

# Technical Director Assurance

## External Reporting Board

### / THE ORGANISATION:

The External Reporting Board (“XRB”) is an independent Crown Entity and is responsible for the development and issuing of accounting, auditing, and assurance standards in New Zealand. Its standards give New Zealanders trust and confidence in the financial reporting of corporate business, government agencies and charities. Ultimately the XRB’s mission is to create a world-class standards framework that contributes to New Zealand’s excellent reputation and commercial integrity.

### / ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

[Assurance Standards](#)

[XRB – Strategy](#)

[XRB – Board](#)

[XRB – Organisational Structure](#)

[XRB – Governance](#)

### / ADVERT:

#### **The organisation:**

The External Reporting Board (“XRB”) is a Crown entity and is responsible for the development and issuing of accounting, auditing, and assurance standards in New Zealand. Ultimately the XRB’s purpose is to ensure New Zealand prospers through effective decision making informed by high-quality, credible and integrated reporting.

#### **The role:**

Working closely with the Director – Assurance this newly created position will play a key role in maintaining the completeness of the XRB’s Assurance Standards, including assurance over non-financial information. Leading the activities of the Assurance Team, you will be tasked with providing thought leadership and oversight over technical standard-setting.

#### **Key accountabilities include:**

- Maintaining the high-quality and completeness of the XRB’s Assurance Standards;

- Monitoring and managing the delivery of standard-setting projects as conducted by the Assurance Team staff;
- Promoting assurance through constituent engagement activities and providing thought leadership;
- Supporting opportunities to influence the development of international assurance and ethical standards.

**Your experience:**

- Demonstrated senior leader with outstanding skills in stakeholder management.
- Knowledge and experience of current auditing and assurance theory and practice in New Zealand.
- A focus on future assurance developments to ensure the standards and frameworks remain relevant and continue to meet user needs.
- Highly capable leadership qualities across developing and leading high performing and highly motivated teams, coaching and mentoring and programme management.
- Strong communication skills, written and verbal including the ability to consistently present a confident, credible and positive image of the organisation to all stakeholders.
- Display independent thinking and offer thought leadership.
- An understanding of the planning and reporting requirements within public sector.

This is an excellent opportunity to influence at a senior level not only financial assurance standards, be an instrumental thought leader in emerging sustainability assurance standards which will impact Aotearoa for future generations to come. While ideally the role would be based in Wellington, Auckland and Christchurch would also be considered.

Please apply directly via:

- [/INSIDE](#)
- [Seek](#)

**/ SALARY DETAILS:**

Base Salary - \$180,000

To discuss this opportunity in confidence, please contact:

**Richard Gray-Smith**

Associate Director

D: 09 200 2028

E: [richard.gray-smith@inside.co.nz](mailto:richard.gray-smith@inside.co.nz)

/ RECRUITMENT TIMELINE:

Recruitment Process	Timeframe (week commencing)
Assignment confirmation	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> November
Role advertising	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> November – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December
Candidate identification	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> November – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December
Longlist Report provided	Week commencing 19 <sup>th</sup> December
XRB First Interviews	Week commencing 9 <sup>th</sup> January
Offer process	Mid – late January
Approximate start	Approximately four weeks from offer acceptance

/ POSITION DESCRIPTION:

**Position:** Technical Director — Assurance Standards (full-time permanent)

**Reports to:** Director — Assurance Standards

**Reports:** Up to 6 staff (indirect)

**Location:** Wellington (preferred)

**Organisation:**

The External Reporting Board (XRB) is an independent Crown entity with responsibility for developing standards and guidance for financial and non-financial reporting by a very broad range of New Zealand entities.

The XRB's outcome goal of high-quality integrated reporting will be addressed in the following ways:

- Developing and implementing an overall strategy for reporting standards and auditing and assurance standards
- Preparing and issuing financial reporting standards.
- Preparing and issuing auditing and assurance standards.
- Preparing and issuing professional and ethical standards that will govern the professional conduct of assurance practitioners.
- Preparing and issuing climate related disclosure standards.
- Preparing and issuing integrated reporting standards across natural, human, social, and financial capitals; and
- Liaising with national and international organisations that exercise functions that correspond with those of the XRB.

**Position Purpose:**

Working with the Director – assurance, the Technical Director will have responsibility for maintaining the completeness of the XRB's Assurance Standards, including assurance over non-financial information. This will involve providing leadership and oversight over the technical standard-setting activities of the Assurance Team and engaging with a broad range of assurance practitioners.

