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## Greater Christchurch Partnership Mayors meet with Minister Hon Chris Bishop.

On Wednesday 12 June Mayors Gordon, Mauger, Deputy Chair Pauling and Deputy Mayor Lyall (SDC) met with the Minister of Housing, Hon Chris Bishop.

The focus of the discussion was collaboration around transport to support growth and housing initiatives including partnering in Priority Development Areas. The opportunity to expand the mandate of the Ōtautahi Community Housing Trust (OCHT) as part of the work the partnership is doing on housing, along with GCP collaboration on social housing, other housing matters, RMA reform and infrastructure were all traversed.

It was a positive meeting focused on work that will give effect the Greater Christchurch Spatial Plan including transport to unlock housing/productivity. The Mayors/Deputy emphasised that the partnership works well and that they are ready to partner the government in delivery. The Minister was engaged and reinforced the Government's strong focus on economic growth and productivity.

The governments considering a range of funding tools, particularly those that closely aligned beneficiaries of growth paying for growth. The government is also considering long term funding models aligned to shared aspirations and objectives through city/regional deals. Further details are likely to be announced towards the end of August.

# Development of the Draft Canterbury Regional Public Transport Plan (RPTP)

**Environment Canterbury are responsible for the Canterbury Regional Public Transport Plan, a legislative document that sets out our objectives and policies for delivering public transport in Canterbury. It describes the services that propose to provide to meet the needs of new and existing customers and the policies by which those services will operate.**

The Greater Christchurch Partnership (GCP) has been delegated responsibility to develop the Greater Christchurch component of the Regional Public Transport Plan and recommending approval through to Environment Canterbury. The Canterbury Regional Transport Committee was also interested in the development of those components of the plan relating to public transport provision outside Greater Christchurch.

This refreshed draft plan will form the basis of the public facing engagement process, which is scheduled to begin in September and will be followed by hearings in late November 2024.

The GCP committee were asked to nominate four GCPC representatives (one from each Council) to form the Greater Christchurch RPTP Hearings Panel for the purpose of hearing submissions on the Greater Christchurch components of the draft RPTP and making recommendations to the wider committee at their February 2025 meeting. If the recommendations are accepted by the committee the GCPC will recommend adoption to Environment Canterbury shortly after.

For further information on the draft RPTP and process review [item 6 of the GCPC agenda](#)



# Work Programme Updates

**Greater Christchurch Transport Plan (GCTP)** - The Greater Christchurch Transport Plan identifies the sub-regional transportation changes required to deliver the opportunity and directions of the Greater Christchurch Spatial Plan (GCSP). The plan focuses on collective partnership actions which will require a collaborative approach and commitment to succeed. The GCTP is being developed with a working group of partner staff. The intention is for a first draft to be provided the Greater Christchurch Partnership Committee in October for their first review of the draft GCTP.

**Mass Rapid Transit** - Land use and staging work related to route protection has been completed. MRT funding has been included in the Regional Land Transport Plan, State Highway Improvement Programme and Long Term Plans. The partnership is now waiting to see if the project will be included in the National Land Transport Programme, which is expected to be released in late August/early September. A more in-depth update on the future steps for the Mass Rapid Transit/ Turn up and go is planned for the GCPC meeting in October.

## Monitoring and Reporting Framework for the Greater Christchurch Spatial Plan

- It is important to have an effective framework to assess whether the Greater Christchurch Spatial Plan (GCSP) is achieving what it set out to. The secretariat is currently working with partner staff to develop the framework and will provide a further update once the work is better developed.

# Priority Development Areas Update

***Priority Development Areas (PDAs) are a mechanism or tool for coordinated and aligned action across multiple agencies to accelerate development in selected areas.***

An initial Priority Development Areas (PDAs) Establishment Workshop was held on Friday 21 June. It was attended by 29 partner staff including representatives from the Ministry of Education. The purpose of the workshop was to create a collective understanding of the PDAs and share initial thoughts on the key opportunities and challenges to achieving the desired outcomes. This work will be advanced through the Senior Officials Group, drawing on the 2023 work and the information and outcomes from 21 June workshop.

