

Regional Economic Development

Weekly Report

8 April – 12 April 2019

To: Hon Shane Jones

Minister for Regional Economic Development

Fletcher Tabureau

Under-Secretary for Regional Economic Development



PROVINCIAL
DEVELOPMENT
UNIT

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1. Dashboard updates

1.1 Status of applications as at 10 April

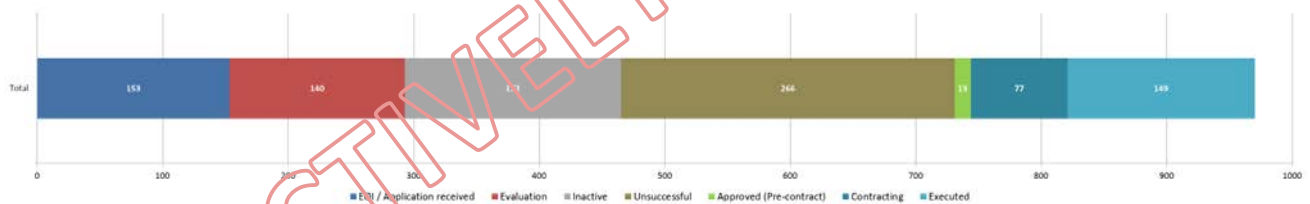
New projects this week	37
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Total number of projects	Expressions of interest (EOI)	Applications
970	365	605

Total funding approved to date	Total funding announced
254 projects for \$682.2m*	185 projects for \$752.4m

* Note this does not include major sector allocations such as, Whenua Maori, 1BT, Transport.

1.2 Progress of applications and EOI as at 10 April



* Please note that the graphic has changed to reflect the number of inactive projects (projects either on hold or withdrawn) that were previously captured in the Evaluation stage. Additionally, Unsupported EOI are now categorised as Unsuccessful, increasing its numbers. Approved projects also includes out of process projects that are managed by other PGF agencies.

2. Regional Updates

2.1 Hawke's Bay

PipeDrive update

As of 10 April 2019, 106 applications and EOI have been lodged in PipeDrive. The status of those applications is:

- 24 are awaiting assessment
- 23 are being assessed
- 2 are awaiting further information
- 13 are on hold
- 21 have been approved
- 23 have been unsuccessful - declined, withdrawn or are unsupported.

Regional Activity

On 3 April, Provincial Development Unit (PDU) officials met with the Chief Executives of the five Hawke's Bay councils (Napier City Council, Hastings District Council, Wairoa District Council, Central Hawke's Bay District Council, and Hawke's Bay Regional Council) to discuss council-related applications. The Investment Director for the region outlined the focus areas for the Provincial Growth Fund (PGF) and discussed the upcoming package announcement.

A meeting was held with Wairoa District Council's economic development team to discuss intentions for redeveloping Marine Parade. This includes a number of initiatives aimed at drawing more people into the CBD, promoting building maintenance and growing retail activity. An application for PGF support for part of this plan is being prepared.

PDU officials met with Privacy of natural persons in Hastings to discuss a number of projects to encourage development of the industry. Developing skills capability is a particular focus for the industry, across all skill levels. PDU officials are supporting Com to identify where PGF support could be forthcoming. Com have been invited to give the Independent Advisory Panel (IAP) a high level overview of their strategy when they visit Hawke's Bay on 15 and 16 May.

Cross-agency support from Ministry of Social Development (MSD), Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) and PDU is being offered to Ngāti Pāhauwera Development Ltd who has applied for funding under Whenua Māori to support an initiative in Wairoa.

Opportunities for Regional Digital Hubs in Hawke's Bay are being progressed.

Follow up support has been provided to the Hastings District Council (HDC)-led Hawke's Bay Food Innovation Hub development plan. The project team has submitted an application for the implementation phase.

Upcoming Announcements

An announcement date for Hawke's Bay is currently being finalised.

