

MINO-745 Timing for proposed public consultation on next package of bilingual traffic signs

5 May 2023

This paper provides timing scenarios for consultation and approval of the prioritised package of bilingual signs and implications for delayed commencement of public consultation.

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency preferred scenario

- Given the large number of signs and different aspects of the proposals (including various ways of differentiating the languages), we consider that stakeholders will need the full 6 weeks to consider and provide feedback to us.
- Assuming Cabinet approval to undertake public consultation by Monday 8 May, Waka Kotahi would plan to start a 6-week consultation on 15 May (see Scenario 1 in the table below).
- Compared to the original timeframe, officials would have one less week to consider submissions and formulate final advice to the Minister, but we consider 7 weeks is likely to be sufficient time for our tasks. The Minister would still have 3 weeks to consider final advice.

Potential risks if more time is needed to carry out ministerial consultation

- If more time is needed for ministerial consultation, the latest date we could start consultation and still provide a full 6 weeks to provide feedback, would be 22 May (see Scenario 2). We consider a minimum of 6 weeks for officials is needed for our tasks - the Minister would still have 3 weeks to consider final advice.
- Any further delay would require less time for public consultation (e.g. 4 or 5 weeks only - see Scenario 3). When the Minister is making a rule, section 161(2) of the Land Transport Act 1998 requires that interested persons are given a reasonable time to make submissions on the proposal. If the period for consultation being proposed is less than 6 weeks, Waka Kotahi would need to consider and provide further advice to the Minister on any potential risks associated with this - and seek the Ministers approval to go ahead with a shorter consultation period.

Table 1: Scenarios

Week beginning	Scenario 1- Maintain 6 weeks	Scenario 2 - Maintain 6 weeks	Scenario 3 – Reduce to 5 weeks
15 May 2023	Public consultation begins		
22 May 2023		Public consultation begins	
29 May 2023			Public consultation begins
5 June 2023			
12 June 2023			
19 June 2023			
26 June 2023	Review submissions and develop final advice		
3 July 2023		Review submissions and develop final advice	Review submissions and develop final advice
10 July 2023			
17 July 2023			
24 July 2023			
31 July 2023			
7 August 2023			
14 August 2023	Minister considers final advice	Minister considers final advice	Minister considers final advice
21 August 2023			
28 August 2023	Minister approves Rule change	Minister approves Rule change	Minister approves Rule change

Table 2: Original timeframes

Key milestones	Indicative timing
6-week consultation period	8 May – 16 June 2023
Review of submissions and consideration of any changes to proposals	19 June – 7 August 2023
Final proposals provided to Associate Minister for consideration and informal consultation with Ministerial colleagues	7 August – 28 August 2023
Associate Minister approves Rule change	Before the end of August 2023