

A sustainable land transport system – lunch and learn

Updated 12 Oct 2020

1

Share

Updated 12 Oct 2020



- We are at the beginning of a transformational shift in our business.
- This was a key takeaway from our recent lunch and learn session where Rob Hannaby, Lead Advisor Environment, and Jannette Farley, Principal Advisor Strategy, spoke about two of the four challenges being tackled in [Toitū Te Taiao our Sustainability Action Plan](#).
- In our previous sessions we've heard about how we can reduce our corporate emissions and impact on the environment. In this latest session, we heard about reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving public health, which are intrinsically linked. After an overview of the two challenges, Rob and Jannette focused their attention on the opportunities we have to make a positive change in the land transport system.
- The actions in Toitū Te Taiao have been developed based on the Avoid-Shift-Improve (ASI) framework, initially introduced in Germany in the 1990s:

- Avoid focuses on interventions that reduce the need for people to travel or lessen the time or distance they're travelling, particularly by car. It's about system efficiency and it includes making it easier for people to access education, employment and essential services without having to use a car.
- Shift helps people choose more energy efficient modes of transport, like public transport, walking, cycling or vehicle sharing, when they do need to travel. It's about energy efficient trips.
- Improve is about improving the energy efficiency of our vehicle fleet. Think low or no carbon vehicles of all shapes and sizes. This is about vehicle efficiency.
- During the session, Jannette emphasised the three parts of the framework cannot sit in isolation of each other. While we can improve the energy efficiency of our vehicle fleet, we must look at how the whole system works to deliver sustainable transport and liveable communities that are low carbon, safe and healthy.
- Toitū Te Taiao builds on great work already underway across our organisation and opens up new areas to work on. We're already enabling a lot in public transport, walking and cycling and we are working with partners on Mode Shift plans. New work we have introduced under the Toitū Te Taiao umbrella includes developing a methodology to assess the carbon reduction potential of land transport programmes and projects and developing a model to understand what combinations of interventions have the greatest impact on reducing emissions.
- We encourage anyone who is interested in this work to get involved and email us at sustainabilityplan@nzta.govt.nz.
 - [Session one – Leading by example](#)
 - [Session two – Reducing environmental harm](#)
 - [The "Avoid, Shift, Improve" Strategy - a short film](#)

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982