

Fixing the Basics. Building the Future.

National's plan for New Zealand

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Fixing the Basics. Building the Future.

National's plan for New Zealand

National believes New Zealand can be the best small country in the world to live, work, raise a family, build a business and retire with security.

A country where hard work is rewarded. Where young New Zealanders can see a future for themselves here. Where businesses with big ideas can start here, raise capital here, grow here and take on the world from here.

We want New Zealand to be a country of owners. More families owning their homes. More New Zealanders building meaningful savings and retirement wealth. More Kiwi businesses owned by New Zealanders. More of our capital invested in the companies, infrastructure and ideas that will shape our future.

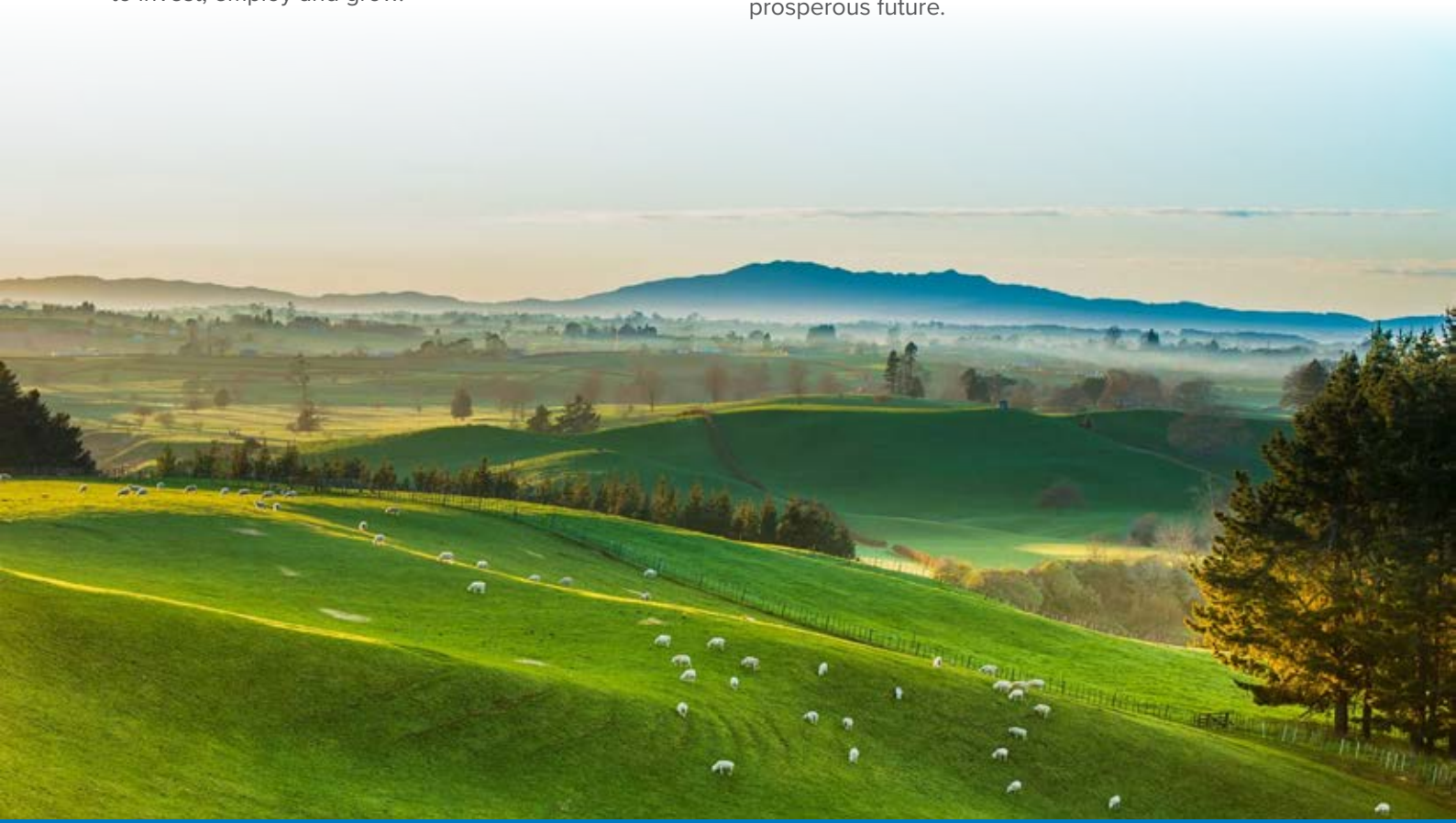
We want an economy that is more productive, more outward looking and more ambitious. An economy with world class infrastructure and abundant, affordable energy. One that sells more to the world, attracts investment and talent, embraces new technology and gives New Zealand businesses the confidence to invest, employ and grow.

It means children leaving school able to read, write and do maths brilliantly, with genuine choices about what comes next. It means patients getting timely, quality healthcare. It means families being able to afford a home, raise children and build financial security. It means safer streets and communities. And it means older New Zealanders able to enjoy their retirement with independence and confidence.

Over the past three years we have brought inflation down, delivered tax relief, restored a focus on achievement in schools, strengthened consequences for crime and started building the infrastructure, energy and productive capacity our growing country needs.

The next three years are about building on those foundations and looking further ahead.

National has a plan to keep New Zealand moving forward and build a stronger, more secure and more prosperous future.



1. Responsibly managing the books

National wants New Zealand to be a place where hard work pays off, businesses have the confidence to invest and families can look ahead with greater certainty.

A growing economy makes that possible. It means more jobs, higher wages and stronger communities. It also gives New Zealand the capacity to fund the doctors, teachers, schools and infrastructure people rely on.

Financial resilience is critical to growth, particularly in a more volatile world. Businesses invest when they can see what is coming: stable prices, sensible interest rates and a Government that manages taxpayers' money responsibly.

National delivered tax relief in 2024 for the first time in 14 years, reprioritised around $50 billion across three Budgets to invest in frontline services, and have taken a disciplined approach to government spending.

As a small trading nation, New Zealand is more exposed than most when the global economy turns or disaster strikes.

A re-elected National Government will return the books to surplus in 2028/29, bring net core Crown debt towards 40 per cent of GDP over time and reduce core Crown expenditure towards 30 per cent of GDP.

We will also maintain a stable and predictable tax system, with no new taxes, while continuing to reduce unnecessary compliance costs.

National's priorities:

- **No new taxes**
  Keep taxes low and give New Zealanders greater certainty about what they can keep, save and invest.
- **Get back to surplus and bring debt down**
  Return to surplus in 2028/29 and maintain surpluses over time, bring net core Crown debt towards 40 per cent of GDP, and reduce government spending towards 30 per cent of GDP.
- **Keep investing in the services and infrastructure New Zealand needs**
  Prioritise health, education, law and order and infrastructure through careful spending and responsible management of the Government's books.