The Technical Director may also be asked to lead the development of specific Assurance Standards as assigned by the Director.

The role will involve working together with the Director to ensure the activities of the Assurance Team support the achievement of the XRB broader strategic objectives.

Key aspects of the role will involve:

- Maintaining the high-quality and completeness of the XRB's Assurance Standards;
- Monitoring and managing the delivery of standard-setting projects as conducted by the Assurance Team staff;
- Promoting assurance through constituent engagement activities and providing thought leadership; and

- Supporting opportunities to influence the development of international assurance and ethical standards.

From time-to-time the Technical Director may be asked to lead the delivery of specific high-priority projects acting as the Project Manager on the project – this would involve completing research, technical analysis, constituency engagement, standard finalisation and quality control processes.

The Technical Director role will also involve deputising for the Director as required.

### **Specific Areas of Responsibility:**

The specific responsibilities of the Technical Director are as follows:

#### Development of Assurance Standards, including assurance over non-financial information

- Lead responsibility for maintaining the high-quality, completeness, and integrity of the assurance standards issued by the XRB. This will primarily involve managing the standard-setting process for the issuance of new standards and maintaining existing standards.
- Managing the work of the Assurance Team. This will involve managing the work as conducted by staff of the Assurance Team. Project work may involve:
  - Researching technical issues;
  - Preparation of technical issue papers for consideration by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (NZAuASB);
  - Development of assurance standard documents including consultation papers, exposure drafts, and standards as required by the Board;
  - Liaising with the AUASB and APESB over convergence issues;
  - Developing non-authoritative guidance material to promote consistent application of assurance standards;
  - Overseeing the promulgation of finalised assurance standards; and
  - Such other activities as are necessary for the development and finalisation of the projects' outputs.
- Assisting the Director to support the Chair of the NZAuASB in their role in providing leadership of the Board; and as a member of the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (AUASB).

#### Staff management

In relation to the development of Assurance Standards:

- In conjunction with the Director, leading the work of Assurance Team staff in relation to assurance standards projects, submissions or research assigned to them including policy development, constituency engagement, standard finalisation, and quality control aspects of that work;

- Promoting a high-performance culture across the Assurance Team through provision of proactive leadership and direction, motivation, effective performance management, recruitment, communication and coaching of staff;
- Providing technical leadership to staff and monitoring outputs in accordance with planned actions and the XRB strategic objectives; and

#### Influencing the International Boards

In relation to the development of Independence Standards:

- Managing the preparation of submissions to international standard setting bodies on exposure drafts issued by them and/or matters of importance to New Zealand;
- Liaising with international standard setting bodies in areas of importance to New Zealand; and
- Participating in relevant international fora and groupings including those involving national standard-setters as applicable.

#### Constituent engagement

In relation to the development of Assurance Standards:

- Managing constituency consultation processes, including key stakeholder engagement;
- Liaising with relevant groups within the New Zealand constituency including making presentations and otherwise communicating the XRB's position on issues as appropriate; and
- Working with the XRB Communications and Engagement Team to manage communication strategies to promote constituent feedback on assurance standards projects.

#### Thought leadership

In relation to the development of Assurance Standards:

- Promoting research and thought leadership on assurance

### **Person Specification:**

#### Qualifications

- Relevant tertiary qualification.
- Chartered Accountant, CPA or equivalent.

#### Experience

- Knowledge and experience of current auditing and assurance theory and practice in New Zealand.
- Relevant staff management experience.
- Relevant project management experience.
- Practical standard setting experience is desirable.

### Attributes

- An understanding of, and commitment to, the role of auditing and assurance standards.
- A focus on future assurance developments to ensure the standards and frameworks remain relevant and continue to meet user needs.
- A focus in promoting external reporting that will enable the highest quality decision making for resource allocation for the benefit of Aotearoa New Zealand and New Zealanders.
- Strong organisational and project management skills including an ability to meet timelines.
- Results-oriented with a commitment to the highest standards of organisational performance.
- Excellent written, oral and presentation communication skills including the ability to consistently present a confident, credible and positive image of the organisation to all stakeholders.
- Strong relationship management skills including an ability to build trust across all sectors of the financial reporting community.
- Strong staff management and leadership skills including the ability to grow and maintain a high performing team.
- A commitment to the ethos and values of the public sector, including individual ethical behaviour, value for money in the use of resources, and being an equal opportunity employer.

December 2022