



**Midwifery Council**  
Te Tatau o te Whare Kahu

# Strategic Plan 2018-2021

31 July 2018

This plan is a living document. It will be reviewed annually, ideally in October/November to inform the business plan for the following year.

## Mission

To protect the health and safety of women and babies experiencing midwifery care in New Zealand through an effective and efficient regulatory framework

## Values

We will be known for our:  
Integrity, fairness and accountability

## Responsibilities

The functions of the Council are set out in section 118 of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003

- Define the midwifery Scope of Practice and prescribe the qualifications required of registered midwives
- Accredite and monitor midwifery educational institutions and programmes
- Register midwives who have required qualifications and are competent and fit to practise
- Issue practising certificates to midwives who maintain their competence
- Set programmes to assess and promote midwives' ongoing competence
- Consider cases where there are concerns about midwives' conduct, competence and health
- Set the midwifery profession's standards for clinical and cultural competence and ethical conduct
- Promote education and training in midwifery
- Promote public awareness of the Council's responsibilities



## The Midwifery Council

The Midwifery Council is the guardian of professional standards in midwifery. It makes sure midwives meet and maintain professional standards of education, conduct and performance so that they deliver high quality healthcare throughout their careers. The safety of mothers and babies comes first.

## Strategic objectives

<p><b>Strategic Objective 1</b></p> <p>Review standards of clinical competence</p>	<p><b>Outcome</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Stakeholders (midwives) are familiar with and actively putting into practice the (revised) Standards of Clinical Competence</li> </ul>
<p><b>Strategic Objective 2</b></p> <p>Stakeholders understand the role of the Council and they are assured that midwives are fit and competent to practise</p>	<p><b>Outcome</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stakeholders and audiences have a clear impression and understanding of the Midwifery Council role and responsibilities</li> </ul>
<p><b>Strategic Objective 3</b></p> <p>Articulate the Council's quality assurance role as a regulator with the professional associations and education providers</p>	<p><b>Outcome</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Midwifery Council, professional associations, and education providers working relationships are defined by respect, transparency and timely communications and are informed by education and workforce priorities</li> </ul>
<p><b>Strategic Objective 4</b></p> <p>The Council is proactive, innovative and strategic in its decision making which is based on the principles of right touch regulation</p>	<p><b>Outcome</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council decision making is informed, proportionate and outcome focused (e.g. Right-touch regulation)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Strategic Objective 5</b></p> <p>Harness technology to serve current and future needs</p>	<p><b>Outcome</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council processes and decision making are supported and enabled by a fit for purpose IT</li> </ul>