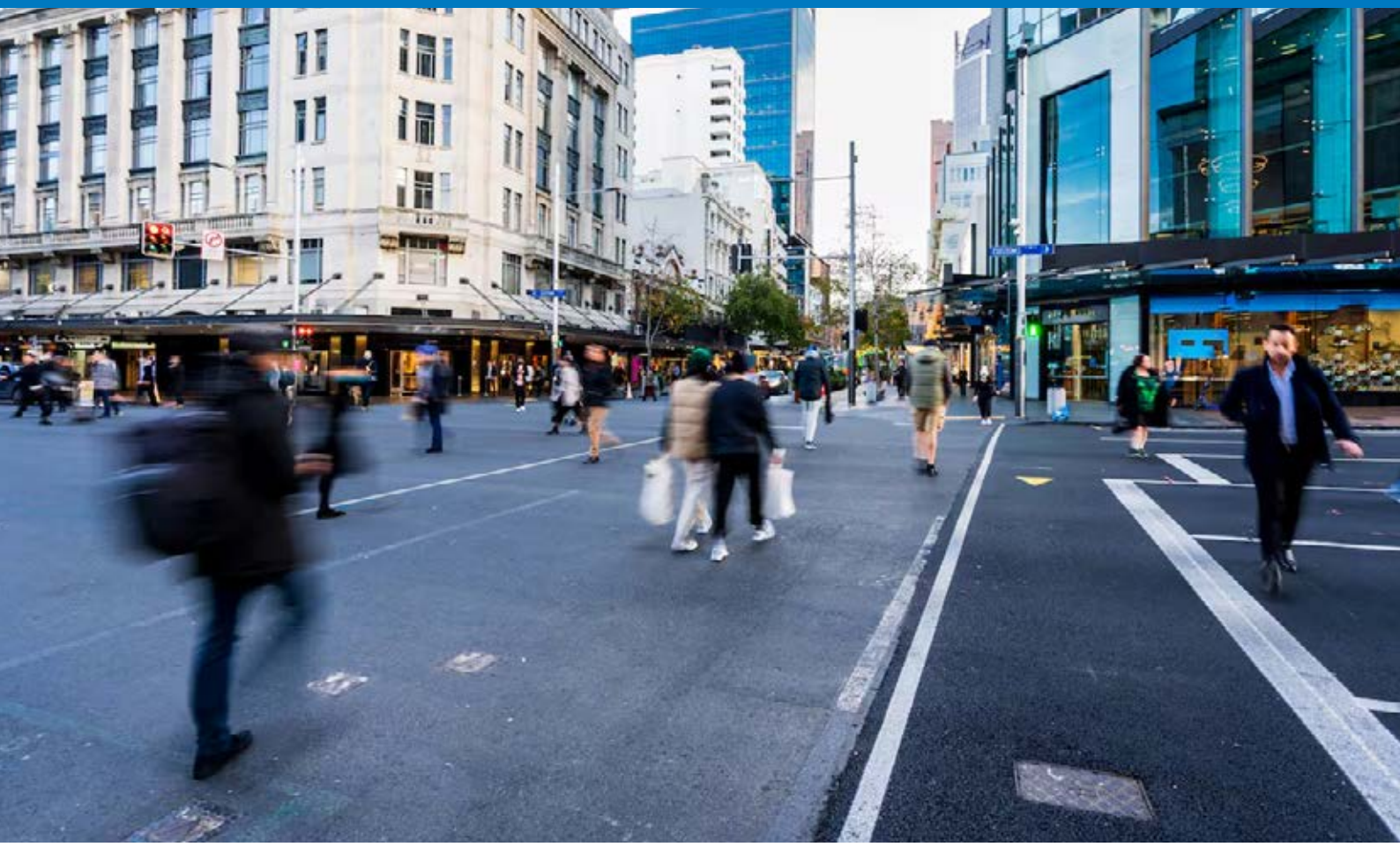
Our programme for the next three years

Responsible management of the books

1. No new taxes.
2. Return the Government's books to surplus in 2028/29 and maintain surpluses over time.
3. Bring net core Crown debt towards 40 per cent of GDP and maintain it below 40 per cent over time.
4. Reduce core Crown expenditure towards 30 per cent of GDP through continued spending restraint, reprioritisation and savings.
5. Maintain $2.4 billion operating allowances, with capital allowances of $3.5 billion in Budgets 2027 and 2028 and $5 billion thereafter.
6. Test capital projects against a clear value for money framework and, where possible, offset new investment through capital savings and better use of existing Crown assets.
7. Fund an election policy costings unit in the year of the next general election.
8. Reduce foreign aid and associated administration costs outside the Pacific and improve MFAT efficiency to help fund the medicines package.

A simpler tax system

9. Double the threshold before overseas shares are caught by the foreign investment fund rules.
10. Reduce tax compliance, including simpler FBT records for work vehicles and in-year R&D tax credit payments.



2. Reducing red tape to support innovation

New Zealand businesses create jobs, pay wages and turn good ideas into growth. When they succeed, families and communities across the country benefit.

National wants New Zealand to be one of the best places in the world to start, run and grow a business.

National will keep removing the barriers that make it harder to invest, build and grow.

At the centre of that work is replacing the Resource Management Act. For too long, the RMA created uncertainty, delays and unnecessary costs without consistently delivering better environmental outcomes. National is replacing it with a simpler system, clearer national rules and fewer unnecessary consents.

We will also make government easier to deal with. Our Tell Government Once service will allow businesses to update core information once and securely share it with participating agencies and councils, rather than repeatedly providing the same information.

For employers, we will make it easier to hire a first employee and seasonal staff, provide clearer employment and health and safety rules, and create a faster and fairer pathway for resolving suitable minor employment disputes.

We will help businesses take advantage of new technology, including practical support to adopt AI and further moves away from unnecessary paper based processes.

National's priorities:

- **Complete the transformation of our planning system**
  Replace the RMA with a simpler planning system based on consistent national rules, fewer unnecessary consents and clearer pathways to build, invest and grow.
- **Tell Government Once**
  Build a Tell Government Once service around the NZBN so businesses can update.
- **Resolve employment disputes faster**
  Create a fast-track pathway for suitable minor employment disputes and improve mediation, case management and timely decisions.

Our programme for the next three years

Making planning work

11. Complete the once-in-a-generation transformation of New Zealand's planning system, reducing unnecessary cost and delay while continuing to protect the environment.
12. Deliver national standards for farming and energy, including consistent national rules for vegetable growing, wetlands, solar and micro-hydro.
13. Support regions to carry out spatial plans, identifying areas for future growth alongside areas requiring greater protection.
14. Implement the environmental limit framework under the Natural Environment Act to protect human and ecosystem health.
15. Provide standardised zoning and planning provisions that enable more growth and mixed use in the right places like in city, metro, and town centres and near good public transport.
16. Improve urban development settings and consider dedicated development vehicles to unlock more housing, jobs and investment around major transport projects and well-located Crown land.

Making it easier to employ people

17. Introduce a First Employee Support Package with practical first year guidance and reduced penalties for genuine administrative mistakes.
18. Create a fast-track pathway for suitable minor employment disputes and improve mediation, case management and timely decisions.
19. Make repeat seasonal hiring easier with a standard recurring seasonal agreement and a shorter renewal process.
20. Make apprenticeship administration simpler through consistent digital competency records and electronic supervisor sign off.
21. Support the transition to the new employment leave system with early guidance, payroll examples and coordinated implementation assistance.
22. Introduce proportionate regulation of paid employment advocates, covering competence, conduct, fee transparency and complaints.
23. Require a minimum level of employee support before new collective bargaining can begin, consulting on implementation.
24. Create an early process for resolving disputed employment status under section 6, consistent with the contractor gateway.
25. Introduce an Employment Relations Consolidation Bill next term to make the legislative framework easier to navigate.
26. Rewrite priority health and safety codes in plain English with practical examples developed with businesses, workers and industry.

Cutting paperwork and making government easier to deal with

27. Build a Tell Government Once service around the NZBN so businesses can update core information once and share it securely with participating agencies and councils.
28. Review the compulsory GST registration threshold to reduce compliance costs and barriers to small business growth.
29. Coordinate business permit and licence renewals and simplify low risk renewals for businesses with strong compliance records.



