

Canterbury Chief Executives Forum

MEETING PACK

for

Chief Executives Forum

Monday, 27 January 2025

9:00 am (NZDT)

Held at:

Selwyn District Council

2 Norman Kirk Drive, Rolleston

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AGENDA

CHIEF EXECUTIVES FORUM

Name:	Canterbury Chief Executives Forum
Date:	Monday, 27 January 2025
Time:	9:00 am to 12:00 am (NZDT)
Location:	Selwyn District Council, 2 Norman Kirk Drive, Rolleston
Committee Members:	Hamish Riach (Committee Chair), Alex Parmley, Angela Oosthuizen, Hamish Dobbie, Jeff Millward, Mary Richardson, Nigel Trainor, Sharon Mason, Stuart Duncan, Will Doughty
Attendees:	Ann Fitzgerald, Maree McNeilly, Amelia Wilkins
Apologies:	Stefanie Rixecker
Guests/Notes:	Cameron Smith, Senior Strategy Manager ECan Item 4.3; Jesse Burgess, Chair Climate Change Working Group Item 4.4; Clare Pattison, Principal Strategy Advisor Regional Land Transport Committee Item 4.5; Diane McDermott, Regional Public Service Commissioner Item 5.1

1. Open Meeting

1.1 Welcome, karakia and apologies 9:00 am (2 min)

Hamish Riach

Opening karakia: Whakataka te hau

Whakataka te hau ki te uru

Whakataka te hau ki te tonga

Kia mākinakina ki uta

Kia mātaratara ki tai

E hī ake ana te atakura

He tio, he huka, he hau hū

Tīhei mauri ora!

Cease the winds from the west

Cease the winds from the south

Let the breeze blow over the land

Let the breeze blow over the ocean

Let the red-tipped dawn come with a sharpened air.

A touch of frost, a promise of a glorious day.

It is the breath of life!

1.2 Confirmation of Agenda 9:02 am (3 min)

Hamish Riach

1.3 Confirm minutes	9:05 am (3 min)
Hamish Riach	
Supporting Documents:	
1.3.a Minutes : Canterbury Chief Executives Forum - 21 Oct 2024	8
1.4 Action list	9:08 am (2 min)
Hamish Riach	
Supporting Documents:	
1.4.a Action List	16
2. CE Discussion	
2.1 CE Discussion time	9:10 am (60 min)
Hamish Riach	
3. Morning tea	
3.1 Morning tea	10:10 am (15 min)
4. For discussion and decision	
4.1 Future regional and local government for Canterbury	10:25 am (30 min)
Hamish Riach	
Supporting Documents:	
4.1.a CEF Future regional and local government for Canterbury Jan 2025.docx	17
4.2 Economic Priorities response to Business Canterbury	10:55 am (5 min)
Sharon Mason	
Supporting Documents:	
4.2.a CEF Economic Priorities response to Business Canterbury Jan 2025.docx	22
4.2.b CEF Economic Priorities response to Business Canterbury Attachment 1 Jan 2025.pdf	24
4.2.c CEF Economic Priorities response to Business Canterbury Attachment 2 Jan 2025.docx	33
4.3 Canterbury Water Management Strategy update	11:00 am (5 min)
Cameron Smith, Senior Strategy Manager Environment Canterbury	
Supporting Documents:	
4.3.a CEF Canterbury Water Management Strategy update Jan 2025.docx	40

4.4 Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan Year 1 implementation

11:05 am (5 min)

Hamish Dobbie

Jesse Burgess, Chair Climate Change Working Group

Supporting Documents:

4.4.a	CEF Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan Year 1 Implementation Jan 2025.docx	59
4.4.b	CEF Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan Year 1 Implementation Attachment 2 Jan 2025.docx	64
4.4.c	CEF Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan Year 1 Implementation Attachment 3 Jan 2025.docx	67
4.4.d	CEF Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan Year 1 Implementation Attachment 4 Jan 2025.docx	73
4.4.e	CEF Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan Year 1 Implementation Attachment 5 Jan 2025.docx	76
4.4.f	CEF Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan Year 1 Implementation Attachment 6 Jan 2025.docx	79
4.4.g	CEF Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan Year 1 Implementation Attachment 7 Jan 2025.docx	80

4.5 Approach to reducing the underfunding in Canterbury's transport network

11:10 am (10 min)

Clare Pattison, Principal Strategy Advisor Regional Transport Committee

Supporting Documents:

4.5.a	CEF Approach to reducing the underfunding in Canterbury's transport network Jan 2024.docx	81
4.5.b	CEF Approach to reducing the underfunding in Canterbury's transport network Attachment 1.docx	89

4.6 Regional Spatial Planning - proposed approach

11:20 am (5 min)

Hamish Dobbie

Supporting Documents:

4.6.a	CEF Regional Spatial Planning Jan 2025.docx	94
4.6.b	CEF Regional Spatial Planning Attachment 1 Jan 2025.docx	99

4.7 Water Reform

11:25 am (5 min)

Hamish Riach

Supporting Documents:

4.7.a	CEF Water reform Jan 2025.docx	107
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4.8 Regional forums update

11:30 am (10 min)

Hamish Dobbie; Will Doughty, Stuart Duncan, Angela Oosthuizen, Sharon Mason, Secretariat

Supporting Documents:

4.8.a	CEF Regional forums update Jan 2025.docx	108
4.8.b	CEF Regional Forums update Attachment 2 Jan 2025.pdf	114

5. For information

5.1 Regional Public Service Commissioner update 11:40 am (10 min)

Di McDiarmid, Regional Public Service Commissioner

Supporting Documents:

5.1.a	CEF Regional Public Service Commissioner update Jan 2025.docx	117
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5.2 Draft Mayoral Forum agenda 11:50 am (3 min)

Hamish Riach

Supporting Documents:

5.2.a	14 Feb 2025 Draft Agenda Canterbury Mayoral Forum.pdf	118
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6. General business

6.1 General business 11:53 am (5 min)

6.2 Meeting debrief 11:58 am (2 min)

7. Close Meeting

7.1 Closing karakia

Kia tau te rangimarie ki runga I nga iwi o te ao

Haumi e

Hui e

Taiki e

Let peace reign on all the people of the world

Fixed

Bound as one

7.2 Close the meeting

Next meeting: Chief Executives Forum - 5 May 2025, 9:00 am

Other upcoming meetings: Mayoral Forum - Friday 14 February 2025 8.30am-1.00pm at Commodore Airport Hotel 449 Memorial Avenue, Christchurch

MINUTES (in Review)

CANTERBURY CHIEF EXECUTIVES FORUM

Name:	Canterbury Chief Executives Forum
Date:	Monday, 21 October 2024
Time:	9:00 am to 12:40 pm (NZDT)
Location:	Selwyn District Council, 2 Norman Kirk Drive, Rolleston
Committee Members:	Hamish Dobbie, Alex Parmley, Angela Oosthuizen, Jeff Millward, Sharon Mason, Stefanie Rixecker, Will Doughty, Mary Richardson, Nigel Trainor
Attendees:	Maree McNeilly, Ann Fitzgerald
Apologies:	Stuart Duncan, Hamish Riach (Committee Chair)
Guests/Notes:	Di McDermott (item 4.1)

1. Open Meeting

1.1 Welcome, karakia and apologies

The Acting Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and members joined in the opening karakia. Apologies from Hamish Riach and Stuart Duncan were noted.

1.2 Confirmation of Agenda

The agenda was confirmed as circulated, with the addition of the 2025 Canterbury Mayoral Forum calendar to be raised as general business.

1.3 Action list

The outstanding action - Snap Send Solve was discussed.

- The September Corporate Forum meeting noted seven Canterbury Councils have agreed to continue with the contract for a further two year (signed in June 2024), while alternative systems are investigated. An update will be reported at the December Corporate Forum meeting.
- There is a general understanding that individual councils can decide which software they wish to use, rather than the Snap Send Solve contract being a combined CMF agreement.
- It was agreed that the stocktake of IT functions and systems (item in current workplan) should be reactivated, noting this action sits with the Chief Information Officers group.

1.4 Confirm minutes

Canterbury Chief Executives Forum 29 Jul 2024, the minutes were confirmed as presented.



Decision

The minutes of the Chief Executives Forum meeting held on 29 July 2024 were confirmed as presented.

Decision Date: 21 Oct 2024

Mover: Alex Parmley
Seconder: Will Doughty
Outcome: Approved

2. CE Discussion

2.1 CE Discussion time

Local Water Done Well - updates

- North Canterbury councils – progressing plans to work together, no decision as yet whether stormwater will be part of the joint delivery model; individual council water services delivery plans being prepared; options and criteria for joint governance and decision making being developed; working with mana whenua, who endorse the current approach; options will be prepared for community consultation
- Waitaki –water services delivery plans being prepared; discussions underway with South Canterbury and Otago Southland councils re options; initially will progress two waters, undecided about stormwater; community consultation planned alongside the 2025 - 2028 Long Term Plan
- Timaru - water services delivery plans preparation; some support for a CCO, discussions underway with neighbouring councils
- Selwyn – progressing option of standalone CCO as data does not support viability of larger entity, working with Ngai Tahu, DIA and Crown Infrastructure partners
- Mackenzie – collating data and in discussion with South Canterbury councils
- CCC – preparing for inhouse delivery excluding stormwater; consultation planned first half of 2025, around Annual Plan time
- Local Government Water Services Bill, due December 2024 will be critical in councils planning
- CCC and Kaikoura will share the governance principles each are developing with CEF members
- General view that various forms of collaboration will emerge over time.

Resource Management reform

Stefanie summarised the most significant legislative changes, noting

- the emphasis on development, renewables and housing to unlock growth
- a consolidation of national standards is expected
- the impact of the fast track projects, with the second tranche expected early 2025
- questions around how local government can afford what has been centrally mandated
- the consolidation and austerity focus
- a fundamentally different local government sector expected.

Regional Deals

- central government looking for private investment to unlock growth
- Canterbury is not in first tranche, but early planning is underway in terms of an Economic Priorities workshop led by Business Canterbury, and an initial Spatial Planning stocktake.

Local Government elections

- noted that the CCEF are preparing material to support Canterbury councils (lead: Katy McRae CCC).

Building Control Authorities

- while there has been initial discussion at some councils regarding CCO options, the general view is to wait for more central government direction
- various shared services discussions and arrangements are underway.



Action

Local Water Done Well

Councils to share the governance principles being developed for decision making related to water decisions with CEF members.

Due Date: 6 Nov 2024

Owner: Maree McNeilly

3. Guest Speakers

3.1 Regional Public Service Commissioner update

Di McDermott, Regional Public Service Commissioner, provided an update on recent activity. Discussion included:

- the Regional Leadership Group two focus areas - Children and Young people /Tamariki and Rangatahi, and Economic Development – supporting the CMF work
- the role of local government in health, with a focus on community wellbeing through community services and amenities
- options to achieve more health focus at the CMF table, with an offer from Di to facilitate this
- recent Public Service Commissioner work with the Chatham Islands. Stefanie to contact Di regarding the current Environment Canterbury contract with the Chatham Islands.



Decision

The Canterbury Chief Executives Forum:

1. noted the update from Diane McDermott, Regional Public Service Commissioner.

Decision Date: 21 Oct 2024

Mover: Sharon Mason

Seconder: Mary Richardson

Outcome: Approved

4. Morning tea

4.1 Morning tea

5. For discussion and decision

5.1 Canterbury Water Management Strategy update

The paper was taken as read, with Stefanie confirming that Environment Canterbury staff are engaging with member councils' staff, as well as at the governance level.



Decision

The Canterbury Chief Executives Forum:

1. noted the progress of the CWMS Zone Committee Review and upcoming workshops with nominated Mayors, mana whenua representatives and the Environment Canterbury Chair/Deputy Chair
2. received the update for July to September 2024 on the region-wide work underway to implement the Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS).

Decision Date: 21 Oct 2024
Mover: Alex Parmley
Seconder: Sharon Mason
Outcome: Approved

5.2 Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan - governance and implementation

The paper was taken as read. Discussion followed on the recommendation relating to the Climate Action Planning Reference Group, and the make up of the Climate Change Working Group including

- some members consider it is premature to disband the Reference Group, and there has not been sufficient discussion with group members about the reasoning for this
- noting that the Reference Group Terms of Reference have been completed, and if they were to continue, new terms of reference defining the purpose of the group, will be required
- a change of focus for the Reference Group to “championing”/oversight was suggested
- the staff time cost of continuing to support the Reference Group was acknowledged
- the role of the Climate Change Working Group was discussed noting that this group has not been set up in the same way as other regional working groups and as we move to implementation it should follow the same format as other regional working groups
- important that the structure and processes support the momentum and delivery of the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan.



Decision

The Canterbury Chief Executives Forum:

1. noted that the Canterbury Policy Forum agreed with the recommendations set out in this paper at its meeting on 30 September 2024
2. noted that the Climate Action Planning Reference Group has discharged its duties as per the group’s terms of reference
3. recommended to the Canterbury Mayoral Forum that they may consider repurposing the Climate Action Reference Group and if they wish to do so, they refer back to the current Climate Action Reference Group to seek its advice on revised terms of reference for the group moving forward
4. agreed to proceed with Option 2 for decision making for the implementation of Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan actions i.e. the Policy Forum is the first approver, and the Chief Executives Forum and Mayoral Forum are the second and third approver respectively for decisions relating to key actions
5. agreed that criteria for key actions in the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan are complexity of scope, cost, and significant number of key stakeholders
6. agreed that the Policy Forum will provide quarterly progress updates to the Chief Executives Forum and Mayoral Forum on the implementation of actions

7. agreed that the Policy Forum provides operational direction, as required, on the implementation of the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan actions
8. agreed that the councils leading actions will develop decision papers for their respective actions as and when needed, and speak to those at regional fora
9. agreed that councils will individually update their elected members regarding the implementation progress of the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan in a timely manner and in way that is appropriate to their council
10. noted that the Canterbury Climate Change Working Group will present the scope for the implementation of Year 1 actions at the next Canterbury Policy Forum meeting on 16 December, for its recommendation to the Chief Executives Forum for approval at its meeting in January 2025.

Decision Date: 21 Oct 2024
Mover: Mary Richardson
Seconder: Hamish Dobbie
Outcome: Approved

5.3 Economic development priorities

Members noted the upcoming Mayoral Forum/Business Canterbury workshop on 25 November as a key step in preparing economic priorities and for the region. CEs also noted that this work, along with progressing regional spatial planning (Item 5.4) will contribute to the building blocks for the region.

Invitees to the Business Canterbury workshop includes Mayoral Forum members, Chief Executives, representatives from economic development agencies, tertiary institutes, and businesses across the region.



Decision

The Canterbury Chief Executives Forum:

1. noted the approach to developing regional economic priorities in partnership with Business Canterbury and other regional businesses, business organisations, tertiary institutions and mana whenua.

Decision Date: 21 Oct 2024
Mover: Alex Parmley
Seconder: Will Doughty
Outcome: Approved

5.4 Regional spatial planning

Hamish Dobbie noted that following the joint meeting of the Canterbury Policy and Economic Development Forums, there was general agreement that progressing a regional spatial plan had merit to support the development of economic priorities and provide a clear spatial picture for the region.

Future central government legislation (expected to be introduced and passed before the next election) will likely provide clear direction on expectations for a regional spatial plan, however in the interim there is an opportunity for Canterbury to progress regional spatial planning to the extent of a collation of existing spatial planning and consideration of potential next steps.



Decision

The Canterbury Chief Executives Forum:

1. agreed to the development of a scope of work, with associated budget, for:
 - i. a stock take of existing Waitaha Canterbury spatial plans and strategies, and
 - ii. the development of an options paper around the process to develop a regional spatial plan.

Decision Date: 21 Oct 2024
Mover: Jeff Millward
Seconder: Mary Richardson
Outcome: Approved

5.5 Regional forums update

The regional forums update for the quarter was noted. Members agreed that for the purposes of continuity, forum chairs should remain unchanged for the remainder of the current triennium.

Members confirmed their support for a robust and open process for electing chairs including encouraging new members to consider these leadership roles.



Decision

The Canterbury Chief Executives Forum:

1. received the quarterly reports on the September 2024 regional forum meetings and updates on the workstream tracker
2. confirmed that the chairs of the Chief Executives, Corporate, Operations, Policy, Communications and Engagement, and Economic Development Forums remain unchanged for 2025
3. received the quarterly update on the 2024-25 regional forums budget.

Decision Date: 21 Oct 2024
Mover: Stefanie Rixecker
Seconder: Sharon Mason
Outcome: Approved

5.6 Water Reform

This item was covered in item 2.1.

5.7 Audit Fees

The summary of member council audit fees for the most recent Long Term or Annual Plan and Annual report was noted.

Along with the concerns around the cost of audits (both to councils and Audit NZ), timing and scope, questions raised were raised around the focus of audits and that often there is a focus on the minutia as opposed to looking at the big picture. With the focus on pairing back the public service, where is Audit NZ applying its focus?

CEs want to look at what some tactical and strategic solutions might look like for responding to this continuing issue with Audits.



Decision

The Canterbury Chief Executives Forum:

1. noted the information provided in this paper on the Canterbury Local Authority Audit Fees
2. requested that Angela Oosthuizen, Chair Canterbury Corporate Forum draft a strategic response to these audit concerns including high level issues and tactical solutions, for Mayoral Forum consideration.

Decision Date: 21 Oct 2024
Mover: Alex Parmley
Seconder: Angela Oosthuizen
Outcome: Approved



Action

Chair of Canterbury Corporate Forum to draft a strategic response to these audit concerns including high level issues and tactical solutions, for consideration at the November 2024 Mayoral Forum meeting.

Due Date: 15 Nov 2024
Owner: Angela Oosthuizen

6. For information

6.1 Draft Mayoral Forum agenda

The draft Mayoral Forum agenda for 29 November 2024 was reviewed. It was agreed that the following papers would be added to the agenda:

- Impact of key central government policy changes on local government – Hamish Riach / Stefanie Rixecker
- Audit fees - Angela Oosthuizen

7. General business

7.1 General business

2025 Canterbury Mayoral Forum Calendar

The LGNZ 2025 calendar has been received. The timing of two of LGNZ February meetings impacts the planned date for the first 2025 Mayoral Forum meeting. It was agreed that this should be shifted to 14 February.

7.2 Meeting debrief

While the meeting ran over time, members noted the extended discussion on some items was productive.

8. Close Meeting

8.1 Closing karakia

The meeting closed at 12.40pm with a karakia.

8.2 Close the meeting

Next meeting: No date for the next meeting has been set.

Next meeting: Monday 27 January 2025

Other upcoming meetings: Mayoral Forum - Friday 29 November 2024 8.30am-1.00pm at Commodore Airport Hotel 449 Memorial Avenue, Christchurch

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Action List

Canterbury Chief Executives Forum

As of: 16 Jan 2025

Action	Not Started
Local Water Done Well	
Councils to share the governance principles being developed for decision making related to water decisions with CEF members.	
Due Date:	6 Nov 2024
Owner:	Maree McNeilly
Meeting:	21 Oct 2024 Canterbury Chief Executives Forum, 2.1 CE Discussion time

Canterbury Chief Executives Forum

Date: 27 January 2025

Presented by: Hamish Riach, Chair

Future regional and local government for Canterbury

Purpose

1. The purpose of this paper is to provide discussion points on future regional and local government for Canterbury to support the development of a paper for the February Canterbury Mayoral Forum meeting.

Recommendations

That the Canterbury Chief Executives Forum:

1. **note the information provided in this paper to support a discussion on future regional and local government for Canterbury**
2. **request the Chair prepare a paper, based on the information provided in this paper, and discussion at the Chief Executives Forum, for the February Mayoral Forum meeting on future regional and local government for Canterbury**

Background

2. At the November Canterbury Mayoral Forum meeting members discussed the impact of key Central Government legislative and policy changes on local government, noting the changes are extensive, involving governance; functions, roles and accountabilities; funding, costs and efficiencies; partnerships and relationships and a shift in established ways of working.
3. The Mayoral Forum members noted that these changes are a catalyst for a broader discussion around regional and local government for Canterbury and have asked the Chief Executives to prepare a paper to support the discussion at their February meeting.

Key points

4. Current local government structure in New Zealand is made up of regional and local councils and unitary authorities. Canterbury local government is one regional council and ten local councils. Rather than discuss a particular structure of local government this paper highlights drivers and opportunities for change, with a focus on governance and service delivery.

5. Questions have been posed in this paper to stimulate discussion, however not all questions necessitate an answer at this stage of the discussions. Some of these questions and detail in this paper have been developed with the aid of AI (Copilot).

Drivers of change and opportunities for the region

6. The drivers for change include, but are not limited to, the ability to:
- improve efficiency
 - minimise duplication
 - address limited resources (financial and skills)
 - address underinvestment in key infrastructure across the region
 - address environmental issues that require coordinated and integrated efforts (e.g. climate change)
7. Opportunities for the region to be considered through this discussion include, but are not limited to:
- relationships with central government and its agencies – opportunity for greater influence
 - collaborative, collective and enduring decision making at a local/regional/central level
 - improved Ngāi Tahu relationships
 - community and stakeholder relationships

Governance structure and service delivery

8. What are the current strengths and weaknesses of the existing local government structure in Canterbury, particularly with a view to local representation and influence, e.g. previous Government's approach to large water entities?
9. How can we ensure that any new structure enhances local democracy and representation?
10. What governance models have been successful in other regions or countries, and how can they be adapted to Canterbury? New Zealand? AI generated summaries of the Auckland and Manchester models are provided at Attachment 1.
11. What options are available for change?
- **amalgamation** – combining smaller councils into larger entities (territorial authorities / unitary authorities) to streamline governance and reduce duplication
 - **shared services** – councils sharing resources and services to improve efficiency and reduce costs

- **regional cooperation** – enhanced collaboration between councils on regional issues like transport and environmental management.
12. Which services should be delivered at the national, regional, and local levels to maximise efficiency and effectiveness?
 13. How can we improve the coordination and integration of services across different levels of government?
 14. What are the potential benefits and challenges of shared services and regional cooperation?

Further considerations

15. Depending on the outcome of discussions related to those questions posed above, consideration will also need to be given to Ngāi Tahu partnership, community engagement; financial, environmental and social considerations; implementation and transition; and legal and regulatory frameworks.

Other New Zealand current discussions

16. The Dunedin City Council considered a paper at their December 2024 meeting that outlined options for advancing discussions regarding a possible unitary authority for Otago. The Council resolved to progress discussion about a possible unitary authority for Otago with an initial meeting in early 2025 of elected members of Councils in Otago or their representatives.
17. Southland District Council has proposed a restructure of Southland councils into two unitary authorities, one urban-focused centred on Invercargill City and one district-focused incorporating Gore and Southland District Councils. The council resolved at its August 2024 meeting to approve further information to be prepared to enable a formal proposal to be lodged with the Local Government Commission and endorsed the lodgement of a formal reorganisation investigation proposal by Southland District Council to the Local Government Commission.

Next steps

18. Following the discussion and any decisions at today's meeting the Chair will prepare a paper for the February Mayoral Forum meeting to support a discussion on future regional and local government and strategic regional leadership for Canterbury.

Attachment

- AI generated summaries Auckland and Manchester models

ATTACHMENT 1 - AI generated summaries Auckland and Manchester models

Auckland Model

Auckland, New Zealand's largest city, underwent a major reform, following a Royal Commission, in 2010 that consolidated eight local authorities into one unified Auckland Council.

Key Changes

Amalgamation:

- **Creation of Auckland Council:** The reform amalgamated seven city and district councils and the Auckland Regional Council into a single unitary authority known as the Auckland Council[1]
- **Local Boards:** 21 local boards were established to ensure local representation and decision-making on community issues[1].

Governance Structure:

- **Mayor and Governing Body:** The Auckland Council is led by a mayor elected at large and a governing body consisting of 20 councillors elected from 13 wards[1].
- **Council-Controlled Organisations (CCOs):** Several CCOs were created to manage specific services like transport, water, and economic development[1].

Benefits

Improved Efficiency:

- **Streamlined Services:** The amalgamation reduced duplication of services and improved coordination across the region[1].
- **Economies of Scale:** Larger organizational structures allowed for more efficient use of resources and better service delivery[1].

