

NEWS FROM THE CANTERBURY MAYORAL FORUM

February 2017

About the Mayoral Forum

The Mayoral Forum comprises the Mayors of the ten territorial authorities and the Chair of the Canterbury Regional Council – from Kaikōura in the north, to Waitaki in the south.

The Chair of the Mayoral Forum is Mayor Lianne Dalziel (Christchurch City).

A key focus of the Mayoral Forum is ongoing development and implementation of the Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy (CREDS).

The Forum is currently refreshing the CREDS for the 2017–19 local government term.

For further information, see the regional forums website at: www.canterburymayors.org.nz.

A region making the most of its natural advantages to build a strong, innovative economy with resilient, connected communities and a better quality of life for all.

**MAYORS
STANDING TOGETHER
FOR CANTERBURY**

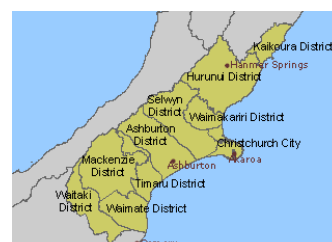
CANTERBURY MAYORAL FORUM, 2017–19

- Mayors met on 23 February for the bi-annual Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy (CREDS) reference group workshop, followed by the Mayoral Forum meeting on Friday 24 February.
- At the Forum, Mayors endorsed proposed priorities for the seven CREDS workstreams, after input and feedback from the reference group at the workshop. A refreshed CREDS document and action plans will be developed with Mayors during March and April with a launch planned for May 2017.
- Helen Wyn, Canterbury's Senior Regional Official in Wellington, spoke to Mayors about the Regional Growth Programme and the various ways central government can provide support to Canterbury's regional growth initiatives.
- Mayors heard from Mike Lester from LGNZ's Community Boards Executive Committee who promoted their conference to be held in Methven in May. The theme is ***Creating pathways to 2050: liveable spaces and loveable places*** with a focus on infrastructure, place making and community engagement.
- Mayors reflected further on 'the Canterbury story' and agreed to pursue further funding to develop a toolkit to bring the story alive via video and free-to-use collateral. If funding is forthcoming, the toolkit will be available for Canterbury businesses, councils and institutions to use to tell their own stories and attract people, skills and investment to our region.
- Mayors agreed to principles, policies and processes for councils to use when deciding which projects to work together on, and how this collaboration will occur.
- Mayors wrote to the Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment seeking his support for the Lincoln Hub. The Hub will bring together globally connected agricultural science and research expertise to deliver industry-led innovation.
- Mayors finalised dates for Forums and workshops for 2017, and look forward to meeting in Timaru in May.

MAYORS PROVIDE LEADERSHIP AND FACILITATION TO:

- identify and remove barriers
- knock on, and open, doors to opportunities
- advocate with one strong voice for Canterbury and its communities.

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Canterbury – a great place to live, study, work, play ... and stay!