



## Office of Hon Paula Bennett

**MP for Upper Harbour**

Deputy Prime Minister

Minister for Climate Change Issues

Minister of Police

Minister of State Services

Minister of Tourism

Minister for Women

### **Tourism Infrastructure Fund – Round one**

#### **Priorities Statement**

In Budget 2017, the Government established the Tourism Infrastructure Fund (TIF), providing \$25 million per year for the development of tourism-related public infrastructure.

After a period of exceptional growth in visitor numbers, ensuring that infrastructure can meet the needs of both visitors and their host communities has become a priority for the industry and central and local government. Tourism remains hugely important to the New Zealand economy and fit-for-purpose infrastructure is essential to harnessing the benefits of growth in the sector, and protecting the quality of experience that New Zealand delivers to its visitors.

#### **Tourism Infrastructure Fund: Purpose**

The purpose of the Tourism Infrastructure Fund is to provide financial support for local tourism-related infrastructure where tourism growth (domestic and international) is placing pressure on, or potential growth is constrained by, existing infrastructure and where the local community is unable to respond in a timely way without assistance.

The Tourism Infrastructure Fund is intended to protect and enhance New Zealand's reputation both domestically and internationally by supporting robust infrastructure which in turn contributes to quality experiences for visitors and maintains the social licence for the sector to operate.

#### **Government's priorities for Round one**

All TIF applications will be assessed against the TIF eligibility and assessment criteria agreed by Cabinet. This Priorities Statement indicates the sorts of eligible projects that will be given priority (but not exclusive) access to TIF funding in Round one.

Highest priority in Round one will be given to projects that **demonstrate immediate need for additional tourism-related infrastructure in order to meet current visitor demand.**

While the focus of the current round is on the communities with immediate needs, the Government will, in future funding rounds, focus on infrastructure to unlock tourism growth over the longer term.

In order to assist councils with putting forward quality proposals for projects that could, or are likely to, meet TIF eligibility in future funding rounds, the TIF will consider requests to fund feasibility studies, on a case-by-case basis.

#### **Further details**

Further information on the TIF, including the eligibility and assessment criteria, can be found on MBIE's website at

<http://www.mbie.govt.nz/info-services/sectors-industries/tourism/tourism-infrastructure-fund>

**Hon Paula Bennett**  
Minister of Tourism