

Infrastructure weekly update

For the week starting 7 October 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 | Scheduled for the 15 October IIMG meeting | Sent to Treasury IIMG Secretariat 1 October |
| 18 September Quarterly meeting between TW officials and Minister Brown | Provide copies of relevant Te Waihangā Research & Insights reports to Minister Brown’s office | TW | No deadline | Pending |
| 23 September infrastructure officials meeting | Support the office to send letters on the NIP to Ministers and government agencies | TW | 27 September | Completed 27 September |

2. Key issues and updates

2.1. National Infrastructure Plan

Regional visits planned

We are organising four regional visits for early November to discuss the development of the National Infrastructure Plan with stakeholders. The events are scheduled for the following times and locations:

- Hastings (6 November)
- Christchurch (12 November)
- Wellington (14 November – ½ day session)
- Auckland (TBC)

We will host a morning and an afternoon session each day where we can provide an overview of our approach to stakeholders and seek their feedback. We are limiting the number of participants for each session to about 40 to encourage a robust discussion. We will also offer a webinar for people who are not able to attend one of our in-person sessions. We are working with local and central government, representative organisations and others to ensure we reach a wide range of stakeholders.

The visits will follow the launch of the discussion document. We will provide you with a briefing on the draft discussion document on 10 October.

Government Agency Forum

The next meeting of the Government Agency Forum has been scheduled for 21 October with the membership and Terms of Reference currently being finalised.

Response to National Infrastructure Plan Letters

We are beginning to receive responses to the letters you sent out to local and central government on 27 September. We will monitor which organisations respond and notify us of lead contacts to support engagement on the National Infrastructure Plan as requested in the letter.

15 October IIMG Meeting

On 1 October, we submitted an update on the National Infrastructure Plan to the IIMG for noting at the 15 October meeting. The paper (a slide deck) covers the scope and purpose of the Plan, the development process, key milestones, communications and engagement, and an overview of each of the five workstreams. Geoff Cooper will be available to speak to the update at the IIMG meeting, if required.

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) |
|--|------------------|---|
| Āpōpō Early Bird – webinar series | 10 October | Peter Nunns, Acting GM – Strategy, will be the guest speaker for this webinar. He will be providing an update on the National Infrastructure Plan and its individual workstreams. |
| National Lifeline Utilities Forum, Christchurch | 17-18 October | Geoff Cooper, CE, 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. |
| Infrastructure Priorities Programme webinar | 23 October | We will be hosting another general overview of the Infrastructure Priorities Programme (IPP) for potential submitters. These are being led by our IPP team. |
| 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’. |
| National Infrastructure Plan – four stakeholder engagement events | 6 to 14 November | We are planning four regional visits between 6 and 14 November to discuss our proposed approach and seek feedback on our development of the National Infrastructure Plan. These are tentatively scheduled to be held in Hastings (6 Nov), Christchurch (12 Nov), Wellington (14 Nov), and Auckland (TBC). We will work with your office on options for you to attend one or more of these events. |
| Transport Group New Zealand – Central branch | 6 November | Nadine Dodge, Principal Economist, will be on a panel discussing transport modelling. |
| Dinner with Infrastructure Partnerships Australia | 11 November | Geoff Cooper, CE, will be attending this dinner with Adrian Dwyer, hosted by the High Commissioner. Hon Nicola Willis will also attend. |
| Webinar on Congestion Charging, Helen Clark Foundation | 20 November | Nadine Dodge, Principal Economist, will be moderating this webinar. |
| 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. |

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 |
|---|-------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| NIP: Further detail on the Infrastructure Priorities Programme [TW-2024-489] | Sent 26 September | Provides further information about the three factors that will be used to assess proposals for the IPP. | None |
| NIP: System integration of the Plan to inform investment decision-making [TW-2024-483] | Sent 26 September | Will describe how the NIP will be integrated into the broader planning and investment system for infrastructure (e.g. through the Government Response, IMS/Budget etc), and roles/responsibilities of Cabinet / Ministers / TSY/ Infracom. | None |
| NIP: Draft update for IIMG | Sent 26 September | Provides a draft paper for you to take to the IIMG meeting of 15 October. Papers for this meeting are due to the Tsy Secretariat by 1 October. | 1 October |
| Final advice, a draft Cabinet paper and draft public facing document for the PPP review | Sent 30 September | Will provide final advice on recommendations to enhance the PPP policy framework, and include a draft Cabinet paper. | None |
| Meeting with Reveal on 7 October | 3 October | Provides background information for this meeting. | None |
| Meeting with Engineering NZ on 10 October | 7 October | Provides background information for this meeting. Draft delivered 13 September [TW-2024-484] | None |
| Hamilton regional visit on 9 October | 7 October | To be commissioned by Minister’s Office if required –pipeline regional information | None |

