NEW ZEALAND
INFRASTRUCTURE
COMMISSION
Te Waihanga

TW-2024-428

Infrastructure weekly update

For the week starting 17 June 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. Estimates hearing

Our Chair (or a delegate) and Chief Executive will be attending the Estimates hearing at the Transport and Infrastructure Committee on 18 June 2024. We will be attending with Treasury and Rau Paenga immediately after your time with the Committee. We have provided you with our responses to the standard Estimates Committee questions. While the Committee's questions are at the "Vote Infrastructure" level, we have responded to the questions at the agency level, with Treasury providing responses for cross-agency responses. While the standard questions focus on detailed agency data, we anticipate questions to primarily focus on the Commission's priorities in the coming financial year. Those priorities are included in our SPE and include: the 30-year National Infrastructure Plan, advice on Resource Management reform (including Fast Track), supporting infrastructure projects and broader system leadership.

Anna Moodie, General Manager, Operations

2.2. New Dunedin Hospital independent review: publication of the terms of reference

The New Dunedin Hospital independent review was provided to Joint Ministers on 30 May 2024. Joint Ministers are scheduled to meet with Infracom, the Reviewers and Health NZ on 18 June to discuss the Review. We will now proceed to publish the Terms of Reference for the Review on our website. Redactions for the Terms of Reference will be agreed with Health NZ, the Ministry of Health and Treasury. The Review report will not be published on our website in accordance with our recommendation that it be withheld pending completion of commercial negotiations between Health NZ and the main contractor. The Minister may wish to proceed to issue his press release formally announcing the Review.

Andy Hagan, General Manager, Infrastructure Delivery

2.3. Scott Base update

Antarctica New Zealand are scheduled to publish an update on the Scott Base project and brief their Minister on 13 June. Assessment of options to redevelop Scott Base commenced in 2017. The initial project budget was approved in 2021 at $344M, then revised in 2022 to approximately $500M. In March 2024, Cabinet withdrew funding and set it aside in tagged capital and operating contingencies to be drawn down at a future date when Cabinet approves a revised Detailed Business Case. Antarctica New Zealand appointed an expert panel to review the project and recommend delivery options within budget. The Board has received the expert report and is to advise their Minister of its recommendations. Antarctica New Zealand is monitored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) who also undertook their own expert review of their monitoring and assurance arrangements and are underway implementing improvements. As part of enhanced assurance, Infracom has joined the MFAT project monitoring group. s9(2)(g)(i) [redacted]

Andy Hagan, General Manager, Infrastructure Delivery

2.4. National Infrastructure Plan Update

The Infrastructure Priorities Programme (IPP) provides a structured independent review of infrastructure proposals and problems in various stages of planning, including initiatives that avoid the need for investment. The IPP will open for applications on 25 June 2024. In advance of this date, we will send you a pack of information including a draft media release and speaking points.

Peter Nunns, Acting General Manager, National Infrastructure Plan

2.5. 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)
Bridging the Infrastructure Gap: Funding and financing for a resilient Aotearoa New Zealand	26 June, 5.30-8pm	Ross Copland will be on a panel at this event, which is to be hosted in the Banquet Hall at Parliament. The focus of the event is the launch of a report by WSP in collaboration with the Helen Clark Foundation.
Webinar on the Infrastructure Priorities Programme	10 July	We are planning a webinar for this date to introduce and explain the Infrastructure Priorities Programme to potential applicants.
Quarry NZ Conference	18 July	Ross Copland will be speaking at this event and sharing the Commission's work on aggregate modelling.
Building Nations 2024 (Infrastructure NZ annual conference)	28-29 August	Ross Copland will be on a panel to discuss ***Uplifting Public Sector Procurement and Delivery Capability***

