

Regional Economic Development

Weekly Report

22 April – 26 April 2019

To: Hon Shane Jones

Minister for Regional Economic Development

Fletcher Tabureau

Under-Secretary to the Minister for Regional Economic
Development



PROVINCIAL
DEVELOPMENT
UNIT

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1. Dashboard updates

1.1 Status of applications as at 24 April

New projects this week	3
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Total number of projects	Expressions of interest (EOI)	Applications
985	366	619

Total funding approved to date	Total funding announced
255 projects for \$705.852m*	193 projects for \$779.5m

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

1.2 Progress of applications and EOI as at 24 April

Stage	Count
EOI / Application received	150
Evaluation	124
Inactive	181
Unsuccessful	282
Approved (pre-contract)	13
Contracting	80
Executed	155
Total	985

* Please note that the graphic has changed to reflect the number of inactive projects (projects either on hold or withdrawn) that were previously captured in the Evaluation stage.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 Canterbury

PipeDrive update

As of 24 April 2019, 42 applications and EOI have been lodged in PipeDrive. The status of those applications is:

- 10 are awaiting assessment
- 2 are being assessed
- 1 is awaiting further information
- 5 are on hold
- 12 have been approved
- 12 have been unsuccessful - declined, withdrawn or are unsupported.

Regional Activity

The funding agreement for a second urban bridge in Ashburton has been executed. The Provincial Growth Fund (PGF) is contributing \$94,250 towards the Confidential information cost of the detailed Business Case. The key drivers for the project are economic growth and productivity resulting from improved travel time reliability, network resilience and improved road safety are.

On 14 March, Provincial Development Unit (PDU) officials met with the consultant working on the PGF-funded feasibility studies for the Kaikōura District Council. The focus of the work is a commercial proposition for the redevelopment of the harbour and a commercial partnership between the Council, Whale-watch and other potential stakeholders.

PDU officials met with Confidential information entrusted to the Government to discuss the Confidential information entrusted to the Government proposal and other potential PGF applications.

PDU officials met with Te Puni Kōkiri (TPK), which has commissioned work on business cases for three potential applications for PGF funding:

- Confidential information
- Confidential information entrusted to
- Confidential information entrusted to

PDU officials met with Environment Canterbury to discuss the Hekaeo/Hinds Groundwater Replenishment Scheme PGF application. The PDU is assessing this application in consultation with the Department of Conservation (DOC) and the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI).

The business case for the Ashburton Second Urban Bridge will be released on to the Provincial Growth Fund website shortly.

Planned Future Activity

Visits to Canterbury (Kaikōura and South Canterbury (Timaru and Mackenzie Districts)) are being planned for the near future.

Upcoming Announcements

There are no upcoming announcements.

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

2.2 Manawatū / Whanganui

PipeDrive update

As of 24 April 2019, 81 applications and EOI have been lodged in PipeDrive. The status of those applications is:

- 8 are awaiting assessment
- 4 are being assessed
- 6 are awaiting further information
- 5 are on hold
- 28 have been approved
- 30 have been unsuccessful - declined, withdrawn or are unsupported

Regional Activity

Ruapehu District Destination Plan

The Ruapehu-Tongariro Tourism Development Programme is one of the first deliberate destination management approaches as identified in the Government Tourism Strategy. The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) and DOC have agreed on a way forward for this programme and are taking a dual approach to implementation.

MBIE and DOC are engaging with iwi to encourage participation and develop relationships.

The Team Government hui to discuss the long-term visitor plan is scheduled for 10 May.

A cross-agency team has developed a draft work programme for the Development Manager with Ruapehu District Council (RDC). A hui with iwi is planned for 24 April and the week commencing 30 April. An industry development meeting is planned for 6 May.

Skills and Employment

This is a major focus for the Manawatū - Whanganui region. This is being led by the Accelerate 25 Skills and Employment sub-group.

A third meeting took place on 22 March to discuss further plans for the Manawatū-Whanganui Skills and Employment Hub. The Sector Workforce Engagement Programme (SWEP) is coordinating this.

Representatives from Ngāti Kauwhata iwi will be part of both the governance group and the operational working group for the proposed hub. Ngāti Kauwhata will propose a name for the hub.

Upcoming Announcements

There are no upcoming announcements.