| Topic and tracking number | Date due to your office | What this advice covers | Deadline for Minister's feedback |
|--|-------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| NIP: Discussion document | 10 October | Provides you with a briefing on the proposed discussion document that will be released for stakeholder feedback in late-October/early November. | tbc |
| NIP: Policy and system reforms | 24 October | Provides the scope and approach to the development of recommended policy and system reforms for the National Infrastructure Plan. | tbc |
| Briefings re reports and publications | | | |
| Asset management State of Play [TW-2024-338] | 3 October | Provides you with the Taking care of tomorrow today: Asset Management State of Play report, ahead of publication. | tbc |
| Research report on insurance of infrastructure against natural disasters | October (tbc) | 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. | 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 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 |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---|--|
| 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) | | | | |

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|---------------|-------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 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 |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---|----------------------|------------------|
| 26 September | s9(2)(a) | Copies of recent briefings and weekly reports | 16 October | 24 October |

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 |
|--|---------------|--|---|
| 13 August [partial transfer from the Minister – CB203] | s9(2)(a) | Feedback received by InfraCom from agencies used to inform the development of the National Infrastructure Plan [2 items relate to NZDF and NZTA feedback] | Decision letter sent 10 September Remaining documents sent 2 October |

| Date received | Correspondent | Description of request | Date due to send |
|---------------|---------------|--|------------------|
| 9 September | s9(2)(a) | All advice delivered on NZTA's NLTP 2024-2027 | Sent 2 October |
| 10 September | | Nine questions about InfraCom staff attendance at courses run by Wall Walks | 8 October |
| 12 September | | All advice on Government Policy Statement on Land Transport and National Land Transport Programme | 10 October |
| 20 September | | Request under both the Privacy Act and Official Information Act for all information relating to his prior OIA. Rescoped on 25 September to be for the information relating to the BusinessDesk media query that led to the scrutiny of the 10% figure. This includes our explanation of how this figure was estimated. | Sent 2 October |
| 25 September | | Original request: "Any information on resource consenting timeframes in New Zealand [including] briefings/memos/aide memoires that have been developed in relation to how long resource consents typically take from application to approval and also time to those projects being finished". Refined on 26 September to just capture any advice (aides memoire, briefings, memos, etc) that has been prepared for Ministers on the issue of consenting times. | 24 October |
| 28 September | | An explanation of why financial figures were redacted in the review of the Dunedin hospital build report, and what this report cost | 25 October |

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 |
|--|---------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Follow-up meeting with industry leaders | October (tbc) | Minister | tbc | Andy Hagan |
| Meeting with Employers and Manufacturers Association (Alan | October (tbc) | Minister Brown | To be commissioned | Andy Hagan |

