

Steve Fuller
CEO
Christchurch City Networks Limited
PO Box 237
163 Tuam Street
CHRISTCHURCH

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ICT Regulatory Team
Ministry of Economic Development
PO Box 1473
WELLINGTON

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Broadband Investment Fund: Draft Criteria and Proposed Process for Consultation

The Government, MED, is seeking public submissions on the above which close at 5:00pm, 30 June. In particular but not limited to, feedback is sought on:

- The proposed timings for funding rounds for the Urban and Rural Funds
- The proposed process for accessing the funds, and
- The draft eligibility criteria for the Urban and Rural Funds

Christchurch City Networks Limited, (CCNL), is very supportive of this Government initiative which will greatly assist in the development of a world class broadband network within New Zealand.

With strong leadership from Central Government and the willing participation from a number of organisations spread throughout New Zealand who in themselves have a strong purpose and capability, the broadband landscape within New Zealand can certainly change for the better.

Open Access broadband infrastructure is fundamental in creating a competitive and innovative broadband service market and is long over due.

The process and criteria detailed in the proposal is thorough and fair and should enable a number of organisations to submitted sound responses. The assistance offered and the evaluation structure ensures submissions can be of a high quality and will be assessed on an even basis. The timeframe appears reasonable although a little lengthy, a reduction of 3 months may be appropriate.

CCNL welcome this initiative and the opportunity to continue its participation in the development of critical broadband infrastructure. Therefore CCNL would like to register its interest in submitting an 'Expression of Interest'.

Regards



STEVE FULLER
CEO