



25 June 2020



Thank you for your email of 29 May to the Ministry of Education requesting the following information:

1. *Are there any official MoE 'personal safety' guidelines for principals about how to recommend safety for students walking to and from school?*
2. *What are the MoE's policies for incorporating Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design during the design of school properties, including new builds and improvements?*
3. *Was there input from researchers and professionals specialising in children's and women's rights to a safe built environment, in writing the above two policies?*
4. *What was the input referred to in question 3, and when was it received?*
5. *What are the MoE's policies for prioritising walking and cycling safety and amenity during the design of school properties, including new builds and improvements?*
6. *What are the MoE's policies around advocating to Councils for improving the nearby built environments for crime prevention?*
7. *What are the MoE's policies for reducing transport carbon emissions reductions during both day-to-day operations and during the design of school properties, including new builds and improvements?*
8. *Does the MoE have a modeshift policy?*
9. *Has the MoE received instruction to prioritise walking and cycling in the design of its properties from any other part of government?*
10. *Has the MoE received instruction to reduce transport carbon emissions from any other part of government?*

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

Our response to your individual questions has been outlined below:

Question 1: Are there any official MoE 'personal safety' guidelines for principals about how to recommend safety for students walking to and from school?

The Ministry does not have any official personal safety guidelines for principals about how to recommend safety for students walking to and from school. However, the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) has published resources about this on their website at the following link:

<https://education.nzta.govt.nz>

Question 2: What are the MoE's policies for incorporating Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design during the design of school properties, including new builds and improvements?

While the Ministry does not have specific policies on Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, the concept of safety and security on school sites is fundamental to the design principles expressed in the Designing Schools in New Zealand (DSNZ) guidance document. This is clearly identified in Part B, Section 7.8 (Page 42-43).¹

To confirm that new school designs conform to these safety and security principles, all new-build projects over \$3m in value, are required to be screened by a Design Review Process (DRP) where experienced architects and engineers independently review key aspects of the design for alignment with the Ministry's design requirements.² Specific aspects of safety and security are also reported against in the Design Compliance Checklists (DCC) and these include both pedestrian/bike/scooter safety and crime prevention items.³

Question 3: Was there input from researchers and professionals specialising in children's and women's rights to a safe built environment, in writing the above two policies?

Although there are no specific policies, the development of the DSNZ guidelines on school property design were prepared with input from a wide range of sources, including: external architects, engineers, quantity surveyors, and educationalists who specialise in the student experience of built environments.

Question 4: What was the input referred to in question 3, and when was it received?

The current iteration of the DSNZ guidance document received input over 2014/15 and was published in October 2015.

Question 5: What are the MoE's policies for prioritising walking and cycling safety and amenity during the design of school properties, including new builds and improvements?

The Ministry does not have specific policies on designing for pedestrians/bikes/scooters, however the DSNZ guidance document outlines principles around:

- promoting safe and easy access by all modes of transport (to encourage students and staff to travel by sustainable modes of transport wherever possible);
- reducing the risk of conflict with pedestrians by separating vehicular drop-off from longer term parking; and
- working through an arrival and departure strategy by placing priority on pedestrians, then bicycles and scooters, then bus and public transport, then private vehicles.

Question 6: What are the MoE's policies around advocating to Councils for improving the nearby built environments for crime prevention?

The Ministry does not have any specific policies for advocating to Councils for improving the nearby built environments for crime prevention. However the Ministry of Justice has developed some guidance on this at the following link:

<https://www.justice.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Publications/cpted-part-1.pdf>

<http://www.aucklanddesignmanual.co.nz/design-subjects/design-safety/perceptions/guidance/CPTEDintro>

Question 7: What are the MoE's policies for reducing transport carbon emissions reductions during both day-to-day operations and during the design of school properties, including new builds and improvements?

There are no formal policies on reducing transport carbon emissions as part of school design, however the Ministry's does have design guidance to increase the energy sustainability of schools.⁴

Question 8: Does the MoE have a modeshift policy?

No.

Question 9: Has the MoE received instruction to prioritise walking and cycling in the design of its properties from any other part of government?

There has been no formal instruction for school design to prioritise walking/cycling.

Question 10: Has the MoE received instruction to reduce transport carbon emissions from any other part of government?

No, the Ministry has not received an instruction from any other part of government to reduce transport carbon emissions.

Please note, the Ministry now proactively publishes OIA responses on our website. As such, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.



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Head of Education Infrastructure Service

Referenced web addresses:

1. <https://www.education.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Primary-Secondary/Property/Design/Design-guidance/DSNZ-version-1-0-20151014.pdf>
2. <http://www.education.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Primary-Secondary/Property/Design/Design-guidance/Design-Review-Panel-Factsheet.pdf>
3. <http://www.education.govt.nz/school/property-and-transport/projects-and-design/design/design-standards/education-infrastructure-design-guidance-documents/>
4. <https://education.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Primary-Secondary/Property/Design/Flexible-learning-spaces/DQLSIndoorAirQualityThermalComfortV1.0.pdf>