

David Lorier

From: Official Correspondence
Sent: Thursday, 1 June 2023 4:20 pm
To: Prisca Gain
Cc: Leisa Coley
Subject: MINO-780 RESPONSE

Kia ora Prisca

Please see below a response to the following questions from your email below:

- Why is Waka Kotahi not the best organisation to coordinate the technical group?
- Can Waka Kotahi please provide a suggestion on who is best to lead the group?
- Why is there not a funding lever for ferries like with buses/ PTAs?

Waka Kotahi doesn't have established relationships within the ferry sector, or any expertise regarding the operation of ferries. The operating context for ferries is overseen by Maritime NZ. The ferry sector has no dependencies on Waka Kotahi, meaning Waka Kotahi does not hold a position of authority and has limited ability to exert influence or even to entice sector members to the table. Any information we obtain relating to ferry operation is via Auckland Transport.

By comparison, in the bus sector, Waka Kotahi specifies vehicle standards, company operating requirements, training requirements, road/vehicle use rules, driver rules and requirements, and is the regulator. Waka Kotahi is seen as a key stakeholder for the bus industry and the established sector leader. With the bus driver shortages, (which were widespread throughout the country), it was seen that Waka Kotahi held several of the solution levers: funding for more wages, the rules around introducing new drivers, and an ability (due to funding) to corral the 14 public transport authorities into an agreement. Due to these factors, Waka Kotahi had the mana to co-ordinate the various sector participants.

The current crew shortage and service reliability issues for passenger ferry services affect the Auckland region only. In Auckland, pre-covid, ferry trips (including the exempt services operated for Devonport and Waiheke) made up 6% of all public transport journeys. s 9(2)(g)(i)

[REDACTED]

s 9(2)(g)(i)

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We would suggest Auckland Transport is best placed to convene this group, with Maritime NZ. However, there may be other organisations that could be suitable. Maritime may have some thoughts on this.

Ngā mihi
Chloe

Chloe Nugent

Team Leader Coordinators, Ministerial Services

Te Waka Kotuia | Engagement & Partnerships

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency