

Senior Adviser, Economics

Domain Strategy, Economics & Evaluation | System Performance & Governance

This role is part of the System Performance & Governance Group that provides quality, timely and effective policy and evidence based analysis for the Ministry and the transport sector. The group is also responsible for the Ministry’s Governance of the Crown Entities and overall stakeholder engagement and communications strategy. It also leads advice on some key commercial policy projects.

Functional teams include Analytics & Modelling, Domain Strategy, Economics and Evaluation, Finance and Governance & Commercial

The Domain Strategy, Economics & Evaluation Team are responsible for leading and:-

- Undertaking economic analysis, appraisal and assessment
- establishing an evaluation programme on Ministry policies and projects to understand impacts/ effects and lessons learnt
- Providing sector direction on the establishment and use of the transport evidence base including the collection, use and sharing of data, research and analytics across the transport sector.

The team also assumes responsibility for all matters relating to transport system appraisal and evaluation methods and will support internal policy teams at various stages of the policy development cycles.

The work is wide ranging, current examples include: assisting the development and assessment of the Transport Emission Action Plan and providing advice on its economic and environmental impacts; economic effects of policies related to new and emerging transport technologies and proposed regulation; developing and/or implementing new appraisal and assessment methodologies to ensure better consideration of social and equity related issues, relating to transport interventions.

The Senior Economist will be based within the Domain, Strategy, Economics and Evaluation team. The role will involve working closely within a team of economists and analysts, with policy teams in the Ministry, with external agencies including government agencies, international forums etc. It will involve leading and advancing the provision of expert economic advice and analysis, to support and contribute to the development of sound transport policy.

A Senior Adviser demonstrates a leadership role in the Ministry and across the transport sector and has relevant previous experience.

Reporting to: Manager – Domain Strategy, Economics & Evaluation

Location: Wellington

Enabling New Zealanders to flourish – our purpose

Our purpose statement goes beyond describing what our organisation does. It succinctly and powerfully captures the value that we will deliver to New Zealanders.

Flourish: A living organism flourishes when it grows or develops in a healthy or vigorous way, especially as the result of a particularly congenial environment. We think that’s what transport should do for New Zealanders.

New Zealanders: New Zealanders are central to what we do. This includes New Zealand Inc, the business sector, and our international connections, but at the heart of all of it is people.

Enabling: We are here to help create the transport ecosystem that will enable society and businesses to flourish, and grow.

How we do things – our values

INVESTED	We are committed and responsible
BOLD	We are courageous, shaping our place in the world
COLLABORATIVE	We are connected and journey with others

What you will do to contribute - key responsibilities

This role is responsible ensuring the Ministry provides quality products and services in a timely way to the Minister by:

Purpose of the Role	Key Accountabilities and Deliverables
Economic research, analysis and appraisal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proactively identify, develop, coordinate and/or carry out economic analyses and appraisal (including benefit-cost analysis) to achieve the transport sector outcomes that the transport sector that is effective, efficient, resilient and, safe and responsible. Further develop and support economic analysis on the social, economic and environmental impacts of transport policy, operation and investment decisions. Review technical papers received from Ministry staff, partners and consultants/contractors Provide advice in response to formal Government policy or Ministerial statements and proactively identify possible issues of importance to the Transport sector Advance the team's role in identifying and analysing issues, trends and opportunities in transport and economics Respond to Ministerial requests, Parliamentary questions and requests for information under the Official Information Act Seek and identify opportunities to develop and implement internal and inter-related external research programmes to enable strategic and evidence-based policy development Promote and contribute to the Transport Knowledge Hub seminar programme and seek to increase internal and external awareness of the work of the team. Actively seek to advance and support the use of economics in policy development across the Ministry.
Represent the Ministry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Represent the Ministry of Transport in a wide range of situations, including government agencies, transport sector and community groups such as the Transport Knowledge Hub.
General functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in the development and maintenance of the Ministry's analytical frameworks for appraisal and evaluation. Seek active contact, collaboration and communication with transport agencies, groups and industry stakeholders Promote an awareness to transport issues in current affairs and academic literature Actively contribute to team and Ministry planning processes, and to the development of strategies and work programmes Ensure records are created and maintained in accordance with the Public Records Act 2005 (specific recordkeeping responsibilities are located in the Ministry's Information Management Policy under "Information ownership, roles and responsibilities") Undertake any other tasks as may be directed by the Manager or Chief Economist.

Your health, safety and wellbeing

At MoT we expect all employees to:

- Work safely and take responsibility for keeping self and colleagues free from harm
- Report incidents and hazards promptly
- Know what to do in the event of an emergency
- Ensure personal health and safety standards are adhered to when at work or offsite when working

What you will bring specifically

Experience:

- A Senior Economist is expected to have a minimum of 3 years experience in a similar role
- Experience in applying economic theory into practice.
- Experience in carrying out benefit-cost analysis.
- A solid grounding in quantitative and/or qualitative methods of analysis.
- Experience in presenting to technical and non-technical audiences and developing and managing relevant networks across the sector.
- Experience with econometric and statistical applications would be an advantage.

Knowledge:

- Knowledge of the transport sector and public sector processes would be an advantage.

Other requirements:

- A post-graduate qualification in economics and knowledge of econometrics would be an advantage.

Leadership Capabilities

We use the Leadership Success Profile (LSP) to help guide our leaders towards the behaviours, skills and capabilities needed for successful leadership within the Ministry and across the public sector.

Leading strategically

- Think, lead and act strategically; to engage others in the vision, and position teams, organisations, and sectors to meet customer and future needs.

Leading with influence

- Lead and communicate in a clear, persuasive, impactful, and inspiring way: to convince others to embrace change and take action.

Enhancing organisational performance

- Drive innovation and continuous improvement; to sustainably strengthen long-term organisational performance and improve outcomes for customers.

Enhancing system performance

- Work collectively across boundaries; to deliver sustainable and long-term improvements to system and customer outcomes.

Leading at the political interface

- Bridge the interface between Government and the Public Sector; to engage political representatives and shape and implement the Government's policy priorities.

Enhancing people performance

- Manage people performance and bring out the best in managers and staff; to deliver high quality results for customers.

Developing talent

- Coach and develop diverse talent; to build the people capability required to deliver outcomes.

Enhancing team performance

- Build cohesive and high performing teams; to deliver collective results that are more than the sum of individual efforts.

Managing work priorities

- Plan, prioritise, and organise work; to deliver on short and long-term objectives across the breadth of their role.

Achieving through others

- Effectively delegate and maintain oversight of work responsibilities; to leverage the capability of direct reports and staff to deliver outcomes for customers.

Engaging others

- Connect with people; to build trust and become a leader that people want to work with and for.

Achieving ambitious goals

- Demonstrate achievement, drive, ambition, optimism, and delivery-focus; to make things happen and achieve ambitious outcomes.

Honest and Courageous

- Deliver the hard messages, and makes unpopular decisions in a timely manner; to advance the longer-term best interests of customers and New Zealand.

Curious

- Show curiosity, flexibility, and openness in analysing and integrating ideas, information, and differing perspectives; to make fit-for-purpose decisions.

Self-Aware and agile

- Leverage self-awareness to improve skills and adapt approach; to strengthen personal capability over time and optimise effectiveness with different situations and people.

Resilient

- Show composure, grit, and a sense of perspective when the going gets tough; to help others maintain optimism and focus.