

OC230718

11 September 2023

Tēnā koe

I refer to your email dated 14 August 2023 that was transferred to Te Manatū Waka Ministry of Transport, requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- "- Did Waka Kotahi undertake consultation with the disability community/disability advocacy groups and/or with the Ministry of Disabled People while making a decision to not include Total Mobility card holders in the extension of half price fares for public transport?
- If so, can you please send through the responses provided which guided Waka Kotahi to exclude Total Mobility card holders from the half price fares scheme for public transport.
- can you please send through relevant documents or information which highlights the rationale Waka Kotahi relied upon when making the decision to exclude Total Mobility card holders from the half price fares for public transport scheme"

No documents fall directly within scope of your request, however, I have enclosed the Budget 23 Community Connect extension initiative document. This details the scope of the budget bid that provides half price Total Mobility services. Certain information is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act which protects the privacy of natural persons. I note that where documents refer to half price Total Mobility fares, they are referring to fares for half price Total Mobility services.

Cabinet agreed to provide permanent half price Total Mobility fares when considering the next steps after the provision of fuel tax reductions and universal half price fares. The Community Connect budget initiative is the mechanism that provides funding for this decision. Due to Budget sensitively and time constraints, consultation for the development of the Budget 23 bid was limited.

Public transport authorities (typically regional councils) are responsible for operating their public transport network, which includes setting fares. Some public transport authorities have chosen to use Total Mobility eligibility as a criteria to offer their own accessible concessions. The provision of government funding for Community Connect does not prevent public transport authorities from implementing further concessions.

It is also worth noting that the Total Mobility scheme is currently under review and expected to be completed in late 2024. The review will investigate how Total Mobility can be improved to create better outcomes for disabled people which will include assessing the affordability of the scheme for users. This review will be undertaken in parallel to monitoring of the Community Connect scheme since it's launch on 1 July 2023. You can find more about the

Total Mobility review at: www.transport.govt.nz/area-of-interest/strategy-and-direction/total-mobility-scheme/

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

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

Matt Skinner

Manager, Mobility and Safety

Budget 2023 Submission for Invited New Spending Priorities and CERF Initiatives

Section 1: Overview

	Basic initiativ	e informa	tion									
Initiative title (max 120 characters)	Extending Com	Extending Community Connect to under 25 year olds and Total Mobility passengers										
Lead Minister	Minister of Tran	Minister of Transport, Hon Michael Wood Agency Te Manatū Waka Ministry of Transport.										
Initiative description (max 800 characters)	Mobility passen due to an impai services and wi Community Cor mode-shift and	This initiative will expand the Community Connect public transport concession to under 25-year-olds and all Total Mobility passengers (Total Mobility is a bespoke transport service available to those unable to use public transport due to an impairment). Community Connect is a 50 percent concession on the adult fare for peak and off-peak services and will be available to Community Services Card (CSC) holders from 1 April 2023. Expanding Community Connect to these user groups is intended to encourage increased public transport use, supporting mode-shift and meeting the vehicle kilometres travelled (VKT) reduction target. This extension is targeted to be implemented in the second half of 2023.										
Priority area	New Spending – operating initiativ			 Invited capital in Panel process) 	nitiatives (o			rgency ind (CERF)				
Is this a cross- Vote initiative?	No C	lick or tap	here to e	nter text		7						
Department contact	Name: Helen W Phone: s 9(2)(a Email: h.white@)	t.nz	Treasury co (Vote Anal	ntact Physet)	ame: Olivia Ma one: <mark>s 9(2)(a</mark> nail: Olivia.ma)	asury.gvot.nz				
Section 1B: S	Summary of t	unding pr	ofile	N. D.								
Operating funding sought through Budget 2023 (\$m) – Total Mobility Users												
	Operatin	g ranianing soc			<u></u>							
2022/23	2023/24	202	24/25	2025/26	_	' & outyears*		Total				
[•]	2023/24 98.048	91.664	24/25	2025/26 4,065	2026/27 93.636	' & outyears*	377.413					
2022/23 [•] *Extend the profile a	2023/24 98.048	91.664 state" if fundir	24/25 94 ng into outyears	2025/26 1,065 s is irregular. Dele	2026/27 93.636 ete "& outye	* & outyears* ears" for time-l	377.413					
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*Extend the profile a	2023/24 98.048	91.664 91.664 state" if fundir Capital fu	24/25 94 ng into outyears nding sought 27/28	2025/26 4,065 is irregular. Dele through Budget 28/29 29/30	2026/27 93.636 ete "& outye 2023 (\$m 30/31	ears" for time-l	377.413 imited fund					
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*Extend the profile a 22/23 23/24 [•] [•] *Extend the profile a	2023/24 98.048 above to a "steady 24/25 25/2	91.664 91.664 state" if fundir Capital fu 26 26/27 [•]	24/25 ag into outyears nding sought 27/28 [•]	2025/26 4,065 is irregular. Dele through Budget 28/29 29/30	2026/27 93.636 ete "& outye 2023 (\$m 30/31	ears" for time-l	377.413 imited fund	ding.				

Section 2: Alignment

Section 2A: Problem definition

The answer to each question must not exceed 2-3 paragraphs

Describe the problem the initiative is trying to solve by outlining its root cause(s) and consequence(s) and explain why the problem needs to be solved now. The problem should be framed in terms of current and/or future outcome(s) for New Zealanders.

The Emissions Reduction Plan (ERP) includes a transport target to reduce vehicle kilometres travelled (VKT) by cars and light vehicles by 20 percent by 2035. Achieving this target is critical for reducing transport emissions by 41 percent by 2035, as suggested by the Climate Change Commission. The ERP makes significant commitments to make it easier, safer, and more affordable to travel by public transport, rather than by car. It also makes commitments to improve access and travel choice for the disadvantaged. This work has started with the development of Community Connect for Community Services Card (CSC) holders, expected to start 1 February 2023.