Enhanced Regional Planning:

- **Unified Planning:** A single council enabled more cohesive and strategic regional planning, particularly in areas like transport and infrastructure[1].
- **Integrated Policies:** The reform facilitated the integration of policies across the region, leading to more consistent and effective governance[1].

Stronger Local Representation:

- **Local Boards:** The establishment of local boards ensured that local communities still had a voice in decision-making, balancing regional and local interests[1].

Challenges

Implementation Complexity:

- **Transition Period:** The transition to the new structure was complex and required significant coordination and resources[1].
- **Stakeholder Resistance:** There was initial resistance from some local councils and communities who were concerned about losing local identity and control[1].

Governance Issues:

- **CCO Accountability:** Ensuring that CCOs remained accountable to the council and the public was a challenge, requiring ongoing monitoring and adjustments[1].
- **Balancing Local and Regional Interests:** Maintaining a balance between regional decision-making and local representation continues to be an ongoing challenge[1].

Manchester Model

The Manchester model represents a different approach to regional governance in the UK, with an emphasis on decentralization and local autonomy within a regional framework. Key features of the Manchester model include:

- **Combined Authorities:** Local councils within the Greater Manchester region have come together to form a Combined Authority (CA), which allows for shared decision-making and collaborative governance.
- **Devolution of Powers:** Powers traditionally held by central government are devolved to the Combined Authority, allowing local leaders to make decisions on regional issues such as transport, housing, health, and policing.
- **Directly Elected Mayor:** A directly elected mayor leads the Combined Authority, with powers over regional policy, budgets, and service coordination.
- **Local Control:** While the Combined Authority manages key regional functions, individual councils retain control over certain local matters, such as local planning and specific services.

Pros:

- Local councils retain a degree of control over local matters.
- Devolution of power allows for more region-specific solutions.
- Greater regional coordination without complete centralization.
- A directly elected mayor offers stronger, clearer leadership.

Cons:

- Complexity in governance due to multiple layers of decision-making.
- Risk of unequal distribution of power between local councils and the regional authority.
- Potential tensions between local interests and regional priorities.

Canterbury Chief Executives Forum

Date: 27 January 2025

Presented by: Sharon Mason, Chair Economic Development Forum

Economic Priorities response to Business Canterbury

Purpose

1. The purpose of this paper is to provide a draft response to the workshop summary of the Canterbury Regional Leadership Discussion held at Business Canterbury on 25 November 2024 for the Chief Executives review and approval.

Recommendations

That the Canterbury Chief Executives Forum:

- 1. provide any further feedback on the draft response to the Canterbury Regional Leadership Discussion held at Business Canterbury on 25 November 2024**
- 2. delegate to the Chairs of the Canterbury Chief Executives Forum and Economic Development Forum final approval of the response to the workshop summary of the Canterbury Regional Leadership Discussion held at Business Canterbury on 25 November 2024.**

Background

2. The Canterbury Mayoral Forum has agreed to work with Business Canterbury on the development of regional economic development priorities for all of Canterbury.
3. Business Canterbury has facilitated two workshops, the first with some of their members and the second with local government representatives, Business Canterbury members and a range of businesses from across Canterbury. Both workshops were facilitated by Beca.
4. A draft workshop summary has been provided, following the combined workshop in November and feedback is being sought by 7 February 2025. The workshop summary is provided at Attachment 1.
5. The Economic Development Forum briefly discussed the workshop summary at their December meeting and have provided written feedback for Business Canterbury. The draft feedback is provided at Attachment 2.

Economic Development Forum members feedback

6. High level points from Economic Development Forum members include:
 - support for development of a unified economic framework for the region
 - document should serve as an overarching framework, sitting above all existing economic strategies, integrating efforts from across the region and providing clear leadership talking points
 - framework will enable regional leaders to use a shared language, fostering alignment and collaboration
 - the framework should remove references to regional / city / sub-regional deals – framework is an opportunity to be in charge of own destiny
 - recognition of the critical importance of the private sector and partnership between local government and the private sector.
7. The full draft response is provided at Attachment 2.

Next steps

8. Subject to the Chief Executives discussion the response to the workshop summary of the Canterbury Regional Leadership Discussion will be updated.
9. Final approval of the feedback will be sought from the Chairs of the Canterbury Chief Executives and Economic Development Forums prior to forwarding the response to Business Canterbury.

Attachments

- **Attachment 1** – Driving the future of Waitaha Canterbury. A Canterbury Regional Leadership Discussion
- **Attachment 2** – Draft response to the Canterbury Regional Leadership discussion held at Business Canterbury on 25 November 2024.



Driving the future of Waitaha Canterbury.

A Canterbury Regional Leadership Discussion

SUPPORTED BY:



A recap on previous conversations.

Over the last six months, Business Canterbury and the Canterbury Mayoral Forum have been working together to identify what the private sector vision is for Waitaha Canterbury.

This vision, which will evolve over time, aims to provide clarity around the drivers of economic growth, which is led by the private sector and enabled and supported by local government and central government.

The sessions run to date have clearly demonstrated a commitment to developing an aspirational vision and ambition for our region together. One that balances economic growth with environmental stewardship and appropriately leverages our natural resources and unique assets, building on the momentum of the past decade.

The work done so far also establishes a solid foundation for Canterbury's long-term growth, regardless of whether the region secures a Regional Deal. The vision aligns with national priorities while focusing on what makes

Canterbury unique, emphasising the role of both the private sector and local government in achieving progress for our region and for New Zealand Inc.

This document summarises at a high-level Canterbury's unfakeable assets, undeniable constraints, priority focus areas, and provides a solid platform for further conversations about the actions required to bring the vision to life and deliver results.

This initiative is just the beginning of an enduring partnership between the private sector and the Canterbury Mayoral Forum. It reflects Canterbury's commitment to shaping a great future that balances growth with environmental care, ensuring the region's leadership role within New Zealand and beyond.

Right now, there is more feedback required to ensure that this work reflects a vision that is truly 'Canterbury' and is bold and ambitious reflecting the Canterbury pioneering spirit.

Our unfakeable assets.

Unfakeable assets are the unique qualities, resources, and strengths inherent to Canterbury that cannot be replicated or substituted by other regions. These assets position Canterbury as a standout contributor to New Zealand's success, driving outcomes that surpass what other regions can deliver. They represent the region's competitive advantage—its distinctive combination of natural, economic, cultural, and innovation-driven capabilities that enable exceptional and sustainable growth for both the region and the nation:

- Provincial heart with global reach
- Driven and with a desire to win
- Engineering and education excellence
- Ngāi Tahu: A cultural leader and economic partner
- Christchurch: A global city connecting the region, at our doorstep
- Rich soils and abundant water
- The largest region in New Zealand
- Innovative and resilient with a fresh eye to the future
- Communities built on history and tradition
- Tourism experiences from mountain to sea
- Vast renewable energy potential
- A quality of lifestyle on our doorstep

QUESTIONS FOR FEEDBACK:

1. What are assets that if leveraged will create the biggest impact for our region?
2. Have we been specific enough in the descriptors above?
3. How will these feed into creating a bold uniquely Canterbury ambition?

Our undeniable constraints.

Undeniable constraints are the inherent challenges or limitations that Canterbury faces. While these constraints may initially appear as barriers, they can be reframed and strategically addressed to minimise their impact, or even leveraged as opportunities.

- Distance to markets and connectivity
- Limited Government presence and representation
- Perception of 'already invested'
- Lack of identity and long-term vision
- Geographic infrastructure spread
- Dispersed population
- Capital constraints
- 'Low' GDP per capita and productivity
- Modesty and avoidance of storytelling
- Lack of 'big' companies and start ups
- Lack of resilience in our connectivity infrastructure
- Environmental constraints

Headlines for the future.

Headlines of the future articulate Canterbury's aspirational identity and potential. They indicate what success could look like in the coming years and should serve as a guiding narrative for future conversations and the development of actions that will help get us there.

These can broadly be grouped into two categories -

- We live locally, collaborate regionally, lead nationally, and deliver globally.
- We are a region where shared ambition fuels individual and collective success.
- Our environment supports us in being New Zealand's capital for environmental innovation and world leaders in agriculture, aerospace, advanced manufacturing, education, and tourism.
- We are a region driven by our vast and abundant environment, with a global city at our doorstep.
- Our economy is supported by a deep sense of history tradition and innovation, and we are paving the way for future generations to come.
- We are a region powered by our abundant environment and anchored by a globally connected city.
- Canterbury is the renewable energy capital of New Zealand
- Canterbury is the Gateway to New Zealand, for tourism and trade.
- Cantabrians are the highest educated in New Zealand

QUESTION FOR FEEDBACK:

1. Is the above bold enough?
2. Is the above based on where we are at present versus where we aspire to be in 10,20,30 years?
3. Understanding that our collective aspirations are key to our individual district success – does the above represent sustainable growth opportunities for the whole region?

Aligning priorities to our advantages

Taking our unfakeable assets and what we want to see as headlines for the future, we can start to really show how we can prioritise activity and effort around the environment and innovation. For each of the priority areas discussed at the forum, further work can be done to understand how each could be refined to solve for the environment and innovation to be truly ‘Canterbury.’

EXAMPLE ASSET FRAMEWORK

Tourism

Agriculture

Education

Aerospace

Energy

Advanced Manufacturing

Environment	Innovation
Leverage our vast and diverse environment and proximity to great tourism destinations to become the gateway to New Zealand (not South Island)	Leverage dark skies to create a uniquely Canterbury tourism experience

QUESTIONS FOR FEEDBACK:

1. How do each of the priorities above link to both environment and innovation in a way that makes them truly ‘Canterbury’
Are there any priorities missing, based on our unfakeable assets, undeniable constraints, and what we want to see as headlines for the future?

What do we need to enable to deliver on our ambition?

Energy Infrastructure

- With energy prices a significant and rising cost for business, increasing fuel in the system to stabilise the energy prices needs to be considered throughout the decarbonisation transition (e.g. gas could provide a stabilising impact). Risk to business and attracting industry if there is no certainty around energy pricing and supply.
- Advocacy in supply chain to enable industry to get products to market more efficiently – specifically those exports that are already at a carbon/sustainability disadvantage due to Aotearoa's geographic location.

Transport Networks and Connections

- Strong and resilient networks. We have the basics in place but what is needed in the next 30-years to ensure we have the required level of connectivity across our communities and to move increased levels of exports and support population growth.
- Preparedness of the networks to accommodate continued scaled growth in Selwyn and Waimakariri. (e.g. Lincoln, Rolleston, Rangiora could be future cities, are we planning for the inter-city connection – work in Sydney was used as an example where three 'cities' were created within the city with accessibility to education, health, and transport facilities within 30 mins reach).
- Acknowledging the ability of the private sector to take risks/leverage investment opportunities when there is greater certainty that policy and legislation will not be upended every three years. Strong business sector support to lengthen political terms and/or gain bipartisan agreement on long term projects for the region.
- Christchurch is considered the gateway to the South Island - how can we leverage to become the gateway to New Zealand.

**Accessibility and
Public Transport**

- Leverage for greater 'ease of access' from the surrounding South Island to this region providing opportunity for import/export, business resilience and resilient corridors.
- Create a front door for the South Island for businesses to set up trade. What are the models needed to underpin this and what would help unlock this i.e. policy settings.

Housing Supply

- What is the type of density required across the region that will continue to support our quality of life that is currently sought after and valued.
- Population growth is projected to continue in the region - there is land available and rezoning and planning for strategic growth is critical.
- Access to student accommodation or suitable housing surrounding our universities will be essential in maintaining the level of service(s) being offered to students who contribute to the regional economy, communities, and in turn are our future business owners/leaders.

**Industry
Attractiveness**

- Regulations to facilitate effective and efficient consent processes that enable the private sector to invest and grow.
- Alignment of industry on what the region is willing to 'trade-off.'
- Advocate for bipartisan agreement across our region's priority industries (noted under Transport Networks and Connections as well).
- Identify, develop, and leverage our resilience story – the past, the present and looking to the future.

Retention of Talent

- Our universities are successfully attracting increasingly higher student numbers. How do we provide industry wrap around to cement this talent to this region after graduation?
 - Acknowledgment of the anchor role our universities play in the region and the opportunity to further build deliberate partnerships in research and development anchoring our tertiary institutions to our city drivers and vision. (e.g. UC is the power educator of
-

choice and have the only high voltage labs in NZ. A good news story when Transpower Christchurch is the fastest growing office for their business).

- Continue to create opportunity for the residing talent via the businesses that already call this region home.
-

Innovation and Scale

- Considered scale of farming and agri-business across the region and the impact it has on the regional economy. Consider the infrastructure assets that contribute to the success of this sector and risk to the future resilience and operation of those assets (e.g. irrigation schemes, aged road bridges, aged and limited rail infrastructure).
 - Planned sustainable growth that is supported by city-hub(s) - inbound, freight and export capacity.
 - Supported visitor growth targets that can bend and flex.
 - Include the rural sector/agri-business strong-holds (i.e. carrot seeds) to profile our unique offerings to the world. A united vision between our rural-folk and city-folk that articulates our points of difference.
-

Alignment with existing economic development strategies:

These are all the initiatives and strategic focus areas across the region that tie into the Canterbury Ambition.

- | | |
|--|---|
| – Regional collaboration & strategic partnerships | – Community engagement & empowerment |
| – Sustainable development | – Economic diversification & prosperity |
| – Infrastructure improvement (energy, water, transport networks) | – Sustainable environmental management |
| – Workforce development & retention | – Climate adaptation and mitigation |
| – Innovation & technology | – Housing supply |
| – Tourism promotion | – Accessibility & public transport |

Next steps.

Early next year, Business Canterbury will bring together a small subgroup of attendees from both sessions to further refine what our regional economic ambition might be. This session will be broken into sector specific groups who will take a lead on each of the priorities and make suggestions based on the criteria below. Invites for this session and further information will be in the New Year. Please email your feedback based on the questions in this document, and any further reflections to taitd@cecc.org.nz by 7 February 2025.

Step 1 – Summary and request for feedback (17/12/2024 – 07/02/2025)

Step 2 – Sector specific sub-groups advance criteria (~18/02/2025)

Step 3 – Re-group (~04/03/2025)

Step 4 – Develop Execution Plan (~11/03/2025)

Step 5 – Implementation

*Dates are for discussion, above are starting points only.

QUESTIONS FOR FEEDBACK:

Are we being ambitious enough?

How can we make our priorities Canterbury centric and truly unfakeable?

What is required as collective action to realise our headlines of the future?

Attachment 2 – Draft response to the Canterbury Regional Leadership discussion held at Business Canterbury 25 November 2024

Please find attached initial comments on the workshop summary following the Canterbury Regional Leadership discussion held at Business Canterbury on Monday 25 November 2024.

General comments

The Mayoral Forum supports this work to establish a unified economic framework for the region. We recognise the critical importance of the private sector in this work and welcome the partnership between local government and the private sector.

We appreciate that this is a workshop summary, and there is still more work to be done together to get to a final product and our comments are based on providing feedback for us to work together on to ensure a robust product.

At this stage, we consider that the final document should serve an overarching framework for the region, sitting above all existing economic strategies, integrating efforts across the region and providing clear leadership talking points.

This work should be on defining Canterbury's economic goals, independent of regional deals.

We would prefer not to use Canterbury Ambition, as this title has already been used in other areas, not least ChristchurchNZs Economic Ambition for Christchurch, we would suggest Canterbury Economic Framework, but very happy to discuss this.

Our unfakeable assets

We would question whether the following statements, while applicable, are unique to Canterbury:

- Driven and with a desire to win
- Innovative and resilient with a fresh eye to the future
- A quality lifestyle on our doorstep

We have not mentioned the following, that could also be included in this list, recognising that the list may not need to be all inclusive:

- Christchurch, and Canterbury, is the gateway in and out of the South Island
- Collaborative leadership
- Ease of doing business in Canterbury
- New infrastructure (post-earthquakes) that is in place with less risk for economic investment (should we have another major event we are well prepared to absorb the economic shock)

- Proximity and access to Antarctica and the Pacific Region
- Direct access to Australia

Questions

What are the assets that if leveraged will create the biggest impact for our region?

- **Engineering and education excellence** – this is a real selling point given all the other factors that come into people wanting to live here i.e. housing prices, cost of living etc.
- **Innovative and resilient with a fresh eye to the future** – this has been shown post-earthquake in the rebuild of Christchurch with so much more opportunity for innovation. We have built resilience into our region post-quake infrastructure (still some major challenges/investment required across Canterbury), but this puts us ahead of other major cities/regions in NZ that are subject to so much natural hazard risk (which is why it is not attractive for business to invest).
- **Agriculture, horticulture, viticulture** – we grow it and process it – value adding in Canterbury
- **Tourism experiences** – capturing visitors via provincial tourism; farm tourism, food tourism, cycle trails connecting all of Canterbury
- **Water storage** – water provides options for farmers, diversification and could be a game changer for Canterbury

Have we been specific enough in the descriptors above?

Generally, yes.

How will these feed into creating a bold uniquely Canterbury ambition?

It will depend on what we decide we want to be (Vision). Do we want to build on what we have done to date (our positives) and move away from our negatives, or do we want to shift gear into something else quite different? We welcome the opportunity to keep discussing this with you.

Our undeniable constraints

We agree with the undeniable constraints but would make the following comments.

Along with geographic infrastructure spread we would also note the age of infrastructure across Canterbury, i.e. the road and rail bridges across our rivers.

We would also include the following for consideration:

- natural hazard risks across Canterbury / West Coast – flooding, slips, snow, earthquakes, coastal inundation (rail line), drought, fire
- lack of cultural diversity, and understanding and support for change in that regard – some international cultures being the backbone of our current economy and services e.g. farming, hospital services etc – Filipino people working on farms and

in hospitals but lack of support for those communities – could be an opportunity to diversify our economy and investment from overseas in Canterbury

- water availability/scarcity – current and future drought conditions as a result of climate change – impact on irrigation, food production, dairying etc
- enduring local and central govt leadership and funding – direction changes every electoral cycle – lack of long-term commitment and bipartisan support for our future community outcomes

Headlines for the future

- We live locally, collaborate regionally, lead nationally, and deliver globally. – this is how we operate and seems more like a marketing slogan. *Is this our headline for the future of our economy?*
- Our environment supports us in being New Zealand's capital for environmental innovation and world leaders in agriculture, aerospace, advanced manufacturing, education, and tourism. *Are we limiting ourselves if we say 'environmental' innovation?*
- We are a region driven by our vast and abundant environment, with a global city at our doorstep -*this is slightly reworded and repeated.*
- Canterbury is the renewable energy capital of New Zealand – *is capital the right word?*
- Cantabrians are the highest educated in New Zealand – *this statement is not true when checked against StatsNZ census data.*

Questions for feedback:

Is the above bold enough?

Along with the comments on some of the headlines above we note that they do not make mention of the cultural heritage of Canterbury and the special place of Ngāi Tahu, which is mentioned as one of our unfakeable assets.

The one headline that may put the region on the map is the renewable energy capital of New Zealand as this is different from what we currently do or could grow/aspire to be.

Is the above based on where we are at present versus where we aspire to be in 10,20,30 years?

The headlines for the future reflect a lot of what we currently do – good or bad.

There is opportunity to enhance, particularly when it comes to being 'world leaders in agriculture, aerospace, advanced manufacturing, education, and tourism' – this is an opportunity but is it realistic?

Understanding that our collective aspirations are key to our individual district success – does the above represent sustainable growth opportunities for the whole region?

As a region we need not compete with each other but be better together.

There are overlapping parts of the region, but some parts of our region will be suited for different aspects of our economy, it is important that we recognise this and not compete for resources (skills and finance).

A good understanding of what each part of our region is known for and does well economically which can be enhanced and built on would be good e.g. Mackenzie for tourism, our great lakes, hydro for renewables, dark sky, etc whereas Selwyn may be for agriculture, education (Lincoln University), and Ashburton for dairying. Each district has its strengths and opportunities but not at the expense of others. The individual EDAs will be in a position to highlight each of their districts' strengths.

Aligning priorities to our advantage

The forum has not been in the position to go through each of the priorities to link both environment and innovation at this stage. However further priorities to be included could be cycle trails, health innovation hub, and food tourism.

What do we need to enable to deliver on our ambition

Energy Infrastructure

- changing nature of land use and our economy may mean that some energy assets are redundant, or the way we access energy is different. e.g. solar farm adjacent to the airport may generate sufficient energy to power the airport and all of the surrounding businesses and therefore may not need to connect to the national grid, thus less reliance on hydro as a main source of electricity into the future. Regional energy inventory/strategic approach will look at these challenges into the future, needs to sit alongside our economic work
- diversity of energy for different uses based on geographical constraints
- not sure about the 'advocacy in supply chains' statement - how this is related to energy infrastructure, seems more appropriate to the transport networks and connections section below

Transport Networks and Connections

- Growth in Selwyn and Waimakariri is not anticipated to be of city scale in next 30 years (Rolleston may technically if reaches 50,000 population, but not Lincoln or Rangiora). The Greater Christchurch Spatial Plan looks at integrated land use and transport and this can be referenced in this work.
- Rather than focus on lengthening political terms, an enduring, long term infrastructure plan partnering with private sector to deliver could overcome this.

- Value seen in the rationalisation of ports and airports and associated functions across the South Island. All roads lead in and out of Christchurch to the two main airports/seaports.

Accessibility and Public Transport

- It is not clear what the 'ease of access' issue is from the rest of the South Island to Canterbury for imports/exports – is it road or rail freight? What is the issue, congestion? Lack of resilience? Cost?
- What does it mean about front door for trade and why is it in this section?
- There is no mention of anything public transport related in this section. Investment in Public Transport Futures and Mass Rapid Transit in Greater Christchurch as a 'city shaping' initiative (as agreed in the Greater Christchurch Spatial Plan) would be of utmost importance over the next 10-15 years to support the economic growth and prosperity of the second largest city in NZ and gateway to Canterbury and the South Island.

Housing Supply

- The Mayoral Forum is developing a Regional Housing Strategic Plan. There will be an opportunity to connect this piece of work the Regional Housing Strategic Plan at the Canterbury level and what is envisaged through those.

Industry Attractiveness

- What does the statement 'alignment of industry on what the region is willing to 'trade-off' mean?
- Advocate for bipartisan agreement across our region's priority industries could also include where we want these located across the region, so each district is not competing for the same industries.

Retention of Talent

- Need a pipeline of jobs in Canterbury related to the courses undertaken at universities in Canterbury.
- Is there any possibility of tertiary institutions in South Canterbury, particularly with an agricultural focus? Second campus of Lincoln? Future jobs in that sector related to the university focus and again support growth across South Canterbury

Innovation and Scale

- What do we need to do in this space, how do we attract/facilitate innovation within our economy?
- The statement 'consider the infrastructure assets that contribute to the success of this sector and risk to the future resilience and operation of those assets (e.g. irrigation schemes, aged road bridges, aged and limited rail infrastructure)' would site more comfortably under the transport and network connection section.

- Should there be an additional section for Infrastructure which covers energy, telecommunications, roading, education, community etc
- Planned sustainable growth that is supported by city-hub(s) - inbound, freight and export capacity would also sit better under transport and/or an infrastructure section.
- This section does not seem aspirational enough. Why we are the best region to visit, live, work, etc?

Alignment with existing economic development strategies

This section could also include the following:

- Ngai Tahu economic planning and development
- Education and community service planning – schools, tertiary institutions, hospitals, medical etc
- Food resilience planning
- Emergency management and recovery – post disaster economic recovery e.g. post-earthquake construction boom
- Construction sector
- Immigration – skills sets etc

Next Steps

We support the idea of sector specific sub-groups and would recommend using the expertise of the region's Economic Development Agencies and council economic development staff to bring together and contribute to the sub-groups. We recognise the challenges with engaging with businesses across the region, however the sector sub-groups may entice businesses as they will be genuinely interested in their sectors.

QUESTIONS FOR FEEDBACK

Are we being ambitious enough?

