



# 2037 17-18 Recommendations for funding from the Regional Growth Initiative Fund and Provincial Growth Fund – 9 February 2018

#### Within this document:

- Rail Freight Opportunities Whanganui Rail Upgrade
- Wairoa to Napier Railway
- Rail Freight Opportunities Kawerau/Murupara
- Rail Freight Opportunities New Plymouth Eastgate
- Rail Freight Opportunities South Port
- Bay of Islands Airport Terminal Upgrade
- Russell Wharf
- Opua Wharf
- Paihia Wharf
- Wood Engineering Centre of Excellence
- Wilderness Cycle Trail
- Old Ghost Road Cycle Trail
- Whanganui Port Development
- Whanganui Port Geotechnical Feasibility
- Hundertwasser Arts Centre



# **BRIEFING**

# Recommendations for funding from the Regional Growth Initiative Fund and Provincial Growth Fund

Date:		9 Febru	uary 2018		Priority:	High		
Security classificatio		In Confidence		Tracking number:	2037	2037 17-18		
Antion nove	h4						1	
Action soug	iii.		-	Action sough	n#	-4	Deadlin	
Hon Grant Robertson Minister of Finance  Hon Phil Twyford Minister of Transport			Note the cont	Note the contents of this brief in preparation for your meeting on Monday 12 February 2018.				
					ents of this brie your meeting ebruary 2018.		12 Febru	uary 2018
Minister for Economic			Note the contents of this brief in preparation for your meeting on Monday 12 February 2018.					
		M	$\mathcal{D}^{\prime}$	211	))			
Hon Shane J Minister for Developmen	Regi	onal E		preparation fo	ents of this brie or your meeting ebruary 2018.		12 Febru	uary 2018
Hon Shane J Minister for Developmen Contact for t	Regi	onal E		preparation for Monday 12 Fo	r your meeting		12 Febru	
Hon Shane J Minister for Developmen	Regi	phone o	discussion osition	preparation for Monday 12 For on (if required)	or your meeting ebruary 2018.			
Hon Shane J Minister for Developmen Contact for t Name John Doorba	Regi	phone of E	osition Director, Reconomic	preparation for Monday 12 For on (if required) Regional Development Regions and	r your meeting ebruary 2018.	on		
Hon Shane J Minister for Developmen Contact for t Name John Doorba	telep	phone c	osition Director, R Economic Manager, Cities Teal	preparation for Monday 12 For on (if required) Regional Development Regions and	Telephone 04 896 5565 04 901 3898	on		
Hon Shane J Minister for Developmen Contact for t Name John Doorba Stephanie W	telep eller	phone of pho	osition Director, R Economic Manager, Cities Team	preparation for Monday 12 For on (if required) Regional Development Regions and m	Telephone 04 896 5565 04 901 3898	9(2)(a)		1st contact
Hon Shane J Minister for Developmen Contact for t Name John Doorba Stephanie W The followin Te Puni Kōki	telep eller g de	phone of the partment of the p	osition Director, Reconomic Manager, Cities Teal	preparation for Monday 12 For	Telephone 04 896 5565 04 901 3898 n consulted nistry of Transp	9(2)(a)		1st contact
Hon Shane J Minister for Developmen Contact for t Name John Doorba Stephanie W The followin Te Puni Kōki	telep eller g de	phone of the partment of the p	osition Director, Reconomic Manager, Cities Teal	preparation for Monday 12 For	Telephone 04 896 5565 04 901 3898 n consulted nistry of Transp	9(2)(a)	Treasury	1st contact
Hon Shane J Minister for Developmen Contact for t Name John Doorba Stephanie W	telep eller g de	phone of the partment of the p	osition Director, Reconomic Manager, Cities Teal	preparation for Monday 12 For	Telephone 04 896 5565 04 901 3898 n consulted nistry of Transp	9(2)(a)	Treasury  Declined Needs	1st contact



# **BRIEFING**

# Recommendations for funding from the Regional Growth Initiative Fund and Provincial Growth Fund

Date:	9 February 2018	Priority:	High	
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2037 17-18	

# **Purpose**

On Monday February 12, the Minister of Finance, Minister of Transport, Minister for Economic Development and the Minister for Regional Economic Development are meeting to approve funding of projects for announcement at the launch of the Provincial Growth Fund in Gisborne on 23 February 2018. This briefing provides information on the projects recommended by Senior Regional Officials for that meeting.

# **Executive summary**

The Government has committed to a significant investment in regional economic development through the establishment of the Tuawhenua Provincial Growth Fund (the PGF) of \$1bn per annum over three years. The PGF will invest in a range of projects from feasibility studies, capacity building and small local projects through to larger sector-led initiatives and infrastructure investments.

The Senior Regional Officials group convened on 8 February to review funding proposals and have made decisions within their delegations and recommendations for funding projects that require your delegated authority. This group comprises Deputy Secretary level officials that support economic development in respective regions.

The proposals have been assessed against the criteria for both the Regional Growth Initiatives Fund (RGI) and PGF and recommendations made as per the relevant delegated authority. These are outlined in appendix one. Funding decisions and recommendations for funding have been made from both the RGI and PGF.

We are seeking your approval of eight proposals at your meeting on Monday 12 February. The New Zealand Transport Agency will table a further four proposals for your consideration at the meeting. There are a further six proposals that fit with the draft PGF criteria being developed by officials, that we wish you to consider for approval, subject to the PGF criteria being confirmed by Cabinet on 19 February.

The Prime Minister and the Minister of Regional Economic Development will launch the PGF at Gisborne on Friday 23 February 2018 and will announce the suite of projects that will be funded from the PGF.

2037 17-18 In Confidence 1

# Recommended action

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment recommends that you:

- Note that Senior Regional Officials have reviewed the proposals outlined in schedule one and have recommended a range of actions, including
  - a. Already approved, ready to be announced,
  - b. Approve in full,
  - c. Approve subject to business case or further information,
  - d. No recommendation at this stage, continue to work with the applicant,
  - e. Proceed through the Cabinet process.
  - f. Decline, does not meet criteria.
- b. **Note** that Cabinet has agreed to the following delegations:
  - a. Minister for Regional Economic Development to approve projects less than \$1m;
  - b. Minister of Finance, Minister for Regional Economic Development, Minister for Economic Development, and Minister of Transport, together with any other relevant portfolio Ministers (joint Ministers), to approve projects between \$1m and \$10m, and in exceptional circumstances up to \$20m;
  - c. agree that projects greater than \$10m require Cabinet approval, (other than those approved by joint Ministers in exceptional circumstances up to \$20m)
- Approve the projects recommended by the SRQs that fit within your delegated authority C. of up to \$1m under the RGI as the Minister for Regional Economic Development.
- Agree to the recommendations made by the SROs regarding proposals of more than d. \$1m assessed under the RGI criteria that require approval by the delegated Ministers.
- Note that SROs have identified some proposals that fit with the draft PGF criteria that e. have been developed by officials, and that these criteria will be confirmed by Cabinet on 19 February 2018
- Agree in principle to the recommendations made by the SROs regarding proposals of more than \$1m assessed under the draft PGF criteria that require approval by the delegated Ministers, subject to these criteria being confirmed by Cabinet on 19 February

Jo	hìn	ı D	Ò	O	rb	ar

Director, Regional Economic Development,

9,2,18

Hon Shane Jones

**Minister for Regional Economic Development** 

..... / ...... / ......

# **Background**

- 1. The Government is committed to economic growth that is sustainable and benefits all New Zealanders. Regional economic development is an essential component of the Government's economic strategy.
- 2. In December 2017, Cabinet agreed to establish the Tuawhenua Provincial Growth Fund (the PGF), a \$1 billion per annum fund investment for three years, with the overall objective to lift productivity potential in the regions [CAB-17-MIN-0554, paragraphs 1 and 2]. The Fund will have three tiers: Regional Projects and Capability; Sector Investments (including the One Billion Trees Programme); and Enabling Infrastructure Projects [CAB-17-MIN-0554, paragraph 7].
- 3. Cabinet also agreed that projects agreed in 2017/18 that require new funding be subject to the PGF processes, including objectives, criteria and any detailed criteria and success measures agreed to in a February 2018 report back, with existing criteria for the Regional Growth Initiatives appropriation used in the interim. The draft PGF criteria that officials have been developing will be confirmed by Cabinet on 19 February when they consider this report.
- 4. Senior Regional Officials (SROs) have continued to assess projects prior to the February 2018 report using the existing criteria for the Regional Growth Initiatives (RGI) appropriation. There are some projects that fit the draft criteria for the PGF rather than the RGI. We are seeking your approval of these projects, subject to Cabinet confirmation of the PGF criteria on 19 February 2018.
- 5. In December 2017, Cabinet also agreed to the following delegations before the February 2018 report for projects that are investment-ready but require new funding:
  - authorise the Minister for Regional Economic Development to approve projects less than \$1 million;
  - authorise the Minister of Finance, Minister for Regional Economic Development, Minister for Economic Development, and Minister of Transport, together with any other relevant portfolio Ministers (joint Ministers), to approve projects between \$1 million and \$10 million, and in exceptional circumstances up to \$20 million;
  - agree that projects greater than \$10 million require Cabinet approval, (other than those approved by joint Ministers in exceptional circumstances up to \$20 million as provided for under paragraph 13.2);

# **Funding decisions**

- 6. The Senior Regional Officials (SROs) group met on 8 February 2018 and reviewed a suite of proposals against the criteria for the RGI and the PGF and have made decisions within their delegations and recommendations for those within your Ministerial delegations. (See schedule one.)
- 7. In reviewing the proposals, SROs have followed your instruction and taken an ambitious approach to supporting regional economic development. They have considered projects that are a combination of regional priorities, and also some that are sectoral and infrastructural in nature.
- 8. Some of the projects will set precedents for future decisions and we seek clarification from Ministers as to whether they are willing to set these precedents by supporting these projects.

