



The Right Honourable Dame Helen Winkelmann

CHIEF JUSTICE OF NEW ZEALAND | TE TUMU WHAKAWĀ O AOTEAROA

27 June 2021

MEDIA STATEMENT

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COURTS OF NEW ZEALAND

On Sunday 27 June 2021 the Government announced that Wellington, Kāpiti Coast and Wairarapa would remain at COVID-19 Alert Level 2 until 29 June 11.59 pm. The Alert Level will be reviewed again on 29 June.

The rest of the country remains at Alert Level 1.

This statement explains the approach the courts will take from Monday 28 June 2021.

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 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.

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.

The protocols in operation for all courts can be found at [Courts of New Zealand](#).

“All court participants are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the measures that are in place to keep our courts operating safely” the Chief Justice said.

GENERAL SAFETY ARRANGEMENTS

Everyone attending court is encouraged to track where they have been, using the QR code and switching on Bluetooth tracing, or by keeping a personal record.

Do not come to court if you are sick. Contact 0800 COURTS (0800 268 787) if you cannot attend court or are not sure if you should attend.

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

Helen Winkelmann

Chief Justice | Te Tumu Whakawā

MEDIA CONTACT

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The COVID-19 Protocols for the Supreme Court, Court of Appeal, High Court, District Court – including Family Court and Youth Court, Employment Court, Māori Land Court, Waitangi Tribunal, Environment Court, Coroners Court and the Court Martial and Summary Appeal Court - can be found on the Courts of New Zealand website.

The Ministry of Justice has information about the measures it is taking to ensure health and safety in courthouses at Alert Level 1 and 2 on its website. [health and safety measures](#)