



## Title: Public Service Day Awards Ceremony Monday 7 November 2022 – Event information

**Date:** 1 November 2022 **Security Level:** IN CONFIDENCE

**Minister:** Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister for the Public Service

**Report No:** 2022/0246

### Purpose

This report provides you with background information for the Public Service Day Awards ceremony 2022, the proposed programme and runsheet, along with suggested talking points.

### Attendees

Their Excellencies, The Rt Hon Dame Cindy Kiro and Dr Richard Davies are hosting the Public Service Day Awards at Government House. There will be approximately 125 people in attendance, this includes the recipients of the Awards and their guests, and Secretaries and Chief Executives of the recipients.

### Date of meeting

Monday 7 November, 5.45pm to 8.00pm, at Government House.

### Background

The Public Service Day Awards celebrate public servants who exemplify the spirit of service and public service values. This year, the Public Service Day Awards focus on recognising those who have gone above and beyond as part of the Government's COVID-19 response.

The New Zealand Public Service Medal (Medal) is part of the Royal Honours system and is awarded in recognition of meritorious service to the New Zealand Public Service. This year there are 35 recipients of the Medal.

The Public Service Commissioner's Commendation for Excellence (Commendation) is awarded for outstanding spirit of service shown by a public servant. This year there are 42 recipients of the Commendation.

Due to the large number of award recipients and the capacity limits at Government House, a decision has been made to only present the Medals at the Awards event on 7 November 2022.

Te Kawa Mataaho will host a separate event later to recognise the recipients of the Commendation.

### Your role

You have agreed to give a five-minute speech outlining the importance of Public Service Day and to recognise those public servants who went above and beyond during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

You have also agreed to support Her Excellency, The Rt Hon Dame Cindy Kiro, Governor-General of New Zealand in presenting 17 of the 35 Medals.

Please note, the Deputy Prime Minister, Hon Grant Robertson will present the other 18 Medals alongside Her Excellency.



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**Attachments**

- Suggested talking points
- Awards programme
- Runsheet
- Attendee list
- Details on the 35 New Zealand Public Service Medal recipients. *Please note these names are confidential until the official announcement takes place.*
- Aide Memoire and suggested talking points for the Deputy Prime Minister, Hon Grant Robertson

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# EVENT RUNSHEET



**Te Kawa Mataaho**  
Public Service Commission



## Public Service Day Awards Ceremony – Minister for the Public Service

<b>Date of Event</b>	Monday 7 November, 5.45pm – 8.15pm
<b>Governor-General attending</b>	Her Excellency, Rt Hon, Dame Cindy Kiro, Governor-General of New Zealand and His Excellency, Dr Richard Davies
<b>Ministers attending</b>	Deputy Prime Minister, Hon Grant Robertson Minister for the Public Service, Hon Chris Hipkins
<b>Minister's session</b>	Minister Hipkins, please arrive at 5.45pm, the formalities will start at 6.00pm and end at 7.35pm. Following this there will be refreshments until 8.15pm. It is proposed that you speak for approximately 5 Minutes at 6.13pm and then present the Public Service Medals at 6.19pm. Peter Hughes, Public Service Commissioner will support you in the presentation of the Medals.
<b>Attendees</b>	Approximately 125 Secretaries and Chief Executives of the Public Service, Award recipients, their guests and officials will attend the ceremony.
<b>Location</b>	Government House, 1 Rugby Street, Newtown, Wellington
<b>Running order</b>	<p>5.45pm Arrive via the Main gate and proceed to enter through the Main entrance (Taupaepae).</p> <p>5.45pm You will be welcomed on arrival by the Public Service Commissioner, Peter Hughes and the Official Secretary, Alice Ropata. Proceed to the Liverpool Room.</p> <p>5.50pm the Aide De Camp will make the housekeeping announcement in the Ballroom to all other guests.</p> <p>5.53pm Official photo taken with Their Excellencies in the Liverpool Room. Official party:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hon Grant Robertson, Deputy Prime Minister</li> <li>• Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister for the Public Service</li> <li>• Peter Hughes, Te Tumu Whakarae mō Te Kawa Mataaho   Public Service Commissioner, Head of Service</li> <li>• Helene Quilter, Te Pou Turuki mō Te Kawa Mataaho   Deputy Public Service Commissioner</li> <li>• Heather Baggott, Te Pou Turuki mō Te Kawa Mataaho   Deputy Public Service Commissioner</li> </ul> <p>5.55pm on completion of the official photo, you and the official party will be escorted to your seat in the Ballroom. The room will be set theatre style and you will be seated in the front row with Their Excellencies, Rauru Kirikiri, Kaihaūtu, Te Kawa Mataaho, the Deputy Prime Minister, Hon Grant Robertson and Public Service Commissioner, Peter Hughes</p> <p>6.00pm Aide De Camp announces Their Excellencies into the Ballroom.</p> <p>Opening karakia led by Rauru Kirikiri, Kaihaūtu, Te Kawa Mataaho</p>

