



Cadastral Surveyors Licensing Board  
of New Zealand

# **CSLB Bulletin No 11**

**April 2025**

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Tena koutou katoa,

The Board has recently reached another milestone with the proposed new competency assessment framework for graduates seeking an initial licence with the establishment of the learning management system to support the framework and the release of the guideline for the Portfolio of Experience.

It is now time to reflect and bring you up to date with the main Board activities since our last Newsletter (October 2023). In this regard there has been a recent update about the Board in the summer 2024-2025 edition of the Surveying Spatial magazine - number 118.

## Board Membership



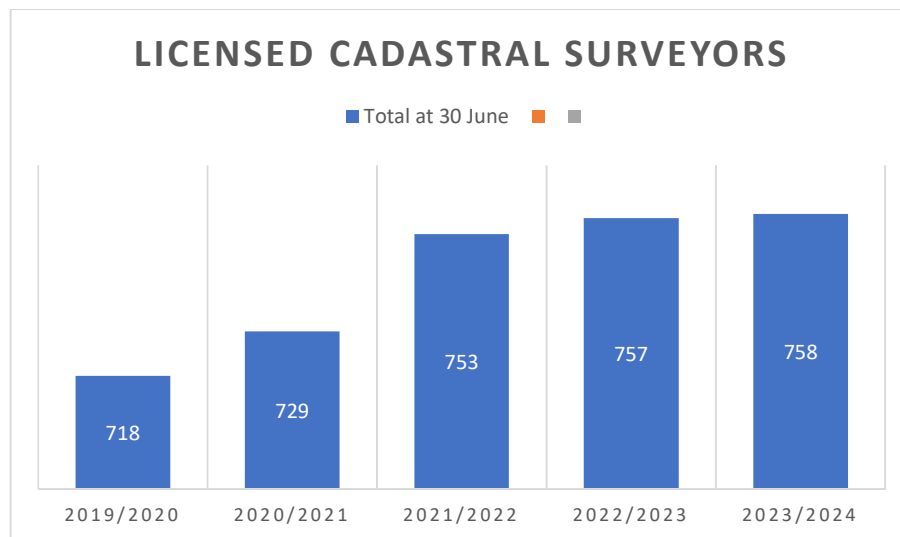
Back row (left to right) – Laura Becker Coll McLaughlin, Anselm Haanen (Surveyor-General), Craig McInnes, Pengbo Jiang (Lay member), Colin McElwain (Substitute member).

Front row (left to right) - Clare Tolan, Neale Faulkner (Chair), Phil Napper (Secretary)

## Board Statistics

The Board reports annually to the Minister for Land Information.

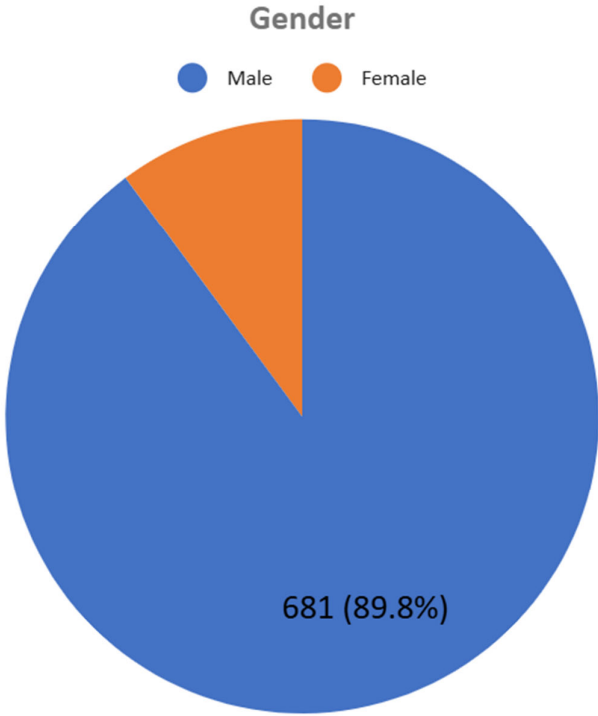
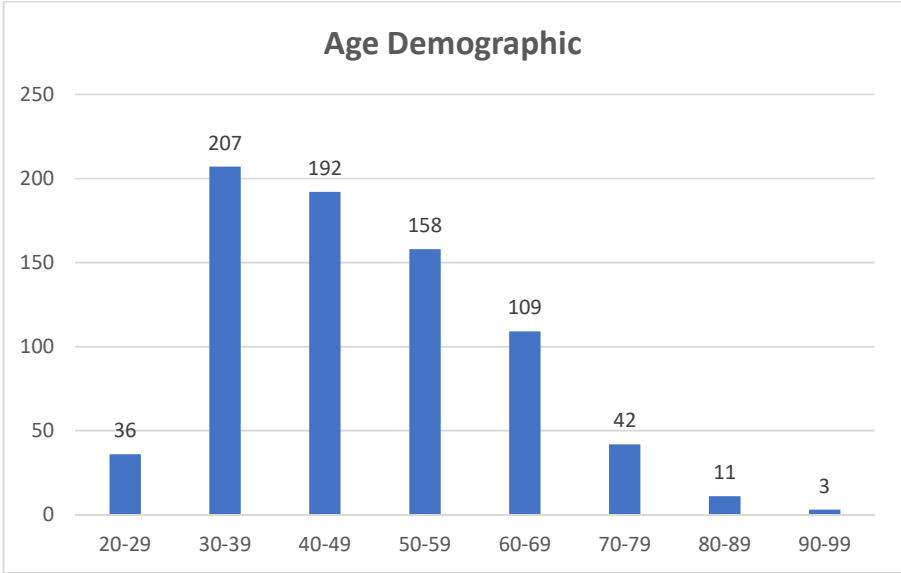
The following is some information about licensed surveyors that is included in the Annual Report to 30 June 2024.



