

# New Zealand Media Council

ANNUAL REPORT 2024



NEW ZEALAND MEDIA ASSOCIATION INC.

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# Media Council Members 2024

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Website: [www.mediacouncil.org.nz](http://www.mediacouncil.org.nz)

Hon. Raynor Asher

Independent Chair, Court of Appeal judge (ret.)

## MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE PUBLIC:

Dr Jo Cribb

Independent consultant

Marie Shroff

Independent consultant

Dr Ben France-Hudson

Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, Otago University

Alison Thom

Former senior executive in public, iwi, voluntary sectors, Kapiti Coast District

Judi Jones

Former Telecommunications Ombudsman (Australia), Wellington

### Public alternate members:

Reina Vaai

Lawyer, Auckland

Richard Pamatatau

AUT lecturer, Auckland

## MEMBERS REPRESENTING NEWS MEDIA:

### Representing the Magazine Publishers Association

Rosemary Barraclough

Journalist, Magazine Publishers' Association representative

### Representing editors, nominated by the News Publishers Association

Scott Inglis

North Island Regional Editor, NZME

Guy MacGibbon

Platform Director, Stuff

### Representing Digital Media and Broadcasters

Tim Watkin

Editor, blogger and journalist. Executive Director Podcasts, RNZ.

### Representing Journalists, nominated by E Tu

Hank Schouten

Former journalist

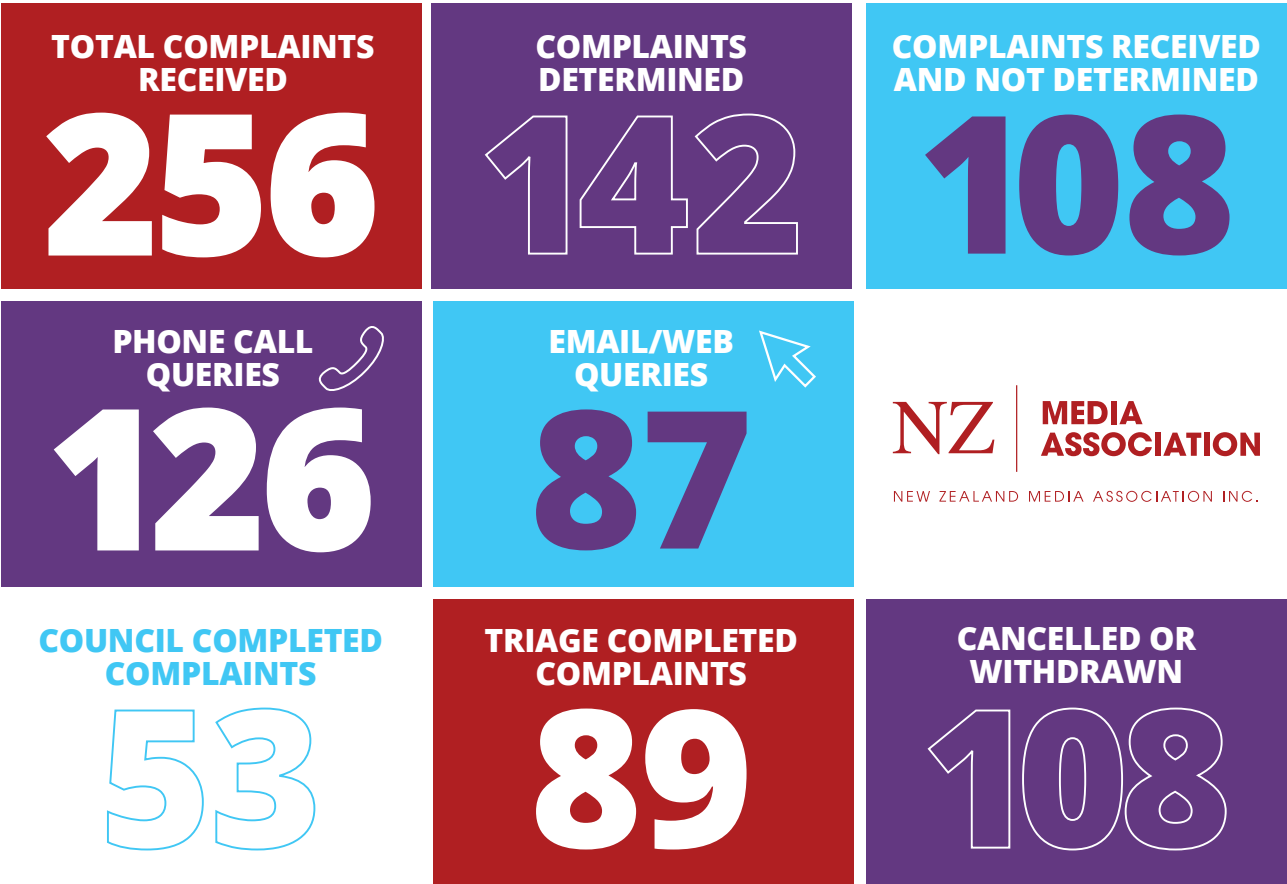
### Industry Alternate

Katrina Bennett

News director Wellington, NZME

# 2024 Year in Review

## Complaints Statistics



<b>Total complaints received:</b>	<b>256</b>
<b>Complaints determined:</b>	<b>142</b>
<b>Complaints received and not determined</b> (majority incomplete or cancelled):	<b>108</b>
<b>Council rulings:</b>	<b>142</b>
Upheld	21
Upheld with dissent	4
Not upheld	26
Not upheld with dissent	3
No grounds to proceed	87

