GOING FOR GROWTH

Summary of Government actions

AUGUST 2026

New Zealand Government
Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa

Government actions

Developing Talent

Delivered

- Delivered a new Tertiary Education Strategy to define long-term strategic direction and priorities for the sector.
- Created a more responsive vocational education and training system to better meet the needs of students, industry and the economy by moving decision making back to regions, more closely aligned to the people it supports.
- Established 10 new Polytechnics and 8 Industry Skills Boards to better meet the needs of local communities, industries and the economy.
- Improved careers information and advice through:
  - Launched Tahatū Career Navigator, New Zealand's new online career planning website, designed to help New Zealanders make informed career decisions.
  - Release of Rangatahi Futures, a free career education programme that helps young people explore their identity, values and career aspirations, and take practical steps towards their work and learning goals.
  - Extension of Inspiring the Future into secondary schools – an evidence-based programme facilitating and strengthening connections between young people and role models from the world of work.
  - Review of National Careers System Strategy (NCSS) action plan – outlining a new set of actions that will strengthen access to high quality career resources, supporting young New Zealanders with transition decisions; and build workforce capability to better deliver career and labour market advice and guidance.
- Improved school attendance through tailored approaches to addressing the underlying causes of absence.
- Attendance Management Plan regulations are now in force, and every State school is required to have an Attendance Management Plan in place.
- Allocated nearly $123 million over four years for the delivery of a new attendance service and almost $17 million to strengthen frontline attendance services, aiming to reduce chronic absence and lift attendance rates.
- Implemented more regular reporting of school attendance figures to get more students into school and learning.
- Commenced investment in new teacher resources and support services, backed by $271 million over four years from Budget 2025.
- Introduced better training and more tools to support teachers in reading, writing and maths.
- Introduced structured literacy and mathematics teaching to raise achievement in schools.
- Introduced a requirement for one hour of reading, writing and maths every day in schools.
- First National Monitoring report for Kura Complete.
- Online Accelerative Writing Tool implemented for years 9-10.
- New requirements for reporting to parents and whānau implemented.
- New-subject-based qualification confirmed to replace NCEA for more credible and coherent school qualifications.
- Made the largest investment into learning support in more than 20 years to support Kiwi kids to better thrive at school, including expanding the early intervention service, which includes 900,000 additional teacher aide hours by 2029.
- Opened the first charter schools to provide more choice and diversity in the school system, allowing students to learn in ways that are specific to their needs.
- Streamlined and simplified the licensing criteria for centre-based, hospital-based and home-based ECE services to reduce the compliance burden and enable teachers and providers to focus more on services to children.
- Introduced graduated, more proportionate enforcement tools to address compliance issues and risks in ECE and cause fewer disruptions for services, children and parents.

- Passed System Reform Act to transfer ECE regulatory functions from MoE to ERO to clarify regulatory roles and reduce duplication and confusion for the ECE sector.
- Introduced two new seasonal visa pathways to help businesses access the workers they need during peak periods, while also prioritising jobs for New Zealanders.
- Implemented changes to the Accredited Employer Work Visa to make it easier for employers to hire skilled migrants when there are gaps in our local labour market. Changes include amending the labour market test to a declaration-based system alongside back-end system checks, removing the requirement to pay the median wage, and speeding up processing – while strengthening protections against exploitation.
- Implemented a Parent Boost Visitor Visa to incentivise skilled migrants to choose New Zealand, by making it easier for parents of New Zealand citizens and residents to visit New Zealand.
- Announced new residence pathways to help employers attract and retain skilled migrant workers with pathways to be introduced on 24 August 2026.
- Implemented a service to provide community job coaches for up to 10,000 young job seekers across two years to support them to overcome barriers to obtaining sustainable employment.
- Implemented new tools and requirements to ensure job seekers stay on track with their obligations and engage more frequently with the Ministry of Social Development.
- Introduced Individual Employment Plans to help job seekers plan activities to find and prepare for work.
- Established Game On, a three-year initiative that will place 57 Pacific youth into gaming and tech careers, building Pacific visibility in STEM fields and help grow a more diverse and culturally confident gaming industry in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Underway

