

**From:** [Max Gander-Cooper](#)  
**To:** [Ilana Miller](#)  
**Cc:** [Stephanie Frame](#)  
**Subject:** Candidate shortlist for Minister's office  
**Date:** Tuesday, 12 March 2024 2:42:00 pm  
**Attachments:** [Fast-track Project Advisory Group Candidate Shortlist.xlsx](#)  
[Fast-track Project Advisory Group Candidate Shortlist.pdf](#)

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**Max Gander-Cooper (he/him)**

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First Name	Surname	Recommended by	Gender	Current Role	Location	Ethnicity/Affiliations	Qualifications	Work experience	Areas of Experience	Organisation Feedback
David	Smol	MBIE	M	Governance roles at Waka Kotahi, Contract Energy and the Co-operative Bank, Member of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development’s Strategic Advisory Committee	Wellington		M-Phil in economics from Cambridge University	Ex-Chief Executive Ministry of Economic Development and MBIE, ex-Chair Capital and Coast District Health Board. over thirty five years of work experience, including in the energy sector in the UK and New Zealand, for Conoco UK Limited, Electricity Corporation and ILEX Energy Consulting. He was part of the Contact Energy establishment team in 1995-1996 and a member of the team that developed the rules for the New Zealand electricity market. In 2008 David was appointed as chief executive of Ministry of Economic Development and, from 2012-2017 was the inaugural chief executive of MBIE) following the merger of four government departments. David was made a Companion of the Queen’s Service Order in 2018.	1. Economic Development 2. Infrastructure 3. Governance	
David	Hunt	MBIE	M				David has a BA Hons (First C	Ex-Chief Executive of Contact Energy Limited and before that worked for large Australian energy sector participant. He has held non-executive positions on regulatory and commercial bodies. Has held senior roles at the NZ Treasury, including Economic Adviser to the Minister of Finance. Current Deputy Chair of the Accident Compensation Corporation, director of Christchurch City Holdings Ltd and has governance role at Concept Consulting.	1. Governance 2. Economic Development 3. Infrastructure	
Peter	Adds	MCH	M	Professor (Teaching) in Te Kawa a Māui - School of Māori Studies at Victoria University Wellington Te Herenga Waka	Wellington	Māori	MA (Hons), University of Auckland	Māori academic with 36 years teaching, research, and administration experience. He has a background in anthropology and archaeology and particular interests in Treaty of Waitangi Te Tiriti o Waitangi settlements, Māori development, and international indigenous issues. He has previously been a member of the Māori Heritage Council (part of Heritage NZ), and was appointed as indigenous representative to the Executive Committee and Council of the World Archaeology Congress. He has memberships in the NZ Archaeological Association, NZ Historic Places Trust, Polynesian Society and Wellington Branch of the Royal Society.	1. Treaty of Waitangi 2. Environment	
Murray	Sherwin	MPI	M	Chair at Plant Germplasm Import Council			Master of Social Sciences (Hons) Economics	Murray is an economist with over 40 years of experience in a wide variety of public policy roles. He was Chair of the New Zealand Productivity Commission when it commenced operations in April 2011. Murray’s previous appointments also include: Chief Executive and Director General of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry; Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of New Zealand; member of the Board of Executive Directors of the World Bank; member of the Prime Minister’s Advisory Group, chair of the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Commission.	1. Governance 2. Local Government 3. Economic Development	
Ken	Taylor	MPI	M	N/A				Director Our Land and Water National Science Challenge Ken oversaw the scientific evidence for freshwater policy development under the aegis of the “essential freshwater” programme, technical and relevant policy aspects of proposed amendments to the National Environmental Standards for Sources of Human Drinking Water (2007). He advised the ministries of Primary Industry and the Environment following the Science Advisory Panel’s review of the OVERSEER nutrient model. Ken has previously held positions as Director for Science and Manager for Water Resources at Environment Canterbury, and Acting Chief Executive Officer at the West Coast Regional Council.	1. Environment 2. Treaty of Waitangi 3. Local Government 4. Governance	
Shadrach	Rolleston		M	Commissioner at Tauranga City Council. Crown appointee to Waikato River Authority. Board Member of New Zealand Conservation Authority	Tauranga	Māori (Ngāti Ranginui, Ngāi Te Rangī, Ngāti Pūkenga and Ngāti Haua)	Bachelor of Resource and Environmental Planning (Hons)	Former board member of Ngāti Ranginui PSGE. Co-chair of the Combined Tāngata Whenua Forum – part of Smart Growth – the western Bay of Plenty spatial planning collaboration b/w local govt, central government and mana whenua. Previous Strategic Advisor to NZTA	1. Environment 2. Treaty of Waitangi 3. Conservation 4. Governance 5. Infrastructure ?	

