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From: Greater Christchurch Urban Development Strategy
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Implementation Manager for the Greater Christchurch Urban Development Strategy appointed



The Implementation Manager of the Greater Christchurch Urban Development Strategy has been appointed with Christchurch-born James Caygill, 29, taking up the role in early August.

The Strategy was launched on Friday, with Prime Minister Helen Clark attending as special guest. All five strategic partners: Christchurch City Council, Environment Canterbury, Selwyn and Waimakariri District Councils, and Transit New Zealand have approved the Strategy as a benchmark on how they will plan together for the growth and development of Greater Christchurch over the next 35 years.

Mr Caygill, who currently works for Prime Minister Helen Clark and has been an adviser to a number of Ministers in the current Labour-led government, says he is pleased to return home to help implement what is “an extremely important opportunity for the Greater Christchurch region and city”.

“The Strategy marks a new collaborative approach across the sub-region which has the potential to deliver significant benefits to all the communities of Greater Christchurch. Success will ensure we have a strong, vibrant city surrounded by prosperous regional communities. This is a vision of our future I’m proud to be able to work towards,” Mr Caygill says.

Independent chair of the UDS Implementation Committee, Bill Wasley, is delighted with Mr Caygill’s appointment, saying he brings a wealth of political and central government and not from any UDS partner.

While Mr Caygill had not worked in local government before, he brought “fresh eyes and an inquiring mind well tuned to developing alternative and creative solutions” to the UDS role, and will bring complementary experience to that already provided by local government staff. Mr Wasley says.

Mr Caygill, son of former Christchurch City Councillor and Minister of Parliament, David Caygill, holds a MA with distinction in Political Science from the University of Canterbury and in 2003 won a PhD scholarship to the Australian National University in Canberra, which he put on hold to serve in central government.

Further inquiries:

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