2037 17-18 In Confidence 3

Project	Issues of precedents	Recommended action
Bay of Islands Airport	Funding of the Bay of Islands Airport will set precedents for the funding of other regional airports  9(2)(g)(i)	The SROs agree in principle to supporting this project, subject to 9(2)(g)(i)
		9(2)(f)(iv)
Russell Wharf	Funding of development and repairs of wharves at Russell, Opua	SROs have taken the view to fund
Opua Wharf	and Paihia could set precedents for	in terms of their relationship to the broader regional tourism priorities
Paihia Wharf	central government funding of local government infrastructure.	including the sestercentennial celebrations in 2019.
	9(2)(g)(i)	In addition, Northland is a high growth tourism region with a low rating base. We could share costs with local government and
		differentiate between resilience and remediation funding and broader strategic outcomes.

- 9. We are also aware that by funding feasibility studies and business cases there may be raised expectations for further funding of the end projects 9(2)(f)(iv) plan. Officials will be clear to applicants about what we can and can't fund and that any further funding decisions will be based on the completed business cases.
- 10. The February report to Cabinet supports investment in resilience of infrastructure and we will then develop robust criteria to deal with incentive effects for local government.
- 11. NZTA officials will table material for four roading projects at Monday's meeting for your consideration.

# Next steps

# Report to Cabinet on the PGF

- 12. 12 February, the Ministers of Finance, Transport, Economic Development and Regional Economic Development meet and consider one proposal for funding within your delegations.
- 13.) 14 February, Economic Development (EDEV) Cabinet Committee considers an oral item to consider seven proposals that fall outside of current delegations.
- 14. 19 February, Cabinet confirms EDEV's recommendations.
- 23 February, The Prime Minister and the Minister for Regional Economic Development launch the PGF in Gisborne.

# Launch of the PGF

16. Announcements at the launch will include the projects that are being funded from the PGF and will include aggregate investment by all partners' i.e. private, local government and central government.

# Pipeline of projects

17. Officials will continue to compile a pipeline of regional, sectoral and infrastructure projects. Some of these projects will be submitted for consideration in the current financial year while others will be considered over the coming year.

# **Financial implications**

- 18. Officials are recommending that joint Ministers approve the Whanganui Port development for \$3 million. Officials continue to work with the region on the business case and development of Whanganui Port, approving this central government commitment would be a significant boost for the project and the region.
- 19. Officials are recommending that joint Ministers endorse seven proposals for up to \$22.474 million to proceed as an oral item to Cabinet. These proposals are aligned with PGF criteria but not RGI criteria which CAB Minute CA-17-MIN-0554 requires. These projects are supported by SROs, but discussion by Ministers regarding precedent setting if approved needs to be considered, prior to Cabinet approving the Operational Design of the Tuawhenua Provisional Growth Fund.
  - One of these is recommended to be funded from Regional Growth Initiative MYA Bay of Islands Airport (\$1.750 million)
  - Six are recommended to be funded from Provincial Growth Fund (total \$10.724 million)

# **RGI MYA** appropriations table

		\$m	increase/(dec	rease)		
	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21 only	Total
Amount in Regional Growth Initiatives appropriation	12		44.000			44.000
Committed funding	(0.880)	(8.921)	(0.075)	(0)	(0)	(9.876)
In-principle funding endorsed awaiting business case from respective region (note 1)	(0)	(3.190)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(3.190)
Taranaki Package to be considered by Ministers and Cabinet late February 2018	- 4	(18.541)	-		- 1	(18.541)
Northland - Manea Footprints (Briefing MBIE 1580 17-18 refers)	10.3	(4.600)	-	- - 		(4.600)
Northland - Hihiaua Cultural Centre (Briefing MBIE-1545 17-18 refers)		(1.075)				(1.075)
West Coast - Waste to Energy Plant Greenhouses	-	(0.150)	- )	-	-	(0.150)
Gisborne Wood Engineering Centre of Excellence	-	(0.200)	-	-	•	(0.200)
West Coast - Wilderness Cycle Trail		(0.500)	-	-	- 1	(0.500)
West Coast - Old Ghost Road Cycle Trial	- 1	(0.500)	- 1	-	- 1	(0.500)
Northland - Bay of Islands Airport terminal upgrade	-	(1.750)	-	-	- 1	(1.750)
Amount remaining in Regional Growth Initiatives appropriation (note 2)			5.368			5.368

Note 1: In-Principle funding endorsed as part of government response to Action Plan - Awaiting business case and submission for formal approval by delegated authority (Ministers/SROs)

Note 2: Appropriation balance if current proposal for funding is approved.

# **PGF MYA appropriations table**

		\$m increase/(decrease)			
	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21 only	Total
Whanganui Port Development	(3.000)	-	EI .	-	(3.000)
Wairoa to Napier Railway	(5.000)	-	-	41	(5.000)
Rail Freight Opportunities - Kawerau/Murupara; South Port; and New Plymouth Eastgate	(0.750)	-			(0.750)
Russell Wharf	(1.114)	-8	-8	-	(1.114)
Opua Wharf	(0.890)	-3	153	7	(0.890)
Paihia Wharf	(2.970)	-8	2=8	1500	(2.970)
Recommended for approval as part of this current briefing (2037 17-18)	(13.724)	-	. 4	1120	(13.724)

# **Annexes**

Annex one: Schedule of projects and recommended actions

Annex two: Schedule of confirmed decisions

Annex three: Summary of projects for decision



2037 17-18 In Confidence 7

# Annex One: Schedule of Projects and Recommended Actions

nnex One: Schedule		agency Recommendation	Funding (up to Pot	ential Future	Source of funding	Comments	Strategic link to existing pla
				wn Investment			The state of the s
•		PPROVAL ON THE 12 FEBRAURY 2018		0/0//0/			
Whanganui Port development	Manawatu- MBI Whanganui	E 3. Approve subject to business case or further information	\$3,000,000	9(2)(f)(iv)	Provincial Growth Fund. There maybe additional support required from Crown the overall project is expected to be about \$90 million, most of which is through private investors and councils.	Approve subject to clear linkages are made between the rail upgrade project for Whanganui. 9(2)(f)(iv)	In regional action plan
CTION REQUIRED: FOR JO	DINT MINISTERS E	NDORSEMENT TO PROCEED TO EDEV AND	CABINET				
Whanganui Rail upgrade	Manawatu- MOT Whanganui	T 2. Approve in full	9(2)(f)(iv)		Provincial Growth Fund  Note: This is outside the CAB-17-MIN- 0554, but is aligned to PGF criteria and objectives being developed, and requires  Cabinet approval	Announce the commitment of Government to undertake the deferred maintenance on the Whanganui rail line, bringing the section to a standard that allows mainline locos to use. Noting 9(2)(f)(iv)	
Wairoa to Napier Rail	Hawke's Bay MOT	Γ 2. Approve in full	\$5,000,000	\$0	Provincial Growth Fund Note: This is outside the CAB-17-MIN- 0554, but is aligned to PGF criteria and objectives being developed, and requires Cabinet approval	confidence in the costs related to the maintenance required to bring the line to a safe operating	In regional action plan
Kawarau/Murupara rail freight opportunities	Bay of Plenty		Unl	known	Provincial Growth Fund	This is outside the criteria of RGI, but clearly aligns with Government priorities related to rail and the PGF criteria currently being established.	
South Port rail freight opportunities	Southland	T 2. Approve in full	Unl \$750,000	known	Provincial Growth Fund	This is outside the criteria of RGI, but clearly aligns with Government priorities related to rail and the PGF criteria currently being established.	
New Plymouth Eastgate rail freight opportunities	Taranaki		Unl	known	Provincial Growth Fund	This is outside the criteria of RGI, but clearly aligns with Government priorities related to rail and the PGF criteria currently being established.	
Bay of Islands Airport Terminal Upgrade - Kerikeri	Northland MBII	3. Approve subject to business case or further information	\$1,750,000	\$0	Regional Growth Initiative MYA - Precedent setting <b>needs Cabinet</b> Approval	9(2)(g)(i)	n regional action plan
Russell Wharf	Northland MBI	3. Approve subject to business case or further information	\$1,114,000		Provincial Growth Fund Note: This is outside the CAB-17-MIN- 0554, but is aligned to PGF criteria and objectives being developed, and requires Cabinet approval	This is outside the criteria of RGI, but aligns with Government direction in the establishment of PGF criteria which is being considered by Cabinet in February 2018. Direction is sought from Cabinet in the February paper for investment on infrastructure remediation and the precedent setting approving such project will make.	
Opua Wharf	Northland MBI	E 3. Approve subject to business case or further information	\$890,000		Provincial Growth Fund Note: This is outside the CAB-17-MIN- 0554, but is aligned to PGF criteria and objectives being developed, and requires Cabinet approval	This is outside the criteria of RGI, but aligns with Government direction in the establishment of PGF criteria which is being considered by Cabinet in February 2018. Direction is sought from Cabinet in the February paper for investment on infrastructure remediation and the precedent setting approving such project will make.	
Paihia Wharf	Northland MBI	further information	\$2,970,000		Provincial Growth Fund  Note: This is outside the CAB-17-MIN- 0554, but is aligned to PGF criteria and objectives being developed, and requires Cabinet approval	This is outside the criteria of RGI, but aligns with Government direction in the establishment of PGF criteria which is being considered by Cabinet in February 2018. Direction is sought from Cabinet in the February paper for investment on infrastructure remediation and the precedent setting approving such project will make.	
Waste to Energy South	West Coast MBI	IONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT APPRO  E 2. Approve in full	VAL - under \$1 million \$150,000	\$0	Regional Growth Initiative MYA		In regional growth study
Wood Engineered Centre of Excellence	Gisborne MPI	MBIE 2. Approve in full	\$200,000	Unknown	Regional Growth Initiative MYA - for business case development.	private investors 9(2)(b)(ii)  9(2)(f)(iv)	In regional action plan
						. To complete business case/feasibility and understand the role for government and future proposal to the PGF, and to identify the commercial and private sector investment in the overall initiative is imperative. PGF could build infrastructure and private investment in the commercial components of the operation in the future.	
Wilderness Cycle Trail	West Coast MBII		500000		Regional Growth Initiative MYA	·	In regional Action Plan
Old Ghost Road Cycle Trai	l West Coast MBI	E 3. Approve subject to business case or further information	\$500,000		Regional Growth Initiative MYA		In regional action plan
TION REQUIRED: CURRI	ENTLY UNDER ACT	IVE CONSIDERATION BY RELEVANT MINIS	TER SEE ACTION REQU	IIRED			
Manea - Footprints of Kupe	Northland MBII	E 2. Approve in full	\$4,600,000	\$0	Regional Growth Initiative MYA	Do not have Min Robertson (MOF) approval, three others have approved - Davis, Twyford, and	In regional action plan
Hihiaua Stage One	Northland MBII	E 2. Approve in full	\$1,075,000		Regional Growth Initiative MYA	Parker.  Do not have Min Robertson (MOF) and Parker (ED) approval, two others have approved - Davis, and Twyford	



