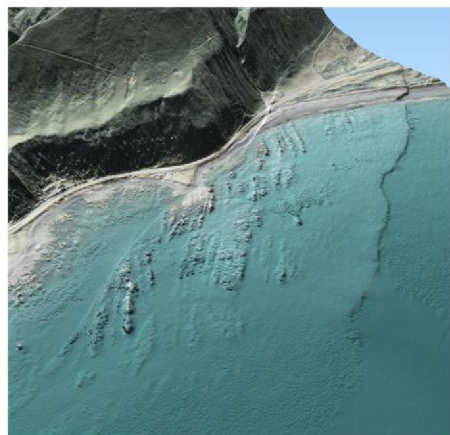
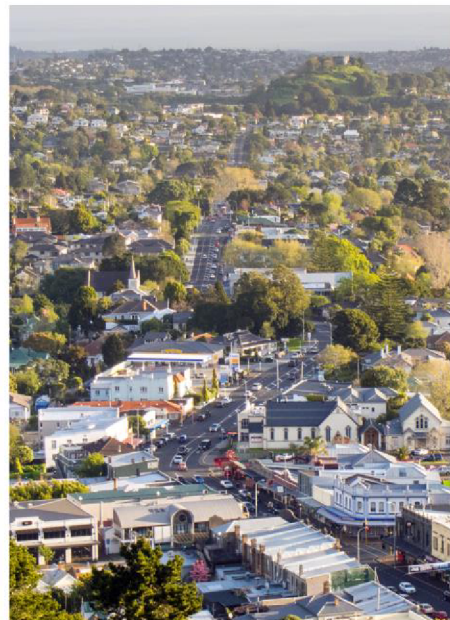
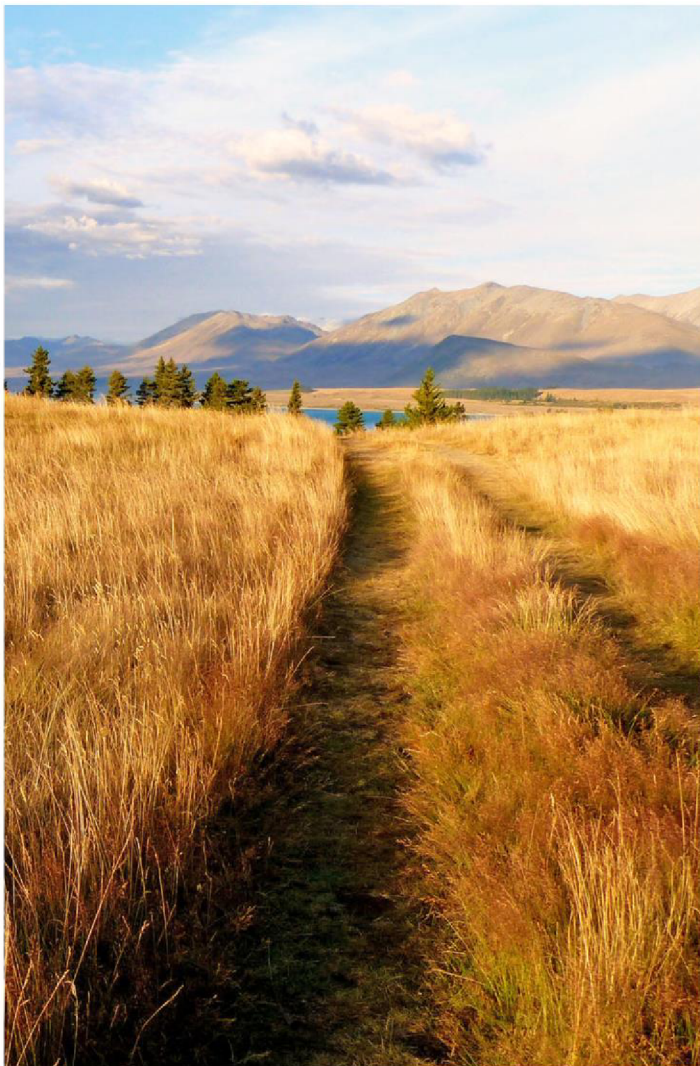