30. Allow eligible chartered accountants to administer statutory declarations with appropriate professional and identity safeguards.
31. Remove unjustified paper requirements and enable reliable digital records, displays, notices and evidence.
32. Publish practical small business guidance on fire evacuation requirements, approved schemes and available templates.
33. Hold agencies to prompt payment requirements, extend fair terms through procurement supply chains and expand eInvoicing with business partners.
34. Progress motor vehicle repair information reform so independent workshops can compete with better access to manufacturers' information.
35. Deliver expanded practical AI support for small businesses, including the AI Advisory Pilot.
36. Open closed supplier panels and make procurement requirements proportionate so capable smaller businesses have a fair chance to compete.

Making it easier to build and invest

37. Formalise engineers' producer statements and provide a specialist national consenting pathway for large and complex commercial buildings.
38. Pass the Building Amendment Bill and continue reforming the building system to deliver more consistent building consents, faster PIMs, proportionate liability and recognition of trusted overseas building products.
39. Require regulators to reuse current, relevant certified engineering and geotechnical reports where they remain fit for purpose.
40. Extend the building consent exemptions available under Schedule 1 of the Building Act 2004 to enable qualifying single storey detached garages, garden sheds, storage buildings and private workshops up to 110m^2 to be constructed without a building consent.
41. Pass legislation to strengthen the licensing regimes for building and construction trades.



3. Backing our primary sectors and rural New Zealand

New Zealand's farmers and growers are among the best in the world. They produce the food and fibre we sell, support jobs and businesses across our regions and help drive New Zealand's prosperity.

National wants rural New Zealand to have the confidence to invest, grow and plan for the future.

That means investing in the things that will lift productivity over the long term. Reliable access to water, fertiliser, skilled workers, new technology and modern farm products will help our primary sector produce more value from the land while protecting the environment.

A re-elected National Government will keep agriculture out of the ETS and introduce no price on agricultural emissions. We will deliver 19 practical national farming standards to reduce unnecessary consenting and give farmers and growers clearer, more consistent rules across the country.

We will also tackle one of the biggest constraints facing rural New Zealand, accessibility to reliable water. National will back a long-term pipeline of water storage projects and provide $300 million in concessional lending to help get projects built.

We will also strengthen biosecurity, improve access to new technology and farm products, secure critical agricultural inputs and make it easier for the next generation to build careers, equity and ownership in farming.

National's priorities:

- **No new taxes and no price on agricultural emissions**
  Keep agriculture out of the ETS, meet our climate change commitments, back innovation over taxation, and make sure our farmers remain competitive on the world stage.
- **Deliver 19 practical national rules for farming**
  Deliver 19 practical national standards for everyday farming activities, reducing unnecessary consents and making required approvals simpler and more consistent.
- **Greater water security for our regions**
  Commit $300 million in concessional loans for water storage, backed by a long-term national pipeline, a water use strategy and a national storage register.



Our programme for the next three years

Backing farmers to invest and grow

42. Keep agriculture out of the ETS and introduce no price on agricultural emissions.
43. National will set 19 national standards for the work farmers and growers do every day.
44. Back land use flexibility so farmers can invest, adapt their businesses and put their land to higher value uses.
45. Deliver New Zealand's first long term water infrastructure pipeline, supported by a national water use strategy and national storage register, in partnership with farmers, growers, councils and iwi.
46. Pass the KiwiSaver (First Home or Farm) Amendment Bill, allowing eligible New Zealanders to use their KiwiSaver savings to buy their first farm as well as their first home, including eligible farm workers living in employer provided housing.
47. Review the Sharemilking Agreements Act to reflect contract milking, protect young entrants and reduce disputes.
48. Update agricultural vehicle weight rules to reduce routine overweight permits while protecting vulnerable roads and bridges.
49. Simplify rules so small processors can handle farmed livestock and certified wild game, with strict food safety and traceability requirements.
50. Pass and implement new Crown pastoral land settings so high country leaseholders can diversify into activities such as farm shops, hospitality, horticulture and renewable energy.
51. Keep the ban on full farm exotic forestry conversions in the ETS while allowing farmers to plant up to 25 per cent of their own land.

Backing productivity and innovation

52. Commit $300 million in concessional loans to get water storage projects built.
53. Pursue fertiliser security agreements with supplier countries and establish a $10 million Critical Agri Inputs Fund for production, processing, storage and distribution.
54. Progress the Gene Technology Bill to support innovation while safely managing risks to people and the environment.
55. Extend the Plant Variety Rights Act 2022 to support development of future high value varieties.
56. Pass the HSNO Amendment Bill to accelerate access to agricultural and horticultural products and veterinary medicines.



Building the rural workforce

57. Double rural graduate vet bonding places to up to 70 a year from the 2027 round and extend eligibility to qualifying graduates of accredited Australian vet schools.
58. Double Trades Academy places to 20,000 by 2030 and expand Youth Guarantee places by 1,000 a year, giving more young people early, practical pathways into food and fibre.
59. Expand Landcorp apprenticeships and dairy and livestock equity partnerships, and back the Future Leaders Scholarship.

Protecting our primary sector

60. Pass the Biosecurity Act Amendment Bill and strengthen penalties and border officer powers for serious biosecurity breaches.

Forestry

61. Double value added wood exports by 2034 through targeted wood trade missions into India, Asia, the US and the Gulf, and roll out the NZ Pine brand from early 2027 to leverage New Zealand's reputation for excellence and sustainability.
62. Introduce a wood policy that provides for consideration of timber or wood based options at pre design stage for new government owned buildings where practical and appropriate.
63. Set national standards and national direction for forestry to replace the old NES-CF.

Seafood

64. Establish a $20 million Fish Tech Innovation Fund with the seafood sector to support new innovation that reduces seabed contact and protects sensitive habitats.





4. Trading, investing and growing from New Zealand

New Zealand is a small country with big opportunities. Our prosperity depends on connecting our businesses, ideas, capital and people to the world.

That means helping ambitious Kiwi businesses start here, raise capital here, grow here and sell to the world from here. It means attracting international investment, expertise and talent. And it means giving more New Zealanders the opportunity to own a stake in the businesses and assets that will shape our future.

When New Zealand businesses sell more overseas, they grow, employ more people and bring more income back into our economy. We will open more markets, remove barriers to trade and give exporters better support to find customers and turn opportunities into sales.

National backs businesses that invest, with Investment Boost giving businesses confidence to invest in the technology, machinery and equipment that lift productivity and wages.

Tourism is one of New Zealand's biggest export industries and a major source of jobs and investment across our regions. We will keep growing our visitor economy, strengthen international connections and ensure communities hosting visitors share in the benefits.

New Zealand has remarkable businesses and investors already showing what is possible, but our capital markets remain too shallow, and too much of New Zealand's growing savings pool is invested offshore because there are not enough opportunities here at home.

National will continue reforming our capital markets, modernising payments and supporting greater competition in banking so businesses have better access to the capital and financial services they need to grow.

And we will compete for more of the world's capital and expertise. New Zealand has trusted institutions, strong rule of law, a skilled workforce and a quality of life few countries can match. We want international investors, investment managers, entrepreneurs and highly skilled people to see New Zealand as a place to build their future.