Expanding the original concession scheme to include under 25-year-olds and Total Mobility users is an opportunity to improve transport equity and support a just transition by making it more affordable for more people to access key social and economic opportunities (such as jobs, education, and healthcare).

Transport Indicator data demonstrates that lower income households spend a much greater proportion of their income on transport costs than higher income households, and access to health, jobs and other opportunities is much more limited. Lower income households are also much more sensitive to price changes, meaning policies that could increase the cost of motor vehicle travel (such as congestion charging and the ETS) could have a disproportionate impact on these communities. This could exacerbate transport disadvantage and poverty.

What is the problem that this initiative is trying to solve and why does it need to be solved now?

Transport affordability is a key issue for the disability community and can hinder their ability to engage in society. Recent research into transport experiences of disabled people in Aotearoa New Zealand has identified cost as a key barrier for total mobility, as well as availability of services. Te Manatū Waka is currently scoping a review of Total Mobility to investigate these issues further, but in the interim proposes to extend Community Connect to Total Mobility passengers to help address the immediate issue of affordability.

Describe the existing arrangements for the asset or service, including (where applicable):

- How services are currently organised and provided;
 - The associated throughput, turnover, and existing cost; and
 - Current asset or service availability, utilisation, and condition.

Departments should be able to demonstrate why the existing arrangements (if there are any) are insufficient to address the problem outlined above.

Public transport services, including fare settings, are the responsibility of public transport authorities (PTAs). PTAs are regional councils, Auckland Transport, unitary authorities (other than Auckland Council) and territorial authorities that have the public transport function. There are currently a range of different concessions that may be available to under 25s; however, the level of discount and eligibility criteria vary significantly across the country.

Currently, public transport services across Aotearoa New Zealand have half price fares for all passengers until 31 January 2023. From 1 February 2023, Community Connect will provide a 50% discount on public transport for low-income New Zealanders (specifically, CSC holders). However, this scheme does not include Total Mobility users. Some under 25-year-olds will overlap with Community Connect as many students are CSC holders, but not all.

What key partners/stakeholders/customers (including iwi and Māori) have been engaged to understand the problem and develop the initiative? How have you worked with them and how has their input affected the understanding of the problem? You may wish to reference here the key principles of He Ara Waiora

Public Transport Authorities (PTAs) are responsible for public transport services in their regions, that includes rolling out the community connect concession on their services. We expect PTAs will engage



with their local stakeholders, customer including, iwi and Māori as a part of their work to provide public transport services

As part of an evaluation of concession, Transport officials have been and will continue to work with community organisations, as well as government departments Te Puni Kōkiri and Kāinga Ora to make sure we obtain insights on use of the concession among Māori.

Has the initiative been developed in collaboration with any other relevant agencies? If so, explain.

In developing the original community connect concession scheme we worked with the Ministry of Social Development and Ministry of Health. We have been working with Waka Kotahi and PTAs to implement the original scheme. For the extension of the scheme to under 25 year olds and total mobility users we will work with Waka Kotahi, and we will need to work with PTAs

Describe the department's needs in terms of the improvements and/or changes that are required to address the problem. Outline specifically what will be changed or improved relative to existing arrangements.

What needs to improve and/or change to address the problem?

While providing Community Connect for CSC holders will help address public transport affordability for many low income New Zealanders, there are others that may not be eligible for a CSC yet are facing the same challenges with transport costs. Currently, the Community Connect concession will not include Total Mobility passengers and under 25-year-olds. This extension will help reduce transport costs for these population groups and provide them with the opportunity to access education, social and cultural connections, supporting the overall wellbeing of total mobility users and under-25-year-olds.

This initiative will help to address cost barriers to accessing public transport and Total Mobility, for population groups who tend to be more sensitive to price. This initiative will complement further investment in improving and expanding public transport services that low-income New Zealanders can access.

Section 2B: Alignment

The answer to each question must not exceed 1-2 paragraphs. If the initiative has more than one intended outcome, select one of the rows below and click the button that appears at the bottom right to duplicate this section.

Describe how the initiative aligns with the Wellbeing Objectives, and where relevant, delivery of the Government's economic plan to build a high-wage, low-emissions, secure economy.

For CERF initiatives, succinctly outline the relevant CERF eligibility criterion.

The primary Government Wellbeing Objective for this initiative is just transition.

Alignment to the Wellbeing Objectives and the economic plan

This initiative makes a contribution to the Just Transition and Child Wellbeing Objectives. Reducing public transport fares, particularly for low income New Zealanders, is included in the Emissions Reduction Plan, and will support efforts to increase mode-shift towards greater use of public transport. Extending Community Connect to under 25s will make it cheaper for this group to travel and reduce the burden of transport costs on household budgets.

The primary Economic Plan outcome is low emissions.

This initiative is eligible for CERF funding as it aligns to an action in the ERP. It supports Action 10.1.2 of the ERP: Support people to use public transport. Community Connect supports efforts to address equity, specifically, working with local government to make public transport more affordable with a particular focus on low-income users.

Briefly describe any specific implications, including any relevant Treaty Settlement commitments. Guidance on applying the Treaty to policy work can be found here and here.

Specific implications regarding the Crown's obligations under the Treaty of Waitangi While there has not yet been engagement with iwi, it is expected that PTAs will engage with their local stakeholders and customers including, iwi and Māori as a part of their work to provide public transport services in their regions, that includes rolling out community connect concession to CSC holders on their services.

Māori have the second highest rate of disability by ethnic group in New Zealand, at 26%, and have the highest disability rates across every age group (Doran et al 2022, Transport experiences of disabled

people in Aotearoa New Zealand Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency research report 690). Efforts to address affordability of Total Mobility services could have a particular benefit for tangata whaikaha Māori.

