

Te Rā Ratonga Tūmatanui | Public Service Day and Awards

MONDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2020



NEW ZEALAND PUBLIC SERVICE DAY

Since 2018 New Zealand Public Service Day has been celebrated each year on or around 7 November, which was the date of assent of the Public Service Act 1912.

This year our new Public Service Act 2020 passed into law. The Act enables us to build on changes already underway, as we work together to build a modern, trusted, more joined-up and more citizen-focused public service.

Enshrining the purpose of the Public Service and our principles and values in legislation helps protect the integrity of the Public Service and strengthens public trust and confidence, so that we are well-placed to serve Aotearoa New Zealand into the future.

Public Service Day 2020 gives us an opportunity to mark the passing of this new Act and to acknowledge our Public Service as one that values neutrality, fairness and integrity – a Public Service we can all be proud of.

This could mean taking time to reflect on what it means to serve the public and celebrating what makes being a public servant rewarding, showcasing examples of our fundamental characteristic – a spirit of service to our communities.

We can also look back on the past year and recognise what we have achieved together in the extremely difficult context of a COVID-stricken world.

HOW TO CELEBRATE

Monday 9th November provides an opportunity to celebrate Public Service Day across the Public Service, sharing examples of how our spirit of service has contributed to making a real difference for New Zealanders during the past year.

Here are some starter ideas to consider;

- Share stories about what the spirit of service means for you and your colleagues across the Public Service
- Use the terms Public Service and public servants
- Capture in video or audio how you are making real the Public Service Act's principles and values and commitment to supporting the Crown's relationship with Māori and share through your social media channels
- Showcase collaborative work done with colleagues across the Public Service through COVID-19
- Post on the hashtag #SpiritofService, #Publicservice day
- Recognise those who have long and varied careers in the Public Service
- Use the [induction module](#) on Te Kawa Mataaho and the refreshed [jobs.govt](#) website
- Read [The factsheets](#) on our website that explain the changes and what they mean for public servants

Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission can help by;

- Providing an overview of the reforms (attached)
- Providing a poster on the Public Service Fundamental Characteristics (attached) – this also comes as a screen saver!
- Promoting your events and sharing some of your social media related to Public Service Day
- Sharing a video of Te Rā Ratonga Tūmatanui | Public Service Day Awards by Monday 9 November
- Offering presentations and to facilitate discussions on what the Public Service Act means for our work

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

In 2018, New Zealand Public Service leaders established the Awards and Recognition Programme to promote a sense of pride and belonging across the Public Service. The programme recognises public servants and initiatives that exemplify the spirit of service and demonstrate an outstanding commitment to Aotearoa New Zealand.

Te Rā Ratonga Tūmatanui | Public Service Day Awards recognise public servants who exemplify the spirit of service and are making a real difference through their everyday work for Aotearoa New Zealand or New Zealanders.

The Public Service Day Awards ceremony will be held on Monday 2 November.

Te Hāpai Hāpori | Spirit of Service Awards are open to organisations across central and local government, including Crown entities. They celebrate outstanding public sector governance, young leaders and initiatives that deliver great outcomes motivated by a spirit of service to the community. There are five award categories organisations may enter. Finalists present to a judging panel, and Award winners are announced at an Awards event.

Te Hāpai Hāpori | Spirit of Service Awards ceremony will be held on Monday 9 November.

Keep an eye on Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission's website and social media channels for more information about the winners.