

Te Rautaki Whakaiti i te putanga Hau-rehu – He Kupu ārahi mo te rāngai Hautū Waka | The Emissions Reduction Plan: A guide for the transport sector

May 2022

The Emissions Reduction Plan (ERP) contains targets and actions that Te Manatū Waka will work on together with transport agencies, local government, iwi/Māori and communities across Aotearoa to achieve a 41% reduction in transport emissions by 2035.

Achieving this will reduce our dependence on fossil fuels and give us a more sustainable, inclusive, safe and accessible transport system that better supports economic activity and community life.

Decarbonising our transport system requires changes to the way people and goods travel. We are taking action to reduce transport emissions, focusing on three areas:

- Reducing reliance on cars, and supporting people to walk, cycle and use public transport
- Rapidly adopting low-emissions vehicles
- Beginning work now to decarbonise heavy transport and freight.

Our long-term vision is that by 2035, Aotearoa New Zealand will have significantly reduced transport-related carbon emissions and have a more accessible and equitable transport system that supports wellbeing

Four transport targets

The ERP sets four transport targets that will support our vision and align with achieving a 41% reduction in transport emissions by 2035 from 2019 levels (as estimated in New Zealand's Greenhouse Gas Inventory 1990-2020).

If we achieve these targets, the benefits will be significant. We'll have a more sustainable, inclusive, safe and accessible transport system that better supports economic activity and community life.

We'll also reduce our dependence on fossil fuels.

The targets are:

- **Target 1:** reduce total kilometres travelled by the light fleet by 20% by 2035 through improved urban form and providing better transport options, particularly in our largest cities
- **Target 2:** increase zero-emissions vehicles to 30% of the light fleet by 2035.
- **Target 3:** reduce emissions from freight transport by 35% by 2035.
- **Target 4:** reduce the emissions intensity of transport fuel by 10% by 2035.

To help achieve these targets, the Government will work with key partners to take the initial actions set out in the ERP over the first emissions budget period (2022-25). Further action and refinement will be needed in the second (2026-30) and third (2031-35) emissions budgets depending on how we are tracking.

The key transport actions include

- improving the reach, frequency and quality of public transport and making it more affordable for low-income New Zealanders
- increasing support for walking and cycling, including initiatives to increase the use of e-bikes
- ensuring safer streets and well-planned urban areas
- continuing to incentivise the uptake of low- and zero-emissions vehicles through the Clean Vehicle Discount scheme and consider the future of the Road User Charge exemption for light electric vehicles beyond 2024
- increasing access to low- and zero-emissions vehicles for low-income households by supporting social leasing schemes and trialling an equity-oriented vehicle scrap and replace scheme
- improving EV-charging infrastructure across Aotearoa New Zealand to ensure that all New Zealanders can charge when they need to
- providing funding to support the freight sector to purchase zero- and low-emissions trucks

- requiring only zero-emissions public transport buses to be purchased by 2025
- supporting the uptake of low-carbon liquid fuels by implementing a Sustainable Aviation Fuel Mandate and a Sustainable Biofuels Obligation.

Helping freight and heavy transport to decarbonise

A national freight and supply chain strategy will be developed with industry. It will take a long term, system-wide view of the freight and supply chain.

The strategy will identify how to best decarbonise the freight transport system to be net zero by 2050, while improving the efficiency and competitiveness of the supply chain.

The Government will provide funding to support the freight sector to purchase zero- and low-emissions trucks. The Low Emissions Transport Fund has already begun co-funding a range of initiatives to accelerate transport decarbonisation. So far this year funding has been provided for battery-swap electric truck technology for milk tankers and concrete mixers.

The ERP includes actions to decarbonise our public transport bus fleet and plans for how government will work to decarbonise our aviation and maritime sectors.

Funding the transport actions in the ERP

Significant investment will be required to reduce transport emissions. This investment will come from a range of sources including Government, local government, businesses and individuals.

The Government has already started that investment by providing funding for the Clean Vehicle programme, removing road user charges for electric vehicles, and investing in rail.

It will support local government to decarbonise public transport buses and achieve a major increase in all urban bus networks nationwide, including by

improving bus driver terms and conditions.

The Government will also work with local government to make public transport more affordable, with a particular focus on low-income users.

The Low Emissions Transport Fund will support our heavy freight sector to begin to decarbonise, by co-funding the demonstration and adoption

Working together

We cannot deliver on our bold vision alone. Success requires us to work in partnership with local government, iwi, businesses and communities.



The benefits include less dependence on fossil fuels and a more sustainable, inclusive, safe and accessible transport system that better supports economic activity and community life. There isn't one silver bullet to fix climate change. Every action helps. The scale of the challenge shouldn't be underestimated, but the consequences of not tackling it head on are stark.

Next steps

Te Manatū Waka is developing a more detailed plan for implementing the transport actions. This will include considering what work may need to be done to monitor and evaluate progress on decarbonising the transport system. Implementation of the plan will involve targeted consultation with iwi/Māori, local government, and representative community groups.

For more information: <https://www.transport.govt.nz/area-of-interest/environment-and-climate-change/Climate-change/>