- We think we can be more ambitious for Canterbury to be **THE** region to be in.
- Canterbury has so much to offer across so many sectors, and opportunity to set us ahead of other parts of the country and overseas. Are we delivering to the potential that we have?
- Do we want to reimagine what our economy looks like and transition to it over the time?
- How do we encourage high value tourism, as opposed to being overrun with tourists of low value contribution, causing issues across the region?
- How do we continually maintain and grow our economy with the right industries which aren't at the expense of our environmental, social and cultural values?

How can we make our priorities Canterbury centric and truly unfakeable?

- It is not clear from the document what our priorities are, we need to do more work together to define these.
- We need to be able to articulate our Vision for our economy and then understand what we are going to prioritise as actions to achieve that vision, and within what timeframe.
- We need to develop the Framework for Canterbury that we want, but we must also consider buy-in from Government to support the Framework and recognise Canterbury as the largest region in the country, second largest by population, and having the second largest city in the country.

What is required as collective action to realise our headlines of the future?

- Coming up with an enduring Visions and Framework and sticking to it.
- All pulling in the same direction and committed to it 110% - all levels of Government, Ngāi Tahu, private sector, NGOs, community

Canterbury Chief Executives Forum

Date: 27 January 2025

Presented by: Stefanie Rixecker, Environment Canterbury

Canterbury Water Management Strategy update

Purpose

1. The purpose of this paper is to provide the Chief Executives Forum with an update for the Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) Zone Committee Review, region-wide progress towards implementing the Canterbury Water Management Strategy, and to seek endorsement for the Canterbury Operations Forum to oversee and report on the assessment of progress towards the 2025 revised CWMS Goals.

Recommendations

That the Chief Executives Forum:

1. **receives the progress update for the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Zone Committee Review 2024 and identified next steps to be undertaken in 2025**
2. **receives the update for October to December 2024 on the region-wide work underway to implement the Canterbury Water Management Strategy**
3. **endorses the Operations Forum to oversee the assessment of progress towards the 2025 revised CWMS goals**
4. **tasks the Operations Forum to provide the online Targets Progress Report 2025 to the Chief Executives Forum by May 2025**

Update on Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS)

Review of CWMS zone committees

2. The CWMS Zone Committee Review 2024 ('the Review'), which the Canterbury Mayoral Forum (CMF) requested in August 2023, is now complete. Next steps to July 2025 have been identified, as detailed below.
3. The Review's first phase involved engagements with all zone committees, Canterbury Mayors, Rūnanga representatives, and Environment Canterbury Councillors in March to June 2024. Preliminary findings were reported to the CMF in May 2024, which guided the next phase of developing advice and next steps.

4. In August 2024, the CMF and Te Rōpū Tuia¹ nominated representatives to workshop with Environment Canterbury's Chair and Councillors what local freshwater leadership the CMF will support into the future. Two workshops were held in late October and early November 2024.
5. The outcomes from these workshops were captured in a technical report, which is being finalised and will be shared with territorial authorities, Rūnanga, and zone committees. This report concludes the Review, with a summary of outcomes and recommendations for next steps presented for endorsement to the CMF on 29 November 2024 (see [page 56 of the 29 November 2024](#) Canterbury Mayoral Forum agenda)².
6. Key outcomes from the Review include a shared view among the working group of Mayors, Rūnanga representatives and Environment Canterbury Councillors that, while the CWMS vision and principles remain sound and provide a good basis for future work, zone committees as a consistent one-size-fits-all structure across Canterbury are no longer preferred. This followed an assessment that the majority of committees have not been well placed or supported to move from planning-centric work to implementing work programmes, although it was acknowledged that some committees work well, and opportunities should be created to keep the momentum and membership of these committees.
7. Through the workshops a preferred base model was identified as well as questions that require further investigation before this new model can be operationalised. This base model centres on connecting territorial authorities, mana whenua and the regional council at a leadership level and at place, with connections to local communities critical, along with the need to reflect a maturing partnership with mana whenua. Connections to Central Government and industry alongside, and as part of, local communities may also be important for future success (see Figure 1).

¹ Te Rōpū Tuia is the governance forum that anchors the collective relationship between the ten Papatipu Rūnanga across Waitaha and Environment Canterbury, with membership consisting of the Chairs of ngā Papatipu Rūnanga (or their nominees) and Environment Canterbury Councillors.

² <https://www.canterburymayors.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/Canterbury-Mayoral-Forum-Agenda-29-November-2024.pdf>



Figure 1 Base model to connect TLAs, mana whenua and regional council at a leadership level and at place

8. The working group recognised that the relationship of these three partners should be meaningful and have clear purpose – it ought to extend beyond loose connections and involve direction setting, tracking of progress, and support to guide funding decisions to achieve outcomes. Members of the working group framed this well:
 - It is about these local leadership groups confirming an action plan of local priorities and then utilising their resources, mana, and networks to support delivery towards these priorities.
9. The scope of the leadership groups was also discussed by the working group, and it was agreed that the fundamentals of the CWMS and guiding plans (e.g. Zone Implementation Programmes) remain crucial for identifying freshwater management priorities and focus efforts. Leadership groups may, however, wish to extend the scope of local priorities to other overlapping cross-boundary issues, such as land use, biosecurity, biodiversity and natural hazards.
10. The working group noted that an approach is needed that achieves a degree of regional consistency from a membership and function perspective, with enough flexibility to enable locally suitable solutions, which will include determining at place the mechanisms for local community engagement, setting of priorities, and degree of investment support.
11. The working group also noted that future options should be effective and efficient without duplicating existing structures or recreating known challenges to achieving outcomes. Successful examples of partnership approaches across Canterbury may serve as points of reference (e.g. Waitarakao Washdyke Lagoon Catchment Strategy and Whakaraupō Whaka-Ora Healthy Harbour).
12. The working group further acknowledged that the success of future options will depend on clear responsibilities and accountability, with the support of councils and Rūnanga being critical.

Next steps

13. Key design questions still need to be worked through in early 2025 before final advice can be provided to the CMF.
 - firstly, should these leadership groups operate according to existing CWMS zone boundaries, district boundaries, or be based on proposed freshwater management units?
 - secondly, options for how these leadership groups are mandated need to be determined. Zone committees are joint committees of territorial authorities and Environment Canterbury, whereas other mechanisms, such as Whaka-Ora, are underpinned by a voluntary partnership reflected with a Collaborative Agreement.
 - thirdly, operational details (e.g. options for wider membership, meeting format and frequency, and administrative support) need to be investigated further.
14. At its 29 November 2024 meeting, CMF members were briefed on these findings and proposed next steps. The CMF agreed with the finding that zone committees are no longer the preferred option to support local freshwater leadership in some places.
15. The CMF further endorsed the model of local freshwater leadership groups with core membership of territorial authorities, mana whenua and regional council, and for this model to be refined in early to mid-2025 for final endorsement in May 2025. This would enable new leadership groups to be operational in the 2025/26 financial year.
16. Additional work is required to resolve the questions outlined above and refine the proposed model. Under the auspices of the CMF, this work should be undertaken collaboratively by staff from territorial authorities, Rūnanga and Environment Canterbury. To progress such a collaborative approach, Environment Canterbury briefed the Canterbury Policy Forum on 16 December 2024 on the outcomes and next steps of the Review.
17. Work throughout early to mid-2025 will require further discussions with individual councils, noting that changes to the zone committee approach will require decisions by each council given these are joint committees. It is intended that new groups would operate within existing CWMS Zone Committee funding envelopes.
18. It is intended that the CWMS zone committees continue their work in their current form until new groups are established.
19. A progress update will be provided at the CMF's February 2025 meeting, with a finalised model presented at the May 2025 meeting. Updates will also be provided through the Chief Executives Forum and where possible the Policy Forum and Operations Forum.

CWMS zone committee updates

20. To date, seven zone committees have fully allocated their 2024/25 Action Plan budget of \$50,000 to implement on the ground actions to support the delivery of CWMS targets and goals. Waimakariri and Upper Waitaki zone committees will meet early this year to finalise the allocation of their funding.

21. Attachment 1 provides an update on key regional projects and campaigns.
22. Attachment 2 provides a summary of the last three months' progress of zone committee projects.

CWMS Targets Progress report 2025

23. Environment Canterbury has initiated work to assess progress on achieving the 2025 goals across the ten CWMS target areas. The Targets Progress Report 2021 can be found on the [Environment Canterbury](#)³ website.
24. An initial step for this work was to check that the 2025 goals were fit for purpose. The analysis was underpinned by the understanding that the CWMS vision, principles and priorities remain sound.
25. The analysis considered (in no particular order):
 - the impact of new legislation
 - the intent of and alignment with the 2030 and 2040 goals
 - the data sources that could be used to support reporting
 - merging goals where there was duplication.
26. Goals which no longer align with legislative requirements (e.g. Drinking Water goals which seek to maintain untreated potable water) have been revised. Initial results of the analysis however, identified that the majority of the goals remain fit for purpose and continue to support the intent of the original CWMS goals from 2010 to 2040.
27. The analysis also noted that in the past, the CWMS Regional Committee would have received project updates and provided feedback from a regional perspective on behalf of the CWMS partners. However, the Regional Committee was formally discharged in September 2023.
28. With its experience in developing the Fit for the Future work programmes⁴ to deliver the 2025 and 2030 goals, the Canterbury Operations Forum is well placed to take on this role to receive project updates and provide feedback on progress reporting. The Operations Forum will also be able to provide key insights on the work being undertaken by territorial authorities to deliver the CWMS targets and specifically the 2025 goals.

³ <https://www.ecan.govt.nz/your-region/your-environment/water/measuring-cwms-progress/>

⁴ Following the completion of the Fit for the Future project the Chief Executives Forum commissioned the Operations Forum to develop work programmes for each Territorial Authority and Environment Canterbury to support the delivery of the 2025 Goals. See the [final report](#) to the Chief Executives Forum on 2 November 2020, page 80 and examples of work programmes are provided in Appendix 3, page 89. <https://www.canterburymayors.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/CEF-agenda-2-November-2020-redacted.pdf>

29. The list of the 2025 goals and an initial assessment on progress will be provided to the Operations Forum at their meeting in March 2025.

30. A proposed timetable with key dates and milestones is provided below.

January/February	Project updates to Chief Executives and Mayoral Forums via quarterly reports
March	Operations Forum workshop on initial assessment of progress on 2025 Goals
April	Draft assessment of 2025 Goals on “monitoring CWMS progress” webpage presented to Operations Forum via online meeting
May	Operations Forum final report on CWMS Targets Progress Report to Chief Executives and Mayoral Forum
June	Updated Monitoring CWMS Progress webpage goes live.

Update on central government action that may impact freshwater outcomes

Resource Management Act reform

31. The Resource Management (Freshwater and Other Matters) Amendment Act 2024 passed into law, taking effect on 25 October 2024. Amendment papers tabled during the Committee of the Whole stage of the legislative process mean the Act will also prevent notification of freshwater planning instruments that have the purpose of giving effect to the National Policy Statement-Freshwater Management 2020 (NPS-FM). This has implications for progressing the Canterbury Regional Policy Statement- see below. The Act also paused the rollout of freshwater farm plans across the country.

32. The Resource Management (Consenting and Other System Changes) Amendment Bill was introduced to Parliament on 10 December. The Bill proposes changes to the RMA to help achieve the Government’s priorities across five key areas: infrastructure and energy, housing, farming and the primary sector, natural hazards and emergency management, and RMA regulatory powers (consenting, compliance and enforcement). The Bill passed its first reading on 17 December and was referred to the Environment Select Committee with a closing date for submissions of 10 February 2025. The Select Committee will report back to Parliament by 17 June 2025. Minister Bishop has indicated that the Government aims to pass the Bill into law by mid-2025.

Changes to Freshwater Farm Plan direction

33. The Government continues its work to reduce the cost and complexity of freshwater farm plans with initial changes proposed to Part 9A via the Resource Management (Consenting and other System Changes) Amendment Bill. The proposals support the use of approved industry organisations to deliver certification and audit services. Further changes to the Resource Management (Freshwater Farm Plan) Regulations are expected in the first half of 2025.

Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

34. The Fast-track Approvals Bill passed its second reading on 13 November 2024, its third and final reading on 17 December and became law. Applications for projects to be considered using the new Fast Track regime will be accepted from 7 February 2025.

Local Water Done Well

35. The Local Government (Water Services) Bill is the third piece of legislation in the Government's three-stage process for implementing Local Water Done Well. The Bill had its first reading on 17 December 2024. It sets out key details relating to the water services delivery system, the economic regulation and consumer protection regime for water services, and changes to the water quality regulatory framework.

36. The Bill has been referred to the Finance and Expenditure Committee with a closing date for submissions of 23 February 2025. It is expected to be enacted by mid-2025.

Update on Environment Canterbury's planning work programme

Regional Policy Statement

37. Changes to s80A of the Resource Management Act 1991 has changed the process for notifying freshwater planning instruments such as the Canterbury Regional Policy Statement (CRPS). Environment Canterbury considered options for progressing the CRPS at its 27 November Council meeting and resolved to pause the development of the CRPS until January 2026.

38. Current CRPS objectives and policies continue to apply in the interim.

Plan Change 8

39. Environment Canterbury has been working on plan changes for the following issues:

- Take and Use ("AWA") – providing for the take and use of water for infrastructure and allowing the use of water to be changed where there are environmental benefits
- make it easier to construct wetlands
- preserving the intent of the expiring provisions in the National Environmental Standard for Freshwater – Agricultural Intensification and Intensive Winter Grazing.

40. Changes to s80A of the Resource Management Act 1991 changed the process for undertaking plan changes for freshwater planning instruments, such as Plan Change 8. Environment Canterbury considered options for progressing Plan Change 8 at its 27 November Council meeting and resolved to contact the Ministry for the Environment to see if a pathway was available for notification.
41. Those who were invited, such as territorial authorities, to provide feedback through Clause 3 consultation have been informed of the delay and next steps being undertaken by Environment Canterbury. This delay may lead to additional cost and delays to infrastructure development.

Attachments

Attachment 1: Key regional projects/campaigns October to December 2024

Attachment 2: Zone Committee Action Plan overview October to December 2024

Attachment 1: Key regional projects/campaigns October to December 2024

1. The CWMS is implemented in the Canterbury region by the CWMS partners through a range of statutory and non-statutory obligations and by working with agencies and community groups.
2. This section of the update provides information on the delivery of actions by CWMS partners to meet the 2025 goals under the ten CWMS Targets areas⁵, although not all ten Target areas are intended to be covered each quarter. Progress against the CWMS Targets is reported on Environment Canterbury's [website](#)⁶.

Ōtūwharekai / Ashburton Lakes

3. Restoring the mauri of the Ōtūwharekai / Ashburton Lakes continues to be a high priority for Environment Canterbury, mana whenua, key agencies, environmental organisations and landowners. This work supports progress towards the Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity Target.
4. Statutory agencies have continued to provide input into the Draft Integrated Catchment Plan identifying the actions and timelines they will work towards to improve the health of the lakes. The 26 September hui which focussed on developing the 'Environmental Goal' actions, also recognised that developing and obtaining agreement across the agencies on the plan will take longer than originally anticipated.
5. The working group will meet in early 2025 to agree on an approach and timeframe for this mahi.
6. The most recent water quality monitoring results, as well as progress updates on other relevant actions, are available at www.ecan.govt.nz/otuwharekai.

Whakaora Te Waihora Programme

7. The Whakaora Te Waihora Programme is a long-term, operational programme of the Te Waihora Co-Governance Group to restore and rejuvenate the mana, mauri and ecosystem of Te Waihora/ Lake Ellesmere. The Co-Governance members are Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, Environment Canterbury, Selwyn District Council, Christchurch City Council, and Department of Conservation (DOC).

⁵ There are ten target areas within the Canterbury Water Management Strategy each with a number of more specific goals. The target areas are: Environmental Limits, Ecosystem Health/Biodiversity, Natural Character of Braided Rivers, Kaitiakitanga, Drinking-water, Recreational and amenity opportunities, Water use efficiency, Irrigated land area, Energy security and efficiency and Indicators of Regional and National Economies.

⁶ <https://www.ecan.govt.nz/your-region/your-environment/water/measuring-cwms-progress/>

8. The Whakaora Te Waikēkēwai project continues to be a model for 'Treaty Partnership' and delivery. As important as 'what' the project is doing (restoring the mid-lower stretches of Te Waikēkēwai/Waikēkēwai Stream), is 'how' it is doing it (led by Te Taumutu Rūnanga, and co-managed between Te Taumutu Rūnanga and Environment Canterbury).
9. The project made significant advances from October to December with:
 - maintenance of the almost 40,000 riparian plants installed by the project
 - completion of the procurement process for the construction of the Te Repo o Partnership Programmes (works to start in January 2025)
 - continued delivery of the project's mātauranga Māori and water quality monitoring programme
 - continued predator control for, and monitoring of, the Nationally Critical matuku-hūrepo/Australasian bittern.
10. The Whakaora Te Ahuriri project is restoring wetland habitat in Ahuriri Lagoon. Actions from October to December included planning works to improve fish passage, water retention in the constructed wetland, and the restoration of adjacent habitat to the constructed habitat.
11. The programme is co-funding the Weed Strikeforce (delivered by Department of Conservation), who control willows and woody weeds around the lakeshore of Te Waihora that results in the natural regeneration of lakeshore wetlands.
12. The programme is funding the Te Waihora, Matuku-hūrepo project (delivered by Department of Conservation), that is delivering predator control for, and monitoring of, the nationally Critical matuku-hūrepo/Australasian bittern.
13. The restoration of Te Waihora is a huge job, which cannot be achieved by any one organisation. It requires long-term commitments, and working collaboratively across organisational boundaries to share strengths, opportunities, ideas, and resources. That is why work is underway to further support the Whakakōhanga Kōrero, which is an inter-organisational forum (of mana whenua, councils, farmer-led catchment groups, community organisations, NGOs etc) who are delivering environmental management actions around Te Waihora. The group meets quarterly to share current work and identify opportunities to work together. Work underway to further support the group include a publicly visible digital map, where organisations can share and display the locations of their projects. This will aid operational decisions (the development of projects, developing working partnerships with other organisations), strategic decisions (where to focus resources, funding applications), and communicating to the public.

Whaka-Ora Healthy Harbour Programme

14. The Whaka-Ora Healthy Harbour Programme is designed to improve the environmental and cultural values of Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour. It is a partnership between Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, Environment Canterbury, Christchurch

City Council, and Lyttelton Port Company to action the Whaka-Ora Healthy Harbour Catchment Management Plan.

15. Whaka-Ora Healthy Harbour continues to build relationships in the focal landscape and attends many high-level groups/workshops and hui such as Te Kāhahu Kahukura (TKK) which is currently chaired by Chair Pauling. The programme feeds into technical approaches in the landscape and supports other partners to be successful in their mahi within the catchments of Whakaraupō.
16. The programme's Senior Managers Group is developing prioritisation strategies and targeted delivery plans. Delivery progressed on the programme's current projects include the Kororā | White-flipped Penguin conservation, TITI feasibility study, Mahinga Kai site collaboration with Rod Donald Trust, and the Marine settlement plate research and education project.

Waitarakao Washdyke Lagoon

17. The Our Waitarakao partnership (the Department of Conservation, Environment Canterbury, Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua, and Timaru District Council) is working through the approval of the final draft of the Our Waitarakao Strategy.
18. The working group is transitioning into supporting implementation of the Strategy's actions while community led on-the-ground activities continue.

Te Mōkihi Programme

19. The Te Mōkihi Programme focuses on improving environmental, cultural, social and economic outcomes in Te Manahuna/Mackenzie Basin. It is a partnership between Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua, Te Rūnanga o Moeraki, Te Rūnanga o Waihao, Environment Canterbury, Department of Conservation, Land Information NZ, Mackenzie District Council and Waitaki District Council.
20. As the programme management positions are currently vacant, the programme has had to put most of its work on hold, until programme staffing is resolved.
21. The Governors Group met on 18 November. One item raised during this meeting was the current vacancies for the Programme Manager and Programme Coordinator. An outcome of the meeting was that the Co-Chairs are reviewing the position descriptions and available funding.
22. There was a meeting of all the parties regarding Ōmarama Reserve and mana whenua aspirations. Apart from this piece of work, the rūnanga-led projects are on hold until their future is decided by the Senior Officials Group.

Attachment 2: Zone Committee Action Plan overview October to December 2024

Kaikōura Zone Committee		
Target Area	Focus of the Action Plan	Highlights of practical work underway
<p>Natural Character of Braided Rivers</p> <p>Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity</p> <p>Kaitiakitanga wahi taonga & biodiversity</p>	<p>Enhance biodiversity, and improve amenity and recreation values</p> <p>Support our community to respond to changing requirements, and share resources for good management practice</p> <p>Facilitate understanding of catchment systems within the zone, build community knowledge and connection to these systems and increase public participation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In October, the Kaikōura Zone Committee visited an Amuri Irrigation Company constructed wetland pilot project site and John Faulkner's Biodiversity/Mahinga kai restoration site. Other groups on the field trip included the Hurunui District Landcare group, the Amuri Irrigation Company and Culverden Farmsource. The Committee appreciated seeing first-hand the great mahi underway in the area in the freshwater and biodiversity space. • In early November, Committee members joined a number of stakeholders & interested community members at the Annual Waiau Toa/ Clarence Community Hui to receive an update on the weed control mahi being undertaken over the last ten years, under the Waiau Toa / Clarence Weed Management Strategy. Boffa Miskell, who leads the work along with ECan, LINZ, MDC, DOC and landowners, also talked about work planned for the 2025/26 period. • The Committee fully allocated its 2024/25 Action Plan budget of \$50,000, including its recommendation to fund \$9630 to Clarence River Rafting Weed Control Project 24/25. • At its November meeting the Committee workshopped with the Wai Connection project team community uses for the 'Kaikōura Plains' Focus Catchment Map Series.

Waimakariri Zone Committee		
Target Area	Focus of the Action Plan	Highlights of practical work underway
Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity Drinking Water Natural Character of Braided Rivers Recreation and Amenity Opportunities Kaitiakitanga	Improve monitoring of water resources Biodiversity improvements Braided Rivers Recreation resources Mahinga kai improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In October, the Waimakariri Zone Committee had a workshop to review the 12 applications it had received seeking funding. Two further applications were received in November with a total request over \$148K for the \$50K available. The Committee confirmed it will finalise recommendations for funding at its 3 February meeting. • At its November meeting, the Committee received two reports. Waimakariri District Council (WDC) provided a report on saline incursions in the Kaiapoi and Ruataniwha Cam Rivers. This report examines community observations in 2024 regarding changes in the Kaiapoi and Ruataniwha Cam Rivers, including emergent and submerged macrophyte (weedbed) dieback and freshwater mussel (kākāhi) deaths. This report raises possible options for management by WDC and areas for WDC and Environment Canterbury to work together to understand and consider management options. • The second report received by the Committee was the Environment Canterbury 2023-24 annual summary report of water quality monitoring for contact recreation. • The committee concluded the year with a short field visit to one of the projects seeking funding, followed by a briefing with staff where the committee outlined its preferences for allocation of the available budget across the 12 applications received.

Christchurch-West Melton		
Target Area	Focus of the Action Plan	Highlights of practical work underway
<p>Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity</p> <p>Kaitiakitanga</p> <p>Recreation and Amenity opportunities</p>	<p>Enhance mahinga kai</p> <p>Engage with community</p> <p>Enhance ecosystem health</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christchurch-West Melton Zone Committee members were invited to the Comprehensive Stormwater Network Discharge Consent Annual Report hui on 9 October, hosted by the Community Waterways Partnership. The hui provided a series of presentations addressing the key findings, challenges and recommendations of the report. The Committee received the Christchurch City Council's 2023 Surface Water Quality Targets Report, which is now available online. https://ccc.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Environment/Water/Monitoring-Reports/2024/CSNDC-Annual-Surface-Water-Quality-Report-2023-final.PDF On 31 October the Committee held a workshop with representatives for the five projects applying for support from the 2024/25 CWMS Action Plan Budget. The project presentations were well received by the Committee, which provided a sound basis for their endorsement of the \$50K allocation available across the five projects at their 28 November meeting. The 28 November meeting also saw the Committee receive four reports for projects supported through the CWMS Action Plan Budget in previous years. The Committee received the Environment Canterbury 2023-24 annual summary report of water quality monitoring for contact recreation and two updates from the Community Waterways Partnership. Oscar Bloom (Chair) and Mike Patchett (Deputy) attended the CWMS Zone Committee Triannual Reporting to the Christchurch City Council at their 11 December meeting. This update from the three committees (Christchurch West Melton, Banks Peninsula, Selwyn Waihora) focused on the outcomes of the CWMS Zone Committee Review initiated by the Canterbury Mayoral Forum. City Councillors expressed their expectation to be engaged on what local leadership group/s for the CWMS will be for Greater Christchurch.