| Meeting | Meeting date | Who will be attending/presenting | Comment / action | TW lead |
|--|--------------------------|--|--|----------------------------|
| McDonald, Head of Advocacy, Strategy and Finance) | | | | |
| Long-term health infrastructure meeting | 7 October, 2:30-3:15pm | Minister, officials tbc | Health NZ leading on a briefing | Andy Hagan |
| Meeting with Reveal Chief Executive, Sam Wiffen, and Chief Operating Officer, Nick Hearn | 7 October, 4-4:30pm | Minister, Hon Willis and Hon Brown, officials tbc | We will provide an updated aide memoire | Andy Hagan |
| Meeting with Richard Templer, Chief Executive, Engineering NZ | 10 October, 8.30-9am | Minister, officials tbc | We will provide an updated aide memoire [TW-2024-484 refers] | Andy Hagan |
| Meeting with Mark Jurgeleit, Chief Executive, Cello | 10 October, 9:30-10.15am | Minister, officials tbc | Treasury leading on an aide memoire | Andy Hagan |
| Weekly infrastructure officials meeting | 14 October, 8:15-9am | Minister, infrastructure officials | Agenda tbc, | Geoff Cooper |
| Going for Housing Growth officials meeting | 14 October, 6-6:45pm | Minister Bishop and officials | Agenda tbc | Peter Nunns |
| Infrastructure and Investment Ministers Group | 15 October, 7-8pm | Hons Bishop (Chair), Willis, Brown, Jones and US Court Papers are due to Tsy Sec by 1 October | Agenda tbc – includes NIP | Geoff Cooper |
| Long-term police infrastructure meeting | 16 October tbc | Minister, officials tbc | Agenda tbc | Andy Hagan |
| Monthly meeting between the Minister and US Court | 16 October, 5:45-6:15pm | Minister Bishop and US Court, officials tbc | Agenda tbc | Andy Hagan / Barbara Tebbs |
| Weekly infrastructure officials meeting | 21 October tbc | Minister, infrastructure officials | Agenda tbc | Geoff Cooper |
| Going for Housing Growth officials meeting | 23 October, 3:30-4:30pm | Minister Bishop and officials | Agenda tbc | Peter Nunns |
| Weekly infrastructure officials meeting | 4 November, 3:30-4:15pm | Minister, infrastructure officials | | Geoff Cooper |

| Meeting | Meeting date | Who will be attending/presenting | Comment / action | TW lead |
|---|--------------------|---|--|--------------|
| Infrastructure and Investment Ministers Group | 12 November, 7-8pm | Hons Bishop (Chair), Willis, Brown, Jones and US Court Papers are due to Tsy Sec by 29 October | Agenda tbc | Geoff Cooper |
| Auckland panel event on infrastructure | 26 November tbc | Minister | Speech to be commissioned – likely using standard stump messages | John Summers |

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 | 16 October, 5:45-6:15pm | Minister Bishop and US Court, officials tbc | Agenda tbc | Andy Hagan / Barbara Tebbs |
| Infrastructure and Investment Ministers Group | 15 October, 7-8pm | Hons Bishop (Chair), Willis, Brown, Jones and US Court Papers are due to Tsy Sec by 1 October | Agenda tbc – includes NIP | Geoff Cooper |
| Infrastructure and Investment Ministers Group | 12 November, 7-8pm | Hons Bishop (Chair), Willis, Brown, Jones and US Court Papers are due to Tsy Sec by 29 October | Agenda tbc | Geoff Cooper |

[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 |
|---|---------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Setting the direction: Our approach to the National Infrastructure Plan (this is a working title for our discussion document) | Discussion document | Early November (TBC) | We are currently developing a discussion document to share our initial thinking on the development of the National Infrastructure Plan and seek early feedback. We will provide you with an early draft on 10 October. The discussion document will draw upon the Commission’s previous work, including the New Zealand Infrastructure Strategy and further evidence that we have gathered since then. |
| Insurance of infrastructure against natural disasters | Research Insight | TBC Q4 2024 | 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. |
| Taking care of Tomorrow Today: An Asset Management State of Play | Research report | TBC Q4 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 Q4 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.] |
| Aucklanders and their infrastructure | Research report | TBC Q4 2024 | Using recently published research, this report will drill down into several pieces of our published research to provide Auckland-focused insights. |

Appendix B: Key milestones for the National Infrastructure Plan

| Date | Deliverable | Detail | Current Status |
|----------------------------|--|--|--|
| Early November 2024 | Discussion Document: Stakeholder engagement | 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 consultation period is scheduled to commence on 4 November 2024. |
| Mid-November 2024 | Draft plan outline | Outline for the structure of the Plan including early thinking on key issues. | Draft outline is being developed - this will be delivered in November after the Discussion Document is released. |
| September to December 2024 | Background reports on 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. |
| Early/Mid-December 2024 | Interim Report: Infrastructure Needs Analysis | Initial report for targeted external engagement outlining the initial findings across all aspects of the Infrastructure Needs Analysis | Contracts have been procured to undertake work needed to inform the interim report |
| Mid-December 2024 | Detailed Plan outline | Outline containing information and interim findings from each workstream and noting areas where further work is required. | |
| February to April 2025 | Stakeholder and public engagement | Targeted stakeholder engagement to continue to test out thinking. Interactive public engagement to raise awareness seek feedback on key themes and issues. | |
| February 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. | |