

OC240438

23 May 2024



Tēnā koe 

I refer to your email dated 29 April 2024, requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- *“New Setting of speed limits rule timeline and policy confirmation*
- *Fleet-wide transition to road user charges*
- *Meeting with General Motors on Clean Car Importer Standard*
- *New Zealand Transport Agency: Cabinet paper to progress Chair appointment*
- *Meeting with Minister of Climate Change on ERP2*
- *Update on our 100-day Commitment to Stop Blanket Speed Limit Reductions and Develop a New Rule for Setting Speed Limits*
- *Road safety objectives”*

Of the seven briefings requested, two are released with some information withheld, four are withheld in full and one is refused.

Certain information is withheld and a briefing is refused under the following sections of the Act:

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 9(2)(a)     | to protect the privacy of natural persons  |
| 9(2)(f)(iv) | to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials |
| 18(d)       | the information requested is or will soon be publicly available  |

The document schedule at Annex 1 summarises the above information.

With regard to the information that has been withheld under section 9 of the Act, I am satisfied that the reasons for withholding the information at this time are not outweighed by public interest considerations that would make it desirable to make the information available.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this response by the Ombudsman, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on the Ombudsman’s website [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz)

The Ministry publishes our Official Information Act responses and the information contained in our reply to you may be published on the Ministry website. Before publishing we will remove any personal or identifiable information.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'HAR' followed by a stylized flourish.

Hilary Penman  
**Manager, Accountability and Correspondence**

## Annex 1: Document Schedule

Doc #	Reference number	Title of Document	Proposed decision on request
1	OC240067	New Setting of Speed Limits Rule Timeline and Policy Confirmation	Withheld in full under Section 9(2)(f)(iv).
2	OC240093	Fleet-wide Transition to Road User Charges	Withheld in full under Section 9(2)(f)(iv).
3	OC240133	Meeting with General Motors on Clean Car Importer Standard	Refused under Section 18(d). The briefing is available on the Ministry's website (refer to page – 121) <a href="https://www.transport.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/AdviceProvidedtoSupportConversationswithLobbyingGroups.pdf">https://www.transport.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/AdviceProvidedtoSupportConversationswithLobbyingGroups.pdf</a>
4	OC240153	New Zealand Transport Agency: Cabinet Paper to Progress Chair Appointment	Released with some information withheld under Sections 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(f)(iv).
5	OC231127	Meeting with Minister of Climate Change on ERP2	Released with some information withheld under Sections 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(f)(iv). Note: the information withheld in this briefing is largely context for the transport content in the ERP2 discussion document, which is expected to be published by mid-year. The information withheld could be reconsidered at that point.
6	OC240121	Update on our 100-day Commitment to Stop Blanket Speed Limit Reductions and Develop a New Rule for Setting Speed Limits	Withheld in full under Section 9(2)(f)(iv).
7	OC230999	Road Safety Objectives	Withheld in full under Section 9(2)(f)(iv).

21 February 2024

OC240153

**Hon Simeon Brown**  
**Minister of Transport**

**Action required by:**  
Thursday, 22 February 2024

## **NEW ZEALAND TRANSPORT AGENCY: CABINET PAPER TO PROGRESS CHAIR APPOINTMENT**

### **Purpose**

This briefing seeks your agreement to lodge the attached papers for the Cabinet Appointments and Honours (APH) Committee, outlining your intention to appoint Hon Simon Bridges as Chair of the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA or the Agency) Board.

### **Key points**

- In response to briefing OC240087, you agreed to progress the appointment of Hon Simon Bridges as the Chair of the NZTA Board for a three-year term.
- The papers required to finalise this appointment are attached to this briefing. **Appendix One and Two.**

### *Appointment timing*

- 1 You have indicated that you would like this appointment to be progressed as soon as practicable for the next available APH Committee meeting. The next available meeting is on Tuesday 27 February, with Cabinet confirmation taking place on 4 March 2024.
- 2 To meet these timeframes, the items included in **Appendix One and Two** will need to be lodged by 10am on Thursday 22 February 2024.
- 3 The Ministry proposes a start date of 11 March 2024, if the APH Committee and Cabinet confirm the proposed appointment.

### *Actions underway*

- 4 We are in the process of undertaking referee and background checks. A summary of results to date will be provided in advance of the APH meeting, and the APH paperwork notes that the appointment is subject to a satisfactory background check being completed.
- 5 Mr Bridges has also provided his written consent and disclosure form. No new disclosures have been made since the interview. He has spoken with the Auckland Business Chamber Board about his candidacy, and they are supportive of this appointment.

