

National Transport Commission

**Entity resources and planned
performance**

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National Transport Commission

Section 1: Entity overview and resources

1.1 Strategic direction statement

The National Transport Commission (NTC) is a national land transport reform agency that supports Australian governments to improve safety, productivity and environmental outcomes, provide for future technologies and improve regulatory efficiency. Our vision is to advance social and economic outcomes for all Australians through an efficient, integrated and national land transport system.

The *National Transport Commission Act 2003* (the NTC Act) and the Inter-Governmental Agreement for Regulatory and Operational Reform in Road, Rail and Intermodal Transport (IGA) establish the NTC and define our role. This is reflected in the NTC's outcome statement: Improved transport productivity, efficiency, safety and environmental performance and regulatory efficiency in Australia through developing, monitoring and maintaining nationally consistent regulatory and operational arrangements relating to road, rail and intermodal transport.

As a key contributor to the national reform agenda, the NTC is accountable to the Infrastructure and Transport Ministers' Meeting (ITMM), and works closely with the ITMM's advisory body, the Infrastructure and Transport Senior Officials' Committee (IISOC). ITMM approves the NTC's program of work (through NTC's Corporate Plan) and reform proposals.

The NTC operates in a complex and changing national environment that faces rapid transformation through technology and innovation. To meet the challenges that this environment poses and deliver on its intended outcomes, the NTC's focus for 2023-24 is:

- delivering reform work across three focus areas that are aligned with ITMM's priorities and offer the highest value for Australia:
 - Progressing a safe and equitable transport system that enables the safe movement of goods and people across Australia
 - Advancing a seamless national transport system that is productive, resilient and sustainable now and in the future
 - Helping the transport system deliver better environmental outcomes
- effective engagement, collaboration and partnerships to deliver reform, while taking a more active role as a facilitator and coordinator to support national transport reform.
- developing NTC's policy, economic and evaluation capabilities to ensure it has the expertise to deliver high-quality work and advice.

- continuing to embed a more flexible, responsive, and national operating model including capitalising on the agile and hybrid work practices adopted for COVID-19.

The NTC’s Corporate Plan provides more detail on its program of work and how NTC will deliver its outcomes.

1.2 Entity resource statement

Table 1.1 shows the total funding from all sources available to the NTC for its operations and to deliver programs and services on behalf of the Government.

The table summarises how resources will be applied by outcome (government strategic policy objectives) and by departmental (for the NTC’s operations) classification.

Information in this table is presented on a resourcing (that is, appropriations/cash available) basis, whilst the ‘Budgeted expenses by Outcome 1’ tables in Section 2 and the financial statements in Section 3 are presented on an accrual basis.

Table 1.1: NTC resource statement — Budget estimates for 2023-24 as at Budget May 2023

	2022-23 Estimated actual \$'000	2023-24 Estimate \$'000
Opening balance/cash reserves at 1 July	4,161	4,279
Funds from Government		
Annual appropriations - ordinary annual services ^(a)		
Outcome 1	4,427	4,605
Total annual appropriations	4,427	4,605
Total funds from Government	4,427	4,605
Funds from other sources		
Sale of goods and services	8,018	8,529
Interest received	-	150
Total funds from other sources	8,018	8,679
Total net resourcing for NTC	12,445	13,284
	2022-23	2023-24
Average staffing level (number)	43	43

Prepared on a resourcing (that is, appropriations available) basis.

All figures shown above are GST exclusive – these may not match figures in the cash flow statement.

(a) Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 2023-24.

The NTC is not directly appropriated as it is a corporate Commonwealth entity. Appropriations are made to the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts (a non-corporate Commonwealth entity), which are then paid to the NTC and are considered ‘departmental’ for all purposes.

1.3 Budget measures

There are no new measures for the NTC for the 2023-24 Budget.

Section 2: Outcomes and planned performance

Government outcomes are the intended results, impacts or consequences of actions by the Government on the Australian community. Commonwealth programs are the primary vehicle by which government entities achieve the intended results of their outcome statements. Entities are required to identify the programs which contribute to government outcomes over the Budget and forward years.

Each outcome is described below together with its related programs. The following provides detailed information on expenses for each outcome and program, further broken down by funding source.

Note:

Performance reporting requirements in the Portfolio Budget Statements are part of the Commonwealth performance framework established by the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*. It is anticipated that the performance measures described in Portfolio Budget Statements will be read with broader information provided in an entity's corporate plans and annual performance statements – included in Annual Reports – to provide a complete picture of an entity's planned and actual performance.

The most recent corporate plan for the NTC can be found at:

<https://www.ntc.gov.au/sites/default/files/assets/files/NTC%20Corporate%20Plan%202022-26.pdf>

The most recent annual performance statement can be found at:

<https://www.transparency.gov.au/annual-reports/national-transport-commission/reporting-year/2021-22>

2.1 Budgeted expenses and performance for Outcome 1

Outcome 1: Improved transport productivity, efficiency, safety and environmental performance and regulatory efficiency in Australia through developing, monitoring and maintaining nationally consistent regulatory and operational arrangements relating to road, rail and intermodal transport

Budgeted expenses for Outcome 1

This table shows how much the NTC intends to spend (on an accrual basis) on achieving the outcome, broken down by program.

Table 2.1.1: Budgeted expenses for Outcome 1

	2022-23 Estimated actual \$'000	2023-24 Budget \$'000	2024-25 Forward estimate \$'000	2025-26 Forward estimate \$'000	2026-27 Forward estimate \$'000
Program 1.1: National Transport Commission					
Revenue from Government					
Ordinary annual services (Appropriation Bill No. 1)	4,777	4,605	4,178	4,286	4,393
Revenues from other independent sources	8,018	8,679	7,909	8,110	8,308
Total expenses for Program 1.1	12,795	13,284	12,087	12,396	12,701
Outcome 1 totals by resource type					
Revenue from Government					
Ordinary annual services (Appropriation Bill No. 1)	4,777	4,605	4,178	4,286	4,393
Revenues from other independent sources	8,018	8,679	7,909	8,110	8,308
Total expenses for Outcome 1	12,795	13,284	12,087	12,396	12,701
	2022-23	2023-24			
Average staffing level (number)	43	43			

Table has been prepared inclusive of 2022-23 Additional Estimates figures

Table 2.1.2: Performance measures for Outcome 1

Table 2.1.2 details the performance measures for each program associated with Outcome 1. It also provides the related key activities as expressed in the current corporate plan where further detail is provided about the delivery of the activities related to the program, the context in which these activities are delivered and how the performance of these activities will be measured. Where relevant, details of the 2023-24 Budget measures that have created new programs or materially changed existing programs are provided.

Outcome 1 – Improved transport productivity, efficiency, safety and environmental performance and regulatory efficiency in Australia through developing, monitoring and maintaining nationally consistent regulatory and operational arrangements relating to road, rail and intermodal transport.		
Program 1.1 - NTC Work Program Improve safety, productivity and environmental outcomes, provide for future technologies and improve regulatory efficiency by developing, monitoring and maintaining nationally consistent regulatory and operational arrangements relating to road, rail and intermodal transport.		
Key Activities	Delivery of the NTC’s ministerially approved program of work (as detailed in the NTC’s Corporate Plan) in partnership with Australian governments, safety regulators, standards boards, industry, the private sector and the broader community.	
Year	Performance measures	Expected Performance Results
Current year 2022-23	The NTC develops policy reform proposals that are demonstrated to offer high value	Clear evidence is provided of the expected benefits for all policy reform proposals. Target expected to be met. ^(a)
	The NTC’s recommendations are relevant and valuable enough to the ITMM to be agreed	At least 90 per cent of NTC recommendations presented to the ITMM are agreed. Target expected to be met. ^(a)
	The NTC delivers its ITMM-agreed projects on time and within budget	At least 90 per cent of projects are completed on time and within budget. Target expected to be met. ^(a)
	The NTC delivers a comprehensive program of legislative reviews and amendments	At least three legislative amendment packages are submitted to the ITMM each year. Target expected to be met met. ^(a)

Year	Performance measures	Expected Performance Results
Current year 2022-23 cont.	The NTC consistently monitors and promotes the successful implementation of land transport reforms	The National Transport Reform Implementation Monitoring Report is provided annually and includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the status for each jurisdiction for all land transport reforms being implemented. recommendations to address any barriers to successful implementation. Target achieved.
	All NTC reforms are proposed with a clear implementation pathway	100 per cent of NTC regulatory amendments presented to the ITMM have an implementation plan that includes outputs, timeframes and accountabilities. Target expected to be met. ^(a)
	The NTC receives positive feedback in its stakeholder survey on how the organisation engages	Demonstrated improvements on the previous stakeholder survey. Actual achievement cannot be assessed until EOFY.
	The NTC's staff engagement survey results are positive	An improvement from the previous survey in the results of the 'overall engagement' measure for staff surveyed. Target not met.
Year	Performance measures	Planned Performance Results
Budget year 2023-24	The NTC develops reform proposals that are demonstrated to offer national benefits	Clear evidence is provided of the expected benefits for all reform proposals.
	The NTC's advice is relevant and valuable to ITMM	All the NTC's recommendations are acknowledged by ITMM (even if not adopted) and influence and inform their decision making.
	The NTC delivers its ITMM-agreed deliverables on time and within budget	100 per cent of ITMM-agreed deliverables are completed on time and within budget.
	The NTC delivers a comprehensive program of legislative reviews and amendments	At least three legislative instruments are reviewed each year with amendment packages submitted if required.
	The NTC consistently monitors and promotes the successful implementation of land transport reforms	The National Transport Reform Implementation Monitoring Report is provided annually and includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the status for each jurisdiction for all land transport reforms being implemented. recommendations to address any barriers to successful implementation.
	All NTC reforms are proposed with a clear implementation pathway	100 per cent of NTC regulatory amendments presented to ITMM have an implementation plan that includes outputs, timeframes and

