

# Infrastructure weekly update

For the week starting 29 July 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
1 July	Set up a meeting to discuss the Asset Management State of Play report	TW	asap	Deferred from 22 July meeting and now on the agenda for discussion at the officials meeting on 29 July. TW-2024-450 refers.

## 2. Key issues and updates

### 2.1. Infrastructure Leaders Network (ILN) Christchurch Meet-Up

Following the success of the Auckland ILN Meet-Up, we are planning the Christchurch event. The panel format featuring you and Under-secretary Court has been highly valued and so we are suggesting a repeat for this final Meet-Up of the year. We are aiming to hold this event during the first week of October (when the House is in recess), with flexibility on the specific day and time to best accommodate your schedule. We have tentatively suggested October 2nd or 3rd.

Thank you for your continued support and participation. Please let us know your availability at your earliest convenience.

*Andy Hagan, GM Delivery*

### 2.2. National Infrastructure Plan

We have included an item in the agenda for our standing officials meeting on 29 July, as an opportunity to discuss any next steps arising from Cabinet consideration of the NIP Cabinet paper.

*Peter Nunns, Acting GM Strategy*

### 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)
Masterclass 2 – Planning and delivering complex projects	25 July	We are hosting an online masterclass for project leaders. This will feature Steve Richards, one of the Transmission Gully reviewers, who will offer reflections from PPP reviews.
Presentation to EDNZ leaders’ group, Wellington	8 August	Geoff Cooper, Acting CE, is to present at this hui for economics leaders, on the Government’s emerging policy direction for infrastructure.
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?’.
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.
Civil Contractors NZ Conference, Invercargill	15-16 August	Geoff Cooper, Acting CE, is to speak about the National Infrastructure Plan and/or be part of a panel to discuss the future of work.
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 Minister will also be speaking at this event. We will aim to supply speaking notes by 7 August.
Building Nations 2024 (Infrastructure NZ annual conference), Auckland	28-29 August	Geoff Cooper, Acting Chief Executive, 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 also wish to speak at 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.
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. The Minister is also scheduled to speak.

*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 <a href="#">tracking number</a>	Date due to your office	What this advice covers	Deadline for Minister’s feedback
Feedback and talking points: draft Cabinet paper ‘Local Water Done Well stage 3’ [TW-2024-447]	Sent 22 July	Sets out the Commission’s feedback to DIA on the draft Cabinet paper “Local Water Done Well stage 3: further decisions”. This is the third in a series of Cabinet papers, from the Minister for Local Government, on the policy settings for Local Water Done Well.	Considered at ECO on 24 July
Infrastructure New Zealand paper on Public Private Partnerships and other infrastructure financing tools [TW-2024-446]	Sent 23 July	Following from a meeting with INZ on 11 July, this aide memoire provides comment on a report from INZ on Financing Models and how it aligns with work InfraCom is leading re PPPs. This is likely to be discussed at the Minister’s next meeting with INZ on 29 July.	29 July
s9(2)(f)(iv)			
Meeting with Joseph Mooney MP in Queenstown on 30 July [TW-2024-448]	Sent 25 July	An overview of infrastructure in Queenstown, with input from the Ministry of Housing and Development, Ministry for the Environment, and NZTA. Includes background, context and talking points.	30 July
Upcoming interview with the NBR [TW-2024-451]	Sent 25 July	Background notes from Geoff Cooper’s interview with Mr Edwards, and talking points for the Minister’s upcoming interview.	Date for interview tbc

Topic and <a href="#">tracking number</a>	Date due to your office	What this advice covers	Deadline for Minister's feedback
Update on Asset Management Performance [TW-2024-450]	25 July	As requested at the officials meeting on 1 July, this briefing provides an overview of asset management performance issues, for discussion on 29 July.	Ahead of the officials meeting on 29 July

s9(2)(f)(iv)

#### 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 <a href="#">tracking number</a>	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
Q4 Quarterly Report	End of July	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).	N/A
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### 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	7 August
15 July		Information in relation to the National Infrastructure Plan; and action points from meetings	2 August	12 August

### 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
10 July	Public Services Commission	Consultation on an OIA that the PSC has received regarding CEs' terms of employment.	We provided our input to PSC on 15 July
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"> <li>- Policies that were included in the draft plan</li> <li>- Policies that weren't included in the draft plan, and</li> <li>- Previous policies or work programmes from the first Emissions Reduction Plan that were stopped.</li> </ul>	14 August
24 July		Information related to advice on the Waitematā Harbour Connections Project	21 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
Weekly infrastructure officials meeting	29 July, 2pm	Minister, infrastructure officials	We will provide an aide memoire re asset management	Geoff Cooper
Meeting with Infrastructure NZ	29 July, 4.45-5.15pm	Minister, Nick Leggett and other INZ officials, Tsy officials, Brendan Herder for InfraCom	Agenda likely to include the recent delegations to Europe, our shared agenda including the Infrastructure Summit, and how we could adopt a more strategic approach to sector engagement leveraging each other's work and capabilities	Brendan Herder
Meeting with Hons Brown and Penk re Public Works Act and Fast Track	29 July, 5.15pm	Officials tbc	Our aide memoire refers	Barbara Tebbs
Monthly meeting between the Minister and US Court	31 July, 5.30-6pm	Minister Bishop and US Court, infrastructure officials as required		Geoff Cooper
Going for Housing Growth officials meeting	1 August	Minister and officials		Peter Nunns
Meeting with Minister Brown and industry groups (Infrastructure NZ, CCNZ, ACENZ, RMBA)	tbc	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

Meeting	Meeting date	Who will be attending/presenting	Comment / action	TW lead
Fortnightly 1:1 Minister and Chair	19 August, 1pm	Minister, Alan Bollard		Alan Bollard
Weekly infrastructure officials meeting	19 August, 1.15-2pm	Minister, infrastructure officials		Geoff Cooper
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

### 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	31 July, 5.30-6pm	Minister Bishop and US Court, infrastructure officials as required	Georgia has sent through the agenda	Geoff Cooper
Meeting with Amber Infrastructure to discuss PPP approaches	1 August, 3.30pm	Amber Infrastructure, US Court, Tsy and InfraCom officials tbc	TW provided talking points by email on 25 July	Andy Hagan
Infrastructure and Investment Ministers Group	20 August, 7-8pm	Hons Bishop (Chair), Willis, Brown, Jones and US Court	NIP is on the agenda.	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
Water metering and leakage	Research report	Week of 29 July 2024	Examines the economic and societal benefits of using water metering and volumetric charging to help solve water network-related challenges. This report and the Transport pricing case studies paper below will be released together. [TW-2024-423 refers.] Draft press releases (for TW and Minister) have been sent to your office.
Transport pricing case studies	Research report	Week of 29 July 2024	This looks at experience of tolling, congestion charging and other forms of pricing and demand management [TW-2024-423 refers]. Draft press releases (for TW and Minister) have been sent to your office.
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)			
Transparency response paper	Response to research	TBC Q3 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.

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.]

s18(d)

