

# The Treasury

## Papers seeking approval for the introduction of the New Zealand Infrastructure Commission - Te Waihang Bill 2019 Information Release

May 2019

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### Cabinet Document Details

Title: **Cabinet Minute CAB-19-MIN-0144: Minute of decision for the New Zealand Infrastructure Commission - Te Waihang Bill 2019: Approval for Introduction**

Date: **8 April 2019**

Creator: Office of the Minister for Infrastructure

### Information Withheld

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# Cabinet

## Minute of Decision

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### **New Zealand Infrastructure Commission / Te Waihangā Bill 2019: Approval for Introduction**

**Portfolio**                      **Infrastructure**

On 8 April 2019, following reference from the Cabinet Legislation Committee, Cabinet:

- 1        **noted** that the New Zealand Infrastructure Commission/Te Waihangā Bill holds a category 2 priority on the 2019 Legislation Programme, to be passed in 2019;
- 2        **noted** that the Bill establishes the New Zealand Infrastructure Commission, Te Waihangā, as an autonomous Crown entity with the main function of co-ordinating, developing and promoting an approach to infrastructure that encourages infrastructure, and services that result from the infrastructure, that improve the well-being of New Zealanders;
- 3        **approved** the further policy decisions of authorised Ministers [DEV-19-MIN-0021], that:
  - 3.1      the responsible Minister will be required to respond to the Commission's draft long-term infrastructure strategy within three months (with an extension if a general election occurs during that period);
  - 3.2      the Commission will be required to publish the final long-term strategy within three months of receiving the responsible Minister's comments;
  - 3.3      the government will be required to respond to the long-term strategy within six months of receiving the final strategy (with an extension if a general election occurs during that period);
  - 3.4      the Commission's establishing legislation will provide that the Commission must make an offer of employment to identified Treasury staff carrying out functions that will transfer to the Commission and whose positions at the Treasury will cease to exist because of the establishment of the Commission, on no less favourable terms, and for similar roles (including location in Wellington);
  - 3.5      the Commission's establishing legislation will provide that contracts entered into by the Treasury for the establishment of the Commission are transferred to the Commission once it is established;
  - 3.6      the Commission's establishing legislation will include a provision requiring State sector agencies to provide information to enable the Commission to carry out its functions;

- 4 **agreed** that the Bill include a provision that when providing advice on infrastructure needs and priorities, the Commission must have regard to long-term trends including climate change, as well as having regard to any other matters the Commission considers relevant;
- 5 **agreed** that the Bill bind the Crown;
- 6 **approved** the New Zealand Infrastructure Commission/Te Waihanga Bill [PCO 21915/15.0] for introduction, subject to the final approval of the government caucuses and sufficient support in the House of Representatives;
- 7 **agreed** that the Bill be introduced on 8 April 2019;
- 8 **agreed** that the government propose that:
- 8.1 the Bill be referred to the Finance and Expenditure Committee for consideration;
  - 8.2 the Finance and Expenditure Committee be given a four month deadline to report back the Bill;
  - 8.3 the Bill be enacted by 1 October 2019, which will rely on the second reading, committee of the whole House stage and third reading occurring swiftly.

Michael Webster  
Secretary of the Cabinet

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**Hard-copy distribution:**

Prime Minister  
Deputy Prime Minister  
Minister for Infrastructure