Contact: Kate Styles, Manager Regional Development (Central/ South), Privacy of

2.2 West Coast

PipeDrive update

As of 10 April 2019, 77 applications and EOI have been lodged in PipeDrive. The status of those applications is:

- 3 are awaiting assessment
- 1 is being assessed
- 1 is awaiting further information
- 10 are on hold
- 18 have been approved
- 44 have been unsuccessful - declined, withdrawn or are unsupported

Regional Activity

PDU Officials are currently finalising the remaining five contracts from the West Coast package.

An update on the other West Coast package contracts:

- Kawatiri Coastal Trail opened their project management office in Westport in mid-March and will receive responses to their design tenders by 12 April 2019.
- The Dolomite Point project management team is progressing their planning.

The feasibility study for the upgrade of the Westport and Greymouth ports is now complete and there is a meeting to discuss the study with the councils scheduled for 16 April.

The Principal Regional Advisor (PRA) met with Minister O'Connor and advised him of current PGF pipeline opportunities that officials are working on in the region.

There is ongoing work to support the team putting together the Pounamu Pathways project for a PGF application. The project team are currently putting together costs for presentation to the Regional Leaders at a meeting on 8 May. A funding proposal will be drafted after this meeting.

PDU West Coast officials are working with Te Puni Kōkiri (TPK) on five potential applications, including a possible Te Ara Mahi application.

Development West Coast is working on an application for three Regional Digital Hubs for the region.

PDU officials are working with applicants that have submissions that are 'On Hold' to either finalise their applications, or if they are unable to complete the application, requesting that they withdraw them.

Upcoming Announcements

There are no upcoming announcements.

Contact: Kate Styles, Manager Regional Development (Central/ South), [Privacy of](#)

2.3 Tai Tokerau/ Northland

PipeDrive update

As of 10 April 2019, 186 applications and EOI have been lodged in PipeDrive. The status of those applications is:

- 28 are awaiting assessment
- 15 are being assessed
- 10 are awaiting further information
- 7 are on hold
- 49 have been approved
- 77 have been unsuccessful - declined, withdrawn or are unsupported.

Regional Activity

On 5 April, Minister Shane Jones and Deputy Prime Minister Winston Peters announced \$21 million of PGF projects at Waiparera Marae in Panguru. These projects are:

- Kaipara and Mid-north water storage of \$18.5 million to unlock land for horticulture use.
- Three marae in Hokianga will receive PGF funding for digital connectivity, with the first two marae in Kaitaia and Dargaville already connected.
- The first Regional Digital Hub is planned to open in Kaitaia and June McCabe on behalf of Taitokerau Fibre Network (TFN) has submitted an application to the PGF for this.
- A \$3.2 million project to rebuild the Opononi seawall and improve the resilience of State Highway 12.

Crown Forestry have agreed on two joint ventures – one with Te Uri o Hau land owners, the second with land owners based in Tapuwae forest. The total value of Crown investment over the life of these two projects is \$39 million over an area of about 3,800 hectares of forest.

The IAP are convening in Northland on 11 and 12 April. They will be in the mid-north (Kaikohe, Kerikeri and Waitangi) on 11 April, and on 12 April they will travel south to Whangarei (Marsden Point) where they will review a series of presentations from various local and national business interests.

Dr David Wilson has been the CEO of Northland Inc. for the past five years and has decided to return home to Auckland. **Privacy of natural persons**
Vaughan Cooper has been appointed as the interim CEO, while a recruitment process for Dr Wilson's replacement is undertaken.

Upcoming Announcements

Minister Jones and Deputy Prime Minister Peters will announce an investment in a heavy machinery training centre on 12 April 2019. The announcement is based on investing in training and upskilling locals from Whangarei in the use of heavy machinery, which will address potential skills shortages in this area.

Contact: Nicki Sutherland, Manager Regional Development (North) - **Privacy of**

3. Other Updates

3.1 Digital dashboard

Digital update for the month of March

After last month's spike in traffic, the number of users visiting the website has dropped 10% as traffic has stabilised to more regular levels. This drop in users also results in a corresponding drop in related metrics such as number of sessions, average time on site, and unique page views.



