



Environment Judge LJ Newhook
Principal Environment Judge

THREE NEW ENVIRONMENT COMMISSIONER APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED

The Attorney-General Hon David Parker today advised that Her Excellency the Governor General has signed warrants for the appointment of three new Environment Commissioners to the Environment Court.

They are James Baines, Mark Mabin and Andrew Gysberts. They have each been appointed for a term of five years, as is usual.

James Baines originally qualified with an Honours degree in chemical engineering, before building considerable expertise in natural resource management and policy, with skills in social assessment. As a founding director of Taylor Baines and Associates in Christchurch in more recent years, he has brought over 20 years of applied social research and social assessment practice to proposals for solid waste management, waste water treatment and disposal, gambling and casinos, harbour developments, marine farming and water-based recreation, prisons and shopping developments, school networks, energy infrastructure developments, and urban structure planning.

Mark Mabin holds a PhD in physical geography from the University of Canterbury, among other degrees, and since 2002 has been practising in Christchurch as an environmental consultant and RMA practitioner, advising clients throughout New Zealand, and in Australia. He has particular expertise in natural sciences covering the hydrological and earth sciences applied in RMA contexts, stakeholder engagement, mediation, and presenting expert evidence. He has had particular professional experience in coastal and river processes, hydrology, geomorphology, natural hazards, treated waste discharges etc.

Andrew Gysberts is a very experienced planning consultant and former senior planner at Auckland Council and its predecessors. He is specialised in planning for major projects, particularly infrastructure, for instance having led the Auckland Council regulatory team

throughout the planning and construction phases of the Waterview motorway project. He is very skilled in district and regional plan development, resource consents, environmental planning, strategic planning and policy, public consultation, and collaboration with other environmental professionals.

Laurie Newhook
Principal Environment Judge
18 April 2019