

# Infrastructure weekly update

For the week starting 23 June 2025



To: Hon Chris Bishop, Minister for Infrastructure

Minister's comments:

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## 1. Actions arising from previous meetings

### Officials meetings

Meeting date	Agreed action	By whom	By when	Status
s9(2)(f)(iv), s9(2)(g)(i)				
4 June	Minster has agreed to meet with NZUAG to discuss the Underground Asset Register (UAR). Briefing to be provided in due course.	MInfra Office to schedule meeting, Infracom to brief	July	In progress

## 2. Key issues and updates

### 2.1. National Infrastructure Plan (NIP)

The NIP Cabinet Paper was discussed at the Cabinet Business Committee (CBC) meeting on 16 June (ahead of Cabinet meeting on 23 June).

The draft Plan is being finalised ahead of its launch on 25 June. A preliminary draft of the Plan was provided to Hon Kieran McAnulty under embargo, ahead of his participation in the Looking Ahead Infrastructure Symposium on 25 June.

Alongside the draft Plan, the Commission will also publish:

- the results of its first round of assessments as part of its new Infrastructure Priorities Programmes (IPP),
- a suite of papers related to the infrastructure needs analysis information included in the draft Plan,
- *From Plans to projects: An assessment of how central government plans, funds and manages infrastructure*, and
- *Getting what we need: Public agreement and community expectations around infrastructure*.

The Commission will be seeking online feedback on the draft National Infrastructure Plan between 25 June and 6 August. People interested in providing feedback can either complete an online survey that will focus on the recommendations in the Plan, or they can upload their own document or use a template to provide feedback on the full draft Plan.

The Commission will also host four webinars on different aspects of the draft Plan during the month of July. The webinars include:

- 9 July – Infrastructure Needs Analysis (Graham Campbell, Principal Economist),
- 16 July – Getting what we need: Public agreement and community expectations around infrastructure (Jean Beetham, Senior Advisor),
- 23 July – Discussion with the decarbonisation working group that fed into the Infrastructure Needs Analysis work (panel discussion led by Graham Campbell, Principal Economist), and
- 30 July – Ask us anything about the draft National Infrastructure Plan (Peter Nunns, GM – Strategy and Geoff Cooper, CE).

*Peter Nunns, General Manager, Strategy*

### 2.2. Approach to releasing Round 1 IPP Assessments

We will be publishing the results from Round 1 of the IPP (endorsed projects and assessments) alongside the draft Plan on 25 June. The Commission will also release a list of project names and proponents for the 31 proposals that did not receive endorsement. The list will not provide specific detail on the reason that any proposal did not proceed to endorsement.

This list will be accompanied by a statement which explains that there are several reasons why applications do not progress to an endorsement, including insufficient information, proposing a project that is not infrastructure, speaking to local rather than a national need, ineligibility due to having already received funding, or being withdrawn by the applicant.

*Andy Hagan, General Manager, Investment*

## 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)
Infrastructure Commission Symposium (Wellington)	25 June	We will be holding our annual symposium in the Beehive Banquet Hall with a range of speakers on issues related to themes in the draft National Infrastructure Plan. A presentation on the draft National Infrastructure Plan will also be livestreamed to attendees at the Infrastructure Sustainability Connect Conference which is also being held in Auckland on the same date.
New Zealand Association of Economists Annual Conference (Wellington)	25-27 June	Commission staff, Peter Nunns, Graham Campbell, and Ezra Barson-McLean will each be presenting at the 2025 NZAE Conference.
Four webinars to support the draft National Infrastructure Plan	9-30 July	Four webinars over the month of July will highlight aspects of the draft National Infrastructure Plan (9 July – Infrastructure Needs Analysis; 16 July – Getting what we need: Public agreement and community expectations around infrastructure; 23 July – Discussion with the decarbonisation working group that fed into the Infrastructure Needs Analysis work; 30 July – Ask us anything about the draft National Infrastructure Plan)
QuarryNZ Conference (Hamilton)	9-11 July	Andy Hagan, GM Investment will speak at this conference. The theme for this year is 'The future is now: Empowering the next generation of quarry professionals.'
Water NZ's Water Utilities Association meeting (Wellington)	17 July	Peter Nunns, GM Strategy, will provide an update on the draft National Infrastructure Plan at this meeting.
Frequency Panel Event (Wellington)	24 July	Geoff Cooper, CE, and Siobhan Proctor, Special Advisor, will be participating in a panel discussion on moving talk to action in infrastructure.
NIP Briefing for Transport and Infrastructure Select Committee (Wellington)	31 July	We have accepted a request to brief the Committee on the draft National Infrastructure Plan following its public release.
NZDF Lead Integrated Capability leadership course	5 August	Nicola Richardson, Director Leadership & Capability is a panellist on the Promote Organisational Excellence Value Add panel.
Building Nations	6-7 August	Geoff Cooper, CE and Peter Nunns, GM Strategy have been invited to participate in panel discussions.
Taituarā Community Plan Forum (Wellington)	19-20 August	Nadine Dodge, Director Infrastructure Priorities and Evaluation, will be on a panel looking at how local councils could and should be reflecting their approach to risk and resilience in their long-term plans.