While the overall number of sessions dropped, traffic arriving to the site through Twitter and LinkedIn increased significantly by 122% and 400% respectively on the previous month.

Social breakdown

Social Network	Sessions	% Δ
Facebook	115	-75.6% ↓
Twitter	60	122.2% ↑
LinkedIn	30	400.0% ↑
Google+	3	-

Despite the decrease in overall traffic, the number of users accessing the list of 'All Announced Projects' status spreadsheet has increased, which suggests a steady interest in this information.

Event Label	Unique Events	% Δ	Total Events	% Δ
1. https://www.growregions.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/all-announced-projects-status.xlsx	116	1.8% ↑	139	-10...
2. https://www.growregions.govt.nz/assets/governance-meetings/position-papers/position-paper-economic-development-agencies.pdf	29	20...	31	14.8%
3. https://www.growregions.govt.nz/assets/governance-meetings/senior-regional-officials/2018-10/2018-10-25-sro-exec-summary.pdf	18	-21...	22	-35...
4. https://www.growregions.govt.nz/assets/governance-meetings/senior-regional-officials/2018-10/2018-10-25-sro-agenda.pdf	17	-5...	19	-29...

Branded searches (i.e. queries related to 'Provincial Growth Fund' or 'Grow Regions') continues to be the major source of search engine traffic to the website. The Te Ara Mahi and He Poutama Rangatahi projects are also in the top ten search queries bringing traffic to the website.

What people are searching for (external)

	Query	Clicks ▾	Site CTR	Average Positi...
1.	provincial growth fund	874	68.76%	1
2.	grow regions	111	85.38%	1.27
3.	provincial growth fund application	100	90.91%	1
4.	pgf	80	2.86%	7.35
5.	pgf fund	79	57.25%	1.58
6.	te ara mahi	68	38.2%	4.46
7.	provincial growth fund criteria	67	78.82%	1.39
8.	he poutama rangatahi	57	49.57%	2.6
9.	provincial growth fund nz	50	49.02%	1.13
10.	regional growth fund	40	34.78%	15.83

PROACTIVELY RELEASED

Appendix 1 – Upcoming Meetings & Events

Meeting / Event	Support
Monday, 15 April 2019	
Tuesday, 16 April 2019	
Wednesday, 17 April 2019	
USEC Top of the South announcement in Nelson	Briefing, speeches, press releases and reactive Q+As
Thursday, 18 April 2019	
Minister Jones PGF announcement in Gore	
Friday, 19 April 2019	

April

24 MBIE Officials meeting

May

- 1 Minister Jones meeting with DPM and Minister of Finance regarding Commercial Information
- 1 MBIE Officials meeting (conflict with above)
- 2 USEC NZIER presentation
- 2 RED Ministers meeting

Appendix 2 – Media & Communications Schedule

Media & Communications Schedule		
Date of Event/ Announcement	Activity	MBIE Contact
17 April	Under-Secretary Tabuteau in Top of the South/Te Tau Ihu to announce approx. \$6.9m PGF funding various projects relating to aquaculture, tourism, and research, science and innovation.	Jonathan Gee
18 April	Minister Jones in Gore to announce approx. \$3.8m for two PGF projects: Hokonui Huanui, a rangatahi training programme, and the development of the Maruawai precinct.	Jonathan Gee

Appendix 3 – Completed Briefings, Aides Memoire & Reports

Tracking number	Title	Minister/ USEC	Signed out by	Date delivered
2926 18-19	Minister's Provincial Growth Fund Announcements at Whangarei, 12 April 2019	Ministers Jones/ Peters	Ben Dalton	10 Apr
2996 18-19	Top of the South announcements USEC Briefing	USEC	Kate Styles	11 Apr
2877 18-19	Event briefing to support Minister Jones' Gore announcements	Minister Jones	Kate Styles	12 Apr

