

Climate change project on a page.

We are. LGNZ.

Climate change will affect us all during our lifetimes. Between 1990 and 2015, New Zealand's net carbon emissions have risen by 64%.

All local authorities (city, regional, district and unitary councils) are at the front line of climate change adaptation and have a role to play in mitigation. Action on climate change requires proactive collaboration between central and local government.

PROJECT OUTCOMES SOUGHT:

1. An evidence base to support a comprehensive framework for risk reduction and/or retreat.
2. A comprehensive adaptation plan for New Zealand.
3. A local government view on emission reduction targets and how to achieve these for New Zealand.



CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION

Climate change action has two components:



1. Actions to reduce emissions (mitigation).



2. Actions to adapt to climate change impacts.

A COLLABORATIVE APPROACH

The local government sector is committed to working with the Government to address the risks, challenges and opportunities of climate change.

Local government will:

1. Lead the conversation with the public and stakeholders on how to address the local impacts of climate change.
2. Develop local strategies for adaptation action.
3. Incorporate climate change considerations into long term planning, infrastructure and funding decision making processes.
4. Take steps to ensure its activities contribute to a reduction of green house gas emissions.

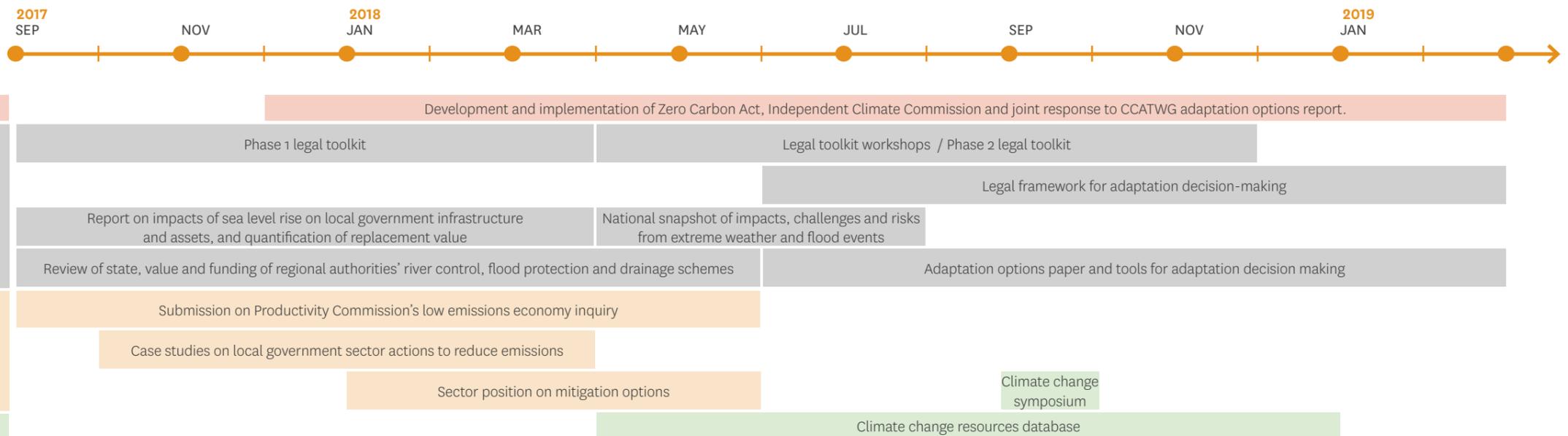
What local government requires of central government:

1. A partnership approach to addressing climate change.
2. A national campaign to raise awareness of climate change.
3. An explicit mandate under the Local Government Act to consider how decisions affect outcomes.
4. Adaptation funding for councils to access.

Local government wants to work with central government to:

1. Develop a clear plan outlining roles and responsibilities for adaptation, including fiscal responsibility.
2. Develop a collaborative and joint plan for transitioning to a low emissions economy.
3. Put in place mechanisms to help local government understand and address the risks of climate change.
4. Develop an adaptation decision-making legal framework.

KEY WORK STREAMS



SUPPORTING WORK

The Local Government Position Statement on Climate Change and Local Government Leaders Climate Change Declaration outline local government's acknowledgment of the important and urgent need to address climate change. LGNZ has also produced a catalogue that sets out local government's climate change roles and responsibilities.



LGNZ will have input in the Government's planned consultation on its proposals to implement a Zero Carbon Act, Climate Commission and to review the Emissions Trading Scheme and the Productivity Commission's inquiry into New Zealand's transition to a low emissions economy.

