

Simon Britten CMInstD

A governance and leadership professional with community, commercial, and partnering expertise, and a passion for making a difference.

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GOVERNANCE EXPERIENCE

Director

Christchurch PHO Ltd

📅 09/2026 - Present

Christchurch PHO is a community-based not-for-profit primary health organisation dedicated to leading and facilitating high-quality primary healthcare services.

Ministerial appointment to the Board of Trustees

Haeata Community Campus

📅 2025 - Present

Haeata Community Campus is a composite state school with a roll of 560 students across years 1 to 13. The Board of Trustees is responsible for: policies and procedures; planning for the future; employing all school staff; complying with the law; and managing budgets.

Christchurch City Council Representative

Pest Free Banks Peninsula Project Oversight Group

📅 2025 - Present

Member of the governance group overseeing the Pest Free Banks Peninsula Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū and Port Hills Partnership, removing pests from Banks Peninsula so that native plants and animals can thrive.

Trustee

Ōtautahi Community Housing Trust

📅 2025 - Present

Supporting Ōtautahi Community Housing Trust to provide the best community and affordable housing now and well into the future.

Deputy Chair

Waipapa Papanui-Innes-Central Community Board

📅 2019 - Present

The Community Board's role is to represent and advocate for the local community, connect with community organisations and special interest groups, allocate funding, and make local decisions on behalf of the Council.

Co-Chair

LGNZ Community Boards Executive Committee

📅 2023 - 2024

The Community Boards Executive Committee is a sub-committee of the National Council of LGNZ, advocating for community boards across the motu and supporting their development, capability and impact.

Board member (two years as chair)

Pillars Incorporated

📅 2011 - 2014

Pillars Ka Pou Whakahou is a New Zealand charity supporting the children and whānau of people in prison to create positive futures for themselves.

STRENGTHS & COMPETENCIES



Experienced board member

Governance experience with local government, education, primary health, and community.



CliftonStrengths

Achiever; Responsibility; Analytical; Positivity; Relator.



Leadership Circle 360 Assessment

Integrity; Systems Thinker; Selfless Leader; Community Concern; Composure; Strategic Focus.



Commercial experience

Commercial management & negotiations; international sales and marketing; brand and product management.

QUALIFICATIONS

Te Tiriti Incubator

Leadership Lab

📅 2025 - 2026

- A year-long journey exploring Tiriti-based relationships with a group of experienced and emerging community leaders

Chartered Member Assessment

Institute of Directors New Zealand

📅 2025

- Exam and assignment, testing knowledge of Governance Best Practice and the content of the Company Directors' Course

Company Directors' Course

Institute of Directors New Zealand

📅 2024

Level 5 Certificate in Tikanga and Māori Language

Te Wānanga o Raukawa

📅 2024

Level 4 Certificate in Māori Protocol and Language

Te Wānanga o Raukawa

📅 2019

GOVERNANCE EXPERIENCE

Trustee

Community Services Freedom Trust

2010 - 2013

Freedom Trust is a community development trust that originated from Papanui Baptist Church, with a vision to support whānau in building caring communities in Northwest Christchurch.

Trustee (two years as chair)

Casebrook Intermediate School Board of Trustees

2008 - 2016

At times during my eight years as trustee at Casebrook Intermediate School I held the finance portfolio and chaired the board.

CAREER SUMMARY

Kaiwhakahaere Ratonga | Service Lead

Te Ora Hou Ōtautahi

01/2026 - Present Christchurch, New Zealand

Reporting to the Kaihautū, establishing and leading the school attendance service across the Christchurch East Central catchment, supporting 53 schools, and students and whānau, with school attendance and enrolment.

- Direct and indirect leadership of staff.
- Relationship and contract management with the Ministry of Education.
- Leading collaborative service delivery with three partner organisations.

Youth Employment Team Leader

Te Tahi Youth

02/2023 - 12/2025 Christchurch, New Zealand

Reporting to the General Manager, the purpose of this role is the establishment and ongoing leadership of a new community service.

- Leadership and coordination of the youth employment team, consisting of up to 11 staff including employment navigators and a business broker.
- Health and Safety lead for the organisation.

Project Manager

Te Ora Hou Ōtautahi

07/2018 - 02/2023 Christchurch, New Zealand

Supporting a range of strategic projects across Te Ora Hou Ōtautahi, including site, programme, and organisational capacity development.

- Ongoing leadership of the School Attendance Service.
- Delivery of a \$3m building project, including coordination between professionals, contractors, and stakeholders.
- Work to influence Ministry of Education policy and the Minister's office toward a 'recalibration' of the Alternative Education system.

Attendance Service Manager

Te Ora Hou Ōtautahi

01/2013 - 07/2018 Christchurch, New Zealand

Manager of the School Attendance Service for Canterbury, West Coast, and Nelson/Marlborough.

- Service provision to 400 schools, supporting students, families, and schools to improve attendance and reengage students.
- Leadership of up to 9 staff and 13 subcontracted delivery partners.
- Relationship management with local, regional, and national stakeholders.

QUALIFICATIONS

Leading Collaborative Partnerships Programme

University of Canterbury

2017

- MBA course and additional workshops
- MBAD672 Leading Collaborative Partnerships (A-)

NGO Leadership Development Programme

University of Canterbury

2014

- Two MBA courses plus coaching and workshops
- MBAD615 Leading Ourselves (A)
- MBAD643 Leading Change (A+)

Short Courses

Various professional development providers

2008 - 2009

- Miller Heiman Strategic Selling & Large Account Management Process
- Blanchard Situational Leadership II
- Sales Messaging
- Coaching
- Winning at Product Development

Graduate Certificate in Business Administration

University of the Sunshine Coast

2006 - 2007

- MKG701 Marketing Management (Distinction)
- INF701 Information Systems for Managers (Credit)
- MGT704 Global Business Management (Distinction)
- ACC701 Accounting for Managers (Credit)

New Zealand Certificate in Engineering, Telecommunications

Christchurch Polytechnic

1989 - 1993

- Nine engineering, electronics and telecommunications courses.
- Three years' work experience.

REFEREES

Available on request

CAREER SUMMARY

Youth Employment Programme Manager

Te Ora Hou Ōtautahi

📅 03/2011 - 12/2012 📍 Christchurch, New Zealand

Manager of a youth employment and training programme.

- Start-up and management of an employment/training programme focussed on disengaged young people.
 - Implemented systems relating to employment, health and safety, case management, and financial administration.
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Product Manager, Senior Product Manager

Tait Radio Communications

📅 10/2006 - 01/2011 📍 Christchurch, New Zealand

Reporting to the Chief Marketing Officer, the purpose of the role was management of the strategic direction of the secure mission-critical public safety communications product family / portfolio. The role was equivalent to that of Brand Manager in a consumer organisation.

Special Projects Manager, Major Accounts Manager

Tait Radio Communications

📅 07/2001 - 10/2006 📍 Sydney, Brisbane, Christchurch