Section 3: Value Section 3A: Benefits and outcomes The answer to each question must not exceed 1-2 paragraphs. If the initiative has more than one intended outcome, select one of the rows below and click the button that appears at the bottom right to duplicate this section. The primary Living Standards Framework domain for this initiative is income, consumption and wealth. Goal 1: Improving transport equity What is the initiative intended to achieve in terms of the identifiable and measurable social, economic and/or environmental benefits? What is the specific impact or difference that this initiative will achieve? Provide a brief description of the key benefits that will arise through this initiative, with reference to the wellbeing workings) from the Living Standards Framework that each benefit relates to. You may also wish to reference the key principles of He Ara Waiora. The Wellbeing Impacts Template can be attached to support your answer. For CERF initiatives, refer to section 3.5 of the Budget 2023 Guidance. This initiative will reduce the cost of public transport for total mobility passengers and under 25-year-olds. This cohort includes those with restricted transportation options and students, all of whom are more likely to be What outcome(s) spending a greater proportion of their income on transport and are more sensitive to any changes in transport costs. Additionally, providing the concession to children will alleviate the burden of transport costs on families' would the initiative achieve? budgets. Disabled people are over-represented in low-income brackets in New Zealand and under-represented in highincome brackets. Many will have a CSC, so are eligible for Community Connect, but because the planned concession only applies to public transport, as it does not currently apply to Total Mobility. While Total Mobility passengers currently receive a subsidy on Total Mobility fares, the cost can still be significant, and can pose a barrier for many passengers, Including Total Mobility in Community Connect will reduce the cost of the service for passengers. Explain how the initiative's intended outcomes will be measured after the initiative is implemented. As with the original Community Connect concession, officials will look to establish some baseline information to help assess uptake of the concession. If the initiative has any of the following distributional and/or system impacts, tick the relevant impact(s) and answer additional questions in Section 5 of this template, where applicable: Distributional/system X impacts Māori Pacific Child Poverty Women and **Environment** Regulatory Peoples Girls Systems Indicate if the key benefits will be realised in the short term (<5 years), medium term (5-10 years), long term (>10 years) or inter-generationally. Indicate whether, and why, benefits vary across different timeframes. This can also be done through the Wellbeing Impacts Template (hyperlinked above). The goal will likely be realised in the medium to long term. The exact timeframe is dependent on the extent to which PTAs will adopt the scheme, and how quickly it is implemented across the country. However, based on PTAs' support with the planned concession for CSC holders, we anticipate PTAs will adopt the scheme. It is **Timeframes** also dependent on how many total mobility passengers and under-25-year-olds will take up the concession and see benefit from it. It will take time to change travel behaviours and overcome negative perceptions and experiences of public transport. However, if there is greater and more frequent use of public transport with the concession, and reduced travel by private motor vehicle, we would expect to see a reduction in transport costs for this cohort, which over time could improve transport equity. Provide evidence (data/other information) and assumptions to support the existence and timeframes of the identified benefits, including any gaps or uncertainties. It is optional to attach the Investment Logic Map. This Evidence and can also be done through the Wellbeing Impacts Template (hyperlinked above). assumptions

	We are assuming that:										
	 those eligible for the concession and live near or on frequent and convenient public transport routes are the most likely to take advantage of the concession there will be sufficient capacity with existing public transport services, including sufficient workforce, to cope with the potential increase in demand there will be sufficient Total Mobility services available PTAs' share of funding for Total Mobility services is still made available. 										
	Goal 2: reduce	d transport emiss	sions (with exten	ding to under 25s o	only)						
What outcome(s) would the initiative achieve?	Extending the concession to under 25s may encourage more of this cohort to use public transport and reduce their reliance on private transport options. Note- extending the concession to Total Mobility does not support emissions reductions, although this may change over time should more zero emission vehicles become available that meet the requirements for Total Mobility.										
					otal mobility users ar inged from the past f						
				al and/or system imp plate, where applicat	pacts, tick the releva- ble:	nt impact(s) and					
Distributional/system impacts		\boxtimes									
	Māori	Pacific Peoples	Child Poverty	Women and Girls	Environment	Regulatory Systems					
Timeframes		stained over time.			n the level of uptake ade or PT is expand						
Evidence and assumptions	A key assumption over private motoconvenience and	will use the conce on is that reducing or vehicles. There d availability of ser	the cost of public are other factors vices.	a private motor vehic transport will encou that influence people	on frequent and convole. rage greater use of pe's travel choices, income	ublic transport					
0		ing physical and			nder 25-year-olds and	d in doing so					
What outcome(s) would the initiative achieve?	improve their ac social connectio	cess to jobs, healt ns for total mobility	h and social servi y users and under	ces, and other oppor	rtunities. This could i would provide ment	n turn improve					
	usually by walking health.	ng or cycling. Incre	eased use of public	c transport would the	ry travel to and from erefore support impro	oved physical					
O,	and 3 percent of case for 6.6 per	Māori children we	ere unable to acce Its and 5.8 percen	ss GP services due t of Pacific children.	2019/20, 6.6 percento a lack of transport By comparison, 2 pe	t; this was the					
				al and/or system imp plate, where applical	pacts, tick the releva	nt impact(s) and					
Distributional/system impacts		\boxtimes									
	Māori	Pacific Peoples	Child Poverty	Women and Girls	Environment	Regulatory Systems					

Timeframes

The goal will likely be realised in the medium to long term. The exact timeframe is dependent on the extent to which total mobility users and under 25-year-olds take up the concession and see benefit from it. It will take time to change travel behaviours and overcome negative perceptions and experiences of public transport.