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

3. Other Updates

3.1 Digital Connectivity

Marae Digital Connectivity

The Marae Digital Connectivity project is part of the \$21 million announced by the Government in February to ensure that New Zealanders in the regions can access modern and reliable digital services in their community. This project also aligns with Regional Digital Hubs.

The project has been live for six months, during which time the process, procedure and policy mandate for the project have been created and confirmed. The project is a collaboration between the PDU, TPK and Crown Infrastructure Partners (CIP), with regular project team meetings including officials from all three Government agencies. The relationships and administration support that TPK has provided to the PDU has been integral to the success of this project.

In order to apply, marae must submit a consent form, showing that two trustees of the marae who consent for the marae to be connected to broadband, as well as an online survey including social and cultural readiness criteria. Marae from any region can apply, excluding the metro areas of Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch. Marae have been able to apply since the start of February 2019 and there are 55 marae from across the country so far that have submitted consent forms and filled out the survey. More than 200 marae have expressed interest in participating in the project.

Two of the 55 marae that applied have already been connected to broadband and were announced in Hokianga on 5 April. Around 70% of the 55 marae are ready to be connected within the next six months. We are working to advise all applicants of their expected wait time for connection. The remainder are currently on hold as the broadband roll-out has yet to reach their location; this will be fully completed by 2021, however many of these marae will be able to connect to broadband through the project before then.

For the announcement in Hawke's Bay within the next two months, there are 10 marae ready to be connected to broadband through the project, many of which are part of a Wairoa collective of marae who plan to be connected at once.

The feedback from marae involved in the project has been overwhelmingly positive, for many of the marae trustees and administrators they are excited to be able to offer digital connectivity to their rangatahi when they are hosting wānanga and other activities.

As the marae are connected through the project, PDU officials will provide Ministers with an update on marae that have been connected each month.

Regional Digital Hubs

The Regional Digital Hubs (RDHs) are place-based hubs where local businesses and other members of the community can access the internet and other digital services. They are designed to be a co-investment with local community, for example with local councils, economic development agencies or iwi. There will be between one and three RDHs per surge region (Northland, Bay of Plenty, Hawke's Bay, East Coast/Tairāwhiti, Manawatū-Whanganui and West Coast) with an investment from the PGF of up to \$400,000 each and are tailored to suit the region; PDU officials are working with different partners in each region to ensure

the best spread and fit of RDHs per region.

One application has been submitted and approved for an RDH so far, by Taitokerau Fibre Network (TFN), with the first hub to be based in Kaitaia. The application was approved and the PDU is working with TFN to complete the contract for implementation.

PDU officials are currently working with local authorities in all of the other surge regions to identify possible partners and locations for the RDHs. All six surge regions are working with their local communities to identify the best placement of their RDHs and who will lead and partner in their development.

Contact:	Alison Thom, Director Whenua Māori & Digital Connectivity, <small>Privacy of natural persons</small>
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PROACTIVELY RELEASED

Appendix 1 – Upcoming Meetings & Events

Meeting / Event	Support
Monday, 29 April 2019	
Tuesday, 30 April 2019	
Wednesday, 1 May 2019	
Minister Jones meeting with DPM and Minister of Finance regarding <small>Confidential information</small> MBIE Officials meeting	
Thursday, 2 May 2019	
RED Ministers meeting USEC NZIER presentation	
Friday, 3 May 2019	

PROACTIVELY RELEASED

Appendix 2 – Media & Communications Schedule

Media & Communications Schedule		
Date of Event/ Announcement	Activity	MBIE Contact
May Date TBC	Otago Announcement	Mark Patterson
May Date TBC	Paihia Wharf – start of construction, photo opportunity for Minister Jones	Kate Te Morenga

PROACTIVELY RELEASED

Appendix 3 – Completed Briefings, Aides Memoire & Reports

Tracking number	Title	Minister/ USEC	Signed out by	Date delivered
3256 18-19	Draft <small>Confidential information entrusted to the Government</small> Cabinet Paper	Ministers Jones/ Tabuteau	Ben Dalton	18 Apr
3245 18-19	USEC's presentation at New Zealand Institute of Economic Research (NZIER) 2 May 2019	Tabuteau	Jamie Kendrick	22 Apr