Briefing to the Incoming Minister for Land Information

Introduction to the Land Information Portfolio



Contents

LINZ at a glance	3
What we do: facts and figures	4
Introduction	5
Our core functions	5
Our funding	6
Who we are: senior leadership team and functions	7
Who we are: independent statutory officers and main functions	8
Your responsibilities as Minister for Land Information	9
Core responsibilities	9
Crown property	9
Overseas investment applications	9
Geographic name proposals	10
Policy and regulatory stewardship	10
Appointments to statutory boards	10
Related responsibilities	11
Current LINZ priorities.....	12
Ensuring NZ has an efficient and robust property system	12
Advanced Survey and Title Services project (ASaTS).....	12
Integrated Property Services (IPS)	13
Improving geographic information and its use	13
Improving the management of the Crown Estate	14
Ensuring effective administration of Overseas Investment Act	15
Working with you in the first few months.....	16

Cover images:

(clockwise from left)

Open Country, NZ by Bernard Spragg / CC0 1.0 Public Domain

View of Suburb of Mount Eden, Auckland by Russell Street / CC BY-SA 2.0

Waipapa Bay following the 2016 Kaikōura earthquake – LiDAR image / Image produced by LINZ, underlying data licensed by NZ Transport Agency and LINZ for re-use under Creative Commons Attribution 4.0

LINZ at a glance

CORE FUNCTIONS

- Make geographic information accessible and usable
- Protect New Zealanders' property rights
- Ensure the Crown Estate is sustainably managed
- Ensure international investments in our valued assets benefit New Zealand

STRATEGY

LINZ's **vision** is that the power of where drives New Zealand's success

LINZ's **goal** is to grow by tenfold the value created for New Zealand through the use of geographic information over the next decade

LINZ's three **strategic objectives** are to:



Increase the use of geographic information



Unlock the value of property



Improve resilience to natural events

LEGISLATION AND STATUTORY OFFICERS

LINZ administers 15 **Acts** and has specific functions under many others

There are four **independent statutory officers** based at LINZ:

- Commissioner of Crown Lands
- Surveyor-General
- Registrar-General of Land
- Valuer-General

What we do: facts and figures

Our performance story, 2016 – 2017

Awards and Achievements



- **New Zealand ranks number 1** on the World Bank's ease of registering property index
- **New Zealand Spatial Excellence Awards 2016 Technical Excellence Award** for core elevation data
- **Finalist, New Zealand Spatial Excellence Awards 2017** for development of a web-based mapping and monitoring tool to help fight the spread of wilding pines

Robust Property System

Administered New Zealand's Survey and Title System, with:



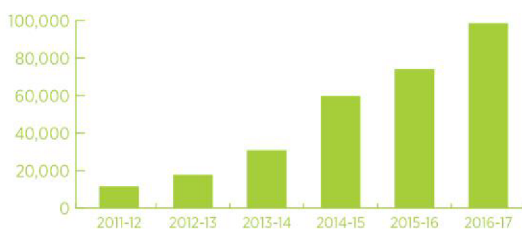
- **210,000 titles** issued or reissued
- **634,000 instruments¹** lodged
- **10,500 cadastral survey plans** approved
- **2.5 million land parcels** held

1. An instrument is a legal document such as a transfer of ownership, a mortgage or an easement.

Improving Geographic Information and its use

LINZ and others have worked to provide open-access aerial imagery covering 95% of NZ, up from 6% in 2012.

Increased use of our data that is freely available through the LINZ data service (LDS):



Improving management of the Crown Estate

Managed Crown Land:

- **Almost 2 million hectares** of land managed by LINZ
- **Over \$800 million worth of land** administered by LINZ
- **Almost 2,000 properties** administered by LINZ on behalf of other agencies



Provided crown property management and disposal expertise across Government with:



179

Crown properties sold (for \$58.6 million)



Over 500

Crown properties in the disposal programme

The Overseas Investment Office



170
assessments completed
in 2016/17

Introduction

This document introduces you to the Land Information portfolio. It sets out what we do, why we do it, and your role and functions as Minister for Land Information. It also covers the matters requiring your attention over the next three months.

LINZ's Māori name is Toitū te Whenua. This comes from the proverb *Whatungarongaro te tangata toitū te whenua*: "people pass on, but land remains".

Our core functions

LINZ administers 15 Acts, including the Public Works Act 1981, the Land Act 1948, and the Land Transfer Act 1952.

LINZ has four core roles.

- We make geographic information accessible and useable.
- We protect New Zealanders' property rights.
- We ensure the Crown Estate is sustainably managed.
- We ensure international investments in our valued assets benefit New Zealand.

These core roles are briefly described below.

Geographic information

LINZ collects core geographic information (for example, about the terrain and the depths of our seafloor) and maintains the infrastructure that produces this information. We use the information to produce maps and charts. We also release geographic information for others to use through the LINZ Data Service (LDS).

