

# Drugs - methamphetamine

- The global trend toward use of amphetamine-type substances (ATS) is here.
- Methamphetamine users are known to be particularly violent and have been the offenders in several high profile homicides and other violence.
- Knows no demographic/social boundaries.
- Organised criminals collaborating to realise the financial gains.
- Police Clan lab teams targeting manufacturers/suppliers. Joint Customs operations and pharmaceutical/chemical industry cooperation.
- Frontline staff aware of and trained for the hazards of drug-crazed, violent offenders - stab resistant vests and Tasers.

# How can we work together?

Collaborating to reduce violence, through:

- Ongoing safety discussions with neighbourhoods streets and communities
- Community Outcomes Process under the Local Government Act 2002
- Joint police and local body planning
- Liquor bans
- Targeting problem liquor outlets and premises and opposing licenses where appropriate
- Hospitality industry cooperation
- CYPTED
- Joint media strategies and statements

# **SAFER COMMUNITIES**

**Presentation by Manukau City Council and  
Porirua City Council to Metro Sector  
Meeting and Workshop "Focusing for  
Success in Advocacy" 9.30am - 3.30pm  
Tuesday 17 April 2007 - Wellington**

## **Outline**

- The problem
- Outcomes sought
- General approach
- Role for local government

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## **The Problem**

- A small number of dysfunctional families (often gang related) are linked to a high proportion of social problems within the district.
- A high proportion of dysfunctional families are concentrated in a small number of neighbourhoods.
- There are a lot of children/young people with unmet social needs.
- Government departments are not working together in a "joined-up" way.

## **Outcomes sought**

- Elimination of Family violence and Youth Offending.
- Enhance the perception of community safety within the public realm

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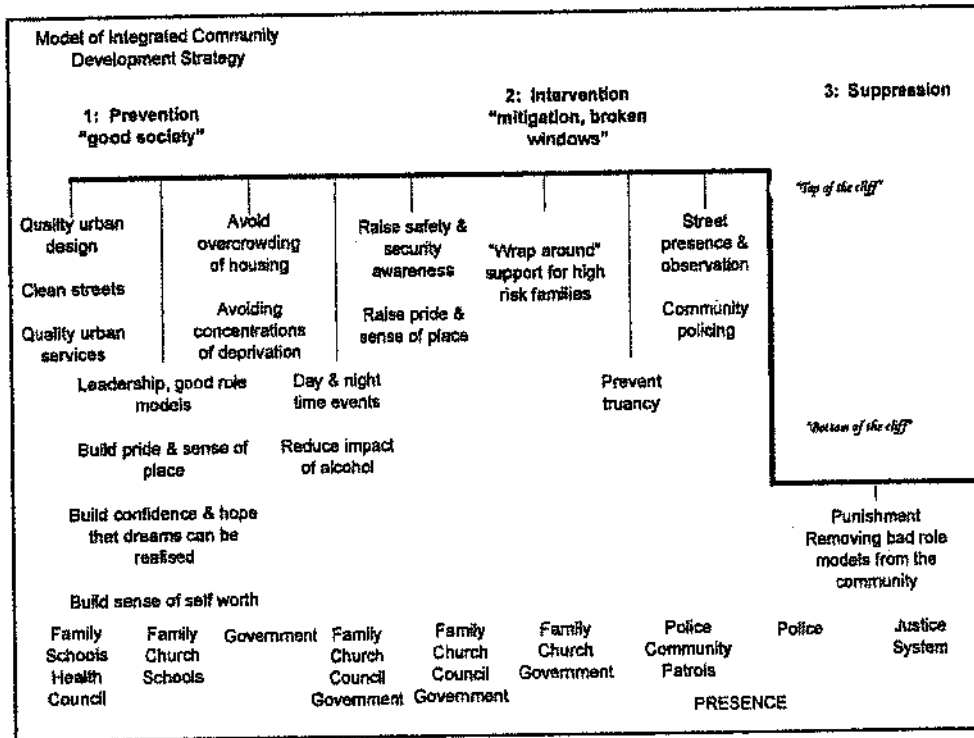
## **Intermediate outcomes sought**

- Reduced crime.
- Better educational involvement.
- Engaged youth in training, employment, sport, music.
- Healthy homes, good housing, adequate income, reduced alcohol and drugs, food security.