Research from Britain and the United States has found a link between public transport usage and improvements in physical activity and mental health, as well as improved access to healthy food, housing and healthcare.

References:

Ferrer, HB, Cooper, A and Audrey, S (2018), Associations of mode of travel to work with physical activity, and individual, interpersonal, organisational, and environmental characteristics. *Journal of Transport & Health*, 9, 45-55.

Evidence and assumptions

Litman, T. (2018), Evaluating Public Transport Health Benefits. Victoria Transport Policy Institute. http://www.vtpi.org/tran_health.pdf

According to the Ministry of *Transport's Transport Outlook: Current State* (2016), public transport is the safest form of travel in New Zealand. Furthermore, international evidence shows declining per capital traffic fatalities with increased public transport usage.

However, there are some important assumptions:

sufficient workforce, to cope with the potential increase in demand.

We are assuming that those eligible for the concession live near public transport routes that are convenient for accessing health and other services, to support use of public transport instead of a private motor vehicle. We are also assuming there will be sufficient capacity with existing public transport services, including

Section 3B: Expenditure profile and cost breakdown

The answer to each question must not exceed 1-2 paragraphs.

What assumptions, if any, have been used to prepare the costings for this initiative? E.g. for new FTE, salary assumptions, role/seniority, associated overheads. See section 3.3 of the Budget 2023 Guidance on common assumptions.

We have assumed the under 25 concession will apply to adult public transport fares, rather than to child or student fares. Those eligible for, and choosing to access, the concession will pay half the adult fare. This is consistent with how the concession will work for CSC holders. Reasons the concession for under 25s is comparatively high compared to the cost of half-price public transport is that Under 25s are high users of public transport and make up a disproportionate number of public transport journeys as well as there are additional the administrative costs of targeted concessions to provide verification systems to confirm eligibility.

The fare revenue forgone estimates have **not been adjusted for CSC cardholders who are under 25 or are Total Mobility passengers.** This means that the true costs of providing the concession could be lesser than what has been outlined in this template. Data outlining the proportion of under 25 year olds who hold a CSC or use Total Mobility was not available when this initiative was costed.

Formula and assumptions underlying costings

Fare revenue foregone has been estimated with the following key assumptions:

- As above, the estimated patronage numbers covered all under-25 trips, there is no adjustment for existing CSC holders who are under 25 or are Total Mobility passengers
- As with the concession for CSC holders, the concession for under-25s only applies to the adult fare. It does not apply to child or student concessions.
- For the purpose of estimating costs we have estimated forgone fare revenue based on the midpoint between child fares and adult fares. This is likely a conservative estimate. However, given PTAs are responsible for fare setting it is difficult to accurately estimate foregone fare revenue when fare policies could change over time.
- We generally assumed passengers use electronic ticketing. Many regions differ fares by payment type. Cash fares are typically more expensive compared to electronic ticketing.
- Not all regions differ their fares like the above and not all use the same definition for adult and child.
- We assumed the impact of reduced fares might incentivise additional trips, and estimated this
 increase at 16% for the first few years.
- We used the Household Travel Survey to estimate the percentage share of trips taken by under-25s at the regional level.

Public transport authorities' administration costs are based on the following assumptions:

- Similar set up costs to Community Connect for CSC holders, but increased to reflect costs associated with validation requirements for under-25s.
- All Total Mobility users are eligible, so no validation of CSC or any other criteria required.
- Ongoing costs of maintaining the concession, including back office processes, marketing and engagement.

Waka Kotahi administration costs are based on costs identified for the Budget 2022 initiative to implement Community Connect for community Services Card holders, adjusted for inflation using the RBNZ inflation calculator (comparing 2021 Q3 with 2022 Q3).

Provide any formula that has been used to support the calculation of the costings. Alternatively, a spreadsheet of the costing that demonstrates the formula used to calculate the costing can be attached.

Provide a breakdown of total initiative expenditure by individual expense category. <u>Total operating and capital expenses in this section must match the totals in Section 1B: Summary of funding profile.</u> To duplicate these rows for additional rows, select the applicable row below and click the totals in this section 1B: Summary of funding profile.

Operating expenses (\$m)										2)	
Operating expense category	2022	2/23	2023	3/24	2024	/25	2025/2	6	2026/27 8 outyears		Total
Fare revenue foregone from under-25s concession	[•]		71.000		72.000	/<	74.000	D	74.000	:	291.000
Fare revenue foregone from Total Mobility	[•]	[•]		12.000		12.000		7 ,	12.000		48.000
PTA Administration Cost - Ticketing system changes and ongoing maintenance				3.866		0.568			0.568		5.570
PTA Administration Cost - Card distribution			4.560	1	1.011	>	1.011		1.011		7.593
PTA Administration Cost - Communications and marketing		C	0.525		0.525		0.525		0.525		2.100
PTA Administration Cost - Resourcing and customer support	4	P	2.750		3.199		3.199		3.199		12.347
PTA Administration Cost Project management	\ \'		1.020								1.020
Monitoring and evaluation	[•]		0.300		0.300		0.450				1.050
New FTE wage funding	[•]		0.244		0.253		0.393		0.407		1.297
New FTE/contractor overhead funding	[•]		0.123		0.128		0.199		0.206		0.656
Waka Kotahi administration costs	[•]		1.66		1.68		1.72		1.72	(6.78
Total (\$m)	[•]		98.048		91.664		94.065		93.636	;	377.413
*Extend the profile above to	a "steady	state" if fu	unding into	outyears	s is irregula	ır. Delete	. "& outyears	" for tin	ne-limited fu	nding.	
# of new FTEs (incl.	2022	2/23	2023	3/24	2024	/25	2025/2	6	2026/27		Total
contractors) over the forecast period	[•]		[•]		[•]		[•]		[•]		[●]
			Ca	apital exp	penses (\$1	n)					
Capital expense category	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28	28/29	29/30	30/31	31/3	2* Total
Total (\$m)	[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]
*Extend the profile above if	funding is r	needed b	eyond 203	1/32.							