Property rights

We advise on, and administer, the regimes under which land title is guaranteed, property boundaries are defined, and rating valuations are established. Our electronic system – Landonline - is a critical part of this. LINZ maintains the ownership register and survey records upon which the property market and land development activity depend. LINZ also administers the Crown Estate and regulates the acquisition and disposal of land for public works.

Crown Estate

The Crown (both directly and through its various land holding agencies) is the largest single land holder in New Zealand. The Crown Estate is estimated to comprise over 40% of the total area of New Zealand and is valued at over \$49 billion.

A core LINZ role is ensuring that the Crown Estate is sustainably managed. We manage around 1.8 million hectares of New Zealand's land and more than 16,000 properties, including 2,000 on behalf of 11 agencies, and this is continuing to grow. This land consists of properties including surplus residential properties, South Island high country pastoral leases, riverbed land, beds of lakes such as Wanaka and Karapiro, major sites such as the Waihi gold mine, and Crown forestry licences.

We are working with other government agencies to ensure surplus Crown Estate is put to its best use.

Overseas investment

The Overseas Investment Office (OIO) sits within LINZ. The OIO administers the overseas investment regime, which regulates overseas ownership of sensitive New Zealand assets.

Our funding

LINZ is funded through Vote Lands and has a total departmental appropriation of \$144 million for the 2017/18 year. Approximately 60% of LINZ’s revenue is generated from third parties, mainly through property title transactions and survey charges.

Main expenditure areas	2016/17
Survey and title system	47%
Location Information and geospatial work	21%
Management of Crown land	15%
Overseas Investment Office	4%
Other (includes biosecurity and provision of policy advice)	13%

% based on 2016/17 actuals

Who we are: senior leadership team and functions

Our senior leadership is responsible for approximately 600 staff in Wellington, Christchurch and Hamilton.



Andrew Crisp
Chief Executive of LINZ



Mandy McDonald
(Acting) Deputy Chief Executive Corporate

- Corporate support including HR, Finance, Communications, ICT



Jerome Sheppard
Deputy Chief Executive Crown Property

- Crown Property
- Legal Services
- Commissioner of Crown Lands



Jan Pierce
Deputy Chief Executive Location Information

- Resilience
- Geospatial data and information services



Lisa Barrett
Deputy Chief Executive Policy and Overseas Investment Office

- Overseas Investment Office
- Policy and Frameworks



Russell Turner
Deputy Chief Executive Property Rights

- Survey and Title Operations
- Advanced Survey and Title Services (ASaTS)



Kathy Mansell
Deputy Chief Executive Strategy and Stewardship

- Business with Māori
- Stewardship and independent statutory officers
- Strategy

Who we are: independent statutory officers and main functions

LINZ has four statutory officers appointed under the State Sector Act 1988, three of whom have regulatory functions and one who acts as land owner for the Crown. All four have statutorily independent roles. They also operate as a member of LINZ's leadership cohort.



Robbie Muir
Registrar-General of Land

- Land Titles System – delivery of title registration services
- Setting regulatory standards and guidelines
- Annual assurance programme – audits and reviews of lawyers and conveyancers



Mark Dyer
Surveyor-General

- Delivery of national geodetic and survey control systems
- Chairperson of the New Zealand Geographic Board
- Convenor of Representation Commission



Neill Sullivan
Valuer-General

- Valuation System – ensures district valuation rolls maintained to minimum standards
- Monitoring and auditing rating valuation service providers
- Regulating registered valuers
- Chairperson of the Valuers Registration Board



Craig Harris
(Acting) Commissioner of Crown Lands

- Exercising ownership rights for and on behalf of the Crown over land held under the Land Act 1948
- Oversees tenure review process for Crown pastoral leases
- Consultation with iwi arising from Treaty claim settlements

Your responsibilities as Minister for Land Information

As Minister for Land Information, you are responsible for a range of decisions relating to this portfolio (core responsibilities). You also may have a role in the cross-agency work LINZ is involved in (related responsibilities). These are discussed below.

Core responsibilities

You are responsible for decision making in the following areas.

- Crown property
 - Compulsory acquisition of land under the Public Works Act 1981
 - Management of the South Island high country
- Overseas investment applications
- Geographic name proposals
- Policy and regulatory stewardship
- Appointments to statutory boards

A brief summary of the decisions you will be asked to make is set out below.

Crown property

Compulsory acquisition of land under the Public Works Act 1981

The acquisition and disposal of land by the Crown can generate significant public interest, either locally or nationally.

