

Infrastructure weekly update

For the week starting 9 September 2024



To: Hon Chris Bishop, Minister for Infrastructure

Minister's comments:

Table of Contents

- 1. Actions arising from previous meetings 2
- 2. Key issues and updates 3
 - 2.1. Cross-party briefings on the PPP policy work 3
 - 2.2. National Infrastructure Plan 3
 - 2.3. Briefing on infrastructure national direction 4
 - 2.4. Upcoming events 4
- 3. Upcoming advice 6
 - 3.1. Upcoming briefings and aides memoire for the Minister 6
 - 3.2. Upcoming briefings and aides memoire for the Parliamentary Under-Secretary 7
 - 3.3. Monitoring and performance reports 8
 - 3.4. Upcoming Cabinet papers 8
 - 3.5. Ministerial Official Information Act requests 9
 - 3.6. Departmental Official Information Act requests 11
 - 3.7. Upcoming Ministerial meetings 11
 - 3.8. Upcoming meetings for the Parliamentary Under-Secretary 13
- Appendix A: List of upcoming reports and publications 14
- Appendix B: Key milestones for the National Infrastructure Plan 15

1. Actions arising from previous meetings

Meeting date	Agreed action	By whom	By when	Status
20 August IIMG	Bring a paper on the National Infrastructure Plan to a future IIMG meeting	TW	Scheduled for the 15 October IIMG meeting	Pending

2. Key issues and updates

2.1. Cross-party briefings on the PPP policy work

Our policy work on an enhanced New Zealand PPP Framework has been progressing well and the direction of travel is supported by delivery agencies. We have continued to ensure that prospective project planning by agencies is well aligned with our policy development, and have taken the opportunity to softly test our developing policy direction through agencies' market engagement processes.

The most recent market engagement activity has been in respect of the Northland Corridor Roads of National Significance. This project has been communicated to the market as a Staged PPP, with the agency looking to enter into a Corridor Partnership Agreement together with the Stage 1 PPP Project Agreement in mid-2026. The market response to the prospective NZ PPP pipeline, and the Northland Corridor in particular, has been very positive. ^{s9(2)(g)(i)}

[Redacted content]

Andy Hagan, General Manager Delivery

2.2. National Infrastructure Plan

Work Programme

We have provided you with an Aide Memoire setting out the work programme for the National Infrastructure Plan. We have also attached, at Appendix B of this report, the key milestones for the Plan. This Appendix will be updated weekly.

Infrastructure Priorities Programme

Applications have opened for central and local government and the private sector for the Infrastructure Priorities Programme (IPP). Meetings have been held with 10 central government entities and state-owned enterprises to introduce the IPP and outline how central government infrastructure providers can participate.¹ Two upcoming public webinars are scheduled to introduce the IPP to local government (17 September) and the private sector (18 September).

Engagement Activities

As part of the development of the Plan, we are developing a consultation document which will be released in mid-October 2024. The purpose of this engagement is to:

1. Test our early/emerging thinking on the National Infrastructure Plan and seek feedback to improve it.

¹ Individual pre-application meetings have been held with Department of Corrections, KiwiRail, NZTA, Defence Force, Commerce Commission, Kainga Ora, Ministry of Justice, Transpower, Ministry of Education, and Crown Infrastructure Partners.

2. Seek information from the infrastructure sector (and other key stakeholders) that we can use to shape the Plan.
3. Provide early visibility over our approach to the Plan, and test buy-in to this approach.

While this will be a public document, we expect that it will be mostly aimed at a sector audience rather than the general public. We expect to test general public agreement on key issues later in the Plan development process, through separate mechanisms.

We will provide you with a separate briefing on this consultation document later in September.

