

Kia ora koutou Council Members,

I hope this message finds you well.

As we prepare for our upcoming Council meeting, I wanted to provide an update on key matters related to governance, membership, and our upcoming AGM.

As you are aware, APANZ is required to re-register under the *Incorporated Societies Act 2022* by 5th April, 2026. A core part of this process is updating our Constitution to ensure it aligns with the new legislative requirements. To move this forward, we're planning to hold a Special General Meeting on **Monday, 13th October, 2025**, where we will seek member approval for the necessary constitutional amendments.

Some of the proposed changes include requiring explicit consent from members to join the Society. While our application process already covers this, we may wish to add a tick box to confirm members understand and accept the rules of the Association. We also need to activate our **Conflict of Interest Register**, which was created but is not currently in use. While we have been noting conflicts during meetings, these have been transferred into a central register. Council will need to agree on who manages the register, what needs to be captured, and how this is reflected in the Constitution.

In addition, a **dispute resolution process** is now a legal requirement. A committee has been developing a process draft, and Council input is needed regarding its final wording and where it should be placed in the Constitution. A full draft of the constitutional changes will be shared for review ahead of the SGM notice.

Looking ahead to the **AGM on 25th June, 2025**, we will hold an election for **one Ordinary Council Member, the Honorary Secretary, and the Honorary Treasurer**. Council will also elect the **President-Elect** and **Chair of the Advisory Committee on Professional Standards (ACP)**. Members were notified of the AGM on **6th of May, 2025**, and we will circulate a draft agenda soon.

Please feel free to reach out with any thoughts or questions before the meeting. Thank you all for your ongoing support and contributions to the work of APANZ.

Nga mihi nui

Vijay Mahantesh

Honorary Secretary

Association of Psychotherapists Aotearoa New Zealand