

# Introduction to the Infrastructure Priorities Programme

JULY 2024

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Infrastructure Priorities Programme



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## About the Infrastructure Priorities Programme

The Infrastructure Priorities Programme (IPP) is an independent and standardised process to identify proposals and projects that are nationally important, will meet New Zealand's strategic objectives, represent good value for money and can be delivered. The IPP is administered by Te Waihanga.

The IPP is a part of the development of the Commission's National Infrastructure Plan. Proposals and projects assessed as meeting the criteria under the IPP will be published and included within the National Infrastructure Plan, sending a strong signal to decision-makers and the public that these are infrastructure priorities.

NOTE: The IPP is expected to be rolled out in stages. Initially, the IPP will only be available to central government agencies, Crown entities, and state-owned enterprises.



## How it works

The IPP will provide a public menu of priority infrastructure proposals that have been submitted to us and gone through a standardised independent review process. This ensures that proposals meet key assessment criteria. A successful proposal will: meet New Zealand's strategic objectives, represent value for money, and be a project or solution that can actually be delivered.

A proposal doesn't have to be a built piece of infrastructure. It could be a solution to avoid the need for building new infrastructure, like a congestion charge that can help manage use of an existing road. Proposals can be submitted at different stages, from the initial idea, to options assessment, to the stage at which they are ready to be built.

Submitters shouldn't need to collect any additional information beyond what would normally be included as part of good project planning.

We will work to assess projects within a reasonable time frame and all successful proposals will be publicly listed on our website.

### For central government organisations

The IPP is not a formal part of existing funding processes and is not mandatory for those seeking funding.

To minimise task duplication the IPP requires the same information as the Better Business Case process and Investment Management System.

If you have already submitted a specific proposal to the Treasury, you can request that the application is also considered for the IPP. If you are using this application pathway, the Treasury will forward your application to us. Once we have received the application, Te Waihanga will follow up with the applicant to review and approve the application before it is assessed.

## What's the benefit?

The New Zealand Infrastructure Strategy recommended the development of an IPP to help provide certainty about future projects and solve our long-term challenges; from addressing climate change, improving our cities, connecting all regions of New Zealand, strengthening resilience and moving to a circular economy.

A robust assessment process can have benefits for infrastructure providers, decision-makers and the construction sector in determining future capability needs. For organisations that submit their project, the IPP offers an opportunity to receive a free, independent review of your proposal and receive targeted advice.

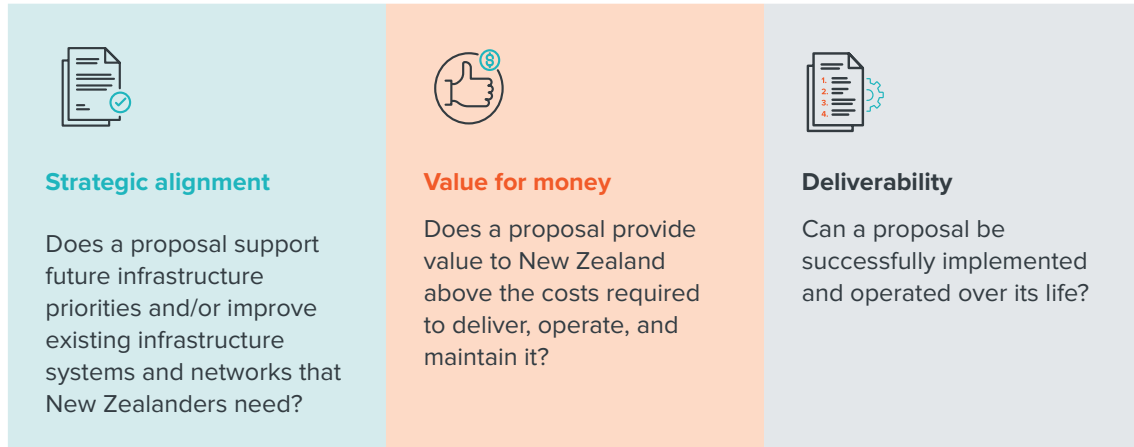


**A robust assessment process can have benefits for infrastructure providers, decision-makers and the construction sector in determining future capability needs.**

