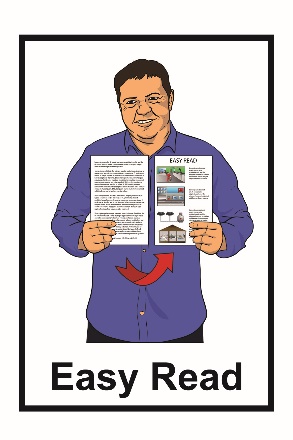
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**Announcing the Chief Executive of**

**Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People**



**30 August 2022What is this document about?**

This Easy Read document:

* is about an announcement made by **Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission**
* tells you about the **Chief Executive** for **Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People**.

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**Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission**:

* is a government department
* has been looking for a Chief Executive for Whaikaha Ministry of Disabled People.

A **Chief Executiv**e is someone who is in charge of an organisation.

**Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People** is a new part of the New Zealand government that will:



* use an Enabling Good Lives way of doing things
* work with other government agencies to better support disabled people
* make disability support services better for:
* disabled people
* family / whānau of disabled people.

**The Chief Executive**



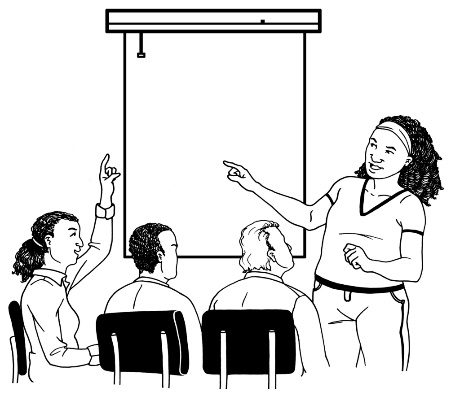
**Ms Paula Tesoriero** has been appointed as the Chief Executive of Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People.



Ms Tesoriero will start the role of Chief Executive from 1 September 2022.



Ms Tesoriero has been appointed to the role for the next 5 years.

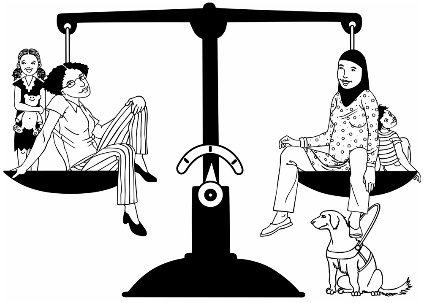
Ms Tesoriero is:

* a disabled person
* a well-known leader in the disabled community.

Ms Tesoriero is trusted by many:

* disabled people
* tāngata whaikaha Māori.

Since 2017 Ms Tesoriero has worked at the **Human Rights Commission** as the **Disability Rights Commissioner**.

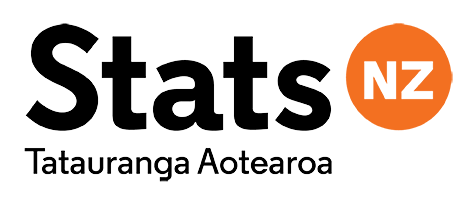


The **Human Rights Commission** makes sure that everyone in New Zealand is treated fairly.



The **Disability Rights Commissioner** works to protect the rights of disabled New Zealanders.

Ms Tesoriero has also worked at:

* ****the Higher Courts at the Ministry of Justice as the General Manager
* Statistics New Zealand as the General Manager of System and Partnership.



In 2022 Ms Tesoriero was appointed to the Asia New Zealand Foundation as an **honorary advisor**.

An **honorary advisor** means to:

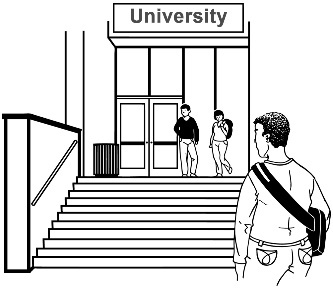


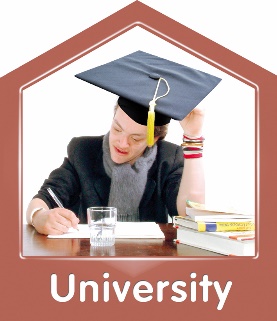
* be invited to have a position / role
* give advice to the Foundation about their work.

In 2009 Ms Tesoriero was made a Member of the **New Zealand Order of Merit**.

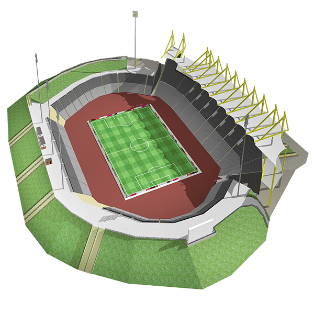


The **New Zealand Order of Merit** is a special award given by the Queen to people who have done very important things for New Zealand.

Ms Tesoriero studied at Victoria University where she did a:

* Postgraduate Diploma in Public Management
* Bachelor of Laws
* Bachelor of Arts.

In 2008 Ms Tesoriero represented New Zealand as a **Paralympian** in the **Paralympic Games**.

  
A **Paralympian** is someone with a disability who competes in sports at the **Paralympic Games**.



The **Paralympic Games** is a big sports event where disabled athletes from all over the world compete.



Ms Tesoriero competed in the Para cycling events.

In the Para cycling events she won:



* 1 gold medal
* 2 bronze medals.

In 2020 Ms Tesoriero was the **Chef de Mission** for the New Zealand team at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.



**A Chef de Mission** is the person who looks after the team while they are away.

Ms Tesoriero has had many roles like:

* Deputy Chair of Nuku Ora / Sport Wellington
* life trustee of the Halberg Disability Sport Foundation.

**Text

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