

New Zealand Community Economic Development Conference 2010

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Mayor of Opotiki

There are 12 regional councils and 73 territorial authorities in New Zealand

Local government is not subsidiary to central government

Councils are responsible for the environmental, economic, social and cultural well-being of their communities

Collectively, local authorities make an important contribution to New Zealand's economy. They have:

- total assets of \$83.6 billion (as at 30 June 2007).
This excludes flood protection works, the port, state highways and regionally owned property
- an annual operating income of \$6.2 billion
- a total rate take of \$3.56 billion
- an annual income from sale of goods and services of \$1.1 billion

The majority of local government expenditure is on network infrastructure – (approximately 70%)

This means local authorities have limited discretion over major items of expenditure

Central government has also invested significantly in network infrastructure development – particularly in roading and public transport

Councils have planned to spend a further \$30 billion on infrastructure over the next 10 years

Local authorities contribute approximately 3.4 per cent of GDP in New Zealand

They have 1,025 elected members, plus 721 community board members and approximately 44,000 employees

Local government infrastructure forms the foundation for economic development

The water, the roads, the waste disposal, the other services make doing business in your street, your neighbourhood, and in your region, possible

Some vital functions performed are less clearly defined.

Leadership:

- Developing vision
- Setting the direction
- Planning for growth
- Promoting the district
- Advocating for the community good
- Strengthening the community
- Supporting others

Partnership:

- Communities
- Iwi
- Business
- Industry
- Central government
- Other councils
- Community groups

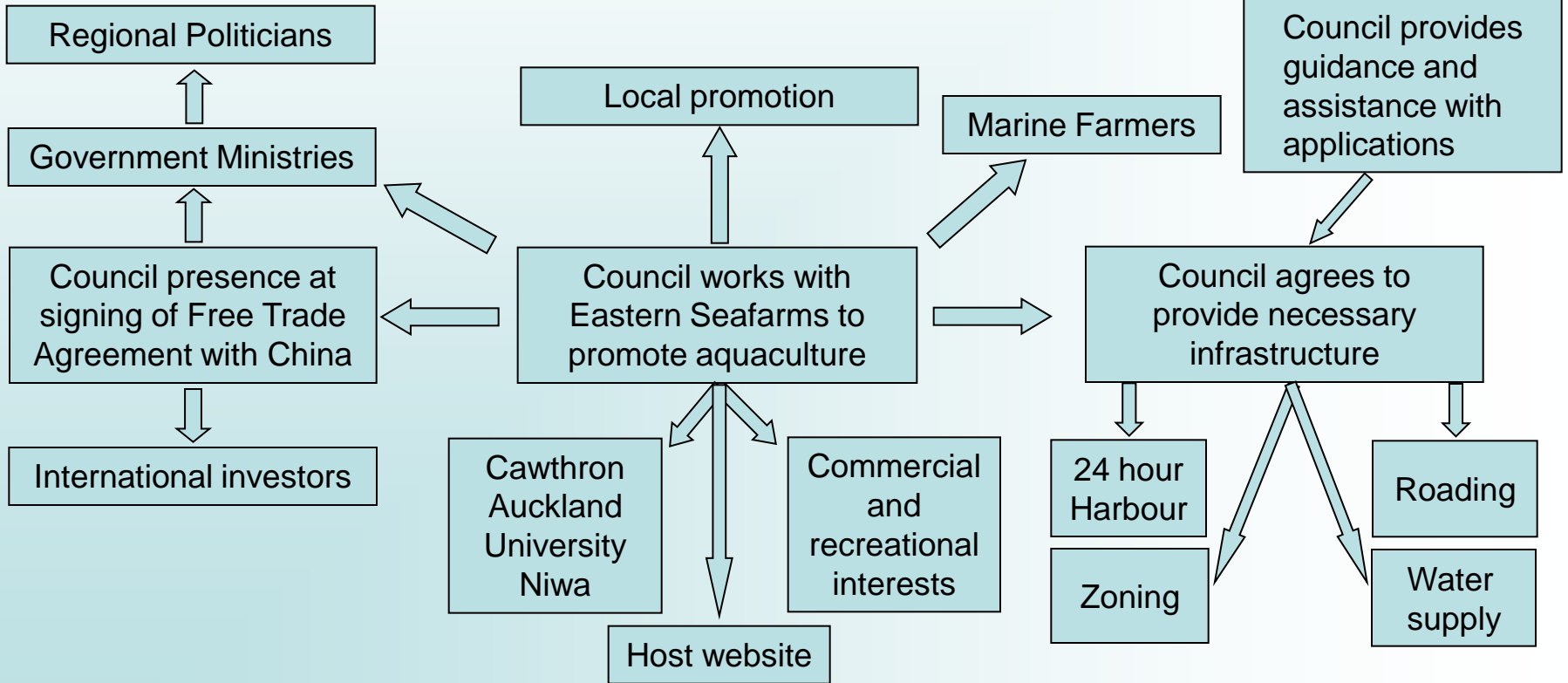
An example



Lets grow our own mussels!

