

17 July 2019



Response - Official Information Request

I refer to your request for information received on 15/07/2019. Your request has been considered under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) and I provide the following information.

Copy of the PGF application to restore the Foxton River Loop

As requested please find attached a copy of the Manawātū River Loop at Foxton Application for Funding Development stage, submitted to the Provincial Growth Fund (PGF) on 05 October 2018.

Additional Information

Additional information to note with provision of the application as requested:

1. The timeline referred to in the Application for Funding Development stage is based on what was anticipated at the time of submission (05 October 2018).
2. This timeline as documented in Application for Funding Development stage did not eventuate as the funding agreement with the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) was not executed until 31 January 2019, and announcement of the successful funding outcome was embargoed until 06 March 2019.
3. The Application for Funding Development stage was made with consideration to feedback received from Officials. Guidance was provided from officials to outline what scope would need to be satisfied.
4. At the time Application for Funding Development stage, Horizons officials outlined a requirement for an aquatic study. The original MBIE funding contract document reflects the deliverable of this milestone.
5. Following completion of the DamWatch peer review in April 2019, Horizons Regional Council confirmed in writing to Horowhenua District Council and MBIE that the completed Peer Review of the GHD Report had satisfied the matters raised in its review of the report, and that a separate investigation and report on the aquatic environment was no longer required.
6. A contract variation was executed on 13 June 2019 to reflect the scope change as per notification from Horizons Regional Council (refer bullet point 5).
7. The contract variation sets out the schedule of changes with the detail as follows:
 - 8 February 2019 – agreement execution and all conditions precedent met. *Complete.*
 - 31 May 2019 – Horizons Regional Council confirm in writing to the Recipient and MBIE that the completed Peer Review of the GHD Report has satisfied the matters raised in its review of the

report, and that a separate investigation and report on the aquatic environment is no longer required. *Complete.*

- 22 August 2019 – Draft Foxton Business and Visitor Destination Plan submitted to MBIE for review and comment. *Underway with HenleyHutchings.*
- 31 August 2019 – Final Report submitted to MBIE. *Pending*

If you have any queries regarding this information please contact Nicki Brady, GM Horowhenua 2040 and Partnership Development.

Yours sincerely



David Clapperton
Chief Executive

Application for Funding Development Phase



About this form

This form enables you to make an application for funding over \$100,000 from the Provincial Growth Fund for activities in the Development Phase of a project.

You will need to use the Express Form if your application is for an activity under \$100,000 or the Standard Form if your application is for an actual Project (i.e. delivery of an asset).

These forms are available on the [Provincial Growth Fund website](#)

Purpose of the Provincial Growth Fund

The Provincial Growth Fund aims to lift productivity potential in the provinces. Its priorities are to enhance economic development opportunities, create sustainable jobs, enable Māori to reach their full potential, boost social inclusion and participation, build resilient communities, and help meet New Zealand's climate change targets.

Completing this form

Please complete all sections fully and accurately. Square brackets and italics indicate guides.

Please see the PGF website, or contact your regional relationship manager, for further support.

Submitting your application

All completed forms must be emailed to PGF@mbie.govt.nz with a clear subject heading.

If you are a Trust (or applying on behalf of a Trust), then you must provide a copy of your Trust Deed.

Next Steps

Applications will be assessed for eligibility, as well as how well they will deliver on the aims of the Provincial Growth Fund. One of our team will be in contact regarding your application.

Funding Agreement

The template funding agreements can be found on the [Provincial Growth Fund website](#)

Public disclosure

The Provincial Development Unit is responsible for leading the Provincial Growth Fund's design, administration and monitoring its operation in consultation with other government agencies. In the interests of public transparency, successful applications may be published by the Provincial Development Unit (PDU). Commercially sensitive and personal information will be redacted by reference to the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982. Please identify by highlighting any information in your application that you regard as commercially sensitive or as personal information for the purposes of the Privacy Act 1993.

Part A: Key Details

Please note that if the funding agreement will not be with the applicant (i.e. applying on behalf of another organisation), then please complete this application from the perspective of that organisation.

1. Proposal Title:

2. Please provide a very brief description of the project/activity:

This application is to fund the investigations connected to the Manawatū River Loop at Foxton (Te Awahou) project as follows:

1. Engage an environmental expert to carry out an investigation and report on the aquatic environment aspects of the proposed diversion of the river flow (or part thereof) through the Loop to confirm benefits or otherwise.
2. Engage a peer review of the GHD Report including technical aspects as well as matters raised by Horizons Regional Council in its review of the report.
3. Engage an expert to carry out a study on the impact the restored Loop would have in terms of visits and recreational pursuits and specifically the economic benefit this work will have on the community. The community has ambitious aspirations for how the Loop and surrounding area will be developed to attract visitors and recreational activities. This study would specifically explore the additional value created for the Foxton community, and ultimately the region from a tourism and economic activity point of view. The basis of belief that there are viable economic and wellbeing benefits to be realised from the wider project that recognise the Loop and nearby internationally recognised Manawatū River estuary RAMSAR site in its current state draws in a range of tourism and marine-related activities. The study will confirm the viability of the opportunities to host fully commercially funded activities including but not limited to:
 - interpretive and education facilities for children and the general public that focus on the river and estuarine environment, perhaps as an example of what can be achieved
 - tourism infrastructure such as high-quality toilets
 - development of a walkway and cycleway network
 - town centre vibrance and pride (Foxton Northern Gateway Regeneration)

If the above investigations support and confirm the effectiveness and benefits of the wider Foxton Loop Restoration Project then a further application for funding would follow.

3. Please provide the details of the applicant organisation/entity for which funding is being requested:

Legal Name:	Horowhenua District Council
Entity Type:	Local Authority
Registered Offices / Place of Business:	126/148 Oxford St, Levin 5510, New Zealand
Identifying Number:	n/a
Organisation's Website:	https://www.horowhenua.govt.nz/Home

4. Please provide the contact details for a person as a key point of contact:

Contact Name and Role:	David Clapperton		
Email Address:	davidc@horowhenua.govt.nz	Telephone:	

5. Please describe the principal role or activity of the applicant organisation.

Project Manager

6. This project will be based in the region of:

7. What type of funding is this application for:

[Note: the most appropriate funding type will be determined by the PDU in consultation with the applicant]

8. What is the activity / funding start and end date?

Start Date:	19/11/2018	Completion Date:	28/02/2019
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9. Has this project / activity been previously discussed with any part of Government? Yes: ☒ No: ☐

- If Yes, please describe which part of government, and what the outcome of the discussions were.

