

# Briefing to the Incoming Government by the Greater Christchurch Councils

February 2021



# Welcome and Introduction

Dear Prime Minister and Ministers,

Congratulations on your election to Parliament and on forming the incoming Government.

As you deliver on your Government's priorities, we wish to signal our intention and strong desire to partner with you to unlock the opportunities and address the challenges that we collectively face.

This briefing provides an overview of the areas where the Greater Christchurch Councils consider Local and Central Government partnership and co-investment is necessary to deliver national wellbeing.

Greater Christchurch is New Zealand's second largest urban centre, and the principal economic hub and gateway of the South Island. Our four Councils have worked collaboratively for many years and we believe Greater Christchurch is at a critical turning point.

Our current focus, alongside our Greater Christchurch Partners – iwi, mana whenua, our local health board and Central Government members – is to develop a clear and ambitious vision and plan for the next 30 years – **Greater Christchurch 2050**. This strategy is about driving intergenerational wellbeing and we believe that Central Government will have a strong interest in its direction and the initiatives that we will deliver.

Our focus, which we believe will **align and deliver on your objectives**, are:

1. **Strengthening partnership with iwi and mana whenua** to increase the delivery of outcomes for and aspirations of Māori
2. Leveraging our regional strengths to **transform the productivity and sustainability of our economy**
3. **Attracting a critical mass of people** – we have **capacity to grow in a sustainable manner** and we need more people to support the vibrancy and viability of our urban area
4. **Maintaining affordable living** and **addressing our social and community housing needs**
5. Delivering an **effective and efficient public transport system** that supports a well-functioning urban environment
6. **Adapting and responding to climate change** as we collectively play our part in moving to a net zero carbon future

We are creating an ambitious plan to deliver on these areas of focus and believe that in partnership with your Government, we can deliver tangible results for the wellbeing of New Zealanders.

This briefing provides an overview of key challenges and opportunities and we would like to engage with you to drive results in areas where co-investment by Central and Local Government will deliver significant value to national wellbeing and Central Government priorities.

We would specifically like to work with you to:

1. Develop the **Greater Christchurch 2050 vision and plan**

2. Establish an **Urban Growth Partnership** to support transition to a well-functioning urban environment in the context of net zero carbon emission and population growth
3. Develop a **Greater Christchurch spatial plan** to enable growth and necessary major programmes of work to deliver a high performing, modern and sustainable urban area and avoid the crises being experienced by other urban areas
4. Contribute to the development of the **National Planning Framework** and the **new national resource management system**
5. Develop strategies, policy interventions and innovations to **support climate change adaptation and mitigation**, with a particular focus on vulnerable communities
6. Co-invest to deliver innovative solutions in **social and affordable housing** and **central city intensification**
7. Embed future-proof **public transport system** and **mode shift**, and progress the development of a **mass rapid transit business case**
8. Contribute to the development of the **national 30-year infrastructure strategy** with the Infrastructure Commission
9. Identify ways to enhance national resilience through appropriately distributed **regional and urban growth**
10. Deliver **key activation investments**, including in **research and education**, needed to accelerate the growth of our **strategically strong sectors** and **transform our economy**
11. Collectively help our communities understand the potential benefits and consequences of the **Three Water Reforms in partnership with mana whenua**
12. Realise the value of Central and Local Government investment in the Central City Recovery Plan through **attracting people and businesses to Christchurch's central city**

The Greater Christchurch Partners meets monthly and would like to extend an invitation for Ministers to meet with the Partnership through that forum to discuss the above priorities.

Lianne Dalziel  
**Mayor**

Sam Broughton  
**Mayor**

Dan Gordon  
**Mayor**

Jenny Hughey  
**Chair**

## Table of Contents

Greater Christchurch – Working in Partnership for the Future .....	5
Greater Christchurch’s contribution to national wellbeing .....	5
Partnership with iwi and mana whenua .....	5
Greater Christchurch 2050.....	6
How we can work with you .....	6
COVID-19 Response, Recovery and Repositioning .....	7
Regional and Economic Development; Research, Science and Innovation .....	8
Creating vibrancy with a critical mass of people and activities .....	9
Delivering a well-functioning urban environment .....	10
Spatial planning to deliver affordable housing, sustainable transport and environmental protection .....	11
Housing .....	11
Transport.....	12
Three Waters Reform .....	13
Major development projects .....	14
Environment and Climate Change.....	15
Addressing climate change .....	15
Waste and recycling .....	16
Other Issues .....	17
Legislative changes .....	17
Health .....	17
Key Contacts.....	18
Appendix 1 – Map of Greater Christchurch .....	19
Appendix 2 – Greater Christchurch’s Strategically Strong Sectors .....	20

## Greater Christchurch – Working in Partnership for the Future

### Greater Christchurch’s contribution to national wellbeing

As you know, Greater Christchurch is the second largest urban centre in New Zealand with around half a million people – 10% of the New Zealand population and 43% of the South Island population. Over the last 12 years, we have been the fastest growing urban centre outside of Auckland.