2037 17-18 in Confidence 8

	Region	Lead agency	Recommendation	Funding (up to	Potential Future	Source of funding	Comments	Strategic link to existing plan
				amounts)	Crown Investment			
inex Two: Schedule			sions					
Port Study	Multi-region		1. Already approved awaiting to be announced	\$850,000	) Unknown	Regional Growth Initiative MYA - Reprioritisation from CAB minute CAB-17- MIN-0550 refers		
Waste to Energy Plant Greenhouses	West Coast	NZTE / MBIE	1. Already approved awaiting to be announced	\$200,000	) Unknown	NZTE Funding of \$200k.	Provincial Growth Fund may support future development and wider scope of opportunities are identified and quantum understood.	In regional growth study
Whanganui Port - Geotechnical feasibility	Manawatu- Whanganui	MBIE	1. Already approved awaiting to be announced	\$90,000	)	Regional Growth Initiative MYA, this in addition to the \$500k approved for business case development		In regional action plan
Whakaki Lower Catchment Pilot Project	t Hawke's Bay	MPI	1. Already approved awaiting to be announced	\$100,000	)	Regional Growth Initiative MYA	Announce 88,000 trees over 4 years, cleaning up the lake - environmental, more productive land, and youth employment opportunities.	Links to action plan for yout employment and PGF with respect to One Billion Trees
Totara Industry Pilot Programme	Northland	MPI	Already approved awaiting to be announced	\$450,000	\$0	Regional Growth Initiative MYA		In regional action plan
Gisborne Tourism Package Te Ha Sestersentennial	- Gisborne	MBIE	Already approved awaiting to be announced	\$1,000,000	\$0	Regional Growth Initiative MYA		In regional action plan
Gisborne Tourism Package Product Development	- Gisborne	MBIE	1. Already approved awaiting to be announced	\$60,000	0 \$0	Regional Growth Initiative MYA	Approved by SROs as per their delegated authority	In regional action plan
Punakaiki Masterplan	West Coast	MBIE	Already approved awaiting to be announced	\$100,000	)	Regional Growth Initiative MYA	Approved by SROs as per their delegated authority	In regional action plan
Provincial Growth Fund	National	MBIE / MPI	5. Proceeding through CAB Process					
(PGF) PGF Independent Advisory Panel (and chair appointed)	National	MBIE	5. Proceeding through CAB Process				This may be dealyed and will be announced in the future.	
One Billion Trees Programme	National	MPI	5. Proceeding through CAB Process					
			S					

RELEASED UNIDER THIE ACT

2037 17-18 In Confidence 9

## Project Name - Whanganui

Lead Agency: KiwiRail

**Key Person: 9(2)(a)**, GGM Asset Management & Investment

## **Project Description:**

- This project provides capital to address deferred maintenance on the Whanganui line, bringing this section to a standard that allows mainline locos to serve current and future exporters on this line.
- KiwiRail has commenced a three-year project to strengthen the track at Castlecliff and to connect the line between Palmerston North and New Plymouth. KiwiRail is operating on the Whanganui line now but this operation is not sustainable due to the present condition of the network.
- The track, which was originally built on sand, requires resilience upgrades to support the
  transportation of growing export volumes. Any upgrade would be limited to low speed
  operations but would set the network to a level where future maintenance would be kept at
  modest levels. The upgrade cost estimate is \$3.0m.

# **Objectives:**

This project provides capital to address deferred maintenance on the Whanganui line, bringing
this section to a standard that allows mainline locus to serve current and future exporters on
this line.

#### **Outcomes:**

• This investment supports the broader strategy of addressing bulk freight movements to and from ports that are currently distributed by road mode e.g. logs, increased movement of containers from exporters to Ports, extending regional rail networks to attract new volume to rail and establishing rail optimisation systems to reduce operating transfer costs. This is aligned with the future vision for rail as an enabler of sustainable and inclusive growth for New Zealand.

### **Budgets**

- The upgrade cost estimate is 9(2)(b)(ii)
- The total level of investment required from the PGF is \$3.0m for the FY19 year.

#### **Assessment**

## Strength and sense of project, including why now?

This is part of a suite of options for a number of modest rail investments which, subject to the Government's approval, could be quickly enacted within 18-24 months in regions using the PGF. KiwiRail notes that these options have been discussed with Shareholding Ministers, the Minister of Transport and the Minister for Regional Economic Development.

# Fit with PGF Criteria

Cri	teria	Response
Lin	k to Fund and Government outcomes	
•	Demonstrate contribution to lifting the productivity potential	Investment supports the
	of the region and to Fund's objectives of more jobs, improved	broader strategy of
	social inclusion, Māori development, environmental	addressing bulk freight
	- 1	movements to and from
	sustainability and increased resilience	ports that are currently
	Clear evidence of public benefits (i.e. benefits other than	distributed by road mode e.g
	increased profitability for the applicant)	logs, increased movement of
	increased promability for the applicant)	containers from exporters to
	Are in a Government priority region or sector	Ports, extending regional rail
•	Are in a dovernment priority region of sector	networks to attract new
		yolume to rail and
		establishing rail optimisation
		systems to reduce operating
		transfer costs. This is aligned
		with the future vision for rail
		as an enabler of sustainable
		and inclusive growth for New
		Zealand.
		V
Λ d	ditionality	
_	Project is not already underway, does not involve maintenance	Project is not already
	of core infrastructure or assets (except for rail and transport	underway.
		Benefits are outlined in
	resilience initiatives), and does not cover activities the	objectives and outcomes
	applicant is already funded for (funding could be considered to	sections.
	increase the scale of existing projects or re-start stalled	KiwiRail is unable to fund this
0	projects)	from existing sources.
1		
•/	Demonstrated benefit of central Government investment or	
	support	
•	Detail of any supporting third party funding (and any funding	
1	sought unsuccessfully)	
1),	<b>)</b>	
"	Acts as a catalyst to unlock a region's productivity potential	
	Demonstrated links to other tiers of the Fund and related	
Ī		
	projects, to maximise value of Government investment	
Co	nnected to regional stakeholders and frameworks	
•	Evidence of relevant regional and local support, either through	TBC
	existing regional development mechanisms, or through	
	another relevant body such as a council, iwi or other	
	representative group (or reasons for any lack of local support)	

rit	teria	Response
	Has been raised and discussed with a recognised regional economic development agency	·
•	Alignment with, or support for the outcomes of, any relevant regional development plan, Māori development strategy or similar document (whether regional or national)	
•	Demonstrated improvement in regional connectedness (within and between regions)	
•	Leverage credible local and community input, funding, commercial and non-commercial partners	Septime 1
•	Utilise existing local, regional or iwi/Māori governance mechanisms	B " M
Go	vernance, risk management and project execution	
•	Evidence of robust project governance, risk	Appropriate project
	identification/management and decision-making systems and	governance and
	an implementation plan appropriate to the size, scale and	implementation plan to be
	nature of the project	agreed if initiative approved
•	Future ownership options for capital projects, including	
	responsibility for maintenance, further development, and other relevant matters	
•	Benefits and risks clearly identified and quantified, depending on the scale of the initiative	
0	Evidence of potential exit gates and stop/go points, and a clear exit strategy	
•	Clearly identifies whole of life costs (capital and operating)	
	Dependencies with other related projects are identified	e.
<u>)</u> )	Evidence of sustainability after conclusion of Fund funding	16.
•	Adequacy of asset management capability (for capital projects)	

That \$3m be invested from the PGF to address deferred maintenance on the Whanganui line, bringing this section to a standard that allows mainline locos to serve current and future exporters on this line.

## Project Name - Napier to Wairoa

Lead Agency: KiwiRail

Key Person: 9(2)(a) , GGM Asset Management & Investment

#### **Project Description:**

- This project provides capital to address deferred maintenance on the Napier to Wairoa line bringing it up to a safe operating standard that is suitable for lower speed forestry traffic.
- KiwiRail considers that Wairoa is the logical consolidation point for forestry exports from the East Coast. The State Highway from Wairoa to Napier is a challenging road that is not well equipped to accommodate significant growth in logging trucks without major investment.
- The Wairoa to Napier section of the Napier-Gisborne line was not damaged by the storms that
  led to the line's closure in 2012. However, it is rundown and requires investment to bring it up to
  operating standard that is suitable for lower speed forestly traffic.
- KiwiRail has been in discussions with Port of Napier/Hawkes Bay Regional Council on a commercial arrangement for the line. To date, the parties have not been able to make the arrangement work due to the upfront investment cost of \$3.0m which is required to improve the network.
- This project does not address the damaged Wairoa to Gisborne section. KiwiRail's position is that
  we should prove the concept where it has the best chance of success, and revisit the damaged
  section if Napier to Wairoa is successful.