Banks Peninsula Zone Committee		
Target Area	Focus of the Action Plan	Highlights of practical work underway
Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity Kaitiakitanga	Engage with community Supporting new and existing catchment groups Advocate for and be engaged in improved erosion and sediment control.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In October and November, the Banks Peninsula Zone Committee considered applications and made recommendations to Environment Canterbury to fund several local projects using its Action Plan Budget, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Predator control works ○ Environmental education and research ○ Protecting and enhancing sustainable biodiversity including planning and projects ○ Building capability and capacity • The first of six fundraising focussed workshops for Banks Peninsula groups was held on 2 December. The purpose of the workshop series is to build the capability and capacity of groups to meet their funding goals. Twelve groups/organisations attended. The workshop series is co-funded with Rātā Foundation and facilitated by the Fundraising Agency. • In December, the Committee had a fieldtrip to Wairewa/Little River to hear about the mahi being undertaken by Wairewa Rūnanga and Wairewa Mahinga Kai Catchment Group and learn about some of the issues in the catchment. This was followed by a BBQ with the catchment group to wrap up the year.

Selwyn-Waihora Zone Committee		
Target Area	Focus of the Action Plan	Highlights of practical work underway
<p>Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity</p> <p>Natural Character of Braided Rivers</p> <p>Kaitiakitanga</p>	<p>Raising awareness about the risks to private drinking water</p> <p>Catchment nutrient targets and water quality outcomes</p> <p>Enhance mahinga kai, recreation and amenity values</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In October and November, the Selwyn-Waihora Zone Committee, along with Selwyn District Council and Ellesmere Sustainable Agriculture Incorporated, co-hosted three well water testing events. The purpose of the events was to educate and raise awareness of nitrate levels in private water supplies, safe drinking water standards and associated risks such as bacterial contamination, responsibilities of private water suppliers around testing and maintenance, onsite wastewater management systems and solutions. Experts and suppliers supported the events to explain results and discuss solutions to bore issues. Over 140 samples were tested. • In September and October, the Committee considered and made recommendations to Environment Canterbury to put funding towards several local projects using its Action Plan Budget. Projects recommended support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Environmental education ○ Biodiversity protection and enhancement ○ Wetland restoration • In November, the Committee received a presentation from Enviro Collective with the purpose of sharing the work they undertake with their catchment communities and schemes to improve outcomes on farm and for the environment. • In November, the Committee received a presentation from Peter Langlands, Wild Capture Research on the Matuku-hūrepo/Australasian Bittern and the proposal to create additional wetland habitat near Te Waihora, specifically raupō, to increase their numbers. There may only be around 30 remaining in Canterbury. The links this project has with some ZCAP funded projects and the objectives of the Zone Committee and noted as being something that could be built on.

Ashburton Zone Committee		
Target Area	Focus of the Action Plan	Highlights of practical work underway
<p>Environmental Limits</p> <p>Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity</p>	<p>Improving ecosystem health and meeting biodiversity targets</p> <p>Supporting Hakatere / Ashburton River and its tributaries (including Carters Creek) and Hekeao Hinds</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In October, the Ashburton Zone Committee considered applications and made recommendations to Environment Canterbury to fund several local projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Biodiversity protection and enhancement, and improving freshwater outcomes ○ Predator control ○ Weed control and planting • In October and November, the Committee received updates from several catchment groups through the Mid Canterbury Catchment Collective and from the Whitecombe Landcare group. The updates highlighted the progress being made by each group to achieve their outcomes and support freshwater improvements. • In October, the Committee received a presentation from Environment Canterbury regarding the Hakatere/Ashburton River hāpua and its degraded state following a request from the Committee to provide an explanation as to how the degraded state was determined.

Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Zone Committee		
Target Area	Focus of the Action Plan	Highlights of practical work underway
<p>Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity</p> <p>Kaitiakitanga</p>	<p>Protection, enhancement and restoration of mahinga kai sites</p> <p>Focus on tuhituhi o neherā sites and mahinga kai and how best to manage these</p> <p>Host a field trip to Taniwha Gully</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Canterbury has one of the highest densities of Māori Rock Art Sites in Aotearoa with a total of 412 sites. There are hundreds of local drawings in the zone. • Under the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan (LWRP), farmers have a responsibility to protect Rock Art Sites and the wider freshwater ecosystems and mahinga kai values associated with them. • The Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Zone Committee funded a tour of the Taniwha Gully rock art site at Ōpihi on 15 October hosted by Te Ana Māori Rock Art. Attendees included farmers, consultants, museum staff, Arowhenua Nursery and interested locals. • The group learned about the history from Rachel Solomon (Kaiwhakahaere, Te Ana Rock Art Trust) and Amanda Symon (Archaeologist) and gained an appreciation of this taonga and how to protect it. Landowners can take advantage of free consultation from Te Ana Rock Art Trust to ensure farming activities do not negatively impact Rock Art Management Areas.

Upper Waitaki Zone Committee		
Target Area	Focus of the Action Plan	Highlights of practical work underway
<p>Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity</p> <p>Recreation and Amenity opportunities</p> <p>Kaitiakitanga</p>	<p>Support catchment groups taking collective action to reduce losses of contaminants, prioritised where they are addressing identified at-risk areas</p> <p>Explore opportunities to partner with key community groups who are focused on waterways, such as the Ahuriri Catchment Community Group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Upper Waitaki Zone Committee had a workshop on 18 October at which ECan presented on the most recent TLI monitoring for Lake Benmore and the Ahuriri catchment. This was a follow up from a presentation from consent holders in this catchment earlier in the year. • The Committee received an update from ECan on the Love our Lakes campaign for this summer and provided feedback on options and how it could support the campaign. • At its final 2024 meeting on 8 November the Committee received progress reports from Te Kete Tipuranga o Huirapa Ltd on the Twizel and Omarama biodiversity demonstration plots, and from Ōhau Conservation Trust on the Cultural Values Statement for Lake Middleton. Both projects will be further advanced in 2025 and report again to the Committee. • Updates were also received from three of the catchment groups in the Mackenzie Basin – Ahuriri Community Catchment Group, Omarama Stream Water Group, and the Wairepo Catchment Group. • The Environment Canterbury 2023-24 annual summary report of water quality monitoring for contact recreation was received with the Committee providing several points of feedback and follow up for its next meeting in February 2025. • The committee endorsed the recommendation to support the Pioneer Drive enhancement project that will be overseen by Lake Tekapo Recreational Park Incorporated. This leaves approximately \$8K available from the 2024/25 CWMS Action Plan Budget, with a project identified that the Committee could look to support in 2025. • In concluding the final meeting of the year, the Committee discussed what meaningful engagement it could do in early 2025, given the outcomes of the CWMS Zone Committee Review. It was agreed to write to the Chair of Waihao Rūnanga to express how much the Committee had valued the contributions of its current and former Waihao Rūnanga representatives, in response to the recent decision to not reappoint Waihao Rūnanga representatives on CWMS Committees.

Lower Waitaki Zone Committee		
Target Area	Focus of the Action Plan	Highlights of practical work underway
Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity Recreation and Amenity opportunities Kaitiakitanga Drinking Water	Increase engagement to support opportunities to improve water quality and quantity across the wider community, including with schools Educating, motivating and inspiring rural and urban communities, through the use of community events Engaging with communities to establish and support new and existing catchment and urban groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In December the Lower Waitaki Zone Committee hosted a stand at the Waimate Strawberry Fare to showcase the environmental protection and enhancement work being undertaken across the zone. They were joined by members of local catchment and community groups who had the opportunity to engage with the community and show what they have achieved. The stand also included interactive educational games for children.

Canterbury Chief Executives Forum

Date: 27 January 2025

Presented by: Hamish Dobbie, Chair Canterbury Policy Forum

Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan Year 1 implementation

Purpose

1. The purpose of this paper is to present an overview of the scope and approach of key actions 1, 2, & 4, of the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan and the first quarterly report.

Recommendations

That the Canterbury Chief Executives Forum:

1. **provide feedback on the implementation approach for key actions 1, 2 & 4**
2. **subject to any feedback provided through recommendation 1 above, endorse the scope and approach of key actions 1, 2 & 4 for recommendation to the next Mayoral Forum**
3. **agree to extend the completion date of action 4.1 from 30 June 2025 to 31 October 2025**
4. **note that advice on the repurposing of the Climate Action Planning Reference Group will be provided to the Canterbury Mayoral Forum's February meeting**
5. **receive the first quarterly Progress Report and budget summary.**

Background

2. The Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan (CCPP) was approved by the Canterbury Mayoral Forum (CMF) in August 2024. In response, the Canterbury Climate Change Working Group (CCWG) has started implementing the plan and has held one workshop and one meeting to initiate the delivery of Year 1 and key actions.
3. The CCPP identified four actions that are considered key actions because they are complex in scope, likely to be costly, and/or have a significant number of key stakeholders. These four actions can be summarised as:
 - a. Action 1: Develop a Canterbury-wide risk visualisation tool
 - b. Action 2: Build a regional low-emissions transition strategy
 - c. Action 3: Develop and implement a best practice approach to adaptation planning
 - d. Action 4: Develop a region-wide blue-green network

4. On 29th November 2024, the CMF agreed that the Canterbury Policy Forum (CPF) would be the initial approver for all CCPP actions. The Chief Executives Forum (CEF) and CMF are the second and final approvers respectively for decisions relating to key actions, outlined in paragraph 4 above.
5. On 16th December 2024, the Canterbury Policy Forum:
 - approved the implementation approaches for year 1 actions 4.1, 8.2, 9 and 10 as per the agreed sign off process
 - endorsed the scope and approach of key actions 1, 2 and 4 for recommendation to the next Chief Executives and Mayoral Forums
 - agreed to extend the completion date of action 4.1 from 30th June 2025 to 31st October 2025, and
 - received the first quarterly Progress Report and budget summary
 - appointed Jesse Burgess as convenor of the CCWG, replacing Tim Davies. Richard Mabon remains as deputy chair of the group.

Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan Implementation

Overall approach

6. Action 10 of the CCPP is to assemble and coordinate an implementation team to ensure the successful delivery and implementation of the CCPP. This action has been completed and an overview of the implementation team structure is provided in Attachment 1.
7. The Climate Change Working Group (CCWG) will form the core subject matter experts, with overall project management and administrative support from the CCWG and CMF Secretariats. Project management and delivery of individual actions is shared between councils as agreed previously and summarised in Attachment 1.
8. Action leads are in the process of identifying sub-groups to utilise technical expertise as and when required to deliver the actions.
9. A full project plan will be presented at the March 2025 CPF and May 2025 CEF and CMF meetings for information.
10. The status of the Canterbury Climate Action Planning Reference Group was discussed by the Chief Executives Forum in October 2024. The outcome was to seek advice on its continuance from the CMF, which may wish to consider repurposing the Climate Action Planning Reference Group.
11. Further advice related to this will be provided to the CMF at the February 2025 meeting. Advice will highlight that governance arrangements for the implementation of the CCPP

are already in place, therefore there would be no need for operational or governance decision making by this group. Staff anticipate that the main purpose of the group would be to continue to champion collaborative climate action in Canterbury across their councils and could receive updates via a biannual meeting.

Year 1 actions and key actions

12. Action leads have developed implementation overviews detailing the scope and approach of year 1 and key actions. These have been reviewed and endorsed by the CPF and the CCWG is now seeking feedback and approval from the CEF and CMF on key actions 1, 2 and 4 (Attachments 2 - 5).
13. The scope and approach for Action 3 (adaptation planning) will be brought to the CEF and CMF either at the May meetings or through an out-of-cycle email communication. Hurunui District Council is leading this action and has been in the process of recruiting new staff, who will be responsible for scoping and then leading this work. A new staff member has recently started. Work on scoping this action will commence in early 2025.
14. A small change to the timeframe is sought for action 4.1 (from June 2025 to October 2025). As noted in the implementation overview for this action, this is to align the approval process for a robust deliverable with regional forums meeting dates.

CCPP Budget

15. When the CCPP was approved in August 2024, an overall budget of \$1,471,332 was identified and contributions set aside in council LTPs to deliver the Plan's 10 actions over the next three years. Environment Canterbury is the administrator of this budget and has now received relevant year 1 contributions from all councils.
16. The budget for year 1 for all actions was advised as \$190,140 (incl GST). At the time of the plan's approval, this funding had been estimated across the relevant actions based on indicative resourcing requirements for each action.
17. However, many of the year 1 actions will include procuring reports or information and the resourcing requirements for these actions are still uncertain at this stage. The market for these services has not yet been tested, therefore some of the indicative budgets for various actions may need to be modified (within the total budget available) in the coming months to account for these matters.
18. To ensure the efficient delivery of these actions within the overall year 1 budget, the Convenor of the Climate Change Working Group will hold responsibility for making any amendments to how the agreed total budget might be shared across the actions during year 1.
19. The CPF will receive updates on the budgets as part of each quarterly update. The first progress report, including financial information, is included in Attachments 6 - 7.

Cost, compliance and communication

Financial implications

20. There are no financial implications for the recommendations provided in this paper.

Risk assessment and legal compliance

21. No legal compliance risks have been identified for the recommendations provided in this paper.

Next steps

22. The CCWG will amend the approach of key actions as per feedback from the CEF/CMF and proceed with the implementation of year 1 actions and initiation of other actions.

23. Approval from the CMF will be sought on key actions 1, 2 and 4 at the February 2025 meeting.

24. Advice on the repurposing of the Climate Action Planning Reference Group will be provided to the CMF at their February meeting.

25. A full project plan, implementation overviews for actions 3-8 and the second quarterly report will be presented to the March 2025 CPF.

Attachments

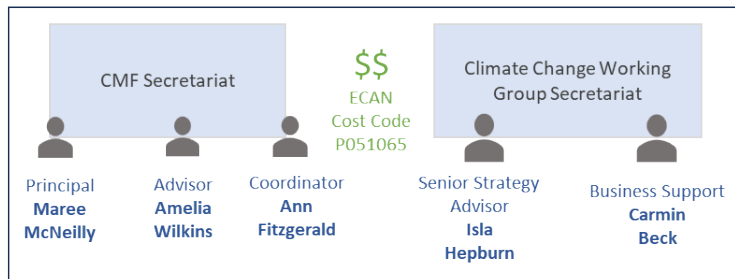
- Attachment 1 - CCPP Implementation team structure (action 10)
- Attachments 2 - 5 - Implementation overviews for actions 1, 2, & 4
- Attachment 6 - Quarterly Progress Report 1 (September – November 2024)
- Attachment 7 - CCPP Implementation Finances

Attachment 1

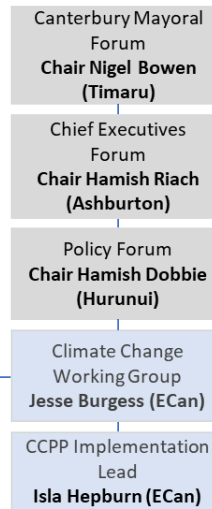
Action 10 CCPP Implementation Team

NB Continuation of CAP Reference Group subject to CMF decision 2025

CAP Reference Group



GOVERNANCE



REPORTING

CMF & CEF

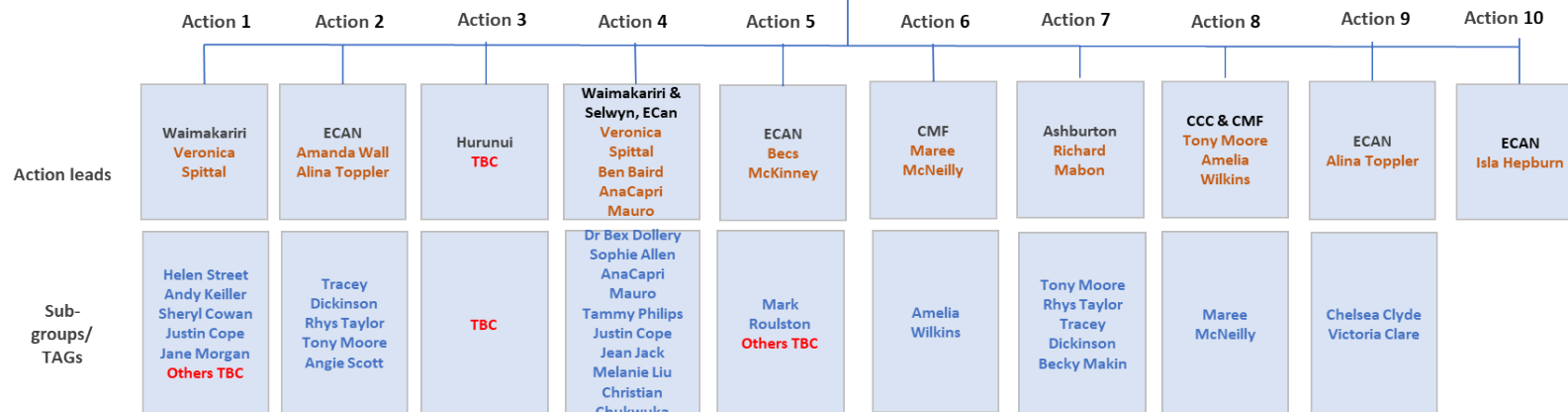
- Quarterly progress reports
- Decisions on key actions (1-4)

CPF

- Quarterly updates
- Decisions on non-key actions (5-10)

CCWG – implementation & action leads

- Draft briefing papers, progress reports



Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan (CCPP)



Implementation overview for Canterbury Policy Forum

ACTION NAME	1. Understanding climate risk and improving resilience 1.1 Scope and develop a canterbury-wide visualisation tool for use by councils to support climate adaptation and resilience planning	KEY ACTION
PROJECT TEAM Roles and Responsibilities	<p>Action Lead: Veronica Spittal - Principal Policy Analyst Climate Change & Sustainability - Waimakariri District Council</p> <p>Project Team: Helen Street - Corporate Planner Gordon Tupper - Information Services Manager - Ashburton District Council (to be confirmed) Other members – ECan science team (to be confirmed)</p> <p>Project Advisors: Andy Keiller - Chief Information Officer - information & technology services - Waimakariri District Council Sheryl Cowan - Geospatial Team Leader - Waimakariri District Council Jane Morgan - Coastal Hazards Team Leader - Christchurch City Council</p>	

SCOPE & APPROACH	<p>Description This project aims to scope and deliver a shared online spatial tool that will enable a consistent regional approach to understanding natural hazard risk and how different climate scenarios might exacerbate this over time. Councils will be able to use the tool for evidence-based decision making around infrastructure provision, levels of service and standards, land-use planning, community climate adaptation and resilience planning and CDEM functions.</p> <p>Scope Initially the tool will be developed for in-house use, including use for storytelling at public meetings, but the longer-term intention would be to provide stakeholder and public accessibility to some data layers. A detailed scope for the product will be determined in consultation with the proposed users.</p> <p>Approach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm project team and project plan. • Identify individual council requirements and use cases. • Investigate opportunities to leverage work of other council’s and Te Uru Kahika in spatial tool development. • Reach agreement on project scope including delivery approach, procurement process, governance arrangements, contractual approach, minimal viable product (MVP). • Complete regional gap analysis, including inventory of available datasets and assessment of the quality of these datasets. • Reach agreement on the baseline datasets needed to deliver outcomes and data standards (including creating these where they don’t already exist). • Prepare a detailed project scope and undertake procurement process to identify and secure suitable IT solution. • Conduct legal review of supplier contract. 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Council partnership agreement. • Solution provider to manage the collation of data from each council in an agreed format, including blue-green network data from actions 4.1 and 4.2 (pending decision on tool to use for this project), and appropriate national data. • Identify key gaps in data and a plan for filling these. • Carry out user group training and testing of tool and identification of data gaps. • General roll out of tool across councils. 												
KEY DELIVERABLES & TIMEFRAMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm project team and project plan - by 20 December 2024 • Identify individual Council requirements - by 28 February 2025 • Complete regional gap analysis/data inventory - by 30 April 2025 • Sign-off project scope/request for proposal document - by 30 June 2025 • Complete legal review of contract and sign Council partnership agreement - by 30 September 2025 • Procure system - by 20 December 2025 • Populate tool with data - by 30 June 2026 • Carry out user training and roll tool out within councils - by 1 July 2026 • Ongoing development, maintenance and licensing - July 2026 onwards 												
BUDGET	<p>Total project budget provided in Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan is \$520k</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="384 875 1426 1099"> <thead> <tr> <th>Sub- actions</th> <th>2024/25</th> <th>2025/26</th> <th>2026/27</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1.1</td> <td>Initiate (In-kind)</td> <td>Execute & complete (\$450k)</td> <td>Maintenance & licensing (\$70k)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>\$0</td> <td>\$450k</td> <td>\$70k</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Sub- actions	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	1.1	Initiate (In-kind)	Execute & complete (\$450k)	Maintenance & licensing (\$70k)	Total	\$0	\$450k	\$70k
Sub- actions	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27										
1.1	Initiate (In-kind)	Execute & complete (\$450k)	Maintenance & licensing (\$70k)										
Total	\$0	\$450k	\$70k										
GOVERNANCE Who signs off?	CEF/CMF												
PARTNERS AND STAKEHOLDERS	<p>Internal users - Council CDEM, natural hazard, climate resilience, GIS staff and asset managers</p> <p>Potential external users - Ngāi Tahu and hapū, Canterbury Lifelines Group</p> <p>External data providers - NIWA, MfE, GNS/SeaRise Programme, NEMA, EQC, FENZ, Landcare Research</p>												
RISKS & MITIGATION	<p>Confirmation of action - the Christchurch City Council’s existing commitment to the Resilience Explorer portal provided by Urban Intelligence will make it impossible to deliver a single regional tool if a different product is procured. Waimakariri District Council has also significantly invested in Resilience Explorer to date. Some of the smaller councils have recently indicated the ongoing licensing cost of Resilience Explorer is prohibitive for them and they are exploring the development of GIS data layers in-house which may be sufficient to meet their needs. ECan may have the desire/inhouse capability to use a more powerful tool such as RiskScape to inform their work but local authorities will struggle to have the technical capability to use this product. There are also other discussions currently being held at a regional level for the development of a national tool, but this could be some years away. Commitment to proceeding with scoping this action at this time needs to be reconfirmed before proceeding much further.</p> <p>Available budget - the tool will require a sizeable investment on an ongoing basis to provide a consistent approach across the region. Insufficient budget has been provided in the CCPP 2026/27 budget for the tool to continue to be licensed and Councils may not have</p>												

the funding to individually maintain and develop the tool on an ongoing basis. It may therefore need to be funded through regional rates.

Limited number of suppliers - this may impact the price, quality and durability of the product. The Government may become a supplier of a national tool within the next five years of a higher quality and at less cost to councils. This is not guaranteed and there is a gap in the meantime.

Data access and consistency - there may be some reluctance for individual councils to share data due to security and data quality concerns. Some existing data and associated quality/methodologies may differ and require explanation or recalibration to an agreed set of standards.

Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan (CCPP)



Implementation overview for Canterbury Policy Forum

ACTION NAME	<p>Action 2: Emissions Reduction</p> <p>Work together across the region to build equitable, inclusive pathways, targets, and key actions to support New Zealand’s commitments towards global greenhouse gas emissions reduction</p>	KEY ACTION
PROJECT TEAM	Project Leads: Amanda Wall (full project); Alina Toppler (sub-action 2.1)	
Roles and Responsibilities	Project Team: Tracey Dickinson (Ashburton), Rhys Taylor (Timaru), Tony Moore (Christchurch), Jesse Burgess (Environment Canterbury) – provide feedback on scope, input into deliverables as capacity allows.	