- Transition of three polytechnic business divisions of NZIST to stand-alone regional polytechnics, and the transfer of the fourth to an existing polytechnic, to ensure locally led and financially sustainable vocational education system.
- Removing red tape in Early Childhood Education to make it more accessible, affordable and effective. Including; streamlining and simplifying licensing criteria for kōhanga reo and reviewing qualification and person responsible requirements to reduce administrative burden, provide more flexibility and simplify requirements.
- Implementing Teaching the Basics Brilliantly, a multi-year strategy to provide more teacher resources, services and support to improve access and consistency in primary and secondary school around testing and delivery of tailored support.
- Implementing next steps in the attendance action plan, including changes to the process for granting an exemption from attendance, and developing Attendance Management Plan regulations for distance schools.
- Introducing bonus payments to incentivise eligible young job seekers to stay off a benefit for at least 12 months and enter employment.
- Implementing the Employment Investment Strategy 2025-2028 to guide investment in the Ministry of Social Development’s employment products and services.

Government actions

Competitive Business Settings

Delivered

- Completed a review of New Zealand's competition settings and introduced legislation amending the Commerce Act to promote fair and effective competition and improve economic productivity (now awaiting its second reading).
- Letters sent from Ministers to industry and the FMA to request consideration of the FEC inquiry into banking competition's recommendations.
- Concluded the Governance and Effectiveness Review of the Commerce Commission and introduced legislation to strengthen the Commission's governance arrangements.
- Passed the Regulatory Standards Bill to bring greater scrutiny to regulatory restrictions, reducing regulatory burden on New Zealanders, communities and business.
- Completed a review into the Telecommunications sector to ensure that the current regulation remains fit for purpose in light of technology and market changes. Cabinet decisions are now being given effect within the current legislative framework.
- Improved the Government Procurement Rules to reduce red tape and ensure spending promotes competition and supports New Zealand businesses.
- Completed review of electricity markets and agreed an energy package to deliver secure and affordable energy.
- Passed the Fast-Track Approvals Amendment Bill and put in place a single building consenting authority to make it easier and faster for new supermarkets to be built across New Zealand, as part of work to improve grocery competition.
- Passed the Customer and Product Data Act and applied the Act to the banking sector enabling data portability to drive competition and innovation.
- Implemented Investment Boost to reduce upfront costs for capital investment.
- Passed tax simplification measures through the Taxation (Annual Rates for 2025–26, Compliance Simplification, and Remedial Measures) Act to reduce complexity and compliance costs in the tax system.
- Removed the prospective financial information requirement at the initial public offering stage, reducing costs and complexity in our capital market settings.
- Completed sector reviews for:
  - agricultural and horticultural products, to improve the availability of new products to New Zealand's farmers and horticulturalists and lift the productivity of both sectors.
  - hairdressing and barbering, to remove outdated rules and thereby reduce costs of compliance in this largely small-business sector.
  - early childhood education to help early childhood education centres safely educate and care for our children without excessive compliance requirements and costs.
- Repealed so-called 'Fair Pay Agreements', which reduced flexibility and increased costs for employers.
- Extended 90 Day Trials to all employers so they can take a chance on a new employee.
- Revoked overly prescriptive affordability requirements for accessing credit through amendments to the Credit Contracts and Consumer Finance Act.
- Passed the Contracts of Insurance Act to modernise insurance law.
- Passed the Employment Relations Amendment Bill to give businesses certainty and reduce compliance costs.
- Delivered a new All-of-Government digital tool – Funding Explorer – on business.govt.nz to improve the economic growth impact of government grants, funds and equity for business by increasing visibility and accessibility.