We are the knowledge, service and logistics hub for Canterbury and the South Island – home to New Zealand’s second largest airport and second largest seaport (by export numbers), four tertiary, six Crown Research Institutes, and a strong and diverse economic base that is strongly inter-connected with the wider regional economy.

Greater Christchurch currently has the most affordable housing offering of New Zealand’s major urban centres, with a lifestyle that is highly valued by its residents. The significant investment in infrastructure and redevelopment post-earthquakes means that, unique among New Zealand’s largest urban centres, Greater Christchurch has significant capacity for economic and population growth.

We believe Greater Christchurch has the potential to contribute significantly more to national wellbeing and prosperity:

1. ***We can provide quality, affordable lifestyles to more people*** – we have capacity to grow at a relatively low marginal infrastructure cost and can provide a high-quality, affordable lifestyle to our residents.
2. ***We have experience and knowledge to share*** – we have learnt to respond successfully to adversity in many forms; through grass-roots community activation working in partnership with decisive and innovative responses by institutions, government and business.
3. ***We can deliver greater economic returns on the public and private sector investment already made*** – we have all the ingredients necessary for a successful urban economy and have a strong appetite to increase the scale and value of our economic activity.
4. ***We have strong, cohesive leadership focused on the future*** – the transition from central to local leadership has occurred, and local partners have a collective focus and appetite on improving intergenerational wellbeing. This is manifested in our current focus on developing a clear and ambitious vision and plan for the next 30 years through **Greater Christchurch 2050**.
5. ***The success of Greater Christchurch benefits New Zealand*** – our success provides national economic resilience, supports a strong and successful South Island, and provides a greater national return on infrastructure investment.

### Partnership with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and mana whenua

Strengthening partnership with iwi and mana whenua is a key priority for the Greater Christchurch Partnership – a partnership that includes the four Councils, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, the Canterbury District Health Board, and Central Government membership. Early and meaningful engagement with iwi and mana whenua on strategic matters and projects is core to how we operate in Greater Christchurch. Three Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu representatives sit at the Greater Christchurch Partnership Committee table.

## Greater Christchurch 2050

As members of the Greater Christchurch Partnership, the four Councils are developing a new 30-year vision and plan for Greater Christchurch. Greater Christchurch 2050 is about driving intergenerational wellbeing and will provide the strategic direction for the Greater Christchurch Partnership and the four Councils, and the basis for partnership with Central Government. The development of the vision and plan is expected to be completed in 2021.

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development are providing support for this project through the involvement of senior officials, while other parts of Central Government (particularly the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, the Ministry of Transport, the Ministry for the Environment and the Infrastructure Commission) are being engaged as the plan is developed. As a member of the Greater Christchurch Partnership, Waka Kotahi is also actively involved.

### How we can work with you

The Greater Christchurch Partnership is an established partnership of over thirteen years that provides a co-ordinated and enduring mechanism for Central Government to engage with New Zealand's second largest urban centre.

The Greater Christchurch Partnership would like to strongly signal our intention to build a stronger, enduring partnership with Central Government through the development and implementation of Greater Christchurch 2050 and the creation of an Urban Growth Partnership. We would also like to strongly signal our invitation to this Government to remain a key part of our Partnership. We will work with you on the details of your membership over the coming months and would like to discuss this with you when we meet.

Until 2021, this Partnership had Central Government membership through the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet. We are currently working with officials from the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development to increase and formalise their involvement in the Partnership.

## COVID-19 Response, Recovery and Repositioning

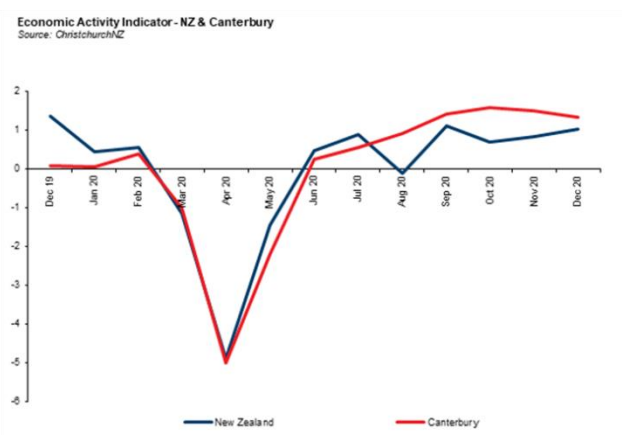
***There is a strong collaborative local response working in constructive partnership with Central Government. Key opportunities for partnership through COVID-19 recovery include skills development and supporting entrepreneurship. We would like to work with Central Government to develop the reimagined strategic direction for tourism. Greater Christchurch 2050 will provide the strategic direction to reposition Greater Christchurch as it transitions out of COVID-19 recovery.***

*Labour Manifesto: "Labour's top priority in Government will continue to be a COVID recovery plan for all New Zealanders."*

Greater Christchurch is coping relatively well with the economic shock associated with COVID-19<sup>1</sup>, with economic activity and employment performance similar or above the national average.