	<p>6.03pm Speech, Her Excellency, Rt Hon, Dame Cindy Kiro, Governor-General of New Zealand.</p> <p>6.08pm Welcome from the Master of Ceremonies, Miriama Kamo</p> <p>6.10pm Speech, Public Service Commissioner, Peter Hughes</p> <p>6.15pm the Master of ceremonies, Miriama Kamo will welcome you to speak. Make your way to the dais at the front of the Ballroom. A lectern is available to speak from.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for the Public Service - speech (5 mins)</li> </ul> <p>6.20pm at the conclusion of your speech, please remain at the dais. The MC, Miriama Kamo will welcome Her Excellency back to the dais to present the Medals with you.</p> <p>6.20pm Presentation of 17 New Zealand Public Service Medals, presented by Her Excellency and the Minister for the Public Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Master of Ceremonies (MC), Miriama Kamo will call the Recipient's name. <i>Note, as the recipient's name is called, Sarah Frechtling (Te Kawa Mataaho) will hand you with the framed certificate and then hand Her Excellency the Medal to pin the Medal to the recipient.</i></li> <li>The Recipient will stand and remain at their seat.</li> <li>The MC, Miriama Kamo will read the recipient's citation. On conclusion the MC will invite the recipient forward to the dais.</li> <li>Please greet the recipient and present the certificate.</li> <li>Her Excellency will then present the Public Service Medal.</li> <li>All turn for the photo with Her Excellency and the recipient. It will be marked where to stand.</li> <li>Recipient returns to their seat.</li> </ul> <p>This will continue until all recipients have received their awards. There are 17 recipients in total.</p> <p>6.54pm the MC, Miriama Kamo will conclude the first part of the evening, and you will return to your seat.</p> <p>6.55pm Speech, Deputy Prime Minister, Hon Grant Robertson</p> <p>7.00pm Presentation of the Public Service Medal, presented by Her Excellency and the Deputy Prime Minister</p> <p>7.34pm the MC, Miriama Kamo will conclude presentation of the Medals part of the evening.</p> <p>7.35pm Closing karakia, led by Rauru Kirikiri, Kaihaūtu, Te Kawa Mataaho.</p> <p>The MC will invite all guests to stand, and the pianist will play the National Anthem.</p> <p>7.40pm The MC will invite all guests to enjoy hospitality of the house.</p>
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	<p>8.00pm Their Excellencies depart.</p> <p>8.00pm Depart. Alice Ropata will farewell Ministers and escort them to Taupaepae. Crown Cars will be lined up outside Taupaepae.</p> <p>8.15pm Event concludes.</p>
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# Public Service Medal recipients