**Note:** Complaints determined and not determined add up to 250 – this number is lower because some individual complaints were combined.

# 2024 Decisions

COMPLAINANT	PUBLICATION	DECISION	RULING	DATE
Vicki Bailey	NZ Herald	No Grounds	3481	February
Damon Mather	Newshub	No Grounds	3475	February
Dr David Hingston	Stuff	No Grounds	3479	February
Simon Smelt	Newshub	Upheld	3484	February
PMG Funds	NBR	Not Upheld	3485	February
Vincent Olsen-Reeder	Stuff	No Grounds	3476	February
Bernard Jennings	RNZ	No Grounds	3480	February
John McCormich	RNZ	No Grounds	3477	February
Karon Ashforth	Wairarapa Times-Age	Not Upheld	3483	February
Jacqueline Potter	ODT	Upheld	3478	February
Amanda Kennedy	NZ Herald	Not Upheld	3499	March
Imran Ali	Stuff	Upheld	3497	March
AB	NZ Herald	No Grounds	3492	March
Nathaniel Herz-Edinger	The Press	Upheld	3498	March
Peter Robinson	NZ Herald	No Grounds	3482	March
Rebecca Aitchison	Taranaki Daily News	Not Upheld	3495	March
Stephanie Palmer	Waikato Times	Upheld	3496	March
Susan Fogarty	TVNZ	Not Upheld	3500	March
Chuck Bird	NZ Herald	No Grounds	3488	March
Michael Grayson	Stuff	No Grounds	3486	March
Ken Orr	The Press	No Grounds	3489	March
Krish Shar	RNZ	No Grounds	3487	March
Geoff Neal	RNZ	No Grounds	3490	March
Geoff Neal	TVNZ	No Grounds	3491	March
Geoffrey Knight	RNZ	No Grounds	3493	March
Geoff Neal	Newshub	No Grounds	3494	March
Kelly-Ann Stoikoff	NZ Herald	Upheld with Dissent	3502	April
Robin Grieve	TVNZ	Not upheld	3508	April
Vishal Patil	The Spinoff	Not Upheld	3510	April
Richard Easterher	NZ Herald	Upheld	3509	April
Jose Aquino	Stuff	Not Upheld	3505	April
Linda Price	NZ Herald	Upheld	3509	April
Asians Supporting Tino Rangatiratanga & Asian Legal Network	RNZ	No Grounds	3506	April
Francis Brook	RNZ	Not Upheld	3507	April
Stuart Macintosh	RNZ	No Grounds	3503	April
Heather MacBride	NZ Herald	Upheld	3509	April
Patrick Morgan	The Post	No Grounds	3511	June
Peter Wakeman	RNZ	No Grounds	3512	June
Peter Wakeman	RNZ	No Grounds	3513	June
John Archer	NZ Herald	No Grounds	3521	June
Sean Davie	NZ Herald	No Grounds	3514	June

