

BUDGET SENSITIVE

Initiative title	Funding profile	What, in plain language, the initiative is funding	Timeframes for implementation	Emissions reduction impact associated with the initiative	Focus area and target in the ERP Transport chapter this initiative is aligned with	Specific action/s in the ERP this initiative aligns with or will enable	Key risks in respect to developing and implementing the initiative Any likely critiques following its announcement
Retaining and Recruiting Bus Drivers – Improving Terms and Conditions	Tagged operating contingency: 22/23: § 9(2)(1)(iv) 23/24: § 9(2)(1)(iv) 24/25: § 9(2)(1)(iv) 25/26: § 9(2)(1)(iv)	<p>This initiative funds improvements to wages and conditions for public transport bus drivers. E.g., facilities improvements, or reductions in split shifts.</p> <p>This is to be given effect through nationally consistent terms and conditions for bus drivers to be agreed through a bus industry standard for urban bus drivers (represented by Government, Industry and Unions).</p>	Waka Kotahi is working with operators, unions and local government to establish nationally consistent terms and conditions for bus drivers. These terms and conditions are expected to be agreed by August 2022, with negotiations between PTAs and operators for contract variations in September 2022, and distribution of funding starting in October 2022.	<p>The Ministry has not quantified the emissions reduction impacts of this initiative.</p> <p>This initiative is not expected to directly increase mode shift and reduce emissions. The establishment of nationally consistent terms and conditions is intended to enable greater retention and recruitment of bus drivers and stabilise public transport services. This will support greater reliability of public transport services, to encourage mode-shift.</p>	<p>Focus area 1: Reduce reliance on cars and support people to walk, cycle and use public transport.</p> <p>Transport target 1: Reduce total kilometres travelled by the light fleet by 20 percent by 2035, through providing better travel options.</p>	<p>This initiative supports Action 10.1.2 in the transport chapter, supporting people to walk, cycle and use public transport.</p> <p>This includes action to improve the reach, frequency, and quality of public transport, by supporting a major uplift in urban bus networks nationwide, including by improving bus driver terms and conditions.</p>	<p>Risk There is a risk that the implementation of improved terms and conditions is limited by affordability constraints for public transport authorities and/or Waka Kotahi.</p> <p>Critique There may also be criticism that the funding provided will not support the scale of improvements to wages and conditions that are needed to retain and recruit drivers.</p>

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