## **Profile of Youth Offenders**

5% of serious "hard core" offenders:

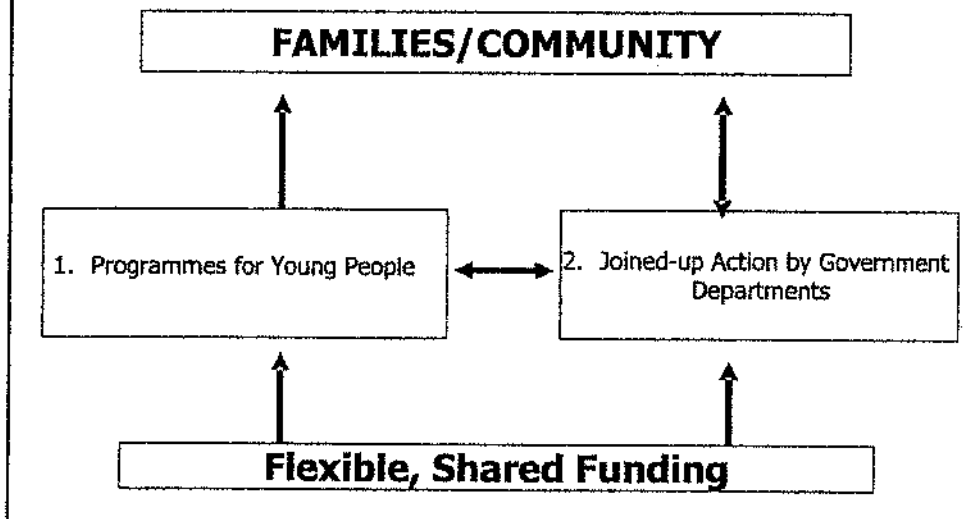
- 85% male.
- 70 to 80% drug and/or alcohol problem.
- 70% not enrolled at school or truants.
- Most have family dysfunction.
- Many have psychological disorder.
- Disproportionately Maori.
- Many have history of abuse.



## General Approach

- "Joined up" planning & delivery
  - Community
  - Local Government
  - Government
- Joint chief executives forum
- Outcomes defined & audited
- Involve shared services & cooperation

## Action Plan On Youth Offending And Family Violence



## General Approach

### Neighbourhoods

- Priority areas
- A focus on delivery
  - reflect the role of agencies
  - deliver via community agencies
  - continuous improvement

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## **General Approach**

### **Families:**

- Integrated case management
  - single case manager per family
  - accessing a pool of resources
  - from range of government agencies

## **Specific Actions Required**

- More social workers in schools.
- More youth workers.
- More case managers to provide wrap around services to multi-problem families.
- More funding for community organisations providing preventive and early intervention programmes.
- More alcohol and drug counselling.

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## **Role of Local Government**

- Leader & advocate
- Facilitator of collective action by central government, local government, Runanga and community organisations
- Reflect core activities
- Leverage the resources of others
- Strengthening social capital

## **Role of Local Government**

...cont'd

### **Leaders & advocate**

- Recognised leader
- Foundation:
  - we know our communities best
  - we are the best at communicating with our communities

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## **Role of Local Government ... cont'd**

**Facilitator of collective action by central government, local government, Runanga and community organisations.**

- Identify community needs
- Stocktake of current action
- Identify gaps
- Propose actions

## **Role of Local Government... cont'd**

**Reflect core activities**

- Urban design
  - a city that works, aesthetics
  - CPTED, public realm
- Safer Community
- Appearance
  - Clean, tidy, litter & graffiti free

## **Role of Local Government... cont'd**

### **Reflect core activities**

- Activities
  - parks, libraries, events
  - day time, night time
  - activities for young people
- Regulatory
  - alcohol in public places bans

## **Role of Local Government... cont'd**

### **Leverage the resource of others**

#### Examples

- Leverage Police via community patrols
- Leverage Social Agencies via provision of facilities
- Leverage community organisations eg Community guardians

**Role of Local Government...  
cont'd**

**Strengthening social capital**

- Delivery via community groups
- Opportunity for participation
- Promote, trust, civic engagement, reciprocal action

**Summary**

- Target families & neighbourhoods
- "Joined up" approach
- Chief executives responsible
- Clearly define which agencies do what
- Deliver via community

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## **Advocacy Strategy**

### **Case to Ministers:**

- Family violence and youth offending is NZ's No 1 endemic, cultural and intergenerational problem.
- Can be solved by determined and collective partnership action by central government, local government, Runanga, and community organisations.