**Te Kawa Mataaho**  
Public Service Commission











<p><b>Terry Brown</b></p> <p>Group Manager, Intelligence Investigations and Enforcement, <b>New Zealand Customs Service</b></p>	<p>Terry is dedicated to the safety of all New Zealanders. His tireless commitment to lead and support the design and implementation of air border systems allowed our country to reopen safely while protecting us from COVID-19. Terry places people at the heart of his work by providing the best outcomes for border officers, our communities, and reconnecting people with the rest of the world. Customs workers say that Terry's drive was a key factor in the success of the Reconnecting New Zealanders project and that he is viewed as a role model by many within the organisation. His unwavering desire to help others makes him a worthy recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Stephen Waugh</b></p> <p>Manager, Auckland Airport, <b>New Zealand Customs Service</b></p>	<p>Stephen is committed to serving New Zealand and protecting its border. His colleagues describe him as relentless in his efforts to ensure our maritime border was kept safe from COVID-19 – and as someone who always puts the safety of others first. Stephen is a people person above all. He held responsibilities from Northland to Bluff and was known to make himself personally available to all, even in the busiest of times. This quality also allowed Stephen to build a close and high-functioning team which protected communities around the country. His absolute dedication to all New Zealanders makes him a deserving recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Robert Smith</b></p> <p>Acting Group Manager - Maritime, <b>New Zealand Customs Service</b></p>	<p>Robert lives and breathes the spirit of service. He has worked tirelessly to ensure New Zealand's maritime border is kept safe from COVID-19. Robert shows a true devotion to serving New Zealanders and is known for going the extra mile to build relationships with people through his collaborative and authentic approach. The trust he builds with people has been the key to his success. He is able to focus everybody on the task at hand and is a cool head in incredibly challenging times. Robert went above and beyond to protect the people of New Zealand in unprecedented circumstances and is a fitting recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Cheryl Barnes</b></p> <p>Special Advisor, Strategy Governance and Engagement, <b>Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet</b></p> <p><i>Formerly: Deputy Chief Executive, COVID-19 Response <b>Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet</b></i></p>	<p>Cheryl has made a significant positive difference for all New Zealanders through her generosity of spirit and her commitment to wellbeing. From the beginning of the response to COVID-19, Cheryl has played a key role in providing robust policy advice. Through times of uncertainty and change, she has led the DPMC COVID-19 policy group with a personable and collaborative approach. For her, no issue is too big to solve. Cheryl always goes above and beyond to provide high quality policy advice to Ministers and chief executives alike. Her work has enhanced the lives of many and improved the government's readiness for future responses. Cheryl is truly a worthy recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	





<p><b>Heather Peacocke</b></p> <p>Formerly: Head of Public Relations and Communications, COVID-19 Response Group</p> <p><b>Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet</b></p>	<p>Heather demonstrates a passion for others in everything she does. She led the Unite Against COVID-19 campaign and associated strategy, media channels and engagement. With her skill, patience, and perseverance, she has guided her team through challenging and ambiguous times. The communication campaign played a significant role in New Zealand's response to COVID-19 and has been recognised globally for its clarity and success. This could not be done without Heather's immense dedication, clear-minded approach and ability to uplift those working alongside her. With her outstanding sense of humility and strong desire to serve others, she is a deserving recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Jess Gorman</b></p> <p>Senior Crown Counsel, <b>Crown Law Office</b></p> <p><i>Formerly Principal Solicitor, COVID-19 Response Group,</i> <b>Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet</b></p>	<p>Jessica is driven by a spirit of service to create better outcomes for New Zealanders. Joining the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet in the COVID-19 Response Group, she played a pivotal role in providing legal advice across complex and challenging policy settings. Jess has a wealth of experience in public law coupled with an unwavering dedication to her mahi. Jess's methodical, determined approach, and ability to overcome any hurdle that comes her way are some of her most valued strengths. She worked tirelessly through the response to COVID-19 to ensure New Zealanders were kept safe and healthy, making Jess a fitting recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Ruth Fairhall</b></p> <p>Advisor, Policy Advisory Group <b>Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet</b></p> <p><i>Formerly Deputy Chief Executive, COVID-19 Response Group</i> <b>Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet</b></p>	<p>Ruth models the highest standards of the Public Service and has made a significant positive impact to the lives of New Zealanders. As a leader of the COVID-19 Response Group, she oversaw hundreds of Cabinet papers, briefings, strategic frameworks, and more. Through a period of complex challenges and time pressures, Ruth's ability to connect with people right across the public sector ensured her policy advice remained robust and nuanced. This collaborative approach, underpinned by her strong desire to provide the best possible service, enabled her to manage a multitude of often competing cross-agency demands. Everything she does is done with care, humility, and an innate spirit of service and Ruth is a worthy recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Sue Gordon</b></p> <p>Interim Lead Corporate Services, <b>Te Whatu Ora   Health New Zealand</b></p> <p><i>Formerly Director Corporate Services, COVID response</i> <b>Te Whatu Ora   Health New Zealand</b></p>	<p>Sue is driven by a vision of connected and empowered communities. She has been critical to the success of the Ministry of Health COVID-19 response, leading work that has been vital to the safety of New Zealanders. This has included contract tracing, procurement of supplies, testing and vaccination, often working seven days a week to ensure the response was successful. Sue has always stepped up to take on challenging work, even acting as chief executive of the Ministry of Health during the initial stages of the COVID-19 response. She kept her community safe and served New Zealanders with humility, dedication, and outstanding resilience. Sue's extraordinary service makes her a deserving recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	