SCOPE & APPROACH	<p>PURPOSE</p> <p>Achieving our greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets will require enduring, transformational action by and with local government, central government, mana whenua, businesses and communities. These actors need to see bold emissions reduction as achievable, and as something that will deliver significant benefits and opportunities for our region.</p> <p>Transitioning to a low-emissions future will require ongoing and sustained action beyond the three-year timeframe of this project, so it is important that the project sets this up well by building relationships, securing cross-regional leadership support for the work, and facilitating real action. It will also require urgency – to meet 2050 net zero commitments, achieving significant emissions reductions over the next decade is critical.</p> <p>Over the next three years this project will develop, alongside partners and stakeholders, a compelling pathway, value case and narrative to build alignment around opportunities in and drive key decisions across the region to support and invest in the changes needed to deliver the transition to a low-emissions future.</p> <p>To deliver a transition strategy by mid-2027, the emissions reduction action in the Partnership Plan is broken down into three sub-actions, to be completed over the lifespan of the project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-action 2.1: collate data and develop models to prepare greenhouse gas emissions inventories and identify emissions pathways for Canterbury to support New Zealand’s greenhouse gas commitments • Sub-action 2.2: based on the emissions pathways identified for Canterbury, undertake a regional transition risk and opportunities assessment, considering social, cultural, environmental and economic impacts, to inform an equitable and inclusive transition to a low-emissions region • Sub-action 2.3: work with partners, communities, and key stakeholders to build a regional low-emissions transition strategy that supports equitable, inclusive local pathways to a thriving, climate-resilient region meeting emissions reductions targets.
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APPROACH

To achieve each of these sub-actions, the approach is to follow these steps:

Stage 1 (mid-2024 to mid-2025):

- trial and gain approval on the IT solution that will deliver the project's data, modelling and reporting needs (sub-action 2.1)
- develop a strategic overview and identify key transition opportunities (preparation for sub-actions 2.2 and 2.3)
- confirm scope for remainder of project (preparation for sub-action 2.2 and 2.3)

Stage 2 (mid-2025 to mid-2026):

- model transition pathways and opportunities (sub-action 2.1)
- complete regional transition risk and opportunities assessment (including assessing social, cultural, environmental and economic impacts of scenarios and interventions) (sub-action 2.2)
- update the Environment Canterbury GHG inventory and publish its key findings (sub-action 2.2)
- initiate action planning for transition strategy (preparation for sub-action 2.3)

Stage 3 (mid 2026 to mid-2027):

- draft transition strategy for 2027 LTPs with partners and stakeholders, setting out equitable and inclusive pathways, goals and actions (sub-action 2.3).

The details of Stages 2 and 3, including partner and stakeholder engagement and updated risks, connectivities and dependencies, will be set out in the confirmed scope to be developed at the end of Stage 1.

SCOPE

The scope of the full project covers:

- GHG emissions and sequestration in the Canterbury region, and Canterbury districts, that is accounted for as part of New Zealand's national GHG commitments – with a priority on gross emission reduction (including sector modelling and data)
- IT tools to deliver a GHG emissions reduction pathway model, inventory data inputs for this model, user interface/s for strategy and policy practitioners to use the inventory and model, and publication of key outputs
- council actions and potential partnerships with mana whenua and industry for region-wide emissions reduction
- alignment with and support for the values, goals and actions in Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu climate plan, Te Kōunga Paparangi
- emissions reduction pathways for the Canterbury region (with the model configured to provide district-level pathways for individual councils as desired)
- identification of key opportunities (and risks) for GHG reduction across Canterbury (and where relevant, inter-regionally and across the wider South Island), including actors involved and mana whenua interest
- wider benefits of opportunities and interventions e.g., economic, social, environmental, including how these relate to mana whenua priorities

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • national emissions reduction targets (with the potential for key performance indicators to drive performance towards these). <p>Out of scope are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • integration of GHG management across ECan science functions • organisational GHGs (i.e. inventories and pathways for Councils’ own emissions) • GHG assessment tools to support individual Council teams (e.g. consents, construction and procurement) • impacts of successful vs unsuccessful global GHG emissions reduction (e.g. RCP 2.5 vs RCP 6.5) • sequestration that is not part of New Zealand’s GHG accounting, e.g. biodiversity management • implementation of the recommended emission reduction actions (the strategy will set out the agreed goals and actions; the implementation of these will be a next phase for the project) • setting new regional or district emissions reduction targets. <p>DEPENDENCIES AND CONNECTIVITIES</p> <p>The approach to this project is dependent on a range of variables and other connected work programmes.</p> <p>The approach to undertaking the steps in Stages 2 and 3 above (including engagement) is somewhat dependent on the outcomes of the Strategic Overview and identification of key transition opportunities, as well as the IT solution chosen to deliver the project’s data, modelling and reporting.</p> <p>The work will also connect in with building the evidence base for the integrated Canterbury Regional Plan, and the development of the Canterbury regional energy inventory.</p> <p>Key dependencies include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • integration between delivery of the strategy and the development of 2027-37 long term plans so that the project delivers a comprehensive and regionally-agreed action plan • central government climate policies and actions, including the next Emissions Reduction Plan, emissions targets and budgets as this will impact pathway assumptions, available levers to reduce emissions, and the viability of potential key actions in the strategy • provision of underpinning air science data and technical advice from Environment Canterbury to support scenarios, analysis, modelling and monitoring during the project and development of the strategy and action plan • development of a revised Canterbury Regional Policy Statement • regional transport planning decisions over the life of the project • the potential (or not) for the Local Emissions Data Platform Initiative (LEDPI) to be the IT platform that will deliver the project’s modelling and reporting.
<p>KEY DELIVERABLES & TIMEFRAMES</p>	<p>Project Year 1 deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Overview report identifying key transition opportunities • report recommending the tool the project will use to assess, model and report on emissions pathways

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scope for Stage 2 and 3 of project <p><i>Timeframes for Year 1 deliverables:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • drafts to Policy Forum: June 2025 • deliverables to Chief Executives Forum: July 2025 • deliverables for final endorsement to Mayoral Forum: August 2025 <p>Intended deliverables for remainder of project (to be confirmed as part of scope for Stages 2-3):</p> <p>Stage 2: update emissions inventory data and report on transition pathways and opportunities, complete regional transition risk and opportunities assessment, and develop draft indicative actions for transition strategy</p> <p>Stage 3: finalise transition strategy and actions for inclusion in 2027 LTPs, and launch strategy and action plan and publish evidence base</p>
BUDGET	<p>Budget for Stage 1: Staff in-kind resourcing (action leads and support from subgroup members).</p> <p>There is up to \$80k (made up of contributions from the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan and Environment Canterbury CAP budgets) ear-marked for Year 1 – this is subject to a procurement process/testing the market, but intended to be used to fulfil parts of the first 2 deliverables. It could include procuring reports for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identifying emissions reduction barriers and opportunities in sectors of high interest to councils • evaluating available tools for emissions reductions pathways modelling, assessment and reporting (including LEDPI) • mana whenua perspectives and ensuring the approach taken to drafting a transition strategy adequately addressed Te Tiriti and is undertaken with a Te Ao Māori and mātauranga Māori lens <p>Budget for Stages 2-3: Budget for stages 2 and 3 of the project will be outlined in the scope that will be developed as part of the deliverables for Stage 1.</p>
GOVERNANCE Who signs off?	<p>Canterbury Policy Forum: provides feedback and endorsement on project scope and direction, and reviews draft deliverables prior to these going to the Chief Executives Forum.</p> <p>Chief Executives Forum: reviews and approves deliverables being provided for endorsement/approval by the Canterbury Mayoral Forum.</p> <p>Canterbury Mayoral Forum provides final sign-off as Partnership Plan governors.</p> <p>Environment Canterbury council to receive updates as this action is also an action in its Climate Action Plan.</p>
PARTNERS AND STAKEHOLDERS	<p>Partners and stakeholders relevant to the project include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mana whenua • Canterbury councils

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actors in key emissions industries <p>As Stage 1 of the project is about scene-setting and information-gathering, engagement will largely be limited to knowledge-holders at councils (primarily through the Climate Change Working Group) and building connections with mana whenua.</p> <p>Actors in key emissions industries (agriculture, energy, waste, transport) will be identified through the Strategic Overview report in preparation for targeted engagement in Stage 2 as the draft indicative actions are developed.</p> <p>The scope for Stages 2 and 3 of the project will outline the engagement approach with partners and stakeholders for the remainder of the project.</p>	
RISKS & MITIGATION	Risk	Mitigation
	Lack of buy-in for GHG emissions reduction by some industries, government, councils and communities could mean that individual councils and actors do not agree to invest in transition actions	Provide a compelling narrative that focuses on opportunities and co-benefits so the case is not based on GHGs alone. Take a united, region-wide approach under CCPP to help gain traction with individual councils and key industry actors
	If this project is not able to drive action by key decision-makers, it will have limited impact, and Canterbury is unlikely to successfully achieve local and national emissions reduction commitments.	As part of the first stage, identify key actors and decision-makers for ongoing engagement.
	Sufficient data on the emission reduction, costs and benefits of specific interventions may not be available to develop a compelling value case for investment. This could undermine worthwhile climate actions.	Use best available information and clearly state limitations and assumptions.
	Internal resourcing is likely to be insufficient to deliver the level of engagement that would be desirable to deliver this project.	This project proposes to take a highly targeted approach for engagement that focuses on agreeing strategic direction with governors. This will be considered as part of the scoping of the project for Years 2 and 3.
	<p>If the pathways modelling tool is not able to assess all interventions in enough detail, then this will limit its ability to assess GHG impacts to support decision-making.</p> <p>The tool is likely to give outputs that are less precise, or accurate, than existing sector-specific models in use by other Council work programmes – resulting in reduced quality and perceived credibility of advice.</p>	Complement the pathways modelling tool with other analysis, sector-specific modelling, and engagement, so decision-making for GHG impact is not wholly reliant on its outputs. Use the best available information and clearly state its purpose, outcomes, limitations and assumptions.

	<p>If LEDPI is not the tool of choice, this project cannot rely on LEDPI to deliver model configuration, data loading, or development of a user-friendly interface for internal users and external publication. All of these steps will need to be completed as part of delivery of the preferred model, which may result in increased budget and FTE requirements for the project.</p>	<p>Consider budget and resourcing impacts of different tools as part of the criteria for IT solution scoping.</p>
	<p>If Canterbury Councils commission their own GHG inventories or pathway models for their district, there are likely to be significant differences in their outputs, leading to reduced perception of credibility. It will also result in unnecessary Council spending.</p>	<p>Delivery by CCWG Transition Action subgroup, with regular engagement with CCWG, to ensure the approach meets all councils' needs for GHG inventory and pathway modelling.</p>

Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan (CCPP)



A strong regional economy with resilient, connected communities and a better quality of life, for all.

Implementation overview for Canterbury Policy Forum

ACTION NAME	4. Nature-based solutions 4.2 Develop a blue-green network plan for Canterbury and accompanying guidance to support locally-led implementation (including delivering on sub-actions 4.2a, 4.2b and 4.2c)	KEY ACTION
PROJECT TEAM Roles and Responsibilities	<p>Action Leads: Veronica Spittal - Principal Policy Analyst Climate Change & Sustainability - WDC, Ben Baird - Head of Strategy and Policy, SDC</p> <p>Project Team: Dr Bex Dollery - Ecologist - Acting Biodiversity Team Leader – Waimakariri District Council Sophie Allen - Water Environment Advisor 3 Waters - Waimakariri District Council AnaCapri Mauro - Strategy Advisor - Climate Change and Community Resilience - ECan Tammy Philips - Senior Strategy Advisor - ECan Melanie Liu – Infrastructure Resilience Manager – Waimakariri District Council Christian Chukwuka – Ashburton District Council</p>	

SCOPE & APPROACH	<p>Description - This project facilitates all Canterbury Councils and other key partners working together to develop a cohesive spatial plan and guidelines for a region wide blue-green network, providing nature-based solutions to reduce the effects of climate change on people, infrastructure and ecosystems. It has the co-benefit of addressing the significant biodiversity loss the region is facing by protecting and restoring indigenous biodiversity.</p> <p>Scope An ecosystem-service approach (which includes valuing the co-benefits identified in the blue-green network business case) will be taken when considering terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems located on publicly owned land between the mountains and the sea. Estuaries, coastal wetlands, foreshore and dunes are included but other marine environments seaward of MLWS are excluded. Indigenous biodiversity will be prioritised, while recognising the secondary role exotic species play in supporting indigenous flora and fauna, including highly mobile species. Consideration will be given to private land which have SNAs/QEII Trust Covenants located on them and sites that may form a vital strategic link in the network.</p> <p>Initiate project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with the Greater Christchurch Partnership team re maximising synergies between this action in the GCP Spatial Plan and the CCPP. • Confirm project team and complete detailed project plan. <p>Background research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct literature review for best practice guidance and examples and identify need/specific requirements for additional guidance. • Complete regional inventory of relevant information such as Iwi Management Plans, environment and climate strategies, blue-green network plans, progress and opportunities. • Investigate options for the primary spatial data operating system and procure/develop spatial tool (there is a possibility the same tool developed in action 1.1 could be used for this project). • Map existing BGN information on spatial tool, including indigenous biodiversity and ecosystem values, land ownership (TA, Crown), soil types, water catchments and natural hazard and climate information. • Map natural ecosystem climate risk and vulnerability data from action 4.1 on spatial tool. 	
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	<p>Develop blue-green network plan for Canterbury</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procure consultant to prepare a strategic framework for a BGN. This includes collaboratively working with partners and key stakeholders, particularly the Greater Christchurch Partnership, to agree on desired outcomes, principles and objectives. • Consultant to conduct a gap analysis of existing and proposed network opportunities to inform the development of a BGN spatial plan, identifying priority locations for implementation, and integrating the results of action 4.1. • Obtain signoff of strategic framework and spatial plan from participating local authorities. • Initiate public consultation process. • Obtain final sign-off from CMF. 																														
<p>KEY DELIVERABLES & TIMEFRAMES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm project plan - by 20 December 2024 • Complete literature review - by 30 June 2025 • Complete regional inventory - by 30 June 2025 • Procure or develop spatial tool - by December 2025 • Populate spatial tool with existing BGN information - by 30 June 2026 • Populate spatial tool with climate risk and vulnerability data from action 4.1 (by Dec2025) • Procure consultant services - by 31 July 2026 • Complete BGN strategic framework - by 20 December 2026 • Complete draft Canterbury-wide BGN spatial plan - by 30 June 2027 • Complete public consultation process - by 30 September 2027 • Finalise strategic framework and spatial plan - by 20 December 2027 • Complete any additional BGN implementation guidance required - by 20 December 2027 • Obtain final sign-off from CMF - first meeting in 2028 																														
<p>BUDGET</p>	<p>Total project budget provided in Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan is \$490k.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="389 1196 1315 1563"> <thead> <tr> <th>Sub- actions</th> <th>2024/25</th> <th>2025/26</th> <th>2026/27</th> <th>2027/28</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>4.2</td> <td></td> <td>\$150k</td> <td>\$190k</td> <td>Complete</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4.2a</td> <td>In kind</td> <td>\$20k</td> <td>\$50k</td> <td>Complete</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4.2b</td> <td>In kind</td> <td>In kind</td> <td>In kind</td> <td>Ongoing/ In kind</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4.2c</td> <td></td> <td>In kind</td> <td>\$80K</td> <td>Ongoing/ In kind</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>\$0</td> <td>\$170k</td> <td>\$320k</td> <td>\$0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Sub- actions	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	4.2		\$150k	\$190k	Complete	4.2a	In kind	\$20k	\$50k	Complete	4.2b	In kind	In kind	In kind	Ongoing/ In kind	4.2c		In kind	\$80K	Ongoing/ In kind	Total	\$0	\$170k	\$320k	\$0
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4.2		\$150k	\$190k	Complete																											
4.2a	In kind	\$20k	\$50k	Complete																											
4.2b	In kind	In kind	In kind	Ongoing/ In kind																											
4.2c		In kind	\$80K	Ongoing/ In kind																											
Total	\$0	\$170k	\$320k	\$0																											
<p>GOVERNANCE Who signs off?</p>	<p>This is a key action 4 therefore the CPF is in the initial approver and CEF, CMF the second and third approvers respectively.</p>																														
<p>PARTNERS AND STAKEHOLDERS</p>	<p>Canterbury councils, Environment Canterbury, Greater Christchurch Partnership, Ngāi Tahu and Papatipu Rūnanga, community boards and residents’ groups, Department of Conservation, Ministry for the Environment, Landcare Research, Lincoln and Canterbury universities, environmental groups, local drainage advisory groups, Water Zone committees, SNA/QEII Trust private landowners.</p>																														

<p>RISKS & MITIGATION</p>	<p>Duplication of effort - compiling a comprehensive regional inventory of existing and planned work is a crucial step in minimising the risk of this occurring.</p> <p>Lack of project management resources - the business case recommended a project manager be appointed due to the large scale and complexity of this project, but available funding was not sufficient for this. Using limited 'in kind' project management resources could delay progress at times. The project team will need to be a 'working' group.</p> <p>Obtaining data - Some areas may have better data to inform the project than others. The spatial plan will therefore need to take a high-level approach with specific investigations carried out as part of local implementation processes.</p> <p>Lack of funding for implementation at a local level - Some identified work may already be funded but other priorities for implementation will need to be considered by individual councils as part of their 2027 LTP planning processes.</p>
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Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan (CCPP)



Implementation overview for Canterbury Policy Forum

ACTION NAME	Sub-action 4.1: Develop a Canterbury-wide natural ecosystem climate change risk and vulnerability assessment.	KEY ACTION	Yes
PROJECT TEAM	Action Lead: AnaCapri Mauro – Environment Canterbury		
Roles and Responsibilities	<p>Project Team: Veronica Spittal, Dr Bex Dollery, Sophie Allen, Melanie Liu – Waimakariri District Council, Christian Chukwuka – Ashburton District Council</p> <p>Technical Review Support: Alex Morgan, Verity Halkett, Justin Cope – Environment Canterbury</p> <p>Pending: Ben Baird – Selwyn District Council, Acting Head of Strategy and Policy</p>		

SCOPE & APPROACH	<p>Description: This sub-action sits as a part of <i>Action 4: Nature-based solutions</i> and serves as a key part of the evidence base for sub-action 4.2, which seeks to develop a blue-green network plan for Waitaha Canterbury. The climate change risk and vulnerability assessment will provide a spatial and narrative understanding of which ecosystems in the region may be more exposed to climate change impacts and their ability to cope with these changes under different climate scenarios. The data and analysis gained from this process will aid in the decision-making and prioritisation processes that will be needed during the development of the blue-green network plan.</p> <p>Scope: For this first iteration of an ecosystem risk and vulnerability assessment, the focus will be on terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems (including freshwater and estuarine ecosystems) and will exclude marine ecosystems. The assessment will gather and analyse data such as land cover, biodiversity, and climate hazards, with additional criteria for sensitivity and adaptive capacity metrics, to assess and display spatially explicit risk and vulnerability considerations for Waitaha Canterbury ecosystems based on projected climate change impacts. These data will be mapped and analysed under current and future time horizons (mid- and late-century) and two different climate scenarios (intermediate greenhouse gas emissions, SSP2.5-4, and high emissions, SSP3-7). Considerations will be made for the exposure, sensitivity, and adaptive capacity of these ecosystems. A comprehensive species-specific review outside the scope of this assessment, though some species-level data will likely be used to evaluate the sensitivity and adaptive capacity of a whole ecosystem.</p> <p>The specific methodology used for this assessment, as well as the exact outputs, will be determined through the procurement process. The project team notes that the Ecological Impact Assessment guidelines from the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand may provide a helpful baseline.</p>						
KEY DELIVERABLES & TIMEFRAMES	<p>This project is set to be completed by 30 June 2025. As outlined in the Risks and Mitigation section, this timeframe is a key risk. Below are two options.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Current timeframe</th> <th>Suggested timeframe</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project scope and approach – by 20 December 2024 </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project scope and approach – by 14 February 2025 </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Current timeframe	Suggested timeframe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project scope and approach – by 20 December 2024 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project scope and approach – by 14 February 2025
Current timeframe	Suggested timeframe						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project scope and approach – by 20 December 2024 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project scope and approach – by 14 February 2025 						

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collation of existing ecosystem climate change risk and vulnerability data, including spatial data – by 20 December 2024 • Literature review – by 20 December 2024 • Request for Proposals prepared – by 20 December 2024 • New/additional data procured [if needed] – by 31 March 2025 • Final deliverables for the region-wide climate change risk and vulnerability assessment for ecosystems due – 30 June 2025 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collation of existing ecosystem climate change risk and vulnerability data, including spatial data – by 14 February 2025 • Literature review – by 14 February 2025 • Request for Proposals prepared – by 14 February 2025 • New/additional data procured [if needed] – by 30 April 2025 • Final deliverables for the region-wide climate change risk and vulnerability assessment for ecosystems due – 17 October 	
BUDGET	Project budget provided in the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan: \$100k		
	Resourcing	Cost	Note
	Environment Canterbury staff member: 0.4FTE	In kind	Climate Change & Community Resilience Team
	Other Council staff: 0.2FTE	In kind	Project team contribution
	Other Council staff: 0.1FTE	In kind	Review, input, advise
	Consultant	\$100k	Subject to procurement process
GOVERNANCE Who signs off?	This is a sub-action of key action 4 therefore the CPF is in the initial approver and CEF, CMF the second and third approvers respectively.		
PARTNERS AND STAKEHOLDERS	Canterbury Councils, Environment Canterbury, Ngāi Tahu, ngā papatipu rūnanga, Department of Conservation, Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research, Biodiversity Champions group, Biodiversity Officers group (TLA biodiversity hui), local universities.		
RISKS & MITIGATION	Risk	Mitigation	
	Short timeframe leading to incomplete or unusable result	This project will be broken down into individual parts with clear deadlines for each small deliverable. With regional forum processes, it will be challenging to have everything completed by June 2025. With action 4.2 depending on the quality of this assessment, it is important to have a usable deliverable, rather than a fast and incomplete one. It is therefore recommended that the deadline for this project be pushed out to October 2025. This will not impact the delivery of 4.2.	
	Duplication of efforts	Taking the time to conduct a thorough literature review and stocktake of spatial data prior to procurement will be critical, as well as ongoing stakeholder engagement.	
	Data – content, access, consistency, completeness	Producing a stocktake and gap analysis of the available data will help mitigate this, as well as using Council GIS and Science team resources to confirm data robustness and advise on gaps or inconsistencies. Technical input from biodiversity experts, including DOC, to enhance local biodiversity data will also be important.	

	Incompatibility with future regional database	Any spatial outputs from this assessment will also be available as GIS layers to ensure widespread compatibility with this future database.
	Gaps identified, but insufficient funding to address	This is the first iteration of this assessment and there will inevitably be data gaps that we are unable to fill. The final report will be clear about what these gaps are and how they may influence the decision making and/or prioritisation processes for dependent projects. The final report will include suggestions for future iterations.

Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan Implementation Plan Progress Report

Quarter 2: September-December 2024 - Progress Report #1

NB the action wording has been summarised. For a full account of the actions, please refer to page 42 of the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan

Action theme		Primary action	Sub-actions	Lead	Scope, Budget, Timeframes	Commentary	Risks
1	Understanding Climate Risks and Improving Resilience	Understand climate hazards and risks in Canterbury to support evidence-based decision making and improve regional resilience.	Sub-action 1.1 Risk visualisation tool	Waimakariri District Council	On track	Implementation overview completed for feedback by CPF December 2024.	
			Sub-action 1.2 Climate change risk and urgency assessment	Environment Canterbury	On track	Work to begin Year 4 onwards	
2	Emissions reduction	Work together across the region to build equitable, inclusive pathways, targets, and key actions to support New Zealand's commitments towards global greenhouse gas emissions reduction.	Sub-action 2.1 Develop carbon inventories and identify transition pathways	Environment Canterbury	On track		
			Sub-action 2.2 Regional transition risk and opportunities assessment	Environment Canterbury		Work to begin Year 2	
			Sub-action 2.3 Regional low emissions transition strategy	Environment Canterbury		Work to begin Year 2.	
3	Adaptation planning	Support best practice approaches for local adaptation planning with communities	Sub-action 3.1 Best practice approach for adaptation planning and implementation by councils in Canterbury	Hurunui District Council		Not started due to staff vacancy at Hurunui District Council.	
4	Nature Based Solutions	Facilitate the development of a Canterbury blue-green network to increase natural capital, indigenous biodiversity and offer nature-based solutions to climate change effects.	Sub-action 4.1 Ecosystem climate change risk and vulnerability assessment	Environment Canterbury	On track		
			Sub-action 4.2 Blue-green network plan for Canterbury	Waimakariri & Selwyn District Council co-leading		Work to begin in Year 2.	
			Sub-action 4.2a Collaborate with key stakeholders to provide guidance on blue-green infrastructure placement and hazard resilience investment	Waimakariri & Selwyn District Council co-leading	On track	Stakeholder identification underway. Initial conversations started.	
			Sub-action 4.2b Collaborate and align with Greater Christchurch Partnership and key stakeholders to deliver a blue-green network	Waimakariri & Selwyn District Council co-leading	On track	Initial conversations held between co-leads, and GCP staff.	
			Sub-action 4.2c Investigate the feasibility of establishing blue-green infrastructure on council-owned land	All councils		Work to begin in Year 2.	
5	Climate Change Education and Advocacy	Support community understanding about the local impacts of climate change and promote individual and collective climate action.	Sub-action 5.1 Continue to develop the "It's Time, Canterbury" initiative	Environment Canterbury	On track	Implementation overview to be presented to CPF in March 2025.	
			Sub-action 5.2 Produce communications materials with CDEM that integrate climate action and resilience to natural hazards	Environment Canterbury		Work to begin in Year 2.	
6	Supporting Papatipu Rūnanga	Support papatipu rūnanga with climate action at place and provide continuing opportunity for their involvement with the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan.	Sub-action 6.1 Understand the climate action requirements of papatipu rūnanga across Canterbury	All councils	On track	Scoping in progress. Implementation overview to be presented to CPF in March 2025.	
			Sub-action 6.2 Support councils to work in partnership with papatipu rūnanga on climate action planning	Canterbury Mayoral Forum Secretariat	On track	Scoping in progress. Implementation overview to be presented to CPF in March 2025.	
7	Integrating climate change considerations in council processes	Work collaboratively to build local government capability and enhance its capacity to adapt to the climate change challenges it faces	Sub-action 7.1 Integrate climate change mitigation and adaptation considerations across all council business	Ashburton District Council	On track	Work initiated by action lead and sub-group. Council survey conducted. Implementation overview to be presented to CPF in March 2025.	
8	Climate Funding and Financing	Identify co-funding and financing opportunities for climate adaptation and resilience.	Sub-action 8.1 Advocate to central government for funding to be made available for the climate-related actions	Christchurch City Council	On track	Implementation overview to be presented to CPF in March 2025.	
			Sub-action 8.2 Explore the feasibility of a Canterbury Climate Commitment	Canterbury Mayoral Forum Secretariat	On track		
9	Monitoring and Evaluation	Monitor and report on progress towards achieving the actions and outcomes of the Partnership Plan.	Sub-action 9.1 Develop and implement a monitoring and evaluation plan	Environment Canterbury	On track		
10	Implementation	Assemble an implementation team to ensure the successful delivery and implementation of the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan.		Environment Canterbury (with action leads)	Completed		

Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan

Finances as at 30 November 2024

30/11/2024	Opening balance	0.00
Revenue		
Date	Councils	Amount
14/10/2024	Mackenzie District Council	4,130.43
14/10/2024	Kaikoura District Council	4,130.43
14/10/2024	Waitaki District Council	6,521.74
14/10/2024	Waimate District Council	6,443.48
14/10/2024	Hurunui District Council	8,591.30
14/10/2024	Timaru District Council	16,191.30
14/10/2024	Ashburton District Council	16,191.30
14/10/2024	Waimakariki District Council	17,678.26
14/10/2024	Selwyn District Council	17,678.26
14/10/2024	Christchurch City Council	33,913.04
14/10/2024	Environment Canterbury	33,913.04
	Total contribution (exclusive of GST)	<u>\$ 165,382.58</u>
Spend		
Date	Supplier	Amount
		0.00
	Total spend	<u>\$ -</u>
	Balance (excluding GST)	<u><u>\$ 165,382.58</u></u>

Canterbury Chief Executives Forum

Date: 27 January 2025

Presented by: Clare Pattison, Principal Strategy Advisor Regional Transport Committee

Approach to reducing the underfunding in Canterbury's transport network

Purpose

1. The purpose of this paper is to seek approval of the:
 - a. advice to be presented to the Regional Transport Committee (RTC) on 13 February 2025 regarding the transport funding system and areas for advocacy
 - b. scope of procurement that will inform an options paper to the RTC in May 2025 on how to reduce the risk of underfunding in Canterbury.

Recommendations

That the Canterbury Chief Executives Forum:

- 1. approve the advice on areas of advocacy related to transport funding to be provided to the Regional Transport Committee on 13 February 2025**
- 2. approve the scope of procurement to inform an options paper to the Regional Transport Committee in May 2025 to reduce the risk of further underfunding in 2027.**

Key points

2. The purpose of the transport funding project is to reduce the risk of underfunding in Canterbury again in the upcoming 2027-37 period. This is in the context of Canterbury being consistently underfunded through previous National Land Transport Programme (NLTP) funding decisions.
3. Areas for advocacy have been identified based on a future funding scenario for Canterbury, informed by an analysis of funding mechanisms signalled in the Government Policy Statement on Land Transport (GPS) 2024 and the activities in 2024 Canterbury Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP). The RTC will be provided this information in a briefing in February 2025, prior to a workshop on the GPS 2027.
4. Te Uru Kahika Transport Special Interest Group have also been developing areas for advocacy to the Ministry of Transport regarding changes to transport planning and funding signalled in the GPS 2024. These areas of advocacy will not be raised with the RTC until there is greater assurance of change.

5. The next step is procuring support to review Canterbury councils' transport planning and delivery in two key areas to determine if there are any options for improvement that could reduce the risk of underfunding. These two key areas are:
 - business case development for improvements
 - bulk funding opportunities for continuous programmes
6. Based on the areas of advocacy and the review of transport planning and delivery of approved organisations, the RTC will be provided with an options paper in May 2025 on how to reduce the risk of underfunding in Canterbury.

Background

7. The 2024 Canterbury RLTP is an investment plan that prioritises approximately \$10bn of transport activities provided by 12 approved organisations, aligned with the GPS and other concerns in the region, such as environmental outcomes and energy efficiency. The plan is legally required to be affordable and feasible¹. However, only \$6bn is likely to be delivered due to funding allocation decisions by NZTA who apply a contestable, case by case process to the funding of core infrastructure.
8. This contestable fund is the hypothecation of revenue generated from fuel excise duty (FED), road user charges (RUC) and motor registrations. With increasing efficiency of motor vehicles, including hybrid vehicles, this revenue is not increasing despite the increase in vehicle numbers. General taxpayer funding is used to top up this fund for targeted projects but alternative revenue user pays sources should be considered.
9. Without an improved approach to securing investment for Canterbury, transport network activities will not be able to respond to key drivers like economic and population growth, resilience and climate change. This limited funding will affect multiple outcomes in Canterbury, as well as have adverse operational impacts on the transport functions of councils.
10. The RTC's Terms of Reference gives a role to the CE Forum to provide strategic advice to the Committee, with the Canterbury Transport Officers Group (TOG) providing technical transport advice. As this work relates to information and advice on the transport function of councils, the advice is not being developed with TOG but with senior management input from a Steering Group² and approved by the CE Forum.

¹ \$13bn was estimated as a fair proportion for Canterbury from the GPS based on proportion of national population, which is similar to Canterbury proportion of national Vehicle Kilometres Travelled and Gross Domestic Product. However, with local share and Funding Assistance Rates factored in, approved organisations proposed approximately \$10bn.

² Steering Group members are Gerard Cleary (WMK, Chair), Giles Southworth (Ecan), Andrew Dixon (TDC), Neil Jorgensen (Mackenzie).

Developing a desired funding system for Canterbury

11. The project has analysed how the new funding mechanisms signalled in the GPS could support transport activities in the RLTP, and create an affordable and feasible plan in the future. Key mechanisms could include tolls, time-of-use charging, road pricing, equity finance, and transitioning to road user charges (RUC) for all vehicles. A potential scenario is provided in Table 1.
12. Based on this potential scenario, most revenue would come from the transition to RUC for all vehicles. While potentially generating \$4.8 billion over 10 years, RUC for all vehicles will likely be phased in gradually, so the analysis assumed an ongoing role for fuel excise duty (FED) over the 10-year period.
13. The other potential new mechanisms would appear to suit large-scale “mega-infrastructure” activities like a bridge programme or mass rapid transit, and could optimistically potentially contribute up to 10% of the RLTP. Additional Crown funding has not been factored as an upfront funding source, and instead provides a ‘fail safe’. The Crown could be approached to fill funding gaps if issues arise late in the process and is a barrier to completion.

Table 1 - Possible Investment Scenario over 10 years (\$m) for RLTP 2027

Priority Area	Council Share	RUC/FED ³	Toll	Pricing	PPP Equity Finance	PPP Value Capture	Gap	Total
Maintaining the Road Network	1,425	3,075	0	0	0	0	0	4,500
Improving Resilience	200	0	100	0	200	0	500	1,000
Public & Active Transport	1150	800	0	85	250	85	1270⁴	3,640
Safety in high growth areas	355	0	110	0	180	0	355	1,000
Freight Systems	25	0	0	0	0	0	75	100
Total \$m	3,155	3,875	210	85	630	85	2,200	10,240
Total %	31	38	2	1	6	1	22	100

³ If RUC/FED focused only on current continuous programmes and excluded improvements.

⁴ For public transport, this includes estimates of fare (30%) and other revenue (10%), of which \$1,200m is a potential gap.

14. There are two areas of significant concern for the future funding scenario:
 - A \$1bn gap for roading improvements. This could be significantly reduced by ensuring that RUC/FED investment still contributes to roading improvements.
 - A \$1.2bn issue for public transport improvements. This is technically not a gap, as the Government is likely to provide for funding mechanisms through policy related to private share, but given the current private share is around 10%, a 40% private share is unrealistic to scale towards within the timeframes. There is a risk that regionally significant public transport improvements might not be included in the 2027 RLTP if it means the plan is not considered affordable and feasible, or not aligned with the GPS.
15. The new revenue system is not likely to generate more money overall, but the transition presents an opportunity for Canterbury to influence the funding allocation policies and potentially increase funding for the region.
16. The analysis also identified the importance of ensuring funding allocation is directed to where the road use is generating the revenue. Attachment 1 outlines the current regional allocations and potential future allocations, using Vehicle Kilometres Travelled (VKT) as a proxy for regional allocation. From an operational perspective, it is difficult for NZTA to directly link collection to distribution, but a policy solution applied to funding allocations could support better allocation of revenue to the region of generation.
17. If that occurs, the revenue increase will need to be carefully managed and invested appropriately across approved organisations and activity classes. This is particularly crucial in the early stages of the increase to prevent some approved organisations growing in ways that do not align with the long-term strategic investment required.
18. To access the maximum levels of co-funding available, councils could increase local share which may have both political and community ramifications beyond inflationary norms. However, this may not be the case for councils that are receiving co-funding much lower than their approved LTP.
19. Given NZTA's current commitments, it may be a long-term process to shift investment back towards Canterbury. It could take two or three more NLTPs to work well in Canterbury. This means the 2027 RLTP may need to start excluding activities from the RLTP to provide a feasible and affordable plan to the RTC, potentially 10-20% of costs. For visibility these activities would be included in the 'On the horizon' section of the plan.

Pricing tool in the Second Emissions Reduction Plan

20. Since completing the analysis, the Second Emissions Reduction Plan has been released and includes enabling a regional time of use charge for congestion by 2030 to drive behaviour change at peak times. This specific policy was not analysed but a pricing tool was included in the analysis to align with mass rapid transit towards 2034. This was based on research that shows deterrents should be paired with

positive/supportive interventions, such as public transport improvements, education and awareness campaigns, advisory services to homes and businesses, and incentives, potentially on a large scale for at least five years to avoid unintended consequences and increase impact on outcomes.

21. In addition, pricing-based interventions generally require community support to implement, which may be difficult to achieve in Canterbury. Research from 2022 showed that only 19% of Cantabrians supported pricing-based solutions for transport emission reduction. In the absence of a large scale 'carrot' intervention, community support may not have changed by 2030.
22. The Minister has introduced the Land Transport Management (Time of Use Charging) Amendment Bill. The bill also has many other matters the RTC may wish to consider such as the establishment of a scheme committee for the region, different expectations for the management of funds collected from state highway use compared with local road use, investment agreements for the region being developed between the Agency and the Minister, no role for the RTC.
23. There needs to be more analysis done to determine how a regional time of use charge for congestion by 2030 could be implemented in Canterbury and any associated interventions to reduce unintended consequences and issues of equity.
24. Also, in December 2024 Cabinet agreed to an approach to tolling, which included confirming physical alternative routes need to be available for equity purposes. This limits the funding options in Canterbury.

Areas for advocacy towards a better system for Canterbury

25. The analysis supports an advocacy position for Canterbury that includes:
 - strengthening the role of RLTPs as the investment plan for the region
 - ensuring that RUC/FED will still contribute to improvements
 - creating regional funding allocations reflecting transport demand, based around the proportion of VKT as a proxy for the RUC/FED collected and potentially adjusted with other metrics such as GDP, export tonnage, road length, bridges length, and population where appropriate. This is the matter most likely to increase Canterbury's share.
 - seeking for low-cost low risk improvements to be treated as a regional continuous programme to improve ease of access to funding
 - seeking for the value of low-cost low risk improvements to increase
 - to gradually phase in RUC collection and private share increases for public transport to maximise revenue collection and diversify opportunities.
26. This approach would support and potentially secure more consistent and equitable funding for Canterbury's transport needs. Advocating for changes to Funding Assistance Rates is not recommended at this stage. The policy appears to be equitable,

and it is unclear what changes to it would improve the situation for Canterbury. The main issue is that the effective FAR is lower due to the lack of sufficient regional allocation.

27. Te Uru Kahika Transport Special Interest Group has also been developing areas for advocacy to the Ministry of Transport regarding the changes to transport planning and funding signalled in the GPS. This includes seeking better alignment of NZTA funding allocations to the RLTP, strengthening the RLTP as a long-term strategic investment plan, improving timing of GPS / RLTP / NLTP / LTP sequences (as complete system redesign is unlikely), and improving funding certainty.
28. The aim is that the proposed changes create more effective, efficient transport planning and funding. The improvements aim to minimise duplication and enhance efficiency, providing some potential cash and non-cash releasing benefits. There is also the potential to decouple from potential changes in electoral cycles and central government term. The RTC will be advised on any likely areas of change once there is some level of assurance from the Ministry that changes are occurring.

Scope of Procurement to develop options to reduce funding risk

29. The next phase of work will procure a report reviewing transport planning and delivery in Canterbury in two key areas to determine if there are any options for improvement that could reduce the risk of underfunding. These two key areas include:
 - business case development for improvements
 - bulk funding and continuous programmes
30. While the approved organisations that contribute to the RLTP include central government agencies, these organisations have much greater success in being funded compared to councils. This review will look at the council functions to determine if there is anything specific to the operations of this group of approved organisations that could be improved to increase likelihood of funding.
31. The key objectives of this work include improving the quality of business cases to secure investment and exploring mechanisms to streamline funding access. The consultants will review current barriers to funding and propose actionable improvements based on stakeholder input. While the focus will be on increasing funding access, the evaluation will also identify opportunities to enhance the efficiency and success of transport initiatives in the region. Ultimately, it will assess whether Canterbury is a high-performing region in terms of planning, funding and delivering transport activities, and determine if changes are needed to improve its approach. By addressing any gaps or inefficiencies, the aim is to better position Canterbury to secure funding and achieve greater impact on transport outcomes.
32. The work is scheduled to start in March 2025 with a completion date of May 2025. The budget is set at \$40k with a potential variation of \$15k.

33. Deliverables will include a report with recommendations to improve business case development practices and better position the region for bulk funding, with a comparative analysis with other regions. This will inform the development of an options paper for the committee.

Cost, compliance and communication

Financial implications

34. This work is being undertaken within the Canterbury Regional Council's budget for work that supports RLTP development. There may be financial implications arising from the options that are developed in terms of:
- the cost to implement any of the options
 - cash and non-cash releasing benefits from different options
 - additional funding secured because of implementing the options.
35. The project does not include setting specific pricing or securing funding for specific activities, just the role and function of mechanisms to do so.

Risk assessment and legal compliance

36. The key risk for the project is rapid changes from central government that reduce the relevance of the information and advice. The provision of budget for a variation to the advice from consultants is the main risk mitigation.
37. While the intention of the project is to improve the situation for transport outcomes in Canterbury, it is recognised that transport services and infrastructure are housed within a wider financial system for approved organisations, and changes to give greater assurance of funding for transport can have impacts on other outcomes.
38. The project has no authority to direct council finances and actions. Changes to council finances and organisational arrangements are out of scope. However, there may be information in the report which could inform a subsequent project, with appropriate governance and resourcing rescoped and in place.

Significance and engagement

39. The main affected parties are the approved organisations who are members of the RTC and represented in the existing structures. As the main output is information and advice to the RTC, and the Committee cannot direct the finances and actions of approved organisations, there is no further engagement being undertaken. The interests of Mana Whenua are being considered through a different process to support the RLTP development.

Next steps

40. This paper will be the basis of a briefing to the RTC at the 13 February 2025 meeting.

Attachments

- Attachment 1: Road User Charges and Funding by Region

Attachment 1: Road User Charges and Funding by Region

These tables were developed to determine the level of road user charges (RUC) that might be collected in Canterbury under a different funding system, where all vehicles pay RUC. The analysis uses vehicle kilometres travelled (VKT) as a proxy for the RUC collected and subsequently allocated to support the level of travel in the region. Information was sourced from the Ministry of Transport and NZTA websites.

The graph below from the Ministry of Transport website shows the proportion of VKT by region. The proportions remained stable, even with events such as the Global Financial Crisis (c. 2008), Canterbury Earthquakes (c. 2011) and COVID-19 Pandemic response (c. 2020) which affect factors like the level of VKT and the growth of VKT. It appears that whatever factors affect VKT levels seem to affect all regions equally and therefore all vehicles paying RUC could be a stable revenue stream for Canterbury.

Motor vehicle fleet

Vehicle kms travelled by region (billion VKT)

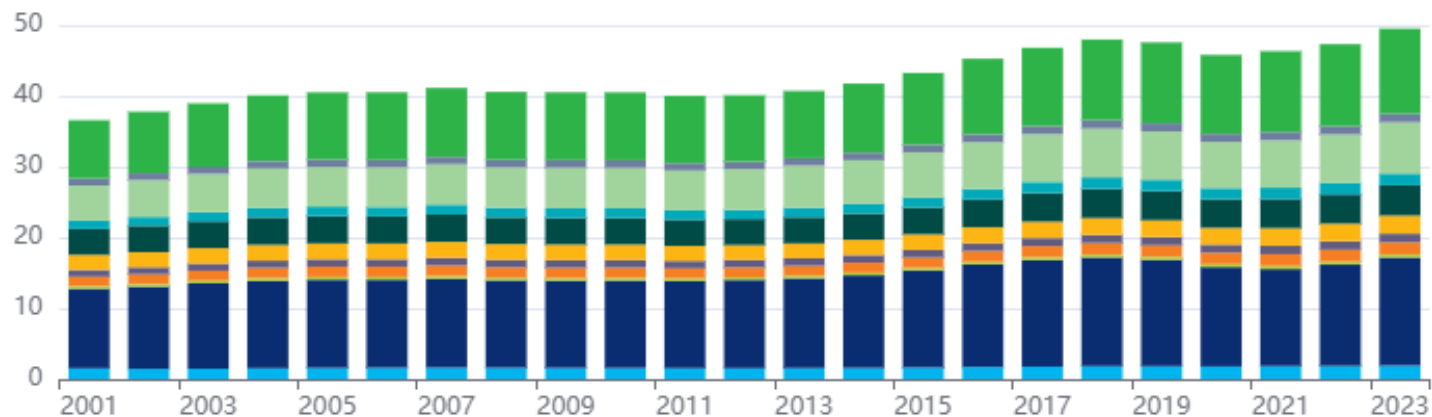
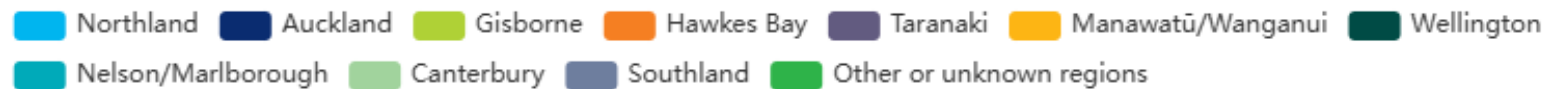


Table 1: Proportion of National Fleet Vehicle Kilometres Travelled by region

Year	Northland	Auckland	Gisborne	Hawkes Bay	Taranaki	Manawatu / Wanganui	Wellington	Nelson / Marlborough	Canterbury	Southland	Unknown
2003	4%	31%	1%	4%	3%	6%	10%	3%	14%	3%	23%
2004	4%	31%	1%	4%	3%	6%	10%	3%	14%	3%	23%
2005	4%	31%	1%	4%	3%	6%	10%	3%	14%	3%	23%
2006	4%	31%	1%	4%	3%	5%	9%	3%	14%	3%	24%
2007	4%	31%	1%	4%	3%	5%	9%	3%	14%	3%	24%
2008	4%	30%	1%	4%	3%	5%	9%	3%	14%	3%	24%
2009	4%	30%	1%	4%	3%	5%	9%	3%	14%	3%	24%
2010	4%	31%	1%	4%	3%	5%	9%	3%	14%	3%	24%
2011	4%	31%	1%	3%	3%	5%	9%	3%	14%	3%	24%
2012	4%	31%	1%	3%	3%	5%	9%	3%	14%	3%	23%
2013	4%	31%	1%	3%	3%	5%	9%	3%	15%	3%	23%
2014	4%	31%	1%	3%	3%	5%	9%	3%	15%	3%	23%
2015	4%	32%	1%	3%	3%	5%	9%	3%	15%	3%	23%
2016	4%	32%	1%	3%	2%	5%	9%	3%	15%	2%	24%
2017	4%	32%	1%	3%	2%	5%	9%	3%	14%	2%	24%
2018	4%	32%	1%	3%	2%	5%	9%	3%	14%	2%	24%
2019	4%	32%	1%	3%	2%	5%	9%	3%	14%	2%	24%
2020	4%	31%	1%	4%	2%	5%	9%	3%	14%	2%	24%
2021	4%	30%	1%	4%	3%	5%	9%	3%	14%	3%	25%
2022	4%	30%	1%	4%	3%	5%	9%	3%	15%	2%	24%
2023	4%	31%	1%	3%	2%	5%	9%	3%	15%	2%	24%

Given the high amount of VKT that is categorised as 'Unknown', an analysis was conducted to see if 'Unknown' VKT is likely to include a material proportion of Canterbury VKT or mostly the regions not identified in the information available from the Ministry of Transport (being Waikato, Bay of Plenty, West Coast and Otago). This analysis compared VKT with other potential indicators of the level of travel: the proportion of national population, Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and National Land Transport Fund (NLTF)

Table 2. Proportion of National Population, Gross Domestic Product, National Vehicle Kilometres Travelled and National Land Transport Fund

Region	2013 Population	2018 Population	2023 Population	2023 GDP	2023 VKT	2024-27 NLTP
Northland	4%	4%	4%	3%	4%	4%
Auckland	33%	33%	33%	39%	31%	31%
Waikato	10%	10%	10%	9%	Unknown	7%
Bay of Plenty	6%	7%	7%	6%	Unknown	8%
Gisborne	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%
Hawke's Bay	4%	4%	4%	3%	4%	4%
Taranaki	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	2%
Manawatū / Whanganui	5%	5%	5%	4%	5%	6%
Wellington	11%	11%	10%	12%	9%	13%
Marlborough / Nelson / Tasman	3%	3%	3%	1%	3%	2%
West Coast	1%	1%	1%	1%	Unknown	1%
Canterbury	13%	13%	13%	13%	14%	5%
Otago	5%	5%	5%	4%	Unknown	3%
Southland	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	1%

Given all these potential proxies of travel are within a similar proportion for most regions, as shown in Table 2, it is likely that >90% of the 'Unknown' VKT covers Waikato, Bay of Plenty, West Coast and Otago, and does not consist of a material proportion of VKT for other regions. Therefore, % VKT can be used as a proxy for the likely RUC generated in Canterbury.

