

Vote Courts

APPROPRIATION MINISTER(S): Minister for Courts (M19)

DEPARTMENT ADMINISTERING THE VOTE: Ministry of Justice (A23)

RESPONSIBLE MINISTER FOR MINISTRY OF JUSTICE: Minister of Justice

Overview of the Vote

The Minister for Courts is responsible for appropriations in Vote Courts totalling over \$1,183 million for the 2025/26 financial year covering the following:

- a total of nearly \$710 million on services from the Ministry of Justice that support the work of courts, tribunals and other authorities
- a total of over \$223 million on salaries and allowances for judicial and statutory officer positions as set by the Remuneration Authority under legislation
- over \$178 million on professional and administrative services provided to or directed by courts and coroners, including costs that are required by legislation
- nearly \$66 million on the collection and enforcement of fines and civil debts services by the Ministry of Justice
- nearly \$6 million on tribunal related fees and expenses, and
- a total of \$490,000 to support associated activities, including Justice of the Peace Association.

Nearly \$145 million of court imposed fines, offender levies, contributions towards lawyer for child costs, and penalties is expected to be received for the 2025/26 financial year.

Details of these appropriations are set out in Parts 2-4.

Details of Appropriations and Capital Injections

Annual Appropriations and Forecast Permanent Appropriations

Titles and Scopes of Appropriations by Appropriation Type	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Non-Departmental Other Expenses			
Assistance to Victims of Crime (M19) (A23) Funding for the Criminal Justice Assistance Reimbursement Scheme.	40	-	40
Community Magistrates Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23) This appropriation is limited to the remuneration and allowances of Community Magistrates as authorised by section 60 of the District Court Act 2016.	3,973	3,973	5,396
Coroners and Associate Coroners' Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23) This appropriation is limited to the costs related to the terms and conditions of remuneration for Coroners and Associate Coroners pursuant to Section 110 of the Coroners Act 2006.	16,659	16,659	17,142
Court and Coroner Related Costs (M19) (A23) This appropriation is limited to meeting the costs of services directed by or provided to courts (including coroners) and tribunals, including the costs of legal services (including settlement of claims) arising out of the exercise of judicial functions or the execution of judicial process, costs required to be met by the Crown under legislation, and remuneration of Lay Members and Visiting Justices.	178,800	178,800	178,465
Court Martial Appeal Court Judges' Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23) This appropriation is limited to the salaries and allowances of appointed Judges in the Court Martial Appeal Court as authorised by Section 3(3B) of the Court Martial Appeals Act 1953.	40	40	10
Disputes Tribunal Referees' Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23) This appropriation is limited to funding salaries, allowances, or fees for the Principal Disputes Referee and Referees as authorised by section 9 of the Disputes Tribunal Act 1988.	8,228	8,228	8,496
District Court Judges' Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23) This appropriation is limited to the remuneration and allowances of Judges in the District Court, including the Environment Court, as authorised by section 34 of the District Court Act 2016.	107,821	107,821	108,210
Employment Court Judges' Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23) This appropriation is limited to costs related to the terms and conditions of remuneration for Judges and acting warranted Judges in the Employment Court incurred pursuant to s.206 Employment Relations Act 2000.	4,623	4,623	4,652
Environment Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners' Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23) This appropriation is limited to funding salaries, allowances, or fees for the Environment Commissioners and Deputy Environment Commissioners as authorised by section 263 of the Resource Management Act 1991.	3,100	3,100	3,100
Family Court Associates Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23) This appropriation is limited to funding salaries, allowances, or fees for Family Court Associates as authorised by section 7E of the Family Court Act 1980.	2,437	2,437	3,735
Human Rights Review Tribunal Chairperson and Deputy Chairpersons' Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23) This appropriation is limited to funding salaries, allowances, or fees for the Chairperson and Deputy Chairpersons of the Human Rights Review Tribunal as authorised by section 118A of the Human Rights Act 1993.	1,674	1,674	1,199

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Titles and Scopes of Appropriations by Appropriation Type			
Immigration and Protection Tribunal Deputy Chair and Other Members' Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23) This appropriation is limited to funding salaries, allowances, or fees for the deputy chair and the other members of the Immigration and Protection Tribunal as authorised by schedule 2 of the Immigration Act 2009.	5,310	5,310	5,445
Justices of the Peace Association (M19) (A23) This appropriation is limited to the cost of administrative services from the Royal Federation of Justices including training and rostering Justices of the Peace for court hearings, and training for Visiting Justices.	450	450	450
Māori Land Court Judges' Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23) This appropriation is limited to costs related to the terms and conditions of remuneration for Judges and acting warranted Judges in the Māori Land Court incurred pursuant to s.13 Te Ture Whenua Māori Land Act 1993.	8,478	8,478	8,536
Senior Courts Judges' Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23) This appropriation is limited to the remuneration and allowances of Judges of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeal and High Court as authorised by section 135 of the Senior Courts Act 2016.	49,770	49,770	49,453
Tenancy Tribunal Adjudicators' Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23) This appropriation is limited to funding salaries, allowances, or fees for the Principal Tenancy Adjudicators, Deputy Principal Tenancy Adjudicator, and Tenancy Adjudicators as authorised by section 69 of the Residential Tenancies Act 1986.	7,320	7,320	7,611
Tribunal Related Fees and Expenses (M19) (A23) This appropriation is limited to funding remuneration, allowances, or fees for the Chairs, Members, Adjudicators and Assessors of Specialist Tribunals, and expenses incurred by those Chairs, Members, Adjudicators and