

05 December 2025

Rt Hon Chris Hipkins
Leader of the Labour Party
Parliament Buildings
Wellington, 6160

By email: chris.hipkins@parliament.govt.nz

CC: Hon Carmel Sepuloni

Tēnā koe

Engineering a better future together

Engineering New Zealand would like to invite you to connect directly with our 23,000 members on your top priorities for the upcoming election.

The engineering profession and workforce are incredibly important for New Zealand's development and economy. Engineering contributes around \$16 billion of GDP. Engineers already help address some of the biggest challenges New Zealand faces and will be central to delivering on your priorities. There are a range of issues that engineers would be keen to discuss with you and help with. We are particularly focused on the need for:

- A bold multi-partisan approach to infrastructure
- Infrastructure system reform that supports a prosperous New Zealand
- A sustainable pipeline of skilled workers to deliver the infrastructure New Zealand needs
- Infrastructure that is resilient
- Reform of New Zealand's unsustainable standards system, which is a risk to public safety and inhibits productivity.

Attached is a high-level summary on the priorities and actions we believe would make a difference in achieving results for all New Zealanders.

We would welcome a meeting with you in the coming months to discuss these challenges, potential solutions and how we can support you.

In addition to this, we are planning two engagement opportunities to support our members to better understand the key priorities of political parties and how these will impact the engineering profession.

The first is a series of short (~12 minute) recorded chats with me and a representative from each party. These video chats are an opportunity to discuss your priorities and plans, particularly in areas affecting engineers. These videos would be shared with our members across our various platforms. We are aiming to film these in May in our Wellington offices.

The second event is a hybrid 'Town-hall' event focused on infrastructure and development – where we would have a panel of representatives from each party discussing topics that are of key importance to the profession. Our intention is to run this event in early August in Wellington, with audiences able to attend in person and online.

We would like to invite you or a representative/s to participate in these events. Due to the logistics involved, we would appreciate an early indication of the Labour Party's interest in being involved. My staff will be in contact with your office soon to discuss whether a meeting or any of these event opportunities would fit in your schedule.

Nāku, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "R. Templer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "R." and the last name "Templer" clearly distinguishable.

Dr Richard Templer FEngNZ

Chief Executive