

# Tai Tokerau Northland Economic Action Plan

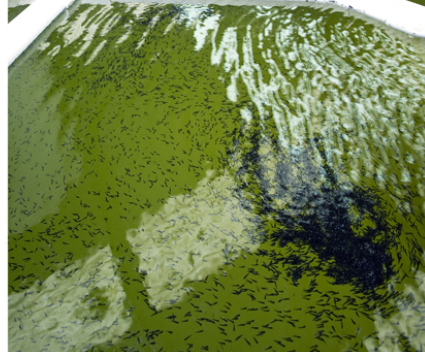
## Progress Report (June 2016)

The Tai Tokerau Northland Growth Study was completed in February 2015 as an independent evaluation of the region's economic opportunities (by sector) and it identified roadblocks to realising growth in investment, jobs and incomes from these key sectors.

The resulting Tai Tokerau Northland Economic Action Plan prioritises these opportunities for action and focusses on specific projects that will have significant positive impact on Northland's economic growth and social well-being.

The projects in the Action Plan are aimed at supporting and leveraging private sector investment. Local and central government can ensure enabling infrastructure is in place giving the private sector confidence to invest with the top priorities being transport, digital infrastructure, skills and capabilities and water resources.

This report summarises the highlights and key priorities and identifies issues and opportunities for each of the four Action Plan work streams (Enablers, Land and Water, Visitor Industry and Specialised Manufacturing and Services) from the launch to June 2016.



## ENABLERS

### Progress Highlights

- Procurement underway for Matakoho bridges with tenders received and being evaluated
- Connecting Northland: Alternative programmes for Auckland to Whangarei corridor being assessed
- Digital Enablement Plan completed
- Digital Leadership Group established
- First round of participants of Kaikohe Growth Industries Pathway being placed in employment and /or training
- Communities of Learning established in over 20 schools covering over 4300 students
- Strategic opportunities for better water management study - phase one completed
- QRC Tai Tokerau Resort College opened and first intake currently studying.

### Key Priorities for Coming Months

- Progress implementation of Digital Enablement Plan
- Confirm funding sources for completion of Northland LIDAR project
- Water management – in depth investigation into selected areas
- Connecting Northland: Progress Puhoi to Warkworth expressway section and Mangakahia Road conversion to State Highway: Complete the business cases for Kaeo and Taipa bridges and release tender documents
- Workforce Stocktake and Planning project commencing
- Te Hiku Pathways - Focus for Youth NEET - business case to be completed.

## SPECIALISED MANUFACTURING & SERVICES

### Progress Highlights

- Hawaiki Cable confirmed – landing in Mangawhai

### Key Priorities for Coming Months

- Support the establishment of a data centre
- Support the establishment of marine lift and retrieval facilities.

## LAND & WATER

### Progress Highlights

- Te Tai Tokerau Maori Forestry Collective Action Plan launched
- Te Hiku Sheep and Beef Farming Collective's Red Meat Strategy nearing implementation
- Regional Economic Vitality Extension Initiative business case progressed
- Report into Aggregation of Uneconomic Farm Units
- Commercialisation of Kingfish Production: Investment Memorandum and Financial Transaction tendered.

### Key Priorities for Coming Months

- First round of Manuka forestry seedling planting programmed for July
- Te Tai Tokerau Maori Forestry Collective prototype project planting underway
- Sawmill and mechanical pulp mill feasibility study to be completed
- Regional Economic Vitality Extension Initiative operations to be finalised
- Development of the Business Case and Strategic Plan for the Te Nōta Meire Coalition (Manuka Honey industry development).

## VISITOR INDUSTRY

### Progress Highlights

- Twin Coast Discovery Route Redevelopment: Sub regional positioning complete. First round of byway development underway. RFP to include product development and interpretation, and communication has gone to market.
- \$4m central government funding approved for Hundertwasser Art Centre (HAC)
- Construction commenced for Te Kakano – the precursor trial building to the HAC.

### Key Priorities for Coming Months

- Completion of Pou Herenga Twin Coast Cycle Trail
- Completion of signage on Missing Link Cycleway
- Continue with HAC fund raising
- Launch of first three Twin Coast Discovery byways
- Capitalise on the significant increase in international tourism growth for Northland.