National's priorities:

- **Double New Zealand's exports and reach the next billion customers**
  Double the value of New Zealand's exports by 2034, pursue trade negotiations with seven new markets and remove more of the barriers holding exporters back.
- **Back Kiwi businesses to invest, grow and stay here**
  Keep Investment Boost, and make it easier for New Zealand businesses to raise money, invest, scale and remain headquartered here.
- **Grow tourism and international connections**
  Grow New Zealand's visitor economy, strengthen international connections and ensure communities hosting visitors share in the benefits.
- **Deepen New Zealand's capital markets**
  Build deeper and more competitive capital markets so New Zealand businesses can access the capital they need to grow and more investment can be made here at home.



Our programme for the next three years

Growing trade and helping exporters win

65. Continue work towards doubling the value of New Zealand's exports by 2034, opening new markets and helping more New Zealand businesses sell to the world.
66. Pursue trade negotiations with seven new markets within five years, while exploring further opportunities with South Africa, Turkey, Colombia through the Pacific Alliance, Morocco, Sri Lanka and Mauritius.
67. Work towards services reaching 35 per cent of export value by 2030, modernise existing FTAs starting with China, and pursue further digital trade opportunities through DEPA, CPTPP and RCEP.
68. Target removal of a further $1 billion in non-tariff barriers by 2030, help businesses take full advantage of the India agreement, and progress the Gulf agreement.
69. Expand paperless trade, digital certification and automated border processes, supported by AI powered tools covering tariffs, rules of origin and market access requirements.
70. Give NZTE a more proactive role in identifying opportunities and connecting businesses to buyers, including intensive support for 200 high potential small and medium sized exporters.
71. Complete at least 23 trade missions next term.

Backing businesses to invest and grow

72. Keep Investment Boost's immediate 20 per cent deduction for eligible productive assets, giving businesses greater confidence to invest in machinery, equipment and technology.
73. Make it easier for New Zealand businesses to raise capital and list by simplifying disclosure and creating clearer pathways.
74. Modernise the Companies Act, Financial Markets Conduct Act and related legislation so financial and company law is simpler, clearer, more proportionate and fit for modern markets.

Growing tourism and international connections

75. Work with Australia to trial seamless travel for eligible Australian and New Zealand citizens while preserving border, customs and biosecurity checks.
76. Reset the International Visitor Levy so communities hosting visitors receive a greater share of the benefits, while continuing to invest in conservation and tourism infrastructure.
77. Expand the great rides network from 23 to 25 cycle trails, supporting regional tourism, local businesses and access to the outdoors.

Deepening New Zealand's capital markets

78. Make it easier for New Zealand businesses to raise capital and list, with clearer pathways to market, simpler disclosure and more proportionate liability settings while maintaining appropriate investor protections.
79. Lift the equity crowdfunding limit from $2 million to $10 million and modernise settings for private capital raising, including peer-to-peer lending, wholesale investment, convertible instruments and private secondary markets.
80. Launch a Next Generation Payments Programme to enable faster, always-on payments and lower-cost alternatives to traditional cards, including account-to-account, QR and request-to-pay options.
81. Create proportionate frameworks for emerging financial technologies, including digital assets, tokenised investments, payment stablecoins and other credible new business models, while maintaining strong safeguards against fraud and misuse.
82. Modernise financial market regulation to support growth, including updating the FMA's objectives so capital formation, competition and innovation sit alongside strong market integrity and investor protection.

Competition and consumer markets

83. Pass legislation to improve Commerce Commission governance
84. Pass the Commerce (Promoting Competition and Other Matters) Amendment Bill to strengthen competition law, including the rules on mergers.
85. Pass the Fair Trading Amendment Bill to strengthen consumer protections and enforcement under the Fair Trading Act





5. Building the infrastructure for our future

New Zealand needs infrastructure that keeps pace with growth and gives families and businesses confidence about the future.

Good roads, reliable public transport, strong freight connections and abundant, affordable energy make it easier to get to work, move products around the country, build homes and businesses, and invest in our growing communities.

National is investing in the transport connections our fastest growing cities and regions need, while taking a longer-term approach to planning so New Zealand can build with greater certainty.

A re-elected National Government will continue building the next generation of Roads of National Significance. We will fund the first stage of Mill Road in Auckland, build the Belfast to Pegasus Motorway and Woodend Bypass, deliver the Cambridge to Piarere extension of the Waikato Expressway and progress the next major connections New Zealand needs.

Energy is one of New Zealand's greatest economic opportunities. National will ensure we take advantage of our extraordinary competitive advantage – access to cheap, abundant renewable energy. We have the renewable resources to produce more affordable electricity, electrify more of our economy, and boost growth.

More generation and stronger networks can help bring power bills down over time, give existing businesses the confidence to invest and grow, and make New Zealand more attractive for new industries and investment.

We will improve the way New Zealand plans infrastructure for the long term. Better capital planning and international cost benchmarking will help deliver better value for taxpayers and give businesses, councils and communities greater certainty about what is coming.

National's priorities:

- **Build the next generation of Roads of National Significance**
  Deliver and progress major road connections across New Zealand, including Mill Road, the Belfast to Pegasus Motorway and Woodend Bypass, Cambridge to Piarere and the next tranche of Roads of National Significance.
- **Deliver affordable and reliable energy**
  Help households invest in cheaper energy, increase competition, unlock new generation and transmission investment and strengthen the security of New Zealand's electricity system.
- **Plan infrastructure for the long term and deliver better value**
  Improve asset and long-term capital planning, benchmark New Zealand's infrastructure costs internationally and give communities and businesses greater certainty about the infrastructure pipeline.



Our programme for the next three years

Building the roads New Zealand needs

86. Fund $1.75 billion for Mill Road Stage One in Budget 2028 and invest $100 million to protect the route for Stages Two and Three.
87. Commit $800 million to build the Belfast to Pegasus Motorway and Woodend Bypass, with construction starting in 2027.
88. Deliver the Cambridge to Piarere extension of the Waikato Expressway and progress the next tranche of Roads of National Significance, including the Northern Expressway.
89. Use the next Government Policy Statement to improve critical South Island links, including state highway bridge replacements.

Keeping Auckland moving

90. Progress the detailed business case and funding and delivery options for Auckland's future harbour crossing.
91. Complete the Eastern Busway through to Botany.
92. Progress North-West Rapid Transit.
93. Progress CRL level crossing removals to improve safety and reliability across South and East Auckland.
94. Deliver the Auckland Deal, including a coordinated 30 year transport strategy aligned with housing, infrastructure and growth.
95. Explore ways to accelerate projects such as the Botany to Airport Busway through rescoping and cost savings.

Backing regional growth and freight

96. Invest $50 million in shared road and rail connections for the proposed Rolleston intermodal freight hub.
97. Commit $25 million to four lane the remaining Queenstown corridor past Hansen Road to Five Mile, and allow congestion reducing gondola solutions to access existing public transport funding.
98. Deliver the Hamilton Airport runway, apron, turning bay and lighting upgrades.
99. Continue the Waikato bridge replacement and Ruakura connection work already underway.

Affordable and reliable energy

100. Launch the Home Energy Fund, providing low interest, long term property secured finance for solar, batteries, insulation, heat pumps and household electrification, backed by participating councils, the LGFA and a one-off Crown equity investment.
101. Finalise new safety rules for plug-in solar so shops can sell panels off the shelf within the first six months of the next term, helping more households, renters and apartment dwellers generate their own power.

102. Give customers greater choice over electricity connections through independently accredited contractors, a national accreditation scheme and clearer timeframes for networks to complete connection work.

103. Give households and businesses the right to sell the electricity they generate to the buyer of their choice, with network export limits required to reflect genuine capacity constraints.