Year	Performance measures	Planned Performance Results
Budget year 2023-24 cont.	The NTC has engaged staff and a supportive culture	A staff engagement score of 50 or above for 'overall engagement' measure and positive staff feedback from exit interviews and/or other formal feedback mechanisms.
Forward Estimates 2024-27	Evaluations of the impact of the NTC's reforms (once implemented) show clear evidence of value provided	All NTC reforms evaluated are shown to have been beneficial.
	The statutory review of the NTC confirms that the organisation delivers on the objectives specified in the Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA)	The review recognises the NTC as highly valuable and recommends for it to continue operation.
	The NTC receives positive feedback in its stakeholder survey on how the organisation engages	The overall feedback received is positive and constructive.
	All others as per 2023-24	As per 2023-24.

(a) Actual achievement cannot be assessed until EOFY.

Section 3: Budgeted financial statements

Section 3 presents budgeted financial statements which provide a comprehensive snapshot of NTC's finances for the 2023-24 Budget year, including the impact of budget measures and resourcing on financial statements.

3.1 Budgeted financial statements

3.1.1 Differences between entity resourcing and financial statements

The NTC is funded by Commonwealth, states and territories on an annual basis, apportioned by an agreed percentage allocation as outlined within the NTC's IGA.

Under its Act, funding for the NTC is to be applied only in payment or discharge of the costs, expenses and other obligations incurred by the NTC in the performance of its functions and the exercise of its powers.

Each year, the NTC must prepare estimates, in accordance with ITMM directions, of its receipts and expenditure for each financial year and for any other period specified by ITMM. The NTC must submit estimates so prepared to ITMM no later than such a date as ITMM directs. Except with the consent of ITMM, the funding of the NTC must not be spent otherwise than in accordance with the Corporate Plan and work program provided annually. On this basis, the NTC's forward estimates may change yearly based on directions from ITMM.

3.1.2 Explanatory notes and analysis of budgeted financial statements

The NTC's balance sheet is simple in structure and classification. Assets are largely comprised of cash and office plant and equipment, while liabilities are payables (to suppliers) and employee provisions (staff entitlements).

3.2 Budgeted financial statements tables

Table 3.1: Comprehensive income statement (showing net cost of services) for the period ended 30 June

	2022-23 Estimated actual \$'000	2023-24 Budget \$'000	2024-25 Forward estimate \$'000	2025-26 Forward estimate \$'000	2026-27 Forward estimate \$'000
EXPENSES					
Employee benefits	8,154	8,226	8,360	8,532	8,703
Suppliers	3,778	4,414	3,092	3,239	3,383
Depreciation and amortisation	816	606	606	606	606
Finance costs	47	38	29	19	9
Total expenses	12,795	13,284	12,087	12,396	12,701
LESS:					
OWN-SOURCE INCOME					
Own-source revenue					
Other ^(a)	8,018	8,529	7,759	7,960	8,158
Interest received	-	150	150	150	150
Total own-source revenue	8,018	8,679	7,909	8,110	8,308
Total own-source income	8,018	8,679	7,909	8,110	8,308
Net (cost of)/contribution by services	(4,777)	(4,605)	(4,178)	(4,286)	(4,393)
Revenue from Government	4,777	4,605	4,178	4,286	4,393
Surplus/(deficit) attributable to the Australian Government	-	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income/(loss) attributable to the Australian Government	-	-	-	-	-

Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.

Table has been prepared inclusive of 2022-23 Additional Estimates figures

(a) Relates to funding provided by states and territories.

Table 3.2: Budgeted departmental balance sheet (as at 30 June)

