

Agenda

Canterbury Policy Forum

Date	Friday 2 February 2018
Time	12.00pm (lunch) for 12.30pm (meeting commences)
Venue	Council Chambers, Selwyn District Council, 2 Norman Kirk Drive, Rolleston
Attendees	Bill Bayfield (Chair, Environment Canterbury), David Ward (Selwyn), Hamish Dobbie (Hurunui), Simon Markham (Waimakariri), Brendan Anstiss (Christchurch), Mark Low and Tracy Tierney (Timaru), Toni Morrison (Mackenzie), Carolyn Johns (Waimate), Vincie Billante (Ashburton), David Perenara-O'Connell (Environment Canterbury)
In Attendance	Cameron Smith (Environment Canterbury) Chris Keeling (Environment Canterbury) – item 6 Darren Fidler and Sam Elder (Environment Canterbury) – item 8 Secretariat: David Bromell, Simon Fraser, Louise McDonald (Minutes)
Apologies	Geoff Meadows (Waimakariri), Mike Roesler (Waitaki), Matt Hoggard (Kaikōura), Ronnie Cooper (Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu)

Time	Item	Person
12:30	1. Welcome, introductions and apologies	Chair
	2. Confirmation of Agenda	
	3. Minutes from the previous meeting	Chair
	a. Confirmation of meeting Minutes, 6 October 2017	
	b. Action points	
	For discussion and decision	
12:40	4. Government developments	Brendan Anstiss / Cameron Smith /
	a. Havelock North (verbal)	Chair
	b. visit of Hon Parker, 16 January 2018 (verbal)	
1:05	5. Round table on 2018–28 LTPs:	Chair
	a. significant changes?	
	b. consultation plan?	
	c. likely impact on rates?	
1:30	6. Progressing discussion on the biodiversity challenge	Chris Keeling
1:50	7. CREDS funding and implementation update	David Bromell
2:10	8. CREDS regional transport	Darren Fidler / Sam Elder
	For information	
2:30	9. Canterbury Planning Managers Group update (verbal)	Geoff Meadows
2:40	10. Compliance, Monitoring and Enforcement working group (verbal)	Tracy Tierney
	General business	
2:50	11. Other matters	
3:00	Close	
	Next meeting: Friday 6 April 2018	

Date: 2 February 2018

Presented by: Brendan Anstiss (CCC)

Update on the new Government and the first 100 days

Purpose

- 1 This note provides:
 - an overview of the new Government's First 100 Day Plan and
 - potential implications for Canterbury from new Government policy positions already announced and upcoming.

Background

- 2 On 24 October 2017, the Labour Party signed a Coalition Agreement with NZ First, and a Confidence and Supply Agreement with the Green Party.
- 3 Ministerial portfolios were announced on 25 October, and Ministers were sworn in on 26 October. The opening of the 52nd Parliament occurred on Tuesday 7 November.
- 4 Key points for Canterbury from the agreements between the Labour Party and both NZ First and the Green Party, as well as the Speech from the Throne are attached as Appendix 1.
- 5 An overview of Ministers with portfolios relevant to Canterbury and the work under the Mayoral Forum is attached as Appendix 2.

Potential implications for Canterbury

- 6 Key focus areas for the new Government include sustainable economic development, growing regional economies, health, housing, education, law and order, reducing inequality, environment, and climate change. The new Government may have the following implications for Canterbury:
 - a signalled intent to invest in regional economic development – including forestry, aquaculture, infrastructure, and broadband
 - political support for multi-modal transport planning and investment, including rail and coastal freight, and a re-balancing of spending from the National Land Transport Fund
 - relocating government functions into the regions
 - increased resourcing for biodiversity and biosecurity
 - increased spending on youth transitions and tertiary education, and encouragement of research and development
 - increased spending on health, including mental health.

- Hon Dr Megan Woods is the only Canterbury MP with ministerial portfolios inside Cabinet (Cabinet ranking 6: Minister of Energy and Resources; Minister for Greater Christchurch Regeneration; Minister of Research, Science and Innovation; Minister Responsible for the Earthquake Commission)¹
- a signalled intent that '*government support for irrigation will not grow*', but existing funding commitments will be maintained
- potential changes to immigration policy settings that could impact on access to labour
- what direction the Department of Internal Affairs 3 Waters Review will take.

Implementation of the Governments' First 100 Day Plan

7 At the time of writing Prime Minister Ardern intends to give a speech in Christchurch on Wednesday 31 January, outlining the completion of the new Governments' 100 Day Plan. The following table outlines the implementation of the Plan.

Action	Comment
Make the first year of tertiary education or training fees free from 1 January 2018.	Implemented - the first year of fees for new tertiary students will be free from 2018.
Increase student allowances and living cost loans by \$50 a week from 1 January 2018.	Implemented – no legislative changes were required to bring into effect.
Pass the Healthy Homes Guarantee Bill, requiring all rentals to be warm and dry.	Implemented - Healthy Homes Guarantee Act received the Royal assent on 4 December 2017. Transitional provisions came into force immediately, but substantive provisions come into force on 1 July 2019.
Ban overseas speculators from buying existing houses.	Underway – The Overseas Investment Amendment Bill had its first reading on 19 December 2017.
Issue an instruction to Housing New Zealand to stop the state house sell-off.	Implemented – halt on sales of state houses was announced 20 December 2017.
Begin work to establish the Affordable Housing Authority and begin the KiwiBuild programme.	Underway - An interim KiwiBuild Unit was established within the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment in December.
Legislate to pass the Families Package, including the Winter Fuel Payment, Best Start and increases to Paid Parental Leave (PPL), to take effect from 1 July 2018.	Implemented – Families package, including Winter Fuel and Best Start payments announced, coming into effect from 1 July 2018. PPL legislation received the Royal assent on 4 December and new parents will be entitled to 26 weeks of paid leave from 2020.
Set up a Ministerial Inquiry in order to fix New Zealand's mental health crisis.	Implemented - Inquiry into Mental Health and Addiction announced 23 January 2018. Will be chaired by former Health and Disability Commissioner, Professor Ron Paterson, and will report back to the Government by the end of October 2018.

