3 - 5 September 2026 | Ōtautahi Christchurch

Conference Sponsorship Prospectus

GLOBAL CITIES NEW ZEALAND
Connecting people globally for peace and prosperity

Christchurch City Council

Welcome to Global Cities NZ Conference 2026

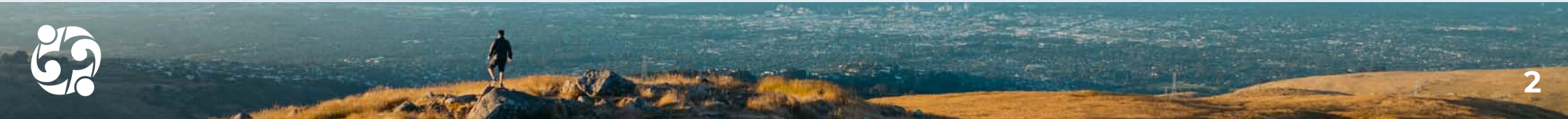
The Global Cities New Zealand National Conference is the country's premier forum for the sister city movement, bringing together civic leaders, local government decision makers, globally connected businesses, economic development agencies, and members of the diplomatic corps.

In 2026, the conference will be hosted in Ōtautahi Christchurch under the theme New Frontiers, marking a moment of evolution for New Zealand's international city to city relationships. While long standing partnerships with countries such as China, Japan, Korea, the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia remain vital, New Zealand cities are also looking outward to emerging regions, new economic opportunities, and innovative models of collaboration.

As a city renowned for its resilience, reinvention, and forward looking spirit, Christchurch provides a powerful and authentic setting for this theme. Its transformation following adversity has positioned the city as a global example of renewal and innovation, reinforcing the conference's focus on not only sustaining established partnerships, but actively exploring new horizons for international engagement.

For sponsors, the conference offers a unique opportunity to engage with senior influencers at the intersection of local government, international engagement, trade, diplomacy, and regional development.

Mayor Grant Smith, President of Global Cities NZ



Welcome to Ōtautahi Christchurch

It will be a real pleasure to welcome you to Ōtautahi Christchurch for the Global Cities New Zealand Conference. We look forward to having you here and to share a city that has been shaped by challenge, creativity, and a strong sense of community over the past decade.

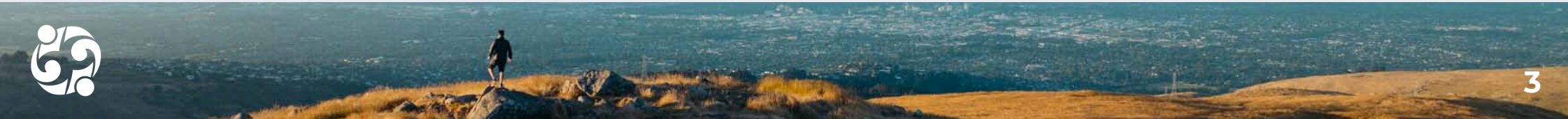
Your involvement will reflect the theme of this year's conference, New Frontiers. Christchurch knows what it means to step into new territory: rebuilding after adversity, embracing innovation, and looking to the future with confidence and optimism.

Christchurch is a city with a deep sense of place, shaped by its people, its resilience, and commitment to progress. We're proud of how far we've come and even more excited about what comes next.

This conference is a chance to showcase your organization and to have inspiring conversations, strengthen relationships, and consider what lies ahead for our cities in a rapidly changing world. Whether you're catching up with familiar faces or meeting new ones, I hope your time here will be inspiring and valuable to your organisation.

I encourage you to take advantage of one of these sponsorship opportunities and come and enjoy the incredible sights, tastes, and experiences that our city has to offer.

Mayor Phil Mauger, Mayor of Christchurch



A conference focused on the future

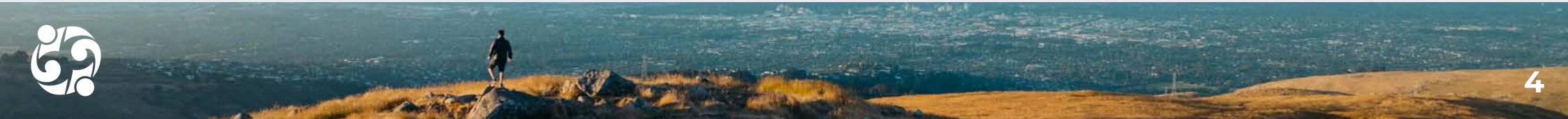
Ōtautahi Christchurch is a city renowned for its resilience, reinvention, and forward-looking spirit. Our 2026 conference theme of New Frontiers reflects a bold step into the future of international city relationships. Christchurch's transformation following adversity has positioned it as a global example of renewal and innovation. This journey provides a foundation for the conference theme: not simply maintaining existing partnerships but actively seeking out new horizons.

