

I wanted to make contact with you personally as there are a few changes within the Glenn Inquiry I wanted you to hear from me personally.

Ruth Herbert has resigned as Director of the Inquiry and at the end of this email is a brief message from Ruth. I would like to thank Ruth for the work she has done to date, she has provided us with a solid platform for developing a Blueprint.

This Inquiry is one of the most important priorities in my life, and one of the most important things I have ever done. I believe in it immensely and I am determined that we will make a difference with child abuse and domestic violence in New Zealand as a result.

I want to reassure you that I continue to be as passionate and as committed as ever to this Inquiry. I am confident we will succeed in producing a world-class Blueprint and engaging the hearts and minds of New Zealanders to ensure Government is committed to it. As a front line worker your involvement in this process is valued and incredibly important. I give you my word that any submission that you have provided or will provide the Inquiry will be absolutely kept confidential and used only as initially outlined to you.

Following on from the great work Ruth has done, I am thrilled to announce we have appointed Kirsten Rei who will be the new CEO of the Glenn Inquiry. Kirsten was previously the Interim Regional Children's Director for Rotorua responsible for implementing the rollout of Children's Teams, as a part of the Children's Action Plan associated with the White Paper for Vulnerable Children.

We were contacted by the New Zealand Herald today and anticipate something will appear in the paper tomorrow (Friday). A press release has been prepared and is below for your reference. This outlines in more depth Kirsten's skills and expertise.

In addition to Kirsten, an independent board has been appointed to oversee the Inquiry from a governance perspective. This will be QC Bill Wilson (Chair), Geoff Harley, Tony Holt, Donna Grant and recently announced independent chair Greg Fortuin.

I am currently overseas at the moment but Bill Wilson will meet with staff of the Inquiry based in Auckland tomorrow (Friday) morning at 9am. Kirsten will meet staff on her first day on Tuesday, following Queens Birthday Weekend and make contact with the staff based out of Auckland on Wednesday. As a priority, Kirsten will also make contact with you once she begins next week.

I am normally reluctant to provide my personal email address, but I wanted to show you in good faith that I am committed to this Inquiry and that I respect what you have done for this Inquiry immensely. If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sir Owen Glenn  
[sirowen@owenglenn.com](mailto:sirowen@owenglenn.com)

Message from Ruth:

"We remain committed to the cause and appreciate the contributions so many have made to the Inquiry already."

## **Media Release: New CEO for Glenn Inquiry**

**DATE** - Sir Owen Glenn has secured Kirsten Rei as the new CEO of the Glenn Inquiry, Rei was previously the Interim Regional Children's Director for Rotorua responsible for implementing the rollout of Children's Teams, as a part of the Children's Action Plan associated with the White Paper for Vulnerable Children. Rei will replace Ruth Herbert, previous director of the Inquiry who has resigned.

"We remain committed to the cause and appreciate the contributions so many have made to the Inquiry already."

Rei, a lawyer by qualification, has spent the past five years working for the Government in senior roles across the tertiary education, employment and social development sectors. Prior to that Rei spent almost a decade leading health, education and social support services at Tipu Ora Charitable Trust in Rotorua. Sir Owen says Rei comes highly recommended and respected.

"Following on from the great work Ruth has done, Kirsten will bring strong strategic skills, significant relationships and grassroots experience, her appointment is a significant boost to the Inquiry. I am delighted Kirsten has accepted the position."

Rei says the opportunity was too good to pass up.

"There are few opportunities to make a significant difference such as the one Sir Owen's Inquiry provides. As a completely independent inquiry, based on the voices of New Zealanders, I'm inspired by the approach and Sir Owen's vision to lead the world in reversing the appalling rates of child abuse and domestic violence we suffer from. It is a privilege to be part of this."

Rei will report to a newly appointed governance board which includes Sir Owen, QC Bill Wilson, Geoff Harley, Tony Holt, Donna Grant and recently announced independent chair, Greg Fortuin. Rei will begin her role 4 June.

[www.glenninquiry.org.nz](http://www.glenninquiry.org.nz)

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