<p><b>Andrew Milne</b></p> <p>Deputy Chief Executive, Strategy Engagement and Planning <b>ACC</b></p> <p><i>Formerly Deputy Secretary MIQ</i> <b>Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment</b></p>	<p>Andrew's spirit of service is evident in the way he builds relationships and brings everyone together to serve the community. His extraordinary ability to connect with others and put them at ease ensured MIQ's vast network was all on the same page and could continue to keep New Zealand safe from COVID-19. Andrew is a true leader and team player. His colleagues say he always looks to shoulder as much of the burden as possible, while readily acknowledging the achievements and efforts of his team. Andrew deeply values his connection with iwi, and iwi partners noted his exemplary leadership and true sense of partnership. He is not motivated by thanks or acknowledgement. His humility, devotion, energy, and enthusiasm make Andrew a fitting recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Chris Bunny</b></p> <p>Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise <b>Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment</b></p> <p><i>Formerly DCE MIQ Policy 2021</i> <b>Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment</b></p>	<p>Chris is a trusted leader who exemplifies what it means to be a public servant. He is dedicated to the bigger picture, and he uplifts those around him. In recent times, he oversaw work that ensured supply chains and supermarkets were able to function during COVID-19. He later stepped in to lead Managed Isolation and Quarantine through its final stages. This has had an undeniable impact on the lives of many. Throughout his work, Chris champions Māori capability development and the importance of Inclusion and Diversity. He lives the ethos of the Public Service and is deeply committed to using his in-depth knowledge and people-centric views to encourage and empower his team. He is a worthy recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Paul Stocks</b></p> <p>DCE, Building, Resources and Markets <b>Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment</b></p>	<p>Paul is a reflective and courageous leader who has a desire for public policy to serve all New Zealanders. Paul's dedication is motivated by his commitment to ensuring that all people thrive and prosper. Through his long and varied public service career, he has overseen significant changes such as the creation of the NZ Space Agency, major reforms in Immigration, development in the NZ Income Insurance Scheme and beyond. Paul was vital to the COVID-19 response, dedicated to guiding, crafting, and implementing policy settings that aided movement of critical workers and the continuation of essential services. He believes in fairness and balance and ensures staff wellbeing is prioritised. Paul is always willing to go the extra mile for others, making him a deserving recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Suzanne Stew</b></p> <p>Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery <b>Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment</b></p>	<p>Suzanne demonstrates the spirit of service, day in and day out. She is passionate about helping others, especially our most vulnerable. During COVID-19, Suzanne brought people together, leading the establishment of a remote multi-agency contact centre from scratch. She also played a critical role in providing timely information to businesses, operationalising the Business Travel Register and delivery of Rapid Antigen Testing kits across New Zealand. This ensured that critical services were available to the public in one of New Zealand's greatest times of need. Suzanne is often the first person to put up their hand when help is needed, making her a fitting recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	



