

Priorities Statement

Many regions have identified tourism as an opportunity for economic growth. The Government has therefore included the Tourism Infrastructure Fund in its provincial growth programme.

The purpose of the Tourism Infrastructure Fund (TIF) is to provide financial support for local visitor-related public infrastructure where tourism growth (domestic and international) is placing pressure on, or potential growth is constrained by, existing infrastructure and where the local community is unable to respond in a timely way without assistance.

The Government approved \$45.8 million of funding for 120 applications in the first three rounds of the TIF. The tourism industry continues to experience growth and it is important to ensure fit-for-purpose infrastructure to realise the benefits of this growth, while maintaining broader community support for tourism in the area.

Government's priorities for round four

All TIF applications will be assessed against the TIF eligibility and assessment criteria agreed by Cabinet. This Priorities Statement indicates the sorts of eligible projects that will be given priority (but not exclusive) access to TIF funding in round four.

Round four of the TIF will continue the focus on prioritising projects that demonstrate additional visitor-related public infrastructure is needed in order to meet both current and future visitor demand.

I am also keen to encourage projects which **retain community support** for tourism and **ensure visitors have high quality experiences**. These projects could address potential capacity issues and **future-proof local infrastructure** before problems develop. Support for feasibility studies and needs assessments will continue to be considered on a case by case basis.

As with previous application rounds, projects should aim to include innovative approaches to the sustainability of the investment you are seeking. Sustainable investment ensures that visitors contribute to the ongoing costs of infrastructure. Examples of this include recovering maintenance costs through charging apps and 'smart' rubbish compactors that alert the collection company when the compactors are full, making the process more efficient.

Further details

Further information on the TIF, including the eligibility and assessment criteria, can be found on MBIE's website at

<https://www.mbie.govt.nz/immigration-and-tourism/tourism/tourism-funding/tourism-infrastructure-fund/>



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