The New Frontiers theme reflects an evolution of relationships, where symbolic, cultural, and civic connections are complemented by strategic partnerships that deliver shared value and real outcomes.

Conference conversations will explore:

- New opportunities in India, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific
- Trilateral and networked city partnerships
- Economic diversification through city to city connections
- How cities can collaborate on shared challenges such as climate resilience, infrastructure, skills, and community wellbeing
- Purpose driven partnerships where New Zealand cities share expertise and capability with developing regions

By bringing together leaders, practitioners, and partners, the conference encourages all participants to use this opportunity as a launchpad to forge new relationships that will enhance economic, cultural, and civic ties long beyond the event itself.



Why Sponsor the Global Cities NZ Conference?

Sponsoring the Global Cities New Zealand National Conference positions your organisation at the heart of New Zealand's global engagement ecosystem.

Sponsors gain:

- Direct access to civic decision-makers: mayors, councillors, and senior officials from councils across New Zealand.
- Meaningful engagement with international partners: including diplomats and representatives connected to New Zealand's priority international relationships.
- Association with future-focused leadership as cities explore new geographies, new partnership models, and shared global challenges

Unlike large trade or sector-specific conferences, Global Cities New Zealand delivers quality over quantity—a highly engaged, relationship-driven audience with long-term influence.

Who will be attending?

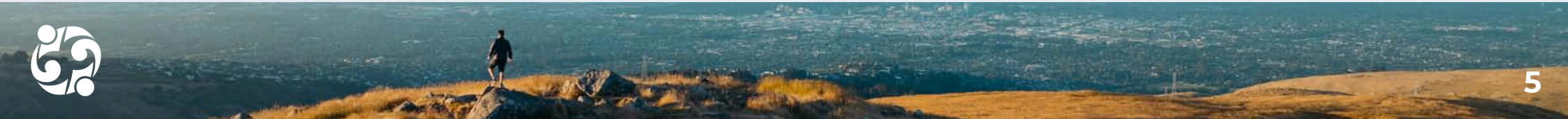
Local Government:
Mayors, Councillors, Council Officials

Diplomatic Corps:
Ambassadors, High Commissioners, Diplomatic Staff

Business and Trade:
Economic development agencies, Chambers of Commerce and other business leaders, owners and managers with an international interest

Universities and Schools:
Senior Leadership, Educators, Staff and Volunteers

Community leaders:
Sister City Committees, Community boards/trusts



Platinum

$7,500

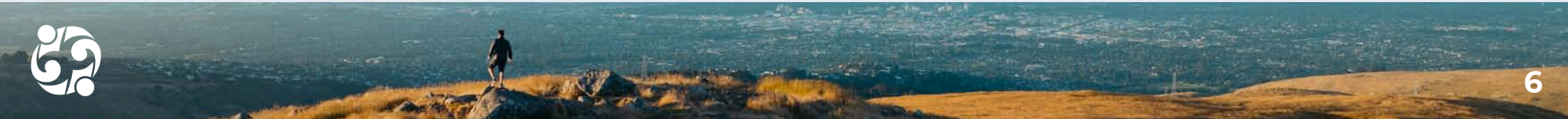
excl. GST

Platinum sponsorship not only gives you premium visibility throughout the conference, but this package also includes exclusive naming rights to one of three key conference elements along with a complimentary double exhibition stand with priority allocation to maximise engagement with delegates across the entire conference!