Section 3C: Options analysis

The answer to each question must not exceed 1-2 paragraphs.

Describe how the longlist of options was generated. Briefly summarise each shortlisted option and describe whether and how each shortlisted option would achieve the initiative's intended outcome(s).

The costing of this initiative is based on full Crown funding for the concession on a permanent basis, as was agreed for the original concession. Taking this approach to an extension to under 25s and Total Mobility will incentives uptake of the extended concession among public transport authorities.

Ministers could consider the following options:

- Extend only to under 25s (ie not Total Mobility) this would support public transport affordability and mode-shift objectives
- Extend only to Total Mobility passengers this would address cost barriers for those who rely on Total Mobility services, but does not achieve mode shift and emission reduction objectives. This is costed in the scaled down option.
- Extend half price fares to all public transport users, as is currently in place and has been since April 2022. Extending half-price public transport (and Total Mobility) for the duration of any phasing of petrol excise duty would likely require around \$10 to \$12 million per month. Indicative costs from officials suggest funding of up to \$152 million per annum would be required to maintain reduced fares.
- Provide free fares to all children. Officials estimate a cost of \$40 to 42 million if providing free fares for children under 15 years. The prediction models could only analyse age blocks of five years, and the estimate for providing free fares to under 20 years is \$102 to \$106 million, with approximately double the amount of people benefiting (under-20s was estimated to be 71 million, under 15 estimated to be 38 million).

Note, Cabinet agreed that that half-priced fares for Total Mobility are extended indefinitely, with further details to be agreed by the Minister of Transport when considering next steps on taking action towards fuel prices [CAB-22-MIN-0554 refers]

Describe what analyses and methodologies were used to evaluate the long-list and short-list options. Attach any further Options Analysis and/or Cost Benefit Analysis to support your answer. This could include any He Ara Waiora and/or the Living Standards Framework considerations.

Detail the monetary and non-monetary costs and benefits to the agency, broader public sector, New Zealand society and environment that were included in the options analysis, and how they were quantified, including from a Te Ao Māori perspective.

What was the process used to select the preferred option?

What were the range

of options

considered?

Describe now engagement/consultation with partners/stakeholders/customers, including iwi and Māori, informed the identification and quantification of costs and benefits.

Describe the climate impacts analysis used to support the options analysis, and the selection of the preferred option. Attach the Climate Implications of Policy Assessment (if relevant) and any other supporting evidence.

The Climate Implications of Policy Assessment (CIPA) team has been consulted and confirms that the CIPA requirements do not apply to this proposal as the GHG emissions reductions are not a primary objective of this initiative nor do the GHG emissions impacts surpass the CIPA thresholds.

Describe how the preferred option represents best public value.

What sensitivity analysis was undertaken and how did it influence the choice of preferred option?

Counter-factual question

Explain the implications if funding is deferred or not approved. If there are options (e.g. choosing to reduce either output or quality of an existing service if funding is not approved), detail these here. Explain how the department would address the pressure or problem if the funding is not approved

If the funding is not approved or deferred, the Community Connect concession scheme will still proceed for CSC holders, as funding has already been approved in Budget 2022. This may include some of the cohort that are the focus of this initiative (e.g. the under 25 year olds who are eligible for CSCs).

A review of Total Mobility is expected to occur over the next 12 months, which will look at a range of issues with the scheme, including affordability. If funding for the extension of Community Connect to Total Mobility is not approved, the review may include recommendations relating to affordability of the scheme and if a concession should be applied.

Section 3D: Scaled option

The answer to each question must not exceed 1-2 paragraphs.

Provide a concise overview of the scaled down option to fund this initiative (the funding level below which it would be better to defer the initiative than fund it).

The scaled option below would be to fund an extension of the community connect concession scheme to Total mobility card holders only. If choosing between funding Under 25s or Total Mobility Card holders, the cost of funding concessions to Total Mobility passengers is much cheaper and is considered to be the minimum spend for an extension of Community Connect to be viable.

Scaling option overview

Explain how the initiative's expected outputs and outcomes would differ if fully funded and any risks associated with scaling down.

Extending the concession to only Total Mobility does not support emissions reductions, and will remove most of the emissions reductions and mode-shift gains, as the number of people benefiting from the scheme would greatly reduce.

If the initiative cannot feasibly achieve its objectives without full funding (i.e. scaling option is not viable succinctly explain why (e.g. if the initiative is to purchase a discrete asset at a set price).

Explain the formula and assumptions for the scaled option if they are different from those for the preferred option.

Formula and assumptions for these costings are consistent with those used for the preferred option above.

Provide a breakdown of what the scaled down option would purchase. Add additional rows to the table as needed by selecting a row and clicking the $\stackrel{\blacksquare}{=}$ button that appears at the bottom right.

