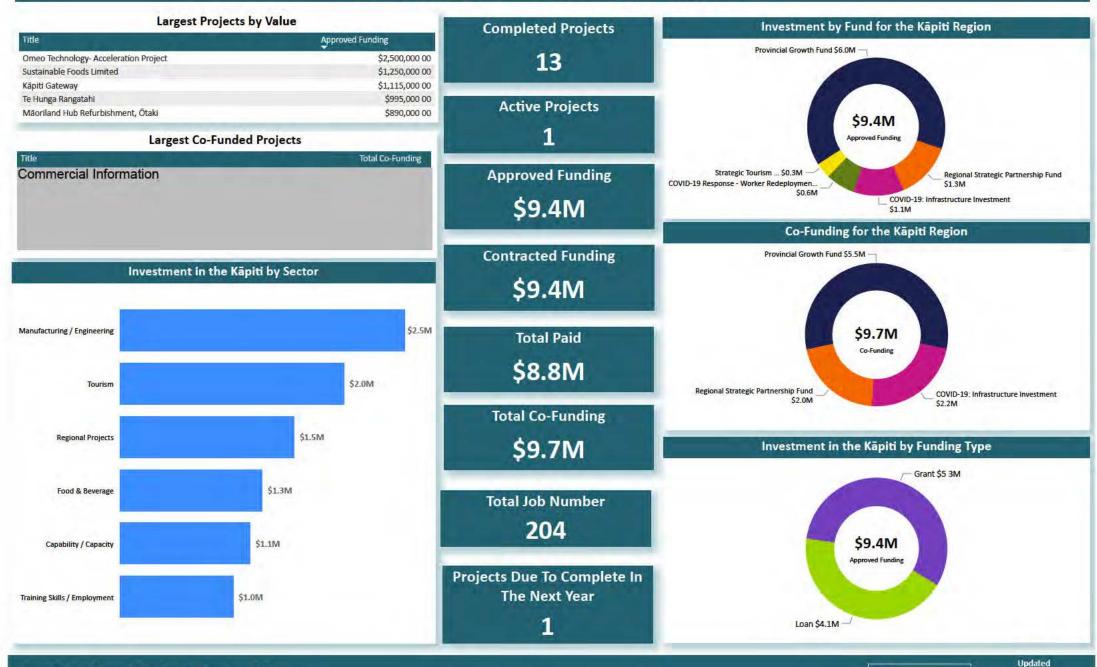




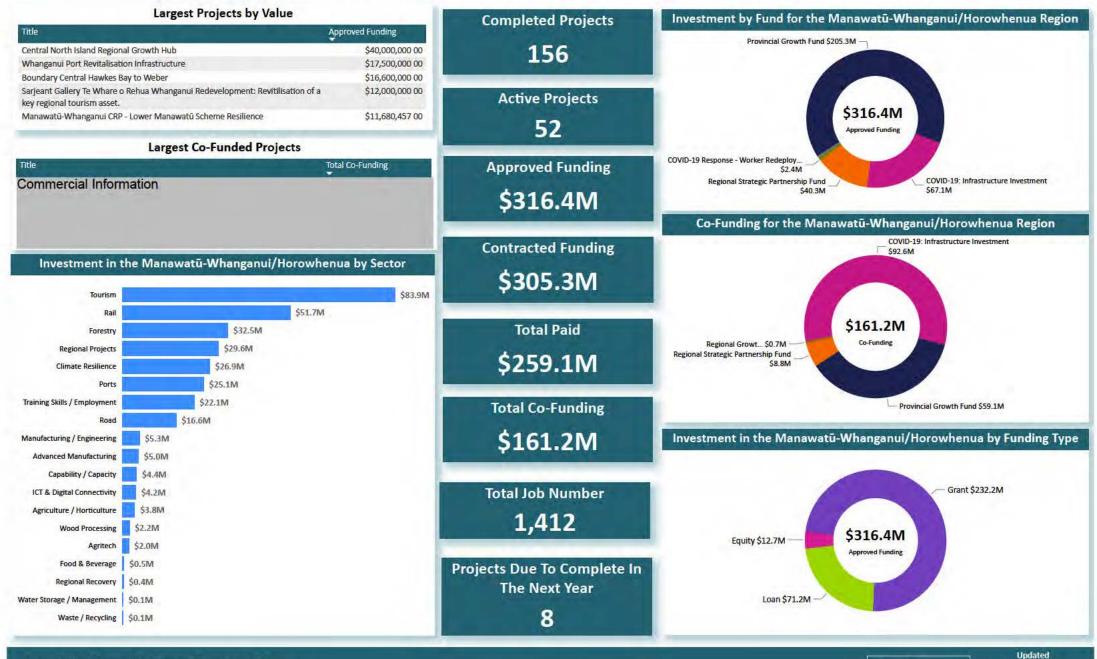
# Investment in the Hawke's Bay Region



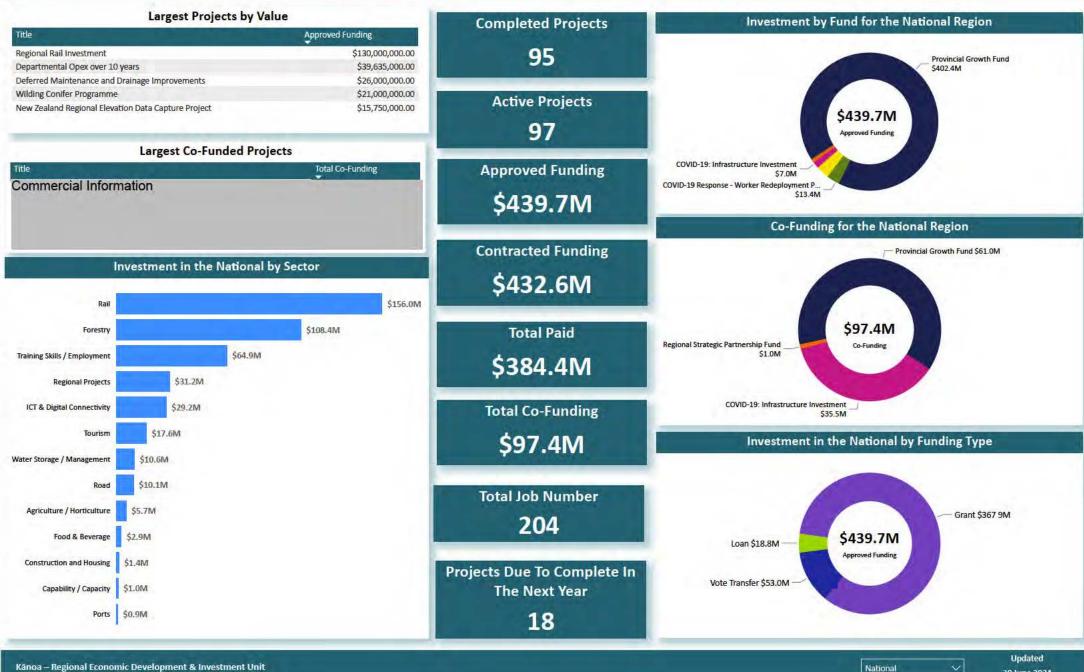