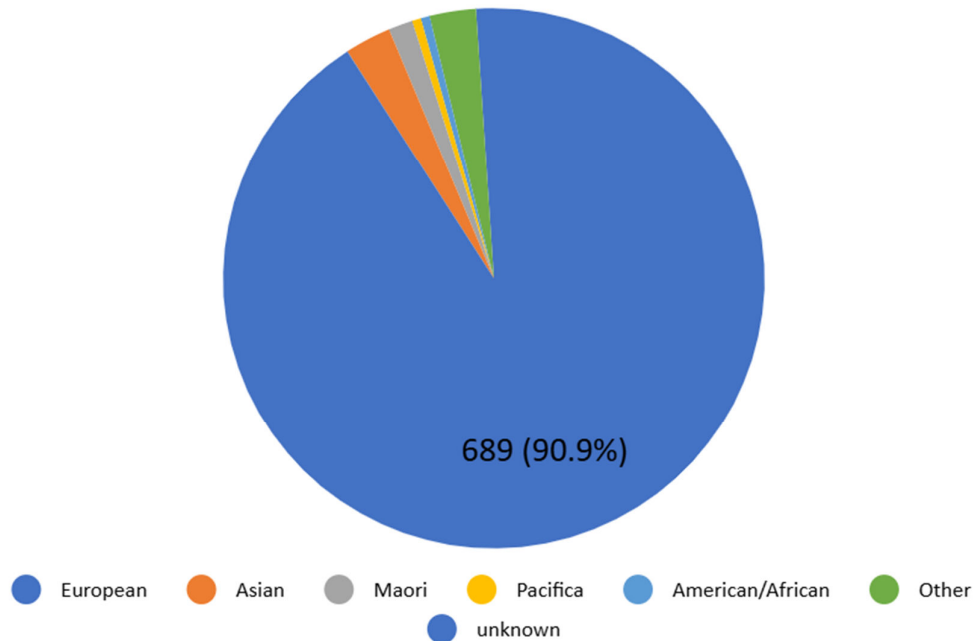
The overall number of licensed cadastral surveyors has been steadily increasing over recent years and at the end of June 2024 there were 758, one more than the previous year.

The number renewing their annual licenses at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024 for 2024-2025 was 726 compared with 723 previously.

Generally there are about 30 surveyors who do not renew their annual licence each year, usually because of retirement. There are also about 30 graduates who obtain their initial licenses throughout the year.



## Ethnicity



## Professional Examinations

The Board congratulates the following people who obtained their Certificates of Competency from S+S NZ, after successfully completing the professional examinations in 2024, together with their supervising licensed cadastral surveyors and associated support team who assisted them –

Mark O'Connor

Wei Xu

Nikolaus Konlechner

Gaopeng Zhao

Jingtao (Michael) Yan

Leonie Helu-Makasini

Callum Rio

Sergiu Chirila

Jonathan Hirst

Joseph Carey

Joshua Brinkmann

Alexander Chubb

Liam Rees

Steven Martinovich

Matthew Hurst	Nicholas Siemelink
Maxwell Rasmussen	Christopher Johnston
Harry Middleton	Kade Phillips
William Roberts	Dominic Scahill
Brady Kingan	Dirk Smit
Nicola Tock	Nikau Newman
Jaime Folkard	Eamon O'Brien
Jacob Hughes	Ashley Puliyodil
James Rittson-Thomas	Christopher Church
Jayson Tavui	Brodie Manson
Sam Pene	Daniel Kittow

The Certificate of Competency is issued to applicants who show sufficient competency for application to the Board for their initial licence.

The competencies for all licensed cadastral surveyors are listed under Schedule 1 of the Standards, available on the homepage at <https://www.cslb.org.nz/>

## **Licence Renewals**

Every year, the Board receives a significant number of licence renewal applications from licensed cadastral surveyors who do not qualify under the '3 CSD provision'. Virtually all of these surveyors seek renewal via the pathway provided by sub clause 14(3)(b) of the Standards for Licensing Cadastral Surveyors 2021. Applicants are required to certify that they have "maintained their knowledge, understanding and ability by means of private study, attendance at seminars, workshops, or other appropriate means in relation to the competencies." The competency areas are survey measurement, land tenure systems, boundary definition, land information systems, the resource management planning process, land development engineering principles, professional conduct and communication skills.

The Standards require that an applicant who certifies under sub clause 14(3)(b) must support their certification with “a description of the means by which they have maintained their knowledge, understanding and ability.” Many applicants are regularly engaging with some of the competency areas as part of their day-to-day work but must actively seek out additional training and experience to maintain their proficiency in the remaining competency areas.

Last year the Board trialled a template to support surveyors applying for licence renewal via sub clause 14(3)(b). We think this has been a qualified success.

However, unfortunately, a number of applications were declined because applicants provided fairly scant evidence and superficial or non-existent engagement with the competencies. A recurring theme was the reliance on historic work experience as evidence of competence. The Board considers it important that “evidence of competence” shows fresh and recent engagement with each and every competency area.

Many applicants provided good evidence of continuing professional development and a real commitment to meaningfully maintaining and improving their skills. It was great to see applicants taking the CPD opportunities provided by S+SNZ, ICS, and LINZ but also seeking out training elsewhere from unexpected but relevant sources. It is pleasing to see some workplaces offering robust and innovative in-house training being developed and shared across the country.

The Board continues to receive some late or incomplete evidential information which creates additional administration and involves considerable Board time. Also, missing or incorrect name and/or invoice number references are sometimes provided when payments are made. An additional fee was introduced last year to recover the Boards administration costs dealing with late or incomplete evidential information.

Importantly, annual licence renewal is dependent on the application and fee payment being received no later than 30<sup>th</sup> June. Otherwise, LINZ are advised that these surveyors are no longer licensed.

The annual licensing application fee will increase to \$400 incl GST, effective from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2025. This increase is necessary due to increasing costs associated with IT support, insurance, auditing and the administration of the new Competency Assessment Framework.

## **Competency Assessment Framework Review for Initial Licensing**

The final professional examinations under the current framework will be hosted by S+SNZ in April and October this year. The annual cadastral law exam will be held in June.

Graduates who are planning to attend the professional interviews this year should continue to prepare their projects in accordance with the S+SNZ format and Annual Circular.

The current framework and Annual Circular will cease to be used after October 2025. However, a pass in the Cadastral Law Exam will be credited in part to the Professional Challenge under the new framework.

The Board has recently provided further information on the development of the new competency framework beginning in 2026. This will be preceded by a pilot of about 5 graduate volunteers

commencing later this year. Further information, including anticipated timeframes, are included in 'Update to Surveyors March 2025' at <https://www.cslb.org.nz/news.html>  
Refer also to the Competency Assessment Guidelines on the same page.

A free webinar about the new framework is also being hosted by S+S NZ on 2<sup>nd</sup> April. To register go to [https://www.surveyspatialnz.org/Event?Action=View&Event\\_id=753](https://www.surveyspatialnz.org/Event?Action=View&Event_id=753)

## Notices of Significant Failures

The Board continues to receive significant failure notices from the Surveyor-General under s7(1)(d) Cadastral Survey Act 2002, which sometimes result in the requirement to correct the error under s52 of the Act.

Last year the Board received 3 notices to comply with the Rules for cadastral survey which is an encouraging improvement in numbers compared with previous years.

The Board reviews all the notices from the Surveyor-General in detail and usually asks the licensed cadastral surveyor for an explanation of how and why the errors occurred, and what action the surveyor has taken to prevent similar errors occurring again. Depending on the surveyor's response, the Board may take further action, which usually requires evidence of CSD quality assurance when applying for annual licence renewal.

## Contact Details

As always, it is vitally important that all licensed cadastral surveyors keep their contact details up to date. Member details can be updated following login at <https://www.cslb.org.nz/signin.php>  
Should there be a problem logging in follow the prompt or contact the Secretary.

Not only is it a legislative requirement to keep contact details up to date, but it ensures that every licensed cadastral surveyor receives the annual invitations for licence renewal which are sent out by email between April and June each year. All applications, as well as the fee, are required by 30 June each year to ensure licenses do not lapse.

The best way to contact the Board is by email to [secretary@cslb.org.nz](mailto:secretary@cslb.org.nz)

Enquiries about the new competency assessment framework should be sent to [examinations.coordinator@cslb.org.nz](mailto:examinations.coordinator@cslb.org.nz)

*NC Faulkner*

**Neale Faulkner**

Chair, Cadastral Surveyors Licensing Board