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Appendix 4 – Upcoming Cabinet Papers, Briefings, Aides Memoire & Reports

Tracking number	Title	Minister/ USEC	Signed out by	Due Date
2869 19-19	Engaging third parties to help with project oversight	Minister Jones	AJ Millward	18 Apr
TBC	Event briefing to support USEC attendance at NZIER event	USEC	Isabel Poulson	22 Apr

PROACTIVELY RELEASED

Appendix 5 – Official Information Act requests

Ministerial OIAs						
Tracking Number	Name	Date received	Date due to Minister's Office	Date due to requestor	Status	Request

Departmental OIAs						
Tracking Number	Name	Date received	Date due to Minister's Office	Date due to requestor	Status	Request
1819-0275	Privacy of natural	23 Aug	1 Nov	15 Feb	Consultation	Items relating to funding Waitangi National Trust since November 2017
1819-0868	Privacy of	30 Nov	15 Mar	22 Mar	Sign out	Copies of papers regarding PGF between 24 Sep to 30 Nov 18

Departmental OIAs

Tracking Number	Name	Date received	Date due to Minister's Office	Date due to requestor	Status	Request
1819-1236	Privacy of	20 Feb	13 Mar	Final response 19 Mar	Sent partial response	<p>To whom it may concern, Under section 12 of the Official Information Act 1982, I request the following information in relation to the Minister for Regional Economic Development's interview with 1 News on 20 February 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all material provided by MBIE to the Minister for Regional Economic Development and his office in preparation for the interview • all communications between the Minister's office and MBIE officials in relation to the interview • all communications between the Minister's office and MBIE officials in relation to ascertaining the number of jobs created by the Provincial Growth Fund • a list of the 229 projects referenced in the 1 News piece • a breakdown of all 560 jobs that have been created, listed by the name of the project and the number of full time and part time equivalent jobs counted for each o for each job, please include the date in which the job was created and when, if applicable, the job is expected to end • a list of each project that officials contacted to ascertain how many jobs have been created • all correspondence between MBIE officials and each of the project recipients relating to the number of jobs the recipients' project has created • all arithmetic, spreadsheets and source documents used to arrive at the 560 job creation calculation • all communications with Tiff and Robin Holland from the Waitangi Mountain Bike Park

PROACTIVELY RELEASED

Departmental OIAs

Tracking Number	Name	Date received	Date due to Minister's Office	Date due to requestor	Status	Request
1819-1175	Privacy of [REDACTED]	10 Feb	29 Mar	25 Apr	Sign out	I request a copy of all aides memoire, memos, reports, briefings and papers produced by the Provincial Development Unit in the period 1 April 2018 to 30 April 2018 (both dates inclusive.)
1819-1260	Privacy of [REDACTED]	25 Feb	5 Apr	12 Apr	Drafting	I request a copy of all aides memoire, memos, reports, briefings and papers produced by the Provincial Development Unit in the period 1 May 2018 to 31 May 2018 (both dates inclusive.)

PROACTIVELY RELEASED

Departmental OIAs

Tracking Number	Name	Date received	Date due to Minister's Office	Date due to requestor	Status	Request
1819-1276	Privacy of [REDACTED]	26 Feb	16 Apr	23 Apr	Consulting	<p>I am looking for information regarding the approval of funding under the Provincial Growth Fund. It would be ideal to have access to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any advice given to the government or any minister assessing the risk and benefits of proposals from the Provincial Growth Fund including but not limited to memos, letters, reports and briefing papers; • Any information regarding the process for approving funding, including but not limited to information of who has the mandate to approve the funding and at what levels; • A list of all projects considered for funding in the rounds already made public; and what stage they are currently at; • A list of all approved projects and what investment has to date been made by the Government, through the Provincial Growth Fund; • This should include but not be limited to any assessments of the value of funding these projects, any discussion of the risks and benefits of funding each project, the criteria used to assess them, and any material submitted by the projects in order to assist any decision making; • Any discussion or advice on how the success of the specific projects could be measured or how success of the Provincial Growth Fund could be measured.

