

**GOVERNMENT HEALTH AND
SAFETY LEAD****DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**

From Lance Goodall - Director GHSL

EOI FOR 2026/27 INTERN PROGRAMME

We are now inviting Expressions of Interest EOIs for participation in our Summer Internship Programme, running from 18 November 2026 to 19 February 2027. To register your interest, please contact Debbie Bridge, by 30 June 2026, at Deborah.Bridge@mpi.govt.nz

Our interns bring fresh perspectives, help manage team workloads, and create valuable mentoring and development opportunities for existing staff.

This programme is strongly valued across the sector and provides a cost-effective way to access a motivated, short-term resource. It supports your team's operational needs while contributing to the development of a future pipeline of entry-level health, safety, and wellbeing (HSW) talent across the public sector.

Check out our intern videos on their work programmes.

Programme details:

- Cost: \$16,000 per intern (3 months at \$28.60/hour)
- Recruitment period: 31 July – 18 September 2026

Programme outcomes (2025/26):

- 100% of host managers reported very high satisfaction with the quality and quantity of intern contributions
- 90% of interns said the programme exceeded their expectations
- 100% of interns identified HSW as a recognised career pathway after completing the programme

"Having an intern not only supports someone exploring a career in health and safety but also helps our team build mentoring capability in a collaborative environment. It's a win-win for everyone involved."

– 2025/26 Host Manager

Want to learn more? Check out our ['How to Become a Host Manager'](#) guide.

NEW MEMBER

I am pleased to welcome the Criminal Case Review Commission to the GHSL membership.



OFFICER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME WITH THE INSTITUTE OF DIRECTORS

Our next course, running on 20th August and 24th September is technically full but there is always the possibility to enable one or two more to join, so if you have anyone who would benefit through attending, please contact Anita at Anita.McGhie-Filkins@mpi.govt.nz

EMPLOYEE HEALTH MANAGEMENT SERVICES SYNDICATED AGREEMENT PANEL LED BY MSD

This panel is being closed, effective 28 February 2027, and all existing Statements of Work (SOW) procured through the panel will expire by that closing date.

I understand from EHMS that this means that as existing SOW expire, each agency is going to have to determine their own approach to each service they have previously procured through the panel, in line with their own organisation's procurement rules. If you have a question about the Panel please contact ehms@msd.govt.nz

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FINALISTS FOR THE GHSL H&S REP AWARDS

Congratulations to the finalists for the upcoming GHSL H&S Rep Awards – there were some excellent nominations this year and our finalists have all done a great job.

Individual finalists:

Avantika Masand, Ministry for Primary industries
Catherina KIMIANGATAU, Ministry of Justice
Craig MACKEY, Department of Corrections
Lincoln MARSHALL, Kainga Ora
Pauline PLOWRIGHT, NZ Police
Robyn DEWHURST, Department of Conservation

Team Finalists:

Kainga Ora - Counties Manukau H&S Reps
LINZ - Donna WILLIAMS-STEWART and Sharmla DAVID



Look out for the June Directors Update to see who the overall winners are.

HASANZ
HEALTH & SAFETY ASSOCIATION NZ
2026
CONFERENCE

Learning from the Past | Leading in the Present | Innovating for the Future

16 – 18 September 2026, Tākina Wellington

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS

HASANZ CONFERENCE 18-19 SEPT

A date to note for your calendars - [HASANZ 2026](#)

SAFEGUARD AWARDS

I am delighted that the GHSL has been announced as a New Zealand H&S Awards finalist in the Governance category. The nomination is for our digital leadership initiatives across the Safe-Gov mobile app, designed to support officers in their duties under the HSWA (2015), and the GHSL SharePoint H&S Resource Hub, which helps member agencies to share policy and practice quickly and easily across the public sector. I firmly believe that these are going to be two valuable tools for the public sector over years to come and encourage you to check them out.



Congratulations also to NZ Police, NZ Transport Agency and our own MPI H&S team, who are all also finalists for Awards. Best of luck to the GHSL team and the other public sector agencies at the Awards. I am also delighted to see Zung Mai, one of the ex-GHSL Interns who is now working at Plunket, is a finalist in the Emerging Practitioner category – and this is a great reminder to consider getting an intern through the GHSL Summer Intern Programme.

SHOPCARE V&A SURVEY EXTENSION TO 21 JUNE

A quick update to let you know the ShopCare national workplace customer aggression survey has been extended until 21 June. The survey reflects the growing concern around the increase of violence and aggressive behaviour towards staff who deal with the public as part of their job. Please consider sharing the survey across your organisation – it takes five minutes to complete and is anonymous. The findings will build a national picture which can be used to help develop an approach to reduce the number of incidents and improve health and safety outcomes for all workers.

YOUR FREE TICKET TO AN ePIC LINE UP

ePIC 2026 has assembled a world class line-up of speakers in Auckland on 9th September. ecoPortal have also partnered with NZISM to provide complimentary tickets to members of. Further information and registration here.

Join us at

ePIC
2026

Your ticket is on us



GREG CAIN DISCUSSES THE PORTS OF AUCKLAND V MARITIME NZ APPEAL AND HSWA AMMENDMENTS BILL

Greg Cain discusses the Ports of Auckland v Maritime NZ appeal and HSWA Amendments Bill

Greg, Partner at Denton's and their Employment and H&S Lead, talked with GHSL member Heads of H&S, on 28th May, at an online Forum and then fielded questions.

One of the key points Greg made was around an officer separating their role as a worker/manager from their governance role and that in reality it is very difficult and probably not practical to do this. This is the reality experienced by most CEOs and, in the public sector, by many DCEs (and equivalent). What is important, is that any officer understands and considers the risks of work and then ensures they verify any information they are given around controls and their effectiveness.

It was a fascinating session and I am sure those who were able to attend gained a lot from it. Greg's slides can be found [here](#).