

# Infrastructure weekly update

For the week starting 6 May 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
29 January	Provide advice on prioritisation, implications and trade-offs for development of 30-year infrastructure plan	TW	s9(2)(g)(i)	Pending
15 April	Publish Transmission Gully Executive Summary report and Te Waihangā Foreword	TW	3 May	On track
16 April	Provide a briefing on the PPP modernisation scope of work	TW	tbc	Pending
16 April	s9(2)(f)(iv)	TW/Tsy	tbc	Pending

## 2. Key issues and updates

### 2.1. New Dunedin Hospital – s9(2)(f)(iv)

s9(2)(f)(iv)

*Andy Hagan, General Manager Delivery*

### 2.2. s9(2)(f)(iv)

s9(2)(f)(iv)

*Barbara Tebbs, General Manager Policy*

### 2.3. Quarter 3 Performance Report

Attached to this report is our Q3 Performance Report. We continue to make good progress against our SPE outcomes.

This is highlighted in our first Infrastructure Monitoring Report, which tracks progress against our first Infrastructure Strategy. The monitoring report will be released at the Commission's Symposium in May and shows good progress on a number of the Infrastructure Strategy's recommendations. However, the report also highlights that there is much work still to do.

Planning for our next Strategy Report – the National Infrastructure Plan – is also well progressed.

We continue to see strong interest in the Commission’s work. Our report on local government funding received wide reporting across media, and our stakeholder event in Dunedin in March was sold-out. All in-person tickets for the Symposium in Queenstown in May are now sold-out.

*Anna Moodie, General Manager Operations*

## 2.4. Draft Statement of Performance Expectations (SPE)

We are preparing our SPE for FY25 and will provide you with a draft SPE around 13 May 2024 (after our Board meeting).

Under the Crown Entities Act, we were due to provide you with a draft SPE by 30 April. However, because we only received your Letter of Expectations on 15 April, we were unable to meet with the Board in advance of the 30 April deadline to agree how the expectations would be incorporated into the SPE. The Board is meeting on 8 May, and we will provide the draft SPE for your feedback shortly after that.

*Anna Moodie, General Manager Operations*

## 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)
IPWEA International Public Works Conference	30 April – 3 May	Ross Copland, Chief Executive, is presenting at this event.
New Zealand Digital Twin 2024 conference	8 May	John Hemi, Director Construction Productivity will be presenting at this event on the Commission’s 30-year strategy aspirations for Digitalisation. This includes how the Commission is supporting Government to evolve functions and structure that in turn supports the adoption of data and digital, and Te Waihanga aspirations and role in this.
Infrastructure Commission Symposium (Commission event)	9 May	Ross Copland, Chief Executive, will be speaking about the monitoring of the Infrastructure Strategy. Our Board Chair, Dr Alan Bollard, will give a speech about infrastructure issues over the last five years. Other Commission staff will be chairing panels on infrastructure issues, and speaking about their research.
Infrastructure Commission/Queenstown Lakes District Council joint workshop (Commission event)	10 May	Following the Infrastructure Commission’s Symposium, the Commission is co-hosting an event with QLDC with the aim of providing regional infrastructure providers with an opportunity to discuss individual strategies and identify ways to enhance coordination and inform planning. Led by Ross Copland, Chief Executive, and Mike Theelen, Chief Executive, QLDC.

Engineering NZ/ACE NZ	15 May	Ross Copland is speaking at this event, and looking to lead a discussion on what's behind the emerging decrease in confidence about the ability to design and deliver projects within budget.
Wellington Regional Leadership Committee Seminar	15 May	Geoff Cooper, General Manager Strategy, will be presenting on findings from some of the Commission's recent research.
Āpōpō Congress on Asset Management	21 and 22 May	Peter Nunns, Director – Economics, will be presenting on findings from some of the Commission's recent research on 21 May. On 22 May, Ross Copland, Chief Executive, will be moderating a discussion panel. We understand the Minister is also attending.
Wellington Transport Analytics Unit (partnership between GWRC and NZTA): The Future of Transport Infrastructure Funding	29 May	Peter Nunns, Director – Economics, will serve on a panel looking at range of transport funding options.
Infrastructure New Zealand AGM	11 June	Ross Copland will be speaking at this event.
Auckland-based Infrastructure Leaders Network Meet-Up (Commission event)	14 June (8am-12pm)	This event will be based on the successful format of the inaugural Meet-up in Wellington in February. The Minister and US Court are both attending. We are working with your offices to support your attendance.
Local Government New Zealand Infrastructure Symposium	14 June	Peter Nunns, Director – Economics, will present findings of some of our recent research, including infrastructure pricing.