The Manawatū River Loop at Foxton has been the subject of ongoing discussion with government over many years. The original concept of a flood protection scheme that incorporated a weir and utilised the Whirokino Cut as a spillway was never successfully implemented by the Ministry of Works, and cut off the Loop. The subsequent Lower Manawatū Flood Scheme focused on an upstream part of the main Manawatū River. The district and regional council, other government agencies, and the community have continued to do what they can to address the Loop's lack of flow and environmental degradation, but their resources are limited. The outcome of the discussions with government is that there has been no obvious source of funding for a project of this nature. More recently there has been dialogue with the Ministry of the Environment at the direction of the Hon David Parker and a visit and presentation from Dr Charlotte Severne of the Provincial Growth Fund Independent Advisory Panel.

10. Have you previously received any Government funding for this Project/Activity? Yes: ☒ No: ☐

- If Yes, please list which part of the Government, when the funding was received, and how much under Q11.

11. Please set out the previous and proposed sources of funding for the Project:

Source of Funding:	\$ (excl GST)	Status / Commentary
Horizons Regional Council – River Bank Maintenance (2014)	\$18,629.05	Funded by Horizons
Horowhenua District Council – Earthworks and Landscaping (2014)	\$33,292.52	Funded by HDC
Department Of Conservation – Fencing (2014)	\$5,572.35	Funded by DOC
Horowhenua District Council – GHD Foxton Loop feasibility study concept modelling (2016)	\$14,890.00	Funded by HDC
Horowhenua District Council – consent and weed clearing (2016)	\$14,425.00	Funded by HDC
Department Of Conservation – Fencing (2016)	\$5,292.50	Funded by DOC
Horowhenua District Council – GHD Foxton Loop Project Planning (2017)	\$5060.00	Funded by DOC
Horowhenua District Council – Marketing and Brochures	\$1,067.20	Funded by HDC
Total:	\$98,228.62	

Proposed Sources of Funding For The Project:	\$ (excl GST)	Status / Commentary
Peer Review GHD Report and other matters relevant to the proposed restoration proposal (Includes factor for GHD time required to engage with peer reviewers)	\$30,000*	To be funded by PGF
Environmental Expert Investigation Aquatic Environment	\$10,000*	To be funded by PGF
Foxton Business and Visitor Destination Plan	\$60,000*	To be funded by PGF
Foxton Marketing Plan	\$20,000	To be funded by HDC
HDC Project Manager and PGF Lead	\$30,000	To be funded by HDC
HDC Led Community Engagement/Workshops/Venues	\$10,000	To be funded by HDC
GHD Project Scoping/Development Phase	\$42,000	To be funded by HDC
Total:	\$202,000	
	\$100,000	PGF Share
	\$102,000	HDC Share

Part B: Project Description

12. This application is: *"a stand-alone activity"* ☐ or *"in support of a wider project/programme"* ☒

13. Will additional funding likely be applied for in the future? Yes: ☒ No: ☐

- If Yes, please describe at a high level, what this may include, and when this is likely to be applied for.

Once the outcomes of the work engaged from this application confirm the feasibility of this project and benefits for our community which align to the intent of the Provincial Growth Fund.

Providing that the outputs as agreed in this funding application were successfully completed and confirmed the benefits anticipated delivering confidence that the project aligns to the PGF intent and criteria, further funding will be requested.

Further funding would be staged in phases including detailed design, and business case development.

The business case development phase will establish more detailed and accurate costing but at this stage we expect the total cost of the project to be in the order of \$10-12 million.

14. What type of activity is this application for?

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Feasibility study | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Business case | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Report | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Creation of an action plan | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Research or surveys | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Workshops or consultation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Capability building (Education / training) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (please specify) | <input type="checkbox"/> |

15. Please provide a detailed description of the activity for which funding is being applied:

The objectives of the Manawātū River Loop at Foxton project are to:

- Restore the river flow
- Begin the process of improving the health of the waterway
- Enable access to the water from Foxton town centre
- Develop and implement a Te Awahou Business and Visitor Development plan.

This application is to fund three separate investigations in relation to the proposed reconnection of the Manawātū River Loop at Foxton.

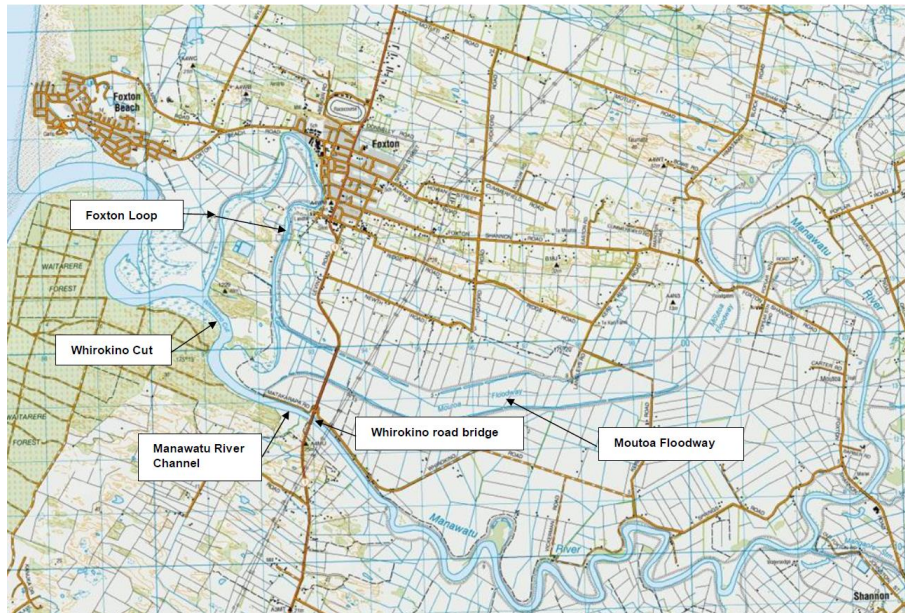
BACKGROUND

The Manawātū River Loop at Foxton is the former path of the Manawātū River and has become stagnant due to the activities by the Crown. Piriharakeke is its Maori name and it swoops across a number of Maori pa and kainga including, but not limited to Paretao, Matarapa Island, Te Rerenga o Hau, Te Aputa ki Wairau, and out to Papangaio and Te Wharangi. A large portion of adjacent land blocks are Maori owned, and this river loop has enormous cultural significance for Ngati Raukawa. The first Church in our region once stood along its bank and later the Township of Foxton (Te Awahou) was established on the opposite bank and became a major port and trading centre for the Manawātū region. A railway line connected it to Palmerston North and the area supported extensive commercial activity particularly agricultural production and a flax industry.