## **Advocacy Strategy... cont'd**

### **Case to Ministers ... cont'd**

#### **Partnership between:**

- Central government: commitment to "joined up" approach by departments to support families and better targeting of funding to support proposed actions.
- Local government: community leadership and facilitation to maximise effectiveness of prevention.

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## **Advocacy Strategy... cont'd**

### **Goal:**

Prevention of family violence and youth offending within 5 years.

### **Commitment sought:**

Central Government and Local Government commit to make this the equivalent of "man on the moon within 10 years" goal of our time.

## **Advocacy Strategy... cont'd**

### **National Campaign to eliminate Family Violence and Youth Offending within five years:**

- Launched by Prime Minister, Ministers and all Mayors.
- Specific plans, actions, resources, and performance measures on CEs of central and local government.

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## **Advocacy Strategy... cont'd**

And in five years they will say of New Zealand. This is a country where:

- I am safe in my home.
- I am safe in the streets.
- I am safe in the community.

***The measure of a society is how well it cares for its most vulnerable citizens.***

Anonymous.

Jack Warwick de Vere 1922-2007

I'm sure you will understand when I say I wish I were not in this position today but that I do feel it is a privilege to be asked to speak of John's community involvement.

All of you who knew Jack or John, will recognise him as a fine gentleman. One of great integrity, who loved his family unconditionally; was highly responsible and efficient in everything he did; was intensely loyal to the organisations and people he worked with; was humorous and even a bit of a rascal at times. But above all, he was a supportive encourager and mentor to many. And he was, and remained, a snappy dresser!

I first met John when he was appointed Headmaster of Glen Eden District School (as it was then known) in 1964. I was a member of the Home and School Association (PTA), had two small boys there and offered myself as a relieving teacher should he need another one. That was the beginning of a friendship which we valued very highly.

Eventually, he did need some additional help. I must have passed the test because I was called back regularly and also assisted Anne at School for Deaf.

This led to my being invited to take a longer term position teaching a group of profoundly deaf but very bright children while David Bond, whom some of you will remember fondly, took leave to complete his MA. That period in term 3, 1968, showed me that I could cope with full time teaching as well as other involvements. So, some time (and another son) later, I was asked to return to take the post new entrant class for a term. That spread to two terms and then to a permanent position which lasted another 15 years. During a staff room discussion not too long before he retired in 1981, John asked my maiden name and then discovered that his cousin had married my widower father many years earlier, so our connection was cemented further.

While some did not share his enthusiasm, John just loved Gala Days and other fund-raising enterprises. So he led the charge, with committee support, to build a fine hall, long before such facilities were the norm in primary schools and the swimming pool was upgraded through his efforts- there is a plaque still there to prove it.

Glen Eden School always had strong links with the wider community, particularly with the Borough Council. It wasn't surprising really because for a brief time, John, our principal, Horrie Reid, our caretaker and I were all councillors! The choir and senior pupils entertained the local senior citizens each year at the Mayoress's Christmas party which was held in the school hall, a function which sadly disappeared when the borough became part of the City.

Anne and John were mutually supportive and for many years after their retirement, as well as working for the Hospice, Anne tended the gardens at Glen Eden School, to the great joy of staff, parents and children.

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In 1974, John came to my classroom and asked me, as a then Borough Councillor, to support his appointment as a Justice of the Peace. That I gladly did, and he went on to serve for 20 years on the bench, firstly at Auckland then at Henderson, now Waitakere courts. In that capacity, he also served for six years on the council of the Auckland Justices of the Peace Association in the early '90s.

You have heard of his tireless and continuing work for deaf folk at all levels. This was exemplified in 1978 when he became a marriage celebrant with the specific aim of assisting that community. But many others, particularly past pupils, asked him to preside over the most important day of their lives.

John put some real planning into his retirement. He was elected to the Glen Eden Borough Council in 1980, the year before he retired and then when I became Mayor in 1983, he served as my Deputy-Mayor for six years in what was a complete reversal of roles. It takes a very special person to cope with that; he was a very special person. We worked together as the Glen Eden representatives on the Transitional Committee which decided the structure of the new City of Waitakere and appointed its first Chief Executive.

