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Media Release

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FIRST KIWIBANK TO OPEN IN PALMERSTON NORTH

The first Kiwibank bank branches will open for business in Palmerston North on Tuesday 12 February 2002. The following day Kiwibank branches will open in Hawkes Bay.

Kiwibank Chairman Rt Hon Jim Bolger ONZ announced today that the bank was launching a six-week pilot programme before the bank opens across the country in April and May.

"The pilot programme will involve three PostShops in Palmerston North and shops in Napier, Hastings, Taradale and Waipukurau. This is not a test. This is the real thing with full banking services offered to these areas.

"We are conducting the pilot in New Zealand Post-owned shops and will monitor how our services and systems work very closely. Before we launch across the nation, we need to ensure that opening of accounts, transferring of Home Loans and all banking services operate smoothly and efficiently. The pilot programme will allow us to bring in additional resources if required to smooth any unexpected problems in the system," Mr Bolger said.

Mr Bolger and Kiwibank Chief Executive will attend the formal opening of the first bank in the Palmerston North Central PostShop in Church Street at 11am on Tuesday 12 February. Two other Kiwibank branches, in the Terrace End PostShop and Manawatu MSC PostShop, also in Palmerston North, will open the same day.

On Wednesday 13 February, Mr Bolger and Mr Knowles will be at the opening of the Napier Post Shop on the corner of Dickens and Hastings Streets. The other Kiwibanks in Hawkes Bay will also open that day.

ENDS

For further Information: Bruce Thompson, Kiwibank External Relations Manager (04) 460 6831

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BUSINESS, SCIENCE & TECH

'Irregular Accounting': Voluntary Suspension Of Fuji Xerox Govt Contracting

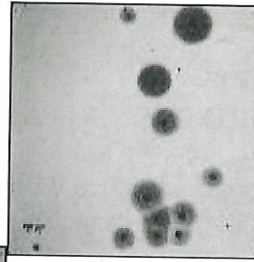
3rd suspension gives the Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment time to understand the reasons of the report from FUJIFILM Holdings into irregular accounting practices at FXN

ALSO:

- Fuji Xerox - [Fuji Decision to Temporarily Suspend New Sales & Marketing](#)

MPI: Cow Disease Detected In NZ For First Time

MPI is responding to the detection of the cattle disease Mycoplasma bovis in a dairy herd in South Canterbury... The disease is commonly found in cattle globally, including in Australia, but it's the first detection of it in New Zealand. [More>>](#)

**South Island Flooding: Focus Moves To Recovery**

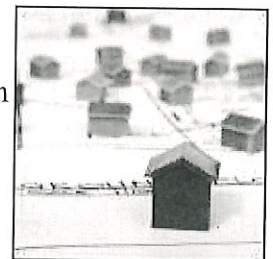
As water recedes throughout flood-impacted areas of the South Island, Minister of Civil Defence Nathan Guy has praised the efforts of those who were involved in the response to the flooding... [More>>](#)

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- Local Govt NZ - [LGNZ election manifesto offers policy solutions](#)
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- NZ Police - [Important to still drive with caution as roads reopen](#) - [SH 25A Unlikely to Reopen until Thursday Following Slip](#)
- NZTA - [New slip on Manawatu Gorge](#)
- Christchurch City Council - [Christchurch State of Emergency lifted](#) - [Christchurch Civil Defence Update - 10.15am 25 July](#) - [Christchurch Civil Defence update 4pm](#) - [Christchurch State of Emergency remains](#) - [Christchurch Civil Defence Update 24 July 9am](#)
- Dunedin City Council - [Flood recovery phase well underway](#) - [State of emergency lifted](#) - [Dunedin July Severe Weather update 5pm Sunday](#)
- Otago Regional Council - [Otago Emergency Management Final Update \(#11\)](#) - [Emergency Management Otago Update #10, 3.45pm](#) - [Image Flood Pictures - Otago](#)
- Insurance Council - [Flood insurance update: Temporary Accommodation](#)
- Federated Farmers - [After The Rain - Coordinated Rural Cleanup Begins](#)

Superu Report: Land Regulation Drives Auckland House Prices

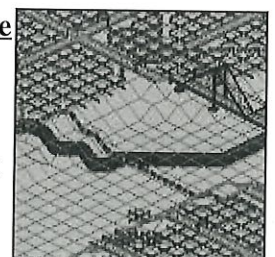
Land use regulation is responsible for up to 56 per cent of the cost of an average house in Auckland according to a new research report quantifying the impact of land use regulations, Finance Minister Steven Joyce says. [More>>](#)

**ALSO:**

- ACT - [National slammed by its own report on housing red tape](#)

Fund For PPP Plans: Govt Embraces Targeted Rates To Spur Urban Infrastructure

The government's latest response to the Auckland housing shortage will see central government and private sector firms invest in 'special purpose vehicles' to fund essential roading, water and drains that Auckland Council can't fund without threatening its credit rating. [More>>](#)

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