In 1943, following upstream lobbying the Whirokino Cut was proposed with a weir to be constructed as a spillway for flood events, however poor planning from the Government, and an unexpected flood during construction led to this becoming the main path of the Manawātū River. High silt loads during floods eventually caused the upstream

extent of the Loop to be cut off from the river. Today, it is in very poor condition. Much of it is silted up, and exotic weeds flourish in the nutrient laden waters. High E. Coli concentrations mean the Loop is unsuitable for contact recreation and warning signs are posted within 50 metres of the town centre.

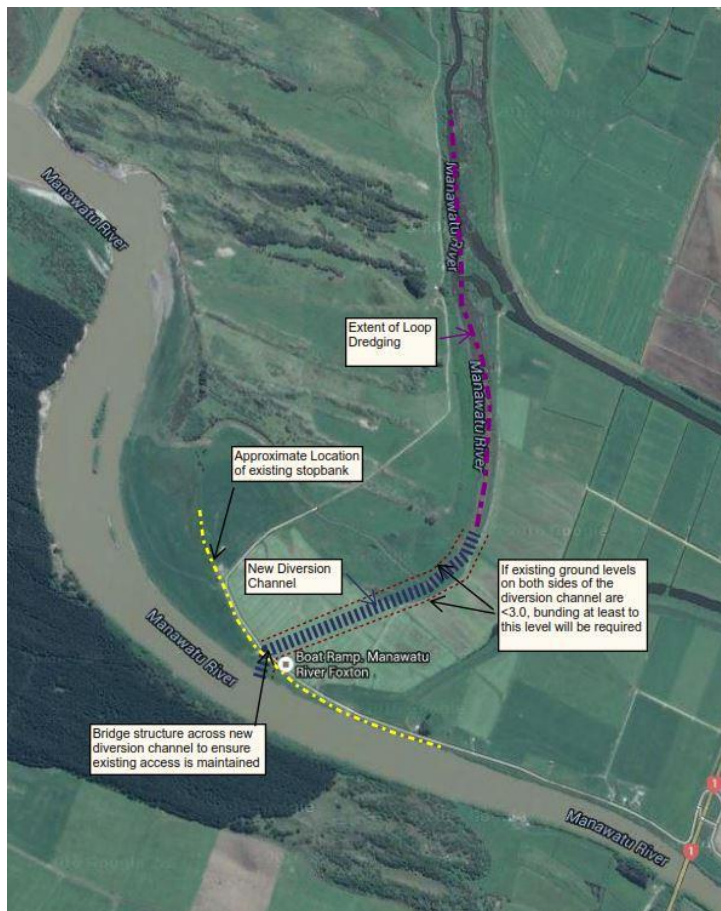
Location map of Foxton and Manawatū River Loop at Foxton:



A feasibility and concept modelling report in 2016 explored options for reopening the Loop. This work indicated reopening was possible by constructing a new diversion channel that connects to the previous path of the river, and approximately 1.5km of dredging that path through to a point where there is sufficient channel depth. This is the central and major component of the project proposed in this application, and the report has been used as a baseline for scoping the project. The report included a rough order estimate of the cost of these works at \$5.3m \pm 30%.

All works proposed would be designed to integrate with and not impede the Lower Manawatū Flood Protection Scheme and Moutoa Floodway. The spoil would be spread on adjacent farmland and used to form low bunds that would protect the surrounding farmland and direct floodwater flow. Rock armouring would be required at the entrance to the Loop and other areas where flow velocities could cause erosion. To maintain access to Matakara Island a crossing structure would be required, likely to be a multi-section culvert at the exit point from the Manawatū River. The exact location of the channel may vary depending on detailed investigation. A key objective would be to maintain adequate flushing velocities to be achieved in the diversion channel and the upper extent of the Loop. As in many situations where river flows are managed, some ongoing maintenance of channel depth would be required which could be included in the regional council's river management programme.

Foxton Loop opening works (from 2016 feasibility and concept modelling report):



It is expected that restoring river flow would dramatically increase the water quality and amenity of the area, and support development of the Loop as an additional recreational and tourism asset for Foxton. A critical factor would be the ability to circumnavigate what would become Matakarapa Island, which opens up possibilities for recreational kayaking and sporting events that would involve a journey around the island.

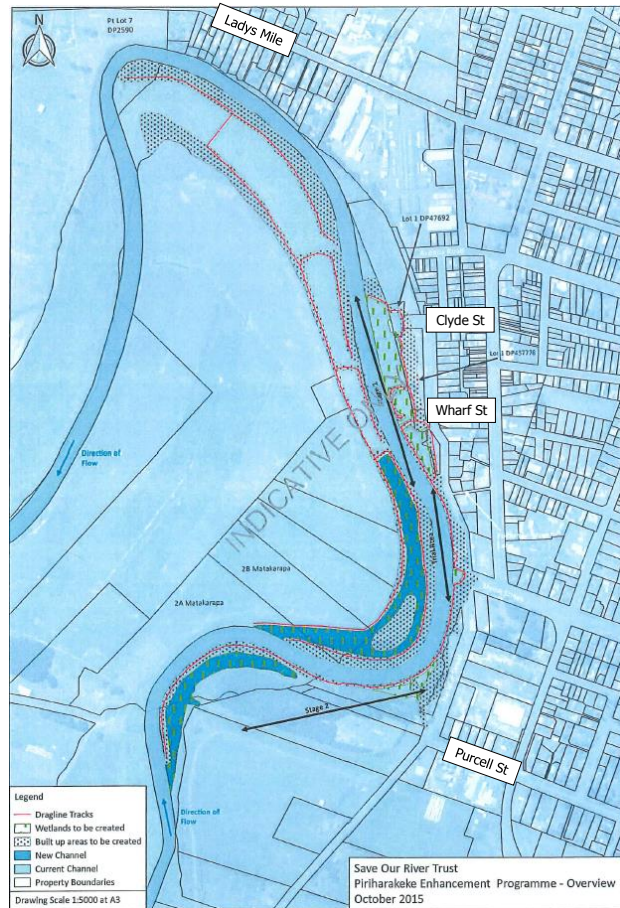
Realising the benefits of improved flow and health of the river will require ecological restoration work along the Loop and the ability to access the water, for example the ability to walk alongside, launch a vessel, and ultimately gather kai and swim. It would be untenable to have a healthier, flowing river and then have to wade through mud and weed to get to it.