<p><b>Michael Dreyer</b></p> <p>General Manager National Digital Services &amp; Chief Technology Officer <b>Te Whatu Ora   Health New Zealand</b></p>	<p>Michael's leadership and commitment to wellbeing is the embodiment of the spirit of service. During the response to COVID-19, his leadership enabled critical health and disability services to continue. Michael helped to develop new digital systems that allowed New Zealand to respond effectively to the widespread Omicron outbreak. Colleagues say the impact that Michael has had on the health and wellbeing of New Zealanders cannot be overstated. He never loses sight of his people and is highly invested in their wellbeing, constantly stepping up in moments of need. Michael's outstanding dedication to the people of New Zealand makes him a worthy recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Shayne Hunter</b></p> <p>Deputy Director- General, Data &amp; Digital <b>Ministry of Health</b></p>	<p>Shayne is an empowering leader who has made a positive difference in health technology. With experience across the Public Service, he has become a trusted ally for many. During the COVID-19 response, Shayne led digital solutions including the Covid Tracer App, the National Contact Tracing Solution, a Border Management and registers for Border Management and Workforce testing, patient management and immunisation. The effectiveness of New Zealand's response was heavily dependent on the rapid development of these systems. Throughout times of immense pressure, he navigated challenges with a clear vision and focus on strong collaboration. Shayne has been a brave catalyst for change and his spirit of service is evident to all those who work alongside him. He is a deserving recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Mārama Edwards</b></p> <p>Deputy Chief Executive, Māori, Communities &amp; Partnerships <b>Ministry of Social Development</b></p>	<p>Mārama is an inspiring wāhine toa devoted to improving the lives of New Zealanders. Throughout each wave of COVID-19, she and her team were tireless in delivering support for the community, going the extra mile to reach all corners of New Zealand. She did all this on top of leading the Ministry's work with iwi leaders and continuing with business as usual. Mārama really 'gets' the spirit of service and lives it. Her relentless positivity and unwavering focus on helping people make her a true exemplar of public service. Her colleagues say she is at her best in a crisis and that her genius lies in uniting people from all walks of life. Mārama's absolute commitment and outstanding leadership make her a fitting recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Serena Curtis</b></p> <p>General Manager, Pacific and Community Capability Programmes <b>Ministry of Social Development</b></p>	<p>Serena is a genuine leader and inspiring community advocate. Through COVID-19 she mobilised a welfare response that was truly community-led and fit for the needs of vulnerable New Zealanders. Her colleagues say that her vision of self-determining communities led to significant changes in how the Ministry of Social Development engages with community partners. These changes led to more whānau accessing support services to support their wellbeing and resilience. Serena led community engagement under the most difficult of circumstances and through numerous lock downs, advocating for those whose voices are the hardest to hear. She is someone who cares, and she demonstrates that day in, day out. Serena's outstanding spirit of service makes her a worthy recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	

<p><b>John Cavanagh</b></p> <p>Director Regional COVID Response Group, Auckland, AKL Regional COVID-19 welfare</p> <p><b>Ministry of Social Development</b></p>	<p>John's spirit of service is demonstrated not only through the outstanding work he delivers, but also through his tremendous character. John's colleagues say that the phrase 'Urupare ki nga hiahia hapori' sums him up – he is responsive to community needs. His experience in managing unprecedented events came to the fore through COVID-19, when he was the Ministry's go-to person in an emergency. During this time, John initiated a collaboration with the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment which developed into the team that supports Afghani refugees as they settle in New Zealand. His resilience in managing tough mahi and his dedication to those who are most vulnerable make him a deserving recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Viv Rickard</b></p> <p>Deputy Chief Executive, Service Delivery</p> <p><b>Ministry of Social Development</b></p>	<p>Viv follows the ethos that there is no better way to care than to help someone who genuinely needs it. His spirit of service has truly shone through in his career and during the COVID-19 response, where he was instrumental in the establishment of the wage subsidy and led the Care in the Community response. These were paramount in protecting the health and wellbeing of New Zealanders. Viv instils a love of te ao Māori and te reo wherever he goes. He introduced the Wall Walk during his time at Police, which helps people to understand the generational impacts of key events in Māori history. This is now shared right across the Public Service. Viv's incredible spirit of service makes him a fitting recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Jenna Rogers</b></p> <p>Acting Deputy Chief Executive, Strategic Enablement</p> <p><b>National Emergency Management Agency</b></p>	<p>Jenna is an active public service leader with strong connections to her community and played an instrumental role in setting up and supporting the National Emergency Management Agency's COVID-19 welfare response. She has a natural ability to build strong relationships and worked closely with communities to get the job done. With experience across central and local government, she is a thought leader in finding comprehensive solutions. Jenna is a humble leader who does not seek the spotlight and is absolutely committed to the welfare of others, and getting the job done. She is a worthy recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Carl Crafar</b></p> <p>Chief Operating Officer</p> <p><b>Ministry of Justice</b></p> <p><i>Formerly Seconded to AOG COVID Response</i></p> <p><b>Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment</b></p>	<p>Carl is a true public servant who has dedicated his career of more than 35 years to improving the lives of New Zealanders. From frontline to senior leadership roles, his spirit of service to the community has been the driving force. Last year, Carl stepped up to lead the whole-of-government COVID-19 response in implementing the summer readiness programme. His work has made a key contribution to New Zealand's response to the pandemic and has touched the lives of millions. His colleagues describe him as going above and beyond to deliver results, with a strong sense of determination and integrity. Carl's outstanding service to the community makes him a deserving recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	

