

# Infrastructure weekly update

For the week starting 5 August 2024



To: Hon Chris Bishop, Minister for Infrastructure

Minister's comments:

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## 1. Actions arising from previous meetings

Meeting date	Agreed action	By whom	By when	Status
None				

## 2. Key issues and updates

### 2.1. Quarterly Report for April-June 2024

We sent our Q4 Performance Report to your office on 31 July. We continued to make good progress against our SPE outcomes in the quarter. We are currently preparing our Annual Report, which will include a view of our financial and non-financial performance across the year.

In the quarter we held our annual Symposium, with very positive feedback from attendees. The Symposium provided us with an opportunity to highlight some of our recent work as well as continue to build the dialogue on how we close the infrastructure gap. We continue to see strong interest in the Commission’s work, with wide coverage of our work on pricing for infrastructure, and how much households spend on infrastructure. Our research on New Zealand’s infrastructure challenge continues to be cited frequently.

This quarter we also completed the review of New Dunedin Hospital, including engagement with the Infrastructure and Investment Ministers Group (IIMG). We also supported Treasury with assessment of projects as part of the Budget process.

Our next quarterly report will reflect the focus and priorities in our Statement of Performance Expectations for FY25, and will include a refreshed format.

*Anna Moodie, General Manager Operations*

### 2.2. National Infrastructure Plan

We intend to prepare an Aide Memoire for the Minister on the scope and methodology for the Infrastructure Needs Analysis, for delivery by 15 August. We will work with the office to set up a suitable time for a meeting to discuss the INA later in August.

*Peter Nunns, Acting General Manager Strategy*

### 2.3. Upcoming events

We advise you of any significant forums or events that Infrastructure Commission staff are attending or presenting at.

Event	Event date	Description (attending/presenting/purpose)
Presentation to EDNZ leaders’ group, Wellington	8 August	Geoff Cooper, Acting CE, is to present at this hui for economics leaders, on the Government’s emerging policy direction for infrastructure.
Presentation to Economic Policy Centre, Auckland	12 August	Peter Nunns, Acting GM – Strategy, will discuss previous research in a presentation entitled ‘Does how we price infrastructure affect what we need to build?’.
Constructive Forum, Wellington	15 August	This is a two-day forum convened by the Registered Master Builders Association. InfraCom is not attending but we have provided input to a HUD-led briefing to support Minister Potaka – who is attending and speaking in place of Minister Bishop. Minister Penk is also attending.

Taituarā – Local Government Professionals Aotearoa, CE Hui, online	15 August	Peter Nunns, Acting GM – Strategy, and Nicholas Green, Principal Advisor – Inquiries, will be providing an update on research published earlier this year, including our study on infrastructure network pricing that was published in May and insights and findings from our What’s fair inquiry that was published in June.
Institute of Civil Engineers – Enabling Better Infrastructure workshop, online	15 August	Peter Nunns, Acting GM – Strategy, and several staff members from the Commission will present on some of our recent work that identifies the drivers of long-term investment demands, along with our initial work on the National Infrastructure Plan at a Chatham House 90-minute session with Enabling Better Infrastructure specialists from around the world.
WSP Asset Management Symposium	15 August	Andy Hagan, GM Operations will be speaking at this event.
Masterclass with Sean Sweeney, CRL	15 August	We will be hosting an online Masterclass for public sector infrastructure project leaders, which will feature observations and reflections from Sean Sweeney, CEO of the City Rail Link.
Civil Contractors NZ Conference, Invercargill	15-16 August	Andy Hagan, GM Operations will be speaking about the National Infrastructure Plan and/or be part of a panel to discuss the future of work.
National Infrastructure Pipeline webinar	16 August	Simon Becker and Abbie Cook from the Data Science and Analytics team will offer a webinar to support organisations in contributing to the Pipeline.
LGNZ Conference (SuperLocal), Wellington	22-23 August	Peter Nunns, Acting GM – Strategy, is part of a panel discussion about the structure of local government. The Minister will also be speaking at this event. We will aim to supply speaking notes by 7 August.
Building Nations 2024 (Infrastructure NZ annual conference), Auckland	28-29 August	Geoff Cooper, Acting Chief Executive, speak on the infrastructure challenge and the development of the National Infrastructure Plan. Nadine Dodge, Principal Economist, will be on a panel that will be discussing ‘congestion charging – international lessons on implementation’. The Minister and Under Secretary Court are also speaking. We will coordinate messages as required.
Institute of Civil Engineers – Enabling Better Infrastructure, online	3 September	Geoff Cooper, Acting CE, and Peter Nunns, Acting GM – Strategy, will be discussing the development of the assessment framework for the Infrastructure Priorities Programme. This is a member-only event for this international organisation. (Note: This event was rescheduled from July due to illness.)
World Green Infrastructure Congress 2024, Auckland	3-5 September	Geoff Cooper, Acting CE, will deliver a presentation on ‘A new trajectory for infrastructure’, highlighting New Zealand’s infrastructure challenge and responses through an environmental lens. We understand the Minister may also wish to speak at this event, and we can help with preparation for this, as required.

