

Officials' Report

For the week starting 18 August 2025



To: Hon Chris Bishop, Minister for Infrastructure

Minister's comments:

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Proactively released on www.tewaihanga.govt.nz

1. Key Updates and Events

1.1. Key Updates

1.1.1. The National Infrastructure Plan

Consultation on the draft National Infrastructure Plan closed on 6 August. We received feedback and submissions from over 2,600 people and organisations via our survey form (including approx. 1,000 responses from a demographically nationally representative panel). We also received over 140 written submissions from sector and local government organisations and individuals. We are continuing to receive a few late submissions, so we expect the final number to increase over the coming week.

Analysis and coding of the feedback is now underway and is expected to take several weeks. Prioritisation of the work programme to complete the Final Plan is also underway and will be discussed at a Board workshop on 21 August.

Peter Nunns, General Manager, Strategy

1.1.2. Media

Media queries

BusinessDesk has requested a video interview with Peter Nunns, GM Strategy, to discuss our report 'Economic performance of New Zealand's construction industry' (2022).

The Press has requested an interview with Peter Nunns, GM Strategy, to discuss our report 'Paying it back: An examination of the fiscal returns of public infrastructure investment' (2025).

Articles

The Commission has contributed an article for the September/October issue of *Water Journal* that focuses on sector research undertaken to support the draft National Infrastructure Plan. A draft of this article was provided to your office.

The Commission has been asked to contribute an article for the September issue of *Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport's* magazine. We will provide a draft of this article to your office before finalising.

Vanisa Dhiru, General Manager, Corporate

1.1.3. Other items

Scott Base Redevelopment

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Other matters to note

Of note, Wellington based contractor LT McGuinness have been appointed to SBR. LT McGuinness intend to incorporate expertise from international contractor Parsons, who have experience with the design and construction of buildings as part of the US Antarctic programme. It is important the SBR project team draw on the experience of other recent Antarctic construction projects, so this collaborative approach is to be commended.

(Further background on SBR project development and early contractor procurement is contained within our Infrastructure Weekly update for the week starting 24 February 2025 refer TW-2025-534, item 2.2).

Andy Hagan, General Manager, Infrastructure Delivery

1.2. Upcoming events

Significant forums or events that Infrastructure Commission staff are presenting at or participating in.

Event	Event date	Description (attending/presenting/purpose)
NZ Asset Management Symposium (Auckland)	14 August	Andy Hagan, GM Investment will be speaking on "From Plans to Performance – Putting the NIP's 'Start-with-Maintenance' Agenda to Work"
NZIER event (Wellington)	14 August	Geoff Cooper, CE, has been invited to speak about the draft National Infrastructure Plan and the Commission's work
Quarry Leaders Forum (Wellington)	19 August	Geoff Cooper, CE has been invited to speak to leaders from the quarry sector about the draft National Infrastructure Plan and the work of the Commission.
Infrastructure Leaders Network Masterclass	19 August	We will be holding a masterclass featuring Blake Lepper, Head of Infrastructure Delivery, Health NZ, on unlocking better infrastructure outcomes.
Taituarā Community Plan Forum (Wellington)	19-20 August	Nadine Dodge, Director Infrastructure Priorities and Evaluation, will be on a panel looking at how local councils could and should be reflecting their approach to risk and resilience in their long-term plans.
IPWEA Conference (Sydney)	25-28 August	Geoff Cooper, CE, is a participant at this event. The theme of the conference this year is 'Shaping Tomorrow's World'.
ICE (Institution of Civil Engineers – UK based) and Enabling Better Infrastructure – NZ community (Wellington)	26 August	Peter Nunns, GM Strategy, will present on the development of the National Infrastructure Plan to members of ICE NZ in Wellington and live-streamed to Auckland members.
Infrastructure New Zealand TIC – Wellington Branch	27 August	Graham Campbell, Director Economics and Research, has been asked to provide a short presentation on the draft National Infrastructure Plan to Infrastructure New Zealand's TIC (The Wellington Collective).
Transportation Group (Engineering New Zealand technical group)	28 or 29 August	Nadine Dodge, Director Infrastructure Priorities and Evaluation, will be providing an update on the Infrastructure Priorities Programme.
Macro Group (Wellington)	12 September	Peter Nunns, GM Strategy, will speak to Macro Group (a group of economists who are interested in macroeconomics) about some of the Commission's recent research.
Commission Webinar	19 September	Peter Nunns, GM Strategy, will discuss finding from the report Nation building: Infrastructure investment in New Zealand, 1870-2022 that's scheduled to be published 3 September.
NZ Automobile Association National Council meeting (Wellington)	26 September	Peter Nunns, GM Strategy, will present to the NZ Automobile Association on the draft National Infrastructure Plan and some of the Commission's other work.

Infrastructure Leaders Network Meet up	13 October	We will be holding an in-person meet up for this group in Christchurch. Minister James Meager has confirmed his attendance and will host the Q&A with a Minister session.
Future Roads Conference (Hamilton)	19-20 November	Peter Nunns, GM Strategy, will provide an update on the development of the National Infrastructure Plan.

