

Position Description - NZMB Board Observer

Title: New Zealand Meat Board Observer (18-month, non-voting)

Reports to: People and Culture Chair (Board relationship); CE (resourcing access)

Sponsors: CE (Esther Guy-Meakin) and P&C Board Sub-Committee Chair (Phil Weir)

Mentor: Appointed NZMB Director

Location: Meetings primarily Wellington; travel required

About NZMB

The New Zealand Meat Board (NZMB) helps the red meat sector capture the best possible returns from sheep and beef exports to quota markets. A statutory body and an important part of New Zealand's trade architecture, NZMB manages export quotas into the UK, US and Europe valued at approximately $2.6 billion, saving the sector $1 billion in tariffs.

NZMB also safeguards financial reserves for the benefit of livestock farmers. A portion of these reserves is set aside to support the red meat sector's response to a major crisis, such as foot-and-mouth disease. Income from the reserves also funds industry-good projects that deliver real value for farmers.

Purpose

This board observer role will provide a structured governance development experience within a professional Board setting, building capability in finance, risk, trade, and quota governance, and contribute constructively to Board discussions.

Key Responsibilities

- Prepare for and attend Board meetings; contribute to discussions (non-voting).
- Observe at least one Board committee (e.g., Risk & Assurance or People and Culture).
- Complete induction and core training modules; pursue a tailored development plan.
- Work closely with a Director to help deliver a governance project aligned to Board priorities.
- Uphold the Board's code of conduct, confidentiality, and conflicts protocols.



Term & Restrictions

- 18 months; non-director; non-voting.
- Unpaid; reasonable expenses covered.

Person Profile

- Passion for the red meat sector; highest ethical standards; independent thinking.
- Prepared to challenge and be challenged, constructively.
- Strong communication; collaborative, respectful; empathy with producers and rural communities.
- Sector connection and/or relevant expertise (farming, meat processing, agribusiness).
- A commitment to professional development
- Has a genuine and demonstrated leadership potential through professional, industry, community, or governance experience, and a commitment to ongoing professional development.

Commitment

- Average 1day/month; six to eight weekly meeting cycle; occasional strategy days or conference attendance.