

Hon Grant Robertson

MP for Wellington Central

Deputy Prime Minister

Minister of Finance

Minister for Infrastructure

Minister for Sport and Recreation



26 October 2022

Michael Reddell
mhreddell@gmail.com

Dear Michael

Thank you for your Official Information Act request, received on 31 August 2022. You requested:

- a) *all material from June 2022 held by you or either of your offices relating to the reappointment of Rodger Finlay as chair of NZ Post (by Cabinet on 13 June 2022) and the subsequent events that led to Finlay not taking up that appointment (voluntarily or otherwise).*
- b) *any communications since 10 June 2022 with journalists on the Finlay appointment (RBNZ or NZ Post) issues.*

This request encompasses anything not already provided in Mr Robertson's 29 August OIA response to me regarding Reserve Bank Board appointments.

The time to respond was extended by 20 working days.

Information being released

Please find enclosed the following documents:

Item	Date	Document Description	Decision
1.	31 May 2022	Aide Memoire NZ Post Chair Reappointment (APH 8 June 2022)	Release in part
2.	8 June 2022	NZ Post Ltd Board Reappointment	Release in full
3.	15 June 2022	Email - Re Roger Finlay	Release in part
4.	16 June 2022	RE NZ Post APH paper - updates required by midday tomorrow	Release in part
5.	21 June 2022	Email - Comment on Finlay	Release in part
6.	22 June 2022	Email - Cabinet Minutes	Release in part
7.	1 July 2022	Email - RE PR Robertson - New RBNZ board takes up role from 1 July	Release in part
8.	11 July 2022	Email - Post End of Term Letter Rodger Finlay	Release in part
9.	31 August 2022	Email - Re Rodger Finlay and Fidelity Life	Release in part

10.	31 August 2022	Email - Re RBNZ board conflicts	Release in part
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I have decided to release the documents listed above, subject to information being withheld under one or more of the following sections of the Official Information Act, as applicable:

- personal details of officials, under section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons,
- contact details of officials, under section 9(2)(g)(ii) – to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through protecting Ministers, members of government organisations, officers and employees from improper pressure or harassment, and
- direct dial phone numbers of officials, under section 9(2)(k) – to prevent the disclosure of information for improper gain or improper advantage.

Some information has been redacted because it is not covered by the scope of your request. This is because the documents include matters outside your specific request.

Direct dial phone numbers of officials have been redacted under section 9(2)(k) in order to reduce the possibility of staff being exposed to phishing and other scams. This is because information released under the OIA may end up in the public domain, for example, on websites including Treasury's website.

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Official Information Act.

This reply addresses the information you requested. You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision.

Yours sincerely



Hon Grant Robertson
Minister of Finance

OIA 20220365

Information for release

1.	<u>Aide Memoire NZ Post Chair Reappointment (APH 8 June 2022)</u>	1
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8.	<u>Email - Post End of Term Letter Rodger Finlay</u>	20
9.	<u>Email - Re Rodger Finlay and Fidelity Life</u>	22
10.	<u>Email - Re RBNZ board conflicts</u>	24

IN-CONFIDENCE



Reference: T2022/1198 CM-0-2-3-2022

Date: 31 May 2022

To: Delegated Minister for State Owned Enterprises (NZ Post Ltd) (Hon Kris Faafoi)

Deadline: None
(if any)

Aide Memoire: NZ Post Chair Reappointment (APH 8 June 2022)

Background

- On Wednesday 8th June you are taking a paper to APH Committee noting your intention to reappoint the current Chair of NZ Post Limited, as follows:

Person	Designation	Appointment/ Reappointment	Term	Replacing
Rodger John <u>Finlay</u>	Chair	Reappointment	From 1 July 2022 up to 31 May 2025	n/a

s9(2)(a)

Talking Points

- Rodger Finlay, of Christchurch, has a strong understanding of business structures, finance, and strategy. He has been an effective chair of NZ Post as the company navigates the challenges of the changing mail business.
- He has also been chair of PGG Wrightson, and the Provincial Growth Fund Independent Advisory Panel, and a director of Ngāi Tahu Holdings, Radio NZ Ltd, and Public Trust.
- He has been appointed to the new board of the Reserve Bank of New Zealand, with effect from 1 July 2022.
- If the proposed reappointment is confirmed, the NZ Post board will be 50% female and 50% male. However, the balance will change after 30 June 2022 when Sue Tindal resigns from the board and Paul Cochrane is appointed. Members identify as NZ European, Indian, and Māori ethnicities, and are located in Auckland, Bay of Plenty, Canterbury, and Hawke's Bay.

IN-CONFIDENCE

Fees

- Director fees are drawn from the remuneration approved for the board by shareholding Ministers. The rate for the NZ Post chair is \$105,730 per annum.

