

Infrastructure investment fact sheet

The scope and scale of the school property portfolio

- New Zealand's school system comprises 2070 state schools, 330 state-integrated schools and 85 private schools serving a combined roll of more than 760,000 students.
- The portfolio is a large Government asset, with a total book value of \$10.7 billion, and replacement value of \$21.9 billion (as at 30 June 2013 of state schools).
- The state school property portfolio includes 3100 land parcels, 24,000 school buildings (with 35,000 classrooms), 1400 swimming pools and 900 houses.

The infrastructure investment

- Over the past five years the Government has committed on average more than \$500 million annually for capital works associated with maintaining the existing school property portfolio and expanding capacity.
- A further \$134 million has been set aside to support new schools, site acquisitions and roll growth over the next five years.
- \$50 million per year over six years has been set aside in a fund for major developments in approximately 30 existing schools.
- \$170 million has been invested over the past four years to assess and remediate school buildings affected by weather-tightness failure – this is part of a 10-15 year programme of work to remediate and prevent weather-tightness failure – at present there are 800 buildings covered by the programme.
- More than \$80 million has been identified over the next five years to support a national earthquake resilience programme to strengthen schools - high risk buildings will be assessed by December 2015; structural strengthening will be completed within five years of identification
- More than \$286 million has been committed to upgrade ICT infrastructure to a consistent Ministry standard in all schools by 2016:
 - by June 2013, we had upgraded 1300 eligible schools (since 2005) to a value of more than \$150 million
 - a further \$136 million will be invested to upgrade the 1030 eligible schools by 2016.

Key challenges

- 59 per cent of school buildings have an average age of 40 years or more.
- We need to modernise the infrastructure across the network while also developing modern learning environments within existing schools.
- We need to remediate leaky buildings and progress a programme of earthquake resilience.

Opportunities

- The Government is allocating \$70 million to support the establishment of three new schools to meet roll growth demand in Auckland, Queenstown and Hamilton, and to support 65 new classrooms nationally – these facilities will open in 2015.
- In addition to addressing demographic pressures these investments are a significant economic stimulus - each year school property advertises around 800 contracting opportunities (around 6 per cent of contracts awarded in New Zealand each year).