PRINCIPLES FOR PRIORITISATION

How do we decide what to do and when?

It's a simple question with a complex answer. To develop the projects set out in this framework, we've taken into account a huge range of factors. The spatial structure, movement potential, trends, the future of the city, public comments, and the need to take action were all key factors.

The overall aim is to enhance the wellbeing of Wellington and its people by sustaining a dynamic central city, provide more certainty about the future, and ensure prudent management of the city's finances and assets. We've also had to be mindful of the links between the different parts of our work – for example, the relationship between transport and urban form, or the environmental impact of urban development.

We will consider the following to guide the timing of projects:

- legislative and regulatory requirements and changes to those
- consistency with Council strategies and policies
- cost and funding options
- benefits/return on investment
- urgency – the extent to which a project represents a one-off opportunity or can be realised at later stages

- whether someone else will fund/provide it if we don't
- whether we'll achieve significantly more benefits or incur significantly less cost by funding/providing the project now instead of later
- its relationship to existing Council services and assets
- how old they are
- their condition
- whether they are meeting current needs
- how much longer they can last for
- whether demand will go up in future (because the population is growing or people are doing things differently)
- what maintenance work, upgrades and renewals will be needed to meet demand in the next 10 years or so
- any risks involved.

Prioritisation categories

The projects will be assessed against these and then prioritised into the following categories:

Base project

These are required as background urban research and will be used across a range of projects.

Lifecycle upgrades

These will bring positive effects but should be undertaken as existing infrastructure (for example) reaches the end of its life, or when external stakeholders initiate them.

Catalyst project

These can readily be achieved, replicated and have the ability to demonstrate the framework's potential.

Medium-term projects

10+ year timeframe.

High-impact project

These bring about substantial and immediate change to an area and (potentially) facilitate others to act.