Construction Clients' Group Breakfast, Auckland	11 September	Geoff Cooper, Acting CE, will present on the infrastructure challenge and the development of the National Infrastructure Plan.
National Lifeline Utilities Forum, Christchurch	17-18 October	Geoff Cooper, Acting CE, and Nadine Dodge, Principal Economist, will be delivering a keynote speech on the topic of 'Making the Case for Change' that will include a discussion on the National Infrastructure Plan, along with some of the Commission's research on insurance of infrastructure against natural disasters. The Minister is also scheduled to speak.
Construction Procurement Summit, Sydney, AU (joining panel online)	24 October	Rebecca Robertshawe, Director – Projects and Programmes, will be an online panel member for a panel on 'Making it easier for contractors to work with Government by establishing modern and mature procurement practices'.

*Anna Moodie, General Manager, Operations*

## 3. Upcoming advice

### 3.1. Upcoming briefings and aides memoire for the Minister

We provide advice to the Minister on our work programme and our contribution to the government’s wider work programme – both proactively and in response to requests from him.

Topic and <a href="#">tracking number</a>	Date due to your office	What this advice covers	Deadline for Minister’s feedback
s9(2)(f)(iv)			
Local Government Forward Work Programme [TW-2024-453]	Sent 29 July	Provides feedback for ministerial consultation on the Minister of Local Government’s Cabinet paper on the Local Government Forward Work Programme.	Ahead of the Cabinet paper <span style="background-color: #cccccc;">s9(2)(g)(i)</span>
Draft update for IIMG on PPP policy programme	2 August	Outlines content for an update to the Infrastructure and Investment Ministers Group meeting on 20 August on the PPP work programme. Will reflect direction from the meeting between the Minister and US Court at 4.30pm on 1 August. Papers for the 20 August IIMG meeting are due to Tsy on 6 August.	6 August
Infrastructure Needs Analysis [TW-2024-454]	15 August	Ahead of a meeting to discuss the INA with the Minister (tbc)	tbc
<b>Briefings re reports and publications</b>			
None			

### 3.2. Upcoming briefings and aides memoire for the Parliamentary Under-Secretary

We provide advice to Mr Court in line with his delegations from the Minister – both proactively and in response to requests from him. All advice to Mr Court is copied to the Minister.

Topic and <a href="#">tracking number</a>	Date due to your office	What this advice covers	Deadline for US’s feedback
Draft update for IIMG on PPP policy programme	2 August	Outlines content for an update to the Infrastructure and Investment Ministers Group meeting on 20 August on the PPP work programme. Will reflect direction from the meeting between the Minister and US Court at 4.30pm on 1 August. Papers for the 20 August IIMG meeting are due to Tsy on 6 August.	6 August

### 3.3. Monitoring and performance reports

We provide quarterly reports on our performance against the Statement of Performance Expectations, regular updates on the National Infrastructure Pipeline, and updates on cross-government work to deliver the Infrastructure Strategy.