Murray Costello, Senior Advisor, Governance and Appointments, s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Gael Webster, Manager, Governance and Appointments, s9(2)(k)

APPOINTMENT-IN-CONFIDENCE

Office of the Minister of Finance
Office of the Acting Minister for State Owned Enterprises

Chair, Appointment and Honours Committee

New Zealand Post Ltd: Board Reappointment

Introduction

1. The Appointment and Honours Committee is invited to note shareholding Ministers' intention to reappoint the chair of the board of New Zealand Post Ltd (NZ Post), as follows:

Person	Designation	Appointment/ Reappointment	Term	Replacing
Rodger John <u>Finlay</u>	Chair	Reappointment	From 13 June 2022 up to 31 May 2025	n/a

Background

2. This appointment is made in accordance with the guiding legislation and the constitution of the company, which stipulates that the shareholders may, at any time, appoint or reappoint directors to the board. Directors are also appointed in accordance with the Cabinet-approved appointment process.

NZ Post Ltd

3. NZ Post operates New Zealand's largest postal and courier businesses. NZ Post is one of the largest state-owned enterprises in terms of revenue, assets, and employees, and has an extensive retail network.
4. Shareholding Ministers intend to reappoint Rodger Finlay as chair and director to the NZ Post Board up to 31 May 2025.

Reappointment – chair

5. Rodger Finlay, of Christchurch, has developed a standing in the NZ commercial governance community. Through his previous roles in investment banking and corporate advisory, he developed a strong understanding of business structures, finance and strategy. Mr Finlay has been chair of PGG Wrightson and is a director of Ngāi Tahu Holdings. He has Crown sector experience through being chair of the Provincial Growth Fund Independent Advisory Panel, a governor of Radio NZ Ltd, and a board member of Public Trust. He has also been appointed to the new board of the Reserve Bank of New Zealand, with effect from 1 July 2022.

Certification

6. The Cabinet-approved process was followed for these appointments. This included:
 - identifying the skills and experience required on the board
 - assessing the contribution and skills of the incumbent members against the ongoing needs of the board
 - updated background checks.

APPOINTMENT-IN-CONFIDENCE

APPOINTMENT-IN-CONFIDENCE

Conflicts of Interest

7. Appropriate enquiries concerning conflicts of interest have been undertaken for the candidates in accordance with the Treasury appointment guidelines, and none have been identified. The NZ Post Board maintains ongoing conflict of interest disclosure regimes, in accordance with the Companies Act 1993. The reappointment is also subject to the satisfactory completion of background checks.

Representativeness of appointments

8. Full consideration has been given to the need for membership of the board to have diversity across gender, age, ethnicity, geography, and skills.
9. If the proposed reappointment is confirmed, the NZ Post board will remain at 50% female and 50% male. However, the balance will change after 30 June 2022 when Sue Tindal resigns from the board and Paul Cochrane is appointed. Members identify as NZ European, Indian, and Māori ethnicities, and are located in Auckland, Bay of Plenty, Canterbury, and Hawke's Bay.

Fees

10. Director fees are drawn from the remuneration approved for the board by shareholding Ministers. The unit rate for NZ Post directors is \$52,865 per annum, with the chair rate being twice this amount.

Recommendations

11. It is recommended that the Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee:
- a) **note** shareholding Ministers' intentions to reappoint the chair of the board of New Zealand Post Ltd as follows:

Person	Designation	Appointment/ Reappointment	Term	Replacing
Rodger John <u>Finlay</u>	Chair	Reappointment	From 13 June 2022 up to 31 May 2025	n/a

- b) **note** the appointment is subject to the satisfactory completion of background checks.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Grant Robertson
Minister of Finance

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Kris Faafoi
Delegated Minister for State Owned Enterprises (NZ Post Ltd)

APPOINTMENT-IN-CONFIDENCE

From: Jenee Tibshraeny <jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 15 June 2022 4:25 pm
To: ^Parliament: Patrick O'Meara
Subject: Re: Roger Finlay

Thanks a bundle, Patrick.

From: Patrick O'Meara <Patrick.O'Meara@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 15 June 2022 14:08
To: Jenee Tibshraeny <jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz>
Cc: Chris Bramwell <Chris.Bramwell@parliament.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Roger Finlay

Hi,

Longer than intended in getting back to you but here you go!

Cheers Patrick

Has a someone else been appointed NZ Post chair? Can MoF confirm Rodger's time in that role won't be extended beyond June 30?

Mr Finlay's term ends at the end of June 2022.

The RBNZ's website says Rodger has been contracted to "work as part of our interim transition board which is preparing for changes to the RBNZ governance arrangements under the new RBNZ Act 2021".

What would MoF say to those concerned about the conflict of interest posed by Rodger both chairing the NZ Post board while working for a regulator of Kiwibank?