Operating expenses (\$m)											
Operating expense category	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27 & outyears*	Total					
Fare revenue foregone from Total Mobility concession	[•]	12.000	12.000	12.000	12.000	48.000					
Waka Kotahi Administration costs	[•]	0.240	0.240	0.240	0.240	0.960					
PTA Administration Cost - Communications and marketing		0.250	0,250	0.250	0.250	1.000					
PTA Administration Cost - Resourcing and customer support	[9]	0.688	0.688	0.688	0.688	2.752					
[Name of operating expense category]	Click ortap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.					
[Name of operating expense category]	[●]	[●]	[●]	[●]	[●]	[*]					
Depreciation and/or capital charge (if relevant)	[•]	[●]	[•]	[●]	[◆]	[●]					
New FTE wage funding	[●]	[●]	[●]	[•]	[●]	[0]					
New contractor wage funding	[●]	[●]	[●]	[●]	[●]	[•]					
New FTE/contractor overhead funding	[●]	[●]	[●]	[●]	[●]	[●]					

[Name/type of contingency]	[•]		[●]		[•]		[●]		[•]		[●]	
Total (\$m)	[•]		13.178		13.178		13.	178	13.17	78	52.712	
*Extend the profile above to a "steady state" if funding into outyears is irregular. Delete "& outyears" for time-limited funding.												
# of new FTEs (incl.	2022	/23	2023/2	24	2024/25		2025/26		2	026/27	1	Total
contractors) over the forecast period	[•]		[•]		[•]		[•]		[•]		[•]	
Capital expenses (\$m)												
Capital expense category	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/2	28	28/29	29/30	30/31	31/32*	Total
[Name of capital expense category]	[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]		[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]
[Name of capital expense category]	[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]		[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]	9
[Name/type of contingency]	[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]		[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]	[]
Total	[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]		[•]	11	[•]	[•]	[•]
*Extend the profile above	e if funding	is neede	ed beyond 2	2031/32.						C.		

Section 4: Delivery

Section 4A: Procurement and workforce requirements

The answer to each question must not exceed 2-3 paragraphs.

Describe the key resources (workforce, goods, assets, services) that need to be sourced, including any ancillary services. The answer should align with the initiative description and the problem definition in Section 1A and Section 2A respectively. It is optional to attach the Procurement Plan for the initiative.

This initiative purchases:

What is the initiative purchasing/funding?

- A 50% fare concession for under 25 year olds and Total Mobility passengers. This can also be understood as fare revenue forgone for these user groups.
- Implementation costs for PTAs to implement the concessions
- Implementation costs for Waka Kotahi to implement the concessions, including engagement and communication to promote the concession (focussed particularly on Maori and Pasifika communities)
- Resource for the Ministry of Transport to monitor and evaluate the concession

Describe the market you are looking to procure the above key resources from. Support your answer with evidence of any market testing that has been completed, and any engagement that has been undertaken with the relevant supply markets.

Is there a market that can meet these needs?

Public transport authorities have responsibility for public transport services, including the provision of fare concessions. PTAs will need to work with their ticketing providers (eg Snapper, HOP) to provide the concession on smartcards, and establish necessary back office systems and application processes.

Total Mobility services are provided by private taxi companies. The scheme is administered at a regional level by PTAs, including assessing applications for the scheme.

What is the capacity and capability of the market to provide these resources and how has this been tested?

The half price fares policy has demonstrated willingness and capability to set up a reduction in fares nationwide within short timeframes. However, implementation of targeted concessions require more time to implement. We have seen with Community Connect that PTAs are dependent on their ticketing

providers to provide technical solutions in short timeframes, and this continues to be a challenge in some regions for meeting the 1 February launch date for CSC holders.

For new FTEs and/or contractors, outline occupation and skills area and indicate the market capacity to fill these roles.

What potential suppliers have been identified for the initiative, are they interested in participating in the procurement, and do they have the capacity and capability to meet these needs?

What other competitors are there for similar workforce, goods, and services around the same time as this initiative? Have opportunities to collaborate or strategies to deconflict competing timelines been explored?

Government Procurement Rules

Does the proposed approach align with Government Procurements Rules? If not, on what basis is the initiative exempted?

Section 4B: Risks, constraints, and dependencies

The answer to each question must not exceed 1-2 paragraphs

Describe the main risks associated with this initiative and the proposed mitigations to address these. Focus on the 20% of risks which are likely to provide 80% of the initiative's risk values. It is optional to attach the Risk Register for the initiative.

The main risk associated with this initiative is the availability of public transport services for the concession to be used on. The current bus driver shortage is placing considerable strain on PT networks in many regions, resulting in reduced timetables and cancelled services. Through Budget 2022, \$61 million is being provided over four years to improve bus driver wages and help stabilise the workforce, and further funding is being sought in Budget 2023 to make further improvements to wages and conditions.

What are the main risks?

Committing the Crown to provide transport concessions poses a fiscal risk. Delivery of a half price concession could commit the Crown to absorb fare escalations which it has no control over (as PTAs are responsible for setting fares). To mitigate this risk, officials will provide advice on funding options, such as bulk funding, to mitigate the Crown's on-going financial contribution.

There are also reports from some regions of a reduction in availability of Total Mobility services, with some regions reporting no service providers. Te Manatū Waka intends to start a review of Total Mobility in this financial year, to look at the current issues with the scheme, and identify potential improvements

Describe any key constraints that have been and/or could be placed on the initiative.

What are the key constraints?

Extending the concession to a greater number of passengers could increase demand for public transport services, which are already under pressure as outlined above. Increased demand in services can put further constraints in delivering the proposed services.

It will also require extra resources for PTAs in issuing discount cards, setting up application processes and back office systems – these will take time to deliver.

Describe any key dependencies that are outside the scope of the initiative and may determine the initiative's success.

What are the key dependencies?

This initiative depends on the following agencies, service providers and other work streams:

- Public Transport Authorities and their ticketing providers
- Waka Kotahi,
- Taxi services providers,
- Other initiatives that are underway for example budget bid for 2023 for bus driver wages, cost pressure bids for funding shortfalls for PTAs

Section 4C: Governance and timeframes

The answer to each question must not exceed 1-2 paragraphs.

What are the governance arrangements for this initiative?

What is the governance structure, including decision making and any advisory groups? It is optional to attach the Governance Diagram showing the governance structure.