A priority area for this is the section of approximately 2 km adjacent to Foxton Township. The second, integral component of this project is therefore restoring this section, constructing a wharf, and landscaping an area in the centre of the town to reinforce a connection from the main street and town square to the water.

This would involve dredging and planting this key section from just south of Purcell Street to the northernmost bend in the Loop adjacent to Ladys Mile. In October 2016 the Save Our River Trust (SoRT) was granted a 32 year resource consent for this work, which involves removing weed and sediment from the channel, drying and spreading it on the banks, and grassing or replanting with indigenous vegetation. Restoring natural vegetation would stabilise the banks, provide habitat, and intercept nutrient run-off. Some treatment of stormwater outfalls, for example, debris traps, would be included in this work. SoRT has been active in restoration work along the verge area on a voluntary basis for the past 18 years.

A plan of the specific areas of work, from the resource consent, is included below.

Town section restoration (from 2016 Resource Consent):



To enable re-establishment of the connection between the town and the river this work would include landscaping and water access from about Wharf Street to Clyde Street. A concept design for this was prepared in 2007 which shows approximately 300 m of landscaping on the eastern side of the Loop channel, approximately 200 m of timber pedestrian wharf, and river access at either end opposite Wharf and Clyde Streets.

Water access from town centre (using 2007 concept plan as start point):



The land separate from the river channel in this area is owned by Horowhenua District Council and is a reserve. The building shown in red is a privately owned building which is the only remaining building from the former port, and the proposed wharf is in approximately the same position as part of the original wharf. This building has recently been acquired for development by a group of local entrepreneurs who share the aspirations of the River Loop Working Party.

As noted above this area and the Loop itself is of immense significance to local iwi, particularly Ngāti Raukawa. All iwi with an interest have expressed support for this project at a high level. A full cultural impact assessment is anticipated at the detailed design and implementation phase alongside the consenting process. This will enable the impacts of a specific proposal to be considered appropriately.

PROPOSED INVESTIGATIONS:

Three investigations are required to inform further design and development of a business case to implement the restoration of the Foxton Loop, as follows:

1. Engage an environmental expert to carry out an investigation and report on the aquatic environment aspects of the proposed diversion of the river flow (or part thereof) through the Loop to confirm benefits or otherwise.
2. Engage a peer review of the GHD Report including technical aspects as well as matters raised by Horizons Regional Council in its review of the report.
3. Engage an expert to carry out a study on the impact the restored Loop would have in terms of visits and recreational pursuits and specifically the economic benefit this work will have on the community. The community has ambitious aspirations for how the Loop and surrounding area will be developed to attract visitors and recreational activities. This study would specifically explore the additional value created for the Foxton community, and ultimately the region from a tourism and economic activity point of view. The basis of belief is that there are viable economic and wellbeing benefits to be realised from the wider project that recognise the Loop and nearby internationally recognised Manawatū River estuary RAMSAR site in its current state draws in a range of tourism and marine-related activities. The study will confirm the viability of the opportunities to host fully commercially funded activities including but not limited to:
 - interpretive and education facilities for children and the general public that focus on the river and estuarine environment, perhaps as an example of what can be achieved
 - tourism infrastructure such as high-quality toilets
 - development of a walkway and cycleway network
 - town centre vibrance and pride (Foxton Northern Gateway Regeneration)

The project timeline is November 2018 to March 2019. This provides adequate time for the appropriate technical experts to be engaged to deliver the quality outcomes required to inform and provide confidence in the next steps. The timeframe also takes into account the Christmas and New Year period where by those involved in the project will be unavailable due to business closure periods.

Council intends to maximise the opportunities the holiday period brings with visitors to the area, and recognises that engagement with those who holiday in Foxton/Foxton Beach to be important in the scope of the destination management plan.

16. How does this project demonstrate additionality within the region?

Why the project is not already underway.

Restoring flow in the Manawatū River Loop at Foxton has been outside the resources and remit of local and regional government. It is a large and technically complex project that will deliver economic, environmental, and cultural outcomes, and requires central government funding to proceed.

How the project provides a new asset and is not seeking maintenance funding.

The project funds a new asset in terms of a restored and regenerated waterway which can be used and enjoyed by visitors and the local community. It is likely to need some ongoing maintenance work which will be funded within existing local government budgets.

The benefit of Central Government funding (i.e. over alternative sources).

Central government funding is appropriate because this is a significant provincial project with compelling public good which will support economic sustainability and other Provincial Growth Fund objectives. Central government funding is also appropriate because of the previous role of the State in altering this waterway.

Local and regional government do not have the resources or sole accountability for a project of this type. Note that as outlined in the answer to question 11, the community and Horowhenua District Council have already invested significant funding in projects to improve the Loop and develop the necessary planning framework.

The private sector will not fund a project like this in the public domain but is likely to fund economic initiatives that can benefit from the core Manawatū River Loop at Foxton opening project.

Why this project will unlock the potential within the region.

Foxton and Foxton Beach are small provincial towns (approximately 5,000 population in total) that have struggled economically over recent years. They do however have a strong sense of community and pride in their location, and have worked hard to make their community a better place. The standout example of this is the multi-million dollar Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom, a community, Māori and Dutch collaboration housing the museum and community hub which celebrates local Maori and European history and identity, and is the National Museum for Dutch heritage.

Recent development adjacent to the Loop includes a Cable Wakeboard Park – Off The Loop (www.offtheloop.nz). Off The Loop is the latest commercial Wakeboard Cable Park to open in New Zealand. It is one of the only parks to have two Wakeboard Cable systems operating at one time, and the only park to have a dual counterweight system ensuring maximum tension on the cable at all times. It recognises the benefits of boutique tourism that celebrates the special history of places like Foxton.

The momentum generated by developments like this can be continued with further investment in key projects like the Loop. The project will further enhance the area as a destination for tourists, eco-tourists, and New Zealand visitors, and stimulate commercial investment related to tourism, marine activity and the history of the area. Already the new facility has been visited 100,000 times since the opening in November 2017.

17. How is the project connected to regional (and sector) stakeholders and frameworks?

This project has strong local and regional support, including support from local iwi Ngāti Raukawa and neighbouring iwi Rangitaane and Muaupoko.

