Section 96(1)(a) of the Land Transport Management Act requires that the NZTA exhibit a sense of social and environmental responsibility. We promote an accessible and safe transport system that contributes positively to New Zealand’s economic, social and environmental welfare, and we are committed to acting in an environmentally and socially responsible manner.

We are committed to: protecting and enhancing the natural, cultural and built environment, enhancing the quality of life for New Zealanders by improving community livability including land transport safety, taking appropriate account of the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi, providing meaningful and transparent engagement with stakeholders, customers and the general public and providing customer focused services that are fair, trusted and efficient.

To implement our policy we will:
› promote the safe and efficient movement of goods and people in a manner that avoids, to the extent reasonable in the circumstances, adverse environmental and social impacts
› continuously improve performance in the management of environmental and social impacts
› integrate good urban design into all our activities
› work to improve our knowledge and understanding of the extent and condition of New Zealand’s environmental and cultural heritage assets
› maintain and improve opportunities for Māori to contribute to our decision-making processes
› actively and meaningfully engage with affected and interested persons and organisations
› identify and comply with all relevant environmental and social legislation and regulations
› seek whole-of-life value for money by taking into account environmental and social costs and benefits when procuring goods and services
› provide our employees with the skills, awareness and leadership to achieve environmental and social objectives.

We have described aspects of our approach in more detail, including our Environmental Plan that guides the Highways and Network Operations Group and our action plan for the New Zealand Urban Design Protocol, to which we are a signatory.