

Canterbury Mayoral Forum mid-term review, May 2018

Purpose

1. This report provides a mid-term summary of progress and achievements in implementing the Canterbury Local Authorities' Triennial Agreement 2017–19.

Triennial Agreement

2. As required by the Local Government Act 2002 (S.15), local authorities within the Canterbury region concluded a Triennial Agreement in February 2017. The purpose of the Triennial Agreement is to ensure appropriate levels of communication, co-ordination and collaboration between local authorities within a region.
3. The Triennial Agreement mandates the work of the Canterbury Mayoral Forum, Chief Executives Forum, Policy Forum and other regional and sub-regional forums and working groups.
4. Specific commitments in the Triennial Agreement for 2017–19 include:
 - continuing to implement the Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS)
 - continuing to develop and implement the Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy (CREDS)
 - developing and giving voice to a shared vision and joint advocacy for Canterbury
 - integrated transport planning for the region
 - investigating options for delivery of 3 Waters services in Canterbury
 - implementing a collaborative planning and decision-making process, including integrated RMA planning
 - ensuring effective resilience and response to civil defence and emergency management, and natural hazard risk management.

Regional forums

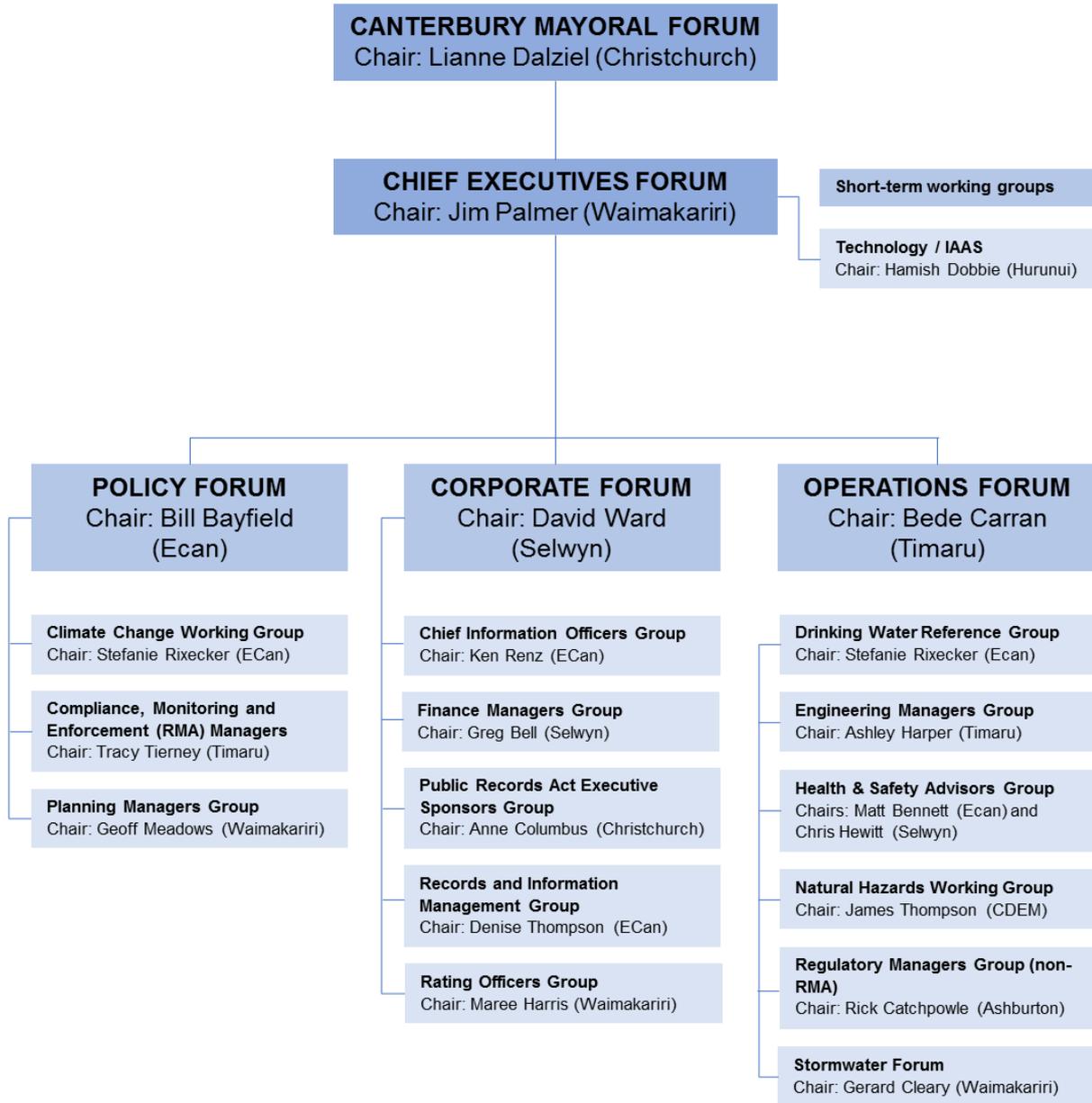
5. The Mayoral Forum and regional forums that support its work meet quarterly. In 2017, the Chief Executives Forum established two additional regional forums (Corporate Forum, Operations Forum), to co-ordinate the activities of regional working groups and ensure that together we can drive efficiencies and better provide for the needs of our communities through