Then in 1991 when as President of the Portage Licensing Trust I needed some stability to achieve the return to profitability, I asked John to stand as the other Glen Eden representative at a by-election. He was elected, took over from Dr Ross Sheppard and remained on the board for 7 years.

The Rotary Club of New Lynn was another organisation to benefit from John's energy and he was a member for 27 years. In more recent times, he and Anne became foundation members of the Glen Eden Probus Club, formed under the aegis of Rotary.

He was the combined local authorities representative on the Kelston High Schools' Board of Governors for 9 years until the advent of "Tomorrow's Schools" in 1989. He also had found time earlier to form the Glen Eden Gym Club. It met at the RSA hall and later at KGHS.

John was also a foundation member of Rangiwai (now Mt Albert) Masonic Lodge.

When he reached the retirement age for court justices, John had already prepared to fill the gap by taking the Citizens' Advice Bureaux training course. He has served since 1994 at the Glen Eden Bureau, on its committee and as chairman. With the formation of WaiCab (the management group of the four CABs in Waitakere City) he became secretary of that committee.

As a "prominent local citizen" he was invited to join the Advisory Board of the Glen Eden Senior Citizens' Association and still held that position.

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One of the ventures he enjoyed was Senior Net which he became involved with in 1996. Here, he put his expertise to good use teaching older folk to develop computer skills.

John's commitment to the wider community was recognised publicly by Waitakere City Council, firstly with a Mayoral citation in 1994 and later when he was the recipient of a Millenium Medal.

Through Anne, John became involved with the Waitakere Hospital Auxilliary and he remained involved to the end, though he did tell us recently that he was intending to step down this year. I would dearly love to be able to tell him that no one expected him to do it in such a dramatic fashion! But I can't.

John's work for such a wide range of interests culminated in him receiving the Queen's Service Medal for Public Service in the Queen's Birthday and Golden Jubilee Honours in 2002. There are many here today who contributed to the dossier presented in support of his nomination. I thank them for that support because his award gave great pleasure to many, many people.

In the past couple of years, John assisted as a judge for the Infratil Volunteer Awards in Waitakere City. His understanding of and commitment to so many activities, made him a wonderful choice. He will be difficult to replace in that role. But it is simply impossible to replace in our hearts the man we knew and loved.

To Warwick and Philippa who are unable to be here, to Paul and Shirley, Fran and David and all John's grandchildren, we say thank you for sharing your Dad and Grandad with so many of us for so long. Take comfort from the wonderful example of a person who lived a full life contributing to society right to the end.

On a personal note, we will keep the thank you note, written, stamped but unposted. We will treasure his last visit and our chats at the hospital. We will miss seeing the red Ford Focus roll down the drive. We will miss the convivial dinners and watching John meticulously fold the fancy chocolate wrappers into strips which were then tightly knotted. We will miss his cheeky e-mails and regular phone calls and his genuine interest in what we were doing. And of course we will need to find someone else to help empty the vodka bottle.

Goodbye dear friend. Go well. We, like you, missed Anne terribly and now, together again, we miss you both. But you will never be forgotten.

## ROGER DONALDSON

### Documentaries & Short Films

- 1960s-70s LABOUR PARTY ADVERTISING FILMS - Cameraman  
1969 **TE HENGA** - Cameraman/editor  
1969 **START AGAIN** Produced by Bob Harvey & Warwick Brock  
Roger Donaldson Cameraman  
1971 **OFFERINGS TO THE GOD OF SPEED** about the life of  
Southlander, Burt Munro. This documentary was the  
inspiration for **THE WORLD'S FASTEST INDIAN**  
1971 **GEOFF PERRY** documentary on NZ motorcyclist  
1973 **DEREK** with Ian Mune, David Mitchell & Roger Donaldson  
1974 **THE KAIPO WALL** mountaineering documentary  
Director/co-cameraman  
1975 **EVEREST** a return to Mount Everest with Sir Edmund  
Hillary 21 years after his successful ascent  
1979 **CAPE HORN** a sailing expedition around Cape Horn  
Director/cameraman  
1976 Donaldson and Mune produced the following 7 films  
under the title **WINNERS AND LOSERS:**  
**THE WOMAN AT THE STORE; A GREAT DAY**  
**SHINING WITH THE SHINER; AFTER THE DEPRESSION**  
**BIG BROTHER LITTLE SISTER; A LAWFUL EXCUSE**  
**BLUES FOR MISS LAVERTY**  
1976 **JOCKO** (TVNZ drama series) Director

In 1977, with the help of Larry Parr, Donaldson raised the finances to make his first feature film, **SLEEPING DOGS**, based upon the novel **SMITH'S DREAM** written by New Zealand author C.K. Stead. The film starred Sam Neill, in his debut as a feature film actor, as well as Ian Mune, Warren Oates and Nevan Rowe.