Governance arrangements for the original community connect concession scheme will apply to the proposed extension. Waka Kotahi will be chairing a cross-agency governance group, with representatives from MoT, Waka Kotahi and PTAs. MSD will also be represented, due to their role in administering the CSC. A project team comprising central government agencies is also in place, and will be used for implementation of the extension. Explain how the governance structure provides for input from partners/stakeholders/customers, including iwi and Māori? Public Transport authorities, as a part of their delivery responsibility will engage with their key stakeholders and customers to whom they are providing services to. This will include iwi and Māori group. Outline key milestones and the expected timeframe for the delivery of these milestones. When will the responsible Minister(s) receive information on implementation and delivery of this initiative? Timeframes and monitoring Quarterly report to Ministers on CERF will be the main reporting. Community Connect will be evaluated four years after launch (ie 2027).

Section 4D: Demonstrating performance

The answer to each question must not exceed 1-2 paragraphs.

Does this meet the threshold of a significant initiative? Is it part of an existing strategy/work programme / initiative with existing reporting, and if so what is it called?

Outline the type (or types) of evaluation planned and their timeframe(s). Indicate what funding is proposed to be allocated for evaluation.

Describe the performance information that would be included in the Estimates if this initiative was funded, or if the performance information in the Estimates is not expected to change then describe the reasons for that decision.

Te Manatū Waka is already preparing for an evaluation of Community Connect, we anticipate completing an evaluation four years after the concession (as originally agreed through Budget 22). This can be expanded to encompass under 25s and Total Mobility passengers.

For performance information, it is expected that information being collected for the Community Connect scheme already be can leveraged to report on progress made against this initiative.

Section 5: Initiatives with Distributional/System Impacts

Section 5A: Māori initiatives The answer to each question must not exceed 2-3 paragraphs **Direct impact** Explain your answer to A. Indirect impact \boxtimes This scheme aims under 25-year-olds and total mobility users. This section of the society will also include Māori population. Māori that represents this section of the community will receive benefit from this scheme. Targeted and tailored impact Explain your answer to B. What kind of impact would the initiative Disproportionate positive impact П have on Māori? This concession is not specifically targeted at Māori, but Other \boxtimes they will receive benefit depending on their access to public transport List any assumptions you have made in considering impacts for Māori/iwi/hapū/whanau. We are assuming that Māori are less likely to live close to existing public transport services. We are also assuming that Māori do not have good access to total mobility services. Kotahitanga Tikanga Whanaungatanga Manaakitanga Tiakitanga How does the initiative align with any of the X

means of <u>He Ara</u> <u>Waiora</u> ?	Discuss how the initiative demonstrates one or more of the Means of He Ara Waiora identified above; this should draw on responses highlighted in previous sections.										
	CO	nnect with the con	nmunity and devel	op a sha	ared sen	oublic transport will pr se of whanaungatang ga for low-income Ne	a. Incre	easing affordability	and		
How will the initiative		Te Taiao Demonstrate how the initiative will contribute to one or more of the Ends of He A Waiora, this should draw on responses highlighted in previous sections.									
contribute to the ends of <u>He Ara Waiora</u> ?	7	Γe Ira Tangata ⊠	This initiative will support tangata whaikaha Māori and rangatahi Māori to access education, social and cultural opportunities, supporting greater connections to their culture and to communities.								
Section 5B: Pacific	c in	itiatives							0		
The answer to each questi	ion n	nust not exceed 2-	3 paragraphs.					C	5		
	Α	Direct impact			Explain	your answer to A.		, 0/			
What kind of impact		Indirect impact				ncession is not targete young and disabled P					
would the initiative have on Pacific	В	Targeted and ta	lored impact		,	your answer to B.)			
people?		Disproportionate	positive impact		As above						
		Other			7,5 0,50						
	C	List any assump	ions you have ma	le in considering impacts for Pacific communities.							
How would the initiative contribute to the focus areas of the	Cu	laga Potu: Iltural Values and inciples	☐ Fale Fo Partners Govern	ship and		Vaka Moana: Performance and Improvement		Te Kupega: Capability			
All-of-Government Pacific Wellbeing Strategy?	ide	Demonstrate how the initiative will support system shifts in one or more of the Strategy's four focus areas identified above. Reviewing the outcomes diagrams in the Pacific Wellbeing Outcomes Framework will help you to identify how your initiative aligns with these system shifts (see pages 31 to 37).									
		, 0			ŕ	,					
How would the initiative contribute to the outcomes for	Pa cul	oal 1: Thriving cific languages, ltures, and entities	Goal 2: Prosper Pacific commun			Goal 3: Resilient and healthy Pacific families		Goal 4: Confident, resilient, and thriving Pacific young people			
Pacific communities articulated in the Pacific Wellbeing Outcomes Framework?	Pa pa em	mmunities found in cific youth under 2 rt and stay connec	the Pacific Wellber 25-year-old will be sted with the commerce. It will also prove	eing Out support nunity.	comes Fr ted by thi This sche	ore of the community ramework (see pages see see pages see see pages see see pages see see pages	6 to 28 enable to enable to essibility	hem to contribute, to education and			
Section 5C: Child	pον	verty initiativ	es								
The answer to each questi	ion n	nust not exceed 2-	3 paragraphs.								
	Α	Direct impact			Explain	your answer to A.					
What kind of impact would the initiative have on reducing child poverty?		Indirect impact			transpo be mor	encession will provide ortation option for you e accessible increasi unities. This scheme v s.	ng peo	ple. Public transpor social and cultural			
	В	Targeted and ta	lored impact		Explain	your answer to B.					