Mayors standing together for Canterbury.

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the provision of good quality local infrastructure, local public services and performance of regulatory functions (Local Government Act 2002, S.10).

6. As agreed in the Mayoral Forum Charter of Purpose, the five regional forums are supported by a permanent secretariat hosted by Environment Canterbury: 2 FTE staff (funded through the regional general rate) and a CREDS Project Manager (fixed term, funded by the Regional Growth Programme).



7. In this local government term, the Mayoral Forum has extended standing invitations to attend its meetings to:
 - Helen Wyn, Senior Regional Official for Canterbury (Department of Internal Affairs)
 - Lisa Tumahai, Kaiwhakahaere, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu
 - Joanna Norris, Chief Executive, ChristchurchNZ.
8. In February 2017, the Mayoral Forum approved a three-year work programme. The Chief Executives Forum oversees implementation of the work programme, and reports quarterly to the Mayoral Forum. The CREDS Project Manager reports bi-monthly to MBIE on the implementation of projects funded by central government, and quarterly to the Chief Executives and Mayoral Forums.

Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS)

- The Mayoral Forum continues to oversee the implementation of the CWMS, which it initiated and adopted in 2009. Environment Canterbury collates a quarterly update report on the CWMS to the Chief Executives and Mayoral Forums.
- The Forum is currently developing intermediary targets (2025, 2030) for the period 2020–2040, to ensure the CWMS continues to be 'fit for the future'. An initial report was considered by the Mayoral Forum in May 2018, with a final report to be presented in April 2019.

Leading regional development in Canterbury

Refreshing the CREDS

- The Mayoral Forum reviewed and revised the Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy (CREDS) first launched in August 2015, and launched a refreshed strategy for the 2017–19 local government term in June 2017.

Leveraging central government funding

- Between local body elections in October 2016 and May 2018, the Mayoral Forum has leveraged, or helped leverage, \$7,267,239 in central government funding for regional development projects in Canterbury.

Project	Funding received
CREDS 'accelerator projects', June 2017	\$2,185,000
Additional CREDS projects, April 2018	\$200,000
Tourism infrastructure co-funding, November 2016	\$988,335
Tourism infrastructure co-funding, June 2017	\$1,194,254
Tourism infrastructure co-funding, December 2017	\$2,699,650
TOTAL	\$7,267,239

- Through its partnership with the Regional Growth Programme, the Mayoral Forum secured central government funding of \$2.185m for 11 'accelerator projects' to kick start implementation of the refreshed CREDS launched in June 2017.¹

Project	Funding received
1. Strategic policy analysis and advice, regional transport	\$100,000
2. Cell phone and broadband coverage mapping	\$80,000
3. Encouraging rural broadband uptake and use	\$65,000
4. Youth transitions	\$130,000
5. Job Ready Programme	\$40,000
6. Improve productivity (contract over five years with ChristchurchNZ)	\$1,000,000

¹ As at May 2018, contracts have been let and work is underway on projects 1–7, and 9–11; work is complete on project 10; project 8 is being pursued through conversations with KiwiRail, NZTA, the Ministry of Transport, Treasury, the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) and ChristchurchNZ.