Peter Nunns, Acting General Manager Strategy

2.3. Briefing on infrastructure national direction

Early in the week commencing 9 September, we are submitting a joint briefing with the Ministry for the Environment on the broad parameters for Infrastructure National Direction under the RMA.

s9(2)(f)(iv), s9(2)(g)(i)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Barbara Tebbs, General Manager, Policy

2.4. 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)
Construction Clients' Group Breakfast, Auckland	11 September	Christian Gamst, Senior Adviser Delivery, will present on the infrastructure challenge.
Initial National Infrastructure Plan Government Agency Forum (Commission organising)	Week of 16 September (date TBC)	We have invited key central government agencies (Treasury, DPMC, MoT, NZTA, MBIE, DIA, HUD, MoE, Health New Zealand, Corrections, NZDF, MoJ, Rau Paenga and CIP) to an initial National Infrastructure Plan Government Agency Forum to ensure representatives from these agencies are able to contribute to the development of the Plan; that the Plan appropriately reflects the input and requirements of these entities; and that the Plan's recommendations are well-considered, viable and supported. We aim to host monthly meetings. The agenda of the first forum meeting will include an overview of the Plan and the development process, discussion of a draft terms of reference for the forum, and upcoming milestones and events. These meetings will be led by Jon Butler, Director – Infrastructure Strategy.

Infrastructure Priorities Programme webinar (Commission to host)	17 September	This webinar will focus on the IPP for local government. Main presentation to be given by Nadine Dodge, Principal Economist. We have been promoting this through our local government networks.
Infrastructure Priorities Programme webinar (Commission to host)	18 September	This webinar will provide a general overview on the IPP for those interested in learning more. Main presentation to be given by Nadine Dodge, Principal Economist. We have been promoting this through our stakeholder networks.
Infrastructure Leaders Network Meet-Up, Christchurch	4 October	This event follows from others we have convened, and that you attended, in Wellington and Auckland. Minister Bishop is not available. US Court has confirmed that he will attend and host a ½ hour Q&A session. Minister Penk was invited but is unavailable.
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. We understand that Under Secretary Court 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 to discuss 'Making it easier for contractors to work with Government by establishing modern and mature procurement practices'.
Webinar on Congestion Charging, Helen Clark Foundation	November (tbc)	Nadine Dodge, Principal Economist will be moderating this webinar.

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 tracking number	Date due to your office	What this advice covers	Deadline for Minister’s feedback
National Infrastructure Plan work programme [TW-2024-472]	Sent 4 September	Provides an update on the work programme for the National Infrastructure Plan, including key milestones and deliverables and a proposed approach for cross-party engagement.	None
Meeting between Minister of Finance and Beca on 12 September	6 September	At the request of the Minister of Finance, this briefing provides background information for a meeting that she has with Beca on 12 September.	12 September
National Policy Statement - Infrastructure policies on managing effects on significant environmental values	10 September	As noted in section 2.3 above, this briefing seeks your direction regarding the parameters of national direction for managing sensitive natural environments, within a more consistent and enabling approach to infrastructure, including the new NPS Infrastructure.	16 September
Meeting with Pedro Vicente, CE of CIMIC Group, on 12 September	10 September	Will provide background to contracting issues in relation to Crown-funded projects delivered by CIMIC Group, including CPB.	12 September
Work programme for the Infrastructure Needs Analysis	12 September	Provide information about what updates you will receive through to the end of this year.	None
Meeting with Richard Templer, Chief Executive, Engineering NZ on 17 September	13 September	Background information for this meeting.	17 September

Topic and tracking number	Date due to your office	What this advice covers	Deadline for Minister's feedback
Draft update for IIMG on the National Infrastructure Plan	26 September	Provides a draft paper for you to take to the IIMG meeting of 15 October. Papers for this meeting are due to the Tsy Secretariat by 1 October.	1 October
National Infrastructure Plan – consultation document	26 September	Provides you with a briefing on the proposed consultation document that will be released for stakeholder feedback in Mid-October.	tbc
National Infrastructure Plan – policy and system reforms	26 September	Provides the scope and approach to the development of recommended policy and system reforms for the National Infrastructure Plan.	tbc

Briefings re reports and publications

s18(d)

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 tracking number	Date due to your office	What this advice covers	Deadline for US's feedback
None			

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
Q1 Quarterly Report	End of October	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).