¹ Hon Eugenie Sage is a Minister outside Cabinet (Conservation, Land Information, Associate Environment).

Introduce legislation to make medicinal cannabis available for people with terminal illnesses or in chronic pain.	Underway - Misuse of Drugs Amendment Bill introduced into the House in December 2017.
Resume contributions to the New Zealand Superannuation Fund to safeguard the provision of universal superannuation at age 65.	Implemented – Contributions to the New Zealand Superannuation fund recommenced 15 December 2017.
Introduce legislation to set a child poverty reduction target and to change the Public Finance Act so the Budget reports progress on reducing child poverty.	Underway – Legislation announced, yet to be introduced into the House.
Increase the minimum wage to \$16.50 an hour, to take effect from 1 April 2018, and introduce legislation to improve fairness in the workplace.	Implemented – Minimum wage increase confirmed in December. Announcement made 25 January 2018 limiting the use of 90-day trials to small businesses only and restoring prescribed rest and meal breaks.
Establish the Tax Working Group.	Implemented – Membership of working group announced 20 December, to be chaired by Sir Michael Cullen.
Establish the Pike River Recovery Agency and assign a responsible Minister.	Underway - The Pike River Recovery Agency has been approved by Cabinet, to be established 31 January. Andrew Little is responsible Minister.
Set up an inquiry into the abuse of children in state care.	Yet to be announced – announcement expected in January 2018
Set the zero carbon emissions goal and begin setting up the independent Climate Change Commission.	Underway – Process agreed by Cabinet in December 2017, including establishment of interim Climate Change Committee, public consultation in mid-2018, with Zero Carbon Bill to be introduced late 2018.

Other government policies to be implemented

- 8 Further to the 100 Day Plan, there are a number of longer-term policy announcements yet to be implemented by the new Government. These originate mainly from Labour's agreements with NZ First and the Green Party, along with other pre-election policies.
- 9 A number of announcements have been made specifically targeting the recovery from the Canterbury Earthquakes, including:
 - \$300m capital fund for rebuild projects
 - clarify long-term funding and ownership of anchor projects
 - repair relationship with Canterbury District Health Board and review funding
 - new governance group to speed up school rebuilds
 - special tribunal for earthquake insurance claims
 - additional funding for the Residential Advisory Service and Community Law for legal support for earthquake-related claims.
- 10 Other Government policies expected to be implemented that may impact on Canterbury include:
 - **Regional Development (Provincial Growth) Fund** - \$1b per annum to support regional development. Fund will invest in (but not limited to) regional rail, roading,

telecommunications, aquaculture, tree planting, and other large-scale capital projects. Details about the fund are still to be established.

- **Investment in regional rail** – could include commuter services, such as Rolleston or Rangiora to Christchurch, or longer distance, such as Christchurch to Invercargill.
- **Planting 100 million trees per year** – details yet to be established, but a proportion will likely occur in the Canterbury region. Cabinet has approved \$14m of funding for Crown Forestry to undertake planting in 2018.
- **Relocating government functions to the regions** – no announcements to date.
- **Honouring existing Crown Irrigation investment commitments** – ensures existing commitments will be fulfilled. However, the Government has signalled that there will be no new funding for Crown Irrigation.
- **Increase Research and Development spending to 2% of GDP** – with a significant CRI presence in Christchurch and surrounding areas, this may have benefits for Canterbury and key industries within the region.
- **Increased funding for mental health, including re-establishment of the Mental Health Commission and piloting counsellors in primary schools** – mental health has been a priority for Canterbury post-earthquakes, as well as across the rural sector in recent years.
- **1800 new Police officers over the next three years** – a number of new officers may be deployed to the Canterbury region.
- **Investigate a volunteer rural constabulary programme** – potential benefits for more rural Councils if implemented.
- **If agriculture is included within the Emissions Trading Scheme, revenue to be recycled back in agriculture to support innovation and mitigation.**
- **Increase funding for the Department of Conservation** – may see an increased role for Canterbury regional offices, and provide new partnering opportunities around biodiversity and visitor attraction
- **No resource rentals for water this political term.**
- **Increased focus on water quality standards for both urban and rural waterways** – no details announced to date.
- **Ensure work visas issued reflect genuine skill shortages** – will likely impact Canterbury industries that rely on overseas workers, such as the building/construction and agriculture sectors.
- **\$100m Green Investment fund to stimulate investment in low-carbon industries** – could provide opportunities for Canterbury industries to focus on low-carbon initiatives.
- **Water infrastructure upgrades following the Havelock North enquiry report** – the Stage 2 report from the enquiry was released in December 2017, making 51 recommendations (19 of which were considered urgent). No policy announcements have been made yet, but will likely require Councils to implement more stringent safeguards for drinking water supplies.
- **Broadband coverage to the regions to be increased** – no details announced to date, but will likely support CREDS initiatives to increase rural connectivity.
- **Tourism infrastructure fund, including consideration of an international tourist levy** – options still being explored, but may help ease burden on Councils to fund infrastructure used by tourists