Project	Funding received
7. High-value manufacturing (contract over four years with University of Canterbury)	\$450,000
8. Rail passenger services south of Christchurch – feasibility study	\$50,000
9. CREDS project management	\$150,000
10. CREDS indicators reporting	\$10,000
11. Canterbury brand story	\$110,000
TOTAL	\$2,185,000

12. In addition, central government funding has been sought and provisionally obtained (May 2018) for:
- seed funding for an Agritech Pavilion at the NZ Agricultural Show in Christchurch in November 2018 (\$50,000)
 - development of a web-based shared major events calendar for Canterbury and the South Island (\$150,000).
13. The Mayoral Forum supported applications from Canterbury councils to central government's co-funding of tourism infrastructure in 2016 and 2017.
- In November 2016, the Kaikōura, Mackenzie and Timaru District Councils secured a total of \$988,335 from round one of the Regional Mid-sized Tourism Facilities Grant Fund – 32% of the total distribution of \$3,050,000.
 - In June 2017, the Ashburton, Hurunui, Mackenzie and Waitaki District Councils secured a total of \$1,194,254 from round two of the Regional Mid-sized Tourism Facilities Grant Fund – 23% of the total allocation of \$5,233,336.
 - In December 2017, the Hurunui, Selwyn and Mackenzie District Councils secured a total of \$2,699,650 from the Tourism Infrastructure Fund – 19% of the total allocation of \$14,222,594.
14. The Forum has similarly supported member councils with applications to the 2018 funding round for the Tourism Infrastructure Fund.
15. The Chief Executives Forum and Regional Forums Secretariat provide co-ordination, advice and support to Canterbury expressions of interest in and applications to the Government's Provincial Growth Programme and 1b Trees Programme.

Understanding our changing population

16. In 2017, the regional forums secretariat supported CREDS partner, the Committee for Canterbury, with analysis of population change and projected trends. This informed the Committee's project, [Canterbury @ 1.5M](#), which seeks to stimulate and facilitate public debate on population policy for Christchurch and Canterbury.
17. Data and analysis of population change in Canterbury is hosted on the regional council's website at <https://www.ecan.govt.nz/population>

Supporting global awareness, tourism and trade

18. For the last two years, the Mayoral Forum has supported the University of Canterbury with applications to the Prime Minister's Scholarship for Asia for a programme in which students

visit China undertake research projects there. This has delivered research reports for the Mayoral Forum on:

- the different ways young Chinese ‘free and independent’ travellers hear about and find information on New Zealand and Canterbury, and the online channels they prefer to use
- migration intentions of young, highly skilled Chinese students.

19. Education partnerships are in place between Canterbury and Nagano Prefecture, Japan. In this term, the Mayoral Forum is investigating options to develop and extend Canterbury’s relationship with Nagano Prefecture, ‘region-to-region’.

Standing together for Canterbury

20. The Canterbury Policy Forum monitors central government policy and regulatory initiatives impacting on Canterbury and co-ordinates the development of regional submissions for the approval of the Mayoral Forum.