While most decision-making is delegated to LINZ officials, you will be asked to make a number of decisions each year on compulsory acquisition of land. This occurs where it has not been possible to reach agreement with the land owners on the acquisition. During 2016/17, over 150 notices relating to compulsory acquisition were signed, 50 of these required a decision by the Minister for Land Information or the Governor General.

Management of the South Island high country

The Crown owns environmentally sensitive land in the South Island high country that is leased or (in a few cases) licensed for pastoral farming purposes. Pastoral lessees have an opportunity to buy some of their leasehold land through a voluntary process known as tenure review.

The Commissioner of Crown Lands oversees the management of pastoral leases and is the decision maker regarding any tenure review. However, under the current settings you are responsible for approving the funding of a tenure review proposal when it requires the expenditure of Crown funds for completion.

Overseas investment applications

Overseas investment applications are decided by the Minister of Finance and the Minister for Land Information, where these have not been delegated to LINZ. The Minister for Primary Industries decides overseas investment applications for fishing quota.

During 2016/17, 50 applications were sent to Ministers for a decision as they were outside of the scope of LINZ's current delegated powers.

Geographic name proposals

The New Zealand Geographic Board Ngā Pou Taunaha o Aotearoa (NZGB) is our national naming authority. The NZGB is responsible for consistent, standardised and accurate official geographic names in New Zealand, our continental shelf and off shore islands, and our area of interest in Antarctica.

For many geographic name proposals, the NZGB makes the final decisions. However, your decision is required when the NZGB rejects any objecting submissions to geographic name proposals within territorial New Zealand (not including Treaty name proposals). During 2016/17, the Minister made 12 final decisions.

Policy and regulatory stewardship

You will need to make decisions related to LINZ's current policy initiatives, for instance regarding the outcome of reviewing third party fees (fees paid for our services).

Policy development will also be directed by your priorities. We will brief you and provide you with advice to support your decisions.

In addition, we are in the preliminary stages of establishing our regulatory stewardship strategy. As our strategy develops, this may lead to policy recommendations for improving our regulatory systems and the roles and responsibilities within these.

Appointments to statutory boards

The Minister for Land Information is responsible for the appointment of members of three Statutory Boards.

- The Cadastral Surveyors Licensing Board (the CSLB)
- The Valuers Registration Board (VRB)
- The New Zealand Geographic Board Ngā Pou Taunaha o Aotearoa (NZGB)

The next scheduled appointment round for each of these boards is in 2019.

In addition, the Minister for Land Information is responsible for the process of appointing the Chair of the Orton Bradley Park Board¹. This appointment takes place every three years, with the next due in 2019.

¹ Orton Bradley Park is a private rural property in Christchurch.

Related responsibilities

You will also work with other Ministers on the broader issues that LINZ supports.

- LINZ is responsible for clearing and managing the Crown-owned land and property portfolio in greater Christchurch's residential red zones and the Central City. LINZ supports the Minister supporting Greater Christchurch Regeneration and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's Chief Executive.
- LINZ also works with the Office of Treaty Settlements. We manage the Treaty Settlements Landbank which contains Crown-owned properties that could be used in future settlements.
- LINZ, along with Statistics New Zealand and the Department of Internal Affairs, is a core government information agency. We are working with other agencies to open up government data for use and reuse, and improve connections between the data.
- The Minister of Finance is responsible for strategic policy decisions on overseas investment. LINZ works closely with the Treasury to support this.
- LINZ releases a quarterly report of data on property transfers and tax residency. This data is collected from tax statement forms, which are completed when people buy, sell or transfer property.
- In addition, LINZ is part of the Natural Resources Sector (a group of government agencies who are responsible for the management and stewardship of New Zealand's natural resources). A separate Natural Resources Sector briefing will be provided for your information.

Current LINZ priorities

LINZ is progressing the following initiatives as a priority.

- Ensuring NZ has an efficient and robust property system. This includes:
 - Updating the electronic survey and title system – Landonline - through the Advanced Survey and Title Services project (ASaTS)
 - Providing accessible, joined-up property information through Integrated Property Services (IPS)
- Improving the use of geographic information
- Improving the management of the Crown Estate
- Continuously identifying and implementing improvements to ensure that overseas investment in New Zealand's valued assets delivers benefits to New Zealanders.

A brief summary of these current priorities is set out below.

Ensuring NZ has an efficient and robust property system

Advanced Survey and Title Services project (ASaTS)

State of play

New Zealand is recognised by the World Bank as the best country in the world for ease of registering property.

