



NEW ZEALAND **QUALIFICATIONS** AUTHORITY
MANA TOHU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA

QUALIFY FOR THE FUTURE WORLD
KIA NOHO TAKATŪ KI TŌ ĀMUA AO!



NZQA Strategic
Management Team

NZQA is led by its Strategic Management Team, which comprises the Chief Executive and five Deputy Chief Executives.

NZQA is organised into three divisions:

- Assessment
- Quality Assurance
- Strategic and Corporate Services

and the offices of the:

- Chief Executive
- Deputy Chief Executive Māori
- Deputy Chief Executive Digital Assessment Transformation.

The Strategic Management Team values its relationships with clients and we look forward to working with you, as we seek to ensure that all New Zealanders can “qualify for the future world: kia noho takatū ki tō āmua ao”.

Introducing the Strategic Management Team



Dr Karen Poutasi
Chief Executive

Karen was appointed Chief Executive of NZQA in 2006. Previously Karen was Director-General of Health, having worked for more than 25 years in senior roles in health services management.

She was awarded a CNZM in 2006 for services to Health.

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



Alex Bidois
Deputy Chief Executive Māori

Alex joined NZQA in February 2007 as the Internal Audit Manager. He later became the Strategy, Planning, and Performance Manager before accepting his

role as Deputy Chief Executive Māori in April 2019.

Alex Bidois is of Ngāti Ranginui, Ngāi Te Rangi and Te Arawa descent. His experience within the public sector has been in education, having spent 16 years in business and financial roles with the Ministry of Education. Alex also holds a Bachelor of Management Studies from the University of Waikato.

The Deputy Chief Executive Māori is responsible for:

- the Office of the Deputy Chief Executive Māori and leadership of NZQA's Māori Strategic Action Plan – Te Kōkiritanga
- the Office of the Chief Advisor Pasifika and leadership of NZQA's Pasifika Strategic Action Plan – Takiala Pasifika
- supporting NZQA's commitment to equity outcomes for Māori and Pacific learners.



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. Prior to that she was at the Department of Internal Affairs and responsible for the initial development of the RealMe services and delivery of online identity services. Her career has been built around information and web-based services with a particular focus on the users and uses of information.

Andrea has a BMus, BA (Linguistics), a Graduate Diploma in Science (Psychology) and an MA with Distinction (Library & Information Studies).

The DCE Digital Assessment Transformation oversees NZQA's work to transform NCEA assessment to be fit for purpose in a global, digital and connected world.

The Deputy Chief Executive Digital Assessment Transformation is responsible for:

- oversight and implementation of NZQA's NCEA Online Programme.



Kristine Kilkelly

Deputy Chief Executive Assessment Division

Kristine joined NZQA in March 2015, from the Ministry of Education where she was the Deputy Secretary of Corporate and Governance. As part of that role Kristine 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.

The Assessment Division is responsible for:

- external assessment of achievement standards
- assessment and moderation services – moderation and support of school-based internal assessment for NCEA
- school quality assurance and liaison
- data and data analysis
- maintaining the New Zealand Record of Achievement
- qualification services – development, implementation, maintenance, support and review of certain unit standards and related qualifications.



Eve McMahon

Acting Deputy Chief Executive Quality Assurance Division

Eve joined NZQA in 2007 to implement a new quality assurance framework and lead improvements to the qualifications system and framework. She was appointed to her substantive role as Manager Quality Assurance Strategy in 2016.

Eve has been Acting Deputy Chief Executive since January 2019, while Dr Grant Klinkum is seconded to the Ministry of Education.

She has held a range of positions primarily across the health and education sectors. She holds a bachelors degree from Canterbury University and a masters degree in education from the University of New South Wales.

The Quality Assurance Division is responsible for:

- making Rules in regard to qualifications, programmes and training schemes that apply across the tertiary education sector
- registering Private Training Establishments
- accrediting and quality assuring Private Training Establishments, Government Training Establishments, Wānanga, Industry Training Organisations, and Institutes of Technology and Polytechnics
- approving all qualifications and programmes developed by Private Training Establishments, Government Training Establishments, Wānanga, Industry Training Organisations, and Institutes of Technology and Polytechnics
- registering and quality assuring standards as part of the Directory of Assessment Standards
- administering the New Zealand Qualifications Framework
- administering the Education (Pastoral Care of International Students) Code of Practice 2016
- coordinating NZQA's international work
- recognising the offshore qualifications of individuals.



Dr Daryn Bean

**Deputy Chief Executive
Strategic and Corporate
Services Division**

Daryn joined NZQA in May 2009 as the Deputy Chief Executive Māori, and has led the Strategic and Corporate Services Division since March 2019. Daryn has extensive public sector experience at the interface of Māori development previously holding management and regional roles with Te Puni Kōkiri, Trade New Zealand and the Department of Labour. He brings high level relationship management skills, strategic and leadership development capabilities in the areas of education, international business and community development.

From Te Arawa, Daryn holds a doctorate in Māori leadership practice in public administration. He holds a Master's in Public Administration (Exec) from Victoria University and the Australia and New Zealand School of Government (ANZSOG), as well as a postgraduate degree in management and a Bachelor of Business Studies degree from Massey University.

**The Strategic and Corporate Services Division
is responsible for:**

- oversight of NZQA's Future State portfolio
- organisational performance and customer insights
- finance
- information services
- people and capability
- legal services
- internal audit.



Gillian Hamilton

**Board Secretary/
Office Manager Office of
the Chief Executive**

Gillian joined NZQA in April 2015. The Office of the Chief Executive is responsible for executive support to the Chief Executive and Board, communications and ministerial liaison.

Our role

The New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) ensures that New Zealand qualifications are accepted as credible and robust, both nationally and internationally: “Qualify for the Future World: Kia Noho Takatū Ki Tō Āmua Ao.”

A Crown Agent, NZQA is one of several government education agencies, each with a specific focus. We seek to be known for the quality of our services, which span the secondary and tertiary education sectors. We administer the National Certificates of Educational Achievement (NCEA) and New Zealand Scholarship for secondary school students, are responsible for the quality assurance of non-university tertiary education organisations, and promote the understanding, comparability and recognition of New Zealand qualifications internationally.

We develop, register and support the New Zealand Qualifications Framework (NZQF), a database of all New Zealand quality assured qualifications. We maintain a database of Assessment Standards – national standards used in qualifications.

NZQA has a Future State programme of work which responds to the needs of learners, education providers, and employers in a global, digital and connected world.

NZQA has a team of approximately 430 (full-time equivalent) staff. Most of our employees are located in our Wellington office, though we have a small number of staff throughout the country.

NZQA has an annual budget of approximately \$80m, plus some time-limited funding. This is split between Crown revenue and third party revenue.

NZQA is governed by an independent board of eight to ten members appointed by the Minister of Education. These members bring extensive governance, industry, community and education expertise to NZQA. The Board is responsible for setting the strategic direction of NZQA, in consultation with appropriate Ministers. The Board ensures that NZQA carries out its legislative functions, monitors the organisation’s performance and appoints the Chief Executive.

For more information on our role and functions see:

www.nzqa.govt.nz



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