- 6 At your request, the Ministry will undertake statutory industry consultation on your behalf between the APH Committee and Cabinet meetings. This will be conducted with the list of representative stakeholders provided in OC240087 pending further feedback. A summary of feedback will be provided in advance of the Cabinet meeting.

*Next Steps*

- 7 The appointment can be announced once Cabinet has confirmed the appointment. Officials will provide a draft press release to your office in support of this action.

8 s 9(2)(f)(iv)

**Recommendations**

We recommend you:

- 1 **odge** the papers at **Appendix One** and **Appendic Two** by 10:00am on Thursday 22 February 2024, so that the papers can be considered at the 27 February 2024 APH meeting Yes/ No
- 2 **note** that background checks are underway, and industry consultation will take place immediately after the APH meeting.



David Wood  
**Deputy Chief Executive, Investment and Monitoring**  
 21 / 02 / 2024

Hon Simeon Brown  
**Minister of Transport**  
 ..... / ..... / .....

- Minister's office to complete:**
- Approved  Declined
  - Seen by Minister  Not seen by Minister
  - Overtaken by events

**Comments**

**Contacts**

Name	Telephone	First contact
David Wood, Deputy Chief Executive, Investment and Monitoring	<span style="color: red;">s 9(2)(a)</span>	
Jono Reid, Principal Adviser, Crown Entity Monitoring		✓

Appointment In Confidence

Office of the Minister of Transport

Chair, Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee

## NEW ZEALAND TRANSPORT AGENCY: CHAIR APPOINTMENT

### Proposal

- 1 This paper outlines my intention to appoint the Honourable Simon Joseph Bridges as a member and Chair of the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA or the Agency) Board, for a three-year term commencing on the date of appointment.

### Background

- 2 NZTA is a Crown agent under the Crown Entities Act 2004 and established by the Land Transport Management Act 2003 (the Act). Its core functions are:
  - 2.1 planning land transport networks
  - 2.2 investing in land transport
  - 2.3 managing the State highway network
  - 2.4 providing access to, and use of, the land transport system.
- 3 The Agency's statutorily independent functions are to:
  - 3.1 determine whether certain activities should be included in the National Land Transport Programme
  - 3.2 approve activities as qualifying for payment from the National Land Transport Fund
  - 3.3 approve procurement procedures for land transport activities
  - 3.4 issue or suspend any land transport document or authorisation
  - 3.5 enforce any provisions relating to its functions.
- 4 Under section 98 of the Act, the NZTA Board must have at least seven, but no more than nine members appointed by the Minister of Transport. Under Schedule 5 of the Crown Entities Act 2004, the responsible Minister may appoint one of the members as Chairperson.
- 5 There are currently seven members of the NZTA Board, following the resignation of Dr Paul Reynolds and Patrick Reynolds on 6 December 2023. A list of the current membership is attached.

**Comment**

- 6 I intend to appoint the Honourable Simon Joseph Bridges as a member and Chair of the NZTA Board.
- 7 Mr Bridges replaces Dr Reynolds, who previously served as Chair of NZTA. Deputy Chair Cassandra Crowley has acted in the Chair's role since Dr Reynolds resignation, and I thank her for her service in that role during this period.
- 8 Simon Bridges is a former Cabinet Minister whose current roles include Chief Executive of Auckland Business Chamber, Chair of the National Road Carriers' Chief Executive Advisory Board, and the Chair of the Northern Infrastructure Forum.
- 9 I consider that he will bring a collaborative style of leadership to the Board, as well as a strong public service ethos and work ethic. As a former transport Minister, he is familiar with the issues faced by the Agency as well as the work required to lead the Agency in its delivery of Government priorities. He is also adept in networking and building professional relationships and is excited about the economic development opportunities that can be created through the Agency.
- 10 Mr Bridges advises that he intends to resign from his roles on National Road Carriers and Northern Infrastructure Forum if appointed. He has also committed to refraining from making any public statements on transport in his capacity as Chamber Chief Executive and has agreed strategies with the Chamber's Board to manage perceptions of any conflict of interest.

