

# Southern District Health Board - Southland Constituency

## Electing 3 Board Members

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### **Benje PATTERSON**

My principal place of residence is in the Southern District Health Board - Southland Constituency area.

My name is Benje Patterson and I am seeking election to the Southern DHB.

I was fortunate to be born at Southland (Kew) Hospital in Invercargill, where my children were also born. We are lucky to have such a great facility in Southland.

I currently live in Queenstown where a dangerous lack of maternity facilities worries me and my wife.

More generally across Southland there are not enough health services for our smaller communities. Inadequate care for cancer sufferers is also alarming. I fear Dunedin's new hospital could further undermine healthcare in Southland without strong advocacy.

My day job as an economist means I am an expert at guiding decisions supported by hard facts. I earn my crust researching people and their wellbeing in small town New Zealand. As a first time Southland DHB candidate, I also don't carry the baggage which some former board members seeking re-election may have.

#### *Conflict of Interest Statement*

To the best of my knowledge and belief, I have no conflicts of interest with the Southern District Health Board (SDHB) at the date of my notice of consent to being nominated as a candidate for membership of the board of the SDHB, and I do not believe that any such conflicts of interest are likely to arise in future.