



The Right Honourable Dame Helen Winkelmann

CHIEF JUSTICE OF NEW ZEALAND | TE TUMU WHAKAWĀ O AOTEAROA

MEDIA STATEMENT

23 June 2021

COURT ARRANGEMENTS FROM THURSDAY 24 JUNE 2021

The Government announced today that the Wellington region will move to Alert Level 2 from 6 pm 23 June 2021. The rest of the country remains at Alert Level 1.

In response, the Chief Justice is today announcing the court arrangements that will operate from Thursday 24 June in the Wellington region. The Chief Justice will issue a further statement following the Government's review of the Alert Levels on Sunday 27 June.

The Alert Level protocols for all courts are published on the [Courts of New Zealand](#) website.

"I encourage participants to familiarise themselves with the specific provisions in place to allow the courts to operate safely," the Chief Justice said.

SUPREME COURT, COURT OF APPEAL WELLINGTON HIGH COURT

The Chief Justice announced that matters before the Supreme Court and Court of Appeal will continue as scheduled. For the Wellington High Court matters will continue, provided they can be accommodated safely within Alert Level 2 restrictions. Court staff will contact participants directly. There are no jury trials scheduled in the Wellington High Court for the remainder of this week.

WELLINGTON, LOWER HUTT, MASTERTON AND PORIRIUA DISTRICT COURTS

Jury trials

Jury trials in the above District Courts will continue, provided they can be accommodated safely in accordance with Alert Level 2 restrictions.

Jurors summonsed to attend court are requested to attend as per their summons document or any instruction from court staff.

Any jury trials that cannot safely be accommodated at Alert Level 2 will be adjourned or stood down. This decision is made at a local level and court staff will contact participants including jurors in these instances.

PUBLIC ACCESS RESTRICTED

For physical distancing reasons, entry to the High Court and District Courts in the Wellington region is restricted as outlined in the Alert Level 2 protocol. This will be reviewed to ensure it remains fit for purpose.

GENERAL SAFETY ARRANGEMENTS

Everyone attending court is strongly encouraged to:

- wear face masks and to practise physical distancing
- track where they have been, using the QR code or a personal record

Enhanced cleaning regimes will be maintained, and soap, towels, sanitiser and personal protective equipment will be available.

NOTES TO EDITORS

The COVID-19 Protocols for all courts can be found here [protocols](#)

Helen Winkelmann

Chief Justice | Te Tumu Whakawā

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