

## Local Democracy Reporting Editor

### Position Description

<b>Date</b>	August 2020
<b>Location / Business Unit</b>	Wellington / Auckland
<b>Reporting to</b>	Local Democracy Reporting Manager
<b>Functional Relationships</b>	RNZ News, LDR Host Newsroom Editors, Local Democracy Reporters, LDR Media Partners
<b>Position Type</b>	Editorial

### The Role

The purpose of this role is to provide editorial oversight and support for Local Democracy Reporting.

### LDR Content Objectives

1. A content service of the highest quality and journalistic standards;
2. The rebuild or increased coverage of local institutions;
3. Original and comprehensive news about publicly-elected local bodies and officials which engages audiences, builds and diversifies audience demographics, with special focus in some regions on issues of interest to Māori, Pasifika and youth;
4. LDRs act as the community's "eyes and ears", enhancing public accountability and providing greater transparency;
5. News gathering is timely, well planned, reaching the right platforms at the right times, relevant to audiences, appealing and authoritative.

### Position Accountabilities – what you're responsible for

- Mentoring, training and supporting the LDRs alongside local editors (particularly regarding video, photo and audio content and broadcast experience opportunities)
- Liaising with LDR Manager to identify strong original stories and work with media partners to ensure they make a splash at national level
- Standing in for LDR Manager as needed (which may include high-level strategy, financial oversight, stakeholder communications, recruitment, project monitoring and reporting, etc.)
- Spotting national themes/trends and liaising with local editors, LDRs and media partners to bring these stories to light – including by doing your own reporting, time permitting
- Working with local editors to identify and provide any extra editorial support they may need
- Making sure all copy is clean with appropriate headlines, photos, slugs, tags, notes, etc.

- Keeping across corrections so they're made promptly by all partners
- Subbing stories as needed

## Candidate Profile / Person Specification

<b>Qualifications</b>	Tertiary qualification in journalism or similar
<b>Knowledge &amp; Experience</b>	5+ years in journalism including some news desk experience (editor, news director, chief reporter or equivalent responsibilities)
<b>Skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comfortable with visual and audio storytelling as well as the written word</li> <li>• Able to meet the highest standards of accuracy, fairness, balance, impartiality</li> <li>• Good knowledge of media law and other pertinent legislation</li> <li>• Excellent news judgment</li> <li>• Strong research skills</li> <li>• Strong subbing skills</li> <li>• Proficiency with newsroom operating systems (iNews, ENPS and similar)</li> </ul>
<b>Competencies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding of the value of diversity including obligations under the Treaty of Waitangi / Te Tiriti o Waitangi</li> <li>• Excellent interpersonal skills including the ability to build strong and respectful relationships</li> <li>• Able to act quickly and decisively</li> <li>• Effective organiser</li> </ul>