**Representativeness of appointment**

- 11 I am satisfied the appointment of the Honourable Simon Bridges as Chair will provide for a well-balanced Board in terms of gender, ethnicity, age, geographic representation, and an appropriate mix of skills and experience.
- 12 The appointment of Mr Bridges will result in the board having an equal split of male and female members, a range of ages between mid 40s and early 70s, and two members who identify as New Zealand Māori. Five members are based in urban centres and three members are based in regional towns. Only one member, however, is based in the South Island.
- 13 The collective experience across the Board also covers central and local government knowledge, funding, audit and risk, regulation, land transport engineering, and community perspectives.

**Remuneration**

- 14 The Board is classified as a Group 3a Level 1 Governance Board under the Cabinet Fees Framework. The current fee for the Chair is \$78,540 per annum, which is consistent with the Fees Framework.

### Appointment process and consultation

- 15 I can confirm an appropriate process has been followed in selecting the proposed appointee, in terms of the Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission's *Board Appointments and Induction Guidelines*. In summary, that process included:
- 15.1 public advertising of the Chair role, including a detailed position description, on the Ministry of Transport's website, LinkedIn and The Treasury's Board Appointments Database
  - 15.2 seeking nominations from a variety of sources including the Ministry for Women, Te Puni Kōkiri, Ministry for Pacific Peoples, Ministry for Ethnic Communities, Office for Disability Issues, Public Service Commission, caucus colleagues and other networks
  - 15.3 identifying suitable candidates and undertaking due diligence interviews, referee and other background checks, as well as consultation with coalition partners.
- 16 In addition, section 98(2) of the Act requires that "the responsible Minister must not appoint a board member unless he or she has consulted with the persons, representative groups within the land transport sector or elsewhere, government departments, and Crown entities that he or she considers appropriate." In accordance with this section, the Ministry of Transport will consult the following parties on my behalf following this meeting:
- New Zealand Automobile Association
  - Bus and Coach Association New Zealand,
  - Civil Contractors New Zealand
  - Local Government New Zealand,
  - Motor Industry Association of New Zealand,
  - Motor Trade Association,
  - New Zealand Heavy Haulage Association,
  - Ia Ara Aotearoa Transporting New Zealand (formerly the Road Transport Forum),
- 17 I will provide a verbal update on feedback received at Cabinet.

### Conflicts of interest

- 18 I can confirm appropriate enquiries concerning conflicts of interest have been carried out, in accordance with the Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission's *Board Appointments and Induction Guidelines*, to identify any conflict of interest that could reasonably be identified.
- 19 Simon Bridges is currently Chief Executive of the Auckland Business Chamber, Chair of the National Road Carriers' Chief Executive Advisory Board, and the Chair of the Northern Infrastructure Forum. All present conflicts of interest to various degrees.
- 20 Mr Bridges has advised that he will resign from his roles on the National Road Carriers Advisory Board and Northern Infrastructure Forum if appointed.



- 21 Potential conflicts arising from his role as Chief Executive of the Auckland Business Chamber were discussed with Ministry of Transport officials. Based on the information provided, I am satisfied that there is no direct conflict of interest. This is because the Auckland Business Chamber has a strong delivery focus rather than a policy focus, with advocacy on transport being led by the Northern Infrastructure Forum and the Employers and Manufacturers Association. Ministry of Transport officials noted the Chamber was an active advocate on transport issues during the tenure of Mr Michael Barnett, but Mr Bridges advised that this has not continued under his tenure. The Chamber doesn't have a work programme on transport issues.
- 22 If appointed, Mr Bridges has committed to refrain from making any public statements on transport in his capacity as Chamber Chief Executive. He has discussed his candidacy and proposed mitigations with his Board, who are supportive.
- 23 The NZTA Board has strategies in place to manage any conflicts of interest which may arise, including relevant Board members withdrawing from discussions where appropriate. Any conflicts which may arise can be managed in accordance with NZTA's existing practices.

#### **Timing and Publicity**

- 24 A media statement may be issued if the appointment is confirmed, and Hon Bridges has been notified. Hon Bridges's appointment will also be published in the *New Zealand Gazette* as per the requirements of the Crown Entities Act 2004.

#### **Recommendation**

- 25 It is recommended the Committee notes my intention to appoint The Honourable Simon Joseph Bridges as a member and Chair of the NZTA Board for a three-year term of office commencing on the date of appointment, subject to satisfactory background checks.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Simeon Brown

Minister of Transport

# APH Organisation Form

## Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

***New Zealand Transport Agency – Transport***

### Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) is a Crown agent under the Crown Entities Act 2004.

