

**GOVERNMENT HEALTH AND  
SAFETY LEAD**

# DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Lance Goodall - Director GHSL

## 2025/26 INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

Recruitment for the summer internship programme will start this week. We currently have nine agencies offering an internship placement. There is still time to join the programme, so if you have budget (\$16,000) and work to be done, please get in touch. The recruitment will run to 17 September, with the programme starting on 18 November 2025, running until 13 February 2026. Also, if any agency would like to put up a guest speaker to showcase the amazing HSW work your teams do, please contact Debbie Bridge at [deborah.bridge@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:deborah.bridge@mpi.govt.nz)

## OFFICER DEVELOPMENT

We still have a few spaces available on the last Officer Development course for 2025. This is a great time to review your current Executive Team - have people moved on and been replaced? What training have they had and do they know what their duties are under HSWA 2015? If you, one of your executive leaders or an emerging senior leader could benefit from this training, please email [anita.mcghie-filkins@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:anita.mcghie-filkins@mpi.govt.nz) now to secure your place. The course is run across two half day sessions, on 14th August and 18th September and it costs \$1,000 per attendee.

We are also organising course dates for 2026 and have an Expression of Interest waitlist for these dates. If you have someone who would like to be included, or if you would like to explore in-house training options, please get in touch.

## T2 HSW LEADERS AUGUST SITE VISIT CONFIRMED

Our first ever T2 HSW Leaders half-day visit has been confirmed and will be to MBIE's Customer Service Centre in Porirua. This visit will enable our senior leaders to gain real-world insights into managing critical health and safety risks in a frontline service environment. This is a rare opportunity to observe 'work as done' and see and discuss HSW governance in action.

### Event Details

**Date:** Thursday, 21 August

**Time:** 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM (arrival from 8:30 AM)

**Location:** 7 Heriot Drive, Elsdon, Porirua 5022

**Extras:** Catering provided | Onsite parking available | Transport is also available

Spaces are limited. So, please encourage your T2 HSW Leaders to register via [Event Brite link](#)

## HEADS OF H&S AND H&S PRACTITIONER FORUMS IN AUGUST - MPI CRITICAL CONTROL ASSURANCE

As the winner of a National Workplace H&S Award this year in the Governance category, there has been strong interest from the H&S community to understand the journey MPI has been on in developing and implementing their critical risk control assurance programme. We'll be hosting two sessions for GHSL member agencies to learn and to share their own progress through: 19th August for Heads of H&S and 26th August for H&S Practitioners. These meeting invitations have been forwarded to those on our respective contact lists, but please share these dates and let me know if anyone extra would like an invitation.

### MHW ON THE LDC WEBSITE

I'm delighted to be able to tell you that the Mentally Healthy Work modules are now available through the Leadership Development Centre

<https://www ldc.govt.nz/public-service-core-learning-hub/system-capability/public-service-mentally-healthy-work-capability>

### GHSL MOBILE APP

As the public service digitises systems to meet the needs of people in a changing world, through the support of the Ministry for Primary Industries, the GHSL is developing a mobile app solution to enable Officers and Executives to more easily meet their due diligence obligations. This app will include features to share news and updates, events, resources, recording site visits, learning records and complete self-assessments. The app will be publicly available on iOS and Android stores with some features only available to authenticated users. We anticipate the app to be built and available by the end of this year, with [Liam.Bourne@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:Liam.Bourne@mpi.govt.nz) taking the lead. Any feedback or thinking about design or how it might fit within your current agency solutions (particularly conducting effective site visits), as well as expressions of interest from officers / executives in being part of the user testing group will be welcome.

### T2 HSW LEADERS - THIRD BREAKFAST HOSTED BY THE MINISTRY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Laura Dixon, Deputy Secretary Business Transformation and Services at MFE shared their experience and case study of managing an onsite psychological harm event. This was a respectful and thought-provoking session about how to manage the situation within the first hours and days of an event and understanding the long tail of the impact it can have on your workforce. The slides and summary notes will be shared shortly.

# TE TAUNAKI PUBLIC SERVICE CENSUS

The Public Service Commission has released the system and agency level results [www.publicservice.govt.nz/census](http://www.publicservice.govt.nz/census).

Overall, the results are encouraging and public servants have shared that they know that the work they do delivers real value to New Zealand and New Zealanders. Acting with integrity, maintaining transparency and upholding political neutrality are recognised as fundamental. They are motivated by a desire to make a positive difference for New Zealanders and are enthusiastic about their roles.

