

Reference Number: 2024/1139

1 October 2024

[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for email of 20 September 2024 requesting under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA), information relating to the 2024-2027 National Land Transport Programme. Please see outlined below a response to each part of your request.

To clarify, Horowhenua District Council is a Territorial Authority, and therefore does not cover an entire region. Public Transport in the Manawatu – Wanganui region is primarily provided by Horizons Regional Council. Horowhenua District Council do not directly invest in public transport, but do collaborate with Horizons in public transport planning. We've answered the below questions in terms of NLTF funding, which for Horowhenua, is generally used for the maintenance, renewal and improvements of transport infrastructure.

An estimate of the funding shortfall in your region that has resulted because of recent NLTF changes

NZTA have failed to approve \$6,267,655 of Horowhenua District Council's Land Transport programme between 1 July 2024 and 30 June 2027. This is an overall funding reduction of 19%.

An indication of the programmes and projects that will be affected by this cut in funding, and any re prioritisation that is being considered.

The work programmes affected the most are footpath maintenance and renewals, cycle path improvements, road safety improvements and road resilience improvements. We are currently working to reprioritise these work programmes to adjust to the massive funding reduction.

Any information you have on the groups most likely to be impacted by these changes.

The most direct level of service impact will be to Council's footpath network, where our budget is now insufficient to consistently repair trip hazards and to upkeep the condition of our footpaths. The demographics who will be most affected by this will be people with mobility issues and our elderly population, who are more vulnerable to trip hazards.

Any economic or employment analysis you have undertaken of the likely losses caused by NLTP changes, both direct and indirect.

We have not undertaken any analysis of the nature.

A description of the options being considered to make up any funding shortfalls

Our current financial constraints limit options for making up funding shortfalls, at this stage our focus is mitigating level of service impacts and limiting deterioration of our transport assets as much as possible with our limited budgets.

You are entitled to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Horowhenua District Council publishes responses to Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) requests that we consider to be of wider public interest, or which relate to a subject that has been widely requested. To protect your privacy, we will not generally publish personal information about you, or information that identifies you. We will publish the LGOIMA response along with a summary of the request on our website. Requests and responses may be paraphrased.

If you would like to discuss this decision or any of the information provided as part of this request, please contact Daniel Haigh (Group Manager Community Infrastructure) on danielh@horowhenua.govt.nz, or LGOIMAOfficer@horowhenua.govt.nz.

Ngā mihi



Ashley Huria
Executive Sponsor