The key regional plans are:

- Te Pae Tawhiti Manawatū-Whanganui Māori Economic Development Strategy 2016 – 2040
- Horowhenua 2040
- Accelerate25 Regional Economic Programme and Action Plan.

Te Pae Tawhiti has strong linkages to this project in priority areas including kaimoana (river and seafood), mahi tāpoi (tourism), te ngāhere (forestry and plant-based products including harakeke/flax), te piringa whānau (whānau cooperatives), and whai ōhanga (entrepreneurship and innovation).

Horowhenua 2040 is an integrated, holistic, and ambitious plan for the Horowhenua District that includes regeneration plans for Levin and Foxton. A key objective is to provide a framework for potential investments from the Provincial Growth Fund. The Foxton plans highlight the importance of the Loop to the future of the Foxton economy. This strategy has been widely consulted on and is close to finalisation.

The Accelerate25 Action Plan covers a number of areas with direct relevance to the Manawatū River Loop at Foxton, particularly tourism and visitor services, poultry meat production (a major activity in Foxton and employer of 220 people), and Te Pae Tata: Realising Māori Potential.

18. How will your project lift productivity potential in the regions?

PGF Outcome	✓	How will the project positively or negatively impact this outcome in the region(s) identified?
1. Increase economic output	✓	<p>The townships of Foxton and Foxton Beach are in the process of reinvigorating themselves to ensure their future economic sustainability. Firstly they are marine centres - a former port and a gateway to the ocean for a significant catchment through Horowhenua and Manawatū. There is significant Maori and European history in this area, including the prominent role of the flax industry. In addition the Manawatū Estuary is an internationally recognised RAMSAR ecological site and summer home to migratory birds such as the eastern bar-tailed godwit (Kūaka), which makes the longest migratory journey of any bird species. Finally, Te Wānanga o Raukawa and Massey University, with expertise in education and ecology, have strong connections to this area. These elements would support increased economic output in the areas of tourism, eco-tourism, New Zealand visitors, environmental education, watersports, and marine-related activities.</p>
2. Enhance utilisation of and/or returns for Māori assets	✓	<p>Te Runanga o Raukawa are at the heart of this project and make up the membership of the Governance Group. Ngati Raukawa, the local hapu and Marae weathered huge impacts from the Whirokokino cut including, but not limited to land alienation and disconnection to their urupa, waahi tapu, and kainga. Although Ngati Raukawa are working through their Treaty Settlement Process, they are currently a wealthy iwi, have large ahu whenua trust land holdings, and Mandated Iwi Authorities that manage multi-million dollar assets for the iwi. The Runanga is investing in a range of economic initiatives for the region, and have already begun purchasing land within the vicinity of the Loop to drive activities that strongly connect to Te Pae Tawhiti. Te Pae Tawhiti, the Manawatū-Whanganui Māori Economic Development Strategy, has priorities that relate to the opening of the Loop. The rich history in this area would support tourism activity. While it is a longer-term aspiration, the ability to gather kaimoana is vitally important to Māori. Recognising the cultural significance and commercial potential for the use of harakeke is part of the identity of Foxton/Te Awahou. These and other areas will support Māori economic development.</p>
3. Increase productivity and growth	✓	<p>Foxton aims to dramatically increase its attractiveness as a place to live, and reduce the drift of its young people to larger centres. That pride of place is impacted by the very poor state of the Loop waterway which is integral to the identity of the town and will if restored be celebrated and enjoyed as an asset. Limited development is occurring in the expectation that increased water flow will be returned to the river loop.</p>

4. Increase local employment and wages (in general and for Maori)	✓	There are significant additional employment opportunities related to this project, in the areas of tourism and ecotourism development, hospitality, marine-related activities such as wakeboarding (already established as a commercial enterprise), kayaking and boating. Māori are investing in initiatives along the Loop and opportunities in the form of eco-tourism are in the wings.
5. Increase local employment, education and/or training opportunities for youth (in general and for Māori)	✓	Employment opportunities are discussed above. There are also significant education opportunities for young people, to be involved in and contribute to the improvement in health of the Loop. The existing Wildlife Foxton Trust could form a foundation for this activity. Manawatu College is located in Foxton and additional employment opportunities are constantly being sought. Te Wānanga o Raukawa are active in the township and have been involved in Te Reo Māori restoration and Health related programmes.
6. Improve digital communications, within and/or between regions	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7. Improve resilience and sustainability of transport infrastructure, within and/or between regions	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8. Contribute to mitigating or adapting to climate change	✓	Increasingly severe weather events are expected to put more pressure on flood protection assets. Further development of the Manawatu River catchment flood protection scheme will be required. Restoring flow in the Loop is consistent with these aims.
9. Increase the sustainable use of and benefit from natural assets	✓	The project has a strong environmental focus for a waterway that is currently in an extremely poor and unhealthy state. This situation is all the more reason to put additional effort into improving its environmental condition so that it can become a high quality natural asset.
10. Enhance wellbeing, within and/or between regions	✓	Reopening the Loop would further enhance a sense of pride in the area and start the process of turning an environmentally degraded, toxic and neglected waterway into an asset for the township. The area has enormous potential for walkways, cycling, and recreation by the community.
Total number of outcomes project contributes to	8/10	

Part C: Project Delivery

[Please note – this section refers to the actual activity associated with this application.]

19. Please provide an overview of the project management approach / plan for this activity.

How the activity will be managed from your organisation?

Horowhenua District Council will fund the Project Manager/PGF Lead position that will oversee ensuring the three targeted activities requested within this funding application are completed. Noting that this specific funding application is for:

1. Engage an environmental expert to carry out an investigation and report on the aquatic environment aspects of the proposed diversion of the river flow (or part thereof) through the Loop to confirm benefits or otherwise.
2. Engage a peer review of the technical aspects of the GHD report completed in 2016 as well as matters raised by Horizons Regional Council in its review of the GHD report.
3. Engage an expert to carry out a study on the impact the restored loop would have in terms of visits and recreational pursuits and specifically the economic benefit this work will have on the community.

Horowhenua District Council will ensure that all technical work is carried out by suitably qualified specialist consultants. The Project Manager appointed by Horowhenua District Council will maintain communication with all stakeholders to this project. A project steering group in the form of the Foxton River Loop Working Party has been established and have guided the project thus far. This involves representation from Local and Regional Councils, Ngāti Raukawa supported by Rangitaane and Muaupoko, Foxton Community Board and Save our River Trust.