We will continue to work and engage collectively with all GCP partners as this work evolves. A further update on the progress with PDAs is anticipated to be provided at the October GCPC meeting.

We will keep you up to date as the work develops. Check out our website for more information on [PDAs](#)

## GCP welcomes a new staff member



**GCP are delighted to announce the appointment of John Bartels as the partnerships new Strategic Projects Lead.**

John is an experienced, local government senior leader previously based in City of Port Phillip, Victoria, Australia. John was directly involved in the Councils housing strategy including developing mechanisms to achieve their 10% target for affordable housing. John has a strong track record of delivery in the public sector, facilitating and managing the delivery of complex programmes and strategic issues particularly related to urban development.

John replaces Lucy Baragwanath who finished with the GCP in July, moving to a new role back in Auckland.

## Greater Christchurch Partnership Committee Meeting Summary 9 August 2024

The purpose of the [agenda](#) on Friday 9 August sought the GCP Committee's support and approval for the GCP work programme, changes to the GCPC meeting frequency and the Draft Regional Public Transport Plan (RPTP). There were also updates on Greater Christchurch Transport and the Joint Housing Action Plan Progress. Below provides a summary of the purpose and outcome of each item:

**Greater Christchurch Work Programme** - This paper provided the committee a summary of the 2024/25 GCP work programme and strategic priorities from the April workshop. It also requested the committee formally approve to move from bi-monthly meeting to a quarterly frequency which will commence in 2025.

**Development of the Greater Christchurch chapters for the Canterbury Regional Public Transport Plan (RPTP)** - This paper provided the committee with the refreshed draft RPTP 2025-2035 which was endorsed at the meeting, this will now be provided to Environment Canterbury for adoption. The GCP hearing panel members were confirmed and the terms of Reference for the Greater Christchurch RPTP Panel adopted.

**Greater Christchurch Transport Update** - This provided an overview of the current status of the Greater Christchurch Transport Work Programme, including the Greater Christchurch Transport Plan (GCTP), PT Futures and Mass Rapid Transit. It also provided an overview of signals provided through the Government Policy Statement on land transport 2024 and potential implications for the partnership. A further update on Transport

will be provided to the committee in October following announcements about the National Land Transport Programme funding.

**Joint Housing Action Plan (JHAP) Progress Update** - Similar to the transport item, this provided the committee and update on progress with the JHAP, summary of government policy signals related to housing and early implications on the plan. The intended approach is to share the findings from phase 1 and seek initial feedback from GCPC then workshop/brief partners to seek their input at the October meeting. This will then help inform the review of the draft phase 2 actions which will be brought back to the GCPC in early 2025 for consideration and endorsement.

View the [full agenda](#) for the meeting to review the reports in detail or the [meeting notes for resolutions and decisions](#). Please contact the [secretariat@greaterchristchurch.org.nz](mailto:secretariat@greaterchristchurch.org.nz) for any questions you may have.

## Celebrating success! Going for gold!



In May we reported that the Huihui Mai communication and engagement campaign had been selected as a finalist in the Public Relations Institute of New Zealand (PRINZ) awards. We are pleased to announce that it was awarded Gold in the community relations and engagement category.

*The Chief Judges' comments noted: "A solid, well executed campaign. The judges were impressed with the strong focus on audience-relevant*

*channels, especially youth dwelling digital channels and a 'boots on the ground' approach as well. Attracting such high levels of youth engagement was impressive. The direct, clear and concise key messages used to underpin the campaign were noteworthy. The judges felt this entry ticked all the boxes and was up against some strong competition for the Supreme Award"*

## Want to find out more?

Agendas and minutes for the Greater Christchurch Partnership are available at <https://greaterchristchurch.org.nz/meetings/>

For further information on the Greater Christchurch Partnership visit [www.greaterchristchurch.org.nz](http://www.greaterchristchurch.org.nz) or contact [secretariat@greaterchristchurch.org.nz](mailto:secretariat@greaterchristchurch.org.nz)



**Greater Christchurch  
Partnership**

**Te Tira Tū Tahī**  
One Group, Standing Together