Appendix 1 - Labour Party agreements with NZ First and the Green Party, and Speech from the Throne

Coalition Agreement with NZ First

Priorities of relevance to Canterbury and the Mayoral Forum's leadership of regional development are:

- a \$1b pa Regional Development Fund, including significant investment in regional rail, planting 100m trees per year, and large-scale capital projects. The Regional Development Fund is likely to involve a re-packaging of current funding, rather than new/additional funding
- a commitment to relocate government functions into the regions
- honouring existing Crown Irrigation investment commitments
- recognising the potential for aquaculture in promoting regional economic growth
- work to increase Research & Development spending to 2% of GDP over 10 years
- deliver a 30-year strategic plan for education
- pilot the Youth Education, Training & Employment initiative and provide 800 extra places for the Limited Service Volunteer scheme
- introduce programmes for long-term unemployed to improve work readiness such as 'Ready for Work'
- if the Climate Commission determines that agriculture is to be included in the ETS, then upon entry, the free allocation to agriculture will be 95% but with all revenues from this source recycled back into agriculture to encourage agricultural innovation, mitigation and additional planting of forestry
- significantly increase funding for the Department of Conservation
- increase support for National Science Challenges
- no resource rentals for water in this term of Parliament
- introduce a royalty on exports of bottled water
- higher water quality standards for urban and rural areas, using measurements that take into account seasonal differences
- ensure work visas issued reflect genuine skills shortages and cut down on low quality international education courses
- hold a public inquiry 'A decade after Shand' to investigate the drivers of local government costs and its revenue base.

Confidence and supply agreement with the Green Party

Priorities of particular relevance to Canterbury and the CREDS are:

- develop a comprehensive set of environmental, social and economic sustainability indicators
- substantially increase investment in safe walking and cycling, frequent and affordable passenger transport, rail and sea freight
 - reprioritise National Land Transport Fund spending to increase investment in rail infrastructure in cities and regions, and cycling and walking
- stimulate up to \$1b of new investment in low carbon industries by 2020, kick-started by a Government-backed Green Investment Fund of \$100m

- provide assistance to the agricultural sector to reduce biological emissions, improve water quality and shift to more diverse and sustainable land use, including more forestry
- safeguard indigenous biodiversity – and significantly increase the Department of Conservation’s funding
- improve water quality and prioritise achieving healthy rivers, lakes and aquifers with strong regulatory instruments, funding for freshwater enhancement and winding down Government support for irrigation
 - the Resource Management Act will be better enforced
- safeguard the healthy functioning of marine ecosystems and promote abundant fisheries
- commit to minimising waste to landfill with significant reduction in all waste classes by 2020
- make tertiary education more affordable for students and reduce the number of students living in financial hardship
- ensure everyone has access to timely and high quality mental health services, including free counselling for those under 25 years.

Speech from the Throne

The Speech from the Throne was delivered by the Governor-General at the State Opening of Parliament on 8 November. It outlines the Government’s aspirations and priorities for this parliamentary term. Of particular relevance to Canterbury and the Mayoral Forum’s leadership of regional development are:

- ‘major investments’ in housing, health, education, police, and infrastructure
- ‘an approach that looks across all areas to truly understand the interconnections’ – including the impact of the economy on the environment and society
- ‘a clear focus on sustainable economic development, supporting regional economies, increasing exports, lifting wages and reducing inequality’ – to ‘improve the wellbeing and living standards of all New Zealanders’
- ‘a comprehensive set of environmental, social and economic sustainability indicators’
- ‘a more productive economy’ – ‘working smarter, with new technologies, reducing the export of raw commodities and adding more value in New Zealand’
- ‘the benefits of economic prosperity will be fairly shared with the regions, so people have the resources they need to deliver on their potential, wherever they live’ – including investment in ‘regional infrastructure and broadband’
- ‘a \$1 billion per annum Regional Development (Provincial Growth) Fund’ – which ‘includes significant investment in regional rail and other large capital projects’
- ‘some government services will be regionalised’
- ‘planting 100 million trees a year to reach a billion more trees in ten years’
- ‘up to \$1 billion of new investment to be stimulated in low carbon industries by 2020, kick-started by a government-backed Green Investment Fund of \$100 million’
- ‘offer young people without jobs the opportunity to work to improve the health of this country’s waterways, with the aim of restoring them to a swimmable state within a generation’

- support to regional councils ‘to better monitor and control nutrients and sediments in waterways’; and to the agriculture sector ‘to improve water quality and to shift to more sustainable land uses, such as forestry’
- ‘existing Crown investments in irrigation will be honoured, but government support for irrigation will not grow’
- ‘commercial users who profit from bottling water and exporting it overseas will pay a royalty’
- ‘improving cities’ water quality, with higher water quality standards for both urban and rural areas’
- ‘increase funding for the Department of Conservation, to reduce the extinction risk for 3,000 threatened plant and wildlife species’
- ‘minimising waste to landfill and a fund to take action on old tyres’
- ‘improve our resource management system, with better spatial planning and better enforcement’
- ‘an urban development agency will be introduced, and more emphasis placed on public transport and light rail’
- ‘make sure we get our immigration settings right – cut down on low quality international education courses and ensure work visas issued reflect genuine skill shortages’
- work on Kiwibuild to begin immediately, as part of the 100 Day Plan
- ‘make the first year of tertiary education free’; ‘increasing student allowances and living cost payments’ from 1 January 2018
- ‘develop a 30-year strategic plan for education’
- ‘modernise and re-develop a comprehensive system of careers advice and guidance that is integrated into learning’
- ‘ensure every student has a career plan that is regularly updated through their schooling’
- ‘considering what the treaty relationship might look like after historical grievances are settled’.