*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
Assessing priority projects for the National Infrastructure Plan [TW-2024-390]	Sent 2 May	The purpose of this briefing is to provide further details on the Commission’s proposed approach to delivering an assessment of Infrastructure Priorities as part of the National Infrastructure Plan.	n/a
Meeting with Reveal on 6 May [TW-2024-395]	2 May	Provides background information for your meeting with delegates from Reveal on 6 May at 4.30pm.	6 May
s9(2)(f)(iv)	2 May	s9(2)(f)(iv)	
Meeting with Infrastructure NZ	6 May	The Minister and Prime Minister are meeting with Infrastructure NZ on Wednesday 8 May. This aide memoire provides background information and talking points.	8 May
Waitematā Harbour Connections s9(2)(f)(iv)	6 May	The Ministry of Transport has invited us to contribute to a joint briefing (also with Tsy) to accompany a draft Cabinet paper on the Waitematā Harbour Connections s9(2)(f)(iv)	tbc
Meeting with GHD	10 May	Provides background information for your meeting with delegates from GHD at 1pm on 14 May.	14 May

<b>Briefings re reports and publications</b>			
Release of Transmission Gully Post Construction Review Executive Summary	Sent 1 May	Following your decision on 15 April to publish the Transmission Gully Executive Summary report and Te Waihanga Foreword, this briefing provides final documents ahead of publication on 3 May.	3 May
Policy papers relating to the 'What's Fair' deep dive work programme	6 May	<p>Informs you of our plan to publish a final report and three policy papers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final report – <i>Paying for infrastructure: What's fair? Insights, findings and recommendations</i></li> <li>• Supplementary papers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <i>How various pricing policies affect households across different income levels</i></li> <li>– <i>Pricing policy simulations</i></li> <li>– <i>Access and quality of four networked infrastructure services</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	For publication the week beg 20 May
Māori engagement in infrastructure – research report	8 May (tbc)	Informs you of our plan to publish a report into Māori engagement on projects initiated by infrastructure providers as well as a summary of the history of Māori experiences of infrastructure development.	For publication 20 May (tbc)
Commentary papers on Infrastructure Pricing Study – research reports	May	Aide memoire will outline key findings from two research reports that consider how Infrastructure Strategy recommendations about transport pricing (congestion pricing/road tolls) and water pricing (volumetric charging/metering) may affect these sectors' performance against the best practice pricing principles outlined in the PwC Infrastructure Pricing Study. These papers are signalled in an aide memoire delivered 23 April [TW-2024-393 refers].	n/a
Aide memoire on OECD Infrastructure Week	9 May	Aide memoire summarizing the OECD Infrastructure Week held in Paris in April and attended by the Commission. We will	n/a

summarize learnings relevant to PPP’s and other infrastructure priorities.

### 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
Review and refresh of the Crown’s PPP policy, framework, and contracting models	Interim AM on the scope of the PPP model review by 9 May, with further interim briefings and milestones tbc ahead of the final briefing on 30 September	The Minister for Infrastructure’s upcoming Cabinet Paper on Infrastructure Funding and Financing will allocate the Parliamentary Under-Secretary responsibility for the review and refresh of the Crown’s PPP, Sale and Leaseback and Unsolicited Proposal policies, frameworks and contracting models. We will work together with the Treasury and other agencies on these matters, with the Commission taking lead responsibility for the PPP Review.	n/a

### 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
Third quarter report for 2023/24	30 April	Reports on progress against measures in the Commission’s Statement of Performance Expectations for 2023/24	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
Minister for [redacted]	s9(2)(g)(i) [redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[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
3 April	s9(2)(a) [redacted]	Copies of specific briefings provided to the Minister for Infrastructure	Sent 17 April	1 May 2024
19 April	s9(2)(a) [redacted]	List of advice received by the Minister for Infrastructure between 26 February and 2 April	Sent 23 April	30 April
1 May	s9(2)(a) [redacted]	Copies of specific briefings provided to the Minister for Infrastructure	7 May	24 May

### 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
14 March	Being coordinated by the Ministry for the Environment	Proactive release of documents relating to Fast Track Consenting. With your office for review.	Asap
4 April	s9(2)(a)	Information regarding expenditure on public relations and communications support by the Infrastructure Commission	3 May Draft reply sent to your office on 30 April.
15 April	s9(2)(a)	Copies of specific documents listed on our website; information about our attendance at upcoming delegations to Europe led by Infrastructure NZ (INZ); copies of email correspondence with INZ and Water NZ (scope tbc).	14 May

### 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
Meeting with Reveal	6 May, 4.30pm	Delegates from Reveal, Minister Brown also to attend.	We provided an aide memoire on 2 May.
Going for Housing Growth meeting	6 May, 2.15pm	Minister Bishop and housing officials, Geoff Cooper/Peter Nunns attending for InfraCom	Agenda tbc
Meeting with Hon Stanford re education	7 May, 6.15pm	Ministers Bishop and Stanford. No officials attending.	No aide memoire required – refer previous briefings for US Court.
Meeting with Infrastructure NZ	8 May, 4.30pm	Prime Minister, Minister for Infrastructure, INZ officials (Nick Leggett and others) to discuss the Government’s infrastructure priorities and how the industry can assist these.	We will provide an aide memoire by 6 May. Officials’ attendance tbc.
Infrastructure and Investment Ministers Group meeting – road revenue	8 May, 5.30pm	Hons Willis, Bishop, Brown, Jones, and US Court. Peter Nunns/Brigit Stephenson for InfraCom	The Ministry of Transport is providing an aide memoire.
Meeting with InfraCom Board (as part of the Minister’s attendance at the Symposium)	9 May, 12.45pm	Hon Bishop and InfraCom Board.	We will provide a draft agenda and papers by 3pm, 7 May
Meeting with GHD	14 May, 1pm	Thabit Shams and Maurice Hoban, GHD. Brendan Herder attending for InfraCom	We will provide an aide memoire by 10 May.
Going for Housing Growth meeting	14 May, 4.45pm	Geoff Cooper/Peter Nunns to attend	Agenda tbc
Meeting re New Dunedin Hospital	21 May, 6pm	Hons Bishop, Reti and Jones	Briefings and officials’ attendance tbc

