

# Infrastructure weekly update

For the week starting 25 November 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. National Infrastructure Plan ..... 3
  - 2.2. 2023/24 Annual Review hearing date confirmed ..... 3
  - 2.3. s9(2)(f)(iv), s9(2)(g)(i) ..... 3
  - 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 ..... 8
  - 3.3. Monitoring and performance reports ..... 8
  - 3.4. Upcoming Cabinet papers ..... 9
  - 3.5. Ministerial Official Information Act requests ..... 12
  - 3.6. Departmental Official Information Act requests ..... 12
  - 3.7. Upcoming Ministerial meetings ..... 13
  - 3.8. Upcoming meetings for the Parliamentary Under-Secretary ..... 14
- Appendix A: List of upcoming reports and publications ..... 15
- Appendix B: Key milestones for the National Infrastructure Plan ..... 16

## 1. Actions arising from previous meetings

Meeting date	Agreed action	By whom	By when	Status
None				

## 2. Key issues and updates

### 2.1. National Infrastructure Plan

#### Engagement on the Discussion Document

We have been running in-person workshops to promote submissions on the Discussion Document released on 5 November. The deadline for submissions on the Discussion Document is 10 December at 5.00pm.

On 19 November, two workshops (morning and afternoon) were held in Auckland to support the release of the Discussion Document. About 100 people attended the two workshops representing local government, central government, the private sector, peak bodies and professional services. Two additional workshops have been scheduled to socialise the Discussion Document with members of the Commission's Infrastructure Leadership Network and leadership from Engineering New Zealand, Water New Zealand, Association of Consulting Engineers New Zealand (ACE NZ) and Āpōpō.

*Peter Nunns, Acting General Manager, Strategy*

### 2.2. 2023/24 Annual Review hearing date confirmed

It has been confirmed that our 2023/24 Annual Review hearing with the Transport and Infrastructure Committee will be held at 10:30am on Thursday, 30 January 2025. We will provide you with a heads-up of our speaking points ahead of our appearance.

*Caine Garrity, Acting General Manager, Operations*

### 2.3. s9(2)(f)(iv), s9(2)(g)(i)

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

*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)
Wellington Infrastructure Leaders Network workshop	26 November	We are hosting a Wellington Infrastructure Leaders Network at City and Sea Museum in Wellington that will be in a similar format to the National Infrastructure Plan stakeholder events.
Road Controlling Authority Forum in Wellington	26 November	Peter Nunns, Acting GM Strategy, will be presenting on the National Infrastructure Plan and our research. The Minister of Transport is also scheduled to speak at this forum. The theme of the forum is 'Implementing the new GPS'.
IPP Webinar – Understanding the IPP assessment criteria	27 November	This is a webinar for potential submitters to help them prepare applications. This is part of a series of webinars being led by our IPP team.
Workshop for Engineering New Zealand and other professional bodies to provide an overview of the development of the National Infrastructure Plan	2 December	We are hosting a workshop at our office that will be in a similar format to the National Infrastructure Plan stakeholder events to ensure we engage with Engineering New Zealand and their technical groups on the development of the Plan. While space is limited, we have also extended an invite to the senior leadership of ACE NZ, Āpōpō and Water New Zealand.
Joint Regional Economic Development Committee (Northland)	6 December	Geoff Cooper and Matt Keir have been asked to present on our work programme, messaging/direction to local government on infrastructure development, and the Pipeline.
Presentation to LGNZ National Council	6 December	Geoff Cooper, CE, has been asked to be a guest speaker to discuss the development of the National Infrastructure Plan, along with some of the Commission's research on insurance of infrastructure against natural disasters.
Preparing your IPP application - AMA	10 December	This is a webinar for potential submitters to help them prepare applications. This is part of a series of webinars being led by our IPP team.
Transport Knowledge Conference in Wellington	11 December	Geoff Cooper, CE, is presenting on the National Infrastructure Plan and some of the Commission's recent research.
Briefing for Transport and Infrastructure Committee	12 December	We have accepted an invitation to brief the Committee on aspects of their inquiry into the Northland RONS.
Cross-party briefing on the National Infrastructure Plan for NZ First MPs	12 December (tbc)	This is one of our briefings to other political parties on work to develop the NIP. Hon Shane Jones will attend.
Āpōpō Symposium	12 December	Geoff Cooper, CE to present and give a short Q&A.

Event	Event date	Description (attending/presenting/purpose)
Follow up meetings with Green Party MPs on the National Infrastructure Plan	Late January / February (tbc)	We provided an initial briefing on the NIP to Green Party MPs on 15 October. They have asked for a follow up meeting in the New Year so that they can keep across this work.
2023/24 Annual Review hearing	30 January 2025	Geoff Cooper (CE) and Raveen Jaduram (Chair) will attend this hearing with the Transport and Infrastructure Committee.
Building and Construction Sector Event	18 February 2025	Geoff Cooper, CE, will be the guest speaker at 'Industry Pace' that is a networking event hosted by Carter Holt Harvey and J. A. Russell for a cross-section of industry stakeholders. There will be about 150 people at the event, which will be at the Ellerslie Event Centre in Auckland.
Infrastructure Resilience Conference	18 March 2025	Peter Nunns (Acting GM – Strategy) has been asked to speak at the 'resilience in interconnected infrastructure networks' session for Infrastructure New Zealand's Infrastructure Resilience Conference scheduled for 18 March 2025.
Infrastructure Commission Symposium	25 June 2025	We will be holding our annual symposium in the Beehive Banquet Hall on this date. We will be confirming speakers over the coming months.