## Investment in the Kāpiti Region



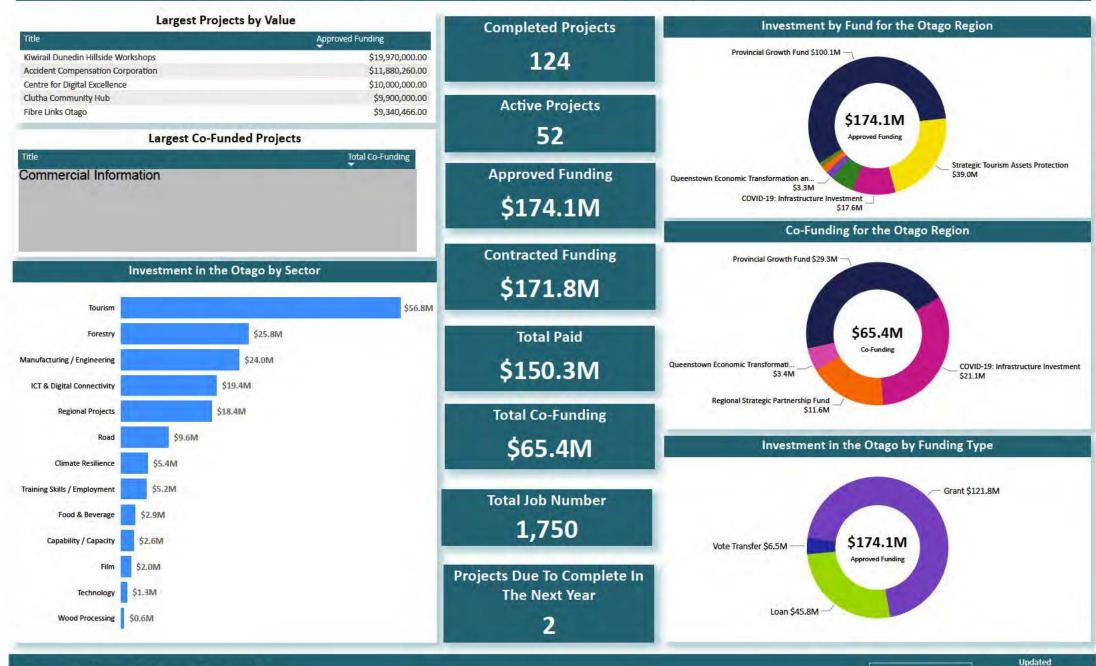
# Investment in the Manawatū-Whanganui/Horowhenua Region