Climate Priorities Ministerial Group	20 May, 7.30pm	Barbara Tebbs to attend for InfraCom	We will provide input to papers as required.
Āpōpō conference	21 May, 3.30pm	Minister to speak for approx. 10 mins.	We will prepare a speech and Q&A by 14 May.
RMA Ministerial Group	22 May, 7pm	Barbara Tebbs and Paul Alexander to attend for InfraCom	We will provide input to papers as required.
Going for Housing Growth meeting	23 May, 3.30pm	Geoff Cooper/Peter Nunns to attend	Agenda tbc
Infrastructure and Investment Ministers Group meeting	27 May	Hons Bishop, Willis, Brown, Jones and Parliamentary Under-Secretary Court	We will support the Tsy's secretariat as required.
Housing Ministerial Group	28 May, 7.30pm	Hons Willis, Upston, Potaka, Penk and US Court. Geoff Cooper to attend for InfraCom	Tbc
Building Together conference	6 June, 12.30pm	Ministers Willis and Minister Bishop will be on a panel to discuss procurement and funding models, construction and infrastructure priorities	We will provide an aide memoire with context, talking points/FAQs by 4 June.
Meeting with LGNZ	10 June, 1.15pm	LGNZ and InfraCom (attendance tbc)	A briefing is probably not required – tbc
Going for Housing Growth	11 June, 3.30pm	Geoff Cooper and Peter Nunns to attend.	Agenda 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.]

### 3.8. Upcoming meetings for the Parliamentary Under-Secretary

Where requested, we provide support for meetings US Court is attending (in addition to those he attends with the Minister, above).

Meeting	Meeting date	Who will be attending/presenting	Comment / action
None			

## 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
Transmission Gully post-construction review	Project review	W/C 29 April 2024	In August 2020, the Government directed us to oversee an independent review of how the Transmission Gully Project was commissioned. When this was released in April 2021, we were instructed to do a further review once the project was complete. While we expected to have the review finalised in late 2022, finalisation and release of the review has been delayed because Transmission Gully has not been completed to the standard required by NZTA. However, the post-construction review’s Executive Summary and the Commission’s foreword (learnings for future projects) are ready for publication. A meeting with the Minister, Reviewers, NZTA and Commission occurred on 15 April where the Minister agreed to publication of the Transmission Gully report Executive Summary and the Commission’s foreword. A briefing with final documents for release will be provided prior to release.
Paying for infrastructure technical reports	Research notes	May 2024	Series of technical research notes associated with the ‘Paying for infrastructure’ – Deep dive topic.
Monitoring progress against the Infrastructure Strategy	Monitoring report	9 May 2024	This report will show progress against the New Zealand Infrastructure Strategy’s 68 recommendations. This report will meet the monitoring requirements spelled out in our SPE.
Potential sites for aggregate extraction in fast growing regions	Research report	May 2024	This work is being undertaken by GNS and is intended to provide useful spatial planning information to inform local government integrated planning. The product will provide geospatial information on potential aggregate sources in four regions: Auckland, Wellington, Tauranga and Queenstown where supply is currently constrained. Between now and publication we are engaging with the relevant local government agencies and MBIE, and then with the quarrying sector, to ensure the

			final product is fit for purpose. The published geospatial data will be hosted by GNS with free password protected access for users.
Infrastructure pricing	Research Insight	May/June 2024	This is part of a programme of work to develop an economic framework for pricing infrastructure across four sectors – land transport, water, telco and energy. Research to be published includes current pricing analysis done by PwC.
Water metering and leakage	Research report	May/June 2024	Includes cover note and report commissioned from Pat Dougherty, Director Wellington Water, about experiences in introducing water metering.
Transport pricing case studies	Research report	May/June 2024	This looks at experience of tolling, congestion charging and other forms of pricing and demand management.
Māori engagement in Infrastructure	Research report	May/June 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.
Paying for infrastructure – Deep dive topic	Research report	June 2024	Final report of deep dive summarising key findings and recommendations from project and supplementary reports.
<i>Taking care of Tomorrow Today: An Asset Management State of Play</i>	Research report	Q2 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.
Transparency response paper	Response to research	Q2 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].
Auckland's infrastructure	Insights from our research	Q3 2024	Using recently published research, this report will drill down into several pieces of our published research to provide Auckland-focused insights.
Insurance of infrastructure against natural disasters	Research Insight	Q3/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.