Appendix 2 - Ministerial appointments relevant to the Canterbury Mayoral Forum

11 The following table identifies Ministers with portfolios of particular relevance to Canterbury and the Mayoral Forum's leadership of regional social and economic development.

Theme	Ministers	Rank	Portfolio/s
Regional development	Hon Dr Megan Woods	6	Greater Christchurch Regeneration
	Hon Carmel Sepuloni	9	Social Development
	Hon David Parker	11	Economic Development Trade and Export Growth
	Hon Nanaia Mahuta	12	Local Government
	Hon Shane Jones	--	Infrastructure Regional Economic Development
Transport	Hon Phil Twyford	5	Transport
	Hon David Parker	11	Economic Development Trade and Export Growth
	Hon Shane Jones	--	Infrastructure Regional Economic Development
Digital connectivity	Hon Kelvin Davis	3	Tourism
	Hon David Parker	11	Economic Development Trade and Export Growth
	Hon Damien O'Connor	16	Agriculture Rural Communities
	Hon Clare Curran	17	Broadcasting, Communications and Digital Media Government Digital Services
	Hon Shane Jones	--	Infrastructure Regional Economic Development
Freshwater management	Hon David Parker	11	Economic Development Environment Trade and Export Growth
	Hon Damien O'Connor	16	Agriculture Rural Communities
	Hon Shane Jones	--	Infrastructure Regional Economic Development
	Hon James Shaw	--	Climate Change
Value-added production	Hon Dr Megan Woods	6	Research, Science and Innovation
	Hon David Parker	11	Economic Development Trade and Export Growth
	Hon Damien O'Connor	16	Agriculture Rural Communities
	Hon Shane Jones	--	Infrastructure Regional Economic Development
Education and training	Hon Dr Megan Woods	6	Research, Science and Innovation
	Hon Chris Hipkins	7	Education
	Hon Carmel Sepuloni	9	Social Development
	Hon Shane Jones	--	Regional Economic Development
	Hon Peeni Henare	--	Youth
	Hon Willie Jackson	--	Employment
Newcomer and migrant settlement	Hon David Parker	11	Economic Development Trade and Export Growth
	Hon Iain Lees-Galloway	14	Immigration
	Hon Jenny Salesa	15	Ethnic Communities
	Hon Damien O'Connor	16	Agriculture Rural Communities
	Hon Shane Jones	--	Regional Economic Development
	Hon Willie Jackson	--	Employment

Theme	Ministers	Rank	Portfolio/s
Visitor strategy	Hon Kelvin Davis	3	Tourism
	Hon Grant Robertson	4	Finance
	Hon Phil Twyford	5	Transport
	Hon David Parker	11	Economic Development
	Hon Nanaia Mahuta	12	Local Government
	Hon Shane Jones	--	Infrastructure Regional Economic Development
Other	Hon Phil Twyford	5	Housing and Urban Development
	Hon Dr David Clark	10	Health
	Hon Nanaia Mahuta	12	Māori Development
	Hon Kris Faafoi	--	Civil Defence
	Hon Eugenie Sage	--	Conservation Land Information

Date: 2 February 2018

Presented by: Chris Keeling (ECan)

Progressing discussion on the biodiversity challenge

Purpose

1. The purpose of this paper is to:
 - provide background on the emerging significance of biodiversity at a national, regional and local level;
 - highlight the important role of Territorial Authorities in meeting the biodiversity challenge; and
 - update the Policy Forum on Environment Canterbury's biodiversity content in the current Long Term Plan.

Recommendations

2. That the Canterbury Policy Forum:
 - Note the content of this report.
 - Agree to continue to pursue opportunities to work collaboratively to address the challenges of biodiversity in Canterbury.

Background

An emerging priority

3. Our indigenous biodiversity is a significant part of our nation and our national identity.
4. New Zealand is a biodiversity hotspot and there are many unique species here that occur nowhere else on Earth. New Zealand has been recognised as a world leader in managing pests and saving species. However, it is also recognised that we have not succeeded in halting the decline in biodiversity almost 20 years after the New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy (NZBS) identified this goal in response to what was described as our most pervasive environmental issue.
5. The current rise in interest and investment in the environment from across society have led to increased support and commitment to biodiversity. Local government will play significant roles in this work.

National Context

Central government policy development

6. Initiatives include the formation of the Biodiversity Collaborative Group – a stakeholder led group funded by the government to draft a National Policy Statement on Indigenous Biodiversity (NPS) and report to the Government on complementary and supporting measures to maintain biodiversity. The NPS is due by July 2018. Core members are from

the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society, Federated Farmers, New Zealand Forest Owners Association, Environmental Defence Society, Iwi Chairs Forum and the extractive/infrastructure industries.