## 2024 Decisions Cont...

COMPLAINANT	PUBLICATION	DECISION	RULING	DATE
Christian Jordan	Stuff	Not upheld	3526	June
Azaria Bialik	Stuff	No Grounds	3516	June
Brad Lips	TVNZ	Upheld	3527	June
Arpita Das	The Post	No Grounds	3517	June
Russell Garbutt	RNZ	No Grounds	3518	June
Gavin Millar	NZ Herald	No Grounds	3519	June
Destiny Church	NZ Herald	No Grounds	3520	June
Eliza Taylor	Stuff	Not Upheld	3528	June
Jose Aquino	Stuff	No Grounds	3522	June
Martin Quinn	Otago Daily Times	No Grounds	3525	June
Bruce Owen	Sunday Star Times	No Grounds	3524	June
Tom Pearce	RNZ	Upheld	3530	June
Hennessey Wilson	Massive Magazine	Upheld	3531	June
Adnan Belushi	Taranaki Daily News	No Grounds	3515	June
Ms. A	NZ Herald	Not Upheld	3523	July
Jan Rivers	The Spinoff	Upheld	3529	July
Robin Grieve	NZ Herald	No Grounds	3532	July
NZ Defence Force	Newsroom	Not Upheld	3529	July
Sean Rush	Newshub	Not upheld with Dissent	3504	July
Andrew Dodd	The Post	Upheld with Dissent	3535	July
Wellington Chinese United Football Club	The Post	Upheld with dissent	3540	July
Brian Warburton	RNZ	No Grounds	3533	July
Brian Grey	Newshub	No Grounds	3534	July
Tony Bullo	RNZ	No Grounds	3536	July
Waiana Collier	Stuff	No Grounds	3537	July
Westland District Council	Hokitika Guardian	Not upheld	3541	July
Ms B.	Stuff	No Grounds	3538	July
RT	Gisborne Herald	Upheld	3551	September
Rachel Penniall	The Press	No Grounds	3543	September
Tracy-Moana Campbell	NZ Herald	No Grounds	3544	September
Hayley Matthews	RNZ	No Grounds	3542	September
Janet Smith	NZ Herald	No Grounds	3545	September
Joe Beeken	NZ Herald	No Grounds	3546	September
Trish Hargreaves	The Post	Not Upheld	3550	September
Marie O'Brien	The Post	Not Upheld	3550	September
Evan Minton	NZ Herald	No Grounds	3547	September
Jose Aquino	Stuff	No Grounds	3549	September
Mark Hamilton	NZ Herald	No Grounds	3552	October
Neil Watts	NZ Herald	No Grounds	3553	October
Timotheus Frank	NZ Herald	No Grounds	3556	October
Minister Nicole McKee	The Post	Not Upheld	3568	October
Blythe Cowrie	Stuff	No Grounds	3561	October