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)				

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

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
20 August (original request of 29 July 2024 was clarified with requestor)	s9(2)(a)	Re-scoped request is for formal minutes and action points emailed from office staff to departments for 31 specified meetings, as well as any formal minutes	28 August – TW input sent 27 August	9 September (10-day extension from original due date of 26 August)

Date received from your office	Correspondent	Description of request	Date due to Minister	Date due to send
8 August	s9(2)(a)	Copies of three specific InfraCom briefings sent in late July	27 August – sent 30 August	5 September
22 August		Formal minutes and action points from 28 specified meetings in May/June	6 September	13 September
21 August		Copies of a recent briefing (re Local Government Forward work programme) and Te Waihanga's fourth quarterly report for 2023-24	11 September	18 September
26 August		Correspondence between the Minister and Hon Barbara Edmonds related to infrastructure – specifically re a bipartisan approach to infrastructure issues. [We have advised the office that we have nothing in scope]	11 September TW input sent 2 September	18 September
27 August		Copies of recent briefings and weekly reports in relation to DPMC's work on critical infrastructure resilience [DPMC leading]	16 September – TW input sent to DPMC 30 August	24 September
27 August		Copies of two recent briefings (an update for IIMG on the PPP work programme and a weekly report)	16 September	24 September
29 August		Copies of four recent briefings and a weekly report from InfraCom and Tsy	17 September	25 September

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
23 August	s9(2)(a)	Advice to the Minister in 2024 discussing rate increases/rises [Transferred to DIA on 30 August]	20 September
26 July [partial transfer from the Minister – CB198]		All weekly updates, memos/advice/aides memoire/briefings/updates to the Minister relating to infrastructure between 20 June and 12 July (rescoped on 20 August to be for 7 specified documents) [We provided a heads-up to the Minister’s office on 3 September.]	6 September (extended from original time limit of 23 August)
13 August [partial transfer from the Minister – CB203]		Feedback received by InfraCom from agencies used to inform the development of the National Infrastructure Plan	20 September

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
Weekly infrastructure officials meeting	9 September, 3.30-4.15pm	Minister, infrastructure officials		Geoff Cooper
Dinner with members of Business Central, Wellington	9 September, 7-8.30pm	A range of Wellington’s business people and members of Business Central	We will provide input, as required, to a HUD-led briefing	Andy Hagan
RMA fast track meeting	10 September, 7.45-8.30pm	RMA fast track Ministers; Paul Alexander for Infracom		Barbara Tebbs
Meeting with Jim Donovan, Chair of NZ Utilities Group	11 September,	Minister Brown, Tsy officials	Nothing needed from us	Andy Hagan

Meeting	Meeting date	Who will be attending/presenting	Comment / action	TW lead
Meeting with Pedro Vicente, CEO of CIMIC Group	12 September, 11-11:30am	Brendan Herder for Infracom	We will provide a background briefing (due 3pm 10 Sept)	Andy Hagan
Going for Housing Growth officials meeting	12 September, 3:15-4:15pm	Minister Bishop and officials	Agenda tbc	Peter Nunns
Weekly infrastructure officials meeting	16 September, 3.15-4pm	Minister, infrastructure officials		Geoff Cooper
Meeting with Richard Templer, Chief Executive, Engineering NZ	17 September, 3.15-3.45pm	Minister, officials tbc	Briefing required	Andy Hagan
Infrastructure and Investment Ministers Group	17 September, 7-8pm	Hons Bishop (Chair), Willis, Brown, Jones and US Court	Agenda tbc	Geoff Cooper
Meeting with BlueFloat (tbc)	19 September, 11.30am	Minister, officials tbc	tbc	Andy Hagan
Monthly meeting between the Minister and US Court	23 September, 2.15-2.45pm	Minister Bishop and US Court, officials tbc	Agenda tbc	Andy Hagan / Barbara Tebbs
Meeting with Infrastructure Commission Board, Wellington	25 September	Minister to attend. Details tbc	Will prepare information for the Minister to support this discussion	Anna Moodie
Follow-up meeting with industry leaders	October (tbc)			
Infrastructure and Investment Ministers Group	15 October, 7-8pm	Hons Bishop (Chair), Willis, Brown, Jones and US Court Papers are due to Tsy Sec by 1 October	Agenda tbc – includes NIP	Geoff Cooper
Infrastructure and Investment Ministers Group	12 November, 7-8pm	Hons Bishop (Chair), Willis, Brown, Jones and US Court Papers are due to Tsy Sec by 29 October	Agenda tbc	Geoff Cooper