7. The Biodiversity Collaborative Group is meeting with stakeholders around the country to inform their drafting. The recent Regional Council thinkpiece (Addressing New Zealand's Biodiversity Challenge) will also provide guidance and clear direction to the group.
8. A NPS on Biodiversity has been on the government agenda intermittently for 20 years. A proposed NPS was released for consultation in 2011. The NPS was intended to provide clearer direction to local authorities on their responsibilities for managing indigenous biodiversity. It outlined policies and decision-making frameworks for identifying and managing indigenous biodiversity found outside the public conservation estate.

Collaborative initiatives

9. Increased support for biodiversity initiatives is emerging in NGO, corporate and philanthropic realms. One of the most publicly visible is Predator Free 2050, an organisation committed to ridding New Zealand of possums, rats and stoats by 2050.
10. It is a collaboration between the Department of Conservation, Predator Free 2050 Ltd (the independent Crown owned company set up by the government to invest in large landscape scale projects and breakthrough research), Predator Free NZ Trust, and other significant contributors, including National Science Challenge Biological Heritage, local government, Ministry for Primary Industries, OSPRI, NEXT Foundation and many NGOs.
11. The Predator Free initiative is providing significant leadership. The benefits of collaborating to pool resources and prioritise their use nationally, on often large-scale predator control projects, is expected to make significant progress towards the objectives. In February 2018, Predator Free Limited will announce its first 1-3 project investments.

Philanthropic initiative

12. The NEXT Foundation is an example of the emerging philanthropic initiatives. NEXT Foundation's vision is to create a legacy of environmental and educational excellence for New Zealanders. The conservation focus recognises the threats to manage or overcome such as habitat loss, introduced predators, urbanisation and water use. The foundation administers an up to 10-year, \$100 million programme of strategic philanthropy. Currently supported projects include the Cacophony Project, utilising artificial intelligence in predator control and Project Janszoon, restoring the Abel Tasman. These projects build on the theme of technique and technology innovation.

Recent Ministerial comments

13. Minister Sage identified a biosecurity crisis and signalled increases to the Department of Conservation's budget. The Minister indicated a focus on the Mackenzie Basin, highlighting land use and tenure changes as a result of tenure review and delays in establishing the 200,000ha Mackenzie Drylands Park. Minister Sage also indicated DOC would become more active in an advocacy role, providing its expertise on biodiversity to councils by submitting on consent applications for activities such as large water takes and mining.
14. Annual spending to date on predator control is about \$70m. The Government's additional \$7m a year, plus the expected \$10m leveraged off that from others investing in control and eradication, will bring the annual spend to around \$87m and about \$3 billion over the next 34 years.

15. Working together to ensure this is well spent is a priority. Many of these issues were considered in the 'Addressing New Zealand's Biodiversity Challenge' think piece presented to the Forum in 2017.

What this means for Canterbury

16. The national picture reflects much of our challenge in Canterbury. We generally have limited information on the regional state of biodiversity, but indicator ecosystems such as wetlands, drylands and braided rivers confirm the ongoing decline.
17. It is clear that the solution to the biodiversity challenge is multi-faceted. It will require long-term thinking, better information and a social process to change understanding and stimulate joined up on-the-ground actions. Technical or regulatory tools are not sufficient on their own.
18. One of the key shifts that is needed to address the challenge is the way that we work together. Despite biodiversity maintenance being an a-spatial concept, the current system means that management is defined by tenure – whether it is undertaken on public conservation or private land. This results in numerous inefficiencies and potentially perverse outcomes. Consequently, we need a focus on collaboration in the formulation and delivery of sub-national biodiversity management.
19. In Canterbury, while there are a number of instances where work is carried out collaboratively with other parties (for example work in the braided rivers with DOC and Land Information New Zealand (LINZ)), this is largely ad-hoc and project based with limited long term strategic planning between organisations. Work has been under way for the past 12 months between staff from agencies (Environment Canterbury, DOC, LINZ, Territorial Authorities and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu) to build better strategic links and we have reached the point where governance buy-in will be critical to implementation. This could be something that is encapsulated in an update and re-adoption of the Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy.

Territorial Authority Implications

20. Through the Regional Policy Statement, Territorial Authorities in Canterbury have the responsibility to maintain terrestrial biodiversity on private land. This places Territorial Authorities as key players in the biodiversity space, alongside the Department of Conservation and Regional Councils.

What Environment Canterbury is doing

21. Environment Canterbury Councillors have requested a step change in biodiversity. To this end, Environment Canterbury has made biodiversity (and biosecurity) an organisational priority, alongside freshwater management.
22. The thinking behind the draft Long Term Plan (2018-28) reflects this and Environment Canterbury is proposing to:
- better monitor and measure biodiversity state and the effectiveness of our interventions
 - undertake prioritisation of habitats/ecosystems for action
 - work in partnership with others
 - better support Territorial Authorities to maintain terrestrial biodiversity

23. As a regional council we have many tools to apply to the challenge, both in a regulatory and non-regulatory sense. We have a particularly strong engagement with the community and Territorial Authorities through the CWMS process. We also work well together on district plan reviews. We are seeking support to continue to look for opportunities to work collaboratively to address the challenges of biodiversity in Canterbury.

Date: 2 February 2018

Presented by: David Bromell

Update on CREDS funding and implementation

Purpose

This paper updates the Policy Forum on ‘accelerator projects’ to implement the Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy (CREDS).