Mr Finlay's appointment to the Transition Board has been considered by the Reserve Bank (under its requirements of the Reserve Bank of New Zealand Act 2021) and found that any potential conflict of interest could be managed. It is incorrect to characterise him as a regulator of Kiwibank in his role as a member of the Transition Board. He has been assisting in the development of new governance and policy frameworks for consideration by the new Board when it starts on 1 July.

How have conflicts been managed?

That is a question for the Reserve Bank Board to consider but I've been advised by officials that any potential conflict of interest is manageable.

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: Jenee Tibshraeny <jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz>
Date: Wednesday, 15 Jun 2022, 11:55 AM
To: Patrick O'Meara <Patrick.O'Meara@parliament.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: Roger Finlay

Hi Patrick,

Sorry to keep pestering you, but how were you going with this?
Thank you,
Jenee

From: Patrick O'Meara <Patrick.O'Meara@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 14 June 2022 18:11
To: Jenee Tibshraeny <jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz>
Subject: RE: Roger Finlay

Hi, just on the road with minister and hope to get back to you tonight.

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: Jenee Tibshraeny <jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz>
Date: Tuesday, 14 Jun 2022, 5:20 PM
To: Patrick O'Meara <Patrick.O'Meara@parliament.govt.nz>
Subject: Fw: Roger Finlay

Hi Patrick,
How were you going with this enquiry?
Thank you,
Jenee

From: Jenee Tibshraeny
Sent: Monday, 13 June 2022 17:04
To: Patrick O'Meara <Patrick.O'Meara@parliament.govt.nz>
Subject: Roger Finlay

Hi Patrick,

Further to our chat over the phone earlier, I have a few questions about Rodger Finlay.

I understand his tenure as NZ Post board chair expires on June 30, after which time he will take up a role on the RBNZ board.

Has a someone else been appointed NZ Post chair? Can MoF confirm Rodger's time in that role won't be extended beyond June 30?

The RBNZ's website says Rodger has been contracted to "work as part of our interim transition board which is preparing for changes to the RBNZ governance arrangements under the new RBNZ Act 2021".

What would MoF say to those concerned about the conflict of interest posed by Rodger both chairing the NZ Post board while working for a regulator of Kiwibank?

How have conflicts been managed?

Thank you,

Jenée Tibshraeny
NZ Herald Wellington Business Editor

M s9(2)(a)
E jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz
T @JeneeTibshraeny
A Parliamentary Press Gallery

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Outside of scope of request

From: Amanda Wilson <Amanda.Wilson@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 15 June 2022 9:06 am
To: Murray Costello [TSY] <Murray.Costello@treasury.govt.nz>
Cc: ^Parliament: Katie Keir <Katie.Keir@parliament.govt.nz>; Shelley Hollingsworth [TSY] <Shelley.Hollingsworth@treasury.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: No surprises: blog article about RBNZ and NZ Post conflicts

Hey,

Please find attached a letter from Rodger declining his reappointment from 1 July 2022.

As he will remain the Chair until 1 July and the new Deputy Chair (still to go through APH) should be confirmed on 27 June 2022, can the Deputy Chair just act for the time being?

I don't believe that a briefing will be required on this.



Amanda Wilson, Finance and State Owned Enterprises Advisor
Office of Hon Grant Robertson | Office of Hon Dr David Clark
Minister of Finance | Minister for State Owned Enterprises

Level 7.6 Executive Wing, Parliament Buildings, PO Box 18041, Wellington 6160, New Zealand

M: [s9\(2\)\(g\)\(ii\)](tel:0274889999)

E: amanda.wilson@parliament.govt.nz

From: Murray Costello [TSY] [<mailto:Murray.Costello@treasury.govt.nz>]
Sent: Friday, 10 June 2022 3:21 PM
To: Amanda Wilson <Amanda.Wilson@parliament.govt.nz>; Katie Keir <Katie.Keir@parliament.govt.nz>
Cc: Rodger Finlay [s9\(2\)\(a\)](mailto:s9(2)(a)@parliament.govt.nz) Shelley Hollingsworth [TSY] <Shelley.Hollingsworth@treasury.govt.nz>; ^NZ POST: Malcolm Shaw <malcolm.shaw@nzpost.co.nz>; David Walsh

<David.Walsh@nzpost.co.nz>

Subject: No surprises: blog article about RBNZ and NZ Post conflicts

[IN-CONFIDENCE]

Kia ora Amanda and Katie

I'm sending this to you both as a "no surprises" issue for Project Korimako and NZ Post. This potential concern has been on our radar but it was hoped that the situation would be resolved before 1 July when Rodger joins the Reserve Bank board.

Resolution may still happen, but in case it doesn't we propose that Rodger writes to the shareholding Ministers offering to take unpaid leave as the chair of NZ Post on a temporary basis from 1 July.

