

By email

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Tēna koutou katoa

Procurement Opportunity for Regional Trains and Feasibility Study for Christchurch-Dunedin-Invercargill Services

Greater Wellington Regional Council is currently procuring a new fleet of 4-car Independently Powered Electrical Multiple Units (IPEMU). These units will be used to provide services in the Lower North Island between Wellington and Masterton, and Wellington and Palmerston North.

We are writing to inform you that the tender process for Lower North Island Rail Integrated Mobility (LNIRIM) Programme has now commenced. We recently released a Request for Proposal (RFP) to the shortlisted proponents. We are aiming to sign the rolling stock and long-term maintenance contract by mid-2025.

We understand that The Future is Rail has submitted that South Island regional councils conduct a feasibility study for a Christchurch to Invercargill Train service that would require funding contributions from Otago, Southland, and Canterbury ratepayers, as well as support from the NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi.

Recognising the need for similar rail services across the country, the procurement we are undertaking includes provisions for other agencies to 'piggyback' off our contract and procurement documents. This allows you a base to negotiate from for the supply of trains, recognising that different regions will have different requirements with regards to the motive power of trains and rail network configurations (for example platform heights). In addition, we are also seeking a price for an option to manufacture trains with metro configuration for the Wellington metro area.

If you would like to leverage or investigate the ‘piggyback’ provisions delivered by our procurement process, for the potential Christchurch to Invercargill Train service or other services, please contact our Programme Director, Barry Fryer at barry.fryer@gw.govt.nz. We are open to facilitating a LNIRIM Programme briefing session to provide more details on the provisions, draft contract terms, and the contract award timeline. If you would find this beneficial, please confirm in writing, and we will make the necessary arrangements.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me.

Ngā mihi



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Chair

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