There are notable exceptions where the other proxies for travel had a wider deviation:

- Auckland, where % GDP is significantly higher than % Population, NLTF, and VKT.
- Canterbury, where % NLTF is significantly lower than % Population, GDP, and VKT.

For Auckland, this is likely to be related to the nature of the economy rather than as a proxy of travel, so GDP may not be a good indicator of RUC creation for Auckland. Regional GDP may not be a good indicator of road use due to variation in regional economic activities and their changing nature, which may become less dependent on transport.

For Canterbury it is unclear why the share of the NLTF allocated to Canterbury is much lower than all the proxies of travel. This may be an issue with the implementation of policy, or approach to funding allocation services. As the sector transitions to a new revenue system, adjustments to funding allocation policy may be needed to ensure new revenue mechanisms, such as all vehicles paying RUC, are distributed based on the purpose and location they are collected. The government and councils can only collect money where there is a clear policy purpose to do so, and so ensuring the money is distributed to the policy purpose it was collected for is part of good public policy practices.

For example, the purpose of collecting RUC is to fund the impact of road use on the transport network, which should be reflected in the distribution of the fund. Although operationally challenging for NZTA to directly assign location to RUC collection, adopting a regional funding allocation policy based on VKT could improve alignment of RUC collection to distribution over time. The same would need to be true for any tolling or congestion charging collected, that there were policy mechanisms, even if not operational mechanisms, in place to ensure a commensurate level of funding was provided to the region.

Table 3: Estimated 10-year RUC contribution to RLTP, if all vehicles charged RUC

Region	RUC (\$m)	% total RUC
Northland	\$1,320	4%
Auckland	\$10,550	31%
Waikato	\$3,350	10%
Bay of Plenty	\$2,250	7%
Gisborne	\$310	1%
Hawke's Bay	\$1,190	3%
Taranaki	\$870	3%
Manawatu-Wanganui	\$1,800	5%
Wellington	\$3,100	9%
Marlborough, Nelson and Tasman	\$1,140	3%
Canterbury	\$4,860	14%
West Coast	\$220	1%
Otago	\$1,620	5%
Southland	\$860	3%
Other funds (Chatham Is, Nationwide)	\$610	2%
Total	\$34,050	100%

Based on the % national VKT as a suitable proxy for road use, the amount of potential funding that would be available for allocation was calculated by multiplying the annual VKT by 0.08c¹ as a proxy for the RUC collected. Unknown VKT was distributed to Waikato, Bay of Plenty, West Coast and Otago based on population. Residual Unknown VKT was applied to 'Other'.

Canterbury has a Funding Assistance Rate of 49/51% for most local road and public transport activities in the RLTP. As FAR is anchored in deprivation this ratio is unlikely to change. It is unknown if the government is considering using income taxes to top up the funding assistance rates for areas that have a higher ratio, to ensure that RUC remains within the regions it was collected.

¹ This is based on using 0.07c/km for light passenger fleet VKT which contributes over 90% of the VKT, plus 0.02c/km to cover the remaining fleet which is charged more, less 10% (0.01c/km) due to revenue collection constraints and overheads <https://www.nzta.govt.nz/vehicles/road-user-charges/ruc-rates-and-transaction-fees/ruc-calculator/>

Canterbury Chief Executives Forum

Date: 27 January 2025

Presented by: Hamish Dobbie, Canterbury Policy Forum Chair

Regional Spatial Planning – proposed approach

Purpose

1. The purpose of this paper is to set out a proposed approach to the development of a Scope of Work for a regional stocktake of spatial plans and strategies and for an options paper around the process to develop a regional spatial plan.

Recommendations

That the Canterbury Chief Executives Forum:

1. **approves the proposed ‘phased’ approach to undertaking a regional stocktake of spatial plans and strategies and developing an options paper around the process to develop a regional spatial plan**
2. **approves the draft Scope of Work for the regional stocktake of existing spatial plans and strategies, and relevant information.**

Background

2. The opportunity to consider the development of a regional spatial plan for Waitaha Canterbury was identified at a joint meeting of the Canterbury Policy and Economic Development Forums in mid-2024. Consideration was then given to foundational work that could be progressed to inform future discussions, and a paper was presented to the Chief Executives Forum (CEF) meeting in October 2024.
3. At its October meeting, the CEF agreed to the development of a scope of work and associated budget for:
 - (a) a stocktake of existing Waitaha Canterbury spatial plans and strategies; and
 - (b) the development of an options paper around the process to develop a regional spatial plan.
4. Progressing this foundational work was identified as a pro-active first step towards a possible regional spatial plan, in the context of changes to the resource management system signalled by Government and the opportunity for regions to partner with Government through Regional Deals.

5. Staff have developed a draft Scope of Work for the first element of the work described above (part (a)), which is provided as Attachment 1. As the stocktake will support and inform the development of the options paper identified in part (b), a separate Scope of Work will be developed for this aspect of the work in mid-2025. The Canterbury Policy Forum endorsed this proposed approach at its meeting on 16 December.

Spatial planning context

Spatial planning in the region

6. Spatial planning is a collaborative exercise to produce an evidence based, long term (30+ years), future-focused strategy to guide growth, development and change in a specific geographic area. Spatial plans go beyond traditional land use planning to integrate policies for the development and use of land with other policies and programmes that influence both the nature and function of places (especially infrastructure).
7. Some spatial planning has already been undertaken in parts of Waitaha Canterbury. The Greater Christchurch Spatial Plan was developed between 2021 and 2023 by the Greater Christchurch Partnership¹ and adopted by partner councils in 2024. Spatial plans have also been developed by district councils for some smaller areas and townships in the region, including Kaikōura, Amberley and Leithfield in the Hurunui District, and Fairlie, Twizel and Tekapo in the Mackenzie District. Masterplans have also been developed for Ōmārama and Otematata in the Waitaki District. Selwyn District Council recently adopted its Waikirikiri Ki Tua Future Selwyn strategy and has commenced detailed spatial planning for Eastern Selwyn, Malvern, and Ellesmere.

Resource management legislation changes

8. In 2024, the Government repealed the Spatial Planning Act 2023 and Natural and Built Environment Act 2023 with the intention of replacing the Resource Management Act with new legislation. The Government has signalled that the new resource management system is intended to have ten core design features, one of which is the use of spatial planning and another requiring one regulatory plan per region, jointly prepared by regional and district councils.
9. The Spatial Planning Act 2023 (repealed) set out the scope and content of regional spatial strategies. It is not unreasonable to expect the new legislation to have similar requirements, albeit with a strong economic development focus. The new legislation, to be introduced as part of phase three of the Government's resource management reforms, will likely provide direction on expectations for a regional spatial plan and/or a regional regulatory plan. Ministry officials have signalled that detailed policy work and legislative drafting will begin after Cabinet has agreed to key aspects of the new

¹ The Greater Christchurch Partnership is a voluntary coalition of local government, mana whenua and government agencies working collaboratively to address strategic challenges and opportunities for Greater Christchurch.

legislation in early 2025. The Government aims to introduce bills in Parliament in mid-2025 and pass these into law by mid-2026.

Regional Deals

10. In August 2024, the Government announced a Strategic Framework for Regional Deals. Regional Deals are long-term agreements between central and local government, based on a 30-year vision with negotiated 10-year strategic plans. The Government's three key priorities for these deals are economic growth and productivity, critical infrastructure, and affordable, quality housing.
11. All regions² were invited to submit proposals for Regional Deals, with councils required to confirm their intent to participate by 18 December 2024. The Canterbury Mayoral Forum has confirmed its intent to submit a proposal for a Regional Deal. Light-touch proposals are due by 28 February 2025. The first deal is expected to be finalised by December 2025, and three deals are expected to be in place by October 2026. The selection of regions for Regional Deals will be based on meeting specific criteria, including commitment to a regional spatial plan.
12. At the October CEF meeting, the relationship between spatial plans and Regional Deals was noted. It was also noted that the spatial plan work would be a good building block for the region, regardless of whether there was a Regional Deal.

Scope of Work development

13. A draft Scope of Work has been developed for the region-wide stocktake of existing spatial plans and strategies. Additional work will identify available information that would form a shared evidence base. Staff recommend commencing work on the stocktake and identification of available information first, as this will help to determine the scale of work involved in developing a regional spatial plan and inform the development of the scope of work for the options paper.
14. The development of the stocktake is therefore identified as 'Phase 1'. A separate Scope of Work will be developed for the options paper, referred to as 'Phase 2'.

Summary of proposed scope and approach

15. The proposed Phase 1 scope has two key components:
 - identification and high-level review of local, district or sub-regional spatial plans and strategies that have a spatial planning component, including those that have been completed or are in progress across the region
 - identification of the evidence base likely to be required to underpin a regional spatial plan and a stocktake of existing available information (including

² 'Regions' in the context of Regional Deals could be regional, sub-regional or another appropriate scale, so long as they are defined economic and geographic areas with functional local authorities.

identification of key information gaps). [It is noted that the Canterbury Mayoral Forum is progressing several projects that will contribute to key components of an evidence base: the regional housing strategy, economic priorities, and regional energy inventory].

16. The stocktake of existing spatial plans and strategies would include identification of the geographic and economic area and spatial extent, timescale, scope, and focus, and the consideration of specific information (for example, as related to strategic employment areas, town centres, housing provision, transport and other priority investment projects etc). The proposed approach for the Phase 1 Stocktake is set out in more detail in the draft Scope of Work provided at Attachment 1.
17. It is proposed that the scoping of Phase 2, which will be informed by the findings of Phase 1, will be completed in mid-2025. Following this, further discussions around the development of a regional spatial plan will be needed.
18. It is proposed that the work would be overseen by the Canterbury Planning Managers Group, reporting through to the Policy Forum and Chief Executives Forum.

Budget and resourcing implications

19. Environment Canterbury has available staff resource / capacity to undertake the Phase 1 Stocktake. Support from staff within the district and city councils will be required to identify and collate relevant plans, strategies and other information.
20. Provided sufficient staff (in-kind) resource is available within councils, there are not expected to be any additional expenses or budget requirements attributed to the delivery of the Phase 1 Stocktake.
21. Financial and resourcing implications for Phase 2 will be determined through the scoping of that work.

Next steps

22. Subject to the Chief Executives Forum agreeing the scope, approach, and timeframes for the Phase 1 Stocktake, next steps and key milestones are set out below. Further detail is provided in Table 1 of the Scope of Work.

Milestone	Target date
Finalise Phase 1 Scope of Work (subject to CEF approval)	31 January 2025
Scoping of information / evidence base requirements	7 February 2025
Initial engagement with council staff	1-28 February 2025
Stocktake of existing spatial plans, strategies and information	31 March 2025
Report write-up	April-May 2025
Reporting (CEDF, CPF, CEF)	June-July 2025

Attachment

- **Attachment 1** – Scope of Work: Regional Spatial Planning – Phase 1 Stocktake of existing Waitaha Canterbury spatial plans and strategies, and relevant information and overview of key milestones and timeframes

Scope of Work

Regional Spatial Planning – Phase 1 Stocktake of existing Waitaha Canterbury spatial plans and strategies, and relevant information

November 2024

1. Introduction and background

The opportunity to explore the future development of a Waitaha Canterbury Regional Spatial Plan was identified by the Canterbury Policy and Economic Development Forums in mid-2024. Consideration was then given to foundational work that could be progressed to inform future discussions about the development of a regional spatial plan.

In October 2024, the Canterbury Chief Executives Forum agreed to the development of a scope of work, for:

- a. a stocktake of existing Waitaha Canterbury spatial plans and strategies; and
- b. the development of an options paper around the process to develop a regional spatial plan.

This Phase 1 Scope of Work addresses the first element of the work described above (part (a)). The stocktake is intended to support and inform the development of the options paper identified in part (b). A separate Scope of Work is being developed for this aspect.

2. Context

Spatial Planning

Spatial planning is a collaborative exercise to produce an evidence based, long term (30+ years), future-focused strategy to guide growth, development and change in a specific geographic area. Spatial plans go beyond traditional land use planning to integrate policies for the development and use of land with other policies and programmes that influence both the nature and function of places (especially infrastructure).

Spatial Planning in the region

Some spatial planning has been undertaken in parts of Waitaha Canterbury. The Greater Christchurch Spatial Plan was developed between 2021 and 2023 by the Greater Christchurch Partnership¹ and adopted by all partner councils in 2024. Spatial plans have also been developed for some smaller areas and townships in the region, including Kaikōura, Amberley

¹ The Greater Christchurch Partnership is a voluntary coalition of local government, mana whenua and government agencies working collaboratively to address strategic challenges and opportunities for Greater Christchurch.

and Leithfield in the Hurunui District, and Fairlie, Twizel and Tekapo in the Mackenzie District. Masterplans have also been developed for Ōmārama and Otematata in the Waitaki District. Selwyn District Council recently adopted its *Waikirikiri Ki Tua Future Selwyn* strategy. *Waikirikiri Ki Tua Future Selwyn* sets out a vision and long-term strategic direction for the Selwyn district for the next 50 to 100 years. Detailed spatial planning for Eastern Selwyn, Malvern, and Ellesmere has now commenced.

Resource management legislation changes

In 2024, the Government repealed the Spatial Planning Act 2023 and Natural and Built Environment Act 2023 with the intention of replacing the Resource Management Act with new legislation. The Government has signalled that development of the new resource management system is to be guided by ten core design features, one of which is the use of spatial planning, and another is requiring one regulatory plan per region, jointly prepared by regional and district councils.²

The Spatial Planning Act 2023 (repealed) set out the scope and content of regional spatial strategies. It is not unreasonable to expect the new legislation to have similar requirements, albeit with a strong economic development focus. The new legislation, to be introduced as part of Phase three of the Government's resource management reforms, will likely provide clear direction on expectations for a regional spatial plan and/or a regional regulatory plan. Ministry officials have signalled that detailed policy work and legislative drafting will begin after Cabinet has agreed to key aspects of the new legislation in early 2025. The Government aims to introduce bills in Parliament in mid-2025 and pass these into law by mid-2026.

Regional Deals

In August 2024, the Government announced a Strategic Framework for Regional Deals.³ Regional deals are long-term agreements between central and local government, based on a 30-year vision with negotiated 10-year strategic plans. The Government's three key priorities for these deals are economic growth and productivity, critical infrastructure, and affordable, quality housing.

All regions will be invited to submit proposals for Regional Deals. Councils are required to confirm their intent to participate by 18 December 2024, with light-touch proposals due by 28 February 2025. The first deal is expected to be finalised by December 2025, and three deals are expected to be in place by October 2026. The selection of regions⁴ for Regional Deals will

² <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/replacement-resource-management-act-takes-shape>

³ Government's Strategic Framework for Regional Deals is available here: <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2024-08/Regional%20Deals%20Strategic%20Framework.pdf>

⁴ 'Regions' in the context of Regional Deals could be regional, sub-regional or another appropriate scale, so long as they are defined economic and geographic areas with functional local authorities. [Draft Publicly Facing Regional Deals Strategic Framework](#) (p.10).

be based on meeting a number of specific criteria, including commitment to a regional spatial plan.

3. Purpose

The purpose of this work is to help to determine the scale of effort likely to be required to develop a regional spatial plan. Phase 1, a stocktake of existing Waitaha Canterbury spatial plans and strategies and relevant information, is an important foundational piece of work that will inform the scale of the work. Additional work will identify available information that would form a shared evidence base. This information could then be used as the foundation on which the next phases of work will be undertaken. The development of the Greater Christchurch Spatial Plan followed a similar approach, whereby a Foundation Report was published which set out key outputs of the first phases of work related to developing an evidence base and a strategic framework for the spatial plan.

Following this, further discussions around the development of a regional spatial plan will be needed.

4. Deliverable

Phase 1 will deliver a stocktake of existing spatial plans and strategies across the region, and other relevant information, in the form of a report, along with a summary of the evidence base and information sources. This phase will also identify information gaps and opportunities for further work / information to be sourced.

Phase 2 (separately scoped) will deliver an options report for approaching a regional spatial plan.

5. Scope and approach

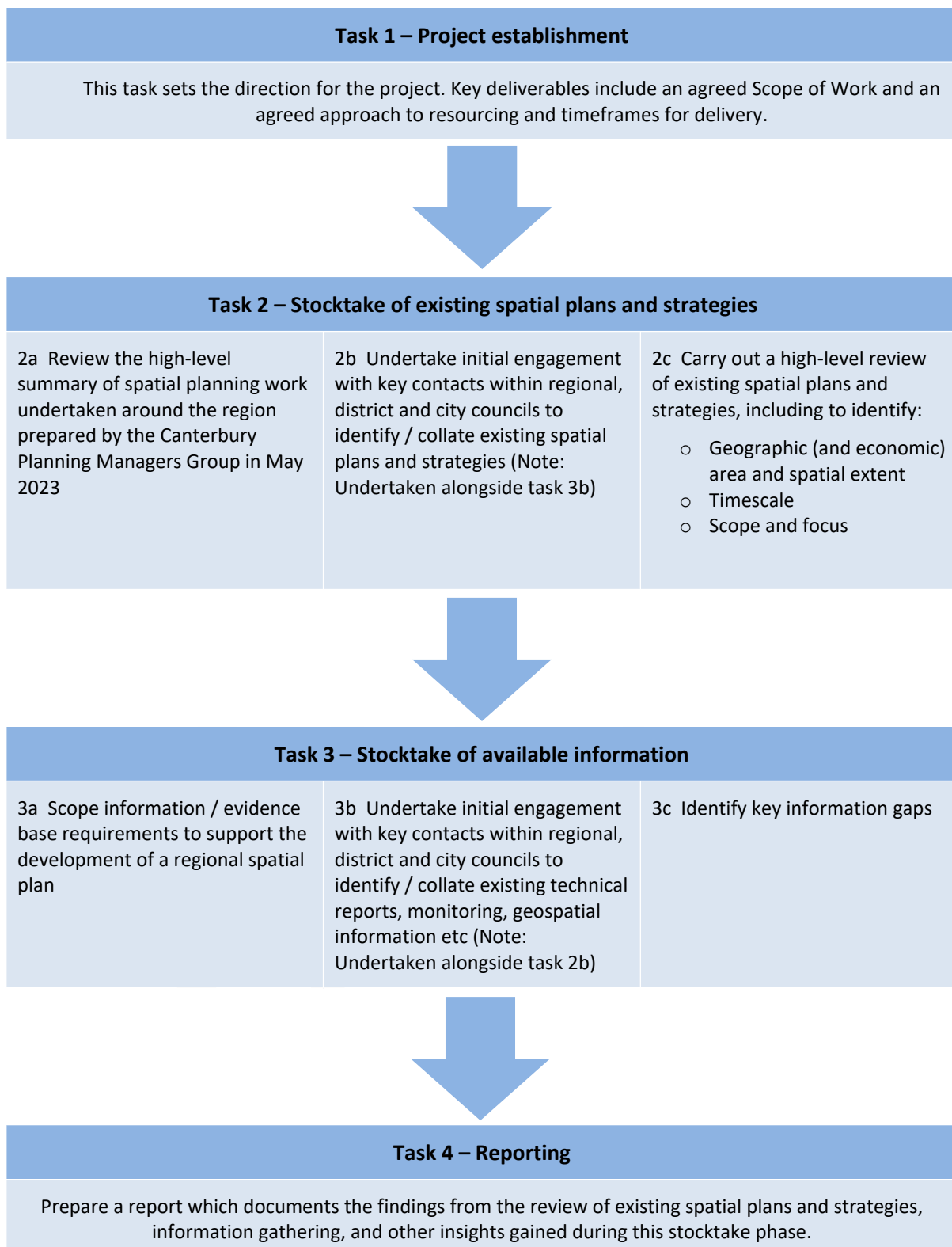
The Phase 1 scope for this project has two key components:

- Identification and high-level review of local, district or sub-regional spatial plans and strategies that have a spatial planning component, including those that have been completed or are in progress across the region; and
- Identification of the evidence base likely to be required to underpin a regional spatial plan and a stocktake of existing available information (including the identification of information gaps).

The proposed approach for Phase 1 is set out on the following page.

The scoping of Phase 2 will be informed by the findings of Phase 1 and will be completed in mid-2025.

Approach to Phase 1 – Stocktake



6. Key tasks and timeframes

Key tasks	Steps	Interdependencies	Start date	Completion date	Outputs / deliverables
Task 1 – Project establishment	Phase 1 Scope of Work finalised / approved	CPF meeting 16 December 2024 CEF meeting 27 January 2025	1 November 2024	31 January 2025	Agreed Scope of Work and agreed approach to resourcing and timeframes for delivery
Task 2 – Stocktake of existing spatial plans and strategies	Review previous stocktake of spatial plans and strategies in the region		1 February 2025	7 February 2025	
	Initial engagement with key contacts within the regional council and district / city councils	Capacity within councils to assist	1 February 2025	28 February 2025	
	Collate and review spatial plans and strategies provided by council contacts (including work that is programmed or in progress), including to identify geographic (and economic) area and spatial extent, timescale, and scope and focus ⁵	Information is provided by councils in a timely manner	10 February 2025	31 March 2025	
Task 3 – Stocktake of existing information	Scope information and evidence base likely to be required to support the development of a regional spatial plan		1 February 2025	7 February 2025	

⁵ This could include, for example, the location of strategic employment nodes, ‘regional structures’ for town centres, housing provision, transport investment priority projects etc.