	Disproportionate positive impact			As above.								
	Oth	ner										
Does the initiative align with the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy?	the Child and Youth Wellbeing (childyouthwellbeing.govt.nz). This scheme will indirectly pro education. Affordable public tropportunity to play, develop ar					thigh-level wellbeing outcomes it aligns to. Further information on a strategy can be found at Child and Youth Wellbeing mote the positive engagement and progression and achievement in ansport will give them the opportunity to connect socially and and grow.						
Section 5D: Initiati	ives w	ith impac	ts o	n women	and	girls						
The answer to each questi	on must	not exceed 2	-3 para	agraphs.						9		
	Māori		\boxtimes	Pacific			Asian		Culturally and linguistically diverse	Dy'		
	Older p	ersons		Younger persons			Migrants		Refugees			
Which group(s) of women and girls would be impacted by	LGBTQIA+			Rural perso and communitie			Students		Disabled people and those with disabilities			
	Business owners			Employees	.<		Specific industries or sectors	A	Other			
the initiative? Select all that apply.	Provide any additional information to support or clarify your answer. Extending the Community Connect concession to under 25 years olds and Total Mobility passengers is expected to have a positive impact on women who are younger persons or those with disabilities. Wāhine Māori who are under 25 or total mobility users are likely to benefit, but they may receive less benefit if their travel patierns are such that public transport is not a convenient mode, e.g. they are making multiple trips or "trip-chaining", or are more likely to travel with dependents, who may not be eligible for discount or concession (however, in the case of the latter scenario, it is likely those dependents are											
How many women and girls would be affected by this initiative?	Provide identify (status 39% of (an anrual Data fro 19 impa PT ove	children who will be eligible for another concession). Provide disaggregated data on the women and girls who would be affected by the initiative. Where applicable, identify the number of women and girls who are already being supported by the current initiative or policy (status quo), and the number of women and girls who will be targeted (aspirational outcome). 39% of women aged under 25 years old have used public transport at some point in the past year/12 months (an annual average of about 260,000 people). 27% of women aged under 25 years old have used public transport at some point in the past month (an annual average of about 184,000 people). Data from New Zealand Household Travel Survey using 2018-2021 data. Please note that there were COVID 19 impacts on surveying in the 2019/20 and 2020/21 survey years, and there have been impacts on use of PT over this time period. The number of female Total Mobility card holders who use public transport was not available, however, is										
Qualitative impacts: Refer	to the gu	idance for ex	ample	S.								
What is the initiative expected to achieve that will help to improve outcomes for women and girls, including for wahine Māori and kōtiro?	The init under 2	er and describ iative has not 5 year olds o	be how been to total r	the initiative argeted or tain	may h	elp to or wāhi xtent to	overcome gender ne Māori, but it ha	stereoty s the pot	nd girls (the vision). Sec vpes, roles, and pressur- tential to benefit those w depends on additional fa	res. ho are		

Describe the direct impacts, including the immediate impacts on women and girls as a proportion of the

targeted demographic. Secondly, describe the indirect impacts, such as the secondary benefits or longterm benefits. What direct and indirect impacts on Same as for wahine Maori - the initiative will directly benefit women and girls who are under 25-year-olds women and girls is the initiative expected to or total mobility users will have direct impact from the concession scheme, but they may benefit less if their travel patterns are such that public transport is not a convenient mode. have, including on wāhine Māori and kōtiro? Indirectly, it may help develop a public transport using habit which will help in staying connected supporting overall mental and physical wellbeing over the longer term. This could be both short and long-term impacts. For example, are there any groups of women and girls Are there any who may be excluded from the initiative? Will the initiative inadvertently reinforce or rely on existing gender anticipated negative roles, stereotypes and/or pressures? impacts of the initiative on women and girls, including on None. wāhine Māori and kōtiro? This question is to explain the overlap, not to reiterate the impacts identified above Describe how the initiative contributes This initiative contributes to the just transition objective, by supporting low income wanine Maori and kotiro to the wellbeing to access jobs, health, and social services through public transport. This may also contribute to improved objectives and physical and mental wellbeing for wahine and kotiro, through transport savings and enabling social improves outcomes connection and access to services. for women and girls. Section 5E: Initiatives with environmental impacts The answer to each question must not exceed 2-3 paragraphs. Living and Natural Terrestrial and Clean Transport Energy Efficiency and Resources and Aquatic Land Use Biodiversity Renewable Energy Climate Change Does the initiative Sustainable Pollution Green Buildings align to a category Adaptation Water and Prevention and Wastewater Control within the Green Bond Management Framework? Please advise whether the initiative meets the category specific criteria for the Green Bonds Programme (see section 4.5 of the Budget 2023 Guidance). The concessions may be used on public transport buses that emit for than 50gCO2 per passenger-km, so may be considered ineligible for Green Bonds financing. Direct impacts Explain the nature and size of the environmental impacts by type (both positive and negative). Indirect impacts \boxtimes Does the initiative Reduction in public transport fares will promote its usage have significant direct which will in turn aid the reduction of emissions. It is or indirect however unlikely to be significant. environmental impacts Explain how the impact of the initiative relates to B Avert long-term tipping-points (positive or negative) environmental tipping-points. beyond any climate Advance long-term tipping-points change implications caught by CERF? List any assumptions you have made in considering these impacts (see section 4.5 of the Budget 2023 Guidance). Increased public transport uptake as a result of the concession has been assumed.

Section 5F: Regu	ulatory systems i	nitia	tives						
The answer to each que	estion must not exceed 2	-3 para	agraphs.						
Which regulatory system(s) does the initiative relate to?	List the name(s) of the regulatory system(s). For example, Consumer and Commercial; Courts and Tribunals; Climate Change.								
Which category does the initiative primarily relate to?	y reform priority (e.g. mitigating activity a ive manifesto operational easing of				Enabling economic activity and/or easing compliance burdens		Other		
	If other, describe here								
Which stage of the policy or legislative process is the proposal at?	If Cabinet decisions or	n the p	olicy have been made, p	orovide	the relevant Cabinet M	linute.		જી	
OF K									