#### **Objectives:**

- The rail line from Wairoa to Napier is currently mothballed and requires investment to bring it back for a low speed (50kph) forestry operation. The project is seeking to address this deferred maintenance on the line, bringing it up to a safe operating standard that is suitable for lower speed forestry traffic.
- KiwiRail understands that Hawkes Bay Regional Council (HBRC)'s objectives are around the improvement of road safety and general amenity by eliminating heavy truck movements in the area.

#### **Outcomes:**

• This investment supports the broader strategy of addressing bulk freight movements to and from ports that are currently distributed by road mode e.g. logs, increased movement of containers from exporters to Ports, extending regional rail networks to attract new volume to rail and establishing rail optimisation systems to reduce operating transfer costs. This is aligned with the future vision for rail as an enabler of sustainable and inclusive growth for New Zealand.

## **Budgets**

- HBRC's initial business case for the log service in 2016 placed the cost of reinstating the line at \$700,000-\$900,000. Following its agreement with Napier Port, KiwiRail provided an updated forecast, based on a more thorough engineering assessment, to the Port and HBRC at 9(2)(b)(ii) million more than the initial estimate. KiwiRail believes that the total level of investment required from the PGF is \$3.0 million in FY19 and \$2.0 million in FY20.
- This could be funded either by:
  - o Direct Crown funding (or)
  - o A matching Regional Council expenditure in some ratio
- KiwiRail's view is that a funding model in partnership with regional interests would be an effective way to ensure local commitment.

#### **Assessment**

## Strength and sense of project, including why now?

This is part of a suite of options for a number of modest rail investments which, subject to the Government's approval, could be quickly enacted within 18-24 months in regions using the PGF. KiwiRail notes that these options have been discussed with Shareholding Ministers, the Minister of Transport and the Minister for Regional Economic Development.

#### Fit with PGF Criteria

Proposed operational criteria for all tiers of the Fund	
Criteria	Response
Link to Fund and Government outcomes	
Demonstrate contribution to lifting the productivity potential of the region and to Fund's objectives of more jobs, improved social inclusion, Māori development, environmental sustainability and increased resilience  Clear evidence of public benefits (i.e. benefits other than increased profitability for the applicant)  Are in a Government priority region or sector	Investment supports the broade strategy of addressing bulk freight movements to and from ports that are currently distributed by road mode e.g. logs, increased movement of containers from exporters to Ports, extending regional rail networks to attract new volume to rail and establishing rail optimisation systems to reduce operating transfer costs. This is aligned with the future vision for rail as an enabler of sustainable and inclusive growth for New Zealand.
Additionality	
Project is not already underway, does not involve	Project is not already underway.

# Proposed operational criteria for all tiers of the Fund Response Criteria Benefits are outlined in maintenance of core infrastructure or assets (except for rail objectives and outcomes and transport resilience initiatives), and does not cover sections. activities the applicant is already funded for (funding could be considered to increase the scale of existing projects or re-Third party funding could be start stalled projects) sought through a matching Regional Council expenditure in **Demonstrated benefit of central Government investment** some ratio. or support KiwiRail is unable to fund this Detail of any supporting third party funding (and any initiative from existing sources. funding sought unsuccessfully) Acts as a catalyst to unlock a region's productivity potential Demonstrated links to other tiers of the Fund and related projects, to maximise value of Government investment Connected to regional stakeholders and frameworks Strongly supported within the Evidence of relevant regional and local support, either region and by Port of Napier and through existing regional development mechanisms, or HBRC through another relevant body such as a council, iwi or other representative group (or reasons for any lack of local support) Has been raised and discussed with a recognised regional economic development agency Alignment with, or support for the outcomes of, any relevant regional development plan, Māori development strategy or similar document (whether regional or national) Demonstrated improvement in regional connectedness (within and between regions) Leverage credible local and community input, funding, commercial and non-commercial partners Utilise existing local, regional or iwi/Māori governance mechanisms Governance, risk management and project execution Appropriate project governance Evidence of robust project governance, risk and implementation plan to be identification/management and decision-making systems agreed if initiative approved and an implementation plan appropriate to the size, scale and nature of the project Future ownership options for capital projects, including

Pro	oposed operational criteria for all tiers of the Fund	
Cri	iteria	Response
	responsibility for maintenance, further development, and other relevant matters	
•	Benefits and risks clearly identified and quantified, depending on the scale of the initiative	
•	Evidence of potential exit gates and stop/go points, and a clear exit strategy	
•	Clearly identifies whole of life costs (capital and operating)	
•	Dependencies with other related projects are identified	1 2 1 1 1 C
•	Evidence of sustainability after conclusion of Fund funding	
•	Adequacy of asset management capability (for capital projects)	
•	Compliance with international obligations (where relevant)	

## Recommendation

At present, there is no evidence to suggest that a freight service operating on the entirety of the Napier-Gisborne line could be economically viable, or that such a service could be sustained if it was implemented.

KiwiRail considers that the recommencement of rail services between Wairoa and Napier is a viable regional development goal, and that some form of arrangement between KiwiRail and regional interests is a good model.

Recommend PGF investment of \$3.0 million in FY19 and \$2.0 million in FY20 address deferred maintenance on the line, bringing it up to a safe operating standard that is suitable for lower speed forestry traffic.

Appendix - supporting documents

None.

## **Project Name – Regional Freight Opportunities**

Lead Agency: KiwiRail

Key Person: 9(2)(a) , GGM Asset Management & Investment

#### **Project Description:**

The project is for the following Regional Export Opportunities Business Cases (noting that these are feasibility only - further funding would be required for the delivery phase if approved):

#### Kawerau/Murupara

- In many respects Murupara is the best model for forestry consolidation onto a rail head, KiwiRail notes that the line and terminus was built for this purpose. There are other opportunities in the Eastern Bay of Plenty which will require some modest seed capital (\$250k) to enable KiwiRail to engage with industry and developers. These include:
  - o Properly costing options to connect water exports from Murupara and Kawerau to rail; and
  - Creating an inland hub at Kawerau.

#### **South Port**

- In the 10 years to 2016, cargo at South Port increased from 2 million tonnes to 3 million tonnes and in 2017, log exports reached a record 560,000 tonnes, making up almost 30% of South Port's overall cargo. However, South Port faces the risk of container trade loss to Port Chalmers which could result in the Port exiting container trade all together.
- A forest export trade centred on South Port has the potential to replace the loss of container trade and to create export flows with greater logic in the lower South Island, with CT through Port Chalmers and Forestry at South Port.
- KiwiRail wants to work with South Port, local forestry interests and potentially Port Chalmers to investigate how to create logical consolidation points and cost the network investments needed. KiwiRail estimates that it will require c\$250K of funding to do this.

# **New Plymouth Eastgate**

Similar opportunities to those in South Port exist to potentially channel forestry exports by rail through Eastgate. KiwiRail wants to work with Eastgate, local forestry interests to investigate how to create logical consolidation points and cost the network investments needed. KiwiRail estimates that it will require c\$250K of funding to do this.

#### Objectives:

 These feasibility studies support regional freight projects that are focused on increasing productivity within regions and supporting sustainable and inclusive growth.

#### **Outcomes:**

• This investment supports the broader strategy of addressing bulk freight movements to and from ports that are currently distributed by road mode e.g. logs, increased movement of containers from exporters to Ports, extending regional rail networks to attract new volume to rail and establishing rail optimisation systems to reduce operating transfer costs. This is aligned with the future vision for rail as an enabler of sustainable and inclusive growth for New Zealand.

#### **Budgets**

The following amounts are required from the PGF in FY19:

- Kawerau: Investigate costing options for the creation of an inland hub at Kawerau and the connection of water exports from Kawerau/Murupara by rail \$250k
- South Port: Investigation works to assess forestry consolidation points at South Port and necessary network investments - \$250k
- New Plymouth/Eastgate: An equivalent exercise to that at South Port to capture the potential forestry export trade - \$250k

## **Assessment**

# Strength and sense of project, including why now?

This is part of a suite of options for a number of modest rail investments which, subject to the Government's approval, could be quickly enacted within 18-24 months in regions using the PGF. KiwiRail notes that these options have been discussed with Shareholding Ministers, the Minister of Transport and the Minister for Regional Economic Development.

## Fit with PGF Criteria

Proposed operational criteria for all tiers of the Fund		
Criteria	Response	
Link to Fund and Government outcomes		
<ul> <li>Demonstrate contribution to lifting the productivity potential of the region and to Fund's objectives of more jobs, improved social inclusion, Māori development, environmental sustainability and increased resilience</li> <li>Clear evidence of public benefits (i.e. benefits other than increased profitability for the applicant)</li> <li>Are in a Government priority region or sector</li> </ul>	Investment supports the broader strategy of addressing bulk freight movements to and from ports that are currently distributed by road mode e.g logs, increased movement of containers from exporters to Ports, extending regional rail networks to attract new volume to rail and establishing rail optimisation systems to reduce operating transfer costs. This is aligned with the future vision for rail as an enabler of sustainable	

riteria	Response
	and inclusive growth for New Zealand.
Additionality	
<ul> <li>Project is not already underway, does not involve maintenance</li> </ul>	Project is not already
of core infrastructure or assets (except for rail and transport	underway.
resilience initiatives), and does not cover activities the	Benefits are outlined in
applicant is already funded for (funding could be considered to	objectives and outcomes
increase the scale of existing projects or re-start stalled	sections. KiwiRaihis unable to fund
projects)	these initiatives from existing
	sources
<ul> <li>Demonstrated benefit of central Government investment or</li> </ul>	
support	9 M
Detail of any supporting third party funding (and any funding)	
sought unsuccessfully)	
Sought unsuccessiumy)	
<ul> <li>Acts as a catalyst to unlock a region's productivity potential</li> </ul>	
Demonstrated links to other tiers of the Fund and related	V
projects, to maximise value of Government investment	
Connected to regional stakeholders and frameworks	
Evidence of relevant regional and local support, either through	TBC
existing regional development mechanisms, or through	
another relevant body such as a council, iwi or other	
representative group (or reasons for any lack of local support)	
Has been raised and discussed with a recognised regional	
economic development agency	
Alignment with, or support for the outcomes of, any relevant	
regional development plan, Māori development strategy or	
similar document (whether regional or national)	
A second (managed second)	50
Demonstrated improvement in regional connectedness (within	
and between regions)	
Loverage credible local and community input funding	
Leverage credible local and community input, funding,     commercial and non-commercial partners.	
commercial and non-commercial partners	
Utilise existing local, regional or iwi/Māori governance	
mechanisms	
Governance, risk management and project execution	
Evidence of robust project governance, risk	Funding is for feasibility

	oposed operational criteria for all tiers of the Fund	Response
CH	identification/management and decision-making systems and	studies only.
	an implementation plan appropriate to the size, scale and nature of the project	Appropriate project governance and implementation plan to be
•	Future ownership options for capital projects, including	agreed if initiative approved.
	responsibility for maintenance, further development, and other relevant matters	
•	Benefits and risks clearly identified and quantified, depending on the scale of the initiative	
•	Evidence of potential exit gates and stop/go points, and a clear exit strategy	The state of the
•	Clearly identifies whole of life costs (capital and operating)	B M
•	Dependencies with other related projects are identified	
•	Evidence of sustainability after conclusion of Fund funding	9/10
•	Adequacy of asset management capability (for capital projects)	
•	Compliance with international obligations (where relevant)	

# Recommendation

KiwiRail considers that investment in these feasibility studies for regional rail export opportunities should be supported by the PGF.

