CHAIR



Jane Meares, Barrister, Wellington

Jane is a commercial barrister, with a wide range of public and commercial experience. Prior to joining Clifton Chambers, Jane was the chief legal adviser at the Treasury, the Treasury Solicitor. She also gained in-house experience as the manager of the legal team at the Department of Internal Affairs. At the independent bar she advises government departments and other public and commercial entities on a range of commercial and public law matters. She also has a number of governance roles.

SPEAKERS

Leo Donnelly, Deputy Ombudsman Investigations and Inspections, Office of the Ombudsman, Wellington

Leo assists the two Ombudsmen in their investigatory and review functions under the Ombudsmen Act, the Official Information Act and the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act.



John Edwards, Privacy Commissioner, Wellington

John was appointed to the independent statutory position of Privacy Commissioner in February 2014 for a term of five years. He provides independent comment on significant personal information policies and issues and promotes privacy and good personal information handling practices. Prior to his appointment, John practiced law in Wellington for over 20 years specialising in information law while representing a wide range of public and private sector clients. For 15 years, he held a warrant as a district inspector for mental health.



Una Jagose, Deputy Solicitor-General, Crown Law Office, Wellington

Una is the Deputy Solicitor-General, Crown Legal Risk. She joined Crown Law as Crown Counsel in 2002, and became a team leader in the Public Law group in 2007. Before that Una was Chief Legal Advisor at the Ministry of Fisheries. She has a wealth of experience representing the Crown in courts at all levels, and advising Ministers and public sector organisations on a range of public law and constitutional matters.



Toko Kapea, Tuia Legal, Tuia Group, Wellington

Toko is a commercial lawyer, consultant and director. He has worked at Chapman Tripp, in in-house legal roles at Bank of New Zealand, Meridian Energy, and St.George Bank NZ. Toko has held numerous directorship and governance roles including Parininihi ki Waitotara Incorporation (in Taranaki), Port Nicholson Fisheries Limited, and Ngāti Apa Developments (Rangitikei). In 2013 Toko was appointed as an expert panel member to the Government Review Panel relating to the Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993.

SPEAKERS



David Noble, Chief Parliamentary Counsel, Parliamentary Counsel Office, Wellington

David joined PCO (Wellington) in 2007 as Chief Parliamentary Counsel from England where he was a Director in the Treasury Solicitor's Department, the Chief Legal Adviser to the Department for Children, Schools & Families, and the Chief Legal Adviser to the Department for Innovation, Universities & Skills. David was previously responsible for civil law and extradition in the UK Attorney General's Office, immigration and anti-terrorism law in the Home Office and implementing part of the Good Friday Peace Accord in the Northern Ireland Office. He has worked for the European Commission drafting and enforcing European Union-wide environment legislation. In 2011-2013 David was seconded back to the UK Cabinet Office and Treasury solicitor's Department to lead teams delivering constitutional law reform, commercial and procurement law reform and legal advice and legislative drafting in relation to national security while also assisting with the delivery of the shared legal services model adopted by the UK government.



Phillippa Smith, Deputy Controller and Auditor-General, Wellington

Phillippa returned to the Office of the Auditor-General as Deputy in August 2005, having spent five years in the Office in the 1990s as Assistant Auditor-General, Legal. She was reappointed for a further five-year term as Deputy in 2010. Phillippa is responsible for the "operational" side of the Office - co-ordinating the work of the Parliamentary, Local Government, Performance Audit, and Research and Development teams. From 1998 to 2005, Phillippa was Chief Legal Adviser at the State Services Commission and, prior to that, practised in the private sector. She holds degrees in Law, Arts, and Public Policy from Victoria University.



John Sneyd, Chief Legal Counsel, Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand, Wellington

John has spent the majority of his career to date in legal roles in the wider state sector. He is currently Chief Legal Counsel with the Civil Aviation Authority and Aviation Security Service where he manages a small team specialising in aviation, international and public law. As a member of the CAA executive, John has had the opportunity to test-fly his theories on the best way for in-house lawyers to make a strategic contribution to their organisation. Prior to joining the CAA John spent five years as Chief Legal Advisor at the Department of Building & Housing. John remains cautiously optimistic as to the Black Caps' chances of winning the cricket World Cup.

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