

Title:	Chair Climate Change Commission
Appointed by:	Governor-General on the recommendation of the Minister for Climate Change
Time Commitment:	4 days per week
Term:	Up to 5 years
Remuneration:	Set by the Remuneration Authority
Location:	Wellington based, regular travel will be required

Purpose

The Climate Change Commission is an independent Crown entity with advisory and monitoring functions. Its purpose is to provide expert advice to the New Zealand government on climate change policy in relation to both emissions reduction and adapting to the effects of climate change in accordance with the Paris Agreement, which seeks to limit the global average temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. The Commission's advice will help the government to set targets, monitor progress towards goals, prepare policies and plans to reduce emissions, adapt to climate change and increase climate resilience.

In fulfilling this objective, the Commission's priorities are to:

- advise on the appropriate level of New Zealand's emissions budgets;
- advise on the direction of policy required to meet emissions budgets;
- monitor and review the Governments progress towards its mitigation and adaptation goals;
- publish progress reports annually and carry out a review following the end of each budget period;
- prepare the National Climate Change Risk Assessment (every 6 years);
- monitor and evaluate implementation of the National Adaptation Plan and prepare a report (every 2 years).

Role of the Climate Change Commission

The Commission will be made up of a Chair, Deputy Chair and five other members who will be the Commission's board for the purposes of the *Crown Entities Act*. The Commission is expected to be a working board, in that a number of the roles may be responsible for the thought leadership across specific deliverables within the work programme of the Commission.

The Commissioners must act consistently with their statutory mandate and objectives set out in the Statement of Intent (SOI). Commissioners must perform their functions efficiently and effectively and consistent with the spirit of service to the public.

Role of the Chair

The Chair will be responsible for leading the work programme of the Climate Change Commission, while the Chief Executive manages the day to day running of the entity. The Chair will operate as a people leader across the entity, driving and promoting its strategy, setting clear direction and will be responsible for all staff employed within the Commission.

The Chair will be the figurehead of the Commission carrying overall accountability for the Commission's performance, responsible use of public monies and offering credible advice for New Zealand.

Key **responsibilities** will include:

- chairing meetings and determining procedures for the Commission;
- providing clear vision and leadership across climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- being responsible for fulfilling the Commission's functions set out in the [Climate Change Response Act](#) including presenting reports and advice to the Government;
- overseeing the performance of the Chief Executive and other staff within the Commission's secretariat;
- financial oversight and risk management, including ensuring that the Commission's financials are systematically accounted for, audited and publicly available;
- health, safety and legal obligations, including that all the legislative requirements of directors and entities are met;
- consulting and collaborating with a network of stakeholders, as well as involving cross-government networks to achieve the Commission's purpose.

As the inaugural leader of the Climate Change Commission it is expected that the Chair will offer significant leadership experience, gained in a highly technical environment or within a complex organisational system. This **experience** should include demonstrated success across the following:

- non-executive board experience, preferably as a chair;
- setting the strategic vision and leading a high-profile public organisation to achieve results;
- experience working or engaging with iwi, hapu and Māori at a senior level;
- experience working in or with local and central government;
- experience across a range of sectors and/or industries at regional and local levels. It is particularly desirable to have experience across one or more of the following; energy, transport, agriculture, forestry, public health, waste or industrial processing, finance and insurance;
- communications, including managing media relations and positive community and stakeholder engagement programmes.

To complement this experience the Chair should have relevant **knowledge and skills** across the following:

- strong understanding of te Tiriti o Waitangi and Te Ao Māori;
- an understanding of climate change mitigation and adaptation, this may include expertise across the environmental, ecological, social, economic and distributional impacts of climate

change and/or climate change policy interventions such as emissions trading, land use and international climate policy;

- knowledge of the legislative process including public and regulatory policy processes;
- strong working knowledge of economics including markets, business competitiveness and behavioural economics.

As the Commission is a new entity, the Chair will be expected to take a strong leadership role in establishing its reputation as a high performing and independent adviser on behalf of New Zealand. The Chair is expected to bring a number of **personal attributes** to the role including:

- an authentic leadership style, able to build relationships at all levels and to operate and lead an organisation with unquestionable ethics and integrity
- sound judgement with the capacity to provide independent and pragmatic advice to the responsible Ministers;
- the desire to embrace innovative, technologically advanced and collaborative approaches to problem-solving;
- a commitment to mitigating impacts of climate change.

Remuneration and Location

Remuneration is set by the Remuneration Authority. For more information on the setting of remuneration for independent statutory officers and boards by the Remuneration Authority, see:

- [Remuneration Independent Officers and Boards](#)
- [Role of Remuneration Authority in Setting Remuneration for Individuals Appointed to Statutory Bodies and Other Positions](#)

Actual and reasonable travel and other expenses incurred carrying out the role of the Commissioner will be paid in accordance with the [Cabinet Fees Framework](#).

The Commission, and therefore the role, is located in Wellington. Regular travel may be required in order to consult widely, however the Commission is expected to seek to minimise non-essential travel as much as possible.

Term of appointment

Under section 32(1)(b) of the *Crown Entities Act 2004*, a member of an independent Crown entity may be appointed for up to five years or any shorter period stated in the notice of appointment. Re-appointments may be made subject to satisfactory performance assessment and will be made at the discretion of the responsible Ministers.

The appointee may resign from office at any time by written notice to the responsible Minister. The appointment may be terminated under certain conditions. The Governor-General may remove members of the Commission prior to the expiry of their term from the Commission with “just cause”, on the responsible Minister’s advice after consultation with the Attorney-General.

The work of the Commissioners may commence prior to the Commission being established, with formal appointment likely to occur in December 2019 to coincide with the formation of the Commission.

Appointment considerations

In making appointments, the responsible Minister is guided by criteria set out in both the *Crown Entities Act 2004* and the [Climate Change Response \(Zero Carbon\) Amendment Bill section 5H](#).

Appointments to statutory boards are based on the values and ethos of public service. Members must be aware of the importance of personal integrity and the need to declare conflicts of interest, either potential or actual. Members must also be sure that they have the interest and enthusiasm needed to contribute effectively to the performance of the statutory entity throughout their term of membership.

Note that Cabinet has agreed that, as a general rule, public servants should not be appointed to statutory boards.

Under section 29 of the *Crown Entities Act 2004*, a responsible Minister:

- may only appoint a person who, in the responsible Minister's opinion, has the appropriate knowledge, skills, and experience to assist the statutory entity to achieve its objectives and perform its functions;
- subject to the above, in making an appointment, must take into account the desirability of promoting diversity in the membership of Crown entities.

The following people are disqualified from being a Commissioner under Section 30 of the *Crown Entities Act 2004*:

- a person who is an undischarged bankrupt;
- a person who is prohibited from being a director or promoter of, or being concerned or taking part in the management of, an incorporated or unincorporated body under the *Companies Act 1993*, or the *Securities Act 1978*, or the *Securities Markets Act 1988*, or the *Takeovers Act 1993* a person who is subject to a property order under *the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988*;
- a person who has been convicted of an offence punishable by imprisonment for a term of two years or more, or who has been sentenced to imprisonment for any other offence, unless that person has obtained a pardon, served the sentence, or otherwise suffered the penalty imposed on the person;
- a member of Parliament;
- a person disqualified under another Act.