	Initial engagement with key contacts within the regional council and district / city councils	Capacity within councils to assist	1 February 2025	28 February 2025	
	Collate existing technical reports, monitoring, geospatial information etc provided by council contacts (including work that is programmed or in progress). For example, the evidence base developed for district and regional planning processes, Greater Christchurch Spatial Plan, NPS-UD monitoring etc.	Information is provided by councils in a timely manner	10 February 2025	31 March 2025	
	Identify key information gaps		1 April 2025	11 April 2025	
Task 4 – Reporting	Draft report prepared		Early-April 2025	Early-May 2025	Draft report
	Review and feedback period		Early-May 2025	Early-June 2025	
	Report finalised			Mid-June 2025	Final report
Sign out process	Stocktake report presented to CPF			27 June 2025	CPF approval of report
	Stocktake report presented to CEF			28 July 2025	CEF approval of report

Acronyms

CPF – Canterbury Policy Forum

CEF – Canterbury Chief Executives Forum

7. Resourcing and budget

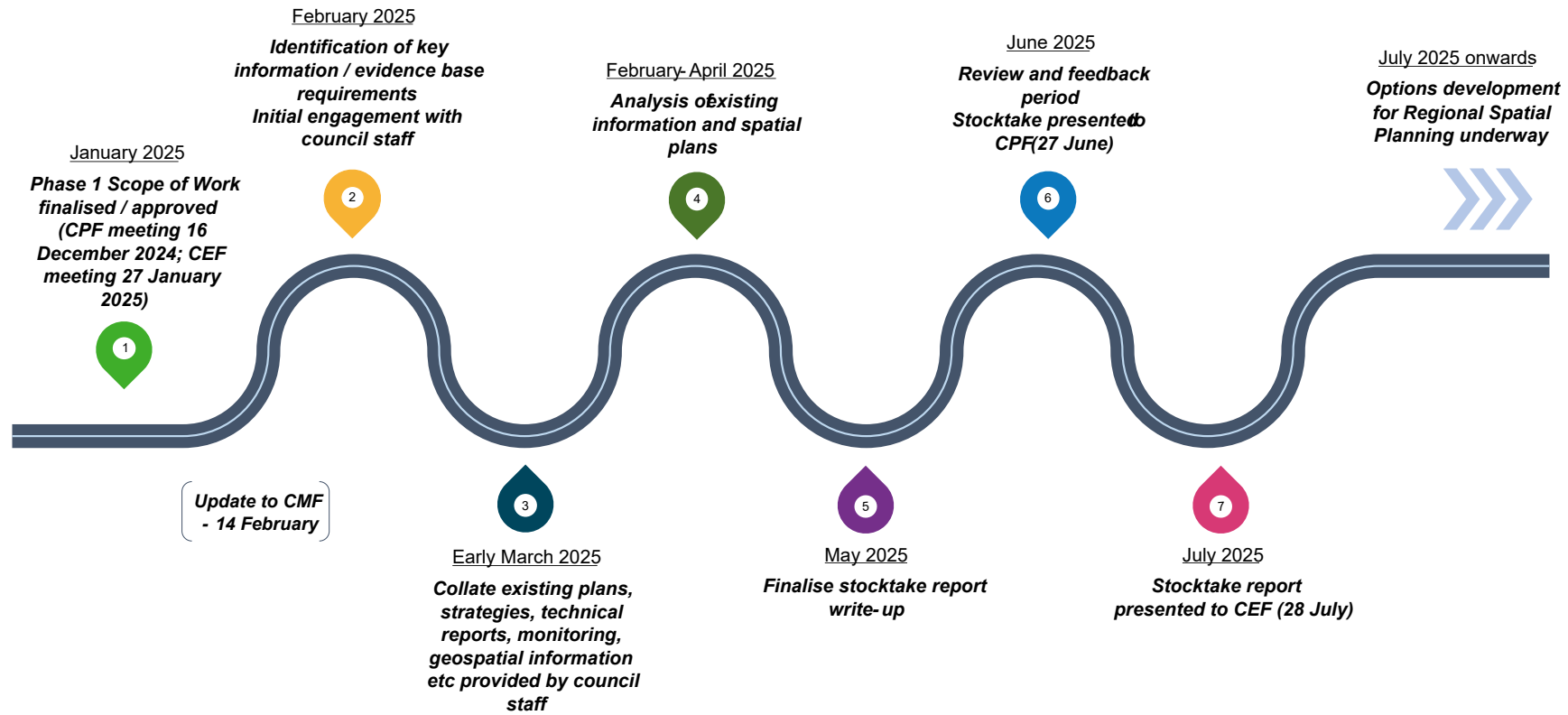
The estimated time required to undertake the tasks described in Sections 5 and 6, are set out below:

	Q2 (Oct – Dec 2024)	Q3 (Jan – Mar 2025)	Q4 (Apr – Jun 2025)
Scope of Work	10 hours		
Stocktake of existing spatial plans and strategies		40 hours	
Scoping of regional spatial planning information requirements		10 hours	
Stocktake of existing information		60 hours	
Report write-up			60 hours
Reporting (CEDF, CPF, CEF)	8 hours	8 hours	8 hours
Total estimated time required	18 hours	118 hours	68 hours

Internal resource is available at Environment Canterbury to undertake the Phase 1 Stocktake. Support from staff within the district and city councils will be required, to identify and collate relevant plans, strategies and other information. The work will be overseen by the Canterbury Planning Managers Group, reporting through to the Policy Forum and Chief Executives Forum.

Provided sufficient staff (in-kind) resource is available within councils, there are not expected to be any additional expenses or budget requirements attributed to the delivery of the Phase 1 Stocktake.

Key milestones



Canterbury Chief Executives Forum

Date: 27 January 2025

Presented by: Hamish Riach, Chair

Water reform

There is no paper for this item. This is an opportunity for members to provide an update on water reform processes within their respective councils.

Canterbury Chief Executives Forum

Date: 27 January 2025

Presented by: Angela Oosthuizen, Hamish Dobbie, Sharon Mason, Stuart Duncan, Will Doughty, Secretariat

Regional forums update

Purpose

1. This report summarises outcomes from the regional forum meetings since the Chief Executives Forum last met on 21 October 2024.

Recommendations

That the Canterbury Chief Executives Forum:

1. **receive the quarterly reports on the December 2024 regional forum meetings and updates on the workstream tracker**
2. **receive the quarterly update on the 2024-25 regional forums budget.**

Background

2. The regional forums held regular quarterly meetings in December 2024:
 - the Communications and Engagement Forum met on 6 December
 - the Corporate and Operations Forums met on 9 December
 - the Economic Development and Policy Forums met on 16 December.

Communications and Engagement Forum (chair Will Doughty)

3. The Forum met in person on 6 December. Key agenda items included:
 - discussion on a regional approach to Election 2025
 - Civil Defence PIM update
 - council updates including current and upcoming consultations
 - the CCEF work programme and priorities.
4. The Forum next meets on 21 March.

Corporate Forum (chair Angela Oosthuizen)

5. The Forum met online on 9 December. Key agenda items included:

- ALGIM stocktake, with a report to be considered by Chief Information Officers Group, then the Corporate Forum in March 2025
- update on the Snap, Send Solve system, noting that the following seven councils – Ashburton, Environment Canterbury, Hurunui, Selwyn, Timaru, Waimakariri and Waitaki have signed an MOU for a further two-year contract, while a review of the marketplace for potential replacement products is undertaken
- update on the completion of the Information Management Maturity Assessment (IMMA) noting that the findings have been shared with the Public Records Information Management (CRIMS) working group. The Assessment is being used to develop a workplan for the next three years
- water economic regulation and financing requirements, including an update on each council's preparatory work
- council updates, including cyber/fraud staff training, financial system updates, changes to national bus ticketing systems, new ERP system (Hurunui, Kaikoura, Waimakariri), Annual Report, Annual Plan and LTP work, business continuity and disaster recovery review, water service delivery work, insurance renewals, organisational restructures
- working group updates including Finance Managers, Health and Safety Advisors, and Canterbury Public Records Act Executive Sponsors Group and Canterbury Records and Information Managers Support Group.
- use of the local government MahiTahi collaboration portal, noting while the principle of portal is good, there has been very little use to date. The CIO working group advise they intend to use portal going forward

6. The Forum next meets on 17 March.

Operations Forum (chair Stuart Duncan)

7. The Forum met online on 9 December. Key agenda items included:

- roundtable update on water reform updates
- council updates including waste levies and nitrates in drinking water
- working group updates, including the Joint Waste Committee, Transport Funding Steering Group, and the Regional Stormwater Forum. It was noted that some working groups do not provide regular updates.

8. The Forum next meets on 17 March.

Economic Development Forum (chair Sharon Mason)

9. The Forum met online on 16 December. Key agenda items included:

- an update on the development of the Waitaha Canterbury Regional Housing Strategic Plan
- an update on the Canterbury Regional Energy Inventory, noting key progress to date including finalisation of the scope of work and project plan, development of a stakeholder

engagement plan, targeted engagement with key energy sector stakeholders and subject matter experts, and commencement of report drafting. Key next steps for the project are

- continuation of targeted stakeholder engagement meetings
- a half-day workshop on 28 January bringing together key energy sector stakeholders and subject matter experts to discuss / test emerging findings and explore key opportunities and challenges facing the region
- continuation of desktop research and analysis and drafting of the inventory report.

Mayoral Forum signoff and publication of the energy inventory report is currently scheduled for May 2025.

- an update from the Regional Public Service Commissioner
- a discussion on the lodgement of a Regional Deals expression of interest
- an update on the skills and immigration work
- regional updates from ChristchurchNZ, Enterprise North Canterbury, Waitaki District Council, Venture Timaru, Ashburton District Council, Selwyn District Council, and Kānoa.

Business Canterbury – driving the future of Waitaha Canterbury

10. Forum members discussed the draft workshop summary from the Canterbury Regional Leadership discussion run by Business Canterbury. Members agreed to provide feedback on the summary report with the intention of providing a combined response to Business Canterbury. See item 4.2 for a collective response to the workshop summary report.

11. The Forum next meets on 28 March.

Policy Forum (chair Hamish Dobbie)

12. The Policy Forum met online on 16 December. Key agenda items included:

- the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan year 1 implementation, and the role of the Climate Change Reference Group discussion scheduled for the February Mayoral Forum meeting
- the proposed approach for a Waitaha Canterbury Regional Spatial Plan (see item 4.6)
- Canterbury Water Management Strategy zone committee 2024 review update
- the March 2025 policy development workshop for council policy staff
- discussion of top-of-mind issues for each council
- updates from the Regional Climate Change, and Planning Manager's working groups.

13. The Forum next meets on 28 March.

Regional forums budget 2024/25

14. The Canterbury Chief Executives Forum approved the regional forums 2024/2025 budget at its meeting in July 2024, subject to the budget being updated to ensure that it was not in deficit.
15. The regional forums budget funds collaborative projects and regional training workshops. Environment Canterbury acts as fund holder for regional forums, as part of providing secretariat support.
16. The income and expenditure report as of 30 December 2024 is provided at Attachment 1.

Workstream tracker

17. The latest version of the workstream tracker is provided at Attachment 2.

Next meetings

18. Scheduled forum meetings for the upcoming quarter are:

13 Feb	Mayoral Forum dinner
14 Feb	Mayoral Forum
17 Mar	Corporate and Operations Forums
21 Mar	Communications and Engagement Forum
28 Mar	Economic Development and Policy Forums

Attachments

- Attachment 1 – Income and Expenditure report - 30 December 2024
- Attachment 2 – Workstream tracker

Regional Forums Budget 2024/2025 Budget

INCOME	Contribution	Budget 2024/25	Actual 2024/25
Regional Forums Levy 2024/25	Ratios		
Environment Canterbury	21%	\$12,907.32	\$12,907.32
Christchurch City	21%	\$12,907.32	\$12,907.32
Selwyn District	11%	\$6,760.98	\$6,760.98
Waimakariri District	11%	\$6,760.98	\$6,760.98
Ashburton District	10%	\$6,146.34	\$6,146.34
Timaru District	10%	\$6,146.34	\$6,146.34
Hurunui District	5%	\$3,257.54	\$3,257.54
Waimate District	4%	\$2,458.54	\$2,458.54
Waitaki District	4%	\$2,458.54	\$2,458.54
Kaikōura District	3%	\$1,598.05	\$1,598.05
Mackenzie District	3%	\$1,598.05	\$1,598.05
TOTAL INCOME	100%	\$63,000.00	\$63,000.00

SURPLUS carried forward from 2023/24	\$114,395.82	\$114,395.82
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE for 2024/25	\$177,395.82	\$177,395.82

EXPENDITURE	Budget 2024/25	Forecast to end of FY (including actuals)	Actual 2024/25
Research			
TBC	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	
	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$-
Mayoral Forum Plan for Canterbury 2023-2025			
Housing strategy	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	
Energy Inventory	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	
Skills & immigration	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$-
Canterbury Climate Action Plan Launch & Video	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$5,929.00
	\$112,500.00	\$112,500.00	\$5,929.00
Workshops			
Economic Development workshop	\$1,590.00	\$1,590.00	\$1,590.00
Economic Priorities Business Canterbury	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
	\$31,590.00	\$31,590.00	\$31,590.00
Training Events			
Building blocks for better policy workshop	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$-
	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$-
Collaborative projects			
TBC			
	\$-	\$-	\$-
Three waters			
Three waters council contributions carried forward	\$9,268.00	\$9,268.00	\$-
	\$9,268.00	\$9,268.00	\$-
Secretariat / Administration			
Travel (secretariat support)	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$-
Mayoral Forum leaving gifts	\$500.00	\$500.00	
Gifts for guest speakers	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$310.00
	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$310.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$159,358.00	\$159,358.00	\$37,829.00

SURPLUS / DEFICIT	Budget 2024/25	Forecast to end of FY (including actuals)	Actual 2024/25
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	\$177,395.82	\$177,395.82	\$177,395.82
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$159,358.00	\$159,358.00	\$37,829.00
TOTAL SURPLUS / DEFICIT	\$18,037.82	\$18,037.82	\$139,566.82

Canterbury Regional Forums workstream tracker 2023-2025

Updated 15 January 2025
Refreshed Plan for Canterbury 23 February 2024

#	Workstream	Reports to	Delivery lead	Update	Status	Due	Budget	Budget status	Outcomes
Continued support of the Te Uru Kahika - Regional and Unitary Councils Aotearoa business case for permanent co-investment from the Government in river management for flood protection									Government provides permanent co-investment for flood protection
1b	Include in briefings to new Ministers following 2023 general election	Mayoral Forum	Secretariat	Included in briefings to Ministers 1 March 2024 Included in Budget 2024	Completed	1 March 2024	\$ -	N/a	Including local share the three funded projects are a combined \$9.5m. This is one part of regional investment to prepare for the impacts of climate change, and consequential emergencies
Advocate with the Government for immigration and skills policies that work for Canterbury									Government adopts a more regional approach to immigration policies
2b	Develop the evidence base on the current state of the labour market in the region, including skills and labour shortages now, and explore growth challenges	Mayoral Forum	Economic Development Forum	Initial budget approved by CEs Forum 1 May. Consultant has been engaged, and work underway.	on track	TBC	\$ 5,000.00	Approved by CEs Forum	
2c	Include in briefings to new Ministers following 2023 general election	Mayoral Forum	Secretariat		Completed	1 March 2024			
Advocate with Government to review transport funding legislation to better empower local authorities to develop local funding solutions									Future funding/investment distribution reflects the contribution of Waitaha/Canterbury to NZ's GDP
3b	include in briefings to new Ministers following 2023 general election	Mayoral Forum	Secretariat	Included in briefings to Ministers 1 March 2024	Completed	1-Mar-24			
3c	include in joint RTC CMF submission on Government's Policy Statement on Transport	Mayoral Forum	Secretariat	Joint RTC CMF submikssion on Transport GPS submitted	Completed				
3d	Establish a Canterbury Transport Funding Steering Group	Mayoral Forum	CE & Operations Forum	Analysis on impacts of GPS signalled system reforms. Improving sector alignment through participating and contributing to the TSIG, planning more detail for procurement cases - see item 4.5	on track				Transport Funding Steering Group established - work underway
Continue oversight of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy									CWMS remains fit for purpose and the region retains a shared understanding of water management issues
4a	Continue providing regular reporting to the Mayoral Forum and Chief Executives Forum	Mayoral Forum	Environment Canterbury	see item 4.3	On track	Ongoing	\$ -	N/a	
Support the Biodiversity Champions as the key conduit for a shared regional approach to biodiversity, facilitating work across the region on the revitalisation of the Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy, and the development of a regional biodiversity monitoring framework									A new (refreshed/updated) Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy, including the regional biodiversity monitoring framework
5a	Biodiversity Champions Group established	Mayoral Forum	Environment Canterbury	Biodiversity Champions Terms of Reference confirmed and group established.	Completed	20 July 2023	\$ -	N/a	
5b	Continue providing regular reporting to the Mayoral Forum	Mayoral Forum	Environment Canterbury	The Biodiversity Champions have prepared an updated biodiversity stocktake report which will be presented to the Mayoral Forum at their November 2024 meeting. A regional diversity monitoring programme will be prepared. Included in briefings to Ministers 1 March 2024	On track	Ongoing	\$ -	N/a	

Canterbury Regional Forums workstream tracker 2023-2025

Updated 15 January 2025
Refreshed Plan for Canterbury 23 February 2024

#	Workstream	Reports to	Delivery lead	Update	Status	Due	Budget	Budget status	Outcomes
Continue to encourage, support and advocate for research and investment in diversifying and adding value to our agricultural production									
6a	Discuss with Ministers as part of Wellington visit	Mayoral Forum	Secretariat	Included in briefing packs for meeting with Ministers in Wellington on 11 May 2023	Completed	11 May 2023	\$ -	N/a	
6b	Include in briefings to new Ministers following 2023 general election	Mayoral Forum	Secretariat	Included in briefings to Ministers 1 March 2024	Completed				
Develop a regional housing strategy that will identify the range of housing issues affecting communities across the region and a pathway forward to improve them									The Forum has clarity on housing issues affecting communities in Waitaha/Canterbury and understands pathways for improvement
7a	Investment logic mapping process to clearly identify and articulate the issue that a regional housing strategy will address	Mayoral Forum	Economic Development Forum	ILM workshop held 1 September; outputs from this are being finalised	Completed	30 September 2023	\$ 10,000.00	Approved by CEs Forum	
7b	Undertake a stocktake of current housing strategies across the motu	Mayoral Forum	Economic Development Forum	To be considered in support of the RFQ	on hold	29 February 2024	TBC	N/a	
7b	Develop full scope for Regional Housing Strategy, including budget for CE approval	Mayoral Forum	Economic Development Forum	Consultant engaged and work underway	on track	30 June 2025	\$ 50,000.00	Approved by CEs Forum	
Oversee a Canterbury-wide climate change partnership plan, which will confirm a collaborative vision for regional adaptation planning, an 'urgency assessment' to support prioritising climate actions, and a funding plan laying out a regional/aligned approach for accessing finance for climate actions in Canterbury									Completion of the Climate Change partnership plan and agreement on action planning
8a	Establish Climate Change reference group	Mayoral Forum	Climate Change Working Group	Climate change reference group established, chair Dan Gordon, Mayor Waimakariri District Council.	Completed	1 February 2023	\$ -	N/a	
8b	Deliver Canterbury-wide climate change partnership plan	Mayoral Forum	Climate Change Working Group	Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan approved	Completed	30 August 2024	TBC	Councils inserting bids into LTPs	Plan completed, launch planned for 13 December 2024
8c	Initiate delivery of Climate Partnership Plan actions	Mayoral Forum	Climate Change Working Group Secretariat	Implementation underway see item 4.4	on track	29 November 2024	as agreed in CCPP	Approved through council LTPs	
Support the region to foster partnerships to investigate barriers and harness opportunities to improve our energy security and systems in ways that maximise benefits for our community, economy, and environment									
9a	preparation of a draft energy inventory to support future regional / sub-regional energy strategies	Mayoral Forum	Economic Development Forum	Work underway, stakeholder engagement hui scheduled 28 January - see item 4.8	on track	TBC	\$50,000	Approved by CEs Forum	

Canterbury Regional Forums workstream tracker 2023-2025

Updated 15 January 2025
Refreshed Plan for Canterbury 23 February 2024

#	Workstream	Reports to	Delivery lead	Update	Status	Due	Budget	Budget status	Outcomes
Lead development of a 10-year plan for Canterbury councils to move to a common platform for IT systems and digital services (including valuation and rating functions) and secure cost savings through group licensing procurement, with specific concrete actions to be implemented in each year of the 10-year plan									
11a	Conduct a stocktake of Canterbury councils' IT platforms, applications and procurement / licensing cycles and investment intentions to inform planning to move towards a common platform by 2030. Information collated for DIA is to be sent to the CIOs to analyse; they will then report back to the Corporate Forum.	Corporate Forum	Chief Information Officers Group (CIOs)	This action was paused to allow the Forum to complete its project on collaborative procurement. Now that the project is complete, the CIOs will consider the value in continuing with this work and report through to the Forum.	On hold		N/A	N/A	
11b	Develop a business case (with value proposition and a request for funding) to go to member councils to test and build consensus on a collective vision, commitment and understanding of what it might mean over time for procurement and renewal cycles for IT systems and digital services	Corporate Forum	Chief Information Officers Group (CIOs)	As above.	Not started		N/A	N/A	
Align renewal of waste minimisation plans to provide a consistent approach to waste management across the region and improve efficiencies									
13a	Align renewal of waste minimisation plans	Operations Forum	Andrew Dixon	Andrew Dixon to work with Canterbury Joint Waste Committee on this.	Not started	30 June 2024	\$ -	N/a	
Support regional collaboration as opportunities arise									Waitaha/Canterbury continues to have strong collaboration across councils
16a	Review forums ToRs three-yearly	Chief Executives Forum	Secretariat	Terms of reference reviewed and approved at 6 Nov Chief Executives Forum. Annual review in Nov 2024.	On track	1 November 2024	\$ -	N/a	
16b	Collaborate on LTPs	Policy Forum			Not started		\$ -	N/a	
16c	Hold regional training workshops	Policy Forum		Building Better Policy workshop to be held Jan or March 2025	on track		\$ 2,000.00	Approved by CEs Forum	
16d	Supporting councils with affordable water transitions	Chief Executives Forum	Operations Forum	Action required will be dependent on actions from new government	on hold		\$ -	N/a	

Canterbury Chief Executives Forum

Date: 27 January 2025

Presented by: Diane McDermott, Regional Public Service Commissioner

Regional Public Service Commissioner update

Purpose

1. The purpose of this paper is to provide a quarterly regional public service commissioner update.

Recommendation

That the Canterbury Chief Executives Forum:

1. **note the update from Diane McDermott, Regional Public Service Commissioner.**

Background

2. At the August 2021 Chief Executives Forum, it was agreed that a standing item be included on future Chief Executives Forum meeting agendas for the Regional Public Service Lead (now Regional Public Service Commissioner (RPSC)).

Regional Public Service Commissioner update

3. A verbal update will be provided at the meeting.

DRAFT AGENDA

CANTERBURY MAYORAL FORUM



Name:	Canterbury Mayoral Forum
Date:	Friday, 14 February 2025
Time:	8:30 am to 1:00 pm (NZDT)
Location:	Commodore Hotel, 449 Memorial Avenue, Burnside, Christchurch
Board Members:	Nigel Bowen (Chair), Anne Munro, Craig Pauling, Craig Rowley, Craig Mackle, Dan Gordon, Gary Kircher, Marie Black, Neil Brown, Phil Mauer, Sam Broughton
Attendees:	Alex Parmley, Amelia Wilkins, Angela Oosthuizen, Ann Fitzgerald, Hamish Riach, Hamish Dobbie, Jeff Millward, Maree McNeilly, Mary Richardson, Mayor Monique Croon, Nigel Trainor, Paul Eagle, Sharon Mason, Stefanie Rixecker, Stuart Duncan, Will Doughty

1. Opening meeting

1.1 Karakia, welcome, introductions and apologies

8:30 am (5 min)

Nigel Bowen

Canterbury Mayoral Forum

Ko Ngā Tiritiri o te Moana ngā maunga

Ko ngā wai huka ngā awa i rere tonu mai

Ko Ngā Pākihi Whakatekateka o Waitaha te whenua

Ko Marokura, ko Mahaanui, ko Araiteuru ngā tai

Thei mauri ora!

The Southern Alps stand above

The snow-fed rivers continually flow forth

The plains of Waitaha extend out

To the tides of Marokura, Mahaanui and Araiteuru

Behold, there is life!

1.2 Confirmation of agenda

8:35 am (5 min)

Nigel Bowen

1.3 Minutes from the previous meeting

8:40 am (5 min)

Nigel Bowen

Supporting Documents:

1.3.a Minutes : Canterbury Mayoral Forum - 29 Nov 2024

1.4 Action List

Nigel Bowen

Supporting Documents:

1.4.a Action List

2. For discussion

2.1 Future regional and local government for Canterbury

8:45 am (60 min)

Hamish Riach

3. Morning tea

3.1 Morning tea

9:45 am (20 min)

4. For discussion and decision

4.1 Canterbury Economic Development Priorities

10:05 am (30 min)

Nigel Bowen

Leeann Watson

4.2 Canterbury Aerospace Strategy

10:35 am (30 min)

Nigel Bowen

Ali Adams, CHCHNZ

4.3 Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan implementation

11:05 am (15 min)

Hamish Dobbie

4.4 Canterbury Water Mangement Strategy update

11:20 am (5 min)

Craig Pauling

5. For information

5.1 Regional Public Service Commissioner update

11:25 am (15 min)

Diane McDermott

5.2 Chief Executives Forum report

11:40 am (5 min)

Hamish Riach

5.3 Mayoral Forum Activities and Engagements

6. General business

6.1 Meeting review

11:45 am (5 min)

6.2 General business

11:50 am (10 min)

7. Close Meeting

7.1 Closing karakia

12:00 pm (5 min)

Nigel Bowen

Kia tau te rangimarie ki runga I nga iwi o te ao

Haumi e

Hui e

Taiki e

Let peace reign on all the people of the world

Fixed

Bound as one

7.2 Close the meeting

Next meeting: Canterbury Mayoral Forum - 30 May 2025, 8:30 am