

## **GUIDE TO THE COURTS OF NZ WEBSITE**

The Courts of New Zealand website is a website that contains information about the Supreme Court, Court of Appeal and High Court and is designed to increase public access to information about the courts.

While the Courts of New Zealand website includes some material that was previously found on the Ministry of Justice website it also provides new material such as judges' biographies and daily court lists, which were previously unavailable online.

Site statistics to date indicate that currently outside the Courts the main users of the website are large law firms and organisations such as the Auckland District Law Society, with the most frequented pages being the daily court lists and judgments.

## HOME PAGE

The Courts of New Zealand home page allows users to easily navigate to the information they require and is divided into three main sections **About Courts**, **Court Business** and **From the Courts**. By clicking on the tabs below or clicking on the links within the **Welcome to Courts of New Zealand** users can view drop down lists of material which may be of interest to them.

Font size can be adjusted by clicking on the 'Font size' button on the top right of the home page.



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Courts of New Zealand. At the top, there is a blue header with the text "Courts of New Zealand" and the Māori name "TE KŌTI TEITEI O AOTEAROA" next to the national coat of arms. Below the header is a navigation bar with three tabs: "About Courts", "Court Business", and "From the Courts". To the right of the navigation bar are links for "CONTACT US", "PRINT", and "FONT SIZE". The main content area features a "Welcome to Courts of New Zealand" message, a brief introduction, and a photograph of three judges. Annotations include an arrow pointing to the navigation tabs labeled "Link to drop down lists", an arrow pointing to the "FONT SIZE" link labeled "Adjust font size", and an arrow pointing to the "Alternative link to lists" text.

Link to drop down lists

Adjust font size

Alternative link to lists



This screenshot shows the same homepage as above, but with the "About Courts" tab expanded into a dropdown menu. The menu items are: "Our Court System", "The Judges", "Supreme Court", "Court of Appeal", "High Court", and "Other Courts". An arrow points to the dropdown menu with the text "Drop down lists, which can be expanded to provide easy access to what you are searching for".

Drop down lists, which can be expanded to provide easy access to what you are searching for

In addition to navigating using the **About Courts**, **Court Business** or **From the Courts** navigation bar you can also click directly onto the court you are searching for information about. This will take you directly to all material relating to that court.

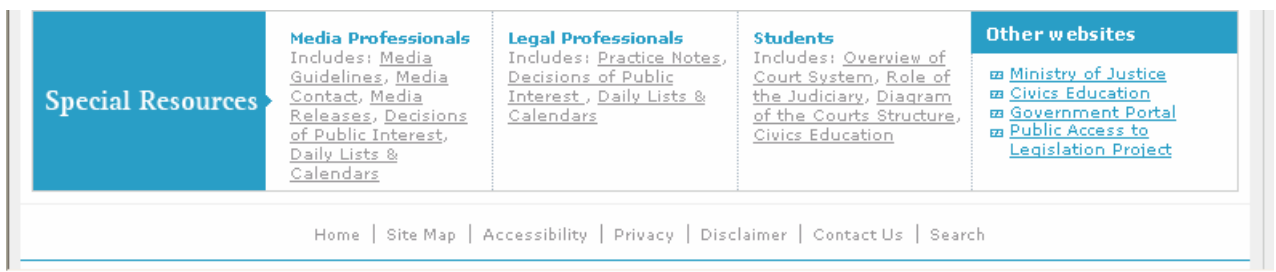
Clicking on the Supreme Court



Brings up All information relating to the Supreme Court



The bottom of the home page identifies material that may be of specific interest to media professionals, legal professionals and students and by clicking on one of the items below the user is taken directly to the relevant area of the site.



The bottom of the website offers the user the ability to directly search for a particular item by clicking on the search function located at the bottom of the screen and entering their desired search phrase.

The following is a short summary of what material is contained in the three sections of the website.

## **ABOUT COURTS**

This section contains information about

### **Our Court System:**

Information on the role and structure of the courts including a diagram and history of the courts. Also includes references for people seeking information about their interaction with courts and information on judicial committees and the rules committee.

### **Judges**

Information on the current and former Chief Justices as well as information on the role and appointment of the Chief Justice and Heads of Bench.

### **Supreme Court**

Provides case studies, history and biographies of judges of the Supreme Court, as well as information on the legislation which empowers it.

### **Court of Appeal**

Provides case studies, history and biographies of judges of the Court of Appeal, as well as information on the legislation which empowers it.

### **High Court**

Provides case studies, history and biographies of judges of the High Court, as well as information on the legislation which empowers it.

## **Other Courts**

This allows the user to choose other courts and refers the user back to the relevant Ministry of Justice web page.

## **COURT BUSINESS**

This section enables users to view the daily court lists for the Supreme Court, Court of Appeal and High Court by selecting “Calendar” on the drop down menu. This section also provides case summaries for the Supreme Court and Court of Appeal, information on lodging complaints, and practice and media guidelines.

## **FROM THE COURTS**

This section provides Judicial decisions, transcripts, speeches and papers and announcements from the courts, as well as copies of judicial reports, statistics for the Supreme Court, Court of Appeal and High Court as well as a link to the vacancies section on the Ministry of Justice website.