- Passed the Patents Amendment Bill to provide more certainty to businesses on what patents will be granted, enabling leading businesses to innovate and grow.
- Developed a cross-government plan to reduce the impact of online financial scams.
- Passed the Financial Providers (Registration and Dispute Resolution) Act 2026 to improve oversight and performance of approved financial dispute resolution schemes.
- Passed the Health and Safety at Work Amendment Act 2026, which received Royal Assent in July 2026 and will come into force on 1 April 2027, to reduce unnecessary compliance costs, increase certainty for businesses and organisations, and refocus the system on critical risks.
- Passed the Employment Leave Bill to establish a new framework for leave that is simple and clear, providing certainty to employers and employees about their obligations and entitlements.
- Passed offshore renewable energy legislation to enable allocation of use rights for development
- New trans-Tasman and international regulatory standards alignment to reduce duplication and compliance costs for businesses operating across borders.

Underway

- Passing legislation to implement changes to the Commerce Act.
- Developing amending legislation to give effect to the Government's response to the Governance and Effectiveness Review of the Commerce Commission.
- Continuing work on implementing the recommendations from the Commerce Commission's review of competition into personal banking services and responding to the Finance and Expenditure Committee inquiry into banking competition.
- Progressing work to improve competition in the grocery sector, including increasing penalties under the Fair-Trading Act to deter unfair conduct.
- New joint-Government and industry anti-scam initiatives released to ensure that consumers and businesses can transact confidently online.
- Passing legislation to streamline financial services regulations and cut red tape.
- Reviewing the regulation of product labelling to allow for more innovative ways of communicating key information.
- Preparing guidance and support for implementation of the Health and Safety at Work Amendment Act 2026, including MBIE, WorkSafe and other regulators developing guidance, training and support materials ahead of commencement on 1 April 2027.
- Progressing work to modernise, simplify and digitise key legislation for businesses, including improving the patenting process for New Zealand businesses.
- Supporting implementation of the new Employment Leave Act through developing guidance of technical support material.
- Continuing to focus on ensuring that tax settings enable economic growth.
- Continuing to improve capital markets settings and encourage investment in New Zealand
- Advancing actions to lift business investment and support capital deepening.
- Implementing the energy package including investing in security of supply and building better markets to improve affordability.
- Amending the Crown Pastoral Land Act and Land Act to support economic growth through productive use of Crown land.
- Progressing amendments to the Māori Trustee Act to unlock funding and improve land productivity.
- Engaging with financial institutions to improve Māori access to capital, including developing data collection processes.
- Enhancing monitoring and evaluation of funds available for Māori in support of Māori economic development.
- Examining settings around Māori land use to enable more productive use of Māori land.

Government actions

Promoting Global Trade and Investment

Delivered

- The Free Trade Agreement with India was signed in April, and completed the relevant Parliamentary Examination, with the implementing Bill now being considered by the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee following its First Reading.
- Hosted an Infrastructure Investment Summit to generate investment interest in infrastructure opportunities in New Zealand.
- Established Invest New Zealand as a one-stop-shop to attract foreign direct investment.
- Completed 23 Ministerial trade missions, most recently to Australia, Singapore, India and the Pacific.
- Amended the Overseas Investment Act to streamline settings for less risky transactions and sped up processing time, to better enable investment into New Zealand.
- Resolved or reduced costs associated with 11 non-tariff barriers and other trade access issues affecting approximately $432 million worth of trade in the year to June 2026, assisting New Zealand businesses selling to the world.
- Provided tariff advice to exporters in response to developments in US trade policy through weekly reports, interactive webinars and a specialised helpdesk.
- Delivered legislation to remove barriers to overseas investment in 'build to rent' housing, enabling housing growth.
- Resolved a dairy dispute with Canada under the CPTPP, delivering up to $157 million per year in export value for New Zealand dairy exporters.
- Enabled New Zealand businesses to access a $500 billion market through the NZ-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (FTA), which entered into force in August 2025.
- Entry into force of the NZ-UAE Bilateral Investment Treaty in November 2025, complementing the NZ-UAE FTA.
- Launched negotiations on a Green Economy Partnership Agreement to create a level playing field for green technologies and goods, and channel financial flows to future technologies.
- Established the Future of Investment and Trade Partnership with Singapore, Switzerland, the UAE, and 12 other small- and medium-sized economies to generate trade and investment opportunities among members.
- Concluded the Agreement on Trade in Essential Supplies Agreement with Singapore, strengthening our access to critical goods during times of crisis.
- Concluded negotiations with Costa Rica for its accession to CPTPP in May 2026, with 94 per cent of New Zealand exports to Costa Rica to be duty-free on entry into force (expected in 2027).
- Changed Active Investor Plus visa settings to boost local businesses and employment by attracting investment in our business sector while positioning New Zealand as a stable, innovation-friendly destination for global investors.
- Concluded negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement with the Gulf Cooperation Council to unlock the region for New Zealand exporters. Advanced the Minerals Strategy, including announcing $50m of the $80m Regional Infrastructure Fund ringfenced for critical minerals projects and joining the Forum on Resource Geostrategic Engagement to strengthen supply chain resilience.
- Launched FernMark Grass-Fed certification scheme to help New Zealand red meat and dairy producers compete in international markets and allow New Zealand farmers to better benefit from premium earnings.
- Launched the Tourism Boost Package to support immediate growth in visitor numbers, drive export activity and deliver broader economic growth in New Zealand.