	2022-23 Estimated actual \$'000	2023-24 Budget \$'000	2024-25 Forward estimate \$'000	2025-26 Forward estimate \$'000	2026-27 Forward estimate \$'000
ASSETS					
Financial assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	4,279	4,260	4,213	4,137	4,030
Trade and other receivables	140	140	140	140	140
Total financial assets	4,419	4,400	4,353	4,277	4,170
Non-financial assets					
Land and buildings	2,059	1,633	1,207	781	355
Property, plant and equipment	833	853	873	893	913
Other non-financial assets	70	70	70	70	70
Total non-financial assets	2,962	2,556	2,150	1,744	1,338
Total assets	7,381	6,956	6,503	6,021	5,508
LIABILITIES					
Payables					
Suppliers	770	295	295	295	295
Accrued expenses		475	475	475	475
Other payables	22	22	22	22	22
Total payables	792	792	792	792	792
Interest bearing liabilities					
Leases	2,321	1,896	1,443	961	448
Total interest bearing liabilities	2,321	1,896	1,443	961	448
Provisions					
Employee provisions	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
Total provisions	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
Total liabilities	4,313	3,888	3,435	2,953	2,440
Net assets	3,068	3,068	3,068	3,068	3,068
EQUITY					
Parent entity interest					
Retained surplus (accumulated deficit)	3,068	3,068	3,068	3,068	3,068
Total parent entity interest	3,068	3,068	3,068	3,068	3,068
Total equity	3,068	3,068	3,068	3,068	3,068

Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.

Table 3.3: Departmental statement of changes in equity — summary of movement (Budget year 2023-24)

	Retained earnings	Total equity
	\$'000	\$'000
Opening balance as at 1 July 2023		
Balance carried forward from previous period	3,068	3,068
Adjusted opening balance	3,068	3,068
Comprehensive income		
Surplus/(deficit) for the period	-	-
Total comprehensive income	3,068	3,068
Estimated closing balance as at 30 June 2024	3,068	3,068
Closing balance attributable to the Australian Government	3,068	3,068

Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis

Table 3.4: Budgeted departmental statement of cash flows (for the period ended 30 June)

	2022-23 Estimated actual \$'000	2023-24 Budget \$'000	2024-25 Forward estimate \$'000	2025-26 Forward estimate \$'000	2026-27 Forward estimate \$'000
OPERATING ACTIVITIES					
Cash received					
Receipts from Government	12,795	13,134	11,937	12,246	12,551
Interest received	-	150	150	150	150
Total cash received	12,795	13,284	12,087	12,396	12,701
Cash used					
Employees	8,154	8,226	8,360	8,532	8,703
Suppliers	3,778	4,414	3,092	3,239	3,383
Interest payments on lease liability	47	38	29	19	9
Total cash used	11,979	12,678	11,481	11,790	12,095
Net cash from/(used by) operating activities	816	606	606	606	606
INVESTING ACTIVITIES					
Cash used					
Purchase of property, plant and equipment and intangibles	300	200	200	200	200
Total cash used	300	200	200	200	200
Net cash from/(used by) investing activities	(300)	(200)	(200)	(200)	(200)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES					
Cash used					
Principal payments on lease liability	398	425	453	482	513
Total cash used	398	425	453	482	513
Net cash from/(used by) financing activities	(398)	(425)	(453)	(482)	(513)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	118	(19)	(47)	(76)	(107)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	4,161	4,279	4,260	4,213	4,137
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	4,279	4,260	4,213	4,137	4,030

Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.
Table has been prepared inclusive of 2022-23 Additional Estimates figure.

Table 3.5: Departmental capital budget statement (for the period ended 30 June)

	2022-23 Estimated actual \$'000	2023-24 Budget \$'000	2024-25 Forward estimate \$'000	2025-26 Forward estimate \$'000	2026-27 Forward estimate \$'000
NEW CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS					
PURCHASE OF NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS					
Funded internally from departmental resources ^(a)	300	200	200	200	200
TOTAL	300	200	200	200	200
RECONCILIATION OF CASH USED TO ACQUIRE ASSETS TO ASSET MOVEMENT TABLE					
Total purchases	300	200	200	200	200
Total cash used to acquire assets	300	200	200	200	200

Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.

(a) Includes funding from entity receipts, and proceeds from sale of assets.

Table 3.6: Statement of departmental asset movements (Budget year 2023-24)

	Asset Category		
	Buildings	Other property, plant and equipment	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
As at 1 July 2023			
Gross book value	-	2,612	2,612
Gross book value - ROU assets	3,763		3,763
Accumulated depreciation/amortisation and impairment	-	(1,779)	(1,779)
Accumulated depreciation/amortisation and impairment - ROU assets	(1,704)	-	(1,704)
Opening net book balance	2,059	833	2,892
Capital asset additions			
Estimated expenditure on new or replacement assets			
By purchase - other	-	200	200
Total additions	-	200	200
Other movements			
Depreciation/amortisation expense		(180)	(180)
Depreciation/amortisation on ROU assets	(426)	-	(426)
Total other movements	(426)	(180)	(606)
As at 30 June 2024			
Gross book value	-	2,812	2,812
Gross book value - ROU assets	3,763	-	3,763
Accumulated depreciation/amortisation and impairment	-	(1,959)	(1,959)
Accumulated depreciation/amortisation and impairment - ROU assets	(2,130)	-	(2,130)
Closing net book balance	1,633	853	2,486

Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.