What involvement is required by the Provincial Development Unit?

We propose that a representative from the Provincial Development Unit attends the monthly meetings of the Foxton river Loop Working Party. It is acknowledged that the targeted work as requested in this funding application is proposed to take place during November 2018 to March 2019. A member of the PDU involved in working party meetings will provide great value.

What other partners are required for successful delivery?

The key partners for this project are already members of the Foxton River Loop Working Party convened by the Horowhenua District Council, local iwi Ngāti Raukawa supported by Rangitaane and Muaupoko, the Save Our River Trust, Horowhenua District Council, Horizons Regional Council, Foxton Community Board, and other local groups including the Wildlife Foxton Trust. The councils and Working Party have an ongoing dialogue with key commercial operators in the area, who are committed to further development of and around the Foxton Loop.

What project management practices will be in place?

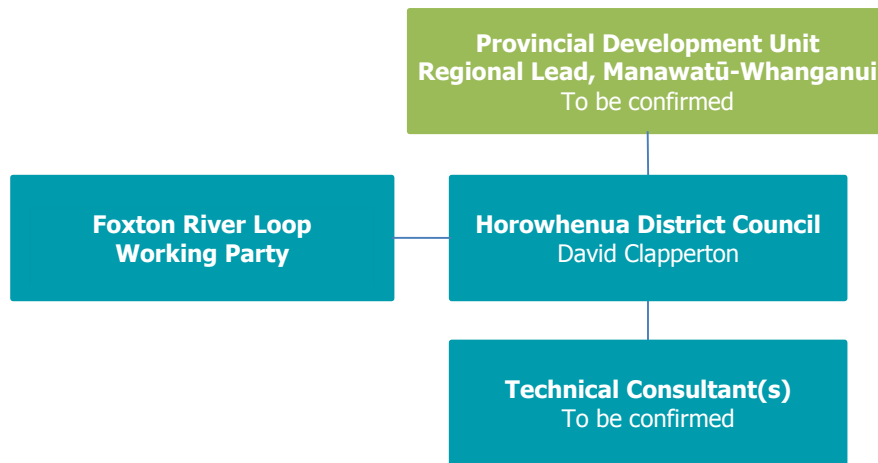
Careful project planning forms the foundation for successful project delivery. A project management system will be used which:

- Defines specific quality management requirements for the project
- Defines the client's (Horowhenua District Council) requirements
- Defines technical and organisational interfaces including
 - Compliance with relevant standards
 - Alignment with client scope requirements
 - Appropriateness of solutions including constructability
- Establishes the approach to maintaining complete and accurate records
- Facilitates efficient and timely delivery.

Who are the key personnel within the organisation relating to this project?

David Clapperton, Chief Executive, Horowhenua District Council. Robin Hapi, Chair, Save Our River Trust and Nicki Brady, H2040 Lead, Horowhenua District Council.

Please include bio's and provide an organisational/project structure where possible.



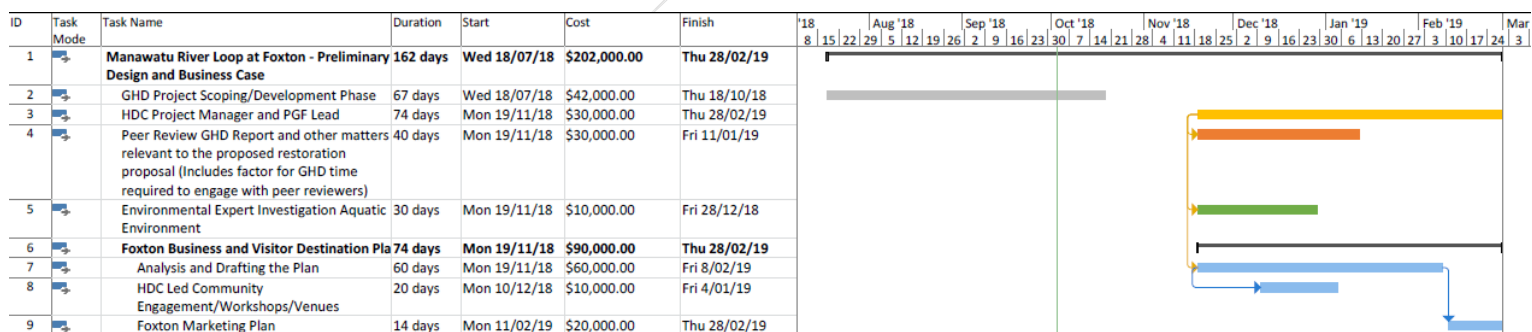
Please attach a copy of your health and safety policy that will apply for this project.

All Project staff will follow the rules, work practices and procedures set out in Horowhenua District Council Health and Safety Policy and Manual. In addition to the reporting procedures required under the manual for any separate occurrences, health and safety is reviewed and discussed regular project meetings. Employees, sub-contractors and sub-consultants undertaking site visits will be briefed on the hazards by a member of the Project team prior to their visit.

20. Please provide us with a project plan, where possible please attach a schedule (i.e. Gantt chart):

A project plan has been completed for the full scope of the project. The three outcomes of this funding application are preliminary to that and will occur in the phase identified from 15 October 2018 to March 2019 as shown below.

(Note: indicative only, subject to funding approval timing and development of a detailed project plan).



21. Please provide a complete breakdown of the costs of the project:

Cost Description:	\$ (excluding GST)
Peer Review GHD Report and other matters relevant to the proposed restoration proposal (Includes factor for GHD time required to engage with peer reviewers)	\$30,000*
Environmental Expert Investigation Aquatic Environment	\$10,000*
Foxton Business and Visitor Destination Plan	\$60,000*
Foxton Marketing Plan	\$20,000
HDC Project Manager and PGF Lead	\$30,000
HDC Led Community Engagement/Workshops/Venues	\$10,000
GHD Project scoping/development phase	\$42,000
Total	\$202,000

\$100,000 is requested from the Provincial Growth fund to support the project expenses outlined above.

\$60,000 is to be funded by Horowhenua District Council, in addition to the \$42,000 which has been engaged to date with GHD to carry out the project scoping in preparation for the PGF application. This is a total investment from Horowhenua District Council of \$102,000.

*Please note that quotes have not yet been sourced, these are based on estimates.