Recommend to approve a total of \$750,000 to undertake three feasibility studies for regional rail export opportunities at Kawerau/Murupara, Southport and Eastgate at New Plymouth.

Appendix - supporting documents

None

#### **ONE PAGE ASSESSMENT OF PROJECTS**

#### **Project**

Bay of Islands Airport, Far North Holdings Ltd

Contact: Andy Nock, Far North Holdings Limited, 9(2)(a)

Project description – what is the project, how will it be carried out and who will benefit?

The Bay of Islands Airport, in Kerikeri, is a fast growing regional airport, which has received strong support from Air New Zealand, which increased services to the airport during the 2017/18 summer due to high demand.

This project involves the building of a new terminal at Bay of Islands Airport. Tourism operators and businesses in the Far North will be the largest benefactors from this project, as it will support an increase in accessibility to the rest of New Zealand.

The primary objective of this project is to relieve congestion at the airport and cater to visitor growth by increasing capacity and improving facilities for passengers arriving in the Far North by air. Additionally, the project is needed to meet the operational requirements of the primary user (Air New Zealand) and the requirements of the Civil Aviation Authority.

The project will provide connectivity for tourism, the local community, and business in the Far North to the rest of New Zealand. It will help support the growing tourism industry, supporting an increase in jobs in the region.

#### **Budgets**

- The total budget is 9(2)(b)(ii)

Far North Holdings Ltd has secured 9(2)(b)(ii) private investment, Far North District Council are contributing 9(2)(b)(ii)

Crown funding of \$1,750,000 (capital) is sought to cover the remaining shortfall of funding (9(2)(b)(ii) of total cost).

## Assessment

The Bay of Islands Airport project supports the growing tourism sector in Far North through improving the airport to the required standards of the air transport sector and providing capacity to arrest congestion issues and cater to growing demand. It also supports the increase of access of the Far North to the rest of New Zealand, benefitting the community, business, and tourism, and contributing to regional resilience. The current terminal is considered not fit for purpose and does not meet Air New Zealand's requirements. Growth in passenger numbers (reflected by an additional service during the 2017/18 summer season) is also putting pressure on the existing facilities.

The project has third party funding, and a clear rationale for central government funding, pronounced by the fact that it is a regional airport that is not fifty percent owned by central Government. Air New Zealand, the primary user of the airport, supports, and has contributed to the design of the proposal.

Building consents have been lodged and are due at the end of March 2018.

The 9(2)(b)(ii) private funding that has been secured is dependent on obtaining the remaining funding by 31 April 2018. This funding will be at risk if the additional funding of \$1,750,000 is not secured by that date.

#### Risks

- Delays to the securing of the additional funding beyond 31 April 2018 could result in the loss of the 9(2)(b)(ii) private contribution.
- 9(2)(b)(ii)
- The Ministry of Transport have advised that they do not have specific funding for infrastructure at airports other than the joint venture airports MoT half own, therefore cannot financially support this upgrade.

#### **Probity**

- Who will manage the project: Far North Holdings Limited
- Costs and benefits: The cost of the project will be 9(2)(b)(ii) for which the Crown contribution will be \$1,750,000. The benefit will be through increasing capacity and improving the travel experience for visitors to the Far North, making flying to the Far North a more attractive option for visitors.
- Non-financial benefits: Safety benefits from meeting Air New Zealand and Civil Aviation Authority requirements.

#### Recommendation

Agree to fund up to \$1.75 million on the basis of a business case.

Rationale: The Bay of Islands airport upgrade has been identified as a key priority in the Tai Tokerau Northland Economic Action Plan. The region has parity of funding for the upgrade, while also seeking to manage the existing tourism increases in the region. Given these reasons alone, there is reason to consider this project as not precedent setting.

Appendix - supporting documents

18(e)

#### ONE PAGE ASSESSMENT OF PROJECTS

#### **Project**

Russell Wharf, Far North Holdings Ltd

Contact: Andy Nock, Far North Holdings Limited, 9(2)(a)

Project description - what is the project, how will it be carried out and who will benefit?

Russell Wharf is Russell's primary connection to the rest of New Zealand, and is therefore an important piece of community and tourism infrastructure. 850,000 passengers use the wharf to access ferry services each year and the wharf is an important base for a number of commercial tourism services, which operate from there. Russell is one of the key visitor highlights of the Bay of Islands and also hosts a number of nautical events.

Part of the existing infrastructure is built around the original timber piles and provides low tidal landings, which are unsafe and provide low utility value. This project would replace these landings and others with floating concrete pontoons, whilst a wharf extension will create more visitor space and improve passenger flow for increasing visitor numbers and help to build capacity for future. Additionally, four new super-yacht moorings are to be built, along with other upgrades to sewerage and water services and other maritime services.

The project will primarily benefit the local community and tourism operators. Firstly, through greater resilience of an important piece of infrastructure (the wharf is the primary means of access to Russell) and, secondly, through catering to the growth of the tourism industry, helping to bring more tourists and jobs to the area.

## **Budgets**

The total budget is 9(2)(b)(ii)

- Funding of 9(2)(b)(ii) is being provided by Far North District Council and Far North Holdings Limited.
- Crown funding of 9(2)(b)(ii) (capital) is being sought.

#### Assessment

The project demonstrates a contribution to lifting the productivity of the region and has strong regional and local support. The developments are permitted as they replace existing structures. The wharf extension and a new dinghy dock will need consent, although prior consultation work has taken place.

The project would provide more space for existing users (approximately 850,000 passengers use Russell Wharf's ferry transport and tourism services each year), replace ageing and failing infrastructure, and provide capacity for future tourism expansion. The current facilities are unsuitable for existing uses and an upgrade of facilities will help cater for the growth in the tourism sector.

#### Risks

- There is some concern about the need for super-yacht berths in the region, given that such facilities are also proposed for other wharf upgrades. An assessment on the demand for super-yacht facility expansion in the Bay of Islands may need to be more forthcoming.
- There is no estimated "additionality" in tourism to validate the proposed upgrade. Initially, it will cater for the status quo.
- As Far North Holdings owns the three wharfs, there needs to be consideration on how they will maintain the wharfs ongoing. Financial sustainability will be required, as well as understanding what local business commitment is to the project i.e. what are the local tourism businesses contributing to the upgrade?

#### **Probity**

- Who will manage the project: Far North Holdings Limited
- Costs and benefits: The cost of the project is 9(2)(b)(ii) of which 9(2)(ba)(i) funding is sought from the Crown. The benefits include increasing capacity for visitors and commercial tourism operators, allowing room for growth in these sectors.
- Non-financial benefits: Increased community space from the wharf extension and increased community utilities (for example, the dingly docks).

## Recommendation

Agree to fund up to 9(2)(b)(ii) conditional on a further business case being obtained.

Rationale: This is the main access point to Russell from Raihia. However, more information is needed to understand what additional tourism will be achieved by upgrading this facility. There is concern that the "increased tourism" the project refers to could be a displacement of existing tourism in the region.

Appendix - supporting documents

18(e)

#### **ONE PAGE ASSESSMENT OF PROJECTS**

#### **Project**

Opua Events Pontoon/Super Yacht Berth, Far North Holdings Ltd

Contact: Andy Nock, Far North Holdings Limited, 9(2)(a)

Project description – what is the project, how will it be carried out and who will benefit?

Development of a hosting/events platform, in the form of a 120 metre floating pontoon, for the Cook 2019 regatta celebration at Opua Wharf. This will act as a facility that can be used for other future events (for example, Millennium Cup super-yacht racing) and extending super-yacht berth, and the associated super-yacht tourism market, outside of Auckland. The pontoon will be sited alongside the existing wharf and would be used as a staging area for the commemorative events.

The pontoon will be used to stage the vessels associated with the celebration events providing land based infrastructure to enable the public to engage with vessels and crew. The on-going economic benefits include supporting events such as Bay of Islands Sailing Week (New Zealand Largest multiday and multi-class sailing event) and the Millennium Cup (New Zealand's premier sailing regatta for Superyachts). Additionally, it would cater to tallship regattas, which occur every 2-3 years. The ability to cater to super yachts will provide an entrance into this market.

The outcomes sought from the project are an increase in visitor numbers and expenditure, through an increase in events being held at Opua and high value tourists attracted by the super-yacht facilities.

Space for super-yacht berthing, servicing and provisioning will contribute additional income and jobs to the local economy. Typically, a one week cruise in New Zealand by a super yacht generates an income level of \$431,608 into the New Zealand economy, while the super yacht refit industry generates around \$250 million per year. With the development of the facilities, Opua can be used as a base from which super yacht owners can orchestrate other international visits from clients, friends and family.