- Released the Tourism Growth Roadmap to boost numbers of international visitors, supporting the tourism sector to grow.
- Released the Tourism Policy Statement to set a long-term, shared direction for tourism in New Zealand that will benefit businesses, workers and communities.
- Invested $10 million through The International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy into international marketing, business events attraction and regional visitor attraction to bring more international visitors to travel, stay and dine in New Zealand.
- Adjusted New Zealand Screen Production Rebate-International settings to attract a broader range of global productions, boost local jobs, and strengthen New Zealand's screen industry.
- Loosened visitor visas to allow digital nomads and others to continue to work remotely for foreign employers, meaning they will stay longer and spend more in New Zealand.
- Implemented changes to investor visa settings to better facilitate foreign direct investment and encourage economic growth.
- Made changes to Foreign Investment Funds (FIF) to prevent them from deterring people from settling in New Zealand and contributing to economic growth.

Underway

- Progressing the New Zealand – India Free Trade Agreement through to ratification.
- Undertaking trade missions to build relationships and advancing market access for New Zealand businesses.
- Progressing resolution of non-tariff barriers that impede trade outcomes to give New Zealand exporters a fair go, including advocating to defend, strengthen and modernise the rules-based trading system that provides the platform for businesses to operate and levels the playing field.
- Negotiating trade agreements (including ongoing expansion and accession negotiations), bringing Free Trade Agreements into force and fully implementing them to maximise the benefits for New Zealand exporters. This includes, where applicable, dedicated Māori and Indigenous trade and economic cooperation chapters and strengthening Māori-Indigenous connections through the Indigenous Peoples Economic and Trade Cooperation Arrangement (IPETCA) and the bilateral Indigenous Collaboration Arrangements with Australia and Canada.
- To further bolster our supply chain resilience, New Zealand is exploring potential supply chains arrangements with other partners, including through groupings such as the Future of Investment and Trade Partnership (FIT-P).
- Implementing the Minerals Strategy for New Zealand, ensuring the sector can grow and contribute positively to New Zealand's economic prospects.
- Promoting New Zealand to boost numbers of international students and supporting the sector to grow.
- Implementation of the Tourism Policy Statement, including establishment of Tourism Leadership Group to inform an implementation plan.
- Ongoing implementation of the Tourism Growth Roadmap actions through International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy investment, including the Events Boost Fund, marketing and other demand-side investment.
- Continuing to improve the Department of Conservation concession management system, particularly for mining and tourism to provide certainty for business investment and achieve better economic outcomes.