The Canterbury Recovery Oversight Group – chaired by the Canterbury Public Service Lead and Waimakariri District Council CEO – is supporting the regional cross-agency coordination of recovery activities. Within this regional approach, each local Council is delivering its own recovery plan<sup>2</sup> in partnership with its local communities, industry and education providers. ChristchurchNZ (Christchurch's economic and tourism agency) and the Canterbury Chamber of Commerce are partnering to deliver regional business support. ChristchurchNZ is also working with Regional and District Tourism Organisations across Canterbury and the West Coast to coordinate domestic tourism marketing, and to provide support for and representation of the tourism sector.

We recognise the importance of focused collective effort on repositioning Greater Christchurch for the future. Greater Christchurch 2050 will provide the strategic direction to reposition Greater Christchurch as it transitions out of COVID-19 recovery.



<sup>1</sup> The latest Christchurch and Canterbury Economic Update can be found [here](#).

<sup>2</sup> For Christchurch City Council this is the [Ōtautahi Christchurch Socio-Economic Recovery Plan](#).

## Regional and Economic Development; Research, Science and Innovation

Leveraging regional strengths to transform the economy, and attract and retain talent

***Greater Christchurch is focused on transforming its economy through four strategically strong sectors – health technology; food, fibre and agritech; aerospace; and information technology. Investment in activating infrastructure, and strengthening and aligning education, skills and research provision, is necessary to support this transformation.***

*Labour Manifesto: “Our plan will create much-needed jobs and economic stimulus now, while also future-proofing our economy...*

*...Labour will partner with regions to progress their regional economic development plans by making \$200 million seed funding available through the Regional Strategic Partnership Fund for strategic investments in projects or programmes that support the growth of new and innovative industries, deliver sustainable employment opportunities, and further a region’s economic development.”*

Greater Christchurch’s economy has relatively low productivity and incomes compared to Auckland and Wellington, and due to its industry structure, is more vulnerable to the disruptive changes occurring globally. Our working age population is also older and lower skilled compared to in Auckland and Wellington, creating more vulnerabilities to economic disruption and transition.

Transforming the economy to provide more quality employment and business opportunities in environmentally sustainable areas will improve the prosperity and wellbeing of people in Greater Christchurch. Building on our existing regional strengths in high value industries, and a comprehensive base of tertiaries and research institutes, there are strong foundations to position Greater Christchurch as a national and international testbed for new ideas and innovations, and to attract new business and investment.

Greater Christchurch has identified four strategically strong sectors which can build on existing regional strengths to leverage global growth opportunities<sup>3</sup>:

1. Health technology, resilience and wellbeing
2. Aerospace and future transport
3. Future food, fibre and agritech
4. Supported by high tech services

These sectors are intrinsic to our region, and are supported by strong local collaboration between industry, education and research, iwi and mana whenua, and government.

Greater Christchurch believes there is a significant opportunity to partner with Central Government to deliver core activating investments needed to accelerate the growth of these sectors, particularly for aerospace and food and fibre, through the Regional Strategic Partnership Fund.

Greater Christchurch is committed to working with local tertiary providers to strengthen Greater Christchurch’s education and skills provision, and research activity, that align with these sectors to support local people to leverage opportunities in the context of a transformed economy, to attract

---

<sup>3</sup> Refer to Appendix 2 for more details.



talented people to education, employment and business opportunities, and to attract businesses and investment seeking a talented workforce in these sector areas.

In the context of COVID-19, Greater Christchurch is also well placed to compete globally to attract talented people to New Zealand by providing meaningful business and employment opportunities, and amenities, lifestyle and values that appeal.

## Creating vibrancy with a critical mass of people and activities

***Greater Christchurch has ambitious growth targets for its central city over the next 10 years, which involves attracting new people, and growing and attracting business and investment to realise the value of the investment made by Central Government and the Christchurch City Council in the Central City Recovery Plan.***

***We would like to investigate opportunities for more Central Government functions locating in Greater Christchurch to support national resilience, alleviate growth pressure on Wellington and Auckland, and distribute a greater proportion of Central Government operational spend into the South Island.***

*Labour Manifesto: "Our plan will create much-needed jobs and economic stimulus now, while also future-proofing our economy."*

Greater Christchurch has benefited from significant investment in modern, resilient infrastructure and urban assets over the past 10 years by Central Government, the Councils and the private sector. Central Government has made significant and ongoing investments in health, tertiary and school facilities, and major roads. There is now a range of new or enhanced infrastructure assets, community amenities and public spaces funded by both Central Government and the Councils in the central city, suburbs and townships in Greater Christchurch<sup>4</sup>.

The central city represents the most ambitious urban renewal project in New Zealand's history. The central city requires an additional 13,000 people and 20,000 workers over the next decade to deliver vibrancy and agglomeration benefits, maintain regeneration momentum, and to make best use of the substantial investment in infrastructure post-earthquakes. We are currently growing at less than half the rate in residents or workers necessary to achieve this target<sup>5</sup>.