## 2024 Decisions Cont...

COMPLAINANT	PUBLICATION	DECISION	RULING	DATE
Greg Smith	Stuff	No Grounds	3554	October
Barbara Moses	The Post	Not upheld with dissent	3569	October
Michael O'Neil	The Post	No Grounds	3555	October
John Malcom Overton	Otago Daily Times	No Grounds	3557	October
Western Motor and Tractor Services Ltd	Stuff	Upheld	3565	October
Umar Kuddus	NZ Herald	Upheld	3567	October
Save Women's Sport Australasia	NZ Herald	No Grounds	3558	October
Jose Aquino	Stuff	Not Upheld	3566	October
Ken Orr	The Press	No Grounds	3559	October
Damon Mather	Stuff	No Grounds	3560	October
Geoff Neal	TVNZ	No Grounds	3564	October
David Bain	Otago Daily Times	Not Upheld	3570	October
David Bain	NZ Herald	Upheld	3571	October
Sapna Samant	RNZ	No Grounds	3562	October
Geoff Parker	NZ Herald	No Grounds	3563	October
Geoff Parker	Northern Advocate	No Grounds	3563	October
John McLean	NZ Herald	Not Upheld	3597	December
Destiny Selby	NZ Herald	No Grounds	3573	December
Geoff Neal	RNZ	No Grounds	3583	December
Leo Li	RNZ	No grounds	3574	December
Simon Tegg	RNZ	No grounds	3576	December
Geoff Neal	RNZ	No grounds	3581	December
Rachel Larsen	Stuff	No grounds	3577	December
NZ Film Commission	NZ Herald	Upheld	3700	December
Heather Morris	Greymouth Star	No Grounds	3572	December
Deborah Barton	Marlborough Express	No Grounds	3580	December
Chris Lusk	RNZ	No Grounds	3575	December
Tracy-Moana Campbell	NZ Herald	Upheld with dissent	3595	December
Joanne Holdaway	Nelson Mail	No grounds	3578	December
Jan Rivers	The Press	Not Upheld	3594	December
Dharmesh Parikh	RNZ	Not Upheld	3698	December
Thomas Nash	Newstalk ZB	Upheld	3699	December
NZ Jewish Council	The Spinoff	Upheld	3593	December
Stephen Merriman	Stuff	No Grounds	3579	December
Kerry McDonald	The Press	No Grounds	3582	December
Ian Wishart	RNZ	Not Upheld	3596	December
Sunkita Howard	Westport News	Upheld	3592	December
Eden Licht	Stuff	No Grounds	3584	December
Jose Aquino	NZ Herald	No Grounds	3586	December
Christopher Schwartz	Stuff	No Grounds	3587	December
Alistair Goodwin	Stuff	No Grounds	3585	December
Katherine Kahui	Westport News	Upheld	3592	December



# Financial Statements

The New Zealand Media Association Incorporated  
For the year ended 31 December 2024

Prepared by The Tax Lady Wellington Limited

# Compilation Report

## The New Zealand Media Association Incorporated For the year ended 31 December 2024

### Scope

On the basis of information provided and in accordance with Service Engagement Standard 2 Compilation of Financial Information, we have compiled the financial statements of The New Zealand Media Association Incorporated for the year ended 31 December 2024.

These statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies described in the Notes to these financial statements.

### Responsibilities

You are solely responsible for the information contained in the financial statements and have determined that the Special Purpose Reporting Framework used is appropriate to meet your needs and for the purpose that the financial statements were prepared.

The financial statements were prepared exclusively for your benefit. We do not accept responsibility to any other person for the contents of the financial statements.

### Audit or Review Engagement

Our procedures use accounting expertise to undertake the compilation of the financial statements from information you provided. Our procedures do not include verification or validation procedures. These accounts have been subject to a financial review by Cornish and Associates Limited.

### Disclaimer

We have compiled these financial statements based on information provided which has not been subject to an audit or review engagement. Accordingly, we do not accept any responsibility for the reliability, accuracy or completeness of the compiled financial information contained in the financial statements. Nor do we accept any liability of any kind whatsoever, including liability by reason of negligence, to any person for losses incurred as a result of placing reliance on these financial statements.

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The Tax Lady Wellington Limited

Dated: 7 March 2025.

15 April 2025

**The New Zealand Media Association Incorporated**

C/- Katrina Reinsfield  
Ground Floor  
79 Boulcott Street  
Wellington 6011

Dear Katrina

Thank you for your instruction regarding the review of The New Zealand Media Association Incorporated's accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024.

We find the accounts as presented in order and therefore attached our unqualified opinion.

Thank you for your business.

Yours faithfully

**CORNISH ACCOUNTING LTD**



Lawrie W. Cornish  
Encl – our invoice

+64 4 939 1110  
[admin@cornish.co.nz](mailto:admin@cornish.co.nz)

PO Box 15-159  
Miramar  
Wellington 6243  
New Zealand

# Directory

## The New Zealand Media Association Incorporated For the year ended 31 December 2024

### **Nature of Business**

The New Zealand Media Association Incorporated is a Non Governmental Organisation which exists to uphold standards in the New Zealand media and lobbies on Freedom of Expression and Freedom of the Media issues.

### **Registered Address**

79 Boulcott Street,  
Wellington 6143

### **IRD Number**

013969663

### **Bankers**

BNZ Bank

### **NZ Media Association Chair**

Brook Cameron

### **NZ Media Council Chair**

Hon Raynor Asher KC

### **Complaints Director**

Katrina Reinsfield

### **Accountant**

The Tax Lady Wellington Limited

### **Financial Reviewer**

Cornish and Associates Ltd

# Approval of Financial Report

## The New Zealand Media Association Incorporated For the year ended 31 December 2024

The Directors are pleased to present the approved financial report including the historical financial statements of The New Zealand Media Association Incorporated or year ended 31 December 2024.

APPROVED

For and on behalf of the Board.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Kanu', is written over a horizontal line.

Chair

Date 26/06/2025 .....

# Profit and Loss

## The New Zealand Media Association Incorporated For the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024	2023
<b>Trading Income</b>		
Associate Membership	104,174	91,198
Community Newspapers	9,851	9,851
Magazines Contribution	8,920	8,920
NPA Contribution	200,000	221,700
Union	4,350	4,350
<b>Total Trading Income</b>	<b>327,295</b>	<b>336,019</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>327,295</b>	<b>336,019</b>
<b>Other Income</b>		
Interest Income	2,729	1,468
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>2,729</b>	<b>1,468</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Accident Compensation Levy	154	414
Accounting & Xero Fees	4,500	4,500
Audit Fees	2,643	1,400
Bank Fees	20	25
Chairmans' Expenses	3,639	1,539
Chairmans Honorarium	65,000	65,000
Cleaning	657	657
Computer Expenses	5,521	6,132
Contractors	15,470	7,178
<b>Council Expenses</b>		
Council Fees	36,900	32,417
Council Meeting Expenses	1,520	1,713
Travel - Council	6,091	6,704
<b>Total Council Expenses</b>	<b>44,511</b>	<b>40,834</b>
General Expenses	1,529	1,538
Insurance	5,423	6,514
Legal expenses	1,590	-
Postage & Courier	257	275
Power & Telephone	1,588	1,803
Printing & Stationery	1,186	71
Rent & OPEX	11,108	10,770
<b>Staff Remuneration</b>		
Salaries	144,645	126,807
KiwiSaver Employer Contributions	3,889	3,885

Profit and Loss

	2024	2023
Annual Leave Owing	(3,397)	(871)
<b>Total Staff Remuneration</b>	<b>145,137</b>	<b>129,821</b>
Travel and Accommodation	2,616	1,620
Website & Database Expenses	13,008	14,315
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>325,557</b>	<b>294,405</b>
<b>Net Profit (Loss) Before Taxation</b>	<b>4,467</b>	<b>43,082</b>
<b>Taxation and Adjustments</b>		
Depreciation	1,070	1,874
IRD Penalties & Interest	-	95
Income Tax Provision	484	131
<b>Total Taxation and Adjustments</b>	<b>1,554</b>	<b>2,101</b>
<b>Net Profit (Loss) for the Year</b>	<b>2,912</b>	<b>40,982</b>

# Balance Sheet

## The New Zealand Media Association Incorporated As at 31 December 2024

31 DEC 2024

31 DEC 2023

### Assets

#### Current Assets

##### Cash and Bank

Business First Oncall Account	68,600	66,212
Non Profit Org Account	5,625	13,666
<b>Total Cash and Bank</b>	<b>74,226</b>	<b>79,877</b>

Trade and Other Receivables

3,206 4,495

##### Total Current Assets

**77,432 84,373**

#### Non-Current Assets

Property, Plant and Equipment

3,104 4,174

##### Total Non-Current Assets

**3,104 4,174**

#### Total Assets

**80,536 88,547**

### Liabilities

#### Current Liabilities

Year End Accruals	2,710	6,036
PAYE Payable	8,456	8,697
Accounts Payable	2,406	9,824
GST Payable	13,032	14,274
Income Tax Payable	484	131
Employee Entitlements	3,328	2,377
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>30,416</b>	<b>41,339</b>