<p><b>Ellen MacGregor-Reid</b></p> <p>Deputy Secretary – Curriculum Centre <b>Ministry of Education</b></p>	<p>Ellen exemplifies what it means to be a public servant. Throughout the pandemic, she inspired collaboration and brought people together. From the start, she saw the significant risks that lockdowns brought to learners, putting in action steps to reduce the harm for children and young people. Through very challenging circumstances, Ellen motivated her team to serve New Zealand’s most vulnerable learners and to overcome any challenges that got in their way. Together they helped to deliver more than 500,000 learning packs for learners Ellen is someone who cares deeply, and this shines through her work. Her incredible commitment to her community makes her a fitting recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Rose Jamieson</b></p> <p>Deputy Secretary - Parent Information and Community Intelligence <b>Ministry of Education</b></p>	<p>Rose is an authentic leader who champions the voice of Pacific communities. During COVID-19, Rose and her team ensured Pacific families were well equipped with the skills and tools to support their children’s learning. This response was agile and innovative, creating a digitally-enabled, culturally-safe space for Pacific people to build confidence in the education system. No matter what setting she is in, Rose builds true partnerships built on trust, humility, and reciprocity. Her team commend her innate intelligence, sense of humour and drive to make a real difference in people's lives. Rose is a worthy recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Shelley Tucker</b></p> <p>Chief Advisor, Communications &amp; Stakeholder Engagement <b>Maritime NZ</b></p> <p><i>Formerly Policy Manager, Resilience and Security</i> <b>Ministry of Transport</b></p>	<p>Shelley is an inspiring public service leader and role model. Her work has been instrumental in enabling the transport system to function during COVID-19. Never deterred by obstacles, Shelley’s deep understanding of the transport system and intricacies of the maritime sector allowed the Ministry to provide ongoing, quick-fire, credible, and responsive advice to decision-makers. Her work ensured the continuation of important supply chains and therefore the wellbeing of all New Zealanders. She has been described by many as empathetic, agile, and committed to a truly ‘whole of government’ approach. Shelley creates a positive and supportive work environment for her team during difficult times and is always driven by a spirit of service, making her a deserving recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>John Walsh</b></p> <p>Director Readiness and Response Services <b>Ministry for Primary Industries</b></p>	<p>John’s work has been recognised globally for the impact it has had on so many lives. He was a key figure in developing New Zealand’s COVID-19 communications strategy, including the Unite Against COVID branding, the alert level framework, and the ‘team of five million’ campaign. John has an ability to tap into the hearts and minds of New Zealanders, encouraging a true team effort of care and support. His colleagues note his infectious enthusiasm and passion for his work. Many New Zealanders are alive, well, and working today in no small part due to John’s dedication. His incredible work and commitment to the safety of all of our people make him a fitting recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	