Government actions

Innovation, Technology and Science

Delivered

- Published the first Prime Minister's Council Report on New Zealand's priorities, aligning science investment with national priorities, economic growth and long-term prosperity.
- Introduced the new Science Investment Plan to provide clearer direction for government science investment.
- Confirmed a new national Intellectual Property management policy for government-funded science and research, putting researchers in the driver's seat.
- Boosted Government support for university researchers to commercialise their innovations by $40.68m
- Established the Prime Minister's Science, Innovation and Technology Advisory Council to identify priorities for New Zealand science, innovation and technology.
- Simplified science funding by creating Research Funding New Zealand to streamline processes, reduce bureaucracy and enable researchers to focus more time on science and innovation.
- Established three new Public Research Organisations from existing CRIs, focused on the bioeconomy, earth sciences, and public health and forensic science.
- Committed $231 million to establish a fourth Public Research Organisation for advanced technology.
- Confirmed the first investment for advanced technology, with $71 million committed to future magnetic and materials technology to grow New Zealand's hi-tech exports based on cryogenics, superconductors, magnets and processed materials.
- Committed investment of up to $70 million over seven years to support innovative AI research and applications through the New Zealand Institute for Advanced Technology, to develop world-class expertise and sharpen New Zealand's competitive edge.
- Launched a $1.35 million discovery phase to explore a national quantum technologies platform.
- Launched New Zealand's first AI Strategy to leverage artificial intelligence for our economy.
- Published Responsible AI Guidance for Business to accelerate private sector adoption and innovation.
  - The Responsible AI Guidance for the Public Service: GenAI was delivered and published by the Government Chief Digital Officer (GCDO) on February 3, 2025.
- Committed additional funding for the Centre of Digital Excellence to accelerate growth in New Zealand's gaming sector and create high-value digital jobs.
- Invested $24 million in seven joint research projects with Singapore, deepening New Zealand's research ties with Singapore and building our capability in AI and biotechnology.
- Committed $42.8 million to establish a Biodiscovery Platform to harness New Zealand's unique biodiversity to drive innovation, create high-value products, and grow a globally competitive bioeconomy.
- Funded 46 bold, high-risk and innovative Smart Ideas projects from the Endeavour Fund, ranging from MedTech and quantum computing, to climate resilience and sustainable agriculture to unlock new knowledge, technologies and capabilities.
- Launched He Ara Whakahihiko a new, consolidated fund designed to unlock the economic potential of Māori-led research and innovation.
- Invested $49 million in the Antarctic Science Platform to conduct research on Antarctica's impact on our earth and enable collaboration with our international partners on the Continent.
- Committed $23 million to the Gene Technology Regulator to enable safe and effective use of gene technology, following the passing of legislation.

- Committed an extra $100 million to the Elevate Venture Capital Fund at Budget 2025 to back start-ups and support a self-sustaining venture capital market in New Zealand.
- Established a Special Use Airspace at the Tāwhaki National Aerospace Centre which will help advanced aviation innovators to test and commercialise their technology and ideas.
- Invested $5.6 million to support five joint projects as part of the NZ-NASA Partnership, addressing challenges like disaster resilience and climate change.
- Signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with the State of Colorado, focused on opportunities in aerospace, quantum and geothermal technology.
- Confirmed a further seven interns to work at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory for 13 weeks as part of the annual NZSA Space Scholarships Programme.
- Invested $5.3 million through the Catalyst Fund for three innovative trans-Tasman space projects designed to enhance maritime awareness, improve agricultural planning and secure satellite communications.
- Announced reforms to the innovation, technology and science system to clarify priorities, lift economic outcomes and harness advanced technology for a more prosperous future.
- Introduced legislation to remove the gene technology ban and enable the safe use of gene technology in agriculture, health science and other sectors.
- Launched the Space and Advanced Aviation Strategy 2030 with a target of doubling the value of the sector by 2030.
- Created the first Prime Minister's Space Prize, to inspire the next generation of space professionals.
- Launched a framework to accelerate the responsible use of Artificial Intelligence technologies across the New Zealand Public Service
- Launched the AI Advisory Pilot to improve productivity, competitiveness, and business performance.
- Invested $1m to support research collaboration with the UAE as part of the NZ-UAE partnership.
- Opened the second round of the Applied Doctorates scheme to support industry-research connection, focused on Aerospace, Defence and Security.
- Celebrated $10 billion of R&D activity by businesses supported by the Research and Development Tax Incentive.
- Funded four new research projects through the New Zealand – China Strategic Research Alliance, focused on innovative areas of science such as CO2 storage and capture.
- With Research Funding NZ, created the Transition Research Fund 2027 to invest $300m over five years in priority areas for New Zealand.