Ministers agree to this, and appoint Carol Campbell (as the senior director on the board) by letter to be the Acting Chair while the appointed chair is unavailable. The Legal Team advises this is consistent with the company's Constitution. Mrs Campbell is willing to take on the role on a temporary basis.

We believe that approach will work. We have also considered whether Ministers should take this through the APH process. On the one hand we don't think that is necessary because this is a short-term change. If a chair was absent for illness for some months APH wouldn't be involved. On the other hand the formal process would make it clear that the potential conflict issue is being formally addressed, but this could be difficult to do while Project Korimako is still being worked on. We will put this in a TR to Ministers early next week.

Ngā mihi
Murray

-----Original Message-----

From: Rodger Finlay [s9\(2\)\(a\)](mailto:s9(2)(a)@nzpost.co.nz)

Sent: Friday, 10 June 2022 9:34 am

To: Murray Costello [TSY] <Murray.Costello@treasury.govt.nz>; Shelley Hollingsworth [TSY]

<Shelley.Hollingsworth@treasury.govt.nz>; ^NZ POST: Malcolm Shaw <malcolm.shaw@nzpost.co.nz>; David Walsh

<David.Walsh@nzpost.co.nz>

Subject: croaking cassandra | Economics, public policy, monetary policy, financial regulation, with a New Zealand perspective

<https://croakingcassandra.com/2022/06/10/a-highly-inappropriate-appointment/>

Regards
Rodger

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EMAIL ATTACHMENT

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New Zealand Post Limited
Private Bag 39990
Wellington Mail Centre
Lower Hutt 5045

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New Zealand Post Limited
7 Waterloo Quay
Wellington

E company.secretariat@nzpost.co.nz



14 June 2022

Hon Grant Robertson
Minister of Finance
Private Bag 18041
Parliament Buildings
Wellington 6160

Hon Kris Faafoi
Delegated Minister for State Owned Enterprises (NZ Post Ltd)
Private Bag 18041
Parliament Buildings
Wellington 6160

Dear Ministers

My sincere thanks for your letter of 13 June 2022, offering me reappointment as chair and director of New Zealand Post Limited (NZ Post) through to 31 May 2025.

Regretfully, I must decline the offer of reappointment due to a mixture of personal and professional obligations at this time.

Please be assured of my affinity with the committed and hard-working management and broader teams at NZ Post, and they have my very best wishes for what I fully expect to be a successful and bright future, creating both economic and broader value for shareholders.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rodger Finlay', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rodger Finlay
Chair, NZ Post

From: ^Parliament: Patrick O'Meara
Sent: Tuesday, 21 June 2022 11:08 am
To: Gyles Beckford
Subject: Comment on Finlay

Kia ora comrade,

This is what I sent to Jeneē.

- Mr Finlay's appointment to the Transition Board has been considered by the Reserve Bank (under its requirements of the Reserve Bank of New Zealand Act 2021) and found that any potential conflict of interest could be managed.
- In his role on the Transition Board, Mr Finlay has been assisting in the development of new governance and policy frameworks for consideration by the new Board when it starts on 1 July.

Ngā mihi, Patrick

Patrick O'Meara | Senior Press Secretary

Office of Hon Grant Robertson

Deputy Prime Minister

Minister of Finance

Minister for Infrastructure

Minister for Sport and Recreation

Mobile: s 9(2)(g)(ii) | Office: s9(2)(k) | Email: Patrick.O'Meara@parliament.govt.nz

Beehive Suite 7.6, Parliament Buildings, Wellington

IN CONFIDENCE

APH-22-MIN-0081



Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee

Covering email redacted - outside of scope of request

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

New Zealand Post Ltd: Reappointment

Portfolios **Finance / State Owned Enterprises (Hon Kris Faafoi)**

On 8 June 2022, the Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee:

- 1 **noted** that the Minister of Finance and the acting Minister for State Owned Enterprises (Hon Kris Faafoi) intend to reappoint Rodger John FINLAY as the Chair of the board of New Zealand Post Ltd (NZ Post), for a term commencing on 13 June 2022 and expiring on 31 May 2025;
- 2 **noted** that the appointment is subject to the satisfactory completion of background checks.

Jenny Vickers
Committee Secretary

Present:

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern (Chair)
Hon Andrew Little
Hon Nanaia Mahuta
Hon Poto Williams
Hon Kris Faafoi
Hon Willie Jackson
Hon Kiri Allan
Hon Dr David Clark
Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister

IN CONFIDENCE

CAB-22-MIN-0227



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

Report of the Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee: Period Ended 10 June 2022

On 13 June 2022, Cabinet made the following decisions on the work of the Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee for the period ended 10 June 2022:

Outside of scope of request

APH-22-MIN-0081

New Zealand Post Ltd: Reappointment
Portfolios: Finance / State Owned Enterprises
(Hon Kris Faafoi)


CONFIRMED

Outside of scope of request

I N C O N F I D E N C E

CAB-22-MIN-0227

Outside of scope of request



Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet

I N C O N F I D E N C E

From: Chris Bramwell <Chris.Bramwell@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Friday, 1 July 2022 3:06 pm
To: Rob Stock
Subject: RE: PR: Robertson - New RBNZ board takes up role from 1 July

I checked with RBNZ - they shared a statement that they gave to you on June 21, below is the relevant text. You may have missed it, I know media inboxes can be chaos at the best of times!

Mr Finlay will no longer be a director of NZ Post when his appointment to the Board of the RBNZ takes effect on 1 July.

Mr Finlay has been contracted to work as part of our interim 'transition board' which is preparing for changes to Reserve Bank's governance arrangements under the new RBNZ Act 2021.

So he has not been in any decision-making role where any conflict would arise and he will step down from NZ Post on 1 July, so there will be no material conflict of interest from that point..

Chris Bramwell | Senior Press Secretary

Office of Hon Grant Robertson

Deputy Prime Minister

Minister of Finance

Minister for Infrastructure

Minister for Sport and Recreation

Mobile: s 9(2)(g)(ii) | Office: s9(2)(k) | Email: chris.bramwell@parliament.govt.nz

Beehive Suite 7.6, Parliament Buildings, Wellington

From: Rob Stock [mailto:rob.stock@stuff.co.nz]
Sent: Friday, 1 July 2022 2:11 PM
To: Chris Bramwell <Chris.Bramwell@parliament.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: PR: Robertson - New RBNZ board takes up role from 1 July

No comment, not available, talk to the minister.

On Fri, Jul 1, 2022 at 1:58 PM Chris Bramwell <Chris.Bramwell@parliament.govt.nz> wrote:

I'm not sure if it was the "plan" for managing the potential conflict? You'd have to talk to Mr Finlay about that – or perhaps the RBNZ?

Chris Bramwell | Senior Press Secretary

Office of Hon Grant Robertson

Deputy Prime Minister

Minister of Finance

Minister for Infrastructure

Minister for Sport and Recreation

Mobile: s 9(2)(g)(ii) | Office: s9(2)(k) | Email: chris.bramwell@parliament.govt.nz

Beehive Suite 7.6, Parliament Buildings, Wellington

From: Rob Stock [mailto:rob.stock@stuff.co.nz]

Sent: Friday, 1 July 2022 1:55 PM

To: Chris Bramwell <Chris.Bramwell@parliament.govt.nz>

Subject: Re: PR: Robertson - New RBNZ board takes up role from 1 July

Chris,

No idea. I do not remember the RBNZ or minister, or Finlay mentioning this was the plan for managing the conflict of interest. Oh, well.

Rob

On Fri, Jul 1, 2022 at 1:47 PM Chris Bramwell <Chris.Bramwell@parliament.govt.nz> wrote:

Hey Rob,

The Minister is off sick with COVID so I can't get a comment today, but I can confirm that Rodger Finlay's term was due to end on June 30. This was public already, I'm not sure why Jenny wrote that it was announced in the below PR, Jenae T wrote about it in the Herald a few weeks ago!

Cheers,

Chris

Chris Bramwell | Senior Press Secretary

Office of Hon Grant Robertson

Deputy Prime Minister

Minister of Finance

Minister for Infrastructure

Minister for Sport and Recreation

Mobile: s 9(2)(g)(ii) | Office: s9(2)(k) | Email: chris.bramwell@parliament.govt.nz

Beehive Suite 7.6, Parliament Buildings, Wellington

From: Rob Stock [mailto:rob.stock@stuff.co.nz]

Sent: Friday, 1 July 2022 12:40 PM

To: Chris Bramwell <Chris.Bramwell@parliament.govt.nz>

Subject: Re: PR: Robertson - New RBNZ board takes up role from 1 July

Chris,

Has the minister got a comment on Mr Finlay ending his role at NZ Post? Was that always the plan, or was the media coverage and criticism about having a role at the RBNZ and NZ Post (part-owner of Kiwibank) behind his finishing up at NZPost?

Rob

On Thu, Jun 30, 2022 at 2:33 PM Chris Bramwell <Chris.Bramwell@parliament.govt.nz> wrote:

Hon Grant Robertson

Minister of Finance



PĀNUI PĀPĀHO

30 June 2022

**MEDIA
STATEMENT**

New RBNZ board takes up role from 1 July

Members with a range of governance, financial and technical skills have been appointed to the Reserve Bank Board as part of the shift to strengthen the Bank's decision-making and accountability arrangements.

The Reserve Bank of New Zealand Act 2021 comes into force on 1 July 2022, with the establishment of a new statutory governance board, which includes members appointed by Governor General on the recommendation of the government, and also includes the Governor of the Reserve Bank, Adrian Orr.

"This is a significant change that will strengthen the institutional arrangements of the Reserve Bank," Grant Robertson said.

"The shift to a more conventional board model brings the Reserve Bank in line with other central banks, Crown Entities and public companies in New Zealand.

The structure protects the Bank's independence while ensuring it operates in an accountable and transparent manner. The Board's remit does not cover monetary policy, which remains solely the role of the Monetary Policy Committee.

"I have worked through with the transitional Board to understand the range of skills needed to fulfil the mandate of the new Board. People with both the intellectual capacity to engage with the very challenging issues, and the background of experience and perspective to be able to bring common sense, political awareness and a strong understanding of New Zealand's economy and society to the table.

"We have also sought to get a mix of backgrounds and experience to give a wide range of perspectives. Members not only have knowledge of the New Zealand and global economy, but also experience of managing people and culture, and digital change.

"Two highly-experienced members of the previous Board have been retained, current Chair, Professor Neil Quigley and Susan Paterson. Rodger Finlay who has been providing assistance with the transition to the new structure over recent months has also been appointed to the new Board.

"Other appointees are Byron Pepper, Professor Rawinia Higgins, Jeremy Banks and Hinerangi Raumati-Tu'ua. (Brief biographies of all members are below).

"I am delighted with the mix of people who we have been able to appoint. I am confident that they will support the Reserve Bank exceptionally well to achieve the goals set for it in the new legislation that comes into force tomorrow," Grant Robertson said.

Media contact: Chris Bramwell 021 581 149

Board member bios:

Professor Neil Quigley is the Vice Chancellor at the University of Waikato and has been chair of the current Reserve Bank Board since 2016.

Susan Paterson has been on the current Reserve Bank Board since 2019. She has been an external advisor to the Bank's Monetary Policy Committee and brings significant senior experience and good knowledge of governance oversight of a regulatory body.

Rodger Finlay previously chaired NZ Post Ltd and PGG Wrightson, and is a director of Ngāi Tahu Holdings Ltd. He brings a strong understanding of business, finance, and strategy, after working in investment banking in Australasia, South-East Asia, Africa, the UK, Europe, and the USA.

Jeremy Banks (Rangitāne, Ngāti Kuia) has built his executive career in the software sector, founding Plink Software in 2015. He is a director of Wakatū Incorporation, where he chairs the Technology Steering committee. He is also a director of Crown company Network for Learning, vice chair of Ngāti Rārua Ātiawa Iwi Trust, and is on the Nelson Regional Development Agency.

Professor Rawinia Higgins (Ngāi Tūhoe, Ngāi Tahu, Ngāti Ruapani ki Waikaremoana, Ngāti Kahungunu) is the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Māori) at Victoria University of Wellington, where she is focused on helping to frame Māori strategy, policy, and outcomes. In 2018 Professor Higgins was appointed as the Commissioner for Te Taura Whiri i Te Reo Māori, after leading a review to change our Māori language legislation to give effect to Treaty partnership within the Crown agency system. She is a member of the Waitangi Tribunal and is chair of the Māori Advisory Group to the Public Service Commissioner.

Byron Pepper is an experienced advisor to boards, management teams and investors across business and insurance sectors. He is a former Executive Director and Partner at Goldman Sachs, and will bring strengths in understanding of financial and capital markets, the aims and impacts of regulation, and a focus on fostering financial stability for all New Zealanders. Mr Pepper is a director at Ando Insurance Group Ltd, but that role is not expected to create a conflict of interest as Ando is a non-regulated company.

Hinerangi Raumati-Tu'ua (Ngāti Mutunga, Tainui) is the chair of Tainui Group Holdings and a director at Genesis Energy and Watercare Services. She is involved in several Iwi investment entities and was the chair of Parininihi Ki Waitotara Incorporation for ten years. Ms Raumati-Tu'ua has developed a governance portfolio which includes both Māori owned / Māori centric entities, and more mainstream organisations such as Public Trust and Auckland Council Investments Ltd.

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From: Katie Keir <Katie.Keir@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, 11 July 2022 10:01 am
To: s9(2)(a)
Cc: ^NZ POST: Malcolm Shaw; Board appointments [TSY]; s9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: NZ Post - Rodger Finlay - end of term letter from shareholding Ministers
Attachments: NZ Post - End of Term Letter - Rodger Finlay.pdf

You don't often get email from katie.keir@parliament.govt.nz. [Learn why this is important](#)

Kia ora Rodger

Please find the attached letter from Hon Grant Robertson on behalf of shareholding Ministers thanking you for your service as Chair of the NZ Post Board.

