

NEWS

August 2006

1	Eight new helicopters for \$770 million (New Zealand Herald Mike Houlihan) NH90's disclosed as the latest Bargain for New Zealand defence forces.
1	Exploration beds to be sought next month in the great South basin (New Zealand Herald Gavin Evans) High world oil prices have made it possible to consider the inhospitable great South basin again for the first time since the 1970s.
7	Over governed, but underperforming (New Zealand Herald Grant Kirby) Grant Kirby is immediate past chairman of the Local Government Commission and has his say in this article suggesting change in the administration of the Auckland region. This is a well thought out article by Grant, explaining the political background to current local body fragmentation. Inevitably his suggestion recommends amalgamation. Note: It is unclear why this issue arose at the time it did. Very few commentators have considered maintaining the status quo, most favour increasing the powers of the Regional Authority.
7	Rates risk driving people away (New Zealand Herald Owen McShane) This article comments upon the impact of the regional growth strategy and the imposition of a metropolitan urban limit.
10	Petroleum exploration permit awarded for outer Taranaki basin (New Zealand Herald NZPA) Granted to Colorado-based Global Resources
14	Urban sprawl-planning has a purpose (New Zealand Herald Len Brown) Len Brown is a lawyer and former Manukau city mayoral candidate. In this article he argues that it would cost more to maintain urban sprawl than it would cost to allow intensification within existing urban boundaries. Nevertheless he merely favours good future planning, rather than deciding whether to sprawl or not to sprawl.
19	Makeover plans for Cape Brett lighthouse (New Zealand Herald Anne Beston) \$200,000 facelift proposed using funds from DOC
23	Let the regional Council fund matters which are regional (New Zealand Herald Rudman's city) Quite simple really, if you think about it.
23	Auckland has too many stadiums says SPARC (New Zealand Herald Wayne Thompson) A study is underway on the Auckland region's sporting needs of the next 20 years, involving eight councils and Sport and Recreation New Zealand.
26	Eden Park upgrade costs compared this (New Zealand Herald Phil Taylor) The Eden Park upgrade is compared with Suncorp Stadium in Brisbane, the Sydney Opera house, millennium Stadium at Cardiff Wales and Telstra Stadium in Australia.
28	ARC regional plan for growth (NZH Wayne Thompson) The mayors of Manukau and Waitakere say the plan, is throttling economic opportunities. Sir Barry Curtis says that the 50 year blueprint is "out of date and irrelevant". Mr Harvey of West Auckland says that it is like "operating in a sardine tin".
29	Mayors of Manukau and Waitakere agreed more land is required (New Zealand Herald Wayne Thompson) The mayors say that the region's master plan for growth is throttling economic opportunities.