

Commissioners' biographies

Hon. Justice Graham Panckhurst (Chair)

Hon. Justice Graham Panckhurst is a senior High Court judge based in Christchurch since his appointment in 1996. His judicial experience extends to all aspects of the High Court's work and has included presiding over a number of high-profile trials.

He has a wealth of legal experience, having been the Crown Solicitor for Canterbury and the West Coast from 1985 to 1992, before practising as a barrister and becoming a Queen's Counsel in 1994. Justice Panckhurst is also a West Coaster by birth, and has both acted in and presided over cases heard in Greymouth over many years.



Stewart Bell PSM

Stewart Bell, from Australia, is Commissioner for Mine Safety and Health for Queensland and Deputy Director-General of the Safety and Health Division of the Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Mines, which includes the Coal and Metalliferous Mines, Explosives and Petroleum and Gas Inspectorates and the Safety in Mines Testing and Research Station (SIMTARS). He is also responsible for the regulation of the mining, explosives and petroleum and gas industries and the strategic research agenda for SIMTARS.

Mr Bell has over 25 years' experience in all aspects of mine safety, and has published widely on health and safety in mines. He also has international work experience in several countries, including India, China, New Zealand and Australia.



David Henry CNZM

David Henry has held a number of public sector positions, including Chief Executive/Commissioner of Inland Revenue and Chief Executive/Commissioner of the Electoral Commission. He has also run his own management consultancy business advising public and private sector clients in New Zealand and overseas. Mr Henry was appointed a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit in 1999.