PROACTIVELY RELEASED

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

Tracking number	Title	Minister/ USEC	Signed out by	Due Date
3246 18-19	RED Ministers Meeting papers	RED Ministers	David van der Zouwe	29 Apr
TBC	Event Briefing for meeting with Mayor Holdom, New Plymouth District Council	Minister Jones	Nicki Sutherland	29 Apr
TBC	Event Briefing for meeting with Lanzatech	Ministers Jones/ Parker	Isabel Poulson	23 May

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
OIA258	Privacy of natural persons	15 Apr	25 Apr	02 May	Consultation	Application received by the Provincial Development Unit for the Hundertwasser Art Centre
OIA262		11 Apr	25 Apr	02 May	Sign-Off	List of all Briefings and Reports sent to MO between 1/3-31/3/19
OIA264		11 Apr	1 May	8 May	Consultation	Any Status Reports, Briefings or Aide Memoires prepared by MBIE or any crown entity or board it has administration oversight for between 19 December 2018 and 31 January 2019 regarding the respective portfolios and any associated Ministers and Undersecretaries: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Economic Development
OIA268		15 Apr	7 May		Consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All communications and papers to/from the Minister or his office regarding the Prime Minister's Group of Digital and Media experts • Any briefings, communications or other information prepared for the Minister or his office since 1 February 2019 regarding digital connectivity and respective announcements to 8 April 2019 • Any communications or papers prepared in relation to the Minister's meeting with Hon Grant Robertson and Hon Kris Faafoi on 20 February 2019

Departmental OIAs

Tracking Number	Name	Date received	Date due to Minister's Office	Date due to requestor	Status	Request
1819-0275	Privacy of natural persons	23 Aug	1 Nov	15 Feb	Consultation	Items relating to funding Waitangi National Trust since November 2017
1819-1260		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.)
1819-1545		24 Apr	16 May		Scoping	A copy of all advice and communication provided to Ministers regarding the feasibility of the \$950,000 Hiringa Energy hydrogen project being funded through the Provincial Growth Fund. A copy of advice or communication from other government agencies/departments or Treasury held by MBIE regarding the feasibility and risks of the Hiringa Energy hydrogen project in Taranaki.
1819-1543		24 Apr	16 May		Scoping	The total cost so far of administering the Provincial Growth Fund. Please give a detailed breakdown of what these costs include. -The number of staff allocated to administering the PGF. -Projected cost in the future of administering the PGF. -Please outline which budget these costs are being met from.
1819-1323		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.)

Departmental OIAs

Tracking Number	Name	Date received	Date due to Minister's Office	Date due to requestor	Status	Request
1819-1447	Privacy of natural persons	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 natural persons	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
SJ2275	Privacy of natural persons	18 Apr	29 Apr	Federated Mountain Clubs

PROACTIVELY RELEASED

Appendix 7 – Parliamentary Questions

Written Parliamentary Questions

Tracking Number	From	Date received	Due to Minister's Office	Question
PQ 16153 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	24 Apr	30 Apr (sent 24 Apr)	What funding, if any, has been disbursed to Te Ara Mahi programme or pathway providers in the Timaru district?
PQ 16150 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	24 Apr	30 Apr (sent 24 Apr)	What funding, if any, has been disbursed to Te Ara Mahi programme or pathway providers in the Ashburton district?
PQ 16152 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	24 Apr	30 Apr (sent 24 Apr)	How many people, if any, in the Ashburton district have undertaken a Te Ara Mahi programme or pathway?
PQ 16148 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	24 Apr	30 Apr (sent 24 Apr)	How many people, if any, in the Timaru district have undertaken a Te Ara Mahi programme or pathway?
PQ 16217 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	26 Apr	1 May (sent 26 Apr)	As of 31 January 2019, how many 'sustained new jobs' have been created by projects that received funding from the Provincial Growth Fund?
PQ 16284 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	26 Apr	1 May (sent 26 Apr)	What proposals, if any have been received for consideration by the Waikato Provincial Growth Fund to date?
PQ 16286 (2019)	Hon Paul Goldsmith	26 Apr	1 May (sent 26 Apr)	What proposals, if any have been received for consideration by the Bay of Plenty Provincial Growth Fund to date?

Oral Parliamentary Questions

Tracking Number	From	Date received	Due to Minister's Office	Question

PROACTIVELY RELEASED

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