104. Require residential and small business solar connection approvals within two working days, with stronger accountability when networks miss those timeframes.

105. Review electricity distribution regulation to ensure it delivers value and affordability,

106. Make affordability for households and businesses a core objective of the Electricity Authority.

107. Make it easier to invest in small scale renewable energy through consistent national rules for rooftop and on farm solar, battery storage and small run-of-river micro-hydro.

108. Unlock private investment in transmission by allowing qualifying privately funded infrastructure to connect to the grid and recover costs from those who benefit.

109. Strengthen the market for backup power through better information, greater transparency and standardised contracts so New Zealand has reliable capacity when renewable generation is low.

110. Require major new data centres to bring sufficient additional firmed generation to support their electricity demand.

Artificial Intelligence

111. Work with like-minded international partners to establish shared legislative frameworks for AI, with robust safety and intellectual property protections.

112. Work with other political parties to ensure these legislative frameworks are fit-for-purpose in New Zealand through a cross-party AI accord.

113. Co-ordinate the adoption of AI across the public service through an AI unit in the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.

114. Continue to support the development of domestic AI infrastructure, like data centres, so New Zealand is less exposed to geopolitical shocks offshore that may limit the use and ownership of our own data.

Planning infrastructure for the long term

115. Require better asset management and long term capital planning so major infrastructure needs are identified earlier and investment decisions can be made with greater certainty.

116. Benchmark New Zealand's infrastructure costs internationally to identify where projects are unnecessarily expensive and improve value for taxpayers.

117. Pass the Land Transport (Revenue) Amendment Bill to change road funding, including allowing a shift towards road user charges.

118. Review how Crown infrastructure funds are managed to strengthen commercial governance, improve investment decisions and provide clearer accountability for results.





6. Rewarding hard work

National wants New Zealand to be a country where people can afford to build a life, buy a home, raise a family and get ahead.

For too many New Zealanders, those milestones have become harder. Saving a deposit takes longer, graduates face high compulsory student loan repayments, and starting a family can put pressure on both household incomes and careers.

National will make it easier for more first home buyers to get onto the property ladder by widening access to 5 per cent deposit First Home Loans. We will reduce compulsory student loan repayments for New Zealand based borrowers, leaving graduates with more of what they earn each payday.

We will also give parents more time and flexibility when a new child arrives. Paid parental leave will increase from 26 to 30 weeks over the next term, parents will have greater flexibility to share their entitlement, and people returning from parental leave will receive their full holiday pay entitlement.

Keeping household costs down matters too. National will give the Commerce Commission the mandate and resources to assess whether separating Foodstuffs into two competing nationwide groups would deliver greater competition and better outcomes for consumers, and legislate for separation if the Commission recommends proceeding.

We will also make it easier to build smaller homes, support more housing for older New Zealanders and make opening a bank account for a child simpler.

These changes are about giving New Zealanders more choices at every stage of life, helping people keep more of what they earn and making it easier to build a secure future for themselves and their families.

National's priorities:

- **Help more first home buyers get a deposit together**
  Lift the First Home Loan income cap to $300,000 for all applicants so more eligible first home buyers can purchase a home with a 5 per cent deposit.
- **Lower student loan repayments**
  Reduce compulsory student loan repayments for domestic borrowers from 12 to 10 cents in the dollar from 1 April 2027.
- **Give parents more time with their newborns**
  Extend paid parental leave from 26 to 30 weeks over the next term.
- **Help long term Jobseekers into work**
  Provide intensive employment support for 30,000 work ready long term Jobseekers, with greater support for young people and stronger expectations for those who can work.
- **Keep council rates affordable**
  Introduce a rates cap, with annual increases within an initial 2 to 4 per cent band and oversight from an independent regulator.



Our programme for the next three years

Supporting graduates and young families

119. Reduce compulsory student loan repayments for New Zealand-based borrowers from 12 to 10 cents in the dollar from 1 April 2027.
120. Strengthen collection of overseas student loans through additional interest and penalties, KiwiSaver withdrawal restrictions and stronger enforcement.
121. Extend paid parental leave from 26 to 30 weeks over the next term.
122. Allow parents to use paid parental leave together or in overlapping blocks, dividing their entitlement in the way that best suits their family.
123. Protect full holiday pay for parents returning from parental leave, with the parental leave provisions taking effect from 1 July 2027.

More housing choices

124. Lift the First Home Loan income cap to $300,000 for all applicants so more eligible first home buyers can purchase a home with a 5 per cent deposit.
125. Ring fence at least 20 per cent of future Housing Flexible Fund places for seniors' housing.
126. Expand granny flat rules to allow attached garages and tiny homes on wheels, with faster approvals and lower fees.
127. Remove the blanket ban on minimum parking requirements and let councils use them outside areas identified for intensification.

Helping families get ahead

128. Give the Commerce Commission the mandate and resources to assess whether separating Foodstuffs into two competing nationwide grocery groups would deliver greater competition and better outcomes for consumers, and legislate for separation if the Commission recommends proceeding.
129. Make it easier for parents to open children's bank accounts by progressing anti money laundering legislation changes.

Helping people into work and independence

130. Provide intensive employment support for 30,000 work ready long term Jobseekers, with additional support for young New Zealanders, including through the Limited Service Volunteer programme.
131. Apply a lower Jobseeker payment from 1 April 2028 for people who have received Jobseeker Support for two of the previous three years, with a smaller reduction for households with dependent children.
132. Introduce random drug testing for Jobseekers as part of work readiness support, starting with 10,000 tests in the first year.
133. Increase the benefit stand down for people who repeatedly leave employment without good and sufficient reason from 13 to 26 weeks.
134. Extend the residence requirement for main benefits from two to five years from 1 April 2028, while protecting existing recipients, refugees and protected persons.

Keeping council rates affordable

135. Pass the Local Government (Rates Capping) Amendment Bill to introduce a rates cap, with annual increases within an initial 2 to 4 per cent band and oversight from an independent regulator.



7. Building financial security

National wants New Zealanders to have greater confidence about their financial future, from their first savings through to retirement.

A secure retirement is built over a lifetime. It comes from helping people save consistently, making sure taking time out to raise a family does not set them back, and giving people more choices and independence as they get older.

KiwiSaver has helped millions of New Zealanders build a financial stake in their future. National has already started strengthening it, with default employee and employer contribution rates increasing to 3.5 per cent in April 2026.

Now we will go further. We will give every child a savings head start from birth, make KiwiSaver or an equivalent scheme compulsory for workers, and progressively lift default contributions so New Zealanders build substantially larger retirement savings.

We will also make KiwiSaver fairer at different stages of life. Parents receiving paid parental leave will continue building their savings, while people who choose to keep working beyond 65 will receive the same employer contributions as other workers.

For older New Zealanders, we will continue increasing New Zealand Superannuation, strengthen protection against financial exploitation and make retirement village repayments faster and fairer.

National's priorities:

- **Build bigger retirement savings**
  Make KiwiSaver or an equivalent scheme compulsory for workers from 1 July 2028 and lift employee contributions to 6 percent by 2032, matched by employer contributions.
- **Give every child a savings head start**
  Automatically enrol every child born in New Zealand in KiwiSaver and provide a $1,500 Baby Boost from 1 July 2027.
- **Make retirement more secure**
  Continue increasing New Zealand Superannuation, strengthen protections for seniors and make retirement village repayments faster and fairer.

