Executive Committee Candidate Profile

Member Entity Name:	**RW Auckland Ltd t/a Hotel Indigo Auckland**
Member Entity Address:	**51 Albert Street, Auckland Central**
Candidate Name:	**Mathew Simister**
Candidate Role within Member Entity:	**General Manager**

Candidate Biography (maximum 50 words)
Matt Simister is General Manager of Hotel Indigo Auckland, leading one of Auckland's newest premium hotels in the heart of the CBD. With 16 years' experience across New Zealand, Australia and Fiji with IHG Hotels & Resorts, he brings expertise in hospitality leadership, commercial strategy, stakeholder engagement and destination advocacy.

Candidate Statement (maximum 200 words)
I am seeking election to the Heart of the City Executive Committee because I believe Auckland's city centre is entering a significant period of opportunity and transformation. As General Manager of Hotel Indigo Auckland, I have a strong interest in ensuring the CBD continues to thrive as a destination where businesses, residents and visitors can prosper. I bring extensive leadership experience in hospitality, tourism and commercial operations, along with a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing city centre businesses. Through my role, I work closely with employers, investors, tourism partners, event organisers and local stakeholders, providing a broad perspective on the factors that drive economic activity, visitation and business success. I believe I can contribute strategic thinking, strong governance, commercial acumen and a collaborative approach to decision-making. I am passionate about strengthening Auckland's reputation as a vibrant and welcoming city, advocating for initiatives that increase visitation, support local businesses, improve safety and accessibility, and encourage sustainable growth. As a member of the Executive Committee, I would be committed to listening to members, representing their interests effectively, and helping HOTC remain a respected and influential voice for Auckland's city centre as it continues to evolve and grow.