

NEWS FROM THE CANTERBURY MAYORAL FORUM

May 2017

About the Mayoral Forum

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

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

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

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

Did you know – the collective noun for a group of Mayors is not 'a chain', or 'a medley' (or 'a muddle') but 'a magnificence of Mayors'!



Canterbury Mayoral Forum in Timaru, 26 May 2017

MAYORAL FORUM ROAD TRIP TO TIMARU

- For the first time, the Mayoral Forum met in Timaru, 25–26 May. This meant the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Joint Committee and the Regional Transport Committee also relocated to enjoy the Timaru District Council's facilities and wonderful hospitality.
- A number of Mayors were resplendent in pink for anti-bullying Pink Shirt Day – see the photo at left!
- Mayors briefed media on the Mayoral Forum and its work – see the Timaru Herald article and photo at: <http://i.stuff.co.nz/business/93014091/first-timaru-mayoral-forum-discusses-canterburys-future>

Key agenda items / decisions were:

- adoption of the *Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy 2017–19* – for a launch with Ministers in Christchurch on Friday 23 June 2017
- agreement to write to Government Ministers about the potential impact of proposed immigration policy changes on economic and social development in Canterbury
- an update on progress of the Welcoming Communities pilot, led by Ashburton and Selwyn Mayors in partnership with Immigration New Zealand
- a report from the Canterbury Drinking Water Reference Group established in light of the Havelock North Drinking Water Inquiry – the Forum agreed to write to the Minister of Local Government about Canterbury's proactive response to the contamination incident and subsequent Inquiry
- senior staff from Crown Fibre Holdings Ltd met with Mayors to discuss broadband and cellphone coverage and next steps in the Rural Broadband Initiative II and Mobile Black Spot work programmes
- farewell to Michael Ross, who retires as Chief Executive of Waitaki District Council on 30 June.

THE MAYORAL FORUM PROVIDES LEADERSHIP, FACILITATION AND ADVOCACY FOR THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF CANTERBURY

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

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