

WSSCO Independent Board

100% owned by Queenstown
Lakes District Council



Dr Julian Elder (Chair)

Dr Julian Elder is a Chartered Member of the Institute of Directors and commercial engineer with more than 25 years' executive and governance experience across critical infrastructure, regulated utilities, water and wastewater services and large-scale transformation in both public and private sectors, in Aotearoa New Zealand and overseas.

As Vice President and Asia-Pacific water business manager for global engineering company CH2M HILL, Dr Elder led water and wastewater businesses across seven countries, which included the delivery of major programmes like Singapore's NEWater and the Sydney Sewerfix Pumping Station Alliance. At Auckland's Watercare Services he oversaw a capital programme across both water supply and wastewater before navigating the Māngere Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade, (New Zealand's largest environmental clean-up at the time) through numerous stakeholder concerns.

Julian has a PhD in electrical engineering.

“ I'm excited by the opportunity to help establish a future-ready, financially sustainable water services organisation serving the community of one of Aotearoa's most distinctive and fast-growing districts.”

WSSCO Independent Board

100% owned by Queenstown
Lakes District Council



Becky Lloyd

Becky Lloyd is a recognised sustainability leader, experienced independent director and strategic advisor across the public and private sector, with particular expertise in infrastructure.

Based in Queenstown, she is a director of Port Otago and Connexa, both organisations with substantial infrastructure assets and long-term capital programmes. She has also served on a range of boards, including not-for-profit and industry bodies.

Becky has held chief executive and general management roles across the telecommunications, building products and professional services sectors. Most recently, she served as CEO of Toitū Envirocare, where she led the organisation through a period of significant change, doubling the size of the business over three years.

Becky is a member of QLDC's independent Climate Reference Group, chair of the Sustainability Reporting Board (a committee of the External Reporting Board - XRB) and a member of WM New Zealand's Sustainability Advisory Panel.

“*The establishment of the Water Services CCO presents an exciting opportunity to help shape the future of Queenstown Lakes District and ensure we deliver a sustainable and affordable, future-proof, resilient water service for the community.*”

WSSCO Independent Board

100% owned by Queenstown
Lakes District Council



Blair Stoddard-Howell

Blair Stoddard-Howell is a Chartered Accountant with specialist expertise in governance, risk management, and assurance.

Based in Queenstown, he brings over 20 years' experience in senior leadership and advisory roles across both private and public sector organisations. His career spans a broad range of industries and includes leading enterprise risk and assurance for a major NZX-listed company.

Blair has a proven track record of working alongside boards, executive teams, and key stakeholders to strengthen decision making, transparency, and accountability - including through periods of significant organisational change.

His work is characterised by a commitment to strengthening governance capability, embedding robust risk management practices, and enhancing long-term organisational resilience, particularly in environments where infrastructure, regulatory complexity, and community expectations converge.

“ I am passionate about helping organisations build the governance and risk foundations needed to navigate change and deliver enduring value. In a region like Queenstown Lakes, that means ensuring water services are resilient, sustainable, and able to meet the needs of a rapidly growing community while protecting the environment that underpins our way of life.”

WSSCO Independent Board

100% owned by Queenstown
Lakes District Council



Sina Cotter Tait

Sina Cotter Tait is a Chartered Member of the Institute of Directors, Chartered Professional Engineer and Fellow of Engineering New Zealand with over 20 years' experience in engineering and construction, including water infrastructure.

Based in Queenstown, her governance experience is strongly focused on infrastructure. She recently served on the boards of the New Zealand Infrastructure Commission / Te Waihanga and the North Otago Irrigation Company giving her particular expertise in the governance of sustainable, long-term water infrastructure.

Sina has a PhD in public sector construction management, an MBA and is an adjunct fellow of the University of Canterbury.

“*My work focuses on infrastructure and community impact, reflecting my values of contributing my skills to benefit my community. As a new resident, I'm keen to help shape the entity for sustainable success, drawing on lessons I've learned through my career on long-term decision-making and risk management.*”

WSSCO Independent Board

100% owned by Queenstown
Lakes District Council



Mark Christensen

Mark Christensen is a Chartered Member of the Institute of Directors, a natural resources lawyer, and independent trustee, with strong expertise in the intersection of business and the environment.

He specialises in water and infrastructure development, as well as conservation, biodiversity, waste, mining, energy, and tourism. Mark has almost 40 years' experience in resource management and environmental law, including 20 years as a partner in Russell McVeagh and Anderson Lloyd.

Mark is the immediate past Chair of Pest Free Banks Peninsula and Towards Pest Free Waitaha, a former member of the NZ Conservation Authority, and a trustee of several conservation and community-focused organisations. He is also involved in several international environmental, business, and conservation organisations including the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

“The delivery of superb water services is fundamental to the wellbeing of Queenstown Lakes residents and visitors’ and to protecting and enhancing environmental quality. I’m excited to be able to contribute to building a high performing organisation in this special part of New Zealand.”