NZTA aims to undertake its functions in a way that contributes to an effective, efficient and safe land transport system in the public interest. Its functions include managing the state highway system, managing funding of the land transport system, and managing regulatory requirements for transport on land. NZTA has statutory responsibility for allocating funding from the National Land Transport Fund, which is the main central government funding source for the land transport system.

### Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
Vacant (Chair)					
Cassandra Crowley (Deputy Chair)	Female	Waikato	NZ European	23/09/2019	14/05/2026
David Smol	Male	Wellington	European	01/02/2019	31/03/2024
Catherine Taylor	Female	Tasman	European	23/09/2019	14/05/2026
Victoria Carter	Female	Auckland	NZ European	23/09/2019	17/09/2022
John Bridgman	Male	Auckland	NZ European	01/07/2020	31/10/2024
Hon Tracey Martin	Female	Wellington	NZ European	12/11/2021	31/10/2024
Ngarimu Blair	Male	Auckland	NZ Māori (Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei)	12/11/2021	31/10/2024
Vacant					

## Candidate CV Form

<b>Name</b> (family name in upper case; include title if appropriate)	The Honourable Simon Joseph BRIDGES
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### The Position

<b>Organisation/Entity</b>	New Zealand Transport Agency
<b>Position</b> (chair/member etc.)	Chair and member
<b>Term</b>	Three years from the date of appointment
<b>Payment</b> (per day /per year)	\$78,540 per annum


### How the Candidate Meets the Needs of the Position

<p><b>Skills and attributes the candidate will bring to the position</b> (e.g. business skills, community involvement, cultural awareness, regional perspective – as relevant to the needs of the position)</p>	<p>The Honourable Simon Bridges is a former Cabinet Minister, with his Ministerial portfolios including Minister of Transport (2012-17), Energy Communications, Economic Development and Leader of the House. During his tenure as Minister, he rolled-out nation-building infrastructure like Ultra-Fast Broadband, saw construction start on the Peka Peka to Ōtaki, Puhoi to Warkworth and Waikato Expressway projects, and opened major new roads like the Waterview Tunnel. He also implemented policies during this period to grow the electric vehicle market as well as investments to improve public transport options in New Zealand.</p> <p>Since leaving politics Mr Bridges has remained involved in the transport sector including governance roles as the Chair of the National Road Carriers' Chief Executive Advisory Board, and Chair of the Northern Infrastructure Forum. He is the current Chief Executive of Auckland Business Chamber.</p> <p>I consider that he will bring a collaborative style of leadership to the Board, as well as a strong focus on delivery. He will also bring a public service ethos and work ethic. As a former transport Minister, he is familiar with the issues faced by the Agency as well as the work required to lead the Agency in its delivery of Government priorities. He is adept in networking and building professional relationships, and is excited about the economic development opportunities that can be created through the Agency.</p>
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<p><b>Possible conflicts of interest</b></p>	<p>Mr Bridges is currently Chief Executive of the Auckland Business Chamber, Chair of the National Road Carriers' Chief Executive Advisory Board, and the Chair of the Northern Infrastructure Forum. All present conflicts of interest to various degrees.</p>
<p><b>Proposals for conflict management (if applicable)</b></p>	<p>Mr Bridges will resign from his roles on the National Road Carriers and the Northern Infrastructure Forum upon appointment.</p> <p>Mr Bridges will refrain from making any public statements on transport in his capacity as Chamber Chief Executive. He has discussed his candidacy and proposed mitigations with his Board, who are supportive.</p> <p>The NZTA Board has strategies in place to manage any conflicts of interest which may arise, including relevant Board members withdrawing from discussions where appropriate. Any additional conflicts that may arise can be managed in accordance with NZTA's existing practices.</p>

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## The Candidate

<b>Name</b> (family name in upper case; include title if appropriate)	The Honourable Simon Joseph BRIDGES	
<b>Address</b>	s 9(2)(a) 	
<b>Ethnicity(s)</b>	NZ European NZ Māori	
<b>Age range</b>	41 - 49	
<b>Gender</b>	Male	
<b>Current or most recent Employment</b> (specify position and employer, include years)	<b>Date</b>  July 2022 - present	<b>Role</b>  Chief Executive <u>Auckland Business Chamber</u>
<b>Government board appointments held</b> (current and previous, include years)	N/A	N/A
<b>Private and/or voluntary sector board appointments held</b> (current and previous, include years)	<b>Date</b> 2023 – present  2022 – present  2022 – present  2022 – present  2022 – present  <b>Date</b> N/A	<b>Current</b>  Independent Chair – Advisory Board <u>Universal Granite</u>  Independent Chair <u>CC Group</u>  Chair, CEO Advisory Board <u>National Road Carriers Association</u>  Chair <u>Northern Infrastructure Forum</u>  Chair <u>Waste &amp; Recycling Industry Forum</u>  <b>Previous</b>  N/A

