

Julie Hardaker Bio

Julie is a lawyer, former Mayor of Hamilton and governance professional. She has a strong interest in women and leadership and has recently completed research on gender stereotypes and women leaders which will be published in early 2018.

She was the top graduating student in her law degree and holds LLB (Hons 1st class) / MMS (Hons 1st class). She has practiced law for many years in Hamilton and now with public law firm Chen Palmer where she heads the employment law team. Before practicing law Julie owned and operated her own businesses.

From 2010 – 2016, Julie served two terms as Mayor of Hamilton leading the council through major governance and financial restructuring following the V8s financial fallout and development major strategies to respond to the population growth of Hamilton.

Julie is experienced employment lawyer and experienced in local government public law.

She has been a finalist in the NZ Law Awards Employment Award.

She has held many business and community governance roles and is currently a board member of Women on Boards and a Fellow of GovernanceNZ. She is also a government appointed member of the two national grant committees.

Julie regularly presents on women in leadership, governance and local government structures and is also a media commentator on local government and current public interest topics. Julie is also part of the team at the Superdiversity Centre for Law, Policy and Business and undertakes cultural capability audits and training in cultural capability and subconscious bias.