## **Investment in the National Region**

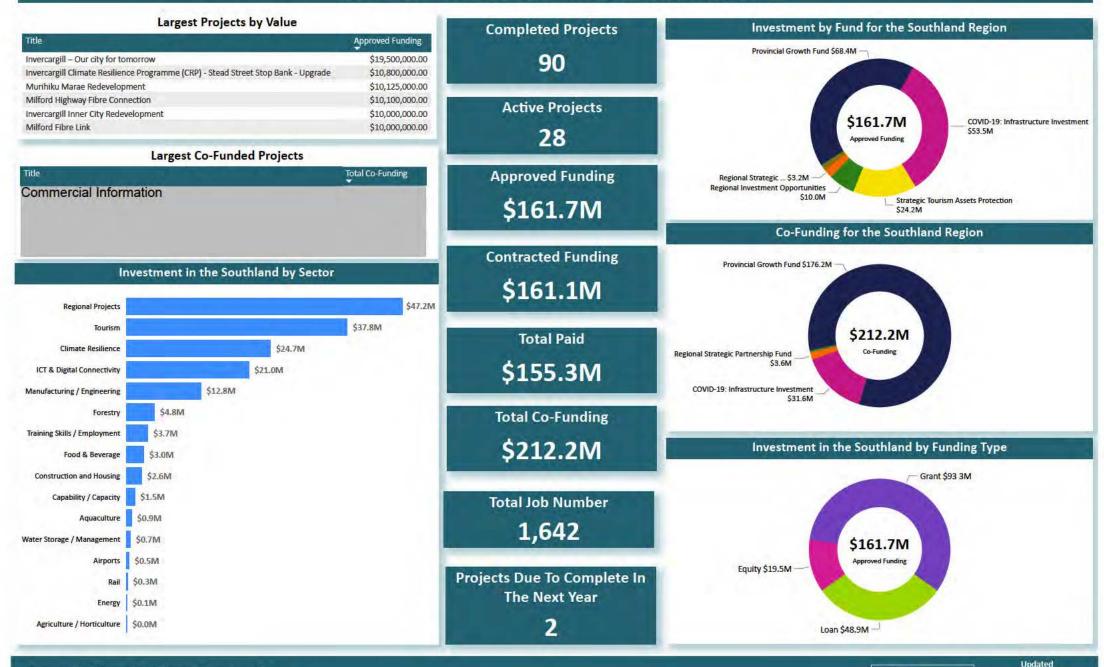


## **Investment in the Otago Region**



