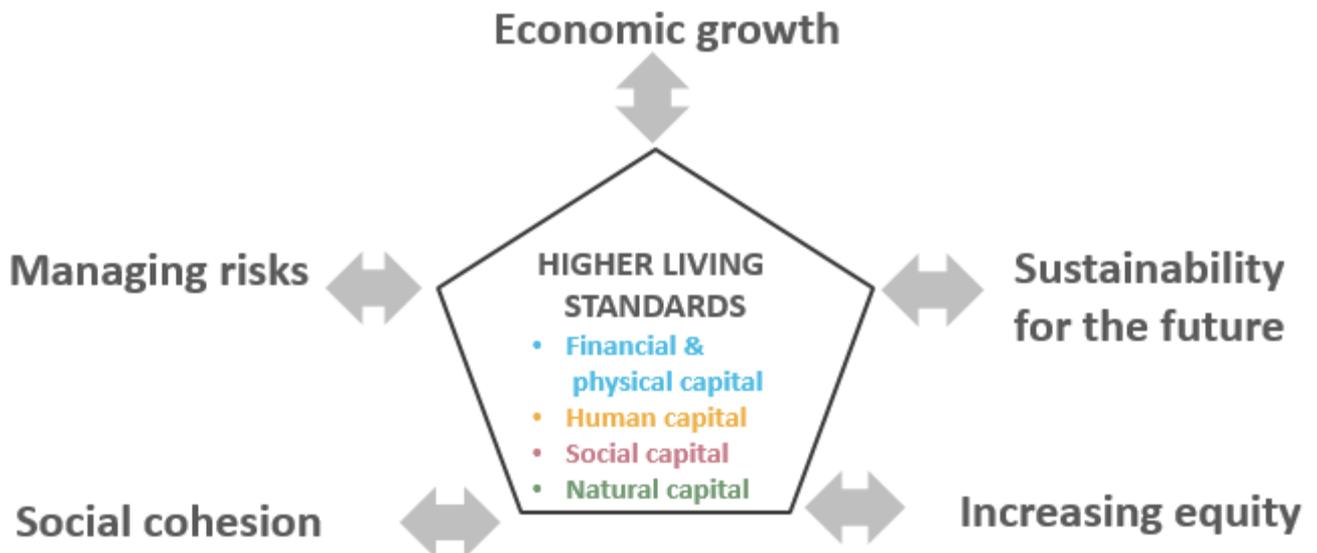


# The Living Standards Newsletter

*Aligning public policy with the way we want to live*

## April 2017



In this newsletter we update you on

- Changes in the Treasury leadership of the Living Standards Framework
- The “Investing in Living Standards” Workshop held in Auckland

Greetings from The Treasury’s new Chief Economic Advisor, Tim Ng

Kia ora tātou

Welcome to the latest edition of the Living Standards newsletter – the first one since I took up my new post as The Treasury’s Chief Economic Advisor (CEA).

My broad objective in this role is to lift, to world-leading levels, the quality and impact of the Treasury’s strategic and day-to-day economic and financial advice. The ongoing development and testing of the Living Standards Framework is a key part of that. We remain very keen to engage and work with you to see how living standards thinking can improve all our work.

There are many actual and potential activities associated with this programme that we will share with you. A common theme is that we won’t be acting alone. Living standards thinking embraces diversity of perspectives, multidisciplinary approaches and fresh ways of looking at the economic and social issues facing New



Zealand. We will continue to draw on, and encourage the sharing of, the insights of our colleagues in government agencies, the research and practitioner community, and everyone else who is likewise committed to the goal of greater well-being and a humane basis for public policy.

Looking forward to meeting more of you in the living standards community, and to working together on all the challenges and opportunities ahead.

Cheers

Tim Ng

Deputy Secretary and Chief Economic Advisor, The Treasury

[tim.ng@treasury.govt.nz](mailto:tim.ng@treasury.govt.nz)

## Investing in Living Standards

On 1 March 2017, the Treasury took its Living Standard Framework (LSF) to the Auckland business community, in a session that featured presentations by Gabriel Makhoulf (Secretary to the Treasury), David Smol (Chief Executive of MBIE), and Jim Quinn (Chief of Strategy, Auckland Council). Hosted by Auckland University of Technology Business School the Investing in Living Standards provided an opportunity for central and local government to engage directly with businesses about raising living standards.

Gabriel shared the Treasury's vision to lift living standards for New Zealanders and introduced the 2016 Long-Term Fiscal Statement [He Tirohanga Mokopuna](#) which takes an integrated, intergenerational focus on the opportunities and challenges facing New Zealand in the coming 40 years. It is based on the principles of the Living Standards Framework.

David outlined how New Zealand needs to recognise the physical limits to growth in the primary sector while embracing the opportunities of digital technology and the potential to spread tourism out more evenly over the country, with more focus on the regions. Jim emphasised how Auckland is growing quickly, but that



**Date:**  
1 March 2017

**Time:**  
7.30am-11.00am

**Location:**  
Te Iringa Function Space,  
Level 3,  
Sir Paul Reeves Building,  
AUT City Campus,  
55 Wellesley Street East,  
Auckland Central

**Registration:**  
Registration is by invitation only. Please RSVP to [kelly.shen@treasury.govt.nz](mailto:kelly.shen@treasury.govt.nz) by 15 February, noting any dietary requirements.

Sponsored by:  


## Investing in Living Standards

### Profiling Treasury's vision for lifting living standards for New Zealanders

As a business leader, you know that healthy, resilient and skilled communities are vital for a thriving economy. Find out how the Treasury is working to achieve this through its Living Standards Framework. This framework applies sustainability, equity, resilience and social cohesion lenses to thinking about economic growth.

You'll hear from our keynote presenters on how their organisations are shaping policies to grow the economy, the regions and the business sector. This interactive event will also be an opportunity to share your views on how these different dimensions can help improve the business environment and how the Treasury can better consider the needs of business when developing policy.

### Speakers:



Gabriel Makhoulf,  
Secretary to the  
Treasury



David Smol,  
Chief Executive  
Ministry of Business  
and Innovation



Jim Quinn,  
Chief of Strategy,  
Auckland Council

a great New Zealand needs a great Auckland. He referred to the regulatory role of the Unitary Plan and how the Auckland Plan identifies specific areas of growth.

Michael Barnett (Chief Executive, Auckland Chamber of Commerce) and Rangimarie Hunia (Chief Executive of Whai Maia, Ngāti Whātua Orakei) reacted to the speakers. Michael focused on the need for partnership between government and the business sector to achieve sustained economic growth, and that it needs to be more than a relationship. Rangimarie Hunia recognised the holistic approach that the LSF offers and elaborated on the ways in which Ngāti Whātua are being deliberate about intergenerational living standards.

Calum Revfem, from Proxima, facilitated the event and will provide a report summarising the event, feedback from participants, and follow-up actions, which will be placed on the [Treasury's website on the Living Standards](#) page in late May.