Greater Christchurch would like to work with Central Government to attract people and business to our central city to realise the value of the substantial investment by Central and Local Government.

We also believe there is local and national benefits from locating more Central Government functions and employment in Greater Christchurch, especially in the central city. This would support new development opportunities, improve national resilience, alleviate some of the growth pressures currently being experienced in Wellington and Auckland, and distribute more Central Government operational spending into the South Island.

---

<sup>4</sup> For example, the Canterbury Earthquake Memorial, Hagley Hospital, Lyttelton Cruise Berth, Tūranga - Central Library, Bus Exchange, Margaret Mahy Playground, Christchurch Adventure Park, Ngā Puna Wai Sports Hub, He Puna Taimoana - New Brighton Hot Pools.

<sup>5</sup> More information on the central city's performance can be found [here](#).

## Delivering a well-functioning urban environment

Greater Christchurch Councils recognise the importance of integrating spatial planning with transport and wider infrastructure investment to deliver a well-functioning urban environment that enables all people and communities to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing, and for their health and safety, now and into the future.

In partnership with Central Government, Greater Christchurch has delivered a significant infrastructure and planning response following the significant damage, disruption and need for transformation caused by the 2010/11 earthquake events. Greater Christchurch is now the most affordable and uncongested major urban centre in New Zealand.

However, experiences from other urban centres show us the risks of complacency in future planning and investment. Greater Christchurch 2050 will therefore provide the strategic framework that will guide urban development and infrastructure planning in Greater Christchurch for the next 30 years.

Greater Christchurch Councils welcome the emerging direction and focus from Central Government on the role that urban planning and infrastructure investment plays to safeguard the wellbeing of current and future generations.

We welcome the recent announcements regarding resource management system reforms, including the proposed new legislation to provide clearer direction to local government and the private sector. We look forward to working closely with Central Government to ensure we are well prepared to respond as this legislation develops.

We are committed to provide a high amenity, sustainable, accessible and affordable urban environment which is attractive and provides for the needs of a diverse range of people. To achieve this, key priorities are:

1. Housing affordability – Maintaining and enhancing housing affordability across all levels of housing income, including the provision of social housing
2. Central city – completing regeneration and realising agglomeration and vibrancy outcomes
3. Addressing climate change – adaptation and mitigation
4. Enhancing environmental protection – water, soils, biodiversity
5. Improving the performance of the urban environment – integrating greater density with improved transport options and amenity, including support for transport mode shift through investment in cycleways and public transport and encouraging behaviour change
6. Greater Christchurch's role - Enhancing Greater Christchurch's contribution to the region, South Island and New Zealand

We are particularly interested to work with Central Government to:

1. Establish an Urban Growth Partnership to support transition to a well-functioning urban environment in the context of net zero carbon emission and population growth
2. Develop a Greater Christchurch spatial plan to enable growth and necessary major programmes of work to deliver a high performing, modern and sustainable urban area and avoid the crises being experienced by other urban areas
3. Contribute to the development of the National Planning Framework and the new national resource management system
4. Develop strategies, policy interventions and innovations to support climate change adaptation and mitigation, with a particular focus on vulnerable communities

5. Co-invest to deliver innovative solutions in social and affordable housing and central city intensification
6. Embed future-proof public transport system and mode shift, and progress the development of a mass rapid transit business case
7. Contribute to the development of the national 30-year infrastructure strategy with the Infrastructure Commission
8. Identify ways to enhance national resilience through appropriately distributed regional and urban growth
9. Deliver key activation investments, including in research and education, needed to accelerate the growth of our strategically strong sectors and transform our economy
10. Collectively help our communities understand the potential benefits and consequences of the Three Water Reforms in partnership with mana whenua
11. Realise the value of Central and Local Government investment in the Central City Recovery Plan through attracting people and businesses to Christchurch's central city

## Spatial planning to deliver affordable housing, sustainable transport and environmental protection

In the context of Greater Christchurch 2050, the Greater Christchurch Partnership is working with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development to scope a new joint spatial planning project for Greater Christchurch that will respond to the priorities outlined above.

Greater Christchurch's lower density and dispersed urban form creates both particular opportunities for our urban centre, such as the capacity to accommodate significantly more growth; and challenges, such as implementing efficient transport solutions as the population grows and responding to climate change.

The Greater Christchurch Partnership is also currently working with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development to establish an Urban Growth Partnership for Greater Christchurch. The aim of establishing such a partnership is to ensure there is an enduring forum and governance structure for Central Government, Local Government and mana whenua to collaborate on the strategic direction for Greater Christchurch.