22. Please provide a description of why Government funding is required to deliver this project?

The Provincial Growth Fund is designed to unlock the potential of regions and fund initiatives that have strong local support and fit into a cohesive plan for their area. This project requires central government funding because it delivers significant economic and other benefits but is beyond the means of local and regional government. That is our understanding of why the Provincial Growth Fund was established, to provide assistance to regions that are doing what they can to help themselves but require additional central government assistance. The community and Horowhenua District Council have funded the progression of this project to its current state, assistance is now required to complete the three targeted remaining actions to confirm the feasibility of the proposed approach and give confidence in the benefits.

While it is not a primary driver, this community also feels that central government has some responsibility for changes to the waterway implemented many years ago, for the common good, but with unintended consequences. The Hon Robert Semple and Hon A H Nordmeyer in a visit to Foxton in March 1949 admitted responsibility for righting the wrongs and in May 1950 the Hon WS Goosman in a visit to Foxton promised to honour the assurances of his predecessors. Again in 1953 a Commission of Enquiry acknowledged that Central Government had made a mistake that needed to be addressed.

23. What are the proposed deliverables if funding is approved?

#	Description	Payment criteria:	Invoice Value \$ (Exc. GST)	Invoice Date:
1	Initiation payment	On the delivery of a detailed project plan	\$20,000	20 Nov
2	Progress Payment	On confirmed procurement of technical experts to carry out reports	\$30,000	15 Jan
3	Delivery of reports as agreed within this application (3 focus areas)	upon completion, delivery and acceptance of the final reports to the Provincial Development Unit of MBIE	\$50,000	31 March

(Note: indicative only, subject to funding approval timing and development of a detailed project plan)

Note the other activities identified in s.21 above are funded through HDC.

24. Please provide an overview of the applicant's relevant skills and experience for delivering a projects of this nature:

This project would be managed by Horowhenua District Council, a medium-sized local government authority which serves 32,500 residents and has expenditures of approximately \$52m. The Council has significant skills and experience managing projects of this size, scope and complexity. It will also be able to call on the expertise of Horizons Regional Council, which serves 240,000 residents and has expenditures of approximately \$56m.

The technical aspects of the project for this first phase being a peer review, ecological assessment and destination/visitor/recreation report will be undertaken by a suitably qualified and experienced experts.

25. Please explain the Governance arrangements for this project:

The Project Manager will be based within Horowhenua District Council, advised by the Foxton River Loop Working Party. The Working Party has been operating for four years after Horizons Regional Council in response to a submission from SoRT supported the establishment of a broad-based group to progress work on the Loop and Horowhenua District Council agreed to lead it.

26. What procurement process has been undertaken (i.e. selection of a provider), or will be undertaken, and how will that be managed?

Experts have not yet been selected, however existing Horowhenua District Council policies will be followed for this procurement.

27. What risks are associated with the delivery of this activity?

#	Risk	Mitigation approach	Rating
1	Community engagement identifies opposition to the project in its proposed form	Extensive previous consultation with the community and close linkages to community groups through the Foxton River Loop Working Party	Low
3	Timing being extended due to delays	Effective project management and project planning	Low

28. What is the future intent (at this stage) relating to the project? Has there been any assessment of future viability of the project undertaken?

If this funding application is successful and we deliver the stated outcomes that confirm the benefits anticipated, further funding will be requested after these investigations have been completed in April 2019.

Part D: Declarations

29. Has this activity ever been declined Crown Funding in the past? Yes: ☐ No: ☒
30. Is the applicant or the contracting entity insolvent or subject to any insolvency action, administration or other legal proceedings? Yes: ☐ No: ☒
31. The contracting entity is compliant and will continue to comply with all applicable laws, regulations, rules and professional codes of conduct or practice including but not limited to health and safety and employment practices Yes: ☒ No: ☐
32. Is any individual involved in the application, the proposed contracting entity or the project, an undischarged bankrupt? Yes: ☐ No: ☒
33. Is any individual under investigation for, or has any individual been convicted of, any offence that has a bearing on the operation of the project? Yes: ☐ No: ☒
34. Are there any actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest that the applicant or any of the key personnel have in relation to this project.
"In a small country like ours, conflicts of interest in our working lives are natural and unavoidable. The existence of a conflict of interest does not necessarily mean that someone has done something wrong, and it need not cause problems. It just needs to be identified and managed carefully..."
<https://www.oag.govt.nz/2007/conflicts-public-entities>

If you answered "Yes" to any of the above, please provide a description below:

The contracting entity is Horowhenua District Council which has adequate processes and procedures to comply with these requirements. Robin Hapi CNZM the Chair of the Foxton Save our River Trust is involved with a range of central Government entities and initiatives.

By completing the details below, the applicant makes the following declaration about its application for Provincial Growth Fund funding for the project ("application"):

- ☒ I have read, understand and agree to the Terms and Conditions of applying for Provincial Growth Fund funding which are attached as Appendix 1;
- ☒ The statements in the application are true and the information provided is complete and correct, and there have been no misleading statements or omissions of any relevant facts nor any misrepresentations made;
- ☒ I have secured all appropriate authorisations to submit the application, to make the statements and to provide the information in the application;
- ☒ I consent to this application being publically released if funding is approved. I have identified the commercially sensitive and personal information.
- ☒ The applicant warrants that it has no actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest (except any already declared in the application) in submitting the application, or entering into a contract to carry out the project. Where a conflict of interest arises during the application or assessment process, the applicant will report it immediately to the Provincial Development Unit by emailing PGF@mbie.govt.nz; and
- ☒ I understand that the falsification of information, supplying misleading information, or the suppression of material information in this application, may result in the application being eliminated from the assessment process and may be grounds for termination of any contract awarded as a result of this application process.

Full name: Mark Lester

Title / position: Acting Chief Executive Officer, Horowhenua District Council

Signature:



Date:

5/10/2018

Appendix 1 – Terms and Conditions of this Application

General

The terms and conditions are non-negotiable and do not require a response. Each applicant that submits a request for Provincial Growth Fund (“PGF”) funding (each an “application”) has confirmed by their signature on the application that these terms and conditions are accepted without reservation or variation.

The Provincial Growth Fund is a government initiative which is administered by the Provincial Development Unit, a unit within the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment. Any reference to the Provincial Development Unit in these terms and conditions, is a reference to MBIE on behalf of the Crown.

Reliance by Provincial Development Unit

The Provincial Development Unit may rely upon all statements made by any applicant in an application and in correspondence or negotiations with the Provincial Development Unit or its representatives. If an application is approved for funding, any such statements may be included in the contract.