# Assessment criteria

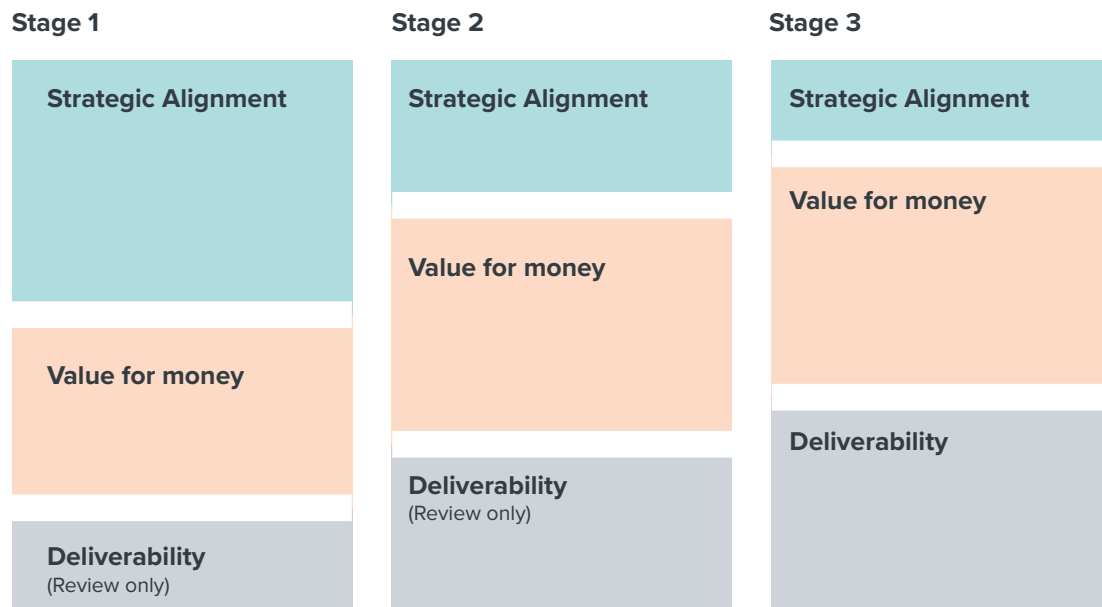
When you submit a proposal to the IPP it is assessed by expert assessors at Te Waihanga and reviewed by an expert panel. The criteria are standardised, so all proposals are reviewed independently and based on their own merit.

How we assess an IPP submission depends on the stage of a proposal. All proposals are considered against three key criteria: strategic alignment, value for money, and deliverability.



The focus of assessment changes depending on the stage of the proposal as illustrated in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Assessment focus evolves as proposals proceed through stages



# Understanding your proposal stage

To submit a proposal, you'll need to know what stage your project is at. You can submit proposals at three different stages.

**Stage 1:** You will have identified a problem or opportunity, but no solution has been locked in.

**Stage 2:** You will have identified a problem or opportunity and have a range of options to solve it. You'll have a reasonable amount of information on most of these solutions, including how much they will cost.

**Stage 3:** Your proposal is ready for investment. You'll have a high level of maturity in financial (e.g., costings), commercial, procurement, and governance planning.

## The application process

Submitting a proposal to the IPP is easy. There are five steps to the application process.

<b>1. Identify a project</b>	This means understanding what stage the project is in and having a well-defined idea of the problem the proposal is trying to solve.
<b>2. Information gathering</b>	Significant public infrastructure projects are required to develop business cases as part of their existing planning processes. The information that we require to assess an application is expected to be found within these documents. Depending on the stage of the project the information you need to provide to us is different. The further along a project the more information we will need. If you do not provide sufficient information, we will notify you what information is required.
<b>3. Submit proposal</b>	Follow the steps in the form and provide the relevant information to submit your proposal. You'll get confirmation when your proposal has been submitted.
<b>4. Review</b>	We'll assess your proposal based on the standardised criteria. Find out more about the assessment criteria.
<b>5. Decision</b>	We'll make a decision based on the information you provided. We'll notify you of our decision. Once we have completed your assessment, we will publish the results of your assessment on the Te Waihanga website whether it has been accepted or not. If your proposal is successful, it will be included as part of a menu of infrastructure priorities that will be included in the National Infrastructure Plan and will signal to decision-makers and the public that your proposal is a priority for New Zealand.



**Step 1:**  
Identify a project



**Step 2:**  
information gathering



**Step 3:**  
Submit proposal



**Step 4:**  
Review



**Step 5:**  
Decision

## Further information

If you have any questions or would like to make a submission please get in touch [pipeline@tewaihanga.govt.nz](mailto:pipeline@tewaihanga.govt.nz)