

Priority Routine

THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Te Tari Taiwhenua

## Local Government Briefing

Hon Rodney Hide  
Minister of Local Government

Copy to: Hon John Carter  
Associate Minister of Local Government

Title: Biographical information on possible commissioners

Date: 11 February 2010

### Key issues

- Information on possible commissioners
- Comment on key attributes required in commissioners

### Action sought

Note the contents of this briefing

### Timeframe

When convenient

### Contact for telephone discussion (if required)

Name	Position	Telephone		Suggested first contact
		direct line	after hours	
Antony Moss	Manager (Regulatory Policy)	494 0636	027 476 0361	
Peter Hodge	Senior Policy Analyst	495 7212		✓

Return to: Peter Hodge  
DMS file reference: PLG-2500-3\_4  
Ministerial database reference: LGC201000148

**Purpose**

1. Your office sought information on seven possible candidates who could be considered as local authority commissioners. Key information is set out at Annex A.

**Comment**

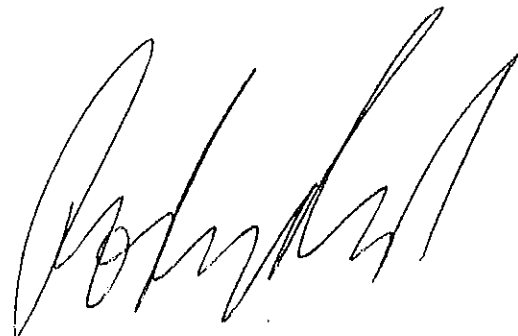
2. A commissioner is appointed to carry out an elected council's responsibilities (or some aspect of the responsibilities). The commissioner should be able to take over the running of the Council quickly and seamlessly.
3. This suggests that candidates should be experienced in the business of local government, either as an elected member or as a senior council manager. Alternatively, a commission could be appointed with a mix of skills and experience.
4. Other desirable attributes could include:
  - a track record of significant achievements in relation to governing, managing or restructuring complex organisations;
  - an understanding of public accountability requirements, and the specific challenges facing the local authority;
  - being able to effectively manage key relationships, e.g., with the council's senior managers, Ministers of the Crown and departments, and neighbouring councils;
  - being available to commit to the job for the length of time needed; and
  - no significant conflicts of interest.

**Recommendation**

5. The recommendation is that you note the content of this report.



Marilyn Little  
Director Policy  
Local Government and Community Branch



Noted

Hon Rodney Hide  
Minister of Local Government

3/12/2010