



# Awards of Excellence 2026



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

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[Nominations open 18th February 2025 and  
close 3rd March 2025](#)



# NEW ZEALAND RISK & RESILIENCE SUMMIT 2026 GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

Find out more at [www.risknz.org.nz/conference](http://www.risknz.org.nz/conference)





RiskNZ is the leading non-profit association for risk professionals in New Zealand.

The Society brings together people and organisations managing risk under the guiding vision that New Zealand prospers when risk is well managed. Our focus is to organise regular opportunities for members to meet and experience a wide variety of professional development and networking opportunities.

The society supports special interests groups, encourages research, informs public thinking, influences government, and conducts other activities to achieve risk management best practice in the private and public sectors.

Find out more about joining RiskNZ at [www.risknz.org.nz/join-us](http://www.risknz.org.nz/join-us)

A promotional flyer for RiskNZ with a light blue background. At the top left is the RiskNZ logo and the text "Individual, Corporate and Student membership". Below this is the heading "Join Us!" followed by a paragraph: "RiskNZ assists members to develop skills and capability in Risk Management, network with others, and stay ahead of current issues." To the right of this text is a circular inset image showing a group of people at a conference, with one woman in the foreground holding a black tote bag that says "Redefining Risk". Below the "Join Us!" section, there are two bulleted lists. The first list is titled "Subscribe to our bi-weekly mailer featuring:" and includes: "Risk Events Calendar", "New training opportunities", "Shared articles from members", and "Job vacancies". The second list is titled "RiskNZ Membership benefits include:" and includes: "Access exclusive risk resources, tools and templates.", "Develop risk skills through our suite of risk training and development opportunities.", "Discounted access to lunchtime seminars, networking sessions and workshops.", "Explore mentoring opportunities", "Join other risk practitioners at our annual RiskNZ conference.", "Celebrate the success of your teams with our RiskNZ Awards of Excellence.", "Connect with local risk practitioners through our regional engagement offerings.", and "Find other risk practitioners through our Members directory." At the bottom right of the flyer, the website "www.risknz.org.nz" and the LinkedIn profile "linkedin.com/company/risknz" are listed.



## RiskNZ Awards of Excellence 2026 Gala Dinner Sponsor Opportunities

A poster for the RiskNZ Awards of Excellence 2026 Gala Dinner. The background is a dark blue starry night sky. At the top is the RiskNZ logo, which consists of a stylized 'R' made of two overlapping blue and white shapes, followed by the text 'RiskNZ' in a white sans-serif font. Below the logo is a horizontal line. The main title 'Awards of Excellence 2026 Gala Dinner' is written in a large, white serif font. Below the title, the event details are written in a smaller white sans-serif font: 'Awards to be held on Wednesday 22nd July 2026, From 6.30pm at The Wellington Club, Wellington CBD'. A silver circular seal on the left side of the poster contains the text 'AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE 2026' around the perimeter and 'RiskNZ' in the center. To the right of the seal is a horizontal band containing the logos of the Premier Sponsors: Protecht (a blue stylized 'P' logo), LexisNexis Regulatory Compliance (a red circle logo), riskconnect (an orange and blue logo), and Diligent (a red square logo). In the bottom right corner, the ticket price is listed as 'Ticket Price \$170.00' with a small '1' above the price.

**RiskNZ**

**Awards of Excellence 2026  
Gala Dinner**

Awards to be held on Wednesday 22nd July  
2026, From 6.30pm at  
The Wellington Club, Wellington CBD

**RiskNZ**

**PROTECHT**

**LexisNexis**  
Regulatory Compliance

**riskconnect**

**Diligent**

<sup>1</sup>  
Ticket Price \$170.00

Inquiries are now being taken for sponsor opportunities for the RiskNZ Awards of Excellence 2026 Gala Dinner.

To discuss this further, please contact RiskNZ CEO, David Turner  
[david@risknz.org.nz](mailto:david@risknz.org.nz)

We acknowledge our overall Premier Sponsors of RiskNZ for 2026  
Protecht, Lexis Nexis, Camms, and Diligent



## About RiskNZ Awards of Excellence 2026

We are proud to announce that the 2026 Awards will open for nominations on Wednesday 18th February 2026.

This year the Awards will be held on the 22nd July at the Wellington Club, Wellington CBD starting at 6.30pm. The awards will be held separately from the Annual New Zealand Risk & Resilience Summit 2026. Tickets can be purchased for the event via our website and partners are welcome to attend.

RiskNZ Awards of Excellence consists of four award categories acknowledging those who are embedding risk management approaches within normal business practice and making it part of everyday thinking. Our most coveted awards are the 'Risk Professional of the Year' and 'Emerging Risk Professional of the Year', with these two award categories open to RiskNZ members only. Our two remaining categories are open to both RiskNZ members and non-members within New Zealand.



## RiskNZ Awards of Excellence 2026 Key Dates

# RISKNZ AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE TIMELINE 2026



## RiskNZ Awards of Excellence 2026 Categories and Criteria

### 1. Risk Professional of the Year

This category is open to RiskNZ members (an Individual Member or listed as part of an existing Corporate Membership). \*note this is an individual award.

Entrants should demonstrate their sustained risk leadership and their contribution in making a significant difference to their organisation, clients, or the wider risk management community/industry. Entrants will show mature practice in supporting teams to better manage risk and to achieve business goals. They will have the competence and mana to work with and influence at an executive or governance level.