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
Speech and background information for the NZIQS Conference on 13 June [TW-2024-422]	Updated version sent 10 June	Background information, 10-minute speech and Q&As for your attendance at this Conference in Wellington, alongside Hon Penk (Minister of Building and Construction).	13 June
Infrastructure Leaders Network meet up in Auckland on 14 June [TW-2024-426]	Sent 10 June	Background information and talking points for your attendance at this second INL meeting in Auckland (building on the earlier ILN meet-up in Wellington)	14 June
Local Water Done Well Stage 3 Cabinet papers [TW-2024-429]	Sent 11 June	Provides background information to inform your input to Ministerial consultation on these two Cabinet papers; and talking points for discussion at ECO on 19 June	19 June
Land Transport Revenue Action Plan [TW-2024-427]	Sent 11 June	Provides background information to inform your input to Ministerial consultation on this Cabinet paper; and talking points for discussion at ECO on 26 June	26 June
PPP model and policy development workplan [TW-2024-430]	Sent 13 June	Provides an update on the work underway to enhance the Crown's Public Private Partnership (PPP) model and policies and agree the forward workplan, ways of working, and reporting milestones	18 June (for discussion at your meeting with US Court)
Meeting with Downer CE	17 June	Background information for your meeting with the Downer CE and others on 19 June at 4pm.	19 June

Topic and tracking number	Date due to your office	What this advice covers	Deadline for Minister's feedback
Next steps on infrastructure national direction	tbc	Joint briefing from TW, MfE and MBIE officials to the Ministers of/for RMA Reform, Infrastructure, Local Government and Undersecretary Court setting out proposed next steps for the national direction work programme.	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
Infrastructure Leaders Network meet up in Auckland on 14 June [TW-2024-426]	Sent 10 June	Background information and talking points for your attendance at this second INL meeting in Auckland (building on the earlier ILN meet-up in Wellington)	14 June
PPP model and policy development workplan [TW-2024-430]	Sent 13 June	Provides an update on the work underway to enhance the Crown's Public Private Partnership (PPP) model and policies and agree the forward workplan, ways of working, and reporting milestones	18 June (for discussion at your meeting with Minister Bishop)
Next steps on infrastructure national direction	tbc	Joint briefing from TW, MfE and MBIE officials to the Ministers of/for RMA Reform, Infrastructure, Local Government and Undersecretary Court setting out proposed next steps for the national direction work programme.	Tbc

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
Final SPE	Before 30 June	Provides the Commission's Statement of Performance Expectations, including outputs, outcomes and measures	N/A
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	Proves the Commission's report on financial and non-financial performance for FY24	N/A

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)				

s9(2)(g)(i)

[redacted]

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
30 May	s9(2)(a)	Documents listed in WPQ 10615 (2024) [Tsy is coordinating this. We provided our input on 31 May.]	21 June	27 June
31 May		Documents provided to the Minister between 5 April and 8 May 2024	21 June	27 June

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
23 May	s9(2)(a)	Any advice the Infrastructure Commission has given regarding work on a Waitematā Harbour Crossing, from October 2023 to present	21 June

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
Infrastructure Leaders Network event in Auckland	14 June, 10.30am	Minister Bishop and US Court both attending.	We have provided an aide memoire and talking points [TW-2024-426]	Nicola Richardson
Russell McVeagh board series	14 June, 12-2pm	Minister Bishop	Nothing needed from us	

Meeting	Meeting date	Who will be attending/presenting	Comment / action	TW lead
Property Council New Zealand Rider Levett Bucknall Property Industry Awards 2024	14 June, evening	Minister – not speaking but presenting an award. Rt Hons Luxon and Peters and Hons Penk, Seymour and McAnulty have also been invited.	We have contributed to a background aide memoire and talking points	HUD is leading
Infrastructure officials meeting	17 June, 3-4pm			Ross Copland
Estimates select committee hearing	18 June, 2.15-5pm	Ross Copland and Alan Bollard (or a delegate) and other agencies (Tsy, Rau Paenga)	Tsy is coordinating a briefing for the Minister. We have provided draft responses to questionnaires.	Anna Moodie
Going for Housing Growth meeting	18 June, 4.30pm	Peter Nunns to attend.	Agenda tbc	Peter Nunns
Monthly meeting Minister Bishop/US Court	18 June, 6.30pm	Minister, US Court, MfE and InfraCom officials as required	Agenda tbc – will include PPP workplan, national direction	Barbara Tebbs/Paul Alexander
Joint Ministers meeting re NDH review	18 June, 7pm	Ministers Willis, Bishop, Reti, Jones; NDH reviewers: Robert Rust, Lawrie Saegers and Sam Davis; InfraCom, Tsy and Health NZ officials	Refer our briefing of 30 May [TW-2024-398]	Rebecca Robertshawe
Infrastructure and Investment Ministers Meeting	18 June, 7.30pm	Ministers Willis, Bishop, Brown, Jones, US Court, officials	Agenda and papers distributed 12 June	Ross Copland
Meeting with Downer	19 June, 4pm	Minister Bishop and CE of Downer	We will prepare a background briefing.	John Hemi
Three-monthly meeting: Minister Brown and InfraCom	19 June, 5pm	Minister Brown, Ross Copland	We will have prepared a draft agenda and will provide background information and attend as required.	Ross Copland