Our programme for the next three years

Building stronger retirement savings

136. Make KiwiSaver, or an equivalent employer based defined contribution scheme, compulsory for workers from 1 July 2028.
137. Continue lifting default KiwiSaver contributions by 0.5 percentage points in 2028 and each year thereafter, until employee and employer contribution rates each reach 6 per cent in 2032.
138. Exclude workers already saving through an equivalent employer based defined contribution superannuation scheme from compulsory KiwiSaver contributions.
139. Allow people to suspend compulsory KiwiSaver contributions where they meet the existing KiwiSaver hardship test.
140. Require self employed New Zealanders to contribute only the equivalent employee contribution, rather than both the employee and employer contribution.
141. Provide the employer equivalent KiwiSaver contribution during paid parental leave from 1 July 2027, even when the parent is not contributing themselves.
142. Require employers to make KiwiSaver contributions for contributing employees who continue working after 65, from 1 July 2027.
143. Automatically enrol every child born in New Zealand in KiwiSaver and provide a $1,500 Baby Boost from 1 July 2027.

Protecting and supporting seniors

144. Continue increasing New Zealand Superannuation every year, maintaining its link to wages so seniors share in the benefits of a growing economy.
145. Review the Enduring Powers of Attorney framework and consider further measures, including law changes, to better protect seniors from elder abuse and financial exploitation.
146. Establish a free 0800 SENIORS helpline to help seniors navigate government services and access the support they are entitled to.
147. Deliver faster repayments and earlier access to money for residents leaving retirement villages, with stronger protections around fees and deductions.
148. Introduce fairer contracts and stronger minimum standards for operators, including clearer obligations around relicensing units and resolving disputes.



8. Staying tough on crime to keep our streets safer

New Zealanders deserve to feel safe in their homes, businesses and communities.

That's why National has restored a clear focus on law and order. We are backing Police, targeting repeat offenders, cracking down on gangs and making sure there are real consequences for crime.

We have put more Police on the beat, restored Three Strikes, capped excessive sentence discounts, banned gang patches in public and given Police stronger powers to disrupt gang activity. Ram raids, serious youth offending and violent crime have fallen.

National has restored Three Strikes, capped sentence discounts at 40 per cent and strengthened sentencing for repeat offending.

A re-elected National Government will establish a dedicated Auckland Transport Police Team. Across the country, we will keep Police visible in neighbourhoods, town centres and public spaces.

We will also strengthen sexual offending law, require convicted murderers to cooperate in locating their victims' remains before being eligible for parole, and create a narrowly defined offence for withholding information where a child has been killed.

And we will continue backing the frontline, with new Police stations, more Corrections staff, additional prison capacity and safer courthouses.

National's priorities:

- **Make public transport safer**
  Establish a dedicated Auckland Transport Police Team, backed by 50 additional sworn officers, to make buses, trains, ferries and transport hubs safer.
- **Keep Police visible and deliver real consequences for crime**
  Keep Police visible in communities, target repeat offenders and continue enforcing tougher sentencing laws for serious and repeat crime.
- **Strengthen the law for victims of sexual offending**
  Require consent to sex to be actively given and stop good character or public reputation being used to reduce sentences for sexual offending.





Our programme for the next three years

Safer streets and communities

149. Establish a dedicated Auckland Transport Police Team, backed by 50 additional sworn officers, to make buses, trains, ferries and transport hubs safer.
150. Keep targeting ram raids and retail crime, focusing on the repeat offenders causing the most harm to businesses.
151. Keep Police visible in neighbourhoods, town centres and other public spaces.
152. Pass the Trespass (Specified Retail Premises and Other Matters) Amendment Bill, giving retailers stronger powers to keep repeat offenders out, including longer trespass periods and the ability to trespass offenders from multiple locations.
153. Continue implementing stronger retail crime laws, including tougher consequences for shoplifting and enhanced citizens' arrest powers for retailers and security staff.
154. Pass the Summary Offences (Demonstrations Near Residential Premises) Amendment Bill.
155. Continue using move on orders to tackle disorderly, threatening and intimidating behaviour in public places.
156. Continue investing in programmes that reduce serious youth offending and reoffending.

Real consequences for crime

157. Continue implementing tougher sentencing laws, including Three Strikes, the 40 per cent cap on sentence discounts and limits on repeat discounts for youth and remorse.
158. Maintain stronger consequences for offending committed while on bail, in custody or on parole.
159. Maintain stronger offences for assaults on first responders and coward punch attacks.
160. Create a narrowly defined offence for withholding information about a child's killing, with a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison.
161. Raise the maximum penalty for killing a police dog from 2 to 5 years' imprisonment and the maximum fine from $15,000 to $50,000.

Cracking down on gangs and organised crime

162. Keep pressure on gangs through enforcement of the gang patch ban, dispersal notices and non consorting orders, and by putting serious gang offenders behind bars.
163. Prohibit direct or indirect public funding of organisations run, administered or associated with gangs, with due diligence requirements for government agencies and penalties for breaches.
164. Pass legislation to keep gang members and gang linked businesses out of port operations
165. Continue implementing the Action Plan to Combat Methamphetamine Harm, including disrupting international supply, strengthening enforcement and border security, recovering criminal proceeds and reducing demand.

Putting victims first

166. Establish a clear statutory definition of consent in the Crimes Act, requiring consent to sexual activity to be actively given, and stop good character or public reputation being used to reduce sentences for sexual offending.
167. Continue implementing the new stalking and harassment laws.
168. Keep victims of sexual violence in control of whether their offender receives permanent name suppression.
169. Introduce a No Body, No Parole rule, requiring convicted murderers to cooperate in locating their victim's remains before being eligible for parole.

Backing Police, Courts and Corrections

170. Deliver the new Greymouth Police Station and Custody Facility and replacement Whanganui Police Station.
171. Fund the additional Corrections staff and prison capacity needed to keep frontline staff and communities safe.
172. Complete Phase 1 of the Christchurch Men's Prison redevelopment by mid-2030, including additional high security and specialist mental health capacity and a new health centre.
173. Deliver the two new Rotorua courthouses, providing safer and more secure facilities for victims, witnesses, jurors and other court users.





9. World class education

National wants every child to leave school with the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to succeed.

That starts with the basics. Children need to be able to read, write and do maths well. Parents need to know how their child is progressing. Teachers need a clear curriculum and the support to teach it effectively.

National has put knowledge back at the heart of the curriculum, introduced structured approaches to literacy and maths, required an hour a day of reading, writing and maths, and banned cellphones during the school day.

Now we will build on those changes by introducing clear developmental milestones in early childhood education and a School Start Check so children who need extra help can get it early.

We will replace NCEA with clearer national qualifications and stronger subject based assessment so students, parents, universities and employers have greater confidence in what our qualifications mean.

We will give teachers more support, expand learning support, improve classrooms and keep lifting attendance so children are at school and ready to learn.

And we will help prepare young New Zealanders for life beyond the classroom, with more trades and vocational pathways, financial literacy and stronger protections from the risks they face online.

National's priorities:

- **Set children up for success**
  Introduce clear ECE developmental milestones, regular progress reporting to parents and a School Start Check, with early support where needed.
- **Replace NCEA**
  Replace NCEA with clearer national qualifications, a senior secondary curriculum and stronger subject based assessment.
- **Protect children online**
  Ban under 16s from high risk social media and strengthen platforms' duties to protect children online.