#### **Budgets**

Total budget is 9(2)(b)(ii)
Secured funding of 9(2)(b)(ii) Far North Holdings Ltd
Funding sought from the Crown is 9(2)(b)(ii)

# Assessment

Event space and potential to attract future events and super-yacht visits will increase the tourism earning potential in the area. It will also act to improve resilience in the tourism sector by providing additional berth space. There are also environmental benefits associated with safe berthage, including reduction in damage to the seabed by vessels, safe discharge of waste from boats, and safe refuelling of vessels.

The key reasoning behind the timing of the project is that the event space created by the pontoon is necessary for the Cook 2019 celebration, and will support an already busy event schedule.

Details around the super yacht facilities are not forthcoming at this time, particularly around the demand for expanded facilities in New Zealand. This is particularly important given that other wharfs in the area have the potential to tap into this market as well with planned upgrades. This calls into question the priority of this project, although potentially the events pontoon aspect of the project could be separated from the super-yacht berth proposal if there are savings to be made in this.

#### Risks

- This proposal was previously presented to the MBIE Major Events Team for funding, however was not considered to meet the criteria of the Major Events Development Fund. It should be noted that central government, through the Major Events Development Fund, have contributed \$3.5 million towards the First Encounters 250 event, of which \$170,000 is for the Opua components.
- Far North Holdings are seeking almost two-thirds of the funding for the project from the Crown, and there does not appear to be other contributors interested in the proposal.
- Details on benefits are lacking and would require further business case development to validate any central government investment.
- Environmental risks need to be considered for this project as the increase in water traffic could lead to increased erosion in the area

#### **Probity**

- Who will manage the project: Far North Holdings Ltd
- Costs and benefits: The total cost is \$1,340,000, of which \$890,000 is being sought from the Crown. The benefits would include the ability to stage events, such as regattas, that would bring additional visitors throughout the year to Opua, increasing expenditure. Visitor expenditure would also be increased through the ability to cater to the super-yacht market, in terms of tourism, servicing, and refit expenditure.

Non-financial benefits: The pontoon would create an additional community events space.

## Recommendation

Agree to fund up to 9(2)(b)(ii) on a further business case being obtained.

Rationale: Previous concerns raised about the viability of the project. Will need further details before agreeing to funding. However, it is acknowledged that this project aligns with the First Encounters 250 commemorations being held in 2019.

# **Appendix - supporting documents**

18(e)

#### ONE PAGE ASSESSMENT OF PROJECTS

#### **Project**

Paihia Wharf, Far North Holdings Ltd

Contact: Andy Nock, Far North Holdings Limited, 9(2)(a)

Project description – what is the project, how will it be carried out and who will benefit?

Paihia Wharf is a major gateway and maritime transport hub in the Bay of Islands. It is considered by Far North Holdings to be a critical piece of infrastructure in the Far North. A number of commercial maritime businesses operate from the wharf, including local tourist cruises and charters, and the passenger ferry to Russell. Cruise ship tenders make heavy use of the wharf.

The project is an upgrade of the existing wharf facilities, which are currently struggling to handle the number of visitors and tourist operators and inhibiting future growth. The wharf is also in average to poor condition, with many components reaching the end of their natural life.

The project includes providing increased space for passengers and improved passenger facilities, such as protection from wind and rain. It is also proposed to dredge a deeper channel to cater to most vessel types, and to build a further four berths for vessels. Improved maritime industry services are also proposed, including new facilities for pumping out the sewerage holding tanks of vessels.

The project will enable Paihia Wharf to better cater to the needs of its current users, benefitting the local economy through better support for tourists and tourism operators. Long term outcomes include improvements in resilience, increased tourism business and job opportunities, capacity to cater to increased visitor numbers, and environmental benefits associated with the improved facilities for vessels.

## Budgets)

- The total budget for the project is 9(2)(b)(ii)
- 9(2)(b)(ii) is being contributed from Far North Holdings Ltd.
- 9(2)(b)(ii) (capital) of Crown funding toward the project

## Assessment

This project would help to relieve congestion and increase capacity for further marine tourism growth (charters, sightseeing, ferry passengers and cruise ship tenders). Regional and local support is strong. Non-central government contributions total 15 per cent of the projects cost, and consent for the project has already been lodged (outcome expected March) with dredging consent already in place.

The infrastructure has reached the end of its life and is also no longer able to cater to the demands being presently placed on it. Tourism is an important and growing sector in Northland and this is seen as the most important piece of infrastructure for the Far North District by Far North Holdings Ltd. As a facility which receives tenders from visiting cruise ships, Paihia Wharf is one of the primary gateways for tourists visiting Northland, is the main point of access to Russell, and is a hub of

maritime tourism in its own right. The demands being placed upon the infrastructure suggest this project would be beneficial to the region.

However, total job creation and other information related to project management, funding contributions and the benefits of the project are not available and will require further work to get this project to a more investment ready stage.

#### Risks

- Funding shortfall is 85 percent of the total cost. Central government would be assuming the majority of the risk on this project. An underwriter for this project should be recommended to ensure central government is not approached for further funding.
- There is insufficient information to make a decision on this project. Mitigation would be to agree to fund the business case for the project instead of agreeing to fund the project outright, at this stage.
- The project has a low contingency of approximately 5 percent of the project cost.
- Environmental risks need to be considered for this project as the increase in water traffic could lead to increased erosion in the area.

#### **Probity**

- Who will manage the project: The project will be managed by Far North Holdings Limited.
- Costs and benefits: The costs will be \$3,493,400, of which \$2,970,000 is being sought from the Crown. The benefits include added resilience, and capacity to the local visitor economy, which will support more jobs.
- Non-financial benefits: The project will have environmental benefits due to the improvements to facilities for servicing vessels.

# Recommendation

Agree to fund up to 9(2)(b)(ii) conditional on a further business case being obtained.

Rationale: The project is meeting the demands of increased tourism in the region, and is the central point for visitors to the region on water. However, the level of due diligence will need to be significantly scaled up to meet the requirements of central government, and to further de-risk central governments investment in the project given the high level of public investment.

Appendix - supporting documents

18(e)

# ONE PAGE ASSESSMENT OF PROJECTS

# PROJECT: WESTPORT WASTE TO ENERGY PLANT

Please note: all information relating to this proposal is provided on the Provincial Growth Fundwebsite.

Information therefore withheld under 18(d).



#### ONE PAGE ASSESSMENT OF PROJECTS

#### **Project**

**Project Name:** Wood Processing Centre of Excellence

Lead Agency: MPI

Key Person: Gavin Murphy, Chief Executive Officer, Eastland Community Trust - Gavin Murphy

**Project description** – Funding to support the development of a business case to justify a 9(2)(b)(ii) Government investment in capital to support the establishment of a Wood Processing Centre of Excellence in Gisborne.

#### **Project Objectives -**

To provide the business justification for the following capital investment through the PGF

The four ECT proposed projects are:

- Kiln and electronic sensor upgrade 9(2)(b)(ii)
- A new combined heat and energy plant \( 9(2)(b)(ii)
- Prime site infrastructure development 9(2)(b)(ii)
- Upgrade of Gisborne port for containerization 9(2)(b)(ii)

#### Longer term outcome -

To establish Gisborne as the Wood Processing Centre of Excellence in New Zealand, to take advantage of the large log supply which is doubling in the next three years to 3.2 million tonnes, to create an additional 167 jobs and to help meet New Zealand's housing demands.

## **Budgets**

Total Budget - 9(2)(b)(ii)

\$200,000 to be approved by Government to support business case development. \$100,000 Eastland Community Trust contribution to support business case development 9(2)(b)(ii) from PGF across four proposed projects – dependant on business justification 9(2)(b)(ii) regional contribution across 4 projects

- o 9(2)(b)(ii) Far East Sawmills
- o 9(2)(b)(ii) Eastland Community Trust (or investment partners)

### <u>Assessment</u>

As part of its election policy, the Labour Party pledged to invest up to 9(2)(b)(ii) in local development of a prefabricated housing factory and associated infrastructure in Gisborne. This proposal is the regions response to that pledge.

The outline proposal expects that the following direct economic outcomes will be achieved as a result of these projects:

- 20 new roles through faster expansion of existing plants to double shifts by upgrading the
  existing heat plant infrastructure to cope until the new combined heat and power plant is in
  place (due by April 2020)
- 15 new roles directly created as a result of the combined heat and power plant.
- Faster establishment of the Centre of Excellence to attract new investment into the region.
- 5 jobs in the thermal modification plant brought forward (by how much TBC)
- 20 new jobs in the expanded Wood Engineered Technology site
- 10 new jobs at the upgraded containerised port

#### Risks

Wood processing is a challenging sector and has variable performance, however, ECT are confident that through early adoption of new technologies, new product development and linking with new markets will result in a successful venture.

## Recommendation

Announce \$200,000 funding for this project to support business case development on 23 February 2018 to apply for the 9(2)(b)(ii) funding.

#### PROJECT: COMPLETION OF THE WEST COAST WILDERNESS TRAIL

#### Lead agency, key person and contact details

Westland District Council: Simon Bastion, CEO, 9(2)(a) simon.bastion@westlanddc.govt.nz

## Project description – what is the project, how will it be carried out and who will benefit?

The West Coast Wilderness Trail is one of 22 Great Rides that comprise Ngā Haerenga, the New Zealand Cycle Trail. When complete, the West Coast Wilderness Trail will be a 3-4 day, 169km long, grade 2 (easy) cycle trail. The trail runs between Greymouth and Ross, with the completed sections between Greymouth and Hokitika already proving to be very popular with cyclists.

However, the 39km section between Hokitika and Ross is not yet complete and construction has stalled due to a lack of co-funding from the Westland District Council (WDC). Key projects required to complete the trail are the Mahinapua walkway and bridge and construction of a section of offroad cycleway beside State Highway 6 at Ruatapu.

