



James PALMER

James Palmer has been a trustee since 2005. In this time, average line-charge increases to HB residents have held below inflation at 2.9% per annum, network reliability has improved by more than 20% while dividends to the Trust have grown from \$3m to \$8m.

James is currently Strategy Director for the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. Prior to this he was an advisor,

including on energy policy, to ministers of Economic, Industry and Regional Development, and Consumer Affairs.

He has served as Chief of Staff to the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries, as Senior Private Secretary to the Deputy Prime Minister and advisor in the British Prime Minister's Strategy Unit.

He is a previous Chairperson of the Eastern and Central Community Trust and Director of local energy developer Esk Hydro Power.

Born and raised in Hawke's Bay, James is committed to a reliable, resilient and efficient consumer-owned electricity supply.