*Caine Garrity, Acting 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), s9(2)(g)(i)			
Meeting with the Association of Consulting Engineers NZ on 26 November [TW-2024-515]	22 November	We provided a draft speech on 14 November. This aide memoire will provide further background information for the meeting.	26 November
Queenstown regional visit on 28 November	25 November	We will provide an update of information from the Pipeline and any other regional information.	28 November
Meeting briefing: Auckland panel event on infrastructure (hosted by Stuff and Chapman Tripp) on 2 December [TW-2024-512]	28 November (we sent your office a draft speech on 21 November)	<p>You have agreed to attend and speak at this event; Minister Jones and Chris Hipkins are also speaking. You have been asked to speak about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the NIP - Infracom consultation document, pipeline improvements</li> <li>- the PPP framework</li> <li>- other infrastructure funding and financing work (TSY is leading this).</li> </ul> <p>This aide memoire will provide background information and back-pocket talking points.</p>	2 December

Topic and <a href="#">tracking number</a>	Date due to your office	What this advice covers	Deadline for Minister's feedback
Meeting with infrastructure industry peak groups on 5 December	3 December	This follows up on earlier meetings and correspondence with peak industry groups on infrastructure pipeline and market capacity issues. We will provide background information and talking points as required.	5 December
National Infrastructure Plan: Detailed Plan Outline	19 December	This will provide a detailed outline for the National Infrastructure Plan, with an update on progress to date across each of the workstreams.	tbc
<b>Briefings re reports and publications</b>			
Research report on insurance of infrastructure against natural disasters [TW-2024-514]	Sent 20 November	Provides a heads up on our approach for publishing this report, which is expected to provide information on current approaches to insuring infrastructure assets, across multiple networks, against natural disasters. It will also explore the economic consequences of different approaches to insurance or self-insurance. This report will inform the development of the Infrastructure Needs Analysis for the NIP.	tbc
Māori engagement in infrastructure research [TW-2024-516]	Sent 21 November	This provides information on our plans to publish a final report on our work looking at Māori engagement in infrastructure. This report looks at Māori involvement in the sector as investors, as suppliers, in the infrastructure workforce and as users of infrastructure.	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 US's feedback
s9(2)(f)(iv), s9(2)(g)(i)			

### 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/SOI amendments	Sent 7 November	Amendments to the SOI 2023-2027 and SPE 2024-25 reflecting the changes in functional roles and responsibilities resulting from decisions on establishing the national infrastructure agency.	The amendments to the SPE/SOI were presented in the House during the week starting 18 November 2024.
Annual report	Sent 13 November	Provides the Commission's report on financial and non-financial performance for FY24. Includes the audit opinion.	The Annual Report was presented in the House during the week starting 18 November 2024.
Quarterly Report Q2	Before 31 January 2025	Quarterly Performance Reporting as required under the Owners Expectations issued by The Treasury. The report summarises performance	Reporting for the period October-December 2024 is due no later than 31 January 2025.

Topic	Date due to your office	What this report covers	Timeline
		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.	

### 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
s9(2)(g)(i)				

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

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
Your office requested Health NZ coordinate a joint release with input from the Ministry of Health, Tsy and Te Waihangā	n/a	Proactive release of advice about New Dunedin Hospital	TW's redacted docs sent to Health NZ on 23 October Full bundle sent to joint Ministers for feedback on 14 Nov	Aiming for publication in week beginning 25 November
5 November	s9(2)(a)	Copies of specified papers from Infracom	25 November	2 December
11 November	s9(2)(a)	Treasury lead - Copies of specified papers from Treasury, Rau Paenga and Infracom	Sent to Treasury on 20 November	9 December

### 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
n/a	n/a	Proactive release of advice about the NIP	With your office for review

Date received	Correspondent	Description of request	Date due to send
n/a	n/a	Proactive release of advice about the PPP policy work.	Has been reviewed by your office. With agencies for final check.
18 November	s9(2)(a)	Information about Infracom’s parental leave policy and entitlements	16 December

