

## At the Close

Blair Harrison  
Senior manager, listings and issuer services  
(New Zealand)

# Our man on the ground in Auckland

ASX recently announced the establishment of an office in Auckland to cater to its listed, trading and other customers in New Zealand. The office will be staffed from mid-June 2019 by Blair Harrison – already an employee of ASX. We thought you may like to meet him.

**Q: How long have you been with ASX?**

**A:** Just over six years

**Q: What roles have you had at ASX prior to this position?**

**A:** I was initially at ASX Collateral Sales and then went into managing the settlement and collateral business, Austraclear, ASX Collateral, payments and Sympli/FSM.

**Q: You are a Kiwi by birth, how long have you lived in New Zealand and where else have you lived?**

**A:** I was born in Christchurch but grew up in Wellington from the age of 10. I studied commerce and law degrees at Victoria University of Wellington, and in Tokyo, where I studied Japanese for three years. I worked in London for five years, Tokyo for an additional three years and Sydney for 10 years.

**Q: Tell us a bit about your background before joining ASX.**

**A:** I started my career in Wellington, NZ as a barrister and solicitor. I relocated to London with Allen & Overy as an associate solicitor in its debt capital markets team. From there I went to work at Deutsche Bank and then J.P. Morgan as a solicitor in the corporate trust and structured finance divisions. I moved to Tokyo to head corporate trust and agency services for J.P. Morgan and then moved with J.P. Morgan to Sydney to launch its tri-party collateral management business here.

Next, I took over the Asia Pacific product division for J.P. Morgan's tri-party and derivatives collateral management services, developing product across Asia Pacific, including Japan. I moved to ASX six years ago to help launch its tri-party collateral service, ASX Collateral.

**Q: Where is the ASX Auckland office?**

**A:** In the ANZ building at 23 Albert St – we will be on the 33rd floor.

**Q: What are you most looking forward to about moving to Auckland?**

**A:** From a professional standpoint I'm very much looking forward to representing ASX to the New Zealand market and in turn articulating the needs of the New Zealand market, and Kiwi companies, to ASX.

From a personal standpoint, I'm looking forward to reconnecting with family in New Zealand. It will also be an opportunity for my partner and I to raise our two children closer to their extended family and closer to their cultural heritage speaking in both English and Maori.

