



The Right Honourable Dame Helen Winkelmann

CHIEF JUSTICE OF NEW ZEALAND | TE TUMU WHAKAWĀ O AOTEAROA

24 September 2020

MEDIA STATEMENT

COURT ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 28 SEPTEMBER 2020

This statement explains the approach the courts will take from Monday 28 September 2020.

Areas other than Auckland

Outside of Auckland, courts will return to normal operations and will be open to the public.

Criminal jury trials will proceed as usual.

General safety arrangements

Everyone attending court will continue to be encouraged to wear masks in public areas and in courthouses. Where practicable, courts will continue physical distancing in courtrooms and jury retiring rooms.

Auckland

Auckland will continue under the arrangements for Alert Level 2.

Members of the public whose presence is not required at court will not be permitted to enter the courthouse unless they have been granted permission by the presiding judge.

Auckland Jury trials

Criminal jury trials will continue with 1 metre distancing between jurors and Perspex safety screens, where these have been fitted.

General safety arrangements

Everyone attending court should wear a mask in public areas and courtrooms.

One metre physical distancing will be observed in all public areas and courtrooms.

Keeping courthouses safe

The Chief Justice wants those required to attend court to have confidence their health and safety is of the utmost importance.

“Careful preparations have been taken by the Ministry of Justice to ensure safety measures comply with or exceed Ministry of Health guidelines” Chief Justice Dame Helen Winkelmann says.

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

“We all play a part in keeping ourselves and others safe. Please do not enter the courthouse if you are coughing or sneezing, have had close contact with someone with COVID-19, or are awaiting the results of a COVID-19 test. Contact 0800COURTS (0800268 787) instead”, the Chief Justice added.

Helen Winkelmann

Chief Justice | Te Tumu Whakawā

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