

Appointment as a Lawyer Member of a Lawyers Standards Committee

Lawyers Standards Committees are established under Part 7 of the Lawyers and Conveyancers Act 2006. Members of Standards Committees are appointed in accordance with sections 126 and 129 of the Act and regulations 14 – 18 of the Lawyers and Conveyancers Act (Lawyers: Complaints Service and Standards Committee) Regulations 2008.

The statutory functions of Standards Committees are to:

- inquire into and investigate complaints against lawyers, incorporated law firms, and their employees;
- promote the resolution of complaints by negotiation, conciliation, or mediation, where it is appropriate to do so;
- in certain circumstances, to intervene in the affairs of lawyers or law firms;
- make final determinations in relation to complaints; and
- lay and prosecute charges before the New Zealand Lawyers and Conveyancers Disciplinary Tribunal.

Any person interested in applying for appointment as a lawyer member must have practised as a lawyer for a period or periods aggregating not less than five years.

Appointments are made by the New Zealand Law Society Board in consultation with local branches which must have regard to the applicant's:

- personal attributes; and
- ability to deal with and make appropriate decisions by reason of his or her skill, experience, and judgement.

Any expressions of interest should address these matters and should include relevant supporting material. A position description and an application form accompanies this document.