



DTK
AND ASSOCIATES

METHODOLOGY



OUR PRACTICE TREATS POLICY ADVICE NOT AS A SELF-CONTAINED DOCUMENT BUT AS THE OPENING MOVE IN A DELIVERY SYSTEM. EACH ENGAGEMENT BEGINS WITH A CAREFUL READING OF THE ADVICE IN ITS OWN TERMS, AND THEN TESTS IT AGAINST THE ARCHITECTURE THAT WOULD HAVE TO CARRY IT: THE AGENCY THAT WOULD LEAD, THE WORKFORCE THAT WOULD DELIVER, THE REGULATORY AND FUNDING REGIMES THAT WOULD BE TRIGGERED, THE POPULATIONS WHOSE BURDEN WOULD SHIFT, AND THE ASSURANCE ARRANGEMENTS THAT WOULD EITHER CATCH OR COMPOUND THE DESIGN'S BLIND SPOTS.

THE FRAME DRAWS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION LITERATURE IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, ON THE PRINCIPAL'S OWN DOCTORAL WORK ON FREE AND FRANK ADVICE AND ON THE ARCHITECTURE OF POLICY ADVISORY SYSTEMS, AND ON MORE THAN TWO DECADES OF PRACTICE AT THE POLICY-DELIVERY HINGE IN AOTEAROA.

THE PRODUCT IS NOT A CLEARANCE, AND IT IS NOT A CRITIQUE. IT IS A WORKING DIAGNOSIS OF WHERE THE ADVICE WILL HOLD AND WHERE IT WILL NOT, SET OUT SO THAT THE DECISION-MAKER CAN ACT ON IT.



FIXED-FEE PACKAGING IS PREFERRED OVER DAY RATES. FINAL FEES ARE CONFIRMED IN THE PROPOSAL AND DEPEND ON THE SCOPE AND THE MATERIALS PROVIDED. PUBLIC SECTOR DAILY-RATES ARE CONSISTENT WITH ALL-OF-GOVERNMENT RATES. PRIVATE SECTOR DAILY-RATES ARE AT NZ\$2,800 PLUS EXPENSES, WITH, THREE DAY TURNAROUND AND SPECIALIST WORK PRICED AT NZ\$3,600 PLUS EXPENSES PER DAY. NZ PUBLIC SECTOR CLIENTS MUST PAY WITHIN 10 WORKING DAYS.

Tier	Indicative fee (NZD)	What this includes
Light check	\$8,400 to \$12,000	Review of one main document and supporting appendices; implementation-readiness comments; a short written diagnostic; two discussions with the client; one briefing for sponsor.
Standard diagnostic	\$18,000 to \$30,000	Document review; implementation ILM check; risk and delivery assumptions review; administrative burden scan; decision-rights and accountability check; written findings; workshop with the policy or reform team; two briefings for sponsor.
Deep implementation-readiness review	\$40,000 to \$65,000	Document review; up to 25 targeted interviews; implementation architecture review; delivery system analysis; affordability review; authority and delegation issues where relevant; risk and burden assessment; written report; executive workshop.