Inclusions

- Your choice of naming rights to one of the below:
  - Conference and Awards Dinner
  - Conference MC, Kay Gregory
  - Event App
- Complimentary double exhibition stand
- 2 x complimentary registrations
- acknowledgement of sponsorship throughout the conference
- company logo and acknowledgement in all promotional material, including digital signage
- company logo on the conference website, linking to your company website
- promotional article in delegate conference bag
- links to company website and online promotional brochures in the conference app

3 available



Gold

$5,000

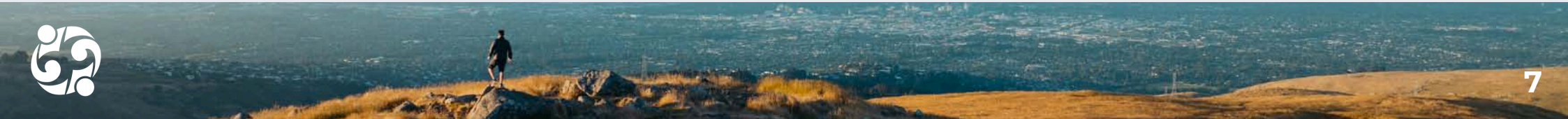
excl. GST

Gain strong visibility throughout the conference with exclusive naming rights to one of four popular conference touchpoints, creating valuable opportunities to connect with delegates in high-traffic settings. This package also includes a complimentary standard exhibition stand, ensuring your brand maintains a strong and consistent presence across the event.

Inclusions

- Your choice of naming rights to one of the below:
  - ~~Welcome Function~~ **SOLD**
  - Keynote Speaker: Shamubeel Eaqub
  - Barista Cart
  - Lunch
- Complimentary exhibition stand
- 1 x complimentary registration
- acknowledgement of sponsorship throughout the conference
- company logo and acknowledgement in all promotional material, including digital signage
- company logo on the conference website, linking to your company website
- promotional article in delegate conference bag
- links to company website and online promotional brochures in the conference app

3 available



Silver

$3,000

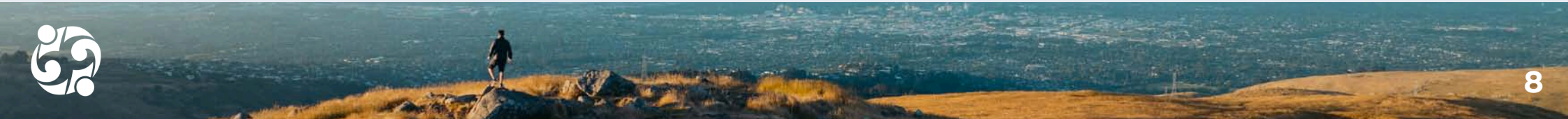
excl. GST

Enhance your brand presence throughout the conference with exclusive naming rights to one of four key conference features. This package offers valuable exposure across the event, creating meaningful opportunities to connect with delegates in engaging and highly visible settings.

Inclusions

- Your choice of naming rights to one of the below:
  - Name badges
  - Site Visit: Antarctic Centre
  - Site Visit: Halswell Quarry Park & Christchurch Adventure Park
  - Site Visit: Central City Walking Tour
  - Friday morning break
  - Saturday morning break
  - Friday afternoon break
- Complimentary exhibition stand
- 1 x complimentary registration
- acknowledgement of sponsorship throughout the conference
- company logo and acknowledgement in all promotional material, including digital signage
- company logo on the conference website, linking to your company website
- promotional article in delegate conference bag
- links to company website and online promotional brochures in the conference app

7 available



Bronze

$1,500
excl. GST

Build brand awareness and maintain a visible presence throughout the conference with recognition across event signage and conference materials.

Inclusions

- acknowledgement of sponsorship throughout the conference
- company logo and acknowledgement in all promotional material, including digital signage
- company logo on the conference website, linking to your company website
- promotional article in delegate conference bag
- links to company website and online promotional brochures in the conference app

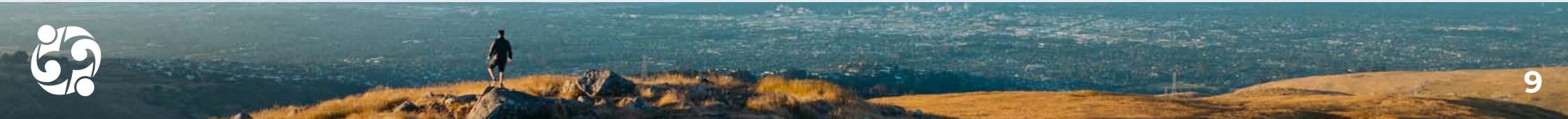
Supporting

in kind

Supporting Sponsors play an important role in the success of the conference through the provision of valuable goods or services in kind. In recognition of this contribution, sponsors receive brand exposure across selected conference materials and signage, acknowledging their support and involvement throughout the event.