Event	Event date	Description (attending/presenting/purpose)
IPWEA Conference (Sydney)	25-28 August	Geoff Cooper, CE, is a keynote speaker at this event. The theme of the conference this year is 'Shaping Tomorrow's World'.
Macro Group (Wellington)	12 September	Peter Nunns, GM Strategy, will speak to Macro Group (a group of economists who are interested in macroeconomics) about some of the Commission's recent research.

Below is a list of some of the additional external events that will be coming up this year that have an infrastructure focus. This list is not exhaustive and will continue to be updated.

Event	Event date	Organiser and event description
Infrastructure Sustainability Council Connect Conference (Auckland)	24-25 June	Annual event for private and public sector members, with a focus on advancing sustainability. A New Zealand event was not held last year.
SuperLocal Conference (Christchurch)	16-17 July	Organised by Local Government New Zealand. We have had initial conversations with LGNZ about speaking opportunities at this conference but have not yet confirmed.
Building Nations 2025 (Wellington)	6-7 August	A vision for New Zealand hosted by Infrastructure New Zealand.
IPWEA International Public Works Conference (Sydney)	25-28 August	International conference.
NZ Wind Energy Association Summit (Wellington)	26-28 August	Annual conference.
Taituarā Conference 2025 (Christchurch)	3-5 September	Annual conference.
Electricity Engineers' Association (Christchurch)	9-11 September	Annual conference.
Constructive Forum (Auckland)	11-12 September	Annual conference for the construction industry. Further information about this event was provided to your office on 8 April.
NZ Airports Hui (Blenheim)	6-8 October	Conference held by the NZ Airports Association.
IWA-Aspire Conference and Water New Zealand Conference & Expo 2025 (Auckland)	20-24 October	Joint event held by International Water Association (IWA) and Water New Zealand. The theme is "Empowering Tomorrow: Smart Water Solutions for Resilient Communities."
New Zealand Coastal Society Conference (Napier)	18-21 November	Annual conference. The society is an Engineering New Zealand Technical Group.
Annual roading sector conference (Hamilton)	19-20 November	Annual conference.

Vanisa Dhiru, General Manager, Corporate

## 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.

Advice	Date due to your office	What this advice covers	Deadline for Minister's feedback
Pipeline contributions from local government – draft letters from the Minister	19 June	Provides draft letters for you to send to local government organisations, noting your previous request and ongoing that expectation they contribute to the National Infrastructure Pipeline.	TBC
Meeting with Rene Burkart, Infrastructure New South Wales, on 25 June	19 June	Provides background information and talking points for this meeting.	25 June
Provision of the Infrastructure Commission's 2025-29 Statement of Intent and 2025-26 Statement of Performance Expectations	By 30 June	Provides the final 2025-29 Statement of Intent and 2025-26 Statement of Performance Expectations prior to the start of the 2025-26 financial year.	TBC
<b>Briefings re reports and publications</b>			
Nation building: 150 years of infrastructure investment in New Zealand	August	Overview of a report that we intend to publish in August (see Appendix A).	TBC
People build projects – NZ Infrastructure Leadership Challenges report	August	Overview of the report that we intend to publish in August (see Appendix A).	TBC

### 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 USC'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
SPE 2025/26 and SOI 2025-2029	30 June	We provided you with initial drafts of our updated Statement of Performance Expectations (SPE) for 2025/26, along with an updated Statement of Intent (SOI) for 2025-2029 on 30 April and received your feedback on 16 May. Final versions will be provided no later than 30 June.	The final 2025-29 Statement of Intent and 2025-26 Statement of Performance Expectations will be provided to you prior to the start of the 2025-26 financial year (ie before 30 June).
Quarterly Performance Reporting	31 July	Quarterly Performance Reporting as required under the Owners Expectations issued by The Treasury. The report summarises performance against the Commission's Statement of Performance Expectations, highlights major achievements for the quarter, identifies the cause of any major variances, provides an outlook of performance to the end of the year, and signals any developing issues and emerging risks and opportunities.	The Q3 report for the quarter 1 January to 31 March 2025 was provided to you on 30 April 2025. The next report for the period 1 April-30 June will be due no later than 31 July.