Each applicant must ensure all information provided to the Provincial Development Unit is complete and accurate. The Provincial Development Unit is under no obligation to check any application for errors, omissions, or inaccuracies. Each applicant will notify the Provincial Development Unit promptly upon becoming aware of any errors, omissions, or inaccuracies in its application or in any additional information provided by the applicant.

Ownership and intellectual property

Ownership of the intellectual property rights in an application does not pass to the Provincial Development Unit. However, in submitting an application, each applicant grants the Provincial Development Unit a non-exclusive, transferable, perpetual licence to use and disclose its application for the purpose of assessing and decision making related to the PGF application process. Any hard copy application or documentation supplied by you to the Provincial Development Unit may not be returned to you.

By submitting an application, each applicant warrants that the provision of that information to the Provincial Development Unit, and the use of it by the Provincial Development Unit for the evaluation of the application and for any resulting negotiation, will not breach any third-party intellectual property rights.

Confidentiality

The Provincial Development Unit is bound by the Official Information Act 1982 (“OIA”), the Privacy Act 1993, parliamentary and constitutional convention and any other obligations imposed by law. While the Provincial Development Unit intends to treat information in applications as confidential to ensure fairness for applicants during the assessment and decision making process, the information can be requested by third parties and the Provincial Development Unit must provide that information if required by law. If the Provincial Development Unit receives an OIA request that relates to information in this application, where possible, the Provincial Development Unit will consult with you and may ask you to confirm whether the information is considered by you to be confidential or still commercially sensitive, and if so, to explain why.

The Provincial Development Unit may disclose any application and any related documents or information provided by the applicant, to any person who is directly involved in the PGF application and assessment process on its behalf including the Independent Advisory Panel (“IAP”), officers, employees, consultants, contractors and professional advisors of the Provincial Development Unit or of any government agency. The disclosed information will only be used for the purpose of participating in the PGF application and assessment process, which will include carrying out due diligence. If an application is approved for funding, information provided in the application and any related documents may be used for the purpose of contracting.

In the interests of public transparency, if an application is approved for funding, the application (and any related documents) may be published by the Provincial Development Unit. Commercially sensitive and personal information will be redacted by reference to the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

Limitation of Advice

Any advice given by the Provincial Development Unit, any other government agency, their officers, employees, advisers, other representatives, or the IAP about the content of your application does not commit the decision maker (it may be Senior Regional Officials, Ministers or Cabinet depending on the level of funding requested and the nature of the project) to make a decision about your application.

This limitation includes individual members of the IAP. The IAP’s recommendations and advice are made by the IAP in its formal sessions and any views expressed by individual members of the IAP outside of these do not commit the IAP to make any

recommendation.

No contractual obligations created

No contract or other legal obligations arise between the Provincial Development Unit and any applicant out of, or in relation to, the application and assessment process, until a formal written contract (if any) is signed by both the Provincial Development Unit and a successful applicant.

No process contract

The PGF application and assessment process does not legally oblige or otherwise commit the Provincial Development Unit to proceed with that process or to assess any particular applicant's application or enter into any negotiations or contractual arrangements with any applicant. For the avoidance of doubt, this application and assessment process does not give rise to a process contract.

Costs and expenses

The Provincial Development Unit is not responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by you in the preparation of an application.

Exclusion of liability

Neither the Provincial Development Unit or any other government agency, nor their officers, employees, advisers or other representatives, nor the IAP or its members will be liable (in contract or tort, including negligence, or otherwise) for any direct or indirect damage, expense, loss or cost (including legal costs) incurred or suffered by any applicant, its affiliates or other person in connection with this application and assessment process, including without limitation:

- a) the assessment process
- b) the preparation of any application
- c) any investigations of or by any applicant
- d) concluding any contract
- e) the acceptance or rejection of any application, or
- f) any information given or not given to any applicant(s).

By participating in this application and assessment process, each applicant waives any rights that it may have to make any claim against the Provincial Development Unit. To the extent that legal relations between the Provincial Development Unit and any applicant cannot be excluded as a matter of law, the liability of the Provincial Development Unit is limited to \$1.

Nothing contained or implied in or arising out of the PGF documentation or any other communications to any applicant shall be construed as legal, financial, or other advice of any kind.

Inducements

You must not directly or indirectly provide any form of inducement or reward to any IAP member, officer, employee, advisor, or other representative of the Provincial Development Unit or any other government agency in connection with this application and assessment process.

Governing law and jurisdiction

The PGF application and assessment process will be construed according to, and governed by, New Zealand law and you agree to submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of New Zealand courts in any dispute concerning your application.

Public statements

The Provincial Development Unit and any other government agency, or any relevant Minister, may make public in whole or in part this application form including the following information:

- the name of the applicant(s)
- the application title
- a high-level description of the proposed project/activity
- the total amount of funding and the period of time for which funding has been approved
- the region and/or sector to which the project relates

The Provincial Development Unit asks applicants not to release any media statement or other information relating to the submission or approval of any application to any public medium without prior agreement of the Provincial Development Unit.

Appendix 2 - Operational criteria for all tiers of the Fund

Link to Fund and government outcomes

- Demonstrate the ways in which the project will contribute to lifting the productivity potential of the region
- Demonstrate how the project contributes to the Fund's objectives of:
 - more permanent jobs
 - benefits to the community and different groups in the community
 - increased utilisation and returns for Māori from their asset base (where applicable)
 - sustainability of natural assets (e.g. water, soil integrity, the health and ecological functioning of natural habitats)
 - mitigating or adapting to climate change effects, including transitioning to a low emissions economy
- Clear evidence of public benefits (i.e. benefits other than increased profitability for the applicant)
- Are in a Government priority region or sector

Additionality

- Project is not already underway, does not involve maintenance of core infrastructure or assets (except for rail and transport resilience initiatives), and does not cover activities the applicant is already funded for (funding could be considered to increase the scale of existing projects or re-start stalled projects)
- Demonstrated benefit of central Government investment or support
- Detail of any supporting third party funding (and any 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

- Evidence of relevant regional and local support, either through 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 the region's economic development governance group
- 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

- Evidence of robust project governance, risk identification/management and decision-making systems and an implementation plan appropriate to the size, scale and nature of the project
- 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
- 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
- Evidence of sustainability after conclusion of PGF funding
- Adequacy of asset management capability (for capital projects)
- Compliance with international obligations (where relevant)