<b>Andrew</b>	<b>Sweet</b>		M	Director of consulting firm Firecone NZ			MSc Economics and Finance	Ex Productivity Commissioner. Ex Treasury manager. Significant public sector and economic / financial expertise. As a consultant, has worked extensively in New Zealand, Australia and the United Kingdom. He has worked most heavily in the telecommunications, transport and water industries, with public and private sector clients.	1. Economic Development 2. Governance 3. Infrastructure	
<b>Simon</b>	<b>Allen</b>		M				BCom and BSc and is a Chartered Fellow of the New Zealand Institute of Directors	Was the chief executive of investment bank BZW/ABN AMRO in NZ for 21 years. He was also the inaugural chair of the NZX, Financial Markets Authority and Crown Fibre Holdings (now Crown Infrastructure Partners). Has over 30 years of commercial experience in New Zealand and Australian capital markets. Independent non-executive director of IAG	1. Economic Development 2. Infrastructure 3. Governance	
<b>Paul</b>	<b>Beverley</b>	MfE	M	Partner at Buddle Finlay Crown engagement lead for MfE	Wellington		Bachelor of Commerce and Master of Laws (LLM)(Hons)	He has worked in RMA consenting processes for 30 years, primarily on consenting large infrastructure projects. Has also been a core Crown negotiation team member on all of the major natural resource Treaty settlement and Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 negotiations over the last 17 years (eg Waikato River, Whanganui River, Te Urewera, Taranaki Maunga).	1. Treaty of Waitangi 2. Environment 3. Infrastructure 4. Conservation	
<b>Justine</b>	<b>Gilliland</b>	MPI	F	Board member of: Institute of Environmental Science and Research Board Manaaki Whenua-Landcare Research Agricultural and Marketing Research and Development Trust Tui Ora			BA (Hons), Bachelor of Laws (LLB)	Former Chief Executive of Venture Taranaki. Prior to this, Justine was Deputy Director-General Sector Partnerships and Programmes at the Ministry for Primary Industries, leading multi-million-dollar investment in research and development programmes, Māori partnerships, and regional development.	1. Infrastructure 2. Economic Development 3. Environment 4. Governance	
<b>David</b>	<b>Tapsell</b>	MfE, Te Arawhiti	M	Board member of NZ Lotto Board member of Te Puia NZMACI Finance and Expenditure Chair of Pukeroa Oruawhata Group	Rotorua	Māori (Ngati Whakaue)	Bachelor of Laws (LLB)	A commercial lawyer and company director with over 20 years experience. The Pukeroa Group now manages property assets worth over \$210 million and is broadening its portfolio into the flourishing tourism market.	1. Governance 2. Treaty of Waitangi 3. Economic Development	David has been requested by Minister Potaka
<b>Leonie</b>	<b>Freeman</b>	MHUD	F	Chief Executive of the Property Council of New Zealand Board member of NZX-listed company Goodman Property Trust			Master of Commerce	Extensive experience in the New Zealand property industry, having held top positions in both the public and private sector. From creating the concept of what is now realestate.co.nz, to buying and transforming her own residential property management business, helping establish the new Auckland Council, and managing asset development for Housing New Zealand.	1. Economic Development 2. Governance	
<b>John</b>	<b>Rae</b>	MBIE	M	Chair of Crown Regional Holdings Limited Chair of Thos. Corson Holdings Limited Director of Bremworth Limited Panel Member on the Waste Minimisation Fund Chair of Gisborne Holdings Limited	Gisborne		Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Laws (LLB)	John is a professional Director and advisor to a number of companies around New Zealand. He is a Chartered Member of the Institute of Directors and has/had Director or Chairman roles for a number of New Zealand companies involved in the infrastructure, investment, agriculture, horticulture, energy, iwi, waste and economic development sectors.	1. Economic Development 2. Governance 3. Infrastructure	
<b>Gerrard</b>	<b>Albert</b>	Te Arawhiti	M	Chair of Te Kōpuka nā Te Awa Tupua (Te Awa Tupua Strategy Group)		Whanganui Iwi		Former chair of Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui, the post-settlement governance body for Whanganui Iwi. Negotiator for Whanganui Iwi He had a lead role in the Treaty settlement negotiations with the Crown. More than 20 years working experience on environmental and resource management issues relating to Whanganui Iwi and the Whanganui River.	1. Treaty of Waitangi 2. Environment 3. Governance	Gerard has been requested by Minister Potaka