

NZSL Board scoping project: administrative support for SLIANZ, NZSLTA, & NZSLPI

I am currently doing a scoping project for the NZSL Board through their secretariat at ODI. The project is looking at options for the NZSL Board to support the NZSL user provider sector to maintain and lift standards. The scope includes registration for NZSLTA, and options for the administration of SLIANZ and NZSLTA membership bases. This work could include looking at administering professional development points requirements.

As well, this work is looking at where the adult NZSL assessment tool (NZSLPI) could be administered and coordinated from. The Board is interested in understanding how this work can be better supported, as the reliance on volunteers makes the work of these important organisations that much harder.

The outcome sought is that users of NZSL services have confidence in the quality of services they receive and that front-line providers are supported to build, maintain and be recognised for their skills.

One idea is that some of the administrative work is hosted by one entity. This idea has been considered by the NZSL Board for some time. The purpose being economies of scale and pooling of expertise, as well as offering a more supported service provision for the work.

To make funding decisions about this, the NZSL Board needs to understand the level of support for the idea from those affected, and the time and costs of the combined work. This is what my work is focussed on.

My report to the NZSL Board is due by mid-October, in time for their Board meeting. If SLIANZ can start talking about this as soon as they are able that would be helpful. This will allow time to work through any questions, suggestions and issues.

My work until then involves talking to NZSLTA and SLIANZ (amongst others) to gauge interest and support for the idea. If there is interest and support, I will collect information such as: What total time would be involved for the administrative/ coordination work? What resources would it need? What skills and attributes would the person/ people need? It also involves talking to suggested bodies that could possibly host this work/ service. It also makes sense to have NZSLTA and SLIANZ talk about how this could work for them.