

OC221022

7 December 2022

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

By email only to: [REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED],

I refer to your request dated 9 November 2022, pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) seeking to confirm what you have been advised by Nelson City Council and Tasman District Council that Te Manatū Waka Ministry of Transport (the Ministry) is taking responsibility for the setting Vehicles Kilometres Travelled (VKT) reduction targets. You have asked if the Ministry can:

"advise what the process is?"

The Government's first Emissions Reduction Plan (ERP) was published in May 2022. The ERP's transport chapter sets a national target to reduce total kilometres travelled by the light fleet by 20% by 2035,¹ and indicates that, to support this national target, sub-national targets will be set for Tier 1 and 2 urban areas.

The transport-related targets, actions and initiatives in the ERP were determined following extensive consultation on both the ERP and, earlier, on the Ministry's 2021 Green Paper on transport emissions reductions, *Hikina te Kohupara*.

I can confirm that the Ministry is responsible for setting the sub-national VKT reduction targets for Tier 1 and 2 urban areas. This will involve engagement with relevant Tier 1 and 2 councils. The specifics of the engagement process are still being finalised, but the intent is for this to take place in early 2023 alongside related work such as the:

- National VKT Reduction Plan (led by Waka Kotahi),
- Urban Growth Partnerships (led by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development),
- Government Policy Statement on Land Transport 2024 (led by the Ministry).

Feedback from this engagement process will then be considered before the proposed sub-national VKT reduction targets for each urban area are finalised. They are currently due to be published in mid-2023.

If you have any further queries in future, please could you send these to ocu@transport.govt.nz. This will help ensure that your questions are directed to the appropriate team and not missed over the upcoming holiday period.

¹ [Emissions](https://environment.govt.nz/assets/publications/Aotearoa-New-Zealands-first-emissions-reduction-plan.pdf) Reduction Plan, page 172: <https://environment.govt.nz/assets/publications/Aotearoa-New-Zealands-first-emissions-reduction-plan.pdf>

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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 will be published on the Ministry website. Before publishing this reply we will remove any personal or identifiable information.

Ngā mihi,



Holly Walker
Acting Manager, Environment and Emissions Strategy