

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Lightning Lab Govtech Accelerator Bootcamp Launches in Wellington today.**

*The Accelerator Bootcamp will help teams prepare for the inaugural Lightning Lab GovTech, launching Monday 20th of August 2018.*

[Wellington, New Zealand, 13 August 2018] Creative HQ is bringing together teams made up of local, central, and international government agencies for the Lightning Lab GovTech program - a structured and methodology-based experimentation environment for breakthrough innovation in the public sector, with the aim to deliver seamless solutions to real issues concerning governments today.

The program has been restructured based on Creative HQ's experience as a delivery partner for the R9 Accelerator within the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment. It is now run directly out of Creative HQ using the Lightning Lab model within a new space that has been specifically designed to enable maximum creativity and innovation.

The teams kick off their accelerator Bootcamp today with project director Jonnie Haddon saying "the energy here is incredible, each team has come prepared and ready to tackle the challenges ahead. Bootcamp is taste of what's to come, and will be exhausting, but you learn so much during the week - it's a real game changer."

The projects in Lightning Lab GovTech cover Digital Identity, Equitable Digital Access, Freshwater Catchment Mapping, Water Resilience, Safer Seas for Albatross, Youth Engagement, Safety Planning, Accessibility in Wellington, Regional Businesses, Building Financial Capability, Connecting with our Community and Housing Affordability .

If you feel like you can help any of the teams or you'd simply like to follow their journey, you can keep up through our website [www.lgovtech.co.nz](http://www.lgovtech.co.nz), and our social media channels [www.facebook.com/lightninglabaccelerator](https://www.facebook.com/lightninglabaccelerator) [www.twitter.com/lightninglab](https://www.twitter.com/lightninglab).

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## **LIGHTNING LAB**

Since beginning in 2013 with the first Lightning Lab, we have run 10 of our full-time, in-residence business acceleration programmes. Based on the best-in-breed model developed by TechStars, we are the only NZ member of the Global Accelerator Network, an invite-only community of the world's most respected organisations that provide startups with the best resources to create and grow their businesses.

## **CREATIVE HQ**

Creative HQ helps people grow successful businesses by giving them the discipline they need to succeed. We nourish entrepreneurial talent and drive innovation in the public sector, corporations and through our work with startups. Through our incubation and accelerator programmes, we increase the number of high growth businesses that fuel New Zealand's economy. We now offer our unique Innovation Services to corporations and government agencies in New Zealand and abroad.