Meeting	Meeting date	Who will be attending/presenting	Comment / action	TW lead
RMA Ministerial Group	19 June, 7.30-8.30pm	Ministers and US Court. Barbara Tebbs and Paul Alexander to attend for InfraCom		Barbara Tebbs
Telecommunications Forum	20 June, 2.30pm	Minister Bishop	Agenda likely to focus on RMA (MfE lead), critical infrastructure resilience (DPMC lead).	
Officials meeting	25 June, 9am			Ross Copland
Housing Ministerial Group	25 June, 7.30pm	Hons Willis, Upston, Potaka, Penk and US Court. Peter Nunns to attend for InfraCom	tbc	Peter Nunns
Meeting with Minister Brown and Fletchers	26 June, 12pm	Hons Bishop, Brown and officials (tbc)	We will contribute to a background briefing as required	NZTA is leading
Property Institute speech	26 June, 5.30pm	Minister Bishop	Liz to commission – 10-15min speech and Q&A	
RMA Ministerial Group	26 June, 7pm	Ministers and US Court. Barbara Tebbs and Paul Alexander to attend for InfraCom	Tbc	Barbara Tebbs
Meeting with Meridian re fast track consenting	27 June, 3.30pm	Tbc	We will contribute to a background briefing as required.	Barbara Tebbs
Going for Housing Growth meeting	27 June, 4.15pm	Peter Nunns to attend.	Agenda tbc	Peter Nunns
Fortnightly meeting: InfraCom Chair and Minister	1 July, tbc	Regular fortnightly 1:1 (ahead of standing officials meeting)		Alan Bollard
Officials meeting	1 July, 3.30pm			Ross Copland

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
Infrastructure Leaders Network event in Auckland	14 June, 10.30am	Minister Bishop and US Court both attending.	We have provided an aide memoire and talking points [TW-2024-426].
Civil Contractors NZ (CCNZ) Auckland AGM	17 June	US Court	We have provided input to NZTA for an aide memoire and talking points.
Monthly meeting Minister Bishop/US Court	18 June, 6.30pm	Minister, US Court, MfE and InfraCom officials as required	Agenda tbc
Infrastructure and Investment Ministers Meeting	18 June, 7pm	Ministers Willis, Bishop, Brown, Jones, US Court, officials	Papers will be circulated by the Tsy Secretariat.
Housing Ministerial Group (tbc)	25 June, 7.30pm	Hons Willis, Upston, Potaka, Penk and US Court. Geoff Cooper to attend for InfraCom	Tbc
RMA Ministerial Group	26 June, 7pm	Ministers and US Court. Barbara Tebbs and Paul Alexander to attend for InfraCom	Tbc

[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	TBC 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.]
Transport pricing case studies	Research report	TBC July 2024	This looks at experience of tolling, congestion charging and other forms of pricing and demand management [TW-2024-423 refers].
Transparency response paper	Response to research	July 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].
Taking care of Tomorrow Today: An Asset Management State of Play	Research report	July 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	July 2024	Includes foreword from us, followed by case studies and reflections on introducing water metering commissioned from Pat Dougherty, Director Wellington Water. These are about his experiences introducing water metering in Kapiti and Nelson. [TW-2024-423 refers.]
Māori engagement in Infrastructure	Research report	TBC August 2024 2024	This work aims to deliver on a recommendation in the New Zealand Infrastructure Strategy for 'a 'state of play' of Māori engagement for infrastructure'. It includes both a report into Māori engagement on projects initiated by infrastructure providers as well as a summary of the history of Māori experiences of infrastructure. [TW-2024-383 refers.]

s18(d)