### 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	25 November, 8:15-8:45am	Minister, infrastructure officials	Agenda tbc	Geoff Cooper
Association of Consulting Engineers of New Zealand (ACE NZ) membership event	26 November, 4:30-5:30pm	Minister Bishop, infrastructure officials tbc	Draft speech provided 14 November. Aide memoire due 22 November.	John Summers
Wellington South Rotary Club event	27 November, noon	Minister	Office will use standard talking points – nothing else required from TW.	John Summers
Queenstown regional visit	28 November	Minister	We will provide an update from the Pipeline	Matthew Keir
Auckland panel event on infrastructure (hosted by Stuff)	2 December	Minister Bishop, also Hon Shane Jones, Rt Hon Chris Hipkins (tbc)	Draft speech provided 21 November. Aide memoire and back pocket talking points due 28 November.	John Summers
New Dunedin Hospital Ministers Group meeting	4 December 12pm	Minister, officials tbc	Agenda tbc – to confirm whether TW is required to attend – any comment needed by midday 3 Dec	Rebecca Robertshawe / Andy Hagan

Meeting	Meeting date	Who will be attending/presenting	Comment / action	TW lead
Weekly infrastructure officials meeting	5 December, 11.30-12pm	Minister, infrastructure officials	Agenda tbc	Geoff Cooper
Meeting with Minister Brown and industry groups (Infrastructure NZ, CCNZ, ACENZ, RMBA)	5 December 12pm	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
Weekly infrastructure officials meeting	9 December, 3:30-4.15pm	Minister, infrastructure officials	Agenda tbc	Geoff Cooper
Accelerated delivery strategy for RONS	10 December, 9am	Joint Ministers – Hons Willis, Jones, Bishop, Goldsmith and US Court	Briefing requirements tbc	
Meeting with Infrastructure New Zealand	12 December, 3.30-4pm	Minister. Infracom can send an observer if desired.	Agenda tbc	Geoff Cooper
Monthly meeting between the Minister and US Court	12 December, 4-4.30pm	Minister Bishop and US Court, officials tbc	Agenda tbc	Andy Hagan / Barbara Tebbs
Weekly infrastructure officials meeting	16 December, 3:30-4:15pm	Minister, infrastructure officials	Agenda tbc	Geoff Cooper
Long-term police infrastructure meeting	December (tbc)	Minister, officials tbc	Agenda tbc	Andy Hagan

### 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
Monthly meeting between the Minister and US Court	12 December, 4-4.30pm	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
Delivering better value and better outcomes: changing practices in infrastructure delivery	Delivery guidance	December TBC	Based on best international practice, this report points to ‘lowest price tender’ as generally giving poor long-term outcomes where major projects are concerned. And highlights some delivery principles that will help government become a better infrastructure client when conceiving, designing and building major infrastructure projects.
Towards better contracts	Delivery guidance	December TBC	Contracts express and drive the relationship between client and delivery partner/s, and as such are a cornerstone of good projects. This report looks at New Zealand government contracting practice and the relationships this drives/supports from the perspective of a number of different agents: client, engineer, lawyer, contractor, etc – highlighting what they’ve said in structured interviews about this.
Aucklanders and their infrastructure	Research report	Week of 9 December	Using recently published research, this report will drill down into several pieces of our published research to provide Auckland-focused insights.
Māori engagement across the infrastructure system	Research report	Week of 16 December	This report looks at Māori involvement the sector in investment, as suppliers, in the infrastructure workforce and as users of infrastructure. [TW-2024-516 refers.]
Insurance of infrastructure against natural disasters	Research Insight	January 2025	This report is expected to provide information on current approaches to insuring infrastructure assets, across multiple networks, against natural disasters. It will also explore the economic consequences of different approaches to insurance or self-insurance. [TW-2024-514 refers.]

## Appendix B: Key milestones for the National Infrastructure Plan

Date	Deliverable	Detail	Current Status
November 2024	Discussion Document: Testing our thinking: Developing an enduring National Infrastructure Plan	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.	The Discussion Document was released on 5 November and engagement will end on 10 December. The feedback will be analysed and reported towards the end of January 2025.
Late-November 2024	Draft plan outline	Outline for the structure of the Plan including early thinking on key issues.	A draft outline is being developed and tested internally. The Minister will be updated in a weekly report later in November.
September to December 2024	Background reports for Infrastructure Needs Analysis	Technical report to inform the development of the Infrastructure Needs Analysis. Background Paper: 'Paying it forward: Understanding our long-term infrastructure needs' was published on 26 September.	Work is underway on a background report on insurance against natural hazards. A draft will be provided to the Minister in December and released in early 2025.
December 2024	Detailed Plan outline	Outline containing information and interim findings from each workstream and noting areas where further work is required.	Work is underway on all workstreams to enable a detailed plan outline to be produced.
February to April 2025	Stakeholder and public engagement	Targeted stakeholder engagement to continue to test out thinking. Public engagement will be undertaken to raise awareness and validate challenges and issues before consultation on the draft Plan.	
February/March 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	Infrastructure Priorities Programme Assessment (Phase 1)	First phase of assessments provided to the Minister and then published on the Commission's website	
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.	
August/September 2025	Infrastructure Priorities Programme Assessment (Phase 2)	Second phase of assessments provided to the Minister and then published on the Commission's website	
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.	