(Upbeat music)

(Ministry of Transport, Te Manatū Waka logo)

(Text: Policy Groups)

(Text appears: Peter Mersi, Chief Executive}

Peter: I joined the Ministry in July, 2016. When I joined I think one of the things I observed and I know others have mentioned this too as they've come in, it's a very warm, friendly, caring environment, so the people are wonderful.

(Text appears: Helen, Manager Investment)

Helen: I really enjoy the people that we work with. They're fantastic. They're really excited about transport or about learning something new so you don't actually have to love transport to be here, you just have to have an appetite to be curious and kind of want to make a difference.

Peter Mersi: The priorities for an organisation such as ours in the transport area are clearly around investment. I think importantly too, we're seeing in transport a merging of the modes.

So technology is starting to change the way we think about the difference between road, rail, sea and air.

And I think, you know, looking forward that's going to be one of the big challenges for the sector.

(Text appears:Ellen, Graduate Adviser - Resilience and Security)

Ellen: Well first of all, I really wanted to get involved with policy and second of all, transport really appealed to me because it's such an important part of every person's life.

(Text appears: Sam, Senior Adviser - Investment)

Sam: It's a really interesting place to work at and the environment changes from day to day. The transport system doesn't stand still and the New Zealand landscape doesn't stand still and so as a Ministry we're always having to be nimble and front footed.

Ellen: My managers haven't been afraid to just throw me in the deep end, obviously with the appropriate floaties and support there. But yeah, I've just been exposed to such a wide range of work and been trusted to do that.

Helen: A typical day at the Ministry, umm I just had a really busy one (laughs) But I think it's fun, and it does feel like a little bit of a family, but with a bit of pump. Like everyone's having a good time, you know why you're there, and you get things done.

Ellen: I can't think of any better place to be where everybody is so willing to help, and everybody really wants you to succeed. Everybody wants you to do good work, and to put forward good briefings, and to provide good advice.

Sam: You get to work across a wide range of issues, and you get to work with a lot of autonomy.

Ellen: I really like working here, it's a really nice sized Ministry. It's got a really friendly bunch of people.

Peter: So as someone working in the Ministry in the policy space, you have a really important role and a huge opportunity to influence how a government thinks about transport in New Zealand.

(Group of staff standing and singing a waiata [Māori song])