## Housing

***Enhancing and maintaining housing affordability is a key priority for Greater Christchurch. The Greater Christchurch Councils, iwi and rūnanga have the appetite and capacity to explore innovative housing options which will deliver intergenerational housing affordability.***

*Labour Manifesto: "Secure, healthy and affordable housing is at the heart of the wellbeing of New Zealand families. It will take many years of sustained and continued focus to make that a reality for every New Zealand family."*

Greater Christchurch has had relative housing affordability than other New Zealand urban centres due to its rapid response after the earthquakes to free up land for residential development. However, there remains a significant shortage of lower value and smaller homes in Greater Christchurch. Low-income renters are particularly disadvantaged, especially Māori, single parents

and single older people<sup>6</sup>. Greater Christchurch currently has over 1,000 households on waiting lists for social housing, and the need for social and affordable housing is projected to increase by more than 25,000 homes over the next 30 years.

It is critical that the affordability of living in Greater Christchurch is enhanced and maintained to support the wellbeing of future generations.

Delivering higher density developments well located to leverage transport links, community amenity and social services in Greater Christchurch is pivotal to meeting the projected increases in demand for smaller, more affordable homes. Christchurch's central city, in particular, has significant capacity and need for a larger population.

Christchurch City Council's Ōtautahi Community Housing Trust is the second largest provider of social and community housing in New Zealand. Greater Christchurch Councils and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu have both the capacity and appetite to work with Central Government to develop a wider range of innovative solutions to support social and affordable housing, including more nuanced rental and home ownership options. We are currently developing a Social and Affordable Housing Strategy and we are keen to work with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development and Kāinga Ora to explore these opportunities, including the potential to progress developments on some of the larger vacant sites within the central city.

## Transport

***Implementing an effective public transport system is a key priority for Greater Christchurch. Greater Christchurch is working in partnership with Waka Kotahi to progress investments and initiatives outlined in the Canterbury Regional Public Transport Plan, including in relation to mass rapid transit.***

*Labour Manifesto: "Labour will continue to prioritise further investment in public transport, commuter rail, and walking and cycling to ensure accessible, affordable and reliable choices and services for users."*

*"Labour will continue to prioritise road safety initiatives, including those from the Road to Zero Safety Strategy."*

*"Labour will progress... developing a rapid transport network for Christchurch."*

Implementing an effective public transport system is a key priority for Greater Christchurch. If we don't progress this now it will undermine our ability to be a sustainable, liveable, and affordable urban centre in the future that supports wellbeing.

Greater Christchurch's existing land use pattern and transport system encourages high levels of car use, leading to more congestion, rising emissions, reduced amenity, safety risks and poor health outcomes for people and communities as our population grows. Transport is one of the biggest contributors to Greater Christchurch's carbon emissions – in Christchurch city on-road emissions account for 36% of total gross greenhouse gas emissions.

Under investment has also inhibited greater uptake of public transport – only 2% of trips are on public transport compared with 4% in Auckland and 5% in Wellington. In contrast, significant

---

<sup>6</sup> Further information can be found in the Greater Christchurch Future Development Strategy – titled [Our Space](#).

investment in cycle routes has provided a strong cycle network. Greater Christchurch is investing in mode shift now to ensure we don't experience the congestion challenges of other urban centres.

Alongside investment in mode shift, Greater Christchurch is committed to mitigate transport related emissions through a transition to a zero emissions public transport fleet. In this context, Greater Christchurch welcomes the Central Government commitment to provide councils with \$50 million to help them fully decarbonise the public transport bus feet by 2034.

We recognise that reducing carbon emissions in our urban area requires significant changes in how we travel around our local area. We are committed to supporting our residents and communities to make this transition through the provision of good quality, low-carbon options for getting around. We look forward to partnering with the Central Government to deliver action.

The Canterbury Regional Public Transport Plan<sup>7</sup> sets out an integrated approach to public transport in Greater Christchurch that supports and enables our population and urban growth strategies. To give effect to this, partners are developing the Future Public Transport Business Case. This will deliver a coordinated programme of investments and improvements across both public transport infrastructure and services. The first stage of this business case has been submitted to Waka Kotahi for consideration.

A key component of this work is the development of a Mass Rapid Transit Business case, which will identify the optimum corridors where such an investment will deliver maximum economic, social and environmental benefit. The next key milestone will be the completion of the Interim Report in April 2021, which involves testing a range of MRT operational scenarios to provide an indication of the feasibility of MRT in different operational settings and provide an indication of the likely investment ranges and scale of growth redistribute necessary to support the investment. The following phase of the business case is expected later this year.

***As part of Greater Christchurch 2050, we will be developing a new 30-year plan and infrastructure strategy for Greater Christchurch. We want to work with the Infrastructure Commission on their 30-year strategy for New Zealand's infrastructure system to ensure we achieve alignment.***

*Labour Manifesto: "...future-proof our country for decades to come by delivering new and upgraded roads, rail, schools and hospitals across the country."*

*"Labour will continue to progress the Urban Growth Agenda, support the provision of infrastructure for housing, and set standards for quality urban design."*

## Three Waters Reform

***The Greater Christchurch Councils are pro-actively collaborating in the Three Waters Reforms and the conversation across the South Island.***

The Greater Christchurch Councils have engaged proactively in the first phase of Central Government's proposed reforms to the three waters services (drinking water, wastewater and stormwater). Collectively the Councils will receive \$59 million of post COVID-19 Central Government stimulus funding for improvements to drinking water supply and wastewater management systems. The Councils are contributing detailed information, under the Request for Information, on the state of their infrastructure, regulatory compliance, service delivery arrangements and associated costs.