Inclusions

- acknowledgement of sponsorship throughout the conference
- company logo and acknowledgement in all promotional material, including digital signage
- company logo on the conference website, linking to your company website
- promotional article in delegate conference bag
- links to company website and online promotional brochures in the conference app

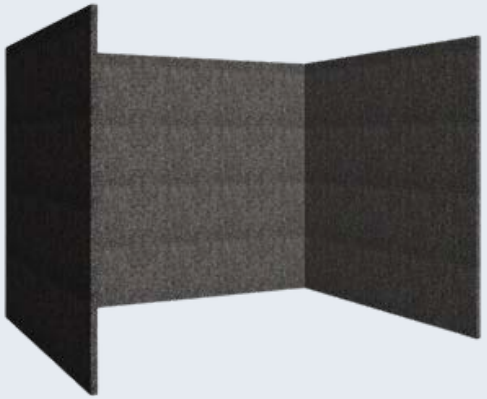


Exhibition

$2,000

excl. GST

Your opportunity to showcase your products and/or services and build meaningful relationships with delegates. Positioned within the heart of the conference activity, the exhibition space encourages engagement, networking and brand visibility.



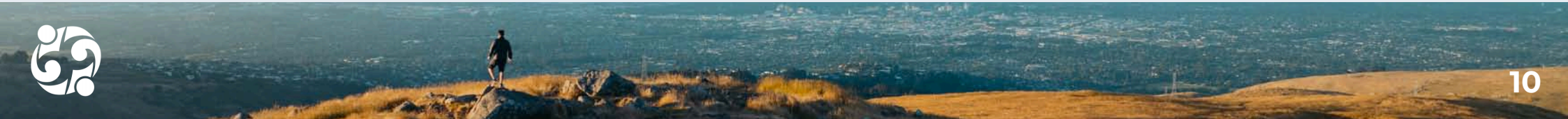
Inclusions

- Single exhibition stand (double stand available for an additional $1,000)
- 1 x Complimentary Registration
- acknowledgement of sponsorship throughout the conference
- company logo and acknowledgement in all promotional material, including digital signage
- company logo on the conference website, linking to your company website
- promotional article in delegate conference bag
- links to company website and online promotional brochures in the conference app

The stand supplied will have a 3 metre back-wall, side walls of 1.8 metres and a height of 2.3 metres. All walls are velcro receptive.

All stands include one 10-amp power supply (4-way multi-box), two x 150-watt spotlights and ID Fin for signage and company name in one colour with 15 letters allowed per sign. Your company logo may be added to the signage, but at an additional cost to yourself.

SEE THE LIVE FLOORPLAN



Sponsorship and Exhibition Terms and Conditions

ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS & CONDITIONS
By submitting the sponsorship/exhibition application form, you acknowledge and accept the terms and conditions outlined below.

DELEGATE DETAILS
Provision of delegate details is subject to privacy laws.

CANCELLATION POLICY
GCNZ Conference 2026 reserves the right to change the venue and duration of the event if exceptional circumstances demand. In the event of a change of venue and/or duration, the agreement to participate will remain in force so long as the sponsor is informed in reasonable time before the event.

After the official booking has been accepted by GCNZ, if the sponsorship or exhibition space can be resold to another company, the sponsor/exhibitor will receive a full refund, less administrative fees of 20% of the total sponsorship and or exhibition rate. If not able to be resold, the sponsor/exhibitor will be liable to pay the following fees:

- 50% of the total sponsorship/exhibition rate, if the cancellation request is received in writing before **Friday 31 July 2026** or
- 100% of the total sponsorship/exhibition, if the cancellation request is received in writing after **Friday 31 July 2026**.

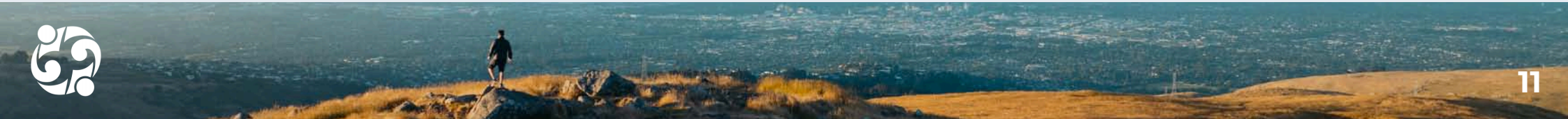
Please note that all cancellation fees are payable irrespective of whether the invoice for sponsorship/ exhibition has been paid or not at the time of cancellation. Participation as a sponsor or exhibitor is at the discretion of the organisers and the organisers reserve the right to approve sponsorship materials.

