

NZQA

New Zealand Qualifications Authority
Mana Tohu Matauranga O Aotearoa

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Our structure

The New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) is headed by a Board, which is appointed by the [Minister of Education](#). The Minister approves all policy matters relating to education in New Zealand.



NZQA is organised into three divisions:

- [Assessment](#)
- [Quality Assurance](#)
- [Strategic and Corporate Services](#)

Each division is managed by one of the Deputy Chief Executives, and the Deputy Chief Executive Māori is supported by the [Office of Deputy Chief Executive Māori](#).

NZQA is led by its Strategic Management Team, which comprises the Chief Executive and five Deputy Chief Executives, and calls on the expertise of a number of [external advisory groups](#).

The Chief Executive is supported by the [Office of the Chief Executive](#).

Dr Karen Poutasi - Chief Executive



Dr Karen Poutasi was appointed as Chief Executive in 2006. Previously she was the Director General of Health and has worked in senior management roles across the health sector.

Karen is a medical graduate and her area of specialisation is public health. She holds both Otago and Harvard University management qualifications.

Karen is the Chair of Basketball New Zealand and the New Zealand Committee for Harkness Fellowships, and is a Director on the Board for the Network for Learning. She received a CNZM for services to health in 2006.

Daryn Bean - Deputy Chief Executive



Office of Deputy Chief Executive Māori

Daryn Bean joined NZQA in 2009 as Deputy Chief Executive Māori. He has extensive public sector experience at the interface of Māori development and brings high level relationship management skills, strategy and leadership development capabilities in the areas of education, international business and community development.

From Te Arawa, Daryn is undertaking a doctorate in Māori leadership practices in public administration. He holds a post-graduate degree in management and a Bachelor of Business Studies degree from Massey University.

Andrea Gray - Deputy Chief Executive



Digital Assessment Transformation

Andrea joined NZQA in April 2016. Her previous role was as the inaugural General Manager, Emissions Trading Scheme in the Environmental Protection Authority from November 2011. She was at the

Department of Internal Affairs prior to that and was responsible for the initial development of the RealMe services.

Her career has been built around information and web-based services with a focus on users and uses of information.

Kristine Kilkelly - Deputy Chief Executive



Assessment Division

Kristine joined NZQA in March 2015 from the Ministry of Education as the Deputy Secretary of Corporate and Governance. As part of the role Kristine also had the opportunity to contribute to wider education initiatives.

She has also held corporate and change roles in the health sector.

Kristine has a Bachelor of Arts from Otago University.

Dr Grant Klinkum - Deputy Chief Executive



Quality Assurance Division

Grant joined NZQA in early 2014, following seven years at the Tertiary Education Commission in senior management roles. Over the past three years Grant has led engagement with the tertiary education sector as General Manager of Tertiary Investment. Prior to the TEC, Grant worked as Deputy Chief Executive at an Institute of Technology and Polytechnic and has worked as a Dean of Faculty at two tertiary education organisations.

Grant has a PhD in Political Science from Victoria University of Wellington, a Master's in Education Administration from Massey University and a Master of Arts degree from the University of Canterbury.

Russell Wood - Deputy Chief Executive



Strategic and Corporate Services

Russell joined NZQA in April 2016, after four and a half years at Maritime NZ as General Manager Corporate Services. Prior to that, he had an extensive and varied career with the NZ Fire Service, the last six years as part of the Senior Management Team.

Russell has a Bachelor of Business Studies and Post Graduate Diploma in Business and Administration, both from Massey University.

View NZQA's [brochure \(PDF, 950KB\)](#) introducing the Strategic Management Team and the [organisation chart. \(PDF, 120KB\)](#)

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