### 3.4. Upcoming Cabinet papers

This table summarises upcoming Cabinet papers where the Infrastructure Commission has provided comment.

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
None				

### 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
14 May	s9(2)(a)	Advice received by Under-Secretary Court regarding climate-related risks to critical infrastructure, adaptation strategies for roading, transport or energy assets, and the Crown's Te Tiriti obligations for environmental protection or resource management.	Extended to 11 July

### 3.7. Upcoming proactive releases

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.

Description	Status	Indicative date to publish
s9(2)(f)(iv), s9(2)(g)(i)		
Proactive release of weekly updates	We will publish the redacted May weekly updates shortly.	26 June
Proactive release of Letter of Expectations and Strategic Issues Letter	The Treasury proactively released your 2025/26 Letter of Expectations for the Infrastructure Commission on 29 May. We intend to publish our Strategic Issues Letter responding to the Letter of Expectations shortly.	26 June

### 3.8. 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
Infrastructure officials meeting	25 June, 6-6:45pm	Minister, infrastructure officials	Agenda tbc	Geoff Cooper
Infrastructure officials meeting	30 June, 3:30pm-4:15pm	Minister, infrastructure officials	Agenda tbc	Geoff Cooper
Infrastructure and Investment Ministers Group (IIMG)	23 July, 7-8pm	Hons Bishop (Chair), Willis, Brown, Jones and US Court	Agenda tbc	Geoff Cooper
Infrastructure officials meeting	4 August, 3:15pm-4pm	Minister, infrastructure officials	Agenda tbc	Geoff Cooper

### 3.9. 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
None				

[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
Draft National Infrastructure Plan and associated reports	Plan and reports	25 June	The draft National Infrastructure Plan will be publicly released for feedback on 25 June. At the same time, we plan to publish reports that underpin aspects of the Plan, as well as the assessments of applications in Round One of the IPP (see below).
Public Agreement and Community Expectations (PACE) report	Report	25 June	This desktop review looks to answer two main questions: What are our communities’ expectations for infrastructure and its services, and how to pay for it? What are the public perceptions of the relative priorities of infrastructure and services problems and opportunities?
From plans to projects: Assessing how central government plans, funds, delivers, and manages infrastructure	Report	25 June	As part of our work to develop a National Infrastructure Plan, we want to understand whether current policy, regulatory and institutional settings are supporting central government to plan, select, and deliver infrastructure investments efficiently and effectively. To help us understand what’s working and where New Zealand could improve, we have assessed central government system settings against the ‘Public Investment Management Assessment’ (PIMA) framework developed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in 2015.
Infrastructure Needs Analysis (INA) draft results and technical papers, along with draft sector summaries	Report	25 June	This report will provide the draft results of the infrastructure needs analysis we are undertaking to best estimate our long-term infrastructure needs and compare them with current investment intentions to identify gaps and opportunities for recalibration and reforms.
Infrastructure Priorities Programme Round One Assessments	Reports	25 June	We will be publishing the reports for applications assessed in Round One. These reports will include scoring against assessment criteria, the rationale for scores given, and an assessment of investment readiness.

Topic / Title	Type of report	Intended publication date	What this report or publication covers
Pipeline snapshot for quarter ending 30 June 2025	Pipeline report	August	Analysis and high-level insights summarising the Pipeline update and change between quarters.
Nation building: 150 years of infrastructure investment in New Zealand	Research report	August	This report will provide a new long-term database on infrastructure construction prices, infrastructure investment, and size of infrastructure networks, broken down by infrastructure sector. The report will be an important background paper for the Infrastructure Needs Analysis work that is being done as part of the development of the National Infrastructure Plan. We are working with LGNZ to present some of the findings of this report at their all-of-local government meeting on 1 May as part of our publication launch.
People build projects – NZ Infrastructure Leadership Challenges report	Report	August	Drawing from international insights, New Zealand-specific evidence and the voices of our Public Sector Infrastructure leaders, this report will outline the workforce and leadership issues that must be tackled to build a more resilient, capable infrastructure sector.