The sponsor will fully reimburse GCNZ for all claims, losses or expenses arising because of any breach or failure to perform any of the terms of the sponsorship agreement. If, for reasons beyond the control of the conference organising committee, the conference is cancelled, the sponsorship fee will be refunded after deduction of expenses already incurred.

PAYMENT
A confirmation letter and invoice will follow containing the detail of the agreement; payment is due within 14 days of the date displayed on the invoice. GCNZ reserves the right to withdraw and/or re-allocate sponsorship if payment is not received by the due date.

To comply with all the obligations as specified under each level of sponsorship or trade exhibition, it is the responsibility of each exhibitor and/or sponsor to provide appropriate material by the date(s) specified. Failure to meet the due date for payment may result in the cancellation of all or part of the obligations agreed between the parties.

GCNZ reserves the right to charge interest on all outstanding debts or for any collection costs relating to outstanding invoices.



Sponsorship and Exhibition Terms and Conditions

INSURANCE & LIABILITY
Sponsors and exhibitors must ensure that they are adequately covered for public liability insurance. This refers to damage or injury caused to third parties/visitors near an exhibition stand.

Neither GCNZ, Harding Conferences, Venues Ōtautahi, Exhibition Hire nor any of their staff, employees, agents or other representatives shall be held accountable for, or liable for, and the same are released from accountability, or liability for any damage, loss, harm or injury to the person or any property of the exhibition, however caused or any of its staff, employees, agents or other representatives.

In the event of industrial disruption and/or equipment failure due to power supply problems, GCNZ, Harding Conferences, Venues Ōtautahi, Exhibition Hire will not be held liable and accept no responsibility for loss of monies incurred by sponsors or exhibitors or damage to property.

The conference organisers accept no liability for damage to exhibits by loss, damage, theft, fire, storms, strikes, riots, or any cause whatsoever. Exhibitors are advised to insure against such liability.

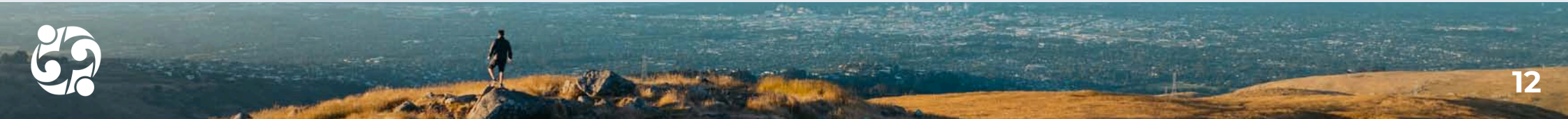
HEALTH & SAFETY
We take the health and safety of our delegates, exhibitors and suppliers seriously. An exhibitor manual will be provided to exhibitors closer to the conference. This will ask details around compliance when packing in your stand and working throughout the conference. Please note that all electronic equipment plugged in onsite must be tagged and tested. By agreeing to exhibit at the conference, you agree to adhere to our health and safety policy.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
For sponsorship packages that include complimentary registrations you will be asked to nominate the recipient/s of the complimentary registration/s.

Please note all other attendees (including those manning exhibition stand/s) will need to register for the conference. Please refer to the website for pricing details.

ACCOMMODATION
Accommodation is not included in any sponsorship package but can be organised through Harding Conferences to guarantee booking and special negotiated conference rates.

PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL
If your sponsorship package entitles you to provision of material for delegates these are to be provided by the sponsor and must be delivered to the venue using a customised delivery docket by the date advised to you.



Talk to us

If you wish to discuss packages outside of those listed, or book 'In Kind' sponsorship, please contact Glenda.

Glenda Gallagher
glenda@hardingconferences.co.nz | 03 352 5598 | 027 436 3083

If you need assistance with completing your application, or book 'In Kind' sponsorship, please contact Lucy.

Lucy Mackay
lucy@hardingconferences.co.nz | 03 352 5598 | 021 155 2236

Booking your Sponsorship or Exhibition package

Sponsorship or exhibition must be booked online by clicking on the below buttons to take you to the relevant portal.

By submitting the sponsorship and/or exhibitor application form you acknowledge and accept the sponsorship and/or exhibitor terms and conditions outlined on the previous page. You will receive a confirmation letter and tax invoice once your booking has been accepted.

Please note, In Kind sponsorship cannot be booked in the portal. Please contact Glenda or Lucy instead.

BOOK EXHIBITION

BOOK SPONSORSHIP