Our programme for the next three years

Teaching the basics

174. End screen and individual device use in ECE, tightly limit it in Years 1-3 and use age appropriate limits for older primary pupils, while prioritising handwriting.
175. Require students to stay at school until they complete Year 11 or turn 16, whichever is later, while retaining exemptions for students moving into employment or further training.
176. Set consistent school start and finish dates to make the calendar more predictable for families.
177. Expand the Year 7-10 Maths Acceleration Programme by another 40,000 students over three years.
178. Keep the focus on reading, writing and maths and embed the new curriculum across subjects and year levels.
179. Continue phonics and numeracy checks, twice yearly primary assessment and clear reporting and resources for parents.
180. Keep the cellphone ban during the school day.
181. Introduce clear ECE developmental milestones, regular progress reporting to parents and a School Start Check, with early support where needed.

Supporting students and teachers

182. Expand practical school based teacher training and continue support with registration and practising certificate costs.
183. Deliver the expanded learning support package, including coordinators in all schools with Year 1-8 pupils and more teacher aide support.
184. Deliver the funded school building pipeline and improve classroom warmth, acoustics and learning environments.
185. Keep lifting attendance so more children benefit from regular classroom learning.

Preparing young people for the future

186. Replace NCEA with clearer national qualifications, a senior secondary curriculum and stronger subject based assessment.
187. Ban under 16s from high-risk social media and strengthen platforms' duties to protect children online.
188. Expand Trades Academies to 20,000 places by 2030, grow Youth Guarantee places and roll out industry led vocational subjects.
189. Ensure financial literacy is part of the curriculum and support teachers with practical resources for good lifelong money habits.
190. Extend the school lunch programme to 2029.





10. Putting patients first

National is focused on delivering the healthcare services New Zealanders rely on most.

That means a health system where people can get the medicines, screening, and treatment they need sooner, closer to home.

National will continue to put patients first. We will invest a further $604 million in Pharmac's medicines budget, expand cancer screening and clinical trials, train more doctors, and continue increasing hospital and community care capacity across the country.

We will lower the bowel screening age to 50 by 2029, complete the extension of breast screening to age 74, and make cervical screening free for all women aged 25 to 69.

We will also keep working to reduce waiting times for surgery, emergency care, and specialist appointments, while strengthening the health workforce and bringing more diagnostics and care closer to rural communities.

In mental health, we will build on faster access and a growing frontline workforce by progressing new digital services and strengthening crisis response, making it easier for New Zealanders to get support wherever they live.

Our focus is on what matters most, which is patients getting timely, quality healthcare wherever they live.

National's priorities:

- **More medicines**
  Deliver a further $604 million uplift in Pharmac's medicines budget, fully funded and paid for in large part by reducing foreign aid outside the Pacific, and bring the latest treatments to Kiwis sooner through more clinical trials and by backing CAR-T cell therapy made here at home.
- **Earlier care**
  Catch cancer and chronic disease before it takes hold by lowering the free bowel screening age to 50, extending free breast and cervical screening, piloting prostate and lung cancer screening, and doubling active prescriptions by 2030.
- **Better hospitals**
  Deliver more beds, more theatres, and shorter waits by progressing major hospital builds and redevelopments across the country and training more doctors through the new Waikato Medical School.
- **Care in the community**
  Make it easier to see a GP within a week, give pharmacists access to more funded medicines to treat common conditions, and secure the long-term future of aged care, so more Kiwis get care close to home.
- **Better mental health support**
  Build on faster access to mental health support by progressing a National Digital Mental Health Service, trialling an AI Mental Health Coach and starting work on Mental Health Ambulance Support Teams to strengthen crisis response.

Our programme for the next three years

More medicines

191. Deliver a further $604 million uplift in Pharmac's medicines budget, building on the 66 new medicines, including 33 new cancer medicines, that National delivered with the same uplift this term.

192. Make clinical trials easier to run and access, with a target that 5 per cent of cancer patients receive part of their care through a trial within ten years.

193. Co-invest $25 million with BioOra to expand cell therapy facilities in Christchurch and produce CAR-T treatment in New Zealand.

Earlier care

194. Lower the free bowel screening age to 50 by 2029, backed by additional colonoscopies and continued free testing for people of any age with symptoms.

195. Complete the extension of free breast screening to age 74 by 2029.

196. Provide free cervical screening for all women aged 25 to 69 from 1 March 2027.

197. Launch prostate and lung cancer screening pilots to unlock earlier detection.

198. Increase diagnostic capacity and roll out mobile scanners, prioritising rural communities facing the greatest barriers.

199. Expand active prescriptions through the Healthy Kiwis Programme, aiming to double participation by 2030.

Better hospitals

200. Continue reducing waits and improving access to elective surgery, emergency care, first specialist assessments, and childhood immunisation.

201. Progress planning for the new South Auckland hospital at Drury on the secured Karaka Road site.

202. Progress the redevelopment of Hawke's Bay, Tauranga and Palmerston North hospitals, strengthening and future proofing timely care for these growing centres.

203. Continue to deliver the new Dunedin Hospital, the Nelson Hospital redevelopment and the new emergency department at Wellington Hospital, delivering more beds, more theatres, and shorter waits for patients.

204. Complete the fit out of Tower Three at Christchurch Hospital to provide 96 additional beds.

205. Deliver the Waikato Medical School that Labour opposed, with 120 additional medical training places a year from 2028 and a strong rural and primary care focus.

206. Provide for health cost pressures from inflation, wages and demographics in the fiscal plan, allocating $1.55 billion more than Labour has in its fiscal plan.

207. Review how major health infrastructure is planned and delivered, including whether a dedicated infrastructure function could improve delivery, value for money and long-term asset management.





Care in the community

208. Continue to expand GP services through National's Primary Care Action Plan, with new and improved after hours care, 100 clinical placements for overseas trained doctors, up to 120 training places for nurse practitioners in GP clinics, and incentives for GP clinics to recruit up to 400 graduate nurses per year.
209. Implement National's primary care access target, so 80 per cent of Kiwis can see a GP or have a primary care appointment within one week.
210. Roll out Enhanced Primary Care Services further, enabling local GPs to treat acute needs like asthma and cellulitis, reducing hospital visits and keeping care in the community.
211. Expand funded medicines for pharmacists so they can treat a wider range of common conditions and offer more services, building on recent changes to enable treatment for conjunctivitis and other common conditions like head lice.
212. Reduce pharmacy red tape by scrapping rules that block new pharmacies near existing ones, and moving to five year licence renewals.
213. Continue rolling out three day postnatal care for new mums and their babies.
214. Work closely with the aged care sector to secure its long-term sustainability, drawing on the National-led Government's review into aged care, and continue to increase funding to build on the record investment delivered this term.
215. Continue ACC's turnaround plan, with a stronger focus on early intervention, rehabilitation and helping injured New Zealanders recover and return to work as quickly and safely as possible.
216. Ensure ACC remains sustainable and focused on its core purpose, with clear and appropriate boundaries between the scheme and other health, disability and social services.

Better mental health support

217. Build on faster access to mental health support and on the 11 per cent growth in the frontline workforce, with more than 83 per cent of people now seen within one week for primary mental health support and more than 82 per cent seen within three weeks for specialist support.
218. Progress work on a National Digital Mental Health Service, with a particular focus on improving access in rural and regional communities.
219. Trial an AI Mental Health Coach to provide personalised guidance and practical tools between appointments, supporting mental health practitioners rather than replacing them and making help available whenever it is needed.
220. Start work on establishing Mental Health Ambulance Support Teams, building on National's mental health co-response teams to provide a better crisis response and free up thousands of hours of ambulance time.