Recommendations

That the Canterbury Policy Forum:

- 1 **brainstorm opportunities and priorities** for progressing economic and social development in Canterbury during 2018.

Background

- 1 Early in 2017, the Mayoral Forum developed proposals for 14 ‘accelerator projects’ for funding by central government. Following consultation with central government agencies, Ministers and Cabinet, the Government announced funding for 11 projects to a total of \$2.185m when the Forum launched the CREDS 2017–19 on 23 June 2017.
- 2 The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) then required us to develop economic business cases before entering into funding agreements with Environment Canterbury as fund holder for the Mayoral Forum. MBIE did not complete the process of obtaining final ministerial sign-off before the general election in September 2017. Shortly before Christmas, however, Ministers did sign off on the final four projects and associated funding of \$1.705m.

Implementation and project management

- 3 From 8 January 2018, Warren Gilbertson joined the Regional Forums Secretariat as CREDS Project Manager. Warren was previously Chief Operating Officer for Development West Coast. Warren will manage implementation, monitoring and reporting to the Mayoral Forum and to MBIE.
- 4 Appendix A summarises the projects and their current status.

Additional opportunities

- 5 The secretariat is working with lead Mayors and CREDS partners to identify additional opportunities to boost the economic and social development of our region, and secure resources to progress new initiatives.
- 6 We invite suggestions from the Policy Forum on additional opportunities for local government to lead, facilitate and/or advocate for economic and social development in Canterbury.

Appendix A: CREDS accelerator projects

Project	Funding received	Supplier	Current status
1. Regional transport Strategic policy analysis and advice to accelerate progress on work programme priorities and co-ordinate a stocktake of the resilience of the roading network in Canterbury	\$100,000 (2017–18)	Environment Canterbury	Darren Fidler appointed Sep 2017 Monitoring indicators agreed with RTC Freight modal shift phase 1 (scale of opportunity) complete Resilience stocktake scoping underway Engagement with South Island RTCs in progress re. tourism See further agenda item 8
2. Digital connectivity a. Mapping remaining coverage gaps in rural Canterbury b. Analysing gaps for economic and social significance c. Supporting lead Mayor with advocacy and facilitation	\$80,000 (2017–18)	On contract to Timaru District Council	Draft funding agreement under negotiation
3. Digital connectivity Encouraging rural broadband uptake and use	\$65,000 (2017–18)	On contract to Timaru District Council	Draft funding agreement under negotiation
4. Youth transitions Expand pilot programmes developed by Aoraki Development to support youth transitions to further education, training and employment in South Canterbury and Ashburton	\$130,000 + up to \$100,000 for web / app (2017–18)	Aoraki Development	Contract with MSD agreed Dec 2017 Roll out to Ashburton planned from May 2018 Web requirements are being scoped
5. Job Ready Expand programme to match and mentor international students trained in New Zealand to employment in export-facing businesses – all of region, focusing on South Canterbury and graduates at NQF L7+	\$40,000 (2017–18)	ChristchurchNZ	Contract under negotiation
6. Value-added production (demand side) a. Investigate new value-add market opportunities that the region is well placed to take advantage of, to improve productivity and create higher living	\$1,000,000 (2017/18–2021/22)	ChristchurchNZ	Draft funding agreement under negotiation

Project	Funding received	Supplier	Current status
<p>standards; e.g. niche markets, particularly in China / South East Asia</p> <p>b. consult and engage with South Island economic development agencies on creating a virtual economic policy unit/function, to support economic development strategy and implementation across the South Island</p>			
<p>7. Value-added production (supply side) Work across the Canterbury Tertiary Alliance and with the Lincoln Hub, CRIs and Callaghan Innovation to connect industry needs to research and accelerate knowledge translation to high-value production and manufacturing for export</p>	<p>\$450,000 (2017/18–2020/21)</p>	<p>University of Canterbury</p>	<p>Draft funding agreement under negotiation</p>
<p>8. Visitor strategy Work with KiwiRail on a business case for reintroducing passenger rail services south of Christchurch and to support the regional visitor strategy</p>	<p>\$50,000 (2017–18)</p>	<p>On contract to Timaru District Council</p>	<p>Project scoping underway with KiwiRail</p>
<p>9. Contract management provide contract management across all work programmes and support lead Mayors with CREDS implementation</p>	<p>\$150,000 (2017–19)</p>	<p>Environment Canterbury</p>	<p>Project Manager appointed and started 8 January 2018</p>
<p>10. Indicators monitoring reporting Further develop outcomes indicators and prepare a publication design that can be easily maintained</p>	<p>\$10,000 (2017–18)</p>	<p>ChristchurchNZ and Environment Canterbury</p>	<p>Complete</p>
<p>11. Canterbury brand story Further develop the Canterbury story to provide a toolkit of marketing assets that businesses, councils, educational organisations and other stakeholders can use to attract business, capital, skilled workers, students and visitors to Canterbury</p>	<p>\$110,000 (2017–18)</p>	<p>ChristchurchNZ</p>	<p>Draft funding agreement under negotiation</p>

Date: 2 February 2018

Presented by: Sam Elder and Darren Fidler

CREDS Regional Transport update

Purpose

- 1 This paper provides an update on the following projects in the Transport workstream of the Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy (CREDS):
 - the opportunity to shift freight from road to rail or coastal shipping
 - transport resilience stocktake
 - visitor transport
 - road safety.