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<b>Qualifications and experience</b> (include significant work history and community involvement)	<b>Date</b>	<b>Experience</b>
	2008 – 2022	Member of Parliament - Tauranga <u>New Zealand Parliament</u>
	2018 – 2020	Leader of the Opposition <u>New Zealand National Party</u>
	2012 – 2017	Minister of the Crown <u>New Zealand Parliament</u>
	2001 – 2008	Crown Prosecutor <u>Ronayne Hollister-Jones Lellman</u>
	2000 – 2001	Litigation Lawyer <u>Kensington Swan</u>
	<b>Date</b>	<b>Qualifications</b>
	2005	Bachelor of Civil Law <u>University of Oxford</u>
	2000	Bachelor of Laws (Honours) and Bachelor of Arts (Political Science and History) <u>University of Auckland</u>

Date: 21 / 02 / 2024

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22 February 2024

OC231127

**Hon Simeon Brown**  
**Minister of Transport**

## MEETING WITH MINISTER OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON ERP2

### Purpose

This briefing follows your meeting with officials on 19 February 2024 where you indicated your priorities for the Second Emissions Reduction Plan (ERP2) and provides you with advice for your meeting with the Minister of Climate Change about the delivery of ERP2, on 26 February.

Your colleague is meeting with you to discuss the delivery of ERP2 including:

- informing you of ERP2 process and timeline
- your plans for your key transport pillar: s 9(2)(f)(iv)
- your supporting policies for transport

This meeting also provides you with the opportunity to consider your preferences for what the ERP2 transport chapter consultation could focus on.

### Recommendations

We recommend you:

- 1 **confirm** the key pillar and supporting actions for the transport chapter to be included in the consultation draft are as follows:

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

2

- 3 **note** that we will provide you with a subsequent briefing seeking setting out next steps on the ERP2 transport chapter for public consultation.

*Siobhan Routledge*

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Siobhan Routledge  
**Acting Deputy Chief Executive Policy**  
 22 / 02 / 2024

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Hon Simeon Brown  
**Minister of Transport**  
 .... / ..... / .....

- Minister's office to complete:**
- Approved
  - Declined
  - Seen by Minister
  - Not seen by Minister
  - Overtaken by events

**Comments**

**Contacts**

Name	Telephone	First contact
Siobhan Routledge, Acting Deputy Chief Executive Policy Group	s 9(2)(a)	✓
Erin Wynne, Manager Emissions Reduction Plan II Development team		
Sydney Van Nortwick, Advisor Emissions Reduction Plan II Development team		

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## MEETING WITH MINISTER OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON ERP2

- 1 You have a meeting with Hon Simon Watts, Minister of Climate Change, on Monday 26 February 2024. A draft agenda is included as Annex 1. In his letter (attached as Annex 2), he has requested that you:
  - discuss and agree the priorities within your portfolio
  - outline key deliverables and timeframes for those commitments
  - discuss how you can most effectively work together to deliver your shared objectives.
- 2 You can use this meeting to outline your priorities, your key pillar, your supporting policies for ERP2, and the key questions to be explored during consultation.
- 3 Advice for each agenda item is set out below.

### Agenda item 1: ERP2 Delivery

*Process and timeline: (1.a)*

- 4 The Minister for Climate Change will provide you with information on the legal requirements and process surrounding consultation and delivery of ERP2.
- 5 This discussion will include projections of our paths towards meeting future emissions budgets and our 2050 targets <sup>s 9(2)(f)(iv)</sup>

6

- 7 As part of the ERP2 development process, public consultation on a draft document will be conducted. <sup>s 9(2)(f)(iv)</sup> Transport chapter consultation could focus on the following questions:

<sup>s 9(2)(f)(iv)</sup>

s 9(2)(f)(iv)



