



About the Funders Commitment

What is it?

The Funders Commitment on Climate Action is a short voluntary pledge outlining seven commitments that signatories commit to, to support their journey to climate action. This Commitment gives signatories the opportunity to show leadership and work collectively to accelerate a just or tika transition to a low carbon society in Aotearoa in line with their own mission.

What are we being asked to do?

Each funder will decide for themselves what they will prioritise and the resources they will commit – the Commitment does not tie any funder into specific targets, resourcing requirements or timeframes for action.

What are the tangible results for us?

Actions already identified are:

- Partner more strategically with iwi, government, business, rangatahi and the community sector to accelerate climate action.
- Increase funder collaborations on community-based climate action.
- Grow collective funding applied to climate action in Aotearoa (only around 4% now).

Individual Community Trusts are already stepping into this space. Examples include:

- Wellington Community Trust's Climate Action Fund
- BayTrust's work on implications of climate change for investment
- Trust Waikato's climate change statement and climate change framework
- Foundation North's research on climate issues and funder implications.

We have capability and capacity limitations, what does that look like for us?

The appropriate first responses for smaller community trusts may be to begin to internally 'screen' grantmaking to ascertain what isn't climate related and what doesn't align with a just transition to a lower carbon future and your Trust's core values. These grants could be reviewed and gradually phased out in line with your strategic review.

Next steps?

Arohanui West and Esther Whitehead are the Funders Commitment Climate Leads, they can speak to the board about the findings of their research on signatories to the Funders Commitment (after year 1 of signing) and the opportunities for your Community Trust.