---

<sup>7</sup> The Canterbury Regional Public Transport Plan can be accessed [here](#).

In response to the reforms, the Canterbury Mayoral Forum is investigating options for aggregated water services delivery across Canterbury, as well as looking into the Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu rohe as the basis for a potential delivery focus. The Forum’s Steering Group overseeing this programme of work includes five mayors and three Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu representatives.

The Greater Christchurch Councils acknowledge the rationale for the reforms, but also recognise that Central Government’s preferred option of multi-regional water service delivery entities would be the biggest reform of Local Government since 1989. Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu have indicated a strong interest in the reform programme and made clear their expectation of having a key role in the governance of any new service delivery entities. The Councils would like to closely partner with Central Government and mana whenua to collectively help our communities understand the potential benefits and consequences of the reforms.

## Major development projects

There remain a number of key projects in Christchurch’s central city, initiated under the Christchurch Central Recovery Plan, which are still in development or are to be developed by or in partnership with Central Government. These key projects are outlined in the following table.

Project	Status
Te Pae – The Convention Centre	Under construction by Ōtākaro Limited Scheduled for completion: Early 2021
Metro Sports Facility	Under construction by Ōtākaro Limited Scheduled for completion: July 2022
Canterbury Multi - Use Arena	Early works expected in 2021 Independent Company and Board established to manage construction Scheduled for completion: Early 2025
Te Papa Ōtākaro - Avon River Precinct	The majority of the Precinct has been handed over to Christchurch City Council The opportunity of the Te Papa Ōtākaro - Avon River Precinct is being considered as part of Greater Christchurch 2050

Following the September 2019 Global Settlement between the Crown and Christchurch City Council, the investment by Central Government of shovel ready funding in the Metro Sports Facility and the signing of a Funding Agreement for the Canterbury Multi-Use Arena, there are currently no funding shortfalls in the above projects.

These facilities will provide Greater Christchurch with the most modern, resilient and attractive built infrastructure in New Zealand, cementing Greater Christchurch’s re-emergence as New Zealand’s second city.

## Environment and Climate Change

### Addressing climate change

**Greater Christchurch is highly vulnerable to climatic change. Greater Christchurch wants to work with Central Government on the appropriate strategies, policy interventions and innovations to support climate change adaptation and mitigation.**

*Labour Manifesto: “Labour will work with local councils, unions, industry, iwi and Māori organisations to ensure a just transition to a zero carbon and climate-resilient economy and society, which also optimises economic development opportunities.”*

Greater Christchurch is the most physically vulnerable urban centre in New Zealand with the most infrastructure exposed to the impacts of climate change. Greater Christchurch also has an economy that is relatively dependent on activities known to emit carbon (i.e. agriculture, logistics and tourism). The Greater Christchurch Councils want to work with Central Government to develop innovative solutions for responding to climate change and moving towards a net zero-carbon future.

At a regional level, the Canterbury Regional Climate Change Working Group, which sits under the Canterbury Mayoral Forum, is focused on developing a regional climate change risk assessment that aligns with the National Climate Change Risk Assessment<sup>8</sup>. The Working Group has representatives from all Canterbury councils, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and Papatipu Rūnanga.

At a local level, Councils are initiating work on coastal hazard adaption planning in partnership with low lying coastal and inland communities to respond to inundation, erosion and rising groundwater caused by climate change-related sea level rise.

Greater Christchurch Councils believes that clear strategy and guidance at a national level is necessary to support local engagement with communities to climate change. The Councils seeks stronger involvement and a collaborative approach from Central Government in setting direction for addressing climate change in Greater Christchurch.

Greater Christchurch Councils recognises the importance of the inter-dependence between national climate change policy and legislative responses, Local Government adaptation work, and local community action and engagement. The Councils have a strong appetite to engage with the relevant ministries to ensure this inter-dependency is leveraged to achieve the best overall outcomes, and that roles, responsibilities, expectations, implications and resourcing are clear and well coordinated.

---

<sup>8</sup> NIWA’s Canterbury Climate Change Report can be found [here](#). The Canterbury Climate Change Risk Assessment Stage 1 Report can be found [here](#).

## Waste and recycling

***Greater Christchurch is working closely with Central Government and industry to develop the design and implementation of areas within Central Government's waste work programme. We will continue to explore regional approaches to address ongoing challenges and opportunities in waste minimisation and management.***

*Labour Manifesto: "Labour's waste action plan will future proof our economy through preventing, reducing and recycling waste consistent with a zero-waste approach where waste and pollution are designed out."*

The Canterbury councils have traditionally worked together to address solid waste challenges, providing regional economies of scale for major infrastructure. The Kate Valley Regional Landfill, run by Transwaste Canterbury, is a public private partnership half owned by five councils (Christchurch, Selwyn, Waimakariri, Ashburton and Hurunui). The EcoCentral Materials Recovery Facility for recycling provides services for the Greater Christchurch Councils and others across the Canterbury region. Central Government is investing in resource recovery infrastructure, including \$16.8 million in funding for EcoCentral to update their optical and mechanical sorting machines.