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Departmental OIAs

Tracking Number	Name	Date received	Date due to Minister's Office	Date due to requestor	Status	Request
1819-1323	Privacy of [REDACTED]	06 Mar	19 Apr	26 Apr	Consulting	I request a copy of all aides memoire, memos, reports, briefings and papers produced by the Provincial Development Unit in the period 1 June 2018 to 30 June 2018 (both dates inclusive.)

PROACTIVELY RELEASED

Departmental OIAs

Tracking Number	Name	Date received	Date due to Minister's Office	Date due to requestor	Status	Request
1819-1447	Privacy of [REDACTED]	02 Apr	26 Apr	3 May	Scoping	<p>With respect, I request the following information under the terms of the Official Information Act 1982, in relation to the paperwork error in relation to the Provincial Growth Fund. Controller, Auditor-General John Ryan reported the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) spent public money outside the authority provided by Parliament. It was granted approval to increase the amount of departmental expenditure to administer the Provincial Growth Fund and incurred expenses accordingly. However, a paperwork error meant that authority to spend could not be granted until the paperwork was corrected. The correction was made, and the creation of a new appropriation category approved, in October 2018. But by that time, some money had already been spent on the basis of the August approval but before the proper authority was in place in October. How much money was spent before the error was discovered - and how much in total? What was the money spent on? What was the nature of paperwork mentioned? Please provide detail around what happened. Who made the error? When was it discovered? Has/ will the money be recovered? I'm also requesting all documents, prepared, sent and received by MBIE, in relation to this error and the spending of public money outside the authority provided by Parliament</p>

PROACTIVELY RELEASED

Departmental OIAs

Tracking Number	Name	Date received	Date due to Minister's Office	Date due to requestor	Status	Request
1819-1450	Privacy of	2 Apr	26 Apr	3 May	Consulting	<p>I request the applications and related decision papers and advice from the Provincial Growth Fund below</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ōpōtiki Mussel Farming and Production Facility - Stage 1 & 2 • Accelerating Aquaculture Development in Whakatohea Rohe Moana • Southland Hatchery and Nursery feasibility (Building a Brighter Future for Aquaculture in Southland) • Marine Farming Association Capability Project (Golden Bay Mussel) Capability Assistance to prepare a proposal to develop a feasibility study and business case for a Golden Bay Mussel Sector Infrastructure and Waste Reduction facility in Tasman, Golden Bay.

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Appendix 6 – Ministerial Correspondence

Ministerial Correspondence				
Tracking Number	Name	Date received	Due to Minister's Office	Subject

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Appendix 7 – Parliamentary Questions

Written Parliamentary Questions				
Tracking Number	From	Date received	Due to Minister's Office	Question
PQ 13443 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	8 Apr	14 Apr	Did the Minister's office check the answer provided to WPQ 12255 (2019) prior to answering it given there is no information on the South Island Destination Strategy available at the website he has referenced?
PQ 13442 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	8 Apr	14 Apr	Did the Minister's office check the answer provided to WPQ 12549 (2019) prior to answering it given there is no information on the Maukauri Aquifer Recharge available at the website he has referenced?
PQ 13444 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	8 Apr	14 Apr	Did the Minister's office check the answer provided to WPQ 12445 (2019) prior to answering it given there is no information on the Centre of Digital Excellence project available at the website he has referenced?
PQ 13445 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	8 Apr	14 Apr	Did the Minister's office check the answer provided to WPQ 12394 (2019) prior to answering it given there is no information on the Otaki Maoriland Hub project available at the website he has referenced?
PQ 13446 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	8 Apr	14 Apr	Did the Minister's office check the answer provided to WPQ 11849 (2019) prior to answering it given there is no information on the Bay of Plenty market strategy implementation project available at the website he has referenced?