The trail is already delivering economic benefits to the region, and has the potential to increase this, particularly for the small communities of Ruatapu and Ross which are missing out due to the completion delays.

A recent survey of users on the trail suggests that the trail brings around 10,000 new visitors to the West Coast each year, with approximately 94 per cent of those attracted specifically to ride the trail. On average, cyclists riding the trail stay 4.2 nights on the West Coast (much longer than the average visitor stay), with an average spend of \$207 per rider per day.

Construction of the West Coast Wilderness Trail has been managed by the Westland and Grey District Councils, with each council responsible for the sections of the trail in their respective territories. Central government, through the National Cycleway Fund, has contributed \$3.7 million towards the project, \$447,000 of which has yet to be drawn down by the Council. Local co-funding for construction of the trail is estimated to be \$4.26 million (including \$3.26 million from Development West Coast and \$0.71 million from Grey District Council.

Westland District Council is unable to access funding through existing cycle trail funds as these funds are only eligible to Great Rides that are complete and fully open. Both Ngā Haerenga, the New Zealand Cycle Trail Enhancement and Extension Fund, and the Maintaining the Quality of Great Rides Fund require matching funding from the applicant, a requirement that Westland District Council is unable to meet.

# Objectives – what's this project seeking to achieve in the short/medium term?

In the short-term, completion of the West Coast Wilderness Trail will provide jobs in the construction of the trail and realise the original vision of a Great Ride on the West Coast between Greymouth and Ross. Completion of the full trail will encourage visitors to stay an extra day in the region.

Outcomes – what's this project seeking to achieve in the long term?

Completion of the trail will support more businesses that deliver supporting services to trail users, such as accommodation, food and beverage, attractions and transport providers. Completion of the trail as originally envisaged has the potential to increase the average length of stay of users on the trail, as the 39km section between Hokitika and Ross should add one extra day to the itinerary of most users.

In addition to becoming a tourism attraction in its own right, the West Coast Wilderness Trail will complement other existing Great Rides, and as part of the Ngā Haerenga brand will help enhance New Zealand's competitiveness as an international tourism destination.

#### **Budgets**

WDC estimate that they have a \$475,000 funding shortfall to complete the West Coast Wilderness Trail. MBIE has pushed WDC to find local co-funding to complete the trail, but none has been forthcoming.

#### **Assessment**

Fit with PGF criteria

Strength and sense of project, including why now?

Facilitating of the completion of the trial to its original plan will solve a long-standing problem for the region and provide immediate economic benefits.

## Level of priority for the region

This is a high priority for the West Coast. The project has been underway for seven years and is almost complete.

### **Probity**

Who will manage the project. Westland District Council

Costs and benefits: Cost of up to \$500,000 to central government if there is no co-funding identified. The benefits would accrue from the ability to attract more visitors and increase their length of stay and expenditure in the region.

- Non-financial benefits: Has the potential to provide social, health and recreation benefits to the local community.

#### Risks

Based on experiences to date to construct the West Coast Wilderness Trail, project management is a significant risk. Deadlines have been missed, there has been poor financial oversight, and there has been a lack of dedicated project management. This can be addressed by requiring a dedicated Project Manager to oversee completion of the project.

There is also a risk that provision of additional funding to complete this trail will set a precedent for other trails in a similar position. This can be addressed by making it clear that this is a one-off provision of funding to a district that is under significant pressure to cope with ongoing adverse

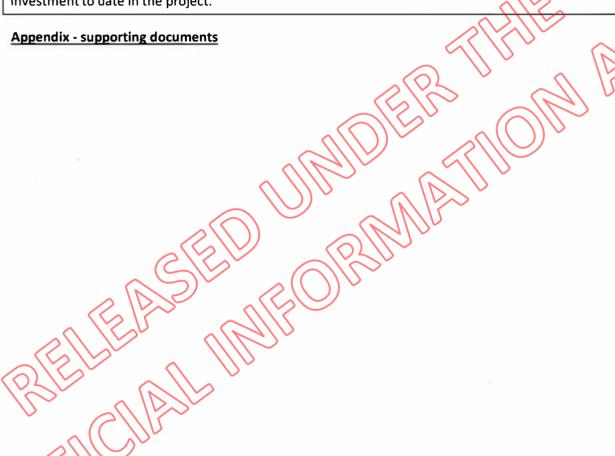
events. These include recent storm damage and protection of infrastructure assets such as the sewage ponds at Franz Josef Township.

# Recommendation

Agree to fund up to \$500,000 to complete the West Coast Wilderness Trail.

Rationale

The West Coast Wilderness Trail is almost complete and is already delivery economic benefits to the region. Failure to complete the trail will impact on the ability to realise the full benefits of investment to date in the project.



#### PROJECT: IMPROVEMENTS TO AND MAINTENANCE OF THE OLD GHOST ROAD CYCLE TRAIL

### Lead agency, key person and contact details

Mokihinui-Lyell Backcountry Trust, 9(2)(a) info@oldghostroad.org.nz, 9(2)(a)

#### Project description – what is the project, how will it be carried out and who will benefit?

The Old Ghost Road between Lyell and the Mokihinui River in Buller is a Grade 4 (advanced) 2-3 day off-road cycle trail. It has Great Ride status among a network of 22 trails belonging to Ngā Haerenga, the New Zealand Cycle Trail, which means that users are promised and expect outstanding cycling experiences.

Although in its infancy, The Old Ghost Road has managed to build a strong international reputation and demonstrated an ability to meet rider's expectations of a world-class multi-day backcountry trail. The trail is also building a strong reputation as a remote backcountry walk. However, in order to continue to meet demand and deliver a world-class experience, the Old Ghost Road requires additional funding to maintain and enhance the trail and facilities.

The remote and harsh environment that the trail is located in requires continual trail enhancements and upgrades to meet Ngā Haerenga design specifications, and due to the popularity of the trail, accommodation facilities and services are under pressure to cope with demand. As such, the trail has plans to grow visitor numbers by expanding its accommodation capacity and improving the facilities.

The Mokihinui-Lyell Backcountry Trust is unable to access funding through existing cycle trail funds due to the total cost of the proposed project and the fifty per cent co-funding requirement. The Trust continues to successfully apply for smaller scale projects (i.e. less than \$100,000 total cost) to enhance short sections of trail through the Maintaining the Quality of Great Rides Fund, and has received additional funding through the Nga Haerenga, the New Zealand Cycle Trail Enhancement and Extension Fund to carry out three high priority projects to address safety concerns on the trail.

#### Objectives - what's this project seeking to achieve in the short/medium term?

In the short-term the trail enhancements and upgrades will ensure that the Old Ghost Road continues to build on its reputation and meet users expectations, its initial popularity will remain strong and users numbers will continue to grow.

## Outcomes – what's this project seeking achieve in the long term?

In the long term the Old Ghost Road plans to increase accommodation capacity on the trail to meet growing demand and to improve the level of service of all its facilities.

#### **Budgets**

Up to an estimated \$500,000 from central government.

#### **Assessment**

#### Fit with PGF criteria

#### Strength and sense of project, including why now?

The Old Ghost Road is well into its second summer of operations and is proving to be extremely popular. Confirmation of further investment in the trail to increase accommodation capacity and improve the level of service in the trail surface and facilities will enable the Mokihinui-Lyell Backcountry Trust to build on the early success of the trail and to deliver greater economic benefits to the Buller district.

#### Level of priority for the region

#### **Probity**

- Who will manage the project: Mokihinui-Lyell Backcountry Trust
- Costs and benefits: Cost of up to \$500,000 to central government. The proposed improvements to the Old Ghost Road would increase visitor numbers and revenue for the trail and attract more visitors to the Buller District
- Non-financial benefits: Enhance New Zealand's reputation as a world-class cycling destination.

#### Risks

If the Old Ghost Road is unable to meet visitor expectations there is a risk that the reputation of the trail will decline, resulting in fewer guest nights and declining revenue for the Mokihinui-Lyell Trust to maintain and enhance the trail

There is a risk that other Great Rides and cycle trails around the country will view this funding as a precedent and the fund will be inundated with applications. This can be addressed by emphasising that this is a one-off provision of funding for the jewel in the crown of multi-day, remote backgountry cycle trails with a unique governance and revenue raising structure.

# Recommendation

Agree to fund up to \$500,000 on the basis of an acceptable business case

Rationale

The Old Ghost Road is New Zealand's premier multi-day backcountry cycle trail and has the potential to deliver additional economic benefits to the Buller region and help grow the profile of New Zealand as a visitor destination.

# Appendix - supporting documents

# Following documents also tabled at Minister's 12 February 2018 meeting:

#### ONE PAGE ASSESSMENT OF PROJECTS

#### **Project**

Whanganui Port Revitalisation Project – Stage 1c Geotechnical assessment

Lead Agency: MBIE

Project Lead: Rowan McGregor, Manager Special Projects, Whanganui District Council, 9(2)(a)

The project is to conduct investigative works that will enable infrastructure projects which, if not done, will prevent other investments in the Whanganui Port precinct being made. It is part of a wider project to revitalise the Whanganui Port. This particular part entails:

- Complete further technical work (including geotechnical) and an engineering assessment of the existing wharf structures etc.;
- undertake additional design work;
- review various options for vessel launch infrastructure;
- undertake a value engineering exercise; and
- complete the business case for the next stage of the development, which builds on the results of these investigations.

The short term objectives of this stage of work are to inform the design of a boat hoist (for ship building and repairs) and strengthening of existing wharf infrastructure. It will be used to inform the Stage 2 business case that will presented to the potential and current funding partners in Local Government, Central Government and Industry.

Longer term, the aim is that a revitalised Whanganul Port will secure the use of the area as a coastal shipping location, will provide a more extensive area for value added specialist manufacturing, commercial boat construction, refit services, recreational boat storage, expand freight and logistics servicing capability and make Whanganui potentially attractive to related industries.

# **Budgets**

- The overall cost for this project is \$120,000
- Whanganui District Council has committed \$30,000
  Whanganui District Council sought \$90,000 from central government which was approved by Senior Regional Officials on 25 January 2018. This is operational expenditure.

