



**CHIEF DISTRICT COURT JUDGE FOR NEW ZEALAND  
TE KAIWHAKAWĀ MATUA O TE KŌTI-Ā-ROHE O AOTEAROA  
Judge Heemi Taumaunu**

**21 February 2023  
MEDIA STATEMENT**

**Update on courts in Tairāwhiti and Hawke's Bay**

Gisborne District Court has reopened today, with one courtroom currently able to be used.

Priority work only will be carried out and the situation will be reassessed tomorrow.

On Monday the court operated from an outdoor courtyard adjacent to the building before the courthouse had been cleared for re-entry. Chief District Court Judge Heemi Taumaunu said the outdoor courtroom ran without a hitch and he praised the innovative solution that enabled some business to be dealt with.

Wairoa District Court remains closed.

In Hawke's Bay, Hastings District Court has reopened to the public and priority cases are being heard. The public and media representatives are able to attend.

Napier District Court remains closed and priority matters from Napier are being heard in Hastings.

All jury trials in the Hawke's Bay and Tairāwhiti regions have been vacated for the week of 20 February and anyone summoned for jury service is not required to attend.

ENDS

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