Topic	Date due to your office	What this report covers	Timeline
Q4 Quarterly Report	End of July	Provides an update of our progress on key aspects of our work programme, and performance against the SPE.	N/A
Annual report	Before 30 November	Provides the Commission’s report on financial and non-financial performance for FY24. We have scheduled to provide you with our Annual Report on 20 November 2024. You must then present the Annual Report to the House within 5 working days (or, if Parliament is not in session, as soon as possible after the commencement of the next session).	N/A

### 3.4. Upcoming Cabinet papers

We provide advice to you on upcoming papers that you or your colleagues are taking to Cabinet, where relevant to the infrastructure system.

Lead Minister	Description	Date due to your office	Committee	Timeframe
s9(2)(g)(i)				

### 3.5. Ministerial Official Information Act requests

Where requested, we provide information to inform responses to OIAs that you receive.

Date received from your office	Correspondent	Description of request	Date due to Minister	Date due to send
15 July	s9(2)(a)	Minutes and action points arising from meetings with the Minister.	26 July (sent 29 July)	7 August
15 July	s9(2)(a)	Information in relation to the National Infrastructure Plan; and action points from meetings	2 August (sent 31 July)	12 August
26 July	s9(2)(a)	Information about cost pressures and benchmarking of infrastructure costs. Tsy is coordinating.	16 August	26 August
30 July	s9(2)(a)	Copies of three specific InfraCom briefings re regional deals and the NIP	16 August	27 August

### 3.6. Departmental Official Information Act requests

We provide you with a heads-up on OIAs that we have received and our proposed response.

Date received	Correspondent	Description of request	Date due to send
17 July	s9(2)(a)	All written advice to Ministers on the draft second Emissions Reduction Plan, including advice on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Policies that were included in the draft plan</li> <li>- Policies that weren't included in the draft plan, and</li> <li>- Previous policies or work programmes from the first Emissions Reduction Plan that were stopped.</li> </ul>	14 August
24 July	s9(2)(a)	Information related to advice on the Waitemata Harbour Connections Project	21 August

Date received	Correspondent	Description of request	Date due to send
26 July [partial transfer from the Minister]	s9(2)(a)	All weekly updates, memos/advice/aides memoires/briefings/updates to the Minister relating to infrastructure between 20 June and 12 July	23 August

### 3.7. Upcoming Ministerial meetings

Where requested, we provide support for meetings the Minister is attending.

Meeting	Meeting date	Who will be attending/presenting	Comment / action	TW lead
Monthly meeting between the Minister and US Court	1 August, 4.30-5pm	Minister Bishop and US Court, Andy Hagan, Brendan Herder, Paul Alexander, Tanya Perrott	PPPs (including content for an update to the 20 August IIMG meeting), national direction.	Andy Hagan / Barbara Tebbs
Fortnightly 1:1 Minister and Chair	19 August, 1pm	Minister, Alan Bollard	TW to provide draft agenda	Alan Bollard
Weekly infrastructure officials meeting	19 August, 1.15-2pm	Minister, infrastructure officials		Geoff Cooper
Going for Housing Growth officials meeting	19 August, 5.30pm	Minister Bishop and officials	Agenda tbc	Peter Nunns
Infrastructure and Investment Ministers Group	20 August, 7-8pm	Hons Bishop (Chair), Willis, Brown, Jones and US Court	An update on the NIP is on the agenda.	Andy Hagan
Business Club lunch	23 August	Hon Bishop and others tbc	MO to confirm if anything required	
Monthly meeting between the Minister and US Court	26 August, 1.45-2.15pm	Minister Bishop and US Court, officials tbc	Agenda tbc	Andy Hagan / Barbara Tebbs
Meeting with Minister Brown and industry groups (Infrastructure NZ, CCNZ, ACENZ, RMBA)	26 August, 3.30-4pm	Ministers Bishop and Brown, Helen Davidson, Alan Pollard, Ankit Sharma, Nick Leggett, officials tbc	The Minister's letter to industry bodies on 17 July refers	Andy Hagan