Additional upcoming external events that have an infrastructure focus. This list is not exhaustive and is regularly updated.

Event	Event date	Organiser and event description
NZ Wind Energy Association Summit (Wellington)	26-28 August	Annual conference.
Taituarā Conference 2025 (Christchurch)	3-5 September	Annual conference.
Electricity Engineers' Association (Christchurch)	9-11 September	Annual conference.
Constructive Forum (Auckland)	11-12 September	Annual conference for the construction industry. Further information about this event was provided to your office on 8 April.
NZ Airports Hui (Blenheim)	6-8 October	Conference held by the NZ Airports Association.
IWA-Aspire Conference and Water New Zealand Conference & Expo 2025 (Auckland)	20-24 October	Joint event held by International Water Association (IWA) and Water New Zealand. The theme is "Empowering Tomorrow: Smart Water Solutions for Resilient Communities".
NZ Rail Conference (Auckland)	22-23 October	The Minister is scheduled to speak at this conference.
New Zealand Coastal Society Conference (Napier)	18-21 November	Annual conference. The society is an Engineering New Zealand Technical Group.

Vanisa Dhiru, General Manager, Corporate

2. Advice, Reports and Publications

2.1. Upcoming/recent advice and reporting to the Minister

Upcoming and recent advice to the Minister on our work programme and our contribution to the government's wider work programme.

Type and TW Ref	Due to Minister	Title/Description	Minister Action	Status
General Advice				
Aide Memoire TW616	08/08/25	School Property Long Term Investment Plan	Noting	Sent 08/08/25
Aide Memoire TW612	11/08/25	IPP Round 2 Summary Update	Noting	Sent 11/08/25
Aide Memoire TW614	14/08/25	Project Reviews Programme update	Noting	Sent 13/08/25
Briefing TW615	14/08/25	Officials' Report	Noting	Sent 14/08/25
Aide Memoire TW620	14/08/25	Research Insights report for publication: Nation Building: A Century and a Half of Infrastructure Investment in New Zealand	Noting	Sent 14/08/25
Aide Memoire TW619	18/08/25	Pipeline June Update	Noting	Pending
Aide Memoire TW617	20/08/25	Speech for Minister - IPWEA Conference	Noting	Pending
Aide Memoire TW622	20/08/25	Briefing for meeting with IPWEA CEO and Head of Country	Noting	Pending
Monitoring and performance reports				
Nil				

2.2. Publications and Proactive Releases

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. We also proactively release information to promote transparency and considered to be in the public interest. The list below sets out upcoming reports and information that is intended to be published or released. We provide a heads-up to the Minister’s office before publishing.

Publications and Proactive Releases

Topic / Title	Publication or Release date	Description	Type of report	Status
Pipeline snapshot for quarter ending 30 June 2025	22 August	Analysis and high-level insights summarising the Pipeline update and change between quarters.	Pipeline report	Pending
Nation building: 150 years of infrastructure investment in New Zealand	Week of 8 September	This report will provide a new long term database on infrastructure construction prices, infrastructure investment, and size of infrastructure networks, broken down by infrastructure sector. The findings of the report support the Infrastructure Needs Analysis work that is being done as part of the development of the National Infrastructure Plan.	Research report	Pending
Insights for major project delivery	September	This report presents insights around issues that cause problems or cost overruns on major projects, including how to avoid or address these. It is based on international research on megaproject performance alongside local (New Zealand) experiences.	Report	Pending
People build projects – NZ Infrastructure Leadership Challenges report	October	Drawing from international insights, New Zealand-specific evidence and the voices of our Public Sector Infrastructure leaders, this report will outline the workforce and leadership issues that must be tackled to build a more resilient, capable infrastructure sector.	Report	Pending

2.3. Upcoming advice for the Parliamentary Under-Secretary

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.

Type and TW Ref	Due to U-S	Title/Description	Action	Status
Aide Memoire TW621	19/08/25	Background information and talking points to inform meetings with HJ Asmuss & Co and Facilities Management Association	For noting	Pending

2.4. Ministerial Official Information Act requests

Ministerial OIAs that that we are assisting your office with.

Date to TW and Ref	Requester	Description of request	Date due to Minister	Response Due date
OIA25-CB162	Larissa McStay (Labour Leader's Office)	Advice received by the Minister related to his statement regarding jobs generated per billion dollars of infrastructure spend.	21/08/25	29/08/25

2.5. Departmental Official Information Act requests

Advised on a no-surprises basis

Date Received	Requester Type	Description of request	Sent(S) or Due(D) date
25/06/25	Media – Journalist	IPP Round 1 assessments and correspondence	20/08/25 (D)
25/06/25	Media - Journalist	IPP Round 1 Assessments	20/08/25 (D)

Vanisa Dhiru, General Manager, Corporate