

Infrastructure weekly update

For the week starting 26 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
20 August IIMG	Bring a paper on the National Infrastructure Plan to a future IIMG meeting	TW	September or November IIMG meeting (tbc)	Pending

2. Key issues and updates

2.1. National Infrastructure Plan

Work is progressing on the long-term infrastructure needs. We have provided an aide memoire which sets out the scope and methodology for the Infrastructure Needs Analysis and contains an early draft of a report considering the long-term drivers of infrastructure demand [TW-2024-454 refers].

This week, government engagement activities have focussed on further introductory meetings for government entities on the Infrastructure Priorities Programme (IPP) and Infrastructure Needs Analysis, including meeting with the Department of Internal Affairs to focus on how local government will interact with the IPP. We will update all central government CEs next week on the National Infrastructure Plan and likely upcoming information requests to support development of the plan.

The application process for the IPP is now live for central government agencies and we are working with a number of agencies who are preparing to submit proposals. We will be fully opening the IPP to all applicants on 28 August 2024.

Peter Nunns, Acting General Manager Strategy

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)
LGNZ Conference	23 August	Peter Nunns, Acting GM – Strategy will be on a panel discussion about the structure of local government.
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.
Road Efficiency Group workshop	30 August	Peter Nunns, Acting GM – Strategy, will be presenting and then joining a panel-style conversation to share observations on transport. The Road Efficiency Group programme is a partnership between LGNZ, the NZTA and road controlling authorities.
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 and the wider development of the National Infrastructure Plan. 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 have provided speaking notes for this.
Construction Clients' Group Breakfast, Auckland	11 September	Christian Gamst, Senior Adviser Delivery, will present on the infrastructure challenge.
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
Infrastructure Needs Analysis [TW-2024-454]	Sent 22 August	Provides an update on our approach for developing the INA and drivers for it.	tbc
s9(2)(f)(iv)			
Meeting with OECD in Paris, early September	27 August	This background briefing is on Infrastructure Governance Indicators and asset management, including talking points. We will provide this briefing to Treasury, who is coordinating meeting briefs, by 23 August.	Early September (OECD meeting date tbc)
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
Briefings re reports and publications			
Report on Auckland’s infrastructure	27 August	Provides a copy of a draft report that outlines Auckland-specific analysis from our recently-published research reports (primarily those relating to the What’s Fair research programme) as well as other findings and insights relating to infrastructure in Auckland.	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
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
National Infrastructure Pipeline Quarterly Snapshot	22 August	We have prepared a draft media release and sent you a forward copy of the Pipeline that will be published next week.	Release next week
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
29 July	s9(2)(a)	Information about cost pressures and benchmarking of infrastructure costs. Tsy is coordinating.	16 August (draft sent by Treasury to Minister's office on 20 August)	26 August
20 August (original request of 29 July 2024 was clarified with requestor)		Rescoped 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	9 September (10-day extension from original due date of 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
21 August		Copies of an InfraCom briefing sent in late July and our Quarter 4 Quarterly Performance Report	11 September	18 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
24 July	s9(2)(a)	Information related to advice on the Waitematā Harbour Connections Project	21 August (sent to requestor on 16 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 (rescoped on 20 August to be for 7 specified documents)	23 August
2 August		Advice on the use of PPPs for the Defence estate and Defence in any other way	30 August
13 August [partial transfer from the Minister]		Feedback received by InfraCom from agencies used to inform the development of the National Infrastructure Plan [transfer from the Minister for Infrastructure]	10 Sept

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	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, 4:15-4.45pm	Minister, infrastructure officials		Geoff Cooper
Going for Housing Growth officials meeting	27 August, 9am	Minister Bishop and officials	Agenda tbc	Peter Nunns

Meeting	Meeting date	Who will be attending/presenting	Comment / action	TW lead
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
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
Meeting with Jim Donovan, Chair of NZ Utilities Group	11 September	Minister Brown, Tsy officials	Nothing needed from us.	Andy Hagan
Meeting with Pedro Vicente, CEO of CIMIC Group on 12 Sept at 11am	12 September, 11-11:30am	tbc	We will provide a background briefing (due 3pm 10 Sept)	Andy Hagan
Going for Housing Growth officials meeting	12 September, 3:15pm	Minister Bishop and officials	Agenda tbc	Peter Nunns
Infrastructure and Investment Ministers Group	17 September, 7-8pm	Hons Bishop (Chair), Willis, Brown, Jones and US Court	Agenda tbc	
Monthly meeting between the Minister and US Court	23 September, 2.15pm	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		Anna Moodie

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	26 August, 1.45-2.15pm	Minister Bishop and US Court, officials tbc	Agenda tbc	Andy Hagan / Barbara Tebbs

Meeting	Meeting date	Who will be attending/presenting	Comment / action	TW lead
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
Infrastructure Leaders Network meet-up, Christchurch	4 October	US Court. We will prepare a background briefing.		Andy Hagan

[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
Outlining long-run drivers of infrastructure investment and demand	Research report	W/C 9 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.
Aucklanders and their infrastructure	Research report	W/C 9 September	Using recently published research, this report will drill down into several pieces of our published research to provide Auckland-focused insights. We are currently planning to release this at the same time as the paper above.
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.]