Meeting	Meeting date	Who will be attending/presenting	Comment / action	TW lead
Weekly infrastructure officials meeting	26 August, 4-4.45pm	Minister, infrastructure officials		Geoff Cooper
Going for Housing Growth officials meeting	27 August, 9am	Minister Bishop and officials	Agenda tbc	Peter Nunns
Housing Ministerial Group	27 August, 7.30-8.30pm	Hons Willis, Upston, Potaka, Penk and US Court. Geoff Cooper/Peter Nunns to attend for InfraCom	Agenda tbc	Geoff Cooper/Peter Nunns

### 3.8. Upcoming meetings for the Parliamentary Under-Secretary

Where requested, we provide support for meetings US Court is attending.

Meeting	Meeting date	Who will be attending/presenting	Comment / action	TW lead
Meeting with Amber Infrastructure to discuss PPP approaches	1 August, 3.30-4.15pm	Amber Infrastructure, US Court, Tsy. Brendan Herder to attend for InfraCom	TW provided talking points by email on 25 July	Andy Hagan
Monthly meeting between the Minister and US Court	1 August, 4.30-5pm	Minister Bishop and US Court, Andy Hagan, Brendan Herder, Paul Alexander, Tanya Perrott	PPPs (including content for an update to the 20 August IIMG meeting), national direction.	Andy Hagan / Barbara Tebbs
Infrastructure and Investment Ministers Group	20 August, 7-8pm	Hons Bishop (Chair), Willis, Brown, Jones and US Court	NIP and PPP update are on the agenda.	Andy Hagan
Monthly meeting between the Minister and US Court	26 August, 1.45-2.15pm	Minister Bishop and US Court, officials tbc	Agenda tbc	Andy Hagan / Barbara Tebbs

[Note that, due to timeframes, Written and Oral Parliamentary questions and media requests will be provided directly to the Minister's office and not signalled in this report.]

## Appendix A: List of upcoming reports and publications

We investigate a range of topics to help build the capability and performance of the infrastructure system and to support discussions with the sector. We publish reports that we commission or author ourselves – including research insights, ‘deep dive’ inquiries, project reviews, economic analysis, and policy insights. The list below sets out our current programme of reports. We provide the Minister’s office with a heads-up before publishing.

Topic / Title	Type of report	Intended publication date	What this report or publication covers
Water metering and leakage	Research report	2 August 2024	Examines the economic and societal benefits of using water metering and volumetric charging to help solve water network-related challenges. This report and the Transport pricing case studies paper below will be released together. [TW-2024-423 refers.]
Transport pricing case studies	Research report	2 August 2024	This looks at experience of tolling, congestion charging and other forms of pricing and demand management [TW-2024-423 refers].
Transparency response paper	Response to research	TBC August 2024	This report analyses the possible actions the Government could make in response to the Infrastructure Commission’s work on transparency in projects. A briefing on this was provided to the Minister on 26 March [TW-2024-339 refers]. No press release is planned.
Outlining long-run drivers of infrastructure investment and demand	Research report	TBC August 2024	This will be a short think piece that will outline some key concepts that we will draw upon in long-term infrastructure needs analysis. It will outline the main drivers of infrastructure investment demand; provide brief commentary and literature review on these demand drivers; and summarise historical and projected future population growth, drawing upon published data and projections.
s18(d)			
Taking care of Tomorrow Today: An	Research report	TBC Q3 2024	This paper outlines how mature our asset management tools and processes are across different infrastructure sectors, and provides recommendations to improve public sector asset management.

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Asset Management  
State of Play

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Introducing water meters	Case studies	TBC Q3 2024	Includes foreword from us, followed by water metering case studies in Kapiti and Nelson commissioned from Pat Dougherty, Director Wellington Water. [TW-2024-423 refers.]
Auckland's infrastructure	Research report	TBC Q3 2024	Using recently published research, this report will drill down into several pieces of our published research to provide Auckland-focused insights.

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