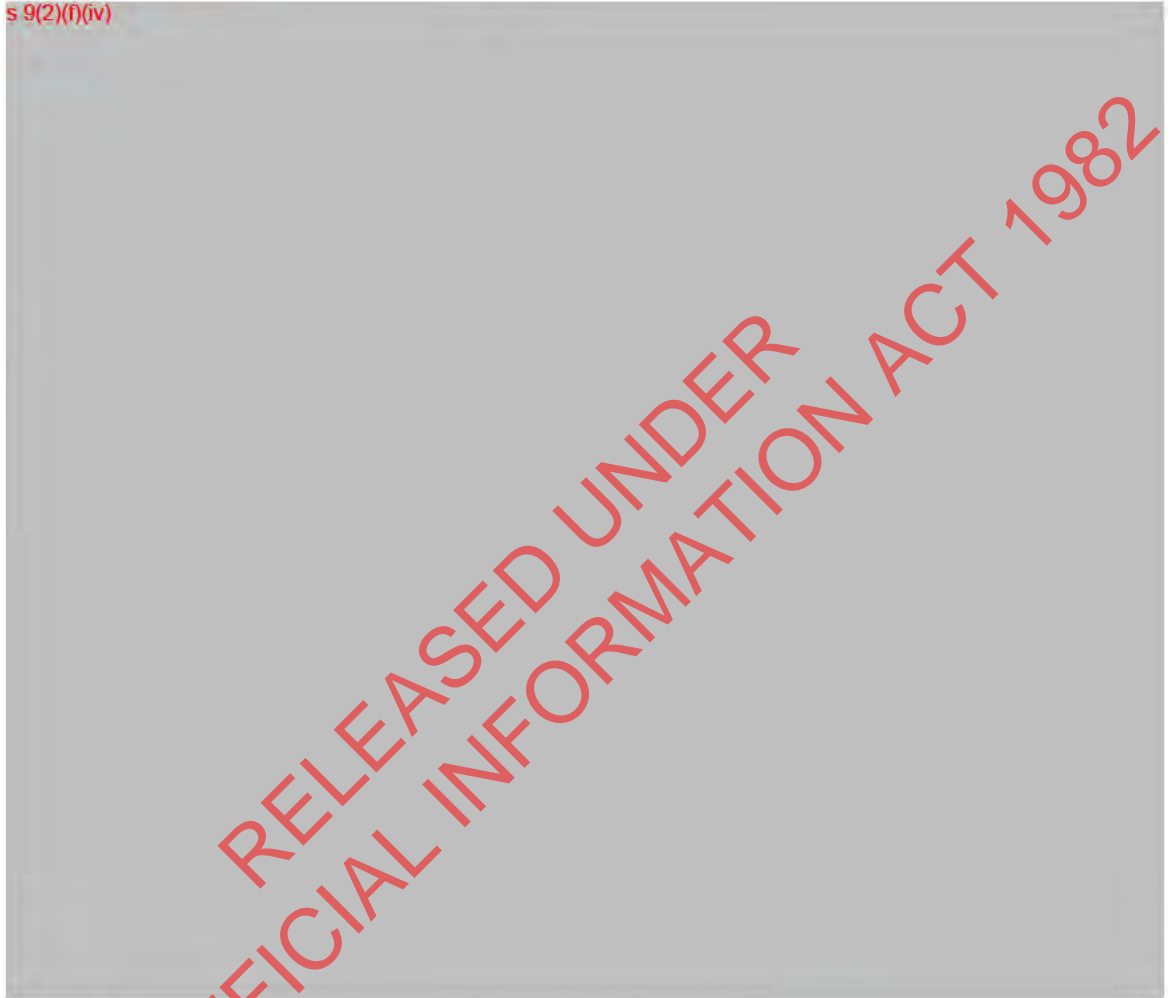
Key Pillar (1.b) s 9(2)(f)(iv)

8

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

9

10



Supporting Policies (1.c)

11

The Minister of Climate Change will also discuss with you s 9(2)(f)(iv) and policies to support your key pillars s 9(2)(f)(iv)

12

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

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s 9(2)(f)(iv)

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s 9(2)(f)(iv)