#### Total Liabilities

**30,416 41,339**

### Net Assets

**50,120 47,208**

### Equity

Retained Earnings	50,120	47,208
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>50,120</b>	<b>47,208</b>



# Depreciation Schedule

The New Zealand Media Association Incorporated  
For the year ended 31 December 2024

NAME	COST	OPENING VALUE	PURCHASES	DISPOSALS	DEPRECIATION	CLOSING VALUE	PRIVATE USE AMOUNT
<b>Furniture &amp; Fittings</b>							
Boardroom Furniture (share of)	2,482	503	-	-	80	422	-
Crestline Desk	1,598	446	-	-	58	388	-
Dexion Storage Unit	4,455	1,697	-	-	170	1,528	-
Side Chairs x 2	878	5	-	-	1	4	-
<b>Total Furniture &amp; Fittings</b>	<b>9,413</b>	<b>2,652</b>	-	-	<b>309</b>	<b>2,343</b>	-
<b>Office Equipment</b>							
HP Elitebook 1040 G4 I5 cpu 8GB memory 256GB SSD, Dock, Monitor, Wireless Keyboard & Mouse	4,047	95	-	-	47	47	-
HP Elitebook, 2 Monitors and Targus Docking Station	5,010	1,357	-	-	678	678	-
Website	7,335	27	-	-	14	14	-
Website	14,670	43	-	-	21	21	-
<b>Total Office Equipment</b>	<b>31,062</b>	<b>1,522</b>	-	-	<b>761</b>	<b>761</b>	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>40,475</b>	<b>4,174</b>	-	-	<b>1,070</b>	<b>3,104</b>	-

# Notes to the Financial Statements

## The New Zealand Media Association Incorporated For the year ended 31 December 2024

### 1. Reporting Entity

The New Zealand Media Association Incorporated is incorporated under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908, and is a Non Governmental Organisation which exists to uphold standards in the New Zealand media and lobbies on Freedom of Expression and Freedom of the Media issues.

### Basis of Preparation

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Special Purpose Framework for use by For-Profit Entities (SPFR for FPEs) published by Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand.

The financial statements have been prepared for taxation purposes

### Historical Cost

These financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis. The financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars (NZ\$) and all values are rounded to the nearest NZ\$, except when otherwise indicated.

### Changes in Accounting Policies

There have been no changes in accounting policies. Policies have been applied on a consistent basis with those of the previous reporting period.

### Depreciation

Account	Method	Rate
Furniture & Fittings	Diminishing Value (100%)	10% - 18%
Office Equipment	Diminishing Value (100%)	50%

### Income Tax

The Income Tax liability is limited to Interest Revenue only, less a \$1,000 exemption granted by Inland Revenue. The liability is charged to the Profit and Loss statement in accordance with the income tax return to Inland Revenue.

### Goods and Services Tax

All amounts are stated exclusive of goods and services tax (GST) except for accounts payable and accounts receivable which are stated inclusive of GST.

	2024	2023
<b>2. Equity</b>		
Current year earnings	2,912	40,982

Retained earnings/Accumulated funds	47,208	6,227
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>50,120</b>	<b>47,208</b>
	2024	2023

### 3. Property, Plant and Equipment

<b>Plant and Equipment</b>		
Plant and machinery owned	31,062	31,062
Accumulated depreciation - plant and machinery owned	(30,301)	(29,540)
<b>Total Plant and Equipment</b>	<b>761</b>	<b>1,522</b>
<b>Furniture and Fittings</b>		
Furniture and fittings owned	9,413	9,413
Accumulated depreciation - furniture and fittings owned	(7,070)	(6,761)
<b>Total Furniture and Fittings</b>	<b>2,343</b>	<b>2,652</b>
<b>Total Property, Plant and Equipment</b>	<b>3,104</b>	<b>4,174</b>



NEW ZEALAND MEDIA ASSOCIATION INC.

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