

<b>Subject</b>	<b>2015-18 NLTP development – Final Investment Assessment Framework</b>
<b>Circulation</b>	Transport, Public Transport and Asset Managers, all Approved Organisations Planning & Investment, NZ Transport Agency Highway and Network Operations Transport Planning Managers, NZ Transport Agency
<b>Circulated by</b>	Dave Brash, Group Manager Planning & Investment
<b>Date of issue</b>	19 December 2014

---

### **Purpose**

The NZ Transport Agency is confirming the release of the final Investment Assessment Framework (IAF) that applies to the 2015-18 National Land Transport Programme (NLTP).

The IAF allows organisations which are developing land transport activities for inclusion in Regional Land Transport Plans (RLTPs) to be assessed and prioritised to be included in the 2015-18 NLTP.

### **Background**

The Transport Agency is working closely with the sector to ensure the 2015-18 NLTP delivers the best outcomes it can to support a thriving New Zealand. To achieve this all contributing transport programmes and activities need to be well aligned to the 2015/16-2024/25 Government Policy Statement on land transport (GPS), outcome-focused, evidence-based, integrated and optimised.

The draft GPS was released for sector engagement in June 2014. In response the Transport Agency released a corresponding draft IAF in September 2014 ([General Circular 14/02](#)).

On 18 December the Ministry of Transport released the confirmed GPS. The Transport Agency confirms that the IAF has been finalised with some minor changes to reflect the final GPS.

Information about the final IAF is being provided to our investment partners using this General Circular and the content on the Planning and Investment Knowledge Base. The previously released Planning and Investment Signals remain consistent with the finalised GPS and IAF, and can be found on our website ([www.nzta.govt.nz/planning](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/planning)).

### **Final Investment Assessment Framework**

The Transport Agency now confirms that the IAF has been finalised following the release of the GPS. Information on the IAF and its application is available on the Planning and Investment Knowledge Base ([www.pikb.co.nz](http://www.pikb.co.nz)).

We have made the following minor amendments to the framework and supporting definitions from the version published in September 2014.

## 1. Public Transport

We have removed one criterion of the Public Transport (programmes) medium criteria, meaning that Public Transport programmes may now receive a [medium strategic fit](#) if the programme positively contributes to access for social and economic opportunities.

## 2. Regional Improvements

The GPS has confirmed the areas that are eligible for funding from the regional improvements activity class, by excluding the zones of Northern, Western, Central and Southern Auckland, Hamilton, Tauranga, Porirua, Upper Hutt, Lower Hutt, Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin. A map of non-eligible areas is provided in the [Knowledge Base](#).

The Transport Agency also reconfirms that the existing road improvements criteria and application processes will be used to give effect to this activity class. This means that all improvements activities will use the same work categories and assessment framework, and will be nationally prioritised together. There are regional allocations within this activity class.

## 3. Walking and Cycling

The amended GPS includes the [improvement of linkages to the NZ Cycle Trail](#) as an additional short to medium term result, and this has been reflected in the medium strategic fit criteria of the IAF.

As investment opportunities in cycling also need to be considered in relation to the Government's Urban Cycleways Fund, we have produced a guidance factsheet on cycling programmes which has been added to the 2015-18 NLTP [signals](#).

## Completing Activity Assessment Profiles

The Knowledge Base is the primary source of up-to-date information for our partners about the way we work, including our planning and investment principles, detailed guidance on developing RLTPs and how to apply the business case approach. On the Knowledge Base you will find:

- **Background information** on how the Transport Agency has responded to the GPS and the structure of the IAF.
- Detailed **Investment Assessment Framework criteria**, for assessment of programmes and activities ([www.pikb.co.nz/assessment-framework/](http://www.pikb.co.nz/assessment-framework/)).

Activities submitted to the Transport Agency on 30 April 2015 as part of final Regional Land Transport Plans will need to be assessed by approved organisations using the IAF.

We acknowledge that some local authorities have already submitted their draft programmes to their Regional Transport Committees, based on previous versions of the IAF. This may result in short term inconsistencies of approved organisation and Transport Agency profiles.

Regional Transport Agency staff will work with submitters throughout the assessment process to ensure there is clarity and understanding of the Agency's final determination of assessment profile for activities.