

NZ PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION



Director, Economics & Research

We are looking for a talented leader who can focus on the things that matter

The New Zealand Productivity Commission - Te Kōmihana Whai Hua o Aotearoa - is an independent Crown entity that provides advice to Government on ways to improve productivity to support the wellbeing of New Zealanders. We conduct in-depth inquiries on topics selected by Government; carry out productivity-related research and undertake a range of activities to promote better understanding of productivity issues.

Our independence, and our reputation for high-quality analysis and meaningful engagement, puts the Commission in a unique position to influence public policy debates. We aim to provide insightful, well-informed and accessible advice that leads to improved economic, social and environmental outcomes for New Zealanders. Our work to date has contributed to significant policy reform.

We are looking for a talented and experienced Director to provide thought leadership within and beyond the Commission. The role is focused on leading and developing analysis as part of our research agenda. In doing this you will have a superior ability to create practical and innovative solutions to complex and ambiguous problems – including skill in distilling issues and discussions into key insights and trade-offs. The role is a key member of the Commission's leadership team, sharing in the strategic leadership of the organisation, leading projects, and line managing the research team and function.

We offer a flexible approach to working and will consider a full-time or part-time; permanent or fixed-term, or a secondment appointment.

The role offers an opportunity to:

- plan and manage the progress and outcomes of the Commission's research work programme;
- provide intellectual leadership to the development of robust analysis and insightful research;
- develop research-based advice on major issues impacting on the wellbeing of New Zealanders;
- engage and contribute to both the domestic and international productivity dialogue;
- work closely with our Commissioners and leaders in business, academia and government.

To be a strong candidate you will have an advanced understanding of economics and analysis and research techniques, you will be service focused and have a natural ability to implement through leadership and influence. You will also be a strategic thinker, innovative and can point to a record of generating new ideas but also able to implement these ideas in a practical way. You will have experience in skilful communication and relationship building around complex issues and be comfortable and effective in media and public engagement. In turn, we offer an intellectually stimulating, supportive and family friendly workplace.

If you are looking for an opportunity to influence and raise the quality of public debate and policy about the things that matter to New Zealanders, please send a tailored application letter and CV to careers@productivity.govt.nz. Applications will remain open until 5.00pm Monday 30 November 2020. Please note we will only be accepting applications by email.

A copy of the position description can be found at www.productivity.govt.nz/about-us/careers and for further information please contact the email address noted above.

During times of increased COVID-19 alert our recruitment and onboarding processes will continue. We will work with candidates throughout the process to ensure safety and to help stop the spread of the virus.