<p><b>Tina Paterson</b></p> <p>Director Business Change - People and Capability <b>Ministry for Primary Industries</b></p> <p><i>Formerly Manager, Govt Health &amp; Safety Lead</i> <b>Ministry for Primary Industries</b></p>	<p>Tina is an exemplary leader who is making a difference to the lives of New Zealanders. As lead of Government Health and Safety, she worked tirelessly at the forefront of MPI's COVID-19 response. With an innate ability to connect people, Tina led her team to provide timely and practical support and guidance to cabinet, senior leaders and 40 agencies across the public sector. Through a time of uncertainty, this guidance and practical resources helped people with their health, safety, and overall wellbeing during the pandemic. Tina is generous with her time and shares her knowledge freely, whether it be through forums or everyday conversations. Her bold leadership has improved outcomes for all New Zealanders making her a worthy recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Steve Ham</b></p> <p>Director FMD Taskforce – Biosecurity NZ, <b>Ministry for Primary Industries</b></p> <p><i>Formerly Director Covid-19</i> <b>Ministry for Primary Industries</b></p>	<p>Steve is a leader who can always be relied upon. In his role as Director COVID-19, he led the design, development, and implementation of the Ministry for Primary Industries' response function. By helping businesses navigate exemptions, Steve ensured that our key primary industry sectors were well supported through the pandemic. Using his previous experience and strong relationships across agencies, he identified key people, systems, policies, and procedures to respond to this dynamic situation. Steve became a central, trusted coordination point for the Ministry for Primary Industries with his unflappable nature and exemplary communication skills. He is described by colleagues as a go-to problem solver, with a unique brand of strategic pragmatism and good humour. Steve's exceptional resilience and spirit of service makes him a deserving recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Annique Davis</b></p> <p>Director, Marketing, Communications and Engagement <b>Stats NZ</b></p> <p><i>Formerly Director Marketing, Communications and Engagement</i> <b>Ministry for Pacific Peoples</b></p>	<p>Annique exemplifies the spirit of service as an advocate and champion of Pacific communities. With a people-centric approach, she has an innate ability to bring government and Pacific communities together. Throughout COVID-19, Annique went above and beyond to ensure all communications were accessible for the diverse Pacific communities around New Zealand. Her Pacific values are embedded in the way she led and contributed to the Ministry's successful pandemic response. This built a trusted source of health information that made a difference to the lives of many. Building this trust was both critical and challenging, and it speaks to Annique's integrity, dedication, and compassion. Her outstanding commitment to the community makes her a worthy recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Tuaopepe Abba Fidow</b></p> <p>Acting Secretary of Pacific Peoples</p> <p><i>Formerly Deputy Secretary for Regional Partnerships and Service Delivery</i> <b>Ministry for Pacific Peoples</b></p>	<p>Tuaopepe truly lives the Samoan proverb 'O le ala o le pule o le Tautua', 'The path to leadership is through service'. As Deputy Secretary for Regional Partnerships, he was actively involved in the response to COVID-19, using his connections with Pacific community leaders, clinicians, and providers to provide wrap-around information and support to Pacific communities in need. With his leadership, his team stayed engaged with Pacific communities across Aotearoa, ensuring the government heard their voices and addressed their needs. He is described as someone who leads with compassion, confidence, and humility. Tuaopepe never loses sight of his own people and maintains alofa and fealofani in his practice. He is a deserving recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	

