

Job Description

Job Title:	Senior Economist – Domain Strategy, Economics & Evaluation
Team:	Domain Strategy, Economics & Evaluation Team
Group:	System Performance & Governance
Reporting to:	Manager Domain Strategy, Economics & Evaluation
Location:	Wellington
Salary band:	17
Date:	May 2021

Public Service Purpose / Te Aronga o te Ratonga Tūmatanui

Mahi tōpū ai ngā Kaimahi Tūmatanui e whai tikanga ai te noho a ngā tāngata o Aotearoa. Hei tā te Public Service Act ko te pūtake o ngā Kaimahi Kāwanatanga, ko te tautoko i te kāwanatanga whai ture me te kāwanatanga manapori; ko te āwhina i te Kāwanatanga o te wā nei me ō anamata ki te whakawhanake, ki te whakatinana hoki i ā rātou kaupapa here; ko te tuku i ngā ratonga tūmatanui e nui ana te kōunga, e nahanaha ana anō hoki; ko te tautoko i te Kāwanatanga e tūroa ai te whai oranga o te marea; ko te huawaere i te whai wāhitanga o te kirirarau ki te ao tūmatanui me te whakatutuki i ngā mahi i runga i tā te ture i whakahau ai. E hiranga ana te wāhi ki a mātou ki te tautoko i te Karauna i ana hononga ki ngā iwi Māori i raro i te Tiriti o Waitangi. Ahakoa he nui ngā momo tūranga mahi, e tapatahi ana ngā kaimahi tūmatanui i roto i te whakaaro nui ki te hāpai i ngā hāpori, ka mutu, e arahina ana ā mātou mahi e ngā mātāpono matua me ngā uara o ngā Kaimahi Tūmatanui.

The public service works collectively to make a meaningful difference for New Zealanders. The Public Service Act states that the purpose of the public service is to support constitutional and democratic government, enable both the current Government and successive governments to develop and implement their policies, deliver high quality and efficient public services, support the Government to pursue the long-term public interest, facilitate active citizenship and act in accordance with the law. We have an important role in supporting the Crown in its relationships with Māori under the Treaty of Waitangi and te Tiriti o Waitangi. Whilst there are many diverse roles, all public servants are unified by a spirit of service to the community and guided by the core principles and values of the public service in our work.

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

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

Senior Economist – Domain Strategy, Economics & Evaluation

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

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:

- Proactively identify, develop, coordinate and/or carry out economic analyses and appraisal (particularly cost benefit 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 of Transport in a wide range of situations, including government agencies, transport sector and community groups such as the Transport Knowledge Hub.
- 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

The duties and responsibilities in this document are not exhaustive. The incumbent may be required to perform other work which is consistent with the nature of the role

Internal	Senior Leadership team
	All managers and staff
External	Communications Professional bodies
	Media representatives
	External providers/Consultants
	Government agencies, Crown Entities and other organisations
	Ministers offices

Your health, safety and wellbeing

At the Ministry 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

Direct Reports

- Nil

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.

Capabilities

We use the Leadership Success Profile (LSP) to help guide our people, including those not in management positions, towards the skills and capabilities needed for success within the Ministry and across the public sector.

Managing work priorities

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

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.

Resilient

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

Collaboration

Promotes cooperation, collaboration and flexibility in working with others, contributes as a team member, manages conflict with teams.

Customer oriented

Actively looks for ways to help people, seeks understanding from customer to address customer concerns and needs and improve overall service levels.