11. Protecting our environment

New Zealand's environment is central to who we are. It supports our way of life, our primary industries, tourism and the communities we call home.

National wants to protect what makes New Zealand special while supporting a growing economy and thriving communities.

National believes New Zealanders should not have to choose between a strong economy and a healthy environment. We can grow, farm and invest while also improving water quality, restoring habitats, reducing waste and protecting the places New Zealanders love. We support clear rules, good science, local partnerships, fiscal responsibility and measurable outcomes for nature, communities and the economy.

Protecting nature requires practical action as well as good rules. National will permanently double baseline funding for the QEII National Trust, strengthen pest control and work alongside hunters, landowners and community organisations to protect biodiversity and improve access to the outdoors.

We will take the same balanced approach to our oceans. We will strengthen protection in the Hauraki Gulf and increase protected areas across our Exclusive Economic Zone and invest alongside the seafood sector in technology that reduces environmental impacts while supporting a productive fishing industry.

National's priorities:

- **Restore biodiversity and back local conservation efforts**
  Supporting Predator Free 2050, backing catchment groups, doubling QEII baseline funding and boosting pest management across the country.
- **Clean up our coastline and support a healthier ocean**
  Establishing a Coast and Ocean Clean Up Fund and increase protections for the Hauraki Gulf and the Exclusive Economic Zone.





Our programme for the next three years

Protecting nature and improving access to the outdoors

221. Continue supporting Predator Free 2050 alongside practical pest control and biodiversity work across public and private land.
222. Double the DOC Community Fund to $9.2 million providing contestable funding for community led biodiversity restoration projects on public and private land.
223. Double baseline funding for the QEII National Trust from approximately $4.2 million to approximately $8.5 million per year.
224. Introduce international visitor access charges at Aoraki/Mt Cook and Milford Sound, with revenue prioritised for local conservation and tourism infrastructure.
225. Pilot a new partnership approach for a multi-day visitor experience based around Tarawera to improve tracks, infrastructure and the overall visitor experience.
226. Establish a voluntary national outdoor service and conservation pathway that helps young New Zealanders get outdoors, build practical skills, develop leadership, and contribute to their local communities through hands on conservation projects.
227. Invest in locally led catchment groups and regional collectives to strengthen coordination and practical support for farmers and growers.
228. Invest a further $16 million over four years from the International Visitor Levy in coordinated control of wild deer, feral goats and other priority pests across public and private land.
229. Pass the Wilding Conifer Control and Eradication Legislation Bill and complete the National Pest Management Plan for wilding conifers.
230. Pass the Valued Introduced Species Legislation Amendment Bill to recognise valued introduced species in law and establish a coordinated, evidence based framework for managing wild animals.
231. Strengthen the Game Animal Council's management role and modernise Fish & Game with stronger accountability and practical regional delivery.

Protecting our oceans and fisheries

232. Establish a contestable $8 million Coast and Ocean Clean Up Fund to support practical, local action to deliver cleaner beaches, coastlines and seas.

233. Establish the Hākaimangō-Matiatia Marine Reserve off Waiheke Island, further expand the Goat Island marine reserve and strengthen Hauraki Gulf protections, including the commercial fishing ban in High Protection Areas.

234. Increase protection of the EEZ and preserve our seamounts, aiming to increase protected areas from 32% to 50% by 2040.

235. Rule out a recreational sea fishing licence and prevent the commercial sale of marlin.

236. Increase fisheries penalties and enforcement and lift the number of Honorary Fisheries Officers to 200.

237. Bring fishing stakeholders together to test proposed fisheries reforms and improve the effectiveness, transparency and evidence base of fisheries management.

238. Ratify the High Seas Treaty in the next term.

Adapting to a changing climate

239. Deliver a national flood risk map, giving New Zealanders access to consistent, credible and regularly updated information so they can make better decisions about where they live, build and invest.

240. Require adaptation plans for New Zealand's highest risk communities, starting with areas facing significant flood and coastal hazards, so communities have certainty about how risks will be managed over the long term.

241. Ensure long term infrastructure decisions take account of climate risk.

Modernising environmental law

242. Pass the Conservation Amendment Bill to modernise conservation management, support regional jobs and improve conservation outcomes.

243. Pass reforms to the Waste Minimisation Act to better support waste reduction, recycling, resource recovery and investment in modern waste infrastructure.

244. Pass the Environmental Reporting Amendment Bill to improve the quality and usefulness of environmental data and strengthen monitoring and long-term environmental reporting.





12. Public services built for the future

New Zealanders expect public institutions to work well, respond when they are needed and make good use of taxpayers' money.

National wants public services that are more responsive, local government that is simpler and more accountable, and frontline services that people can rely on.

We have already started improving the way government works, with a stronger focus on frontline delivery, better use of technology and greater value for taxpayers. A re-elected National Government will continue that work through the Government's Public Service Transformation programme.

We will also continue reforming local government. Councils have an important role in delivering the infrastructure and services communities rely on, but the system needs to be simpler, more accountable and focused on results.

National has already refocused councils on core services, strengthened performance reporting and democratic accountability, progressed Local Water Done Well and begun a wider programme of reform. We will build on that work next term, including continuing to simplify local government and reviewing the Dog Control Act.

And we will back the people who respond when New Zealanders need them most. National will reset Fire and Emergency New Zealand, strengthen accountability and make sure firefighters have the equipment, training and support they need.

National's priorities:

- **Build better public services**
  Progress the Government's Public Service Transformation programme, improving delivery, making better use of technology and ensuring taxpayers get better value from government.
- **Reform local government**
  Continue simplifying and strengthening local government, with clearer accountability, better performance and a stronger focus on the infrastructure and services communities rely on.
- **Back our firefighters**
  Reset Fire and Emergency New Zealand, restore clear accountability and make sure firefighters have the equipment, training and support they need.

Our programme for the next three years

Building better public services

245. Progress the Government's Public Service Transformation programme.
246. Improve public service delivery through better coordination, less duplication and greater use of digital technology.
247. Continue shifting resources towards frontline services and improving productivity and value for taxpayers.
248. Complete legislation to disestablish the Broadcasting Standards Authority and move towards greater industry self-regulation.
249. Pass the Research, Science, Innovation, and Technology Bill to set out the legal basis for the reformed science system, including the new public research organisations.
250. Pass the Veterans' Recognition Bill to officially recognise as veterans former Defence Force members whose service qualified them for a medal.

Reforming local government

251. Progress the next stages of local government reform, including Local Government (Systems Improvements) Part 2, to simplify the system, strengthen accountability and improve the way councils deliver infrastructure and services.
252. Implement reforms refocusing councils on core services, strengthening performance reporting and ensuring voting decisions are made by democratically elected representatives.
253. Continue implementing Local Water Done Well to deliver financially sustainable and reliable water services while retaining local ownership and control.
254. Continue developing City and Regional Deals that bring central and local government together around long-term infrastructure, housing and economic growth.
255. Progress local government structural reform legislation, working with councils and communities to develop arrangements that improve efficiency, accountability and local representation.
256. Review the Dog Control Act 1996

Backing our firefighters

257. Reset Fire and Emergency New Zealand as a departmental agency accountable to the Minister for Emergency Management and Recovery, backed by a clear turnaround plan.
258. Provide stronger protection for operational volunteer firefighters affected by event based mental injury and gradual process injuries.
259. Deliver ordered fire appliances and establish a long-term fleet replacement programme so frontline crews have reliable equipment.
260. Restore full live fire training and ensure frontline operational capability is prioritised.

