Minister for Tourism and Hospitality

Tourism and Hospitality Portfolio

Vote Business, Science and Innovation

Report in relation to selected non-departmental appropriations for the year ended 30 June 2026

Presented to the House of Representatives pursuant to Section 19B of the Public Finance Act 1989

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Foreword

Ministers are responsible for reporting the financial and non-financial performance of non-departmental appropriations to Parliament. This report provides information about the year-end performance results of non-departmental appropriations that have not been included in any other reports to Parliament.

This report provides the 1 July 2025 - 30 June 2026 results of relevant non-departmental appropriations for the Tourism and Hospitality portfolio within Vote Business, Science and Innovation. The relevant appropriations are:

Non-Departmental Other Expenses

- *Tourism and Hospitality: Regional Tourism Boost*
- *Economic and Regional Development: Major Events Development Fund 2022-2027*
- *Tourism and Hospitality: Ngā Haerenga, The New Zealand Cycle Trail Fund*
- *Tourism and Hospitality: Tourism Strategic Infrastructure and System Capability*
- *Tourism and Hospitality: Tourism Infrastructure Fund*

Hon Louise Upston
Minister for Tourism and Hospitality
09/10/2026

Statements of Performance

Non-Departmental Other Expenses

Tourism and Hospitality: Regional Tourism Boost

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to implementation of the Regional Tourism Boost.

Intention Statement

The appropriation is intended to support regions to attract more international visitors to travel, stay and dine in New Zealand in the first half of 2026.

Assessment of Performance

Non-Financial

Performance Measures	2024/25 Actual Result	2025/26 Budget Standard	2025/26 Actual Result
Percentage of contracts that have been monitored and assessed in line with contract requirements	New measure for 2025/26	100%	100%

Commentary

$10 million was made available from the Major Events and Tourism Package to run a second round of the Regional Tourism Boost. The fund is closed and campaigns ended on 30 June 2026. Following receipt and review of final reports, final payments will be made.

Financial

Expenses	2024/25 Actual $000	2025/26 Estimates $000	2025/26 Supplementary Estimates $000	2025/26 Actual $000
Total Appropriation	0	0	9.050	8,916

Commentary

$0.950 million of available funding was transferred to 2026/27, along with an in-principle expense transfer (IPET) for the year-end underspend of $0.134 million to provision for final campaign payments. This funding included a $0.400 million provision to evaluate elements of the Major Events and Tourism Package.

Economic and Regional Development: Major Events Development Fund 2022-2027

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to support for major events that provide economic, social, cultural and international profiling benefits to New Zealand.

Commences: 01 July 2022

Expires: 30 June 2027

Intention Statement

The appropriation is intended to achieve the support for major events that provide benefits to New Zealand. The performance of events funded through the Major Events Fund in assessed annually against the five Major Events Priorities, using a set of Key Performance Indicators endorsed by the Major Events Ministers Group.

Assessment of Performance

Non-Financial

Performance Measures	2024/25 Actual Result	2025/26 Budget Standard	2025/26 Actual Result
Annual average percentage of the Key Performance Indicators met by events funded through the Major Events Fund	At least 75%	At least 75%	100%

Commentary

All KPIs were achieved. A strong portfolio of events is confirmed for the remaining Multi-Year Appropriation (MYA) with a significant pipeline of event opportunities developed for the next MYA.

Financial

Expenses	2024/25 Actual $000	2025/26 Estimates $000	2025/26 Supplementary Estimates $000	2025/26 Actual $000
Total Appropriation	10,721	16,390	73,196	21,400

Commentary

This Multi-Year Appropriation (MYA) is underspent by $51.796 million in 2025/26. This is primarily due to the MYA receiving a one-off appropriation increase of $50 million (a Cabinet decision in September 2025 approved adding $40 million of funding for an Events Attraction Package (EAP), and $10 million for an Events Boost Fund (EBF)) with EBF and EAP contracts continuing into the 2026/27 financial year. Funding for the EBF and EAP packages is almost fully committed, and delivery of initiatives against this funding has been extended by Ministers from June 2027 to December 2027.