Underway

- Progress legislation to integrate Earth Sciences New Zealand and MetService to improve the weather forecasting system for New Zealand.
- Continue establishing the New Zealand Institute for Advanced Technology.
- Ensuring healthy early stage and venture capital markets so that startups can access capital to scale.
- Continuing work on the Gene Technology Bill to end the near 30-year ban on gene technology outside the lab, and to establish a regulator to enable the safe use of gene technology and regulated organisms.
- Implement the Public Service AI Work Programme.
- Continuing work to remove unnecessary red tape for the space and aviation sectors, freeing up innovators to test and commercialise their technology and ideas.

Government actions

Infrastructure for Growth

Delivered

- Passed the Resource Management (Consenting and Other System Changes) Amendment Bill to provide resource management system improvements and enable housing growth in our largest cities.
- Introduced two RMA reform Bills to Parliament (the Planning Bill and the Natural Environment Bill) to make it quicker and simpler to consent renewable energy, boost housing supply and reduce red tape.
- Passed the Public Works (Critical Infrastructure) Amendment Bill to streamline the land acquisition process for major infrastructure projects.
- Removed the requirement for granny flats up to 70 square metres to have a building consent and a resource consent, a key milestone in the Government's efforts to improve the building consent and planning system.
- Reduced cost across the system by standardising the wastewater consenting process.
- Introduced more affordable, end-point treatment options for small, rural communities to achieve safe drinking water.
- Delivered the Wood Energy Strategy and Action Plan to accelerate wood energy as a reliable, affordable and sustainable energy resource for domestic and export markets.
- Agreed to commit $1.062 billion from the $1.200 billion Regional Infrastructure Fund to projects over 14 regions and a range of sectors, including flood resilience, energy, water storage, and Māori development.
- Approved 145 projects from the Regional Infrastructure Fund, with 12 of them completing physical works.
- Developed the Government Response to 30-year National Infrastructure Plan which will give a long-term view of planned investment.
- Signed the first two City and Regional Deals with Auckland and Western Bay of Plenty to unlock regional potential and lift economic growth. The third Deal with Otago Central Lakes was substantially negotiated (scheduled for signing in August).
- Accelerated economic regulation requirements for Wellington Water under the Local Water Done Well Programme to ensure it is delivering value for money for ratepayers.
- Progressing legislation to further amend the Public Works Act to make it easier for the Crown to engage with landowners, support disaster recovery, and deliver infrastructure projects that provide wide public benefit.
- Delivered the New Zealand Infrastructure Investment Summit, which demonstrated that New Zealand is open for business and actively attracting foreign and local investment into infrastructure, including partnerships such as that between Brookfield and Waikato-Tainui on the Ruakura industrial and logistics hub.
- Delivered NPS Infrastructure 2025, the NPS Renewable Electricity Generation Amendment 2025 and NPS Electricity Networks Amendment 2025.
- Progressed NES Telecommunication Facilities and NES Electricity Transmission Activities (renamed to Electricity Network Activities) remaining amendments.
- Launched a refreshed Public Private Partnership (PPP) framework that delivers infrastructure projects efficiently and provides value for money through drawing on greater private sector capital and capability.
- Introduced changes to the thin capitalisation rules to remove a potential tax barrier to foreign investments in non-PPP infrastructure projects.
- Agreed policy decisions on improvements to infrastructure funding and financing to support urban growth.
- Passed The Land Transport Management (Time of Use Charging) Bill, which enables charging schemes for our most congested roads to improve traffic flow.

