

Job Description | Te Whakahuatanga

Job title	Senior Economist Kaitātari Ohaoha Matua		
Group	Sector Strategy Te Rāngai Waka		
Reporting to	Chief Economist & Manager Kaiwhakahaere - Tumu Ōhanga		
Location	Wellington Office		
Direct reports	N/A	Security clearance	N/A
HR delegation	N/A	Finance delegation	N/A
Salary band	Band 17	Date	March 2026

Public Service Purpose | Te Aronga o te Ratonga Tūmatanui

The public service supports constitutional and democratic government, enables both the current Government and successive governments to develop and implement their policies, delivers high-quality and efficient public services, supports the Government to pursue the long-term public interest, facilitates active citizenship, and acts in accordance with the law.

You can find out more about what this means at (<https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/about-us>).

Enabling a transport system that connects New Zealand – The Ministry of Transport’s purpose | Te whakahehi i te punaha waka e hono ana i a Aotearoa

We are the Government’s system lead on transport. We inform and advise the government on current and long-term transport issues, including linkages to the wider impacts on land use and urban development, by providing policy and investment advice to Ministers, leading regulatory reform, and monitoring the performance of the transport agencies that regulate or deliver transport services that New Zealanders rely on every day. You can find out more about the Ministry of Transport at (<https://www.transport.govt.nz/about-us>).

Our values | Ngā uaratanga matua

<p>Integrity</p> <p>—</p> <p>Tapatahi</p>	<p>Excellence</p> <p>—</p> <p>Kairangi</p>	<p>Collaboration</p> <p>—</p> <p>Mahi tahi</p>
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Sector Strategy | Te Rāngai Waka

The Sector Strategy Group supports the Ministry of Transport to provide future focused, evidence based strategic advice, sector strategies and data insights. The group provides thought leadership, stretching and challenging us to ensure the Ministry remain on track to achieve long term outcomes expected from the transport system. A key focus for the group is partnering with others in the sector to drive a truly joined up view of the transport portfolio, land use and urban development priorities and system needs in the medium and long term.

transport.govt.nz | hei-arataki.nz

The Economics team, led by the Chief Economist and Manager, focuses on economic advice and economic appraisal services across the Ministry and is responsible for:

- Leading economic modelling and economic appraisal (such as cost benefits analysis, social impact and distributional impact analysis).
- Proving economic insight and advice to the Sector Strategy Group and the wider Ministry.
- Conducting research and evidence building and providing strategic and technical research advice to support economics analysis and modelling.
- Supporting economic capability building within the Ministry.

Senior Economist | Kaitātari Ohaoha Matua Position

The Senior Economist contributes to high quality advice on transport issues and supports the wider team in delivering the team’s work programme. This position has the responsibility for advancing the portfolio of the team to deliver on their key objectives.

What you will do | Te mahi

This role is responsible for:

- Contributing to larger, complex and more involved projects where others have accountability for the delivery of outputs
- Carrying out or supporting cost benefit analyses and other economic analyses to support policy development, including evaluating how transport investments interact with land-use patterns, accessibility, and urban growth (as appropriate)
- Assisting quality assurance of economics research and analysis undertaken, ensuring methodological rigour and consistency across transport, land-use, and urban development modelling
- Supporting the wider team to deliver high quality economics research and analysis to maximise the contribution that the team makes to Ministry outcomes and government goals
- Reviewing research proposals and reports to ensure quality and continuity of research and development in the field of transport economics, modelling, land-use integration, and related fields
- Effective dissemination and communication of economic research and analytical findings to decision makers and stakeholders (as appropriate), including insights on how transport policies influence urban form, development patterns, and long-term system outcomes
- Effectively influence on topics of their expertise through engagement and communication with stakeholders and peers across relevant disciplines
- Providing guidance and on the job training and coaching to more junior team member

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.

Who you will work with | Tou kapa

Internal	External
Economics team	Service providers and contractors
National Transport Modelling team and Insights, Data and Evaluation team	Transport Sector Entities
Policy teams	Other government agencies, crown entities and other organisations
Managers and staff across the Ministry	

What you will bring | Te mea e mauria mai e koe

- Ability to apply key economic concepts and principles in policy analyses
- Ability to identify and apply appropriate economic frameworks and techniques in different contexts
- Experience in applying economic analysis, theory and research skills to real world problems and the development of policy/strategy related solutions
- Effective project management skills to lead or support project delivery
- Ability to analysis complex and large datasets (including SNZ's Integrated Data Infrastructure datasets) and interpret data analysis results and draw inferences and conclusions.
- Well connected/ networked in their specialist area, commanding respect for their knowledge and ability.
- Proven written and verbal communication, with strong influencing skills.
- Experience in coaching and mentoring junior staff.
- Able to work autonomously and meet deadlines.

The Ministry of Transport's Māori Strategy | Hei Arataki

Hei Arataki has been developed to improve transport outcomes for Māori. Hei Arataki acknowledges that New Zealanders are not flourishing if Māori are not flourishing and sets out our strategy direction to identify issues and opportunities for Māori in transport policy design and delivery.

<https://www.transport.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Paper/HeiAratakiMaoriStrategy-1.pdf>

Hei Arataki is underpinned by the following Guiding Principles | Ngā Mātāpono:



Rangatiratanga

Empowering
and Leading



Kaitiakitanga

Guardianship and
Protection



Whanaungatanga

Collaboration
and Unity



Manaakitanga

Caring for and
valuing others

Diversity and inclusion | Te rereketanga me te whakauru

We want our workforce to increasingly reflect the communities we serve. The Ministry welcomes and supports people from diverse backgrounds including people of all gender identities, ages, ethnicities, sexual orientations, disabilities and religions. A requirement of this role is to actively support and promote our diversity and inclusion principles.

Your health, safety and wellbeing | Te hauora, haumaru me to oranga

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.

Performance Expectations | Mahi, he aha te mea e tumanakohia ana

We are a high performing organisation. A key part of this is being clear about roles and expectations. The Ministry's expectations of Senior Advisers are set out below. The intent is to clarify, make visible and clearly communicate expectations to ensure common understanding and consistency.



Leadership Success Profile – capabilities | Pūkete Arataki Whaihua

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.

