

Hon Chris Penk

Minister for Building and Construction
Minister for Land Information
Minister for Small Business and Manufacturing
Minister for Veterans
Associate Minister of Defence
Associate Minister of Immigration



28 July 2026

Hon Chris Bishop
Minister for Infrastructure

FTAA-2603-1179

Subject: Auckland Prison Capacity Increase Project – Invitation to comment under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

Dear Minister,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Department of Corrections' application for the Auckland Prison Capacity Increase Project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024.

The Ministry acknowledges the importance of ensuring that New Zealand's critical public infrastructure can meet future service demands and supporting the delivery of essential government services.

From a construction and infrastructure perspective, we note that the proposed Auckland Prison Capacity Increase Project represents a substantial infrastructure investment with the potential to deliver significant economic and industry benefits. Based on information provided in the application, construction of the project is expected to generate approximately \$938 million to \$1.07 billion in value-added economic activity over the life of the programme.

The estimated 10-year delivery programme of the project is also expected to make a meaningful contribution to employment and workforce development within the construction sector.

Given the scale and duration of the proposed works, the project has the potential to provide a sustained pipeline of construction activity, supporting broader sector resilience and helping retain skills and expertise within the industry.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide comments on this application.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CP' or similar initials.

Hon Chris Penk
Minister for Building and Construction