Kind regards
Katie



Katie Keir, Private Secretary (Finance)
Office of Hon Grant Robertson | Office of Hon Dr Megan Woods
Minister of Finance | Associate Minister of Finance

Level 7.4 Executive Wing, Parliament Buildings, PO Box 18041, Wellington 6160, New Zealand
M: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
E: katie.keir@parliament.govt.nz

Hon Grant Robertson

MP for Wellington Central

Deputy Prime Minister

Minister of Finance

Minister for Infrastructure

Minister for Sport and Recreation



IN-CONFIDENCE

11 July 2022

Rodger Finlay

s9(2)(a)

Dear Rodger

NZ Post Limited

Thank you for advising in your letter dated 14 June 2022 to the shareholding Ministers that you intended to retire from the NZ Post Board on 30 June 2022.

I wish to convey my appreciation of the leadership you have shown as the Chair of NZ Post at a challenging time while the Future of Mail project has been underway.

On behalf of the Minister of Finance as the other shareholding Minister, and Hon Dr David Clark as Minister for State Owned Enterprises, I wish you well in your future endeavours.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Grant Robertson'.

Hon Grant Robertson

Minister of Finance

On behalf of shareholding Ministers

Cc: board.appointments@treasury.govt.nz

Malcolm Shaw Malcolm.Shaw@nzpost.co.nz

From: Jenee Tibshraeny <jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 31 August 2022 4:29 pm
To: ^Parliament: Patrick O'Meara
Subject: Re: Rodger Finlay and Fidelity Life

OK, so while the Ngai Tahu/Fidelity deal was settled in early-2022, it had been agreed on in mid-2021, before Rodger took up the role on the transition board in Oct 2021. So, not great...

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/business/446285/westpac-sells-life-insurance-business-for-400m>



Westpac sells life insurance business for \$400m | RNZ News

As part of the deal, Westpac would refer any potential life insurance customers to the company for the next 15 years. Fidelity Life's largest shareholder, the NZ Super Fund, would co-fund the acquisition with its new investor Ngāi Tahu Holdings, which was contributing \$140m.

www.rnz.co.nz

From: Patrick O'Meara <Patrick.O'Meara@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 31 August 2022 4:12 pm
To: Jenee Tibshraeny <jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz>; James Weir <James.Weir@rbnz.govt.nz>
Cc: Chris Bramwell <Chris.Bramwell@parliament.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Rodger Finlay and Fidelity Life

Hi Jeneē,

Due to email issues, I've only just received this. I understand you've talked to the Minister about this, but I'll leave to the RBNZ to answer your questions around potential conflict of interests.

Cheers, Patrick

From: Jenee Tibshraeny [mailto:jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz]
Sent: Wednesday, 31 August 2022 2:48 PM
To: James Weir <James.Weir@rbnz.govt.nz>; Patrick O'Meara <Patrick.O'Meara@parliament.govt.nz>
Subject: Rodger Finlay and Fidelity Life

Hi James and Patrick,

I just realised Rodger Finlay is also a director of Ngai Tahu Holdings Corp Limited.

Ngai Tahu Holdings Corp Limited owns Ngai Tahu Investments Limited, which has a 24.94% shareholding in Fidelity Life Assurance Company Limited.

The RBNZ regulates/licenses Fidelity.

Has this conflict of interest been noted somewhere?

What is being done to manage this conflict?

Thanks,

Jenée Tibshraeny

NZ Herald Wellington Business Editor

M s9(2)(a)

E jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz

T @JeneeTibshraeny

A Parliamentary Press Gallery

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From: Jenee Tibshraeny <jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 31 August 2022 11:30 am
To: ^Parliament: Patrick O'Meara
Subject: Re: RBNZ board conflicts

Thanks Patrick.

From: Patrick O'Meara <Patrick.O'Meara@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 31 August 2022 9:32 am
To: Jenee Tibshraeny <jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz>
Cc: Chris Bramwell <Chris.Bramwell@parliament.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: RBNZ board conflicts

Hi Jenee,

Cabinet approved and made an offer of reappointment to Mr Finlay on 13 June, which he declined the following day. His term ended on 30 June.

Cheers, Patrick

From: Patrick O'Meara
Sent: Tuesday, 30 August 2022 5:09 PM
To: 'Jenee Tibshraeny' <jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz>
Subject: RE: RBNZ board conflicts

Yep, coming.

From: Jenee Tibshraeny [<mailto:jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz>]
Sent: Tuesday, 30 August 2022 4:45 PM
To: Patrick O'Meara <Patrick.O'Meara@parliament.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: RBNZ board conflicts

Patrick - can you please get these dates to me?

From: Jenee Tibshraeny <jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 30 August 2022 2:06 pm
To: Patrick O'Meara <Patrick.O'Meara@parliament.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: RBNZ board conflicts

Thanks Patrick.