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

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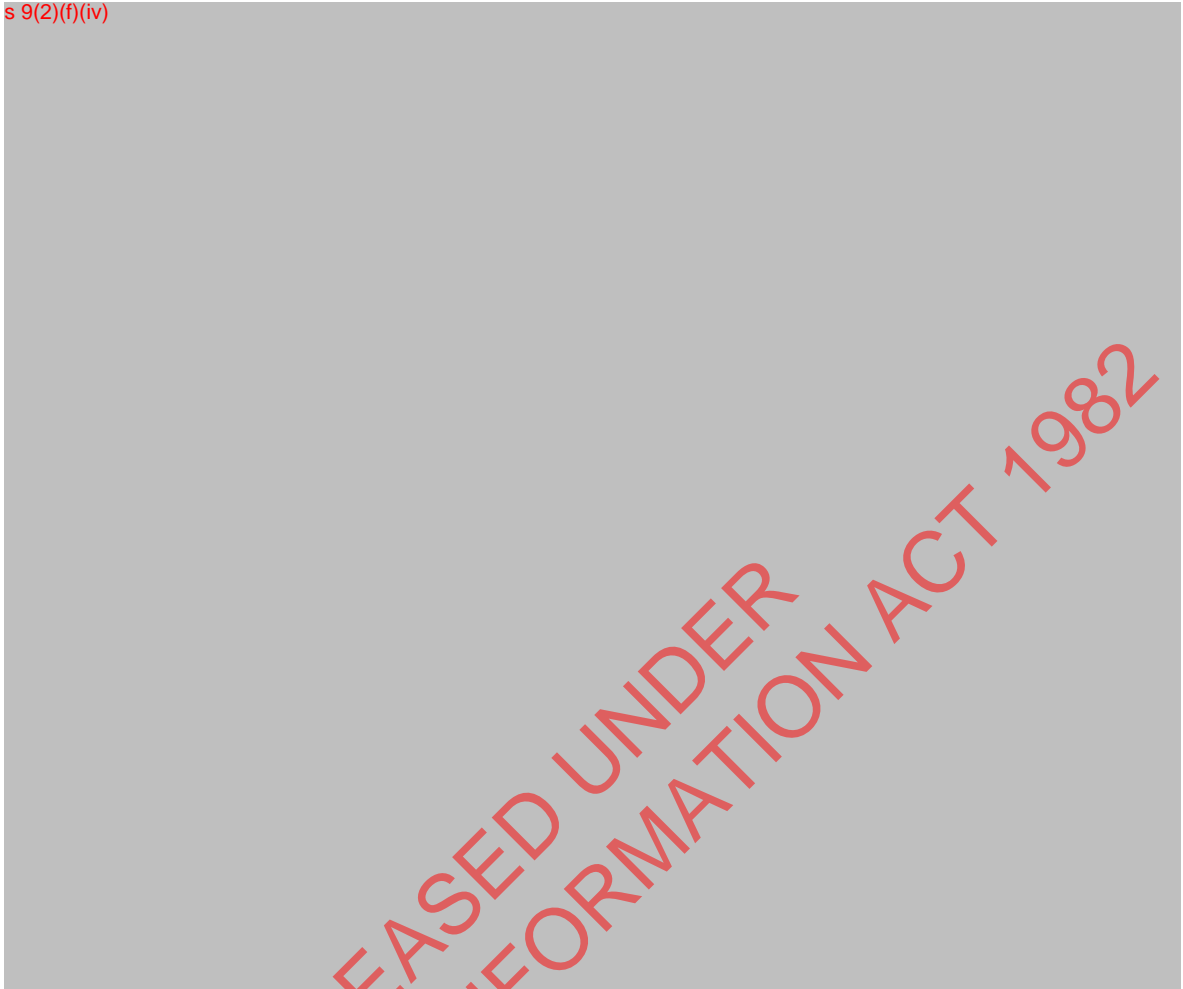
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*Renewable energy and hydrogen (1.c.II)*

28

s 9(2)(f)(iv)



**Agenda item 2 (placeholder): Adaptation Framework**

29

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

30

31



**Next Steps:**

32 Officials will continue to work with MfE to progress development of ERP2, and will draft transport-relevant content. We will continue to brief you on these activities <sup>s 9(2)</sup>  
<sub>(f)(iv)</sub>

[Redacted]

33 <sup>s 9(2)(f)(iv)</sup>

[Redacted]

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**Annex 1: Draft agenda for meeting with Hon. Simon Watts**

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## Agenda for meeting between Minister Brown and Minister Watts