**SLEEPING DOGS** was a major factor in convincing New Zealand's politicians that a Film Commission, financed with public funds, should be established.

### Selected Filmography

- 1977 **SLEEPING DOGS**  
1980 **NUTCASE**  
1981 **SMASH PALACE**  
1984 **THE BOUNTY**  
1985 **MARIE**  
1987 **NO WAY OUT**  
1988 **COCKTAIL**  
1990 **CADILLAC MAN**  
1992 **WHITE SANDS**  
1994 **THE GETAWAY**  
1995 **SPECIES**  
1997 **DANTE'S PEAK**  
2000 **THIRTEEN DAYS**  
2003 **THE RECRUIT**  
2005 **THE WORLD'S FASTEST INDIAN**  
2007 **BAKER STREET** (in production)



## ALL DOGS SHOT

### PHOTOGRAPHS BY ROGER DONALDSON

Selected images  
from 1963 to 2004

Lopdell House Gallery

14 April - 10 June 2007

This is the first time I have exhibited my photographs.

In 1965 I came to New Zealand from Australia on a summer holiday. I was a geology student and had been drafted by the Australian army to go to Vietnam. I was very confused about what I should do with my life and very ambivalent about my prospects in Australia. My real passion was photography and so I decided to abandon my career as a geologist and become a photographer. . . I had fallen in love with New Zealand and I had with me my treasured 35mm EXACTA camera that I had bought when I was 16.

Within a couple of weeks I found myself in Nelson and managed to get a job as a photographer taking snaps of people on Tahunanui Beach. This was a less than profitable exercise and so I moved on, eventually finishing up in Auckland.

I presented myself on the doorstep of one of New Zealand's best known fashion photographers of the time, Bill Double. Bill and his assistant Barry McKinley gave me a bed to sleep on and some real encouragement to pursue my ambition to become a professional photographer. With their help I put together a portfolio of images, and set about trying to get some work and make a name for myself.

I managed to get a job working for another photographer, Cyril Taft and this experience gave me the confidence to set up my first photographic business, "Roger Donaldson Photography Limited" in the basement of a house in Parnell.

During this time I met two people who were to make a big impact on me in the years to come; Bob Harvey and Des Dubbeld. Des was the editor of Playdate, a magazine devoted to movies, fashion and the arts and Bob ran MacHarmans, an advertising agency. These two became life long friends and a real inspiration to me over the years. Des and Bob gave me some of my first paying photographic assignments. Around this time I had the good fortune to meet a like-minded guy of a similar age, Mike Smith and together we started Aardvark Films.

Working freelance for MacHarmans, led to Aardvark Films making the leap into the world of film-making. I happened to be in MacHarmans discussing a still photo shoot when the possibility of filming some TV commercials for the NZ Labour Party came up and from then on still-photography slowly morphed into me becoming a movie cameraman and ultimately into writing, producing and directing movies.

My partnership with Mike lasted a couple of years and after we had gone our separate ways I continued shooting stills as well as making documentaries. Around this time I met Ian Mune, a young actor and stage director. Together we set about creating dramatic films, the first of which was "Derek". Together we collaborated on eleven films. The most important of those was "Sleeping Dogs"

After "Sleeping Dogs" I went on to make "Smash Palace". The international success of that film led to me accepting offers to make a studio film in Hollywood. I was spending less and less time in New Zealand so I reluctantly closed the doors of Aardvark Films. I was then confronted with what to do with fifteen years of film and still photography negatives and prints. I sent all my movie based

materials to the NZ Film Archives and put all my photographic and movie equipment as well as all my negatives and prints into a storage facility. As fate would have it, the day I flew out of NZ bound for Los Angeles, the storage facility burnt to the ground and all my original still negatives and equipment were lost in the fire. As a result there are very few images that exist of my still photography work before the early 1980s.

This loss was a major blow to me. It was some time before I was able to face taking more photos. Although I was spending most of my time directing movies my passion was still-photography. I built a dark-room under my home in Santa Monica and spent hours working away trying to produce the perfect print. When digital photography came along I instantly recognized how it would revolutionize image capture.