#### <u>Assessment</u>

The project fits with the PGF criteria in that it contributes to lifting the productivity potential of the region, more jobs, improved social inclusion, Māori development, environmental sustainability and increased resilience. The work will likely retain 125 skilled jobs in the boat building sector and is expected to create an additional 160 new jobs as other maritime and boat building businesses establish in the revitalised Port area. It is expected to act as a catalyst to attract new investment and businesses to the District as well as ensuring lower river protection works are fit for purpose. The project will also serve to create a revitalised public space in the Port area including bars and restaurants. The project also aligns with a three-year project to strengthen the track at Castlecliff and to connect the line between Palmerston North and New Plymouth being undertaken by KiwiRail

which will aid exporters.

The Whanganui Port Revitalisation Project has been identified in the Manawatū-Whanganui Region's Accelerate 25 Plan as a high priority project.

#### Governance and costs

- The project is being managed by Whanganui District Council. Governance is provided by the Whanganui Port Revitalisation Programme Governance Group which is represented by business, Whanganui River iwi (Tupoho), District Councillors, Central Government and the Whanganui economic development agency.
- Total costs of the wider project (whole of life) are estimated to be \$90 million with direct economic benefits of the project estimated at \$24 million per annum.
- Non-financial benefits include increased resilience against flooding events, improved
  resilience of port infrastructure to meet demand and provide alternatives in event of
  disaster, and opportunity for a revitalisation of Whanganui.

#### What risks are there?

- Momentum stalls in relation to the Port works to be done in Stage 2 resulting in the cornerstone private boat building businesses relocating to a Port elsewhere that already provides some services such as deep water launching facilities.
- Inadequate funding committed by the local councils and private sector to match government's financial contribution.
- Poor financial management and oversight of the works undertaken in Stage 2.

# Recommendation

Please note that \$90,000 was approved for this project under delegation powers of Senior Regional Officials.

We recommend announcing this project as it will inform further work on a project that could be transformative to Whanganui and the wider Manawatū-Whanganui region.

# Appendix - supporting documents

Whanganui Port Revitalisation Programme: Stage 1c – Business Case

Whanganui Port Revitalisation Roadmap & Timeline

#### ONE PAGE ASSESSMENT OF PROJECTS

#### **Project**

Hundertwasser Art Centre, Whangarei Arts Museum Trust

**CONTACT:** Grant Faber – 9(2)(a)

The Hundertwasser Art Centre (HAC) is a proposed art and cultural centre to be built on the waterfront in Whangarei's Town Basin in the former Northland Harbour Board Building.

The HAC will house two art galleries, an education centre, a theatre and a commercially operated museum shop and café. It will be the only original collection of art by Friedensreich Hundertwasser outside of Vienna. Friedensreich Hundertwasser, who died in 2000, spent 30 years living in Northland and became a New Zealand citizen during his lifetime.

The HAC will also contain New Zealand's first curated gallery dedicated to contemporary Maori fine art, an 'afforested living roof' (the largest in the southern hemisphere), and the last of Hundertwasser's architectural works to be built. The museum is planned to be large enough for a visitor attraction to be included for consideration by international travel wholesalers alongside existing local packages.

Currently, the project is in the final pre-build stages, awaiting the completion of the tender process and finalisation of the operational expenditure plan, both due at the end of February 2018. The HAC has the support of the Hundertwasser Non-Profit Foundation in Vienna.

#### **Budgets**

- The total budget for this project (including the requested \$5 7 million) is approximately 9(2)(b)(ii)
  - Contributions to the project already confirmed have come from Regional Museums Policy for Capital Construction Projects (9(2)(b)(ii) Northland Regional Council 9(2)(b)(ii)

    Whangarei District Council 9(2)(b)(ii) MBIE (\$4 million), Foundation North9(2)(b)(ii)

    Lotteries 9(2)(b)(iii) with various other smaller contributions9(2)(b)(iii)
- An additional total of approximately \$5-\$7 million of Crown funding is being sought to cover a funding shortfall for the project.

#### Assessment

Previous feasibility studies indicate that the HAC will attract up to 450,000 new visitors to Whangarei annually. The hotel, cruise ship, bus tour, and international tourism packaging industries have shown interest in investing further into Whangarei on the basis of the HAC development.

Community support for the project has been strong, although not without controversy. Nevertheless, support for the project was garnered through a referendum process. The inclusion of the Wairau Māori Art Gallery within the HAC supports the growth and aspirations of Māori in the region. The HAC project is an action within the Tai Tokerau Northland Economic Action Plan (Action Plan) and is supported by the Whangarei District Council.

A 2015 feasibility study indicated that he project will be self-sustaining through paying visits and the income generated by the museum shop and café.

A new business plan is due for completion in early March 2018, which will further update benefits

This project has already received funding from MBIE of \$4 million as part of the Action Plan. Whangarei Arts Museum Trust is seeking an additional \$5 - 7 million from the PGF to make up a funding shortfall.

#### **Risks**

- The \$5 7 million funding shortfall calls into question the business planning behind the project. No decisions should be made on further funding until the updated business plan is received in March.
- The project has been contentious at times, with the costs attributed to Whangarei District ratepayers in particular being controversial.

### **Probity**

- Who will manage the project: Whangarei Arts Museum Trust
- Costs and benefits: The total cost of the project is 9(2)(b)(ii) of which \$4 million is already funded by MBIE, and an additional \$5 \$7 million is being sought from the crown. Benefits include increase visitor numbers and subsequent expenditure, and 11 direct and 21 indirect jobs through the development of the centre.
- Non-financial benefits: New community space and educational facilities.

#### Recommendation

**DECLINE** further investment in the project until the revised business plan is received in March 2018.

It should be noted that MBIE has not yet contracted with the Trust for the initial \$4 million investment.

Rationale:

The HAC has already received Crown funding (\$4 million). An updated business plan is due for completion in early March 2018, which will provide an update on the projects feasibility and benefits. Any additional funding should be subject to the completion of this business plan.

#### Appendix - supporting documents

Final Business Case document to be received.

#### ONE PAGE ASSESSMENT OF PROJECTS

#### **Project**

Te Hononga - Kawakawa 9(2)(b)(ii)

Park Centre, Kawakawa 9(2)(b)(ii)

Park Charitable

Contact: Andy Nock, Far North Holdings Limited, 9(2)(a)

# Project description – what is the project, how will it be carried out and who will benefit?

Development of an arts, culture and environment centre, providing improved visitor and community infrastructure, including toilets, car and coach parks, information centre, shared public spaces and a public library. The facility will honour and pay homage to Friedensreich Hundertwasser which showcases to New Zealand and the world a celebration of his work, philosophy and life in Kawakawa, New Zealand. The project will need to meet the needs of the 9(2)(b)(ii) Charitable Trust to gain permission to use his product for the facility.

It will leverage off other tourism offerings in the area (for example, Hundertwasser toilet, Hundertwasser Whangarei, Twin Coast Cycle Trail, Twin Coast discover route and the Cruise Ship market) and see the development of a cultural tourism hub that connects visitors to local Maori cultural experiences. It is planned that the new cultural and educational facilities will help to lift the status of Kawakawa as a hub for existing visitors.

Long-term, this project seeks to increase visitor numbers and spending in Kawakawa through developing it as a hub for cultural attractions in the area.

#### **Budgets**

The total cost is 9(2)(b)(ii)

Northland Regional Council is contributing 9(2)(b)(ii) , Far North District Council is contributing 9(2)(b)(ii) and 9(2)(b)(ii) from Far North Holdings Ltd. Additionally, 9(2)(b)(ii) has been provided from KHP Charitable Trust for a project co-ordinator.

Funding of \$2,378,000 is sought from the Crown (capital).

#### Assessment

There is strong lwi, local business and community support for the project. A feasibility study forecast an indirect spend of \$1.75m per annum in increased visitor spend in Kawakawa.

However, concerns have been raised that only three direct additional jobs will be created through this project. The possibility of a café in the facility runs the risk of cannibalising existing operators in Kawakawa, for example.

Northland Regional Council has conditionally invested 9(2)(b)(ii) from their investment and growth reserves fund. The condition to this funding is that the project obtain the permission of the 9(2)(b)(ii) Non-Profit Foundation to use the artists name and descriptions of his product. This has not been achieved to date. There are a number of other conditions to this funding.

Resource consent has been submitted and building consent is due to be submitted at the end of April 2018.

#### Risks

- Concerns over the number of jobs the project will directly add to the local economy and effect on existing business.
- Intellectual property issues over using the 9(2)(b)(ii) . Permission has not yet been granted from the 9(2)(b)(ii) Non-Profit Foundation to do so.
- Funding being conditional on gaining the intellectual property rights 9(2)(b)(ii)
- Forecast income for ongoing operations of the Centre are likely to be overestimated if the Kawakawa 9(2)(b)(ii)

  Park Charitable Trust does not obtain intellectual property rights

  9(2)(b)(ii)

  Therefore, the retail store would not be a contributing party to the overall income.

### **Probity**

- Who will manage the project: Far North Holdings Ltd
- Costs and benefits: The total cost is 9(2)(b)(ii) of which Crown funding of \$2,378,000 is being sought. The benefits include increased visitor numbers and spending in Kawakawa, with a flow on effect to other parts of the Far North.
- Non-financial benefits: Increased safety through cycle improvements and improved car and coach parking facilities. Also, enhanced community facilities.

#### Recommendation

DECLINE - however central government will continue to work with Kawakawa 9(2)(b)(ii) Park Charitable Trust and Far North Holding to establish the project.

Rationale: There are issues around financial sustainability of the centre and they do not have the rights to utilise the intellectual property at this time.

**Note:** There is uncertainty on the rights to use 9(2)(b)(ii) within the region. This needs to be further investigated as it will affect the ongoing sustainability of this project.

#### Appendix - supporting documents

Business Proposal - 18(e)