<b>Date and time</b>	Tuesday 27 February 2024, 7.30 – 8.30pm
<b>Location</b>	Minister Brown's Office, 5.1 Executive Wing, Parliament Buildings
<b>Purpose of the meeting</b>	To confirm key climate priorities and agree how Ministers will work together to ensure their delivery.
<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Ministry for the Environment:</b> James Palmer, Secretary for the Environment Sam Buckle, Deputy Secretary, Climate Change Mitigation and Resource Efficiency Steve Goodman, Acting General Manager, Climate Systems and Adaptation <b>Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment officials</b> <b>Ministry for Transport officials</b>

<b>Agenda</b>	<p><b>1. ERP2 delivery</b></p> <p>a. <b>Process and timeline</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>the purpose of this item is to confirm ERP2 process and upcoming opportunities for Ministerial input.</li></ul> <p>b. <b>Key pillars</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>s 9(2)(f)(iv) [REDACTED]</li></ul> <p>c. <b>Supporting policies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>s 9(2)(f)(iv) [REDACTED]</li></ul> <p><b>2. Adaptation Framework</b></p> <p>The purpose of this item is to discuss the s 9(2)(f)(iv) [REDACTED]</p>
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<b>Items</b>	
<b>1a. ERP2 delivery – process and timeline</b>	
<b>Context</b> <p>The second emissions reduction plan (ERP2) is a legislated delivery mechanism for the Government's collective climate change programme to achieve the second emissions budget. It can also ensure New Zealand is on a path towards meeting subsequent emissions budgets and our 2050 targets.</p> <p>Meeting our Climate Change targets provides an economic opportunity. Investing in our response now through renewable energy and innovation can deliver jobs and economic growth, whilst helping to meet changing international expectations and regulatory requirements for better access to key markets prioritising lower emissions products.</p> <p>Prior to the legally required consultation on ERP2, the Minister of Climate Change also <sup>s 9(2)(f)(iv)</sup> [REDACTED]</p> <p>The Government must publish ERP2 by 31 December 2024. This timeframe is tight. Relevant agencies and Ministers will need to prioritise this work. Cabinet will also need to allocate time to consider documents for consultation and publication. Forming a clear agreement across Government in the early part of 2024 is crucial for developing the shape and scope of ERP2 and instructing relevant agencies to prioritise this work.</p> <p>The Government has a legal responsibility to consider advice from the Climate Change Commission. The advice contains recommendations in chapters on the transport and energy sectors, which are being led by MBIE and MOT. MfE will run a process to support agencies to do this, but Ministers will need to be involved in the relevant chapters.</p> <p>Ministerial governance has been established to drive delivery and responsibility for the Government's climate change mitigation and adaptation priorities. The first CPMG meeting has tentatively been scheduled for late February and will be chaired by Minister Watts. Minister Brown's participation will be important as some of the more complex challenges New Zealand faces in meeting climate targets fall within the energy and transport portfolios.</p>	<b>Actions</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Note the timeline for delivering the ERP2 and the <sup>s 9(2)(f)(iv)</sup> [REDACTED]</li></ol>

1b. ERP2 delivery - Key pillars

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

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1c. ERP2 delivery - Supporting policies

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

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## 2. Adaptation Framework

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

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# Hon Simon Watts

Minister of Climate Change  
Minister of Revenue



21 December 2023

Hon Simeon Brown  
Minister for Energy, Minister of Transport  
By email: [S.Brown@ministers.govt.nz](mailto:S.Brown@ministers.govt.nz)

Dear Simeon,

## Delivering our Government's climate priorities – Energy and Transport portfolio bilateral

As you are aware, the Government sees climate change as an economic priority and is absolutely committed to meeting New Zealand's climate targets.

In light of this commitment our Government has a number of key priorities to deliver the emissions reductions needed to meet the climate targets, including:

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

We need to move quickly to action the delivery of these commitments, and 2024 will be a critical year for the Government to design and publish our climate mitigation implementation plan. Your support will be critical to transitioning the Energy and Transport sectors to a low carbon economy.

Given the cross-portfolio nature of the Government's climate work programme, I wish to meet with you early in 2024 to:

1. discuss and agree the climate priorities within your portfolio;
2. map out key deliverables and timeframes for those commitments,
3. discuss how we can most effectively work together to deliver our shared objectives.

My office will be in touch with your office shortly to find a time for us to meet in January if possible.

I look forward to working closely with you this term.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Simon Watts'.

Hon Simon Watts  
Minister of Climate Change

CC: Carolyn Tremain, Chief Executive of the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

Audrey Sonerson, Secretary for Transport