

Infrastructure weekly update

For the week starting 12 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. Minister’s attendance at the Commission’s next Board meeting

The Infrastructure Commission’s Board would like to extend an invitation for the Minister to attend their next meeting – which is on 25 September in Wellington. We will work with the office on options for this.

Anna Moodie, General Manager Operations

2.2. 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 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 PM and Ministers Bishop, Brown, Watts and Jones will also be speaking at this event.
Building Nations 2024 (Infrastructure NZ annual conference), Auckland	28-29 August	Geoff Cooper, Acting Chief Executive, will 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 be providing a pre-recorded statement for this event and 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.
Infrastructure Leaders Meet-Up, Christchurch	2/3 October (tbc)	This event follows from others we have convened, and that you attended, in Wellington and Auckland. Minister Bishop is not available. We are working with US Court’s office on his availability to attend this forum. We have also approached Minister Penk’s office to see if he is available/keen.
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’.

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
PPP policy update and IIMG paper [TW-2024-456]	Midday 12 August	Outlines content for an update to the Infrastructure and Investment Ministers Group meeting on 20 August on the PPP work programme. Reflects direction from the meeting between the Minister and US Court at 4.30pm on 1 August.	Ahead of the IIMG meeting on 20 August
Meeting with Richard De Cani, Arup, on 21 August [TW-2024-458]	19 August	Richard is a former Managing Director of Strategy & Planning at Transport for London, and now the Global Lead for City Planning and Design at Arup. He is also speaking at the LGNZ Conference on 22 August.	21 August
Infrastructure Needs Analysis [TW-2024-454]	22 August	Will provide an update on our approach for developing the INA and drivers for it.	tbc
Briefings re reports and publications			
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 tracking number	Date due to your office	What this advice covers	Deadline for US’s feedback
PPP policy update and IIMG paper [TW-2024-456]	Midday 12 August	Outlines content for an update to the Infrastructure and Investment Ministers Group meeting on 20 August on the PPP work programme. Reflects direction from the meeting between the Minister and US Court at 4.30pm on 1 August.	Ahead of the IIMG meeting on 20 August
Meeting with Richard De Cani, Arup, on 22 August [TW-2024-458]	19 August	Richard is a former Managing Director of Strategy & Planning at Transport for London, and now the Global Lead for City Planning and Design at Arup. He is also speaking at the LGNZ Conference on 22 August.	22 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
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
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 (draft sent to Minister's office on 29 July)	7 August
15 July		Information in relation to the National Infrastructure Plan; and action points from meetings	2 August (draft sent to Minister's office on 31 July)	12 August
29 July		Information about cost pressures and benchmarking of infrastructure costs. Tsy is coordinating.	16 August	26 August
30 July		Copies of three specific InfraCom briefings re regional deals and the NIP	Draft sent to Minister's office on 8 August	27 August
8 August		Copies of three specific InfraCom briefings sent in late July	27 August	5 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
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"> - Policies that were included in the draft plan - Policies that weren't included in the draft plan, and - Previous policies or work programmes from the first Emissions Reduction Plan that were stopped. 	14 August
24 July		Information related to advice on the Waitematā Harbour Connections Project [This is with departments for consultation.]	21 August
26 July [partial transfer from the Minister]		All weekly updates, memos/advice/aides memoire/briefings/updates to the Minister relating to infrastructure between 20 June and 12 July	23 August
2 August		Copies of advice on the use of PPPs for the Defence estate.	30 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
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

Meeting	Meeting date	Who will be attending/presenting	Comment / action	TW lead
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
Meeting with Richard De Cani, Arup	21 August, 12.30pm	Hon Bishop, Richard De Cani, officials tbc	We will prepare a briefing to support this.	tbc
Business Club lunch, Auckland	23 August	Hon Bishop and others tbc	MO to confirm if anything required	tbc
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
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
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
Meeting with Richard De Cani, Arup	22 August, 3.15pm	US Court, Richard De Cani, officials tbc	We will prepare a briefing to support this.	tbc

Meeting	Meeting date	Who will be attending/presenting	Comment / action	TW lead
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
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

[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
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 Asset Management State of Play	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.
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.