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 Acciona re alternate PPP model	10 September, 12pm	US Court, Infracom officials (Richard Wall, Brendan Herder)	We will provide talking points.	Andy Hagan
Meeting with Pedro Vicente, CEO of CIMIC Group	12 September, 11-11:30am (tbc)	US Court to join meeting with Minister Bishop (tbc). Brendan Herder will attend for Infracom	We will provide a background briefing (due 3pm 10 Sept)	Andy Hagan
Infrastructure and Investment Ministers Group	17 September, 7-8pm	Hons Bishop (Chair), Willis, Brown, Jones and US Court	Agenda tbc	Geoff Cooper
Monthly meeting between the Minister and US Court	23 September, 2.15-2:45pm	Minister Bishop and US Court, officials tbc	Agenda tbc	Andy Hagan / Barbara Tebbs
Infrastructure Leaders Network meet-up, Christchurch	4 October	US Court. We will prepare a background briefing.		Andy Hagan
Infrastructure and Investment Ministers Group	15 October, 7-8pm	Hons Bishop (Chair), Willis, Brown, Jones and US Court Papers are due to Tsy Sec by 1 October	Agenda tbc – includes NIP	Geoff Cooper
Infrastructure and Investment Ministers Group	12 November, 7-8pm	Hons Bishop (Chair), Willis, Brown, Jones and US Court Papers are due to Tsy Sec by 29 October	Agenda tbc	Geoff Cooper

[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
New Dunedin Hospital Review	Review	TBC from 8 September	Independent review to provide assurance to key ministers about how well set up the project is for success and its deliverability within budget.
Thinking long term: Our future need for infrastructure investment	Research report	W/C 17 September	This publication 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 Asset Management State of Play	Research report	TBC Q3/Q4 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.
Introducing water meters	Case studies	TBC Q3/Q4 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.]
Aucklanders and their infrastructure	Research report	Q4 (TBC)	Using recently published research, this report will drill down into several pieces of our published research to provide Auckland-focused insights.

Appendix B: Key milestones for the National Infrastructure Plan

Date	Deliverable	Detail
Mid-October 2024	Stakeholder engagement: Continuing the conversation	Initial engagement to test early thinking on the Plan, seek information from the sector that we can use to shape the Plan, and provide early public visibility to the proposed approach. This continues the conversation from the Infrastructure Strategy and the Commission's research programme.
Late October	Draft plan outline	Outline for the structure of the Plan including early thinking on key issues.
September to December 2024	Draft background reports on Infrastructure Needs Analysis	A series of background reports to inform the development of the Infrastructure Needs Analysis. [Insurance against natural hazards, Natural hazards risks to infrastructure, Investment demand related to decarbonisation]
Early-December 2024	Preliminary Infrastructure Needs Analysis	Preliminary draft of the Infrastructure Needs Analysis
Mid-December 2024	Detailed Plan outline	A detailed outline for the plan will be developed from the findings of work commissioned to November 2024.
February to April 2025	Stakeholder and public engagement	Targeted stakeholder engagement to continue to test out thinking. Interactive public engagement to raise awareness seek feedback on key themes and issues.
February 2025	Plan options and preliminary recommendations	Plan options and preliminary recommendations will be discussed with the Infrastructure Commission Board and the Minister.
March 2025	Draft international benchmarking report	Draft report benchmarking relative investment levels and, where possible, infrastructure outcomes against international peers.
March/April 2025	Early draft of the Plan	An early draft of the Plan will be discussed with the Infrastructure Commission Board and the Minister.
April 2025	Draft Infrastructure Needs Analysis	Draft Infrastructure Needs Analysis incorporating findings from all research
Mid-May 2025	Draft plan for informal review	Draft of the plan provided to the Minister on a "no surprises" basis for informal review.
End of June 2025	Draft plan for Minister's feedback and public consultation	Draft plan approved by the Infrastructure Commission Board, provided to the Minister for formal feedback, and released for public consultation.
July/August 2025	Public consultation period	6 week public consultation period.
September 2025	Outcomes of consultation	Analysis of the outcomes of public consultation.
End September 2025	Minister's feedback	Minister provides written feedback on the draft plan.
Mid-November 2025	Update on final plan	Draft of the plan provided to the Minister on a "no surprises" basis.
December 2025	Final plan	Final plan published and provided to the Minister to table in Parliament.
Early 2026	Government response	Government formally responds to the Plan.