My film "The Getaway" was the second Hollywood movie to be edited digitally. Overnight digital technology changed how films were being made. I recognized that the digital world was upon us and so I bought one of the first digital still-cameras to come on the market.

In the early 1990s digital imaging was still in its infancy. The prospect of making high-resolution fine art prints that could rival traditional photographic prints in terms of aesthetic value and longevity was still a dream being pursued by a handful of visionaries. Among those early digital pioneers were rock musician Graham Nash and friend and former band road manager of "Crosby, Stills and Nash", Mac Holbert. Together they established Nash Editions, the first fine art print studio in the world.

Around this time I saw an exhibition in Los Angeles of David Hockney's work. Some prints in the show were produced by Mac Holbert of Nash Editions. I tracked him down. He was a mine of information and very generous with his knowledge. I had some of my negatives scanned and printed by them. The high quality results convinced me that digital printmaking was the future of the art.

I now have two Canon digital camera as well as my film cameras. I also have a Nikon scanner and do my own scans of my film negatives. I find I am able to reproduce, with much more precision, what I was hoping to capture in my original photograph. Although it is more time consuming, I am able to produce prints with a subtlety I am much happier with than those that I had done in my darkroom.

The prints in this exhibition "ALL DOGS SHOT" were digitally produced by me over the last 4 years. Some were originally shot on Kodak black and white negative stock and some on my Canon digital cameras and processed using photoshop software. All the prints in this exhibition were printed on Epson printers by me personally.

My commitment to the digital world continues. I am now in the middle of making my first all digital movie. It is being filmed on the new Arriflex D20 High Definition camera and is the first feature film to be shot on this system.

Roger Donaldson 2007



23 March 2007

## **Speech Notes**

**Embargoed until: 8am**

### **Auckland a key player in NZ's economic growth**

**Speech to North Harbour Business Forum, North Harbour Stadium**

Good morning and thank you for the opportunity to speak to you at this Business Forum.

Last year, I set out the government's strategy for securing New Zealand's future prosperity and raising living standards across the board through an economic transformation agenda that focuses on forging a unique New Zealand national economic identity. It means developing a work programme that is tailored to our natural strengths and resources but that also acknowledges our unique weaknesses - such as our isolation from global markets, and our size.

This work is a priority because while New Zealand has enjoyed one of the highest growth rates in the OECD over the last five years, we cannot take our eye off the ball. We must continue to work and adapt to the ever-changing global environment, we must look outwards and realise that doing business with only ourselves will not get us anywhere.

Our economic strategy is about transforming New Zealand into an export-led high wage and innovative economy. And let me stress, this is not a job for the government alone.

In fact the majority of this crucial work will be down to firms and businesses and industry sectors across the country who do the actual business and trade - while government will continue to do all we can to create the right environment for you to succeed.

Rising to this challenge is not straightforward. It involves progress and collaboration across a range of intersecting fronts.

This is why we are driving economic transformation by focussing our efforts around five key subtheme areas: growing globally competitive firms; world-class infrastructure; innovative and productive workplaces underpinned by high standards in education, skills and research; environmental sustainability; and an internationally competitive city - Auckland.

These areas of work impact on each other, and in terms of government may involve several different departments or crown agencies working together.

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The action plan will evolve over time as we continue to learn more about New Zealand's circumstances and how best to respond to them.

Today I want to focus on two key areas: infrastructure and Auckland.

World class infrastructure is an enabler of economic growth.

We have begun to address New Zealand's historical under-investment in infrastructure because our government recognises that actual and perceived infrastructure bottlenecks must not constrain day-to-day commercial activity and investment confidence.

Also, to be successful, New Zealand's globally competitive firms will need certainty of access to effective and efficient infrastructure, including transport, energy, ICT, and water and waste.

Our infrastructure, in particular our transport infrastructure, must be efficient and reliable and have sufficient capacity to support large international events, such as the Rugby World Cup.

But it's not just a matter of more construction. Our economic and physical geography and low population density result in relatively high costs of providing infrastructure across the country.

This means that there are substantial benefits in encouraging more efficient use of what infrastructure we already have. Learning how to make better use of what we've already got through public education, and moving towards some judicious pricing of traditionally non-priced services is also important.