The judges are looking for evidence of the individual's effective risk management leadership; strategic and operational thinking; excellent communication skills, the ability to demonstrate positive impacts, while also being respected by their peers.

Applicants should additionally submit a summary CV as supporting information, showcasing highlights from their risk management career.

## **2. Emerging Risk Professional of the Year**

This category is open to RiskNZ members (an Individual Member or listed as part of an existing Corporate Membership). \*note this is an individual award.

Entrants in this category should be relatively new to a career in organisational risk management and must have worked in a risk related role for less than five years.

The judges are looking for individuals that can demonstrate that they have contributed to the measurement, management and/or mitigation of risk within their organisation over the last 18 months. Judges will be seeking evidence of strong organisation; planning; negotiating and influencing, and communication skills which are all important attributes of an aspiring risk manager. Successful entrants will be able to provide evidence of one or more of these skills.

Applicants should additionally submit a summary CV as supporting information, illustrating progression within their risk management career.

## **3. Networking and Partnerships in Risk Management**

This category is open to RiskNZ members and non-members. Entrants in this category can be an individual, team or organisation.

The judges are looking for entrants that can demonstrate how collaboration across teams or organisations can effectively manage risk, strengthen strategic delivery and deliver results. This award will be shared across those teams or organisations and provides an excellent opportunity to demonstrate strategic advantage in partnerships.

## **4. “Innovation” – Managing risk during times of significant change**

This award is open to RiskNZ members and non-members. Entrants in this category can be an individual, team or organisation.

This award recognises and celebrates innovative practices or approaches. It's likely this innovation has translated into ongoing business practice for your organisation or your client, and is continuing to demonstrate value, adaptability and business stability. Whilst benefits may not be fully realised yet, the promise is there and you're excited to share what this could become for your organisation.



## Guide to entering the RiskNZ Awards of Excellence 2026

- RiskNZ awards are free to enter, although some categories are restricted to RiskNZ members only.
- Each submission should be 1,500 words or less and should meet the award criteria outlined. You can submit using the online form.
- We have weighted the criteria so you can see what we're looking for. Judges are looking for examples from your recent work.
- If you decide to enter into more than one award category, please submit a separate entry for each category but each one should be specifically tailored to the relevant Award category.
- We will be looking for evidence that your achievements are sustainable over time, support better decision making and have added real value to your organisation (i.e. your references should reflect this).
- You are welcome to include supporting materials. You can include supplementary information (up to four-pages) with your entry which can include photos, diagrams or charts. You will need to provide one written reference and one additional reference which we may contact for further information.
- Nominations open Wednesday 18th February 2026 and close on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2026.
- Judging will take place during April and May 2026.
- Finalists will be announced in the first week of July 2026 ahead of the RiskNZ Awards of Excellence presentation and Gala dinner on Wednesday 22nd July 2026, 6.30pm at The Wellington Club, Wellington CBD, NZ

## Terms and Conditions - RiskNZ Awards of Excellence 2026

1. Applicants should make sure they have the necessary authority from their organisation to enter the awards.
2. Applications should specifically reflect the criteria of the Award Category. Multiple applications using identical content will be withdrawn.
3. RiskNZ will ensure information contained within applications remains confidential to RiskNZ and the judging panel. However, applicants should ensure that they do not include information that might be considered confidential or sensitive by their company. We recommend that entrants protect any intangible assets (IP etc.) or aspects of their business that may be patentable.
4. Applications are limited to 1,500 words. Supplementary information (maximum four pages) of supporting material such as diagrams and illustrations may accompany the entry. Applications must be submitted online.
5. The judges may move applicants from one category to another if they believe that it is appropriate. We'll contact you if this is likely to happen.
6. RiskNZ may withdraw an award application should it be discovered that it includes false information. RiskNZ may audit information supplied in your entry.
7. The judges may highly commend awards in any category.
8. The judges may also choose not to issue a shortlist, or make an award if in their view, the applications submitted do not meet the required standard. Our judge's decisions are final. Interviews with shortlisted applicants may be required (by phone or video conferencing).
9. RiskNZ would like award winners to participate in post-awards publicity, including photographs. RiskNZ will publicise the results of our awards via mechanisms such as press releases, social media and case study coverage in RiskNZ's publications and online.
10. We'd love to celebrate with you, and encourage award winners or those shortlisted, to promote their achievements through their own press releases and social media.
11. By entering the RiskNZ Awards of Excellence, you agree to the above



## RiskNZ Awards of Excellence Gala Dinner Tickets



### RiskNZ AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE GALA DINNER on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2026

From 6.30pm

at the Wellington Club, Wellington CBD, New Zealand

Dress: To be advised

Table of 8 \$1200.00, Individual Ticket \$170.00

Order tickets from [adminofficer@risknz.org.nz](mailto:adminofficer@risknz.org.nz)

## Winners RiskNZ Awards of Excellence 2025



### **Risk Professional of the Year**

Winner: Rodney Young

### **Networking and Partnerships in Risk Management**

Winner: Vaibhav Bhatnagar

### **Emerging Risk Professional of the Year**

Winner: Elke Louw

### **“Innovation” – Managing Risk during times of significant change**

Winners: Jennie Vickers



## Winners RiskNZ Awards of Excellence 2024



Risk Professional of the Year  
Winner: Rodney Young

Networking and Partnerships in Risk Management  
Winners: Charlotte Brown and Helen Ferner

Emerging Risk Professional of the Year  
Winner: Tom Logan

“Innovation” – Managing Risk during times of significant change  
Winners: Charlotte Brown and Helen Ferner