Tourism and Hospitality: Ngā Haerenga, The New Zealand Cycle Trail Fund

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to the provision of funding for the maintenance, development and promotion of Ngā Haerenga, The New Zealand Cycle Trail including the provision of funding to New Zealand Cycle Trail Incorporated.

Intention Statement

The appropriation is intended to achieve the success and long-term sustainability of Ngā Haerenga, The New Zealand Cycle Trail Network.

Assessment of Performance

Non-Financial

Performance Measures	2024/25 Actual Result	2025/26 Budget Standard	2025/26 Actual Result
Funding agreements are monitored and assessed in line with contractual requirements	New measure for 2025/26	100%	100%

Commentary

Ongoing contract monitoring and assessment with many contracts spanning multiple financial years.

Financial

Expenses	2024/25 Actual $000	2025/26 Estimates $000	2025/26 Supplementary Estimates $000	2025/26 Actual $000
Total Appropriation	9,359	17,000	16,381	10,020

Commentary

This appropriation is underspent by $6.361 million in 2025/26. This is due to the timing of the drawdown for committed funding against multiple projects, and the January 2026 storm event that severely damaged the Hauraki Rail Trail Great Ride, which resulted in pausing the NZCT investment round until the trail repair costs could be determined and funding approved. These factors caused project delivery to be delayed. An in-principle expense transfer (IPET) has been approved to carry forward underspends related to these committed projects.

Tourism and Hospitality: Tourism Strategic Infrastructure and System Capability

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to investment in tourism-related infrastructure and systems, including capability, in accordance with an agreed International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Visitor Levy Investment Plan.

Intention Statement

The appropriation is intended to improve and expand visitor-related infrastructure and build the capability of the tourism system. Together with investment managed by the Department of Conservation, the funding will support a more sustainable tourism sector that enriches New Zealanders and support a quality visitor experience.

Assessment of Performance

Non-Financial

Performance Measures	2024/25 Actual Result	2025/26 Budget Standard	2025/26 Actual Result
Percentage of contracts that have been monitored and assessed in line with contract requirements	100%	100%	100%

Commentary

The International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy (IVL) Annual Performance Report 2025/26 will be available before the end of the 2026 calendar year.

Financial

Expenses	2024/25 Actual $000	2025/26 Estimates $000	2025/26 Supplementary Estimates $000	2025/26 Actual $000
Total Appropriation	9,460	9,125	12,697	10,819

Commentary

This appropriation is underspent by $1.878 million in 2025/26. The appropriation relates to the International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy (IVL). Unspent levy funding can be carried forward and used for future expenditure. The appropriation was reduced to $12.697 million for 2025/26 due to funding transfers to the Major Events Development Fund 2022-2027 ($5.0 million), Tourism NZ ($23.7 million), and the Department of Conservation ($4.008 million) to support Tourism Growth Roadmap Investments. An in-principle expense transfer (IPET) has been approved to carry forward underspends into 2026/27. These underspends are due to delays to funded projects that have not been completed by 30 June 2026.

Tourism and Hospitality: Tourism Infrastructure Fund

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to supporting communities to respond to tourism-related pressures on existing infrastructure.

Intention Statement

The appropriation is intended to achieve infrastructure that will contribute to quality experiences for visitors.

Assessment of Performance

Non-Financial

Performance Measures	2024/25 Actual Result	2025/26 Budget Standard	2025/26 Actual Result
Percentage of contracts assessed against their objectives and critical steps in line with contract requirements	100%	100%	100%

Commentary

The fund is closed. The majority of the remaining 21 projects will be completed by the end of 2026, and up to four projects by the end of 2027.

Financial

Expenses	2024/25 Actual $000	2025/26 Estimates $000	2025/26 Supplementary Estimates $000	2025/26 Actual $000
Total Appropriation	7,085	5,131	4,237	2,033

Commentary

This appropriation is underspent by $2.204 million in 2025/26 due to the timing of payments to Councils as compared to funds committed. Funding rounds have now finished, and remaining contracts are gradually being paid as they are being completed. An In-Principle Expense Transfer (IPET) has been approved to carry forward underspends into 2026/27.