<p><b>Kelly Dunn</b></p> <p>Deputy Chief Executive, Partnerships <b>Te Arawhiti</b></p>	<p>Kelly is a selfless and courageous leader, committed to protecting our most vulnerable. From the onset of COVID-19, Kelly formed strong networks across Government and put processes in place to ensure Māori communities received funding, social services, food, and medical care. She wove the voices of Māori into the design of key initiatives and stayed connected to them through every decision. Kelly is driven by a genuine sense of care, kindness, and humility. Even when balancing huge commitments, she prioritises the wellbeing of her team and goes above and beyond to uplift those she serves. Kelly is a fitting recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Geoff Short</b></p> <p>Deputy Secretary, Policy Partnerships <b>Te Puni Kōkiri</b></p>	<p>Geoff has had a long career dedicated to serving New Zealanders. He is highly regarded for his policy development and leadership. During COVID-19, Geoff played a key role in the National Crisis Management Centre and in Te Puni Kōkiri's pandemic response. He continually advocates for durable, whānau-centred policy and that one size does not fit all in addressing issues of equity. He is commended by his colleagues for his ability to articulate policy issues, recognise implications and to engage with Māori communities. His collaborative and comprehensive approach ensures Ministers are well informed in their decisions. Geoff is described as caring, highly engaged and someone who shares expertise for the betterment of others. He is a worthy recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Grace Smit</b></p> <p>Deputy Secretary, Strategy, Finance and Performance <b>Te Puni Kōkiri</b></p>	<p>Grace is a natural leader with a strong drive for change. She has a deep commitment to the wellbeing of Māori whānau and communities, ensuring this is prioritised in all government decisions. During COVID-19, Grace took on a leadership role to ensure Māori and Pacific communities had access to the essential services, vaccinations and care they required. Her actions made a truly tangible difference for New Zealanders, and she never lost sight of the bigger picture. She is described by her team as eloquent, inspiring, collaborative and someone who ensures 'things get done'. Grace is a role model who does not seek recognition for her outstanding mahi, making her a deserving recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Bryan Chapple</b></p> <p>Associate Commissioner <b>Commerce Commission</b></p> <p><i>Formerly Deputy Secretary Macroeconomics and Growth <b>The Treasury</b></i></p>	<p>Bryan is a public servant who is driven by a spirit of service. With a career of devoted service to the public, both in New Zealand and overseas, his desire is to see others thrive. During the COVID-19 response, Bryan led the Treasury's review of the Reserve Bank Act and Treasury's economic advice, including the design and delivery of the wage subsidy scheme. This scheme played an extraordinary role in the economic outcomes for individuals, whānau and New Zealand. Throughout times of intense urgency and unpredictability, Bryan remained honest, authentic, and grounded. He continued to provide pragmatic advice, supporting people up, down, across and beyond agency hierarchies. Bryan is highly regarded by people across the Public Service and is a fitting recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	

<p><b>Jean Le Roux</b></p> <p>Manager Transitions, Regions and Economic Development <b>The Treasury</b></p>	<p>Jean lives the values of the Public Service every single day. During COVID-19, he led Treasury's policy advice and worked tirelessly to design and implement key business support initiatives. He delivered viable and ongoing solutions for businesses and industries and had a positive impact on the lives of New Zealanders. He became a highly trusted advisor to Ministers, senior leaders, and fellow colleagues with a clear ability to deliver services in a collaborative and effective way. No challenge is too big for him, and he thrives in navigating complex situations. Jean is humble about his own achievements and always puts the members of his team first. They describe him as kind, fun and passionate. Jean is a worthy recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Keiran Kennedy</b></p> <p>Manager Welfare and Oranga Tamariki team <b>The Treasury</b></p>	<p>Keiran leads with empathy, fairness, and fearlessness. As leader of the Treasury's Welfare and Oranga Tamariki team, she has been instrumental in key COVID-19 response programmes, including the wage subsidy, leave subsidy and other income support measures that aided vulnerable New Zealanders. She has been a crucial thought leader in how these schemes are designed, delivered, monitored and evaluated, using connections across the public service to achieve this. Keiran continues to provide guidance at pace across significant policies and is pragmatic in her advice to Ministers and stakeholders. Despite her busy schedule, she actively creates an inclusive workplace and supports her team to reach their development goals. Keiran's commitment to making a real difference makes her a deserving recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	
<p><b>Andrew Hagan</b></p> <p>Director <b>HKA</b></p> <p><i>Formerly Acting Deputy Secretary Financial and Commercial <b>The Treasury</b></i></p>	<p>Andrew epitomises humility and the importance of working together for the greater good. As Deputy Secretary he oversaw the establishment of the Firm Support directorate, providing time critical support to large and small companies directly impacted by COVID-19. During a time of immense pressure, he helped the NZ Debt Management and Export credit teams, ensuring New Zealand was resilient and recovered quickly from the pandemic. He became a trusted advisor with critical insight for many with his open and curious approach. No matter the circumstance, Andrew always remained calm and reassuring. His intellectual and personal support during this time was invaluable for those around him. He is a worthy recipient of the New Zealand Public Service Medal.</p>	