The waste management and recycling sector in New Zealand is going through a period of significant change with the collapse of prices in international recyclable materials markets, higher standards for recyclable materials in these markets and a lack of onshore solutions for resource recovery.

We are working closely with Central Government and industry to develop the design and implementation of areas within Central Government's waste work programme. We will continue to explore regional approaches to address the challenges and opportunities in waste minimisation and management.



## Other Issues

### Legislative changes

We are keen to discuss potential legislative changes in relation to the reuse of highly treated wastewater for non-potable use. This is in relation to proposed solutions for treatment of wastewater currently discharged to the Akaroa Harbour, but potentially has national implications for iwi and the new water regulator, Taumata Arowai.

### Health

The Canterbury District Health Board (CDHB) is a member of the Greater Christchurch Partnership. The Councils welcome Central Government's investment in the new Christchurch Hospital, Hagley – named Waipapa – and the pre-election announcement of a proposed 450 hospital car parking solution in partnership with Ngāi Tahu. Central Government's ongoing discussions with the CDHB regarding their \$180 million debt are positive.

We also believe there are public health benefits and opportunities for the health sector to work more closely with Councils who provide a range of recreation and sporting facilities with positive linkages to wellbeing.

## Key Contacts

### Christchurch City Council

Mayor: Lianne Dalziel

[lianne.dalziel@ccc.govt.nz](mailto:lianne.dalziel@ccc.govt.nz)

Chief Executive: Dawn Baxendale

[dawn.baxendale@ccc.govt.nz](mailto:dawn.baxendale@ccc.govt.nz)

### Waimakariri District Council

Mayor: Dan Gordon

[dan.gordon@wmk.govt.nz](mailto:dan.gordon@wmk.govt.nz)

Chief Executive: Jim Palmer

[jim.palmer@wmk.govt.nz](mailto:jim.palmer@wmk.govt.nz)

### Selwyn District Council

Mayor: Sam Broughton

[sam.broughton@selwyn.govt.nz](mailto:sam.broughton@selwyn.govt.nz)

Chief Executive: David Ward

[david.ward@selwyn.govt.nz](mailto:david.ward@selwyn.govt.nz)

