

**Science New Zealand**

**18 May 2023**

**Science New Zealand delighted at strong support for research, science & innovation**

Science New Zealand is delighted to see the strong support in the Budget for research, science and innovation, says Anthony Scott, Chief Executive.

The investment into people and infrastructure will directly contribute to a stronger economy, more resilient and healthy communities and enhanced environments in regions throughout New Zealand. The emphasis on research opportunities, facilities and capability building will make a tangible difference for New Zealand, in both the short and longer term.

The investment also provides essential support to New Zealand's role and voice in the international space, contributing to policy and solutions for regional and global challenges such as climate change.

"The \$400 million capital expenditure and \$51m operating expenditure for the multi-institution research and delivery hubs in the Wellington region has regional, national and global significance," Scott says.

"The better facilities, purpose-designed for modern scientific and innovation needs, will enable greater cooperation across the educators, researchers and end-users that make up the research, science and innovation community. There will be significant economic benefits to the region and nationally from innovative businesses likely to emerge or be strengthened by these initiatives.

"The investment recognises that attracting and keeping the top talent New Zealand needs, requires top-class facilities. These need to be true hubs of excellence. We look forward to more detail.

"Science New Zealand members will enthusiastically support the development of the new fellowships and applied doctorates. Research careers are no longer linear. They need support throughout early, mid and late stages, and for people coming from different life experiences. CRIs already mentor or co-supervise about 500 PhD and Masters students, providing a non-academic research environment, working with industry and other end users, and on New Zealand needs.

"The commitment to fund New Zealand's access to Horizon Europe research and innovation will have immediate and enduring benefit to New Zealand researchers. This enables our research and innovation communities to be part of a top-flight global community, influence the global agenda, and to do it from New Zealand."

**ENDS**

**Notes to Editor:** Science New Zealand members are the seven Crown Research Institutes (AgResearch, ESR, GNS Science, Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research, NIWA, Plant & Food Research and Scion) with Callaghan Innovation as an associate member. Collectively, the members have over 5000 staff across 50 sites around New Zealand, often co-located with other research organisations and industry, and revenues of close to \$900 million.

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