



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

14 February 2023

A National State of Emergency has been declared this morning as the impacts from Cyclone Gabrielle continue to extend across New Zealand. The national state of emergency applies to Northland, Auckland, Tairāwhiti, Bay of Plenty, Waikato and Hawkes Bay.

Local solution framework extended

Working with the Ministry of Justice, I have agreed that any location under a red weather warning or where a state of emergency has been declared will be included in the local solution framework.

Under the framework, priority proceedings are to be completed and you should expect that most non-priority work will be adjourned and rescheduled.

This arrangement allows room for urgent non-priority work to still be heard if that can be achieved by all involved, safely.

Please note the following guidance:

- The MetService weather warnings in place can be accessed here [MetService - Te Ratonga Tirorangi](#)
- Disruption to public transport and schools varies across the regions.
- There are power outages across Northland, Auckland and Hawkes Bay and these could extend to other areas.

Courts are an essential service and I thank you and the registries for your continued work in this challenging period.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Heemi Taumaunu'.

Heemi Taumaunu
Chief District Court Judge