Can you please confirm the date Rodger Finlay was reappointed, and the date he said he wouldn't take the job?

From: Patrick O'Meara <Patrick.O'Meara@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 30 August 2022 1:43 pm
To: Jenee Tibshraeny <jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz>
Cc: Chris Bramwell <Chris.Bramwell@parliament.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: RBNZ board conflicts

Hi Jeneē,

Here you go.

Cheers, Patrick

The final decision to make an offer of reappointment to Rodger Finlay as the Chair of NZ Post was made in June. Shortly afterwards Mr Findlay identified for a mix of professional and personal reasons that he would not accept this offer. Carol Campbell is continuing as the Acting Chair of NZ Post while the process of appointing a permanent Chair is completed.

As you are aware both the RBNZ and NZ Post concluded that any conflict of interest issues for Mr Findlay could be managed. His position was noted in the conflict of interest registers of both organisations.

Mr Finlay's role on the Transition Board was to have input into and assist with the development of new governance and policy frameworks that were recommended to the new Board when it formally assembled on 1 July. His deep governance experience has been invaluable in that context and will continue to be as a member of the board.

I am advised that Mr Finlay had not been in any decision-making role where any conflict would arise and he stepped down from the NZ Post on 30 June.

Outside of scope of request

From: Jeneē Tibshraeny [<mailto:jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz>]
Sent: Tuesday, 30 August 2022 12:57 PM
To: Patrick O'Meara <Patrick.O'Meara@parliament.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: RBNZ board conflicts

Ok will do. Written answers would still be appreciated. Thanks Patrick.

From: Patrick O'Meara <Patrick.O'Meara@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 30 August 2022 12:53 pm
To: Jeneē Tibshraeny <jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz>
Subject: RE: RBNZ board conflicts

It may have to be on the tiles. I haven't had a chance to follow up with the MoF.

From: Jeneē Tibshraeny [<mailto:jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz>]
Sent: Tuesday, 30 August 2022 12:52 PM
To: Patrick O'Meara <Patrick.O'Meara@parliament.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: RBNZ board conflicts

Hi Patrick,

Would really appreciate getting this response asap thanks...

From: Jeneē Tibshraeny <jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz>
Sent: Monday, 29 August 2022 5:24 pm
To: Patrick O'Meara <Patrick.O'Meara@parliament.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: RBNZ board conflicts

Thank you. Tonight would be ideal if possible.

From: Patrick O'Meara <Patrick.O'Meara@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, 29 August 2022 5:23 pm
To: Jenee Tibshraeny <jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz>
Subject: RE: RBNZ board conflicts

Hi, I'm still waiting for info on this, but will get back to you as soon as.

From: Jenee Tibshraeny [<mailto:jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz>]
Sent: Monday, 29 August 2022 4:40 PM
To: Patrick O'Meara <Patrick.O'Meara@parliament.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: RBNZ board conflicts

My understanding of the documents I'm reading is that Cabinet signed off on Finlay's reappointment as NZ Post chair on June 13.

From: Jenee Tibshraeny <jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz>
Sent: Monday, 29 August 2022 3:17 pm
To: Patrick O'Meara <Patrick.O'Meara@parliament.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: RBNZ board conflicts



The state of the mainstream media. I tell ya!

From: Patrick O'Meara <Patrick.O'Meara@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, 29 August 2022 3:16 pm
To: Jenee Tibshraeny <jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz>
Subject: RE: RBNZ board conflicts

The subs would approve

From: Jenee Tibshraeny [<mailto:jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz>]
Sent: Monday, 29 August 2022 3:02 PM
To: Patrick O'Meara <Patrick.O'Meara@parliament.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: RBNZ board conflicts

Just spotted a typo in one of those questions. It should be:

- When was the decision made, and **by** whom, for Rodger not to be NZ Post chair?

From: Jenee Tibshraeny
Sent: Monday, 29 August 2022 2:34 pm
To: Patrick O'Meara <Patrick.O'Meara@parliament.govt.nz>
Subject: RBNZ board conflicts

Thanks for your time over the phone, Patrick.

Questions I'd appreciate answers to ASAP:

- When was Rodger Finlay reappointed NZ Post chair for the term starting July 1, 2022?
- Why is Rodger now not NZ Post chair?
- When was the decision made, and whom, for Rodger not to be NZ Post chair?

Secondary questions:

- Has another NZ Post chair been appointed?
- How was it ever ok for Rodger to be NZ Post chair and on the new RBNZ board at the same time?

Even this would've been within the law, it surely would not have been within the spirit of the law.

Outside of scope of request

Jenée Tibshraeny

NZ Herald Wellington Business Editor

M s9(2)(a)

E jenee.tibshraeny@nzme.co.nz

T @JeneeTibshraeny

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