



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

17 February 2023

Update on court operations in Gisborne and Hawke's Bay

Gisborne / Wairoa

- The Wairoa District Court will remain closed until Saturday 25 February (inclusive).
- The intention was to open Gisborne District Court on Monday 20 February. However, because of water supply and other potential health and safety issues, it is uncertain at this stage whether the Court will be able to open on Monday.
- All jury trials set down for Gisborne next week will be rescheduled. Anyone summoned for jury service does not need to attend and will not suffer any penalty.
- New arrests will continue to be dealt with locally by a judge in-person on a daily basis – either at the courthouse or the police station.
- Priority criminal matters (including Youth Court) will continue to be heard next week.
- All Family Court priority proceedings will be dealt with remotely and non-priority proceedings next week will be rescheduled.

Napier / Hastings

- Both courts are closed until Wednesday 22 February (inclusive).
- All jury trials set down for Napier or Hastings next week will be rescheduled. Anyone summoned for jury service does not need to attend and will not suffer any penalty.
- New arrests will continue to be dealt with by other courts remotely by AVL from the Hastings Police Station.
- Priority criminal matters (including Youth Court) will continue to be heard next week.
- All Family Court priority proceedings will be dealt with remotely and non-priority proceedings next week will be rescheduled.

We continue to monitor the weather and review its effects on people and buildings and will provide further updates as information comes to hand.

My thoughts are with all those affected. Please take care and stay safe.