

## MIN- 4185 Monthly bus driver update - May 2023

Office of Hon Michael Wood seeks monthly information regarding:

- Bus driver shortages
- Progress on all party MoUs and uplifting driver wages by region
- Bus service cancellations by region

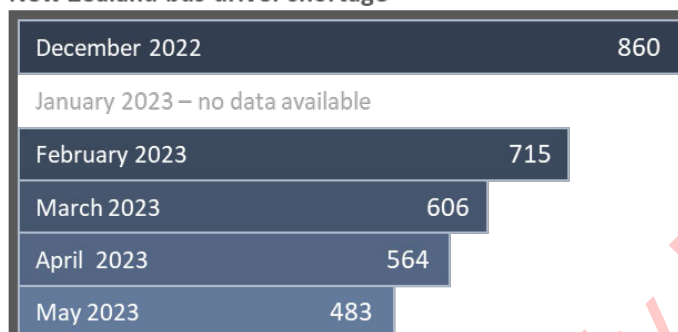
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### Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency's response:

#### Driver shortage

- The national driver shortfall continues to reduce:

##### New Zealand bus driver shortage



#### Driver recruitment

- Over 500 drivers are in the process of being recruited and/or trained.
- With the sector agreement and immigration pathway now in place we expect current trends to continue and the driver shortage to be addressed within the coming months. However, a continued focus on recruitment and retention remains important to build resilience within the sector.

#### Driver wage increases and MoU progress

- The table on the next page provides an overview of progress by region.
- By way of summary, all 14 regions have either increased wages or are intending to increase wages. All party MoUs continue to be progressed and CERF funding allocated.

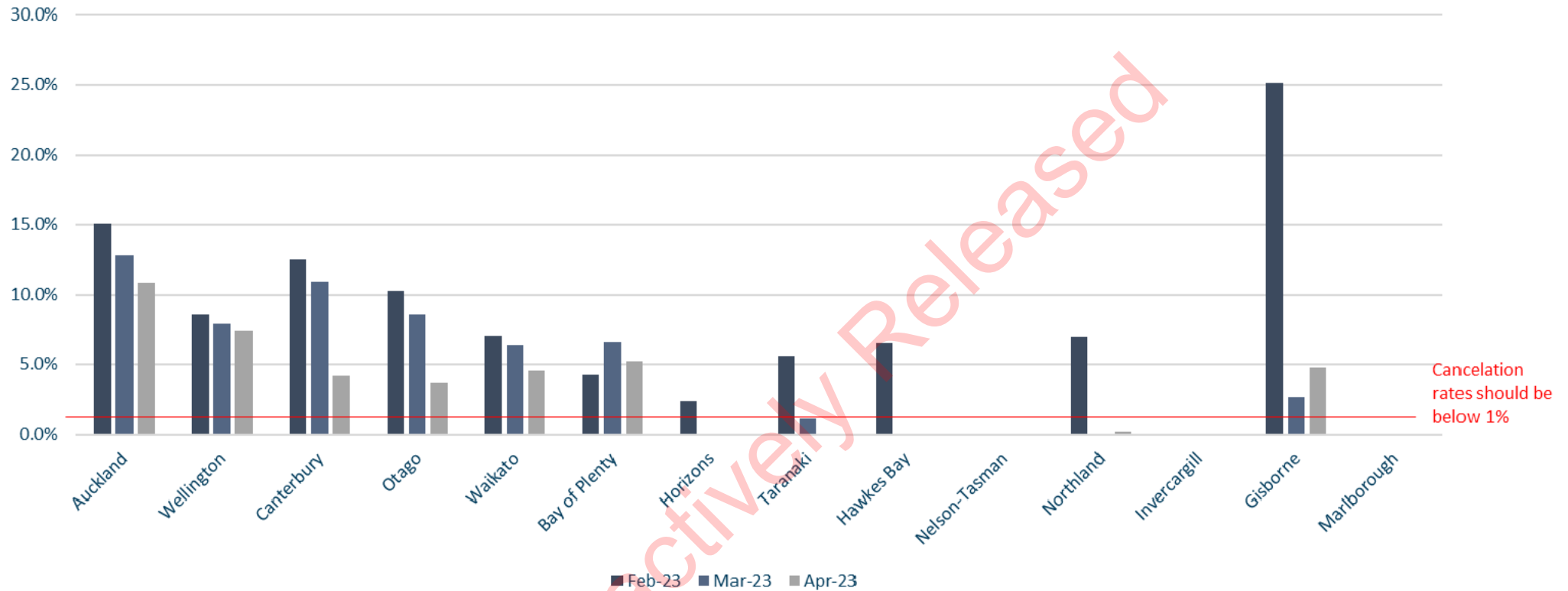
#### Bus cancelations

- The graph on the last page provides a summary of bus cancellation trends by region over the last three months to April 2023.
- By way of summary, cancellation rates continue to reduce but remain well above acceptable levels. Cancellation rates are expected to significantly improve as the current cohort of drivers in training come online over the next couple of months.

May 2023 Update							
Region	Approx. driver shortfall					Approx. number of drivers recruited but not yet on the road as at May 2023	All Parties Agreement (MoU) signed as at May 2023
	Dec 22	Feb 23	Mar 23	Apr 23	May 23		
Northland	0	0	0	0	0	0	Work in progress
Auckland	518	468	377	357	297	299	MoUs signed for wage increases effective 1 April. in process of releasing CERF funding.
Waikato	45	5	5	5*	0	0	MoU Complete, in process of releasing CERF funding
Bay of Plenty	45	34	39	25	22	40	Work in progress, signing imminent
Gisborne	0	6	0	2	0	0	Work in progress, signing imminent
Hawke's Bay	6	5	0	7	0	1	Not progressing at present
Taranaki	0	3	0	0	0	0	MoU Complete, in process of releasing CERF funding
Horizons	0	0	0	0	0	17	To progress if local share funding approved as part of Annual Plan decisions.
Greater Wellington	125	120	120	119	121	100	Work in progress, aiming to complete in May.
Nelson and Tasman	0	0	0	0	0	0	Complete, in process of releasing CERF funding
Marlborough	8	0	0	0	1	2	Work in progress
Canterbury	60	49	41	41*	30	46	Complete, in process of releasing CERF funding
Otago	51	25	24	8	12	20	Work in progress
Invercargill	2	0	0	0	0	0	TBC
Total	860	715	606	564*	486	525	

\*Where PTAs did not provide data, we have assumed no change from March 2023.

## Cancellations per month by public transport authority



### Scheduled services not operated :

- Some regions have reduced the number of scheduled trips in order to reduce cancellation rates.
- Other factors in addition to driver shortages can influence the number of trips not operated and/or the ability to monitor trips not operated.
- Gisborne and Hawkes Bay cancellation rates were impacted by the cyclone