21. The following table summarises Mayoral Forum engagement and advocacy since October 2016.

Date	Audience	Subject
Oct 2016	Commerce Select Committee	Telecommunications (Property Access and Other Matters) Amendment Bill
Nov 2016	Minister of Economic Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • refresh of CREDS – and transitioning away from a rebuild economy • regional transport planning • Canterbury brand story • visitor strategy • value-added production and advocacy for the Lincoln Hub
Jan 2017	Health Select Committee	Health (Fluoridation of Drinking Water) Amendment Bill
Feb 2017	Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment; Minister of Finance	Funding to secure the Lincoln Hub
May 2017	Ministry for the Environment	Submission on Clean Water Consultation 2017
May 2017	Lyttelton Port of Christchurch	Welcoming investment in a cruise ship berth
May 2017	Crown Fibre Holdings Ltd	Meeting to discuss fast broadband in rural Canterbury
Jun 2017	Minister of Local Government	Government inquiry into Havelock North drinking water contamination incident
Jun 2017	Prime Minister; Minister of Immigration	Immigration policy
Jun 2017	Political party leaders	Immigration and the 2017 General Election
Jul 2017	Canterbury Regional Transport Committee	Timing of National Land Transport Programme
Aug 2017	Local Government Commission	Informal discussion of the work of the LGC

Date	Audience	Subject
Oct 2017	Electorate and List MPs in Canterbury	Congratulations and introducing the Mayoral Forum, its work and priorities
Nov 2017	Incoming Ministers	Briefing letters introducing the Mayoral Forum, its work and priorities
Mar 2018	Minister for Government Digital Services	Informal discussion with Mayoral Forum and stakeholders of priorities and opportunities in the CREDS digital connectivity work programme
Mar – May 2018	Minister of Agriculture	Mycoplasma bovis response
Apr 2018	Minister of Immigration	Government policies on immigration and international education
May 2018	Governance and Administration Committee	Submission on Local Government (Community Well-being) Amendment Bill
May 2018	Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment	Letter of support for applications to the Tourism Infrastructure Fund 2018 funding round from Christchurch City Council and the Kaikōura, Waimakariri, Selwyn, Timaru and Waitaki District Councils
May 2018	New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO	Letters of support for the Waitaki Whitestone and Banks Peninsula Geoparks to become members of the UNESCO Global Geoparks Network
May 2018	Minister of Tourism	Development of a tourism destination management strategy, and design and implementation of the proposed international visitor tourism and conservation levy
May 2018	Minister of Health	Release of Government Response to the Havelock North Drinking Water Inquiry

22. In December 2017, the Mayoral Forum identified central government policies on immigration and international education as a priority for its analysis and advocacy in 2018. The Mayoral Forum is working with the Canterbury Employers' Chamber of Commerce, BusinessNZ, ChristchurchNZ and international education providers to engage with central government officials and Ministers on policy options that will work for regional New Zealand (particularly the South Island), as well as for the country as a whole.

Better local services

23. Through its regional forums, Canterbury local authorities are investigating and/or working together on:
- options for delivering valuation and rating services
 - 3 Waters managed by Canterbury local authorities
 - engineering services and subdivision standards
 - regulatory co-ordination – supported by a Compliance, Monitoring and Enforcement regional working group of senior regulatory managers established in February 2018
 - contaminated land shared services
 - managing natural hazards
 - climate change adaptation
 - infrastructure as a service – and common technology platforms
 - public records management.

Collaborative RMA planning and decision making

24. The Canterbury Planning Managers Group reports to the Policy Forum and is a mechanism for co-ordination and collaboration on local government planning in Canterbury.
25. In February 2018, the Chief Executives Forum established a regional working group of senior regulatory managers (reporting to the Policy Forum) to support regulatory co-ordination across Canterbury local authorities.
26. Regional council planning staff are involved in three initiatives with territorial authorities:
 - co-location with colleagues in the Waimakariri, Selwyn and Timaru District Councils to support planning co-ordination and collaboration – with a planned extension to the Mackenzie and Waitaki District Councils
 - supporting alignment between Land Information New Zealand, the Department of Conservation and the Mackenzie and Waitaki District Councils in the Mackenzie Basin
 - working with the Greater Christchurch Partnership (the Selwyn and Waimakariri District Councils and the Christchurch City Council) to ensure that future settlement patterns nest with public transport and other infrastructure and provide sufficient growth and development opportunities post-quakes.