NEWS FROM THE CANTERBURY MAYORAL FORUM

December 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.

Mayor Lianne Dalziel (Christchurch City) is the Chair for this local government term.

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: <u>www.canterburymayors.org.nz</u>.

Want to know more?

Have a chat to your Mayor or Chief Executive



Canterbury Mayoral Forum

PRE-FORUM DISCUSSIONS

- The evening prior to Mayoral Forum meetings, Mayors and Chief Executives meet for a working dinner. On 30 November, Chair Lianne Dalziel gave a presentation on *Flying in Formation*. Lead Mayors for each of the seven CREDS work programmes then reflected on achievements during 2017 and priorities for action in 2018.
- During 2018, the Forum plans to invite members of the CREDS reference group to join them for dinners, focusing on particular CREDS work programmes. Continuing to engage with key stakeholders who have 'skin in the game' has added greatly to the ongoing development and implementation of the CREDS.
- Mid- and South Canterbury Mayors and Chief Executives met again early the next morning to sharpen up priorities for the CREDS digital connectivity work programme in 2018.

MAYORAL FORUM HIGHLIGHTS, 1 DECEMBER 2017

- The Forum welcomed new Chief Executives Suzette van Aswegen (Mackenzie) and Fergus Power (Waitaki), and congratulated Steve Lowndes on his election as Chair of Environment Canterbury.
- Dr Therese Arseneau, Chair of the ChristchurchNZ Board, and new Chief Executive Joanna Norris presented to the Forum on ChristchurchNZ directions and priorities.
- Mayors discussed priorities for engaging with the new Government and agreed that immigration policy, including international education, is a high priority for regional development in Canterbury. The Mayoral Forum is keen to work with ChristchurchNZ and central government to help develop policy options that could work well for Canterbury and the South Island.
- Cr Claire McKay (Environment Canterbury) presented an update on implementation of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy. This highlighted aspects of the new Government's priorities and work programme that are relevant to freshwater management and environmental restoration in Canterbury.

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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