

**GOVERNMENT
HEALTH AND SAFETY
LEAD**

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

2023/24 INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME UPDATE

The summer internship programme runs from 20 November to 16 February 2024 and the GHSL team has been working with our sector agencies to recruit top talent for their Health, Safety and Wellbeing summer intern positions. This year, we received an overwhelming response with 145 applications for the 18 positions available across 16 government agencies. On 6 September, we conducted 33 video interviews and selected 26 preferred candidates to proceed to the in-person interviews to identify the best candidates for our intern positions.

On 12 September, 18 candidates were selected to advance to the reference checking stage.

Next on the agenda is working on our intern programme of events for our successful interns to participate in, bringing a fresh perspective to our public sector view of Health, safety and wellbeing. If you would like to host an intern event, whether it is at your agency or a 30 minute online show and tell of the great health, safety and wellbeing work underway in your agency, please contact Debbie at Deborah.Bridge@mpi.govt.nz to have a chat.

ANYONE LOOKING FOR CASUAL OR SHORT TERM STAFF?

The calibre of H&S Intern candidates was very high this year and we have four great H&S candidates who were pipped to the post for intern positions. If you have any need for a person to do a few hours a week or a short-term piece of work, please get in touch, as we would happily recommend them. One is based in Auckland and the rest are in Wellington.

Government
Health & Safety Lead



MARITIME NZ JOINS THE GHSL

I'm delighted that Maritime NZ has joined the GHSL network and look forward to working with them. We continue to meet with other agencies to discuss the potential for further broadening the network, with a view to both strengthening the overall capability of the network and keeping per agency costs down. If you have any suggestions for agencies that we should consider meeting with, please let me know.



POSITIVE WORKPLACE CULTURES - UPDATE



As part of delivering the Positive Workplace Cultures (PWC) Programme, your Agency Leads for PWC, heads of health and safety, human resources and operational development, will be invited to participate in a workshop for each of the three workstreams: Leading Positive Work and Teams; Safe Systems of Work; and Learning, Monitoring, and Continuous Improvement.

Following participation in these workshops and supported by supplementary tools and guidance, these people and teams will create a brief for their Chief Executive. These briefs will then be brought to a PSLT Retreat in the middle of 2024 where Chief Executives will have the opportunity to discuss strengths in their workplace culture as well as opportunities for further development. Check out the Action Plan to 2024 for Positive Workplace Cultures on our website [here](#).

Developmental Secondment opportunity at MPI New Zealand Food Safety (NZFS) for 0.5 FTE Principal Adviser fixed term role

The New Zealand Food Compliance and Response team is looking to recruit a Principal Adviser to backfill a role which will help run the NZFS Health and Safety Programme and provide HSW advice, assistance, and support within Food Compliance & Response team. This secondment is a fixed term 0.5 FTE, starting in November and with the end date to be agreed between parties. This is a great opportunity for a senior adviser to step up into a principal role to develop their skills and competency. Ideally, they would stay in their substantive role for half the time and work for NZFS for the other half for the period of the secondment. If you are interested, please contact us for the Position Description or contact details of the NZFS Recruiting Manager.

GHSL REFERENCE GROUP

The GHSL Sector Reference Group (the Reference Group) has been established to help the GHSL to focus and prioritise its efforts to support the public sector to enhance wellbeing, health and safety. Members will support the development of:

- A common vision for wellbeing, health and safety performance, leadership and capability maturity.
- Priorities for the sector, identifying and addressing emerging risks and specific short and long-term focus areas.
- Measures of success and enhanced reporting by and for the sector.
- Identification and coordination of key messages and reporting for emerging issues.

We have formed a diverse group who, between them are fully representative of the sector. I know how busy everyone is, so I am very appreciative of the time the members are giving up to support the GHSL and the sector:

- Adelyn Wischnowsky - Ministry for Environment
- Emily Scarlett - Housing and Urban Development
- Dave Griffiths - Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment
- Jason Hare - New Zealand Trade and Enterprise
- Jeanette McKeogh - Ministry for Primary Industries
- Mark Mitchell - Serious Fraud Office
- Mel Aitken - New Zealand Police
- Mel Childs - Ministry of Defence
- Rachael Mason - Customs New Zealand
- Tarnyia Comrie - Kainga Ora

REGISTRATIONS ARE STILL OPEN FOR THE PRIVACY IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR' MICRO-CREDENTIAL COURSE, STARTING 9 OCTOBER

This six-week course from Wellington Uni Professional at Victoria University is delivered online with interactive tutorials, and costs \$995.00. This micro-credential course is designed for busy working professionals who want to learn more about how to do the right thing when using people's information.

To register: [Micro-credential Privacy in the public sector \(wellingtonuni-professional.nz\)](https://wellingtonuni-professional.nz).



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