We need to find ways to spread demand for infrastructure services more evenly; and even reduce them where this can be done without imposing material economic or social costs.

We also need to be realistic. Infrastructure investments are large and lumpy, and are usually in competition with each other for a share of a limited capital budget.

Overbuilding has the risk that while we build confidence, we also build costs, and it is important to make sure that we don't lose sight of the fact that the cost of doing business in New Zealand is as important as the ease of doing business here.

The economic transformation agenda sets out an indicative detailed action plan for attaining the world-class transport, energy and ICT infrastructure that we need.

Over the past six years the government has made significant inroads into fixing this country's infrastructure following a period of sustained under investment.

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The draft New Zealand Energy Strategy, which clearly articulates a long term strategic direction and priorities for the energy sector is out for consultation until 30 March.

A massive increase in capital expenditure on the electricity grid is planned, averaging around \$470m a year over the next seven years compared to an average of \$60m a year in the 1990s following Transpower's establishment.

About 1500MW of new generating capacity is planned for the next five years and security margins are projected to increase. Management of dry years is improving with far more information available through the Electricity Commission than in the past, although we still need to see further improvements.

We also recognise the importance of ensuring that regulated businesses such as Transpower and distribution lines companies have incentives to invest in infrastructure.

We are also continuing to address past under investment in the transport system. Transport funding is increasing to \$13.4 billion over five years, close to a doubling in funding. The expected spend on land transport in Auckland between 2006/07 and 2010/11 is \$4.1 billion from Land Transport NZ and a further \$575 million from ONTRACK to upgrade the Auckland Rail network.

Changes to the telecommunications regulatory framework are being implemented, as are initiatives under the Digital Strategy. North Shore City in collaboration with Vector was successful with their Broadband Challenge bid to deliver a 38km extension to their existing fibre network. It will connect directly to schools, libraries and council offices in the North Shore. Universities, hospitals and businesses will also have access to the network which is intended as a pilot for the Auckland region.

Overall our effort over the next few years will be to improve security of energy supply and transmission, ensure efficient use of transport infrastructure and continue efforts to improve ICT infrastructure and uptake. Our companies need secure supply chains if they are to succeed globally.

These goals align closely with those of your region - the Metro Action Plan is a platform for delivering a single integrated plan for lifting the productivity of Auckland and it also focuses on the need to co-ordinate infrastructure planning, decision-making and investment; and on ensuring that the region has the security of energy supply and affordable high-speed broadband that it needs.

Metro is a great example of the growing trend towards greater partnership and collaboration to get the results. Central government and the Auckland region agree that developing Auckland as an internationally competitive world class city is essential. This means that it has fit-for-purpose infrastructure, is a launch pad for our businesses to internationalise, is New Zealand's gateway to the world, has effective governance, and has strong connections with the rest of the country.

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We have been working closely with Auckland local government in recent months to test what is possible.

We believe we have jointly made solid progress to improve the region's governance structures, although we recognise we still need to work on the detail. Central government will back the changes that the region wishes to pursue and will legislate if necessary to support those changes.

Other joint initiatives include the leveraging benefits from hosting the Rugby World Cup, advancing the skills theme of the Metro Action Plan, assessing the opportunities for creating a world class innovation centre, and hopefully creating a stunning waterfront we can be proud of.

These are indicative of the progress we are making under the economic transformation agenda. It does signal a redefined partnership with the region that includes central government, local government and you in the business community.

As a final point I would like to briefly touch on the government's focus on sustainability. New Zealand's environment underpins much of our economic and export activities – agriculture, horticulture, fisheries and forestry account for 67 per cent of merchandise exports.

As well as providing New Zealanders with a unique and enjoyable lifestyle, we see the environment as providing the platform for the economy now and into the future. Our firms need to be using environmental best practices and technologies and must push the frontier out.

This will keep us up with international competitors and provide opportunities for new industries to develop. International developments in areas such as climate change and local challenges to our natural resource base have important implications for our economy.

These developments and challenges provide an opportunity to implement policies to encourage New Zealand firms to develop and adopt new technologies thus improving resource efficiency and importantly, potentially providing future competitive advantages for our firms.

In closing I would like to acknowledge the ongoing role the North West Business Forum provides in asking difficult and challenging questions. I would encourage you to think about how we can work together to promote New Zealand's prosperity. It faces threats and challenges as do all economies, but it is also faced with many opportunities.

Thank you.

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