- Passed the Water Services Authority levy to secure ongoing funding to ensure water is safe to drink and to protect the environmental performance of public drinking water, wastewater and stormwater networks.
- Passed the Watercare Charter into law to ensure affordable water services in Auckland, saving households about $899 million over four years and improving service quality and infrastructure investment to facilitate housing growth in the city.
- Released NZ Verify, an app to support a range of accredited, public and privately issued digital credentials, such as Mobile Driver Licences, Photo ID Cards, Qualifications, Digital Super Gold Cards and Community Services Cards.
- Passed the Fast-track Approvals Act to speed up consenting of projects with significant regional or national benefits.
- Established National Infrastructure Funding and Financing Limited to improve the financing and funding of the infrastructure system.
- Set the National Land Transport Fund at $22 billion over the next three years including investment in the Roads of National Significance programme.
- Streamlined building regulation for building plans and MultiProof designs and put a spotlight on building consent delays, to make it easier and cheaper to build in NZ.
- Responded to the Independent Inquiry into the School Property System, to improve the provision of school infrastructure and ultimately lead to safer, warmer and drier buildings for students.
- Legislation passed to enable offshore renewable energy generation.
- Passed the second reading of the Land Transport (Revenue) Amendment Bill to ensure that revenue tools support a user-pays system for funding land transport.
- Developed a geothermal strategy to unlock the full potential of New Zealand's under-utilised geothermal resources.
- Delivered shared infrastructure for digital identity credentials across the economy, coordinating Public Service efforts to enhance government services via the Service Modernisation Roadmap.
- Expedited significant Iwi and Māori led or partnered Fast-track projects.
- Moved to more standardised and regular updates of the Building Code system, with updates every three to four years.
- Improving drinking water infrastructure for rural Māori communities through the Marae Drinking Water Programme.
- Breaking ground on $6 billion in infrastructure projects between July and December 2025, including schools, hospitals and roading projects.
- Enacted legislation to allow more overseas building products to be used, making it easier to build and creating more flexibility.
- Enabled papakāinga on Māori land without planning consent.
- Agreed policy decisions to regulate smart Electric Vehicle chargers.
- Reformed water services through Local Water Done Well to lift investment in this critical infrastructure, including supporting territorial authorities to deliver Water Services Delivery Plans.

Underway

- Enacting the Planning and Natural Environment Bill.
- Developing National Policy Direction for the new Planning System.
- Introducing Transitional National Rules to simplify consent requirements.
- Introducing national instruments to free up land for urban development to enable our towns and cities to grow both up and out and to address the housing shortage.
- Continuing to improve the planning system to make it easier to build homes.
- Increasing remote inspections in the building consent process and developing an opt-in self-certification scheme for low-risk residential building work, to streamline the building of houses.
- Encouraging investor interest in infrastructure to encourage world-class, innovative ideas in how we provide solutions to community needs and build infrastructure.

- Progressing legislation to improve the Infrastructure Funding and Financing Act 2020 to make it easier to fund and finance infrastructure projects using this model.
- Introducing legislation to replace development contributions with a development levy system for funding infrastructure needed to meet housing growth.
- Considering and approving investments to be made by the Regional Infrastructure Fund, contributing to regional economies and creating jobs, including strengthening New Zealand's flood resilience infrastructure.
- Progressing work to identify system changes and processes required to support a successful fleetwide transition to Road User Charges (RUC).
- Developing additional national standards for wastewater infrastructure consenting to increase the potential for cost savings; developing NZ's first national engineering standards for all reticulated networks to replace 45 different codes of practice; and developing new infrastructure design solutions for wastewater networks.
- Establishing an LNG import facility to ensure fuel supply for secure electricity generation and other gas users.
- Implement a Geothermal Strategy Action Plan.
- Progressing changes to the planning system to implement ElectrifyNZ and open up opportunities in the energy sector.
- Supporting the uptake of renewable energy and alternative fuels, including updating safety regulations, and setting smart Electric Vehicle charging standards.
- Supporting Iwi-led system innovation and investment collaboration with Iwi partners.

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