Despite these strengths, the Census has also revealed challenges that must be addressed. Public servants have said they face barriers including high workloads, unclear direction and objectives, insufficient tools and resources, and overly complex processes. A respectful workplace is not a universal experience. Many who do report unacceptable behaviour are not satisfied with how their agency handles these issues. There is a desire for more transparent and merit-based appointments, as well as a renewed effort to ensure our advice to ministers is free and frank.

As a next step, each agency is developing an action plan to address their key issues, which chief executives are responsible to act on.

## VACANCIES

### Full-Time Secondment Opportunity leading the Inland Revenue HSW

IR is seeking a strong people leader to step into this key position. This is a fixed-term opportunity through to June 2026 while a broader change process is underway within corporate functions. The successful candidate will lead the team, working closely with IR Officers to continue lifting maturity in HSW practices and capability. The team is made up of:

HSW – 7 FTE

Business Continuity & Crisis Management – 2 FTE

People and Workplace Security – 2 FTE

This role reports to Erina Clayton, Enterprise Lead People & Workplace Services. For further information, please contact Erina at [erina.clayton@ird.govt.nz](mailto:erina.clayton@ird.govt.nz).

## EARLY IN CAREERS

Module 3 of the Early in Careers programme was well attended this month, with a mix of both Public and Private sector agencies attending. Participants discussed Contractor Management and PCBU duties, and what these look like in their agencies; and will next be looking at Reporting What Matters. If you would like more information on the Early in Careers programme, or would like to put someone on the waitlist for the 2026 programme, please contact Debbie at [Deborah.bridge@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:Deborah.bridge@mpi.govt.nz)



# HASANZ SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications for the 2025 HASANZ Scholarships are open and are available across four categories:

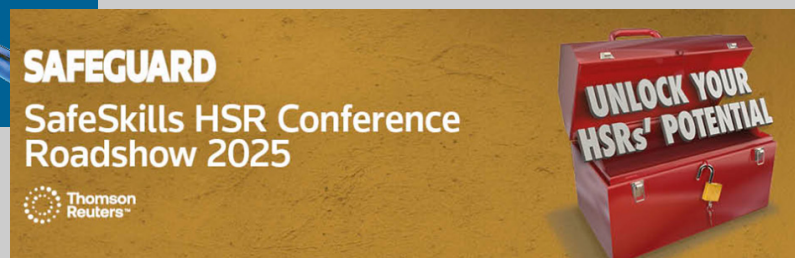
- **Health & Safety** - For practitioners, representatives, or students aiming to gain a diploma, degree, or postgraduate qualification in health and safety.
- **Poutama** - For Māori health and safety professionals who want to deepen their skills and grow their impact.
- **Women in Safety Excellence (WISE)** – For women in health and safety ready to move into leadership and governance roles.
- **Human Factors/Ergonomics (HFE)** – For those wanting to specialise in HFE to improve systems, design, and people's working lives.

Applications close 8 September. Have questions? Reach out to [scholarships@hasanz.org.nz](mailto:scholarships@hasanz.org.nz).

## SAFEGUARD SAFESKILLS H&S REPS CONFERENCE ROADSHOW AND LEGALSAFE CONFERENCE

If you are looking for development opportunities for your H&S Reps, you may want to check out the [SafeSkills HSR Conference](#), presented by Safeguard. These are one-day industry wide events hosted at five locations.

Also, LegalSAFE will also be taking place in October. NZ's only health & safety law conference, bringing together health and safety professionals, consultants and managers over three days in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch: [LegalSafe](#)



**Lance Goodall, Director**  
[Lance.goodall@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:Lance.goodall@mpi.govt.nz)  
022 654 2966

**Liam Bourne, Principal Advisor**  
Health, Safety and Wellbeing  
[Liam.bourne@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:Liam.bourne@mpi.govt.nz)  
022 013 3167

**Anita McGhie-Filkins,  
Executive Coordinator**  
[Anita.mcghie-filkins@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:Anita.mcghie-filkins@mpi.govt.nz)  
022 014 2407

**Debbie Bridge,  
Principal Advisor H&S Capability**  
[Deborah.bridge@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:Deborah.bridge@mpi.govt.nz)  
022 013 4884