

CLIMATE CHANGE COMMISSION

5 October 2020

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████████████████████

Dear ██████

Thank you for your request for information about the expertise of our seven Commissioners.

1. *Please tell me how many Commission members have palaeoclimatology or palaeontology as their principal area of expertise?*

Our Commissioners do not hold palaeoclimatology or palaeontology as a principal area of expertise. One Commissioner does have a reasonable knowledge of climate history and the Permian-Triassic event, which has been beneficial in helping to understand how climate change differs from change periods of the past.

The Climate Change Commission is a small organisation with a need for a diverse range of expertise, knowledge and experience. To ensure our advice is robust and well tested, we use the technical and academic knowledge from our Commissioners and staff and draw on the extensive expertise held outside of the Commission. We partner with other government agencies working on climate change both in New Zealand and overseas, draw upon international publications and peer-reviewed research and, as needed, contract specific skills from recognised experts in the field, both local and international. We also engage with Iwi/Māori and a range of interested stakeholders. Staff have had discussions with a palaeoclimate specialist and these will continue as needed.

Our in-house technical expertise includes global climate change politics, cultural anthropology, emissions pricing, environmental chemistry, engineering, waste policy, energy and environmental law, applied economics and modelling, climate change mitigation science, oceanography, renewable energy, atmospheric physics, forest sciences, mātauranga Māori, economics, energy market design and regulation, entrepreneurship and mathematical modelling.

2. *Please list the principal areas of expertise of all Commission members, including the numbers representing each.*

The table below lists the Commissioners' self-declared areas of expertise. For completeness, we have included all areas of expertise as declared. Please note that the Climate Commission has seven Commissioners in total.

To provide context for the Commissioners' expertise, section 5H of the Climate Change Response Act 2002 requires the Minister to appoint members who collectively have:

- a) *an understanding of climate change mitigation and adaptation, including the likely effects of any responses to climate change; and*
- b) *experience working in or with local and central government; and*

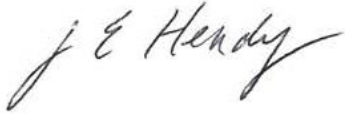
- c) *knowledge of the process by which public and regulatory policy is formed and given effect to; and*
- d) *technical and professional skills, experience, and expertise in, and an understanding of innovative approaches relevant to,—*
- i. *the environmental, ecological, social, economic, and distributional effects of climate change and climate change policy interventions; and*
 - ii. *the Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti o Waitangi) and te ao Māori (including tikanga Māori, te reo Māori, mātauranga Māori, and Māori economic activity); and*
 - iii. *a range of sectors and industries, at regional and local levels.*

Area of skills, experience, and expertise	Number of Commissioners
<i>Climate change mitigation and adaptation</i>	
Atmospheric science	1
Climate dynamics	1
Geomorphology	1
Other physical sciences (e.g. biology, chemistry, physics)	1
Climate change mitigation practices	3
Climate change adaptation practices	1
<i>Government experience</i>	
Governance	3
<i>Policy</i>	
Climate change policy	1
Science policy and practice	1
Public policy	1
<i>Social, economic, distributional effects</i>	
Insurance	1
Applied economics	1
Applied statistics	1
Public health	1
Socioeconomics	1
Market-based instruments	1
Decision making under uncertainty	1
Strategy, risk and resilience	1
<i>Te Ao Māori</i>	
Te Ao Māori	1
Mātauranga Māori	1
<i>Sectors</i>	
Finance	2
Greenhouse gas emissions from ruminant animals	1
Agricultural greenhouse gas accounting at farm and national scale	2
Farm and agribusiness management	1
Forestry	1
Stationary energy	1
Transport	1
Industrial processes	1
Waste	1

Thank you for your enquiry. I trust that this answers your questions. If it does not, please feel free to approach us again.

Please also be aware that it is our intention to proactively publish our responses to questions such as this. Once our new website is launched in early November, a copy of this letter will be published on it – with your name and contact details removed to protect your privacy.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jo Hendy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jo Hendy
Chief Executive
Climate Change Commission