Our efficient and robust property rights system is used for surveying, measuring and maintaining an official record of land boundaries, and for registering land titles and property transactions.

The current technology platform for the survey and title system (called Landonline) is reaching the end of its life.

ASaTS is a project to replace Landonline, maximising the use of new technology to provide an improved experience for users.

ASaTS received Cabinet approval to go to market in April 2016. LINZ has selected a preferred supplier for pre-contract work.

s9(2)(j), OIA 1982

ASaTS will be delivered in phases and will be fully operational by 2021. Between now and ASaTS implementation, we will maintain and manage Landonline at current standards.

Opportunities

ASaTS, once implemented, will significantly improve the quality and range of survey and title services that we provide to our customers.

Moving to next generation technology will improve availability and reliability. It will also provide the ability to more easily make changes to meet evolving customer needs.

ASaTS will also position LINZ to deliver wider benefits to government and New Zealand through this enhanced digital capability.

Next steps

We are working to deliver the Final (Implementation) Business Case for ASaTS and associated advice to support a Cabinet paper for the Business Case in March/April 2018.

Integrated Property Services (IPS)

State of play

Property data includes information about land parcels, titles, buildings, addresses, rating units and consents (such as for building and / or resource management), amongst other things. Much of this property data is managed by siloed regulatory systems. As a consequence, the different pieces of property data about a single property cannot be quickly, reliably and cost-effectively accessed and linked.

Opportunities

Over time, IPS will enable property datasets from different sources across central and local government and the private sector to be integrated and easily accessed. IPS envisions a future where decision makers – ranging from individuals, businesses and government – can access property information in a single transaction. This involves removing the silos within the current regulatory systems to deliver better connected property data.

Anyone who uses property data will benefit from IPS. Individuals will be able to access a more complete “digital view” of a property they are interested in. Government will have access to detailed property information to inform strategic decisions, for instance about land availability for housing.

LINZ is leading IPS because of its existing expertise as steward of the regulatory regimes under which land title is guaranteed, property boundaries are defined, and rating valuations are established.

Next steps

We will report to you on progress on IPS as soon as practicable.

Improving geographic information and its use

State of play

LINZ continues to release national datasets of geographic information for other agencies and the public to use, including topographic maps, nautical charts, property information and aerial imagery. Recent deliverables include:

- completing a pilot to get more value from government elevation data (ie LiDAR), critical for applications such as flood modelling and infrastructure development
- improving the country’s reference system for measuring heights (especially our vertical datum) to enable land and sea data sets to be combined. This will help planners model the heights of our landscape and buildings so they can see how water will move during tsunamis, storm surges and floods
- beginning to capture a national building outlines dataset and development of a river network dataset.

Opportunities

Over the long-term we will ensure that relevant geographic information is available and used effectively to inform decisions of key importance for New Zealand. Some critical touch points include urban planning, environmental protection, infrastructure investment, regional development and public safety.

Increased use of accurate and current geographic information for planning, development and investment decisions will improve New Zealand's resilience to natural events.

Next steps

We are developing a work programme called Mapping NZ 2025, to ensure New Zealand has seamless digital mapping and datasets to support decision making, including for resilience. A particular focus of Mapping NZ 2025 will be looking to leverage the elevation (LiDAR) pilot to support better planning, environment and investment decision making. We are also working with NIWA and GNS to lead and coordinate the mapping of the seafloor in the South and West Pacific Ocean as part of the international Seabed 2030 programme.

Improving the management of the Crown Estate

State of play

We have direct responsibility for a broad Crown Estate portfolio, including the:

- administration of the Treaty Settlement Landbank and management of Watts Peninsula, Wellington
- managing Crown-owned properties in the Canterbury residential red zone areas and central business district to support the regeneration in Canterbury.

We also work alongside other land holding agencies to support their property related activities, enabling them to better focus resources on the delivery of core public services. Our relationships include:

- formal agreements to manage or dispose of properties for eleven of the top fifteen capital intensive Crown land-holding agencies
- a Memorandum of Understanding and joint work programme with Environment Canterbury (ECAN) to ensure our joint resources are used efficiently and effectively, particularly where we have shared outcomes.

Opportunities

We are engaging with agencies to develop a framework to support a more strategic approach to decision making on Crown land and to identify any potential system changes to help improve long term planning and management of the Crown Estate.

We are developing ways to improve capability and information about Crown property across government agencies.