### Environment Canterbury

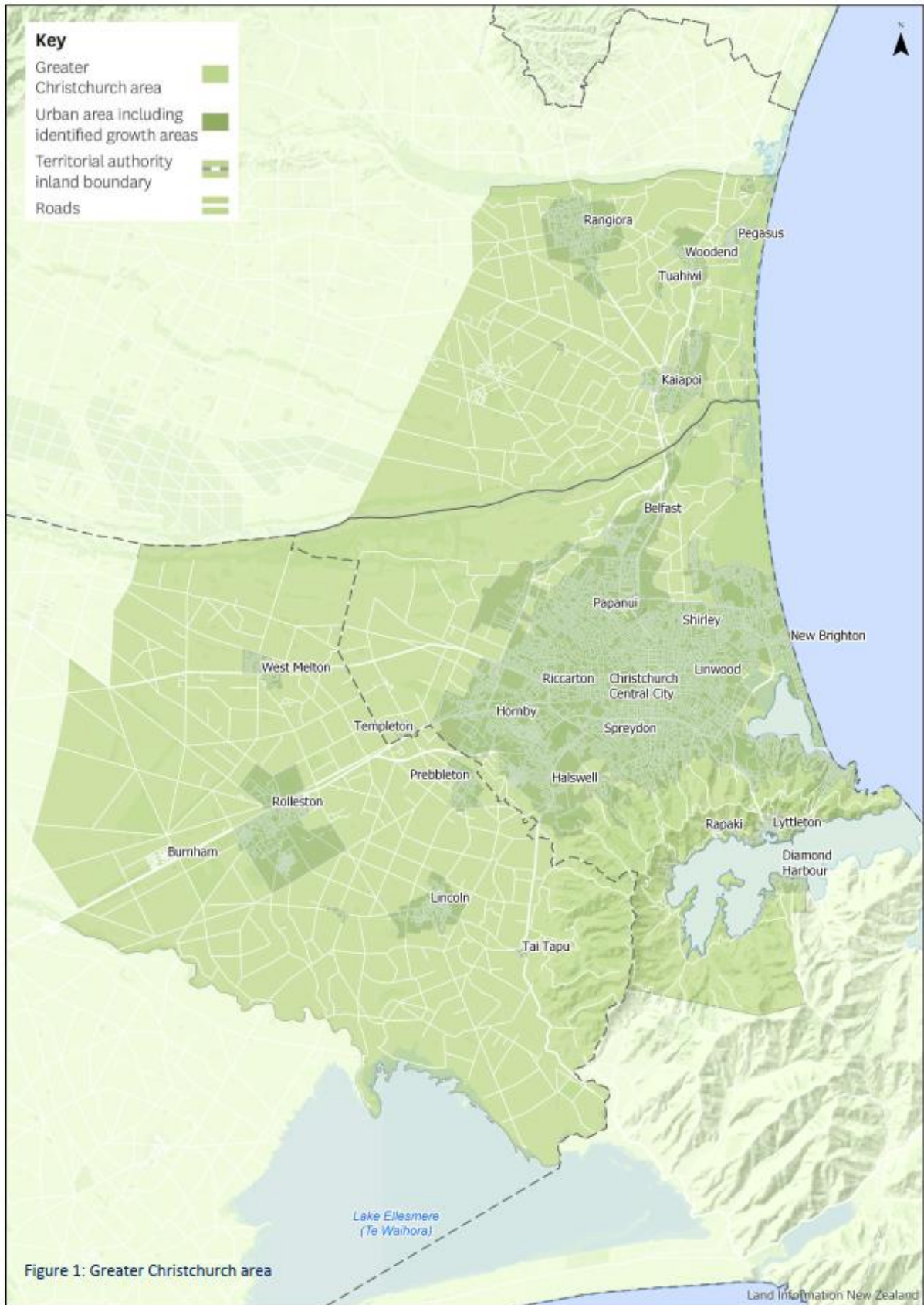
Chair: Jenny Hughey

[councillor.hughey@ecan.govt.nz](mailto:councillor.hughey@ecan.govt.nz)

Chief Executive: Stefanie Rixecker

[stefanie.rixecker@ecan.govt.nz](mailto:stefanie.rixecker@ecan.govt.nz)

# Appendix 1 – Map of Greater Christchurch



## Appendix 2 – Greater Christchurch’s Strategically Strong Sectors

Greater Christchurch’s strategically strong sectors are those with strong global growth opportunities where the region has existing strengths and capabilities. Greater Christchurch is catalysing strong eco-systems around each sector, aligning and connecting students, iwi, education providers, industry, and government to accelerate opportunities and growth.

<p><b>Future food, fibre and agritech</b></p> <p>With a growing global population and the impact of climate change, Canterbury can leverage its current global reputation as a leader in smart agri-tech solutions.</p> <p>Canterbury is New Zealand’s largest agricultural region, producing one-fifth of the nation’s agricultural GDP and employs nearly 20,000 people.</p> <p>The region’s climate, fertile plains, and excellent water access enable a diverse and high-quality offering of meat, dairy, plant-based products, wine and seafood.</p> <p>Greater Christchurch provides a logistical hub with support from world-class manufacturing, technology and professional services. Lincoln University boasts one of the largest concentrations of land-based researchers in the Southern Hemisphere, while the University of Canterbury produces world-class engineering and software talent.</p>	<p><b>Aerospace and future transport</b></p> <p>With a current global value of \$360 billion, estimated to increase to \$2.7 trillion by 2050, the aerospace and future transport space is a rapidly growing global industry.</p> <p>New technologies lowering barriers to entry significantly. Demand for space and satellite services growing rapidly - driven by digital transformation and IoT.</p> <p>Greater Christchurch has an established hi-value engineering services sector and strong academic and research institutions across engineering and technology disciplines. Nearly a third of all New Zealand aerospace engineering graduates, and nearly a quarter of engineering, coming from Canterbury universities.</p> <p>Canterbury’s geographic location, its open skies and proximity to international air and seaports, and New Zealand’s enabling approach to aerospace testing and innovation (New Zealand is number one of only eleven launch-capable nations) makes Canterbury a perfect testbed for aerospace and future transport technologies.</p> <p>Christchurch was the first region to develop, with support from central government, an aerospace sector plan.</p>
<p><b>Health technology, resilience and wellbeing</b></p> <p>In the context of global climate and health disruption, there is growing and significant global demand to innovative approaches to health care, resilience and wellbeing.</p> <p>Greater Christchurch has built a highly collaborative approach across health care provision, research and education, centred around the new central city health precinct. The District Health Board, tertiary and industry partners working together to prototype health tech solutions.</p> <p>The Canterbury earthquakes fostered innovation in community resilience, producing valuable learnings for a planet facing climate change and the increased likelihood of disasters, and positioning Christchurch to lead internationally on approaches to resilience and regeneration.</p>	<p><b>Supported by high tech services</b></p> <p>Exponential growth in technological innovation is a global phenomenon impacting all aspects of global economies and lives.</p> <p>Technological innovation enables all other sectors, and a strong technology sector is critical to support growth and success in Greater Christchurch other strategically strong sectors.</p> <p>Greater Christchurch has a strong base of technology businesses, being the second largest tech sector in New Zealand contributing \$2.4 billion worth of GDP and over 15,000 jobs to the local economy.</p> <p>Greater Christchurch’s tech sector community is highly connected, with a strong mix of start-ups through to home-grown and international multi-national companies.</p>