Recommendations

That the Canterbury Policy Forum:

- 1 **provide feedback** on the scope of each of the projects – is there any additional information you want from these projects that could assist Councils and the Policy Forum with policy and planning?
- 2 **note** that the regional transport team at Environment Canterbury is engaging with transport officers within each council on this work (Canterbury Regional Transport Officers Group)
- 3 **provide recommendations** for any other appropriate contacts to engage within your organisation on complementary or related work that Councils are undertaking.

The opportunity to shift freight from road to rail or coastal shipping

- 2 The majority of freight in Canterbury and the South Island is moved by road and this is forecast to continue. Freight (in terms of tonne-KM¹) is predicted to increase by nearly 50% between 2012 and 2042. If this freight growth is accommodated on the road, there will be significant fiscal, environmental and safety issues.
- 3 We are investigating the scale of the opportunity to shift freight from roads to rail or coastal shipping, the benefits of and barriers to doing so, and the levers for incentivising mode shift.
- 4 Initial work shows that in 2012 there were over 3 billion tonne-KM of freight transported by road **to** or **from** Canterbury. This equates to approximately 2,000 trucks per day to or from Canterbury. Both coastal shipping and rail are suited to moving this type of long-haul freight. There were also nearly 200 million tonne-KM of freight travelling by road

¹ One tonne-KM is one tonne of freight travelling one kilometre. This is a more useful measure than tonnes only with respect to freight cost, environmental impact, crash risk, etc.

through Canterbury with origins and destinations outside of Canterbury that may also be suited to coastal shipping or rail.

- 5 A major consideration for a balanced treatment of the freight network is the differing ways in which the road and rail networks are funded.
 - The road network is funded taking into consideration economic impacts on wider society, such as congestion relief, improved travel times and safety.
 - The rail network is funded taking into consideration financial impacts only, effectively with a fixed subsidy. This difference means that wider benefits of rail investment do not influence the level of this investment.
- 6 We are currently developing an RFP for Phase Two of this work to undertake a more detailed investigation of the opportunity for mode shift, focussing on the benefits and barriers to modal shift.

Transport resilience stocktake

- 7 We are undertaking a stocktake of transport resilience in Canterbury with the New Zealand Transport Agency. Preliminary work has begun on this stocktake by engaging with the Lifelines project team and Civil Defence and Emergency Management, as well as identifying and collating broader resilience information from throughout New Zealand.
- 8 Key components of this work will be:
 - an information stocktake of all existing work on resilience (underway)
 - dependency mapping to establish the level of dependency on the reliability and level of service provided by the transport network for specific stakeholders, and the extent of the risk to this reliability/level of service
 - an infrastructure stocktake and gap analysis to identify gaps in knowledge about the level of risk, as well as areas of risk where there is no suitable mitigation plan
 - action plan and monitoring – develop and cost a plan, identify funding sources and ownership of actions going forward.

Transport and tourism

- 9 The South Island Regional Transport Committee Chairs Group is looking to undertake a tourism data stocktake to better understand and collate existing sources of data and forecasting methodologies for visitor numbers and flows.
- 10 Following this, the Group may develop a business case for establishing a visitor flows model, to assist South Island councils to improve visitor safety, enhance the visitor experience, better manage the impacts of tourism on communities and disperse the economic benefits of tourism across all South Island regions.

Road safety

- 11 Hon Julie Anne Genter, Associate Minister for Transport, wrote to councils in December 2017 to instigate action to improve road safety in New Zealand. We have been asked to consider how to accelerate the implementation of the new speed management approach to ensure there are safe and appropriate speeds on local roads, and identify any barriers councils face in progressing road safety outcomes, including funding.

- 12 Views on these questions are being sought from road safety co-ordinators in councils and this will be discussed at the meeting of the Regional Road Safety Working Group on 8 February 2018.
- 13 The Associate Minister intends to convene a road safety summit in March or April 2018, and we will be looking to present a Canterbury perspective on the issues that are likely to be discussed at this summit.

Regional forum meeting schedule 2018

Updated January 2018

Date	Time	Forum	Venue
First cycle			
Friday 26 January	10:00–15:00	Planning Managers Group	Lincoln Events Centre
Monday 29 January	10:00–12:00 12:30–14:30	Corporate Forum Operations Forum	Selwyn District Council Selwyn District Council
Friday 2 February	12:30–14:30	Policy Forum	Selwyn District Council
<i>Tuesday 6 February</i>		<i>Waitangi Day</i>	
Friday 9 February	9:00–12:00	Greater Christchurch Partnership	Environment Canterbury
Monday 12 February	9:00–12:00	<i>LGNZ National Council</i> Chief Executives Forum	Selwyn District Council
<i>Thursday 15 – Friday 16 February</i>		<i>SOLGM's JLT Risk Management Forum</i>	
<i>Friday 16 February</i>		<i>LGNZ Regional</i>	
<i>Monday 19 February</i>		<i>LGNZ CE Forum</i>	
<i>Friday 23 February</i>		<i>LGNZ Metro</i>	
Thursday 1 March	16:00–18:00 18:00 for 18:30–21:00	Regional Transport Committee Mayoral Forum working dinner	Commodore Airport Hotel Commodore Airport Hotel
Friday 2 March	9:00–12:00 13:00–15:00	Mayoral Forum Civil Defence and Emergency Management Joint Committee	Commodore Airport Hotel Justice & Emergency Precinct
Second cycle			
<i>Thursday 8 – Friday 9 March</i>		<i>LGNZ Rural & Provincial</i>	
Friday 9 March	9:00–12:00 10:00–15:00	Greater Christchurch Partnership Group Planning Managers Group	Environment Canterbury Lincoln Events Centre

