

Te mahi tahi i te  
Rāngai Tūmatanui  
Working together  
in the Public Sector



## Te kupu whakataki | Introduction

As a new public servant it is often hard to make sense of how the public sector is structured, and how all the different parts fit together – or even what part of the ‘public sector system’ you and your organisation fit into.

The New Zealand Public Service groups itself around clusters of agencies that work together towards similar outcomes. These clusters are often referred to as ‘sectors’.

The purpose of this conversation guide is to support you as a new public servant to learn about how your organisation fits into the public sector and works together with other agencies to achieve outcomes for New Zealanders.

## Ko tā tēnei puka | How this guide works

Often the best way to learn is through conversations with others, especially when it comes to finding out about your specific organisation.

We encourage you to have a conversation with your manager, or someone in your organisation who is an experienced public servant about how your organisation fits into the wider public sector context.

We’ve given you some prompts to get you started on pages 3 and 4, but we’re sure you’ll find lots of interesting information that will help you in your role.

You will also find in the appendix at the end of this guide a breakdown of the sectors in the public service, and an overall view of how the public sector is made up.



## Hei Wāhi i te Kōrero | Conversation Starter

Below are some conversation starters which you can use to ask questions about how your organisation fits within the Public Sector. You might also like to use these questions to do some of your own research into the make-up of public sector and your organisation's sector.

**What sector (s) does our organisation fit into?**

**What other public sector organisations does our organisation work with?**

**What are our sector's shared objectives?**

**What impact do other organisations in our sector have on our operational delivery of services?**

**Who is our organisation’s Minister or Ministers? Does our organisation report directly to a Minister (s) or via a Board? What other portfolios does our Minister hold?**



# Ngā ĀpitiHanga | Appendices

## Appendix 1: Ngā rāngai | Sectors

The New Zealand Public Service is organised around clusters of agencies that work together towards similar outcomes. These sectors as outlined below are a part of the public service, not public sector. The public service is a part of the wider public sector. To understand how the public service fits into the wider public sector, please refer to the diagram in appendix 2.

- **Border:** The Public Service border sector works together to protect our people, economy and environment. They do this by preventing harmful pests, diseases and illicit goods such as drugs from entering Aotearoa New Zealand  
**Find out more:** <https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/system/public-service-sectors/border-sector/>
- **Business:** The Public Service business sector helps grow a strong economy for Aotearoa New Zealand.  
**Find out more:** <https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/system/public-service-sectors/business-sector/>
- **Central Agencies:** The Public Service central agencies oversee the structure of government and how it works, acting as stewards of the machinery of government.  
**Find out more:** <https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/system/public-service-sectors/central-agencies/>
- **Cultural:** The Public Service cultural sector includes the arts, heritage, sport and broadcasting, and delivers a wide range of cultural experiences for everyone in Aotearoa New Zealand.  
**Find out more:** <https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/system/public-service-sectors/education-sector/>
- **Education:** The Public Service education sector organisations work together to ensure students in Aotearoa New Zealand get the skills, knowledge and support they need to achieve their goals.  
**Find out more:** <https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/system/public-service-sectors/emergency-sector/>

- **Emergency:** The Public Service emergency sector supports people in Aotearoa New Zealand in times of crisis  
**Find out more:** <https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/system/public-service-sectors/emergency-sector/>
- **Environment:** The Public Service environment sector preserves Aotearoa New Zealand's forests, mountains, waterways and fauna.  
**Find out more:** <https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/system/public-service-sectors/environment-sector/>
- **Health:** The Public Service health sector works together to improve, promote, protect and achieve better health outcomes for people in Aotearoa New Zealand.  
**Find out more:** <https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/system/public-service-sectors/health-sector/>
- **Housing:** The Public Service housing sector helps ensure New Zealanders have somewhere safe and healthy to live.  
**Find out more:** <https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/system/public-service-sectors/housing-sector/>
- **International and Trade:** The Public Service international and trade sector keeps Aotearoa New Zealand's relationships with the rest of the world strong and productive.  
**Find out more:** <https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/system/public-service-sectors/international-and-trade/>
- **Justice:** The Public Service justice sector works to keep the people of Aotearoa New Zealand safe and secure.  
**Find out more:** <https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/system/public-service-sectors/justice-sector/>
- **National Security:** The Public Service national security sector protects New Zealanders from threats to our national security.  
**Find out more:** <https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/system/public-service-sectors/national-security-sector/>

- **Populations and Communities:** The Public Service populations and communities sector supports specific groups of people in our community, including Māori, Pacific Peoples, ethnic communities, women, seniors and disabled people.  
**Find out more:** <https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/system/public-service-sectors/populations-and-communities-sector/>
- **Social:** The Public Service social sector helps to build strong, healthy families and communities and achieve better futures for New Zealanders.  
**Find out more:** <https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/system/public-service-sectors/social-sector/>
- **Transport:** The Public Service transport sector works together to build transport infrastructure and keep people safe while using our roads, waterways and skies.  
**Find out more:** <https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/system/public-service-sectors/transport-sector/>

## Appendix 2: The Public Sector

### Te Rāngai Tūmatanui | The Public Sector

