



The Right Honourable Dame Helen Winkelmann

CHIEF JUSTICE OF NEW ZEALAND | TE TUMU WHAKAWĀ O AOTEAROA

17 November 2021

## MEDIA STATEMENT

### Court operations: Waikato

#### Alert levels update

As of 11.59pm on Tuesday 16 November 2021, all of Waikato is in Alert Level 2.

The Auckland region is in Alert Level 3, step 2. The rest of the country is in Alert Level 2.

#### Hamilton High Court operations: Alert Level 2 protocol applies from Thursday 18 November

Hamilton High Court will be operating according to the Alert Level 2 protocol from **9am Thursday 18 November**.

#### District Court operations in Waikato: Alert Level 2 protocol applies from Monday 22 November

All District Courts in Waikato will start operating according to the Alert Level 2 protocol on **Monday 22 November**.

#### No jury trials in Hamilton High and District Courts for remainder of the year

There will be no jury trials held in Hamilton High and District Courts for the remainder of the year.

Jurors summoned to Hamilton High and District Courts for November and December do not need to report for jury service. Jurors do not need to contact the Court or the Ministry of Justice to confirm this.

#### Court operations at Alert Level 2

At Alert Level 2, people who need to be in court can attend court in person. For physical distancing purposes, entry to the courts is restricted to those people required to be there. Members of the public (including a whānau support person for a defendant) whose presence is not required at court will not be permitted to enter unless they are given permission from the presiding judge.

#### Media attendance at court at Alert Level 2

Accredited news media will have entry to the court in order to report court proceedings, and to ensure continued open and transparent justice.

### Keeping the courthouse safe

The Ministry of Justice is following Ministry of Health guidelines to protect the health and safety of all court participants and staff.

Masks are to be worn at all times within the courthouse, unless an approved exemption is provided, or permission has been given by a Judge. Contact tracing measures are in place.

Further information can be found at [Ministry of Justice COVID-19 information](#)

### How to get information: 0800 COURTS helpline

The Courts have a dedicated phone line for anyone needing information about an upcoming court hearing. 0800 COURTS (0800 268 7870) operates from 8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday.

**Contact:** Liz Kennedy, Senior Judicial Communications Advisor

[liz.kennedy@courts.govt.nz](mailto:liz.kennedy@courts.govt.nz) | 027 369 6701



## APPENDIX: COURT PROTOCOLS AND COURT LISTS BY COURT

### Trial courts

High Court | Te Kōti Matua

[Daily list](#)

[Alert level operating protocol](#)

District Court | Te Kōti ā Rohe

Upcoming cases: ring 0800 COURTS (0800 268 787)

[Alert level operating protocol](#)

### Appellate courts

Supreme Court | Te Kōti Mana Nui

[Daily list](#)

[Upcoming cases](#)

[Alert level operating protocol](#)

Court of Appeal | Te Kōti Pira

[Daily list](#)

[Upcoming cases](#)

[Alert level operating protocol](#)

Summary Appeal Court | Te Kōti Whakawā Pira Whakaraupapa Kaimahi o Te Ope Kātua o Aotearoa

[Alert level operating protocol](#)

Māori Appellate Court | Te Kooti Pira Māori

[Alert level operating protocol](#) (Māori Land Court | Te Kooti Whenua Māori protocol)

### Specialist courts

Coroners Court | Te Kōti Kaitirotiro Matewhawhati

[Upcoming cases](#)

[Alert level operating protocol](#)

Court Martial | Te Kōti Whakawā Kaimahi o Te Ope Kātua o Aotearoa

[Alert level operating protocol](#)

Employment Court | Te Kōti Take Mahi

[Upcoming cases](#)

[Alert level operating protocol](#)

Environment Court | Te Kōti Taiao

[Upcoming cases](#)

[Alert level operating protocol](#)

Māori Land Court | Te Kooti Whenua Māori

[Alert level operating protocol](#)