



Memorandum

Ref 9/89/1

To WELLINGTON REGIONAL LAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

From Ian Hunter

Date 12 June 2001

Subject **TRANSFUND REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE**

National Rooding Programme

By the time the Committee meets the approved National rooding Programme for 2001/2002 will have been announced. I will be happy to respond to questions from the committee on the NRP.

Other Transfund Activities

- **Project Evaluation Manual Review**

This project is now under way with piloting of surveys of user preference. The aim is to arrive at new values for project benefits based on a willingness to pay concept to replace the present values which are now rather out of date. This work is expected to shift the balance of projects achieving a fundable BCR towards those that reduce congestion and increase route security. However survey results are not expected until late this year and there will have to be extensive consultation with Road Controlling Authorities before new benefit values are adopted. This work is not expected to affect projects before the 2002/2003 financial year.

- **Block Allocations**

Transfund is trialling the block allocation of funds for some local authority construction activity. Block allocation for maintenance works is already in existence. The intention is to reduce the administration required at present to vary programmes or project budgets during the year. No Road Controlling Authorities in the Wellington region (except Transit New Zealand) are involved in this trial, but Transfund will keep the Committee advised of progress.

- **Safety Management Systems**

Transfund is working with LTSA on the introduction of Safety Management systems to local authority rooding. The approach is similar to that used by Transit New Zealand on state highways and brings together all the tools used by rooding staff in assessing and

solving road safety problems on road networks. A part of this comprehensive approach is the training of roading engineers in the Safety Audit of Existing Roads. A pilot training course is being run by Transfund in Palmerston North in late June.

- **Portfolio Management**

Procedures are being developed, particularly in conjunction with Transit New Zealand, aimed at ensuring that correct projects are chosen and that they are brought forward to construction in a timely manner. Considerations include the time taken to achieve consents for major projects, and the order in which projects on a highway are constructed in order to maximise the benefits.

- **Patronage Funding**

Transfund continues to work with Council staff on the introduction of Patronage Funding and Kick-Start funding into the Region. Wellington Regional council has been particularly active in putting projects forward. Wellington has had approvals totalling \$1.2M for this financial year, almost half the national figure of \$2.6M.

Ian Hunter
Regional Manager