We are working to create a register of Crown-owned land to support all-of-government decision making.

Our work with ECAN offers the ability for us to work together on:

- mapping braided rivers
- improving geospatial data and access to information

- managing pests, including wilding conifers
- supporting the outcomes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy

Long term, there are opportunities for LINZ to extend its role in the Crown Estate, including offering a land-banking service to repurpose or dispose of underutilised Crown-owned land holdings to best align with government priorities.

Next steps

LINZ will continue to engage:

- across the Crown property sector to develop the decision making framework
- with ECAN on a no surprises basis to ensure that there is a clear understanding of each organisation's strategic and operative drivers and alignment of these where possible
- with our joint stakeholders regularly – Fish and Game, Forest and Bird, Ngai Tahu, and other interested parties.

LINZ will also work with the Treasury to identify any required system changes to improve long-term investment planning and streamline inter-agency property transactions.

Ensuring effective administration of Overseas Investment Act

State of play

Our current focus is on lifting the performance of our regulatory functions. A critical part of this is a continual programme of improvements in our processes (the quality programme). We are also strengthening our enforcement function by increasing investigations and taking enforcement action where appropriate.

Opportunities

The quality programme supports a more robust process for ensuring overseas investment delivers benefits to New Zealand. Through the quality programme we are working to ensure:

- rigorous analysis of claims by applicants that their investment will benefit New Zealand
- conditions of consent require applicants to deliver those benefits
- risks from investments are appropriately managed.

In addition, we are continuing to build a credible enforcement function. This involves increasing our monitoring and investigation capability, and taking enforcement action where appropriate.

There are further opportunities in this area to improve the regulatory framework of the overseas investment regime.

Next Steps

We will work with you to identify areas for continuing improvement. In addition, there will be a number of applications for you and the other decision-making minister (the Minister of Finance or nominated Associate) for you to consider. We will provide you with a briefing on particular applications.

Working with you in the first few months

The most important things for you to be aware of, including decisions you need to make, by the end of March 2018 are:

Vote Lands: 2018 Budget initiatives	
We will brief you on bids for Budget 2018 and October Baseline Update.	November 2017
We will seek your agreement to the Estimates of the Land Information Appropriation.	March 2018
Overseas investment applications	
We anticipate a number of applications for your consideration.	By the end of March 2018
Property transfers and tax residency data	
Release of the July – September property tax report (for your information).	November 2017
Implementation of the Land Transfer Act	
Regulations and other measures to support the implementation of the Land Transfer Act 2017.	February 2018
Reviews of third party fees	
Options on title fees to support the implementation of the Land Transfer Act 2017.	November 2017
Topographic fees review – we will seek your approval to submit a paper to Cabinet on potential changes to fees for topographic maps, following consultation held last year.	Early 2018
Public Works Act 1981 decisions	
You will receive a number of these. As the process often involves other government agencies (such as the NZTA) and contracted service providers, it is difficult to predict when particular cases will require your action.	Ongoing
Ministerial report back	
<i>Report-back on possible changes to sections 40 and 41 of the Public Works Act 1981</i> We are leading a report to yourself and the Minister for Māori Development regarding offer-backs of former Māori and other land that is no longer required for public works, and how to align Crown and local authority practice.	November/ December 2017
Cabinet papers	
<i>Report-back on options to improve unformed road stopping processes</i> We are part of a working group led by TPK and DIA on streamlining the process to stop unformed roads. A report-back to Cabinet is due before the end of November 2017 to present a preferred option and further work required.	November/ December 2017

<p><i>Improving the occupational regulation of valuers</i></p> <p>We are seeking agreement to either progress or pause changes to the Valuers Act 1948 to improve the occupational regulation of valuers.</p>	<p>February 2018</p>
<p><i>Advanced Survey and Title Services (ASaTS)</i></p> <p>We are preparing a paper that will seek Cabinet approval to the ASaTS Implementation Business Case.</p>	<p>March/April 2018</p>
<p>New Zealand Geographic Board</p>	
<p>The Board will refer a number of proposals to your office for final decision.</p>	<p>December 2017</p>
<p>Earthquake related amendments to rating requirements</p>	
<p>We are seeking agreement for an Order in Council to delay the Hurunui District Council undertaking valuations reassessments as part of the roll maintenance requirements under the Ratings Valuation Act 1998. The Order would be made under the Hurunui/ Kaikōura Earthquake Act 2016, and is necessary as there is insufficient information for the Council to conduct robust reassessments.</p>	<p>February 2018</p>