Written Parliamentary Questions

Tracking Number	From	Date received	Due to Minister's Office	Question
PQ 13447 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	8 Apr	14 Apr	As of 8 April 2019, how much has been paid out in total to Independent Advisory Panel members including salary, transportation, food, accommodation and all costs associated?
PQ 13448 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	8 Apr	14 Apr	As of 8 April 2019, how much has it cost in total to administer the Provincial Growth Fund's Independent Advisory Panel?
PQ 13454 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	8 Apr	14 Apr	What reports, briefings, memos, aides memoire, notes and advice did the Minister receive between 1 April 2019 and 7 April 2019 (both dates inclusive) by title and date?
PQ 13455 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	8 Apr	14 Apr	Does the Minister think it is important that the public is able to know how much money is being provided from the Provincial Growth Fund, who is receiving it and for what purpose?
PQ 13475 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	8 Apr	14 Apr	How are Provincial Growth Fund projects that are approved and receive funding reported to the public if not by a press release or official announcement?
PQ 13476 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	8 Apr	14 Apr	Does the Minister consider the Grow Regions website to be a dependable source of information for the public, if so, why?
PQ 13477 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	8 Apr	14 Apr	How can the public have confidence in the availability of information in relation to how the Provincial Growth Fund is being spent when the official list of projects is inaccurate and out of date?

Written Parliamentary Questions

Tracking Number	From	Date received	Due to Minister's Office	Question
PQ 13478 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	8 Apr	14 Apr	Will the Minister ask the Provincial Development Unit to provide an accurate and authoritative list of projects that have been announced as Provincial Growth Fund funding recipients , if not, why not?
PQ 13479 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	8 Apr	14 Apr	What definition of "soon" does the Ministers' office use when stating that information "will soon be publicly available" as per section 18(d) of the Official Information Act 1982?
PQ 13480 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	8 Apr	14 Apr	Do any contractors, consultants or officials from a department other than the Provincial Development Unit have access to PipeDrive and if so, why?
PQ 13481 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	8 Apr	14 Apr	When will the details of the 119 announced projects that are missing from the Grow Regions website be updated?
PQ 13482 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	8 Apr	14 Apr	Why are the details of 119 announced projects missing from the Grow Regions website given the Minister stated in answer to WPQ 11886 (2019) that 306 have been announced yet there are only 187 projects listed as of 6 April 2019?
PQ 13483 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	8 Apr	14 Apr	What are the project titles for each of the 306 projects the Minister referenced in answer to WPQ 11886 (2019)?

Oral Parliamentary Questions

Tracking Number	From	Date received	Due to Minister's Office	Question
N/A	Hon Paul Goldsmith	9 Apr	9 Apr	Does he stand by all his statements and actions?
N/A	Hon Paul Goldsmith	10 Apr	10 Apr	Does he stand by all his statements and actions?
N/A	Hon Paul Goldsmith	11 Apr	11 Apr	Does he stand by all his statements and actions?

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Appendix 8 – Proactive Release

Documents for Proactive Release			
Tracking Number	Name	Due for release	Status
N/A	Senior Regional Official meeting papers	From 11 February 2019	Preparing documents
N/A	Independent Advisory Panel meeting papers	From 11 February 2019	Preparing documents
Multiple	Weekly Reports (1/3, 8/3, 15/3)	From 11 February 2019	Ministerial Consultation
N/A	Cabinet papers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PGF West Coast Tourism Investment Package DEV Report back 	From 1 February 2019	Ministerial Consultation
N/A	Regional Economic Development meeting papers	From 1 February 2019	Ministerial Consultation
N/A	Waitangi announcements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whenua Māori Cabinet paper Event briefing Advice on Kaipara announcements PGF Investment in skills and infrastructure 	From 11 March 2019	Ministerial Consultation

Documents Released This Week		
Tracking Number	Request	Published
Multiple	Weekly Reports (25/1, 01/2, 08/2, 15/2, 22/2)	TBC