Date	Time	Forum	Venue
Monday 12 March	10:00–12:00 12:30–14:30	Corporate Forum Operations Forum	Selwyn District Council Selwyn District Council
Friday 23 March		<i>LGNZ National Council</i>	
<i>Friday 30 March – Monday 2 April</i>		<i>Easter</i>	
Friday 6 April	12:30–14:30	Policy Forum	Selwyn District Council
<i>Thursday 12 April</i>		<i>SOLGM Chief Executives Forum SOLGM Gala Dinner and Marketplace</i>	
Friday 13 April	9:00–12:00	Greater Christchurch Partnership Group	Environment Canterbury
<i>Friday 20 April</i>		<i>LGNZ Zone 5–6</i>	
<i>Wednesday 25 April</i>		<i>ANZAC Day</i>	
Monday 30 April	9:00–12:00	Chief Executives Forum	Selwyn District Council
<i>Friday 4 May</i>		<i>LGNZ Regional</i>	
Friday 11 May		<i>LGNZ Metro</i>	
	9:00–12:00	Greater Christchurch Partnership Group	Environment Canterbury
<i>Friday 18 May</i>		<i>LGNZ National Council</i>	
Thursday 24 May	16:00–18:00 18:00 for 18:30–21:00	Regional Transport Committee Mayoral Forum working dinner	Commodore Airport Hotel Commodore Airport Hotel
Friday 25 May	9:00–12:00 13:00–15:00	Canterbury Mayoral Forum Civil Defence and Emergency Management Joint Committee	Commodore Airport Hotel Commodore Airport Hotel
<i>Monday 4 June</i>		<i>Queen's Birthday observed</i>	
<i>Thursday 7 – Friday 8 June</i>		<i>LGNZ Rural & Provincial</i>	
Friday 8 June	9:00–12:00	Greater Christchurch Partnership Group	Environment Canterbury

Date	Time	Forum	Venue
<i>Monday 18 June</i>		<i>LGNZ CE Forum</i>	
Third cycle			
Friday 6 July	10:00–15:00	Planning Managers Group	Lincoln Events Centre
Monday 9 July	10:00–12:00 12:30–14:30	Corporate Forum Operations Forum	Selwyn District Council Selwyn District Council
Friday 13 July	9:00–12:00	Greater Christchurch Partnership Group	Environment Canterbury
<i>Sunday 15 June</i>		<i>LGNZ National Council / AGM</i>	
<i>Monday 16 – Tuesday 17 June</i>		<i>LGNZ Conference</i>	
Friday 20 July	12:30–14:30	Policy Forum	Selwyn District Council
Monday 6 August	9:00–12:00	Chief Executives Forum	Selwyn District Council
Friday 10 August	9:00–12:00	Greater Christchurch Partnership Group	Environment Canterbury
<i>Friday 17 August</i>		<i>LGNZ Metro</i>	
<i>Friday 31 August</i>		<i>LGNZ Regional</i>	
<i>Monday 3 September</i>		<i>LGNZ CE Forum</i>	
Thursday 6 September	16:00–18:00 18:00 for 18:30–21:00	Regional Transport Committee Mayoral Forum working dinner	Commodore Airport Hotel Commodore Airport Hotel
Friday 7 September	9:00–12:00 13:00–15:00	Mayoral Forum Civil Defence and Emergency Management Joint Committee	Commodore Airport Hotel Commodore Airport Hotel
Fourth cycle			
Friday 14 September	9:00–12:00	Greater Christchurch Partnership Group	Environment Canterbury
Friday 21 September	10:00–15:00	Planning Managers Group	Lincoln Events Centre
<i>Thursday 4 – Friday 5 October</i>		<i>LGNZ National Council</i>	

Date	Time	Forum	Venue
Monday 8 October	10:00–12:00 12:30–14:30	Corporate Forum Operations Forum	Selwyn District Council Selwyn District Council
Friday 12 October	9:00–12:00	Greater Christchurch Partnership Group	Environment Canterbury
Friday 19 October	12:30–14:30	Policy Forum	Selwyn District Council
<i>Monday 22 October</i>		<i>Labour Day</i>	
<i>Friday 26 October</i>		LGNZ Zone 5–6	
Monday 5 November	9:00–12:00	Chief Executives Forum	Selwyn District Council
Friday 9 November	9:00–12:00	<i>LGNZ Metro</i> Greater Christchurch Partnership Group	Environment Canterbury
<i>Friday 16 November</i>		<i>Canterbury Anniversary</i>	
<i>Thursday 22 – Friday 23 November</i>		<i>LGNZ Rural & Provincial</i>	
Thursday 29 November	16:00–18:00 18:00 for 18:30–21:00	Regional Transport Committee Mayoral Forum Dinner	Commodore Airport Hotel Commodore Airport Hotel
Friday 30 November		<i>LGNZ Regional</i>	
	9:00–12:00 13:00–15:00	Mayoral Forum Civil Defence and Emergency Management Joint Committee	Commodore Airport Hotel Commodore Airport Hotel
<i>Friday 7 December</i>		<i>LGNZ National Council</i>	
Friday 14 December	9:00–12:00	Greater Christchurch Partnership Group	Environment Canterbury