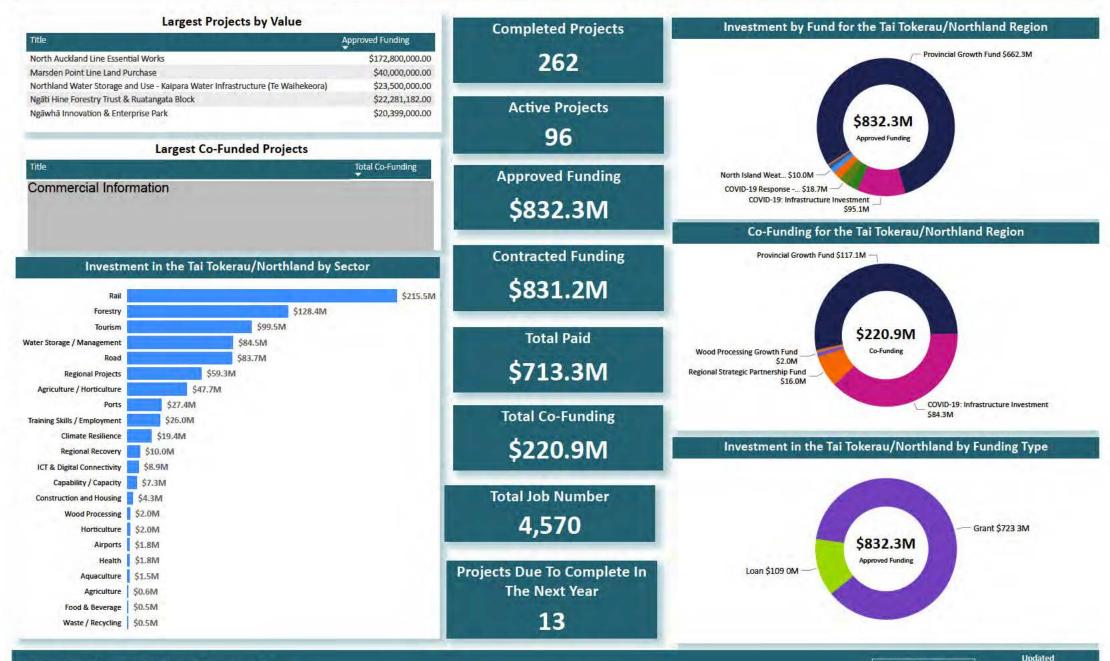
Otago

## **Investment in the Southland Region**

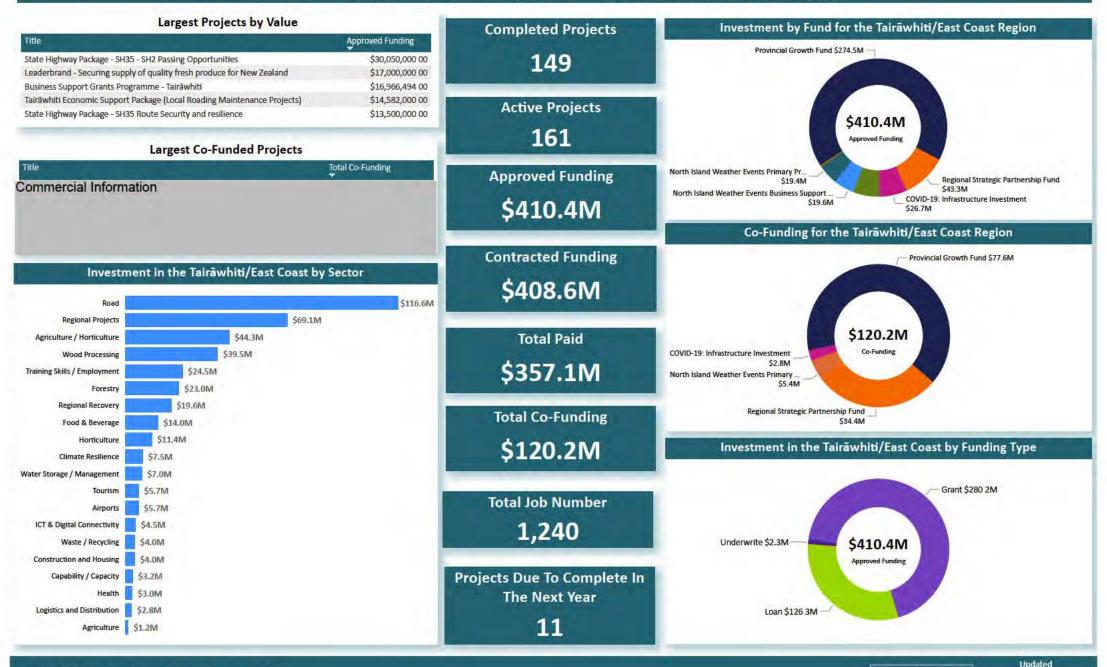


Southland

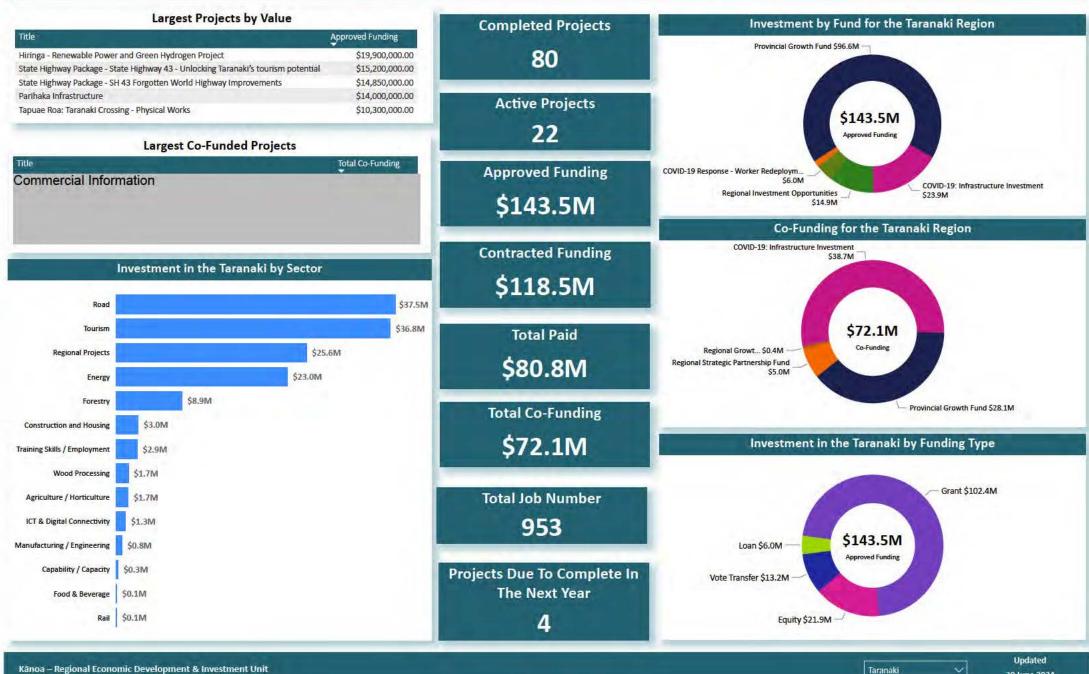
# Investment in the Tai Tokerau/Northland Region



## Investment in the Tairāwhiti/East Coast Region

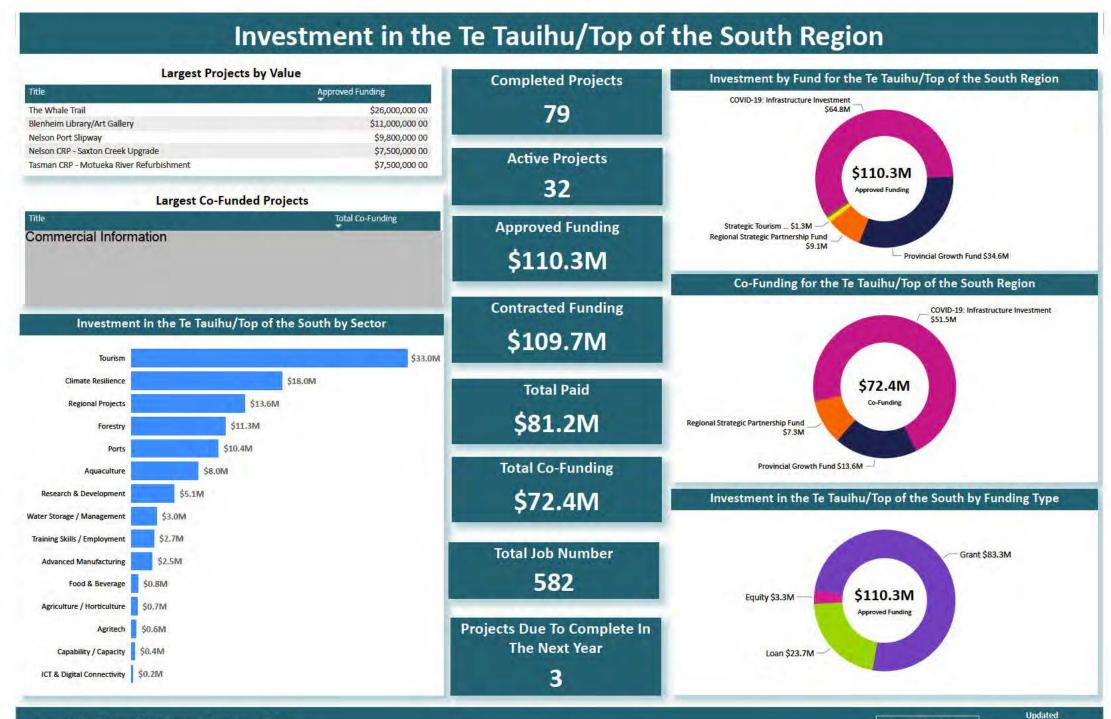


#### **Investment in the Taranaki Region**

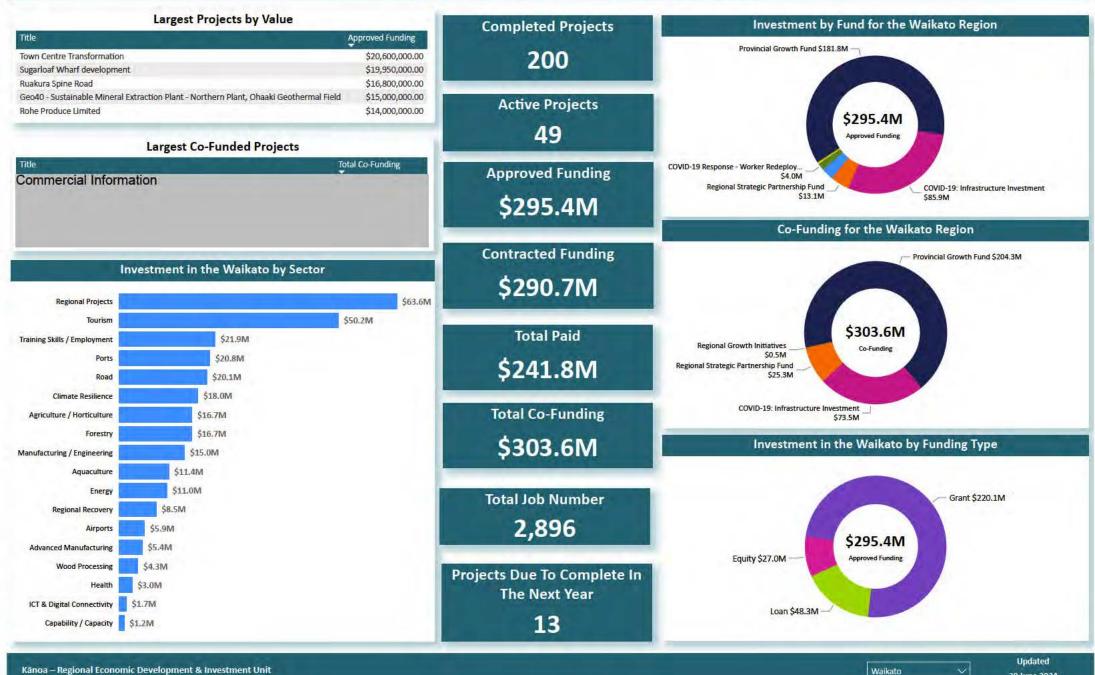


30 June 2024

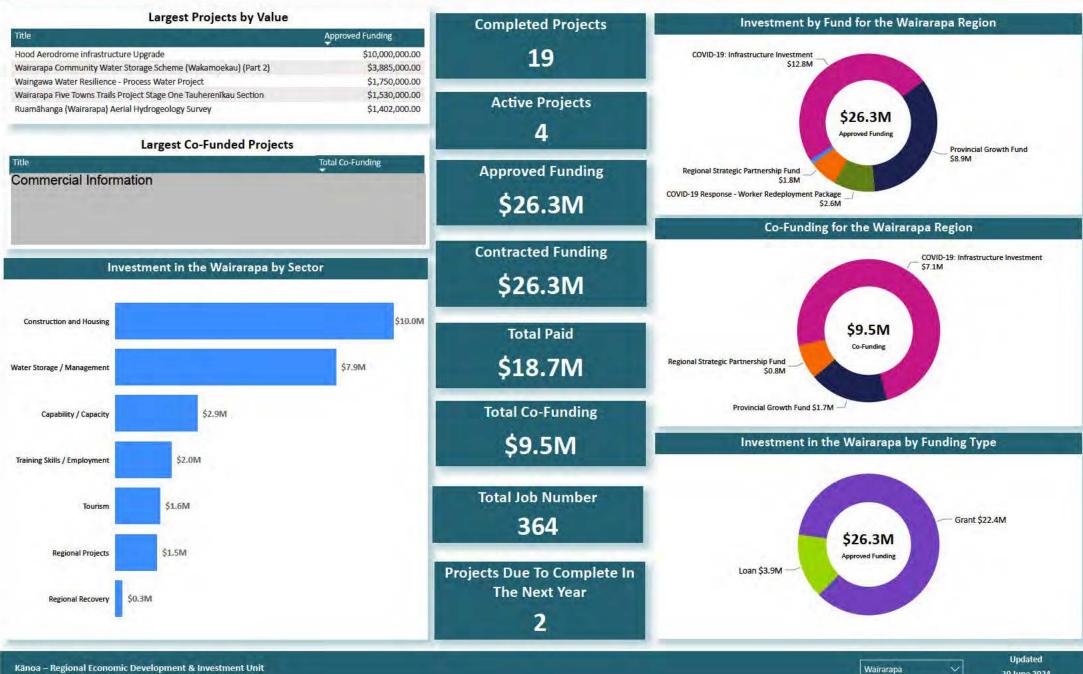
Kānoa - Regional Economic Development & Investment Unit

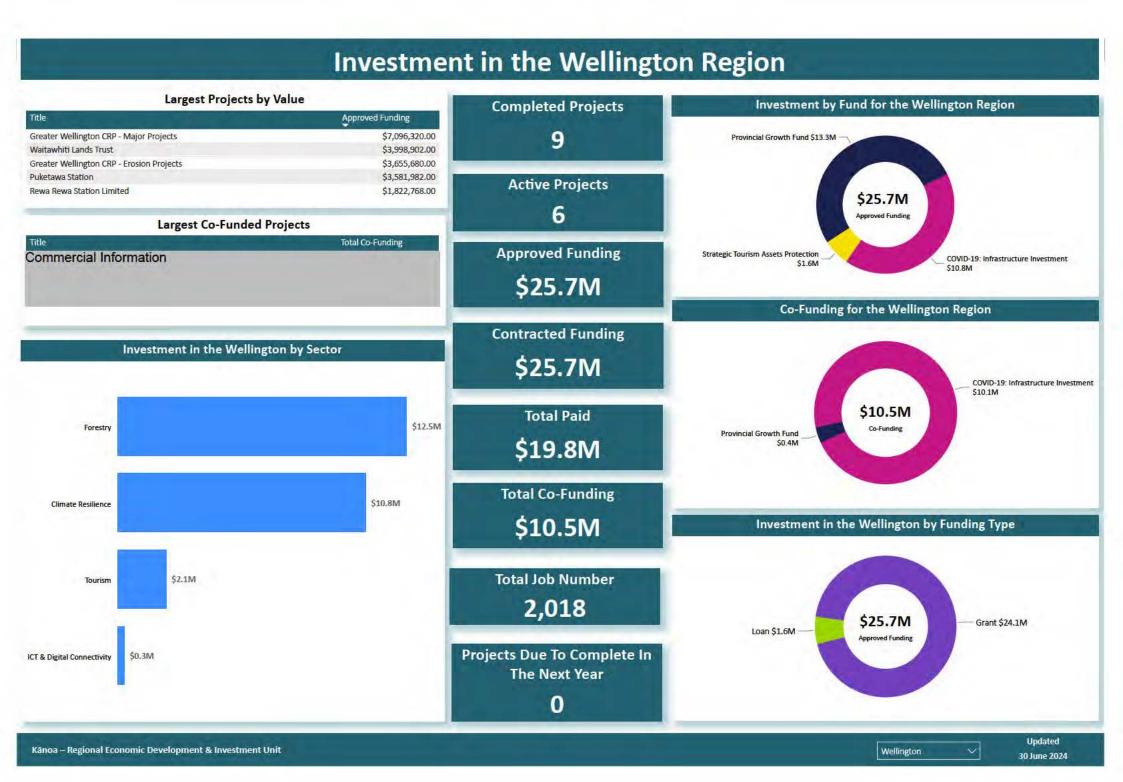


## **Investment in the Waikato Region**



## **Investment in the Wairarapa Region**

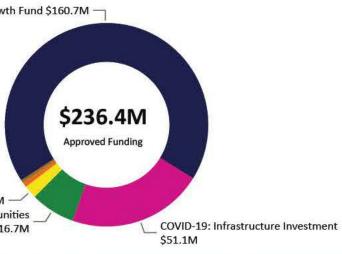




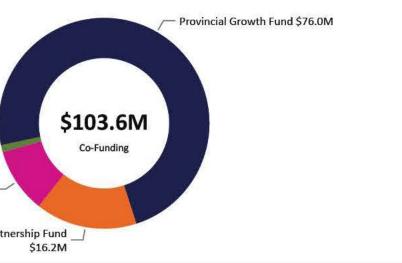
# **Investment in the West Coast Region**

Investment I	Completed Projects	Largest Projects by Value		
Provincial Growth	111 Active Projects	Approved Funding \$28,100,000.00 \$24,000,000.00 \$20,059,534.00 \$17,873,625.00	ау	Title Dolomite Point Redevelopment Tourism Upgrades project Fibre Links West Coast Te Ara Pounamu - The Pounamu
		\$15,000,000.00	ect	Blackwater Gold Mine Explorat
	26	Largest Co-Funded Projects		
Strategic Tourism A \$4.9M – Regional Investment Opportunit \$16.7 <b>Co-Fund</b>	Approved Funding \$236.4M	Total Co-Funding ▼		Title Commercial Information
	Contracted Funding \$237.1M	tor \$74.5M	nt in the West Coast by Sect	Tourism
COVID-19 Response - Worker Rede \$1.1M COVID-19: Infrastructure Investment \$10.3M	Total Paid \$198.5M		\$32.1M \$28.5M \$24.2M \$18.6M	Road ICT & Digital Connectivity Rail Regional Projects Mining
Regional Strategic Partne	Total Co-Funding \$103.6M		\$16.0M \$15.3M 3.9M	Mining Climate Resilience Ports Training Skills / Employment Waste / Recycling
Asset \$8.0M —	Total Job Number <b>787</b>			Airports Capability / Capacity Forestry \$
Loan \$20.9M — Vote Transfer \$33.	Projects Due To Complete In The Next Year <b>8</b>			Food & Beverage \$0 Aquaculture \$0 Wood Processing \$0. Agriculture / Horticulture \$0.

#### by Fund for the West Coast Region



#### nding for the West Coast Region



#### t in the West Coast by Funding Type







KNO 11259