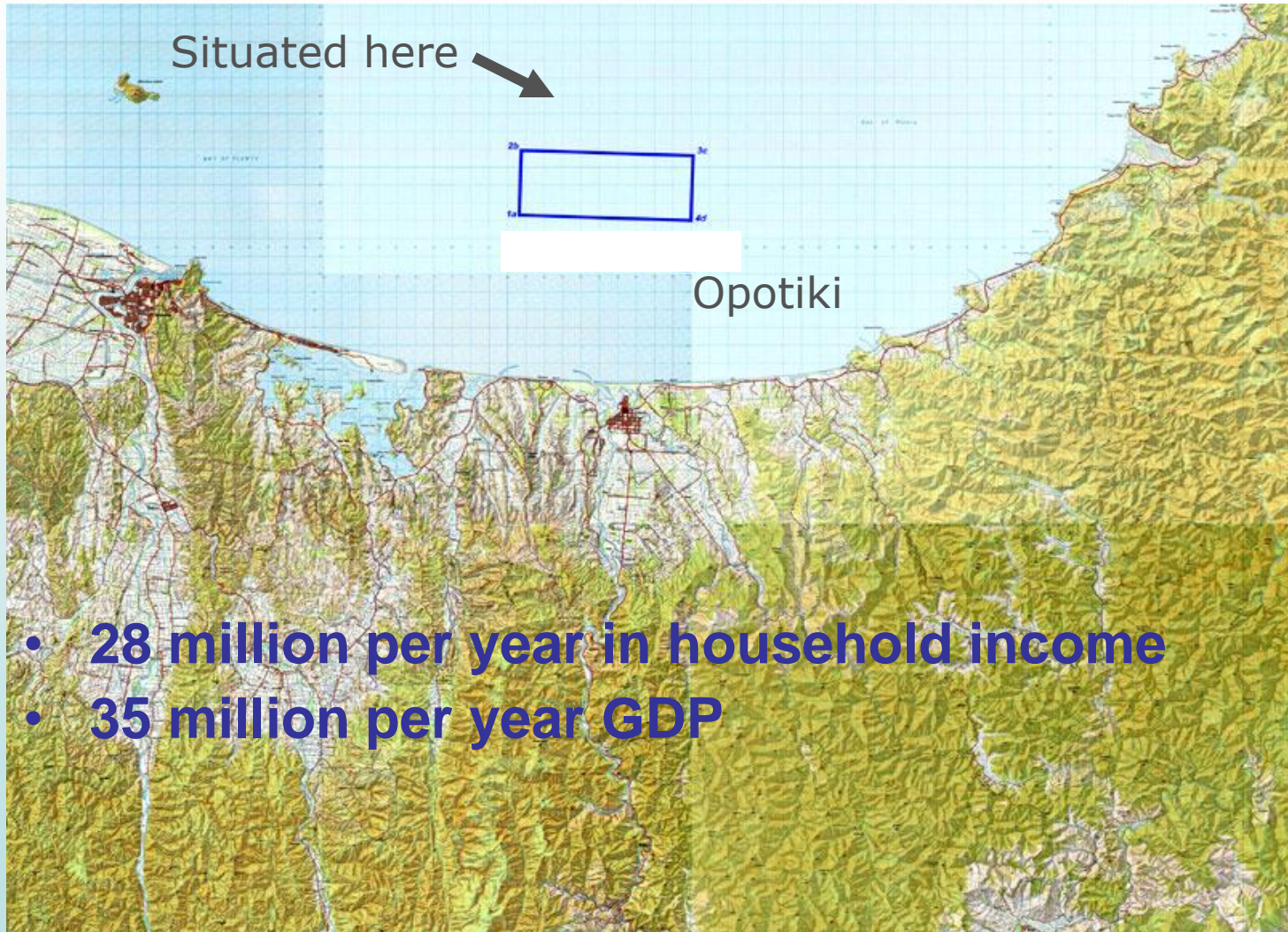
Iwi talks to mussel growers
Sealord
Eastern Seafarms formed

Water space allocations
Marine farming regulations





Opotiki has been ranked as most deprived district in New Zealand (Statistics NZ 'Index of Deprivation')





The waters are some
of the best

New Zealanders are
world leaders in
farming

Farming the ocean is
three dimensional

The Opotiki Harbour development



Recreational boating from Opotiki Harbour



Commercial boating from Opotiki Harbour



Jobs created because there is a reliable entrance to the Opotiki Harbour



- We're thinking outside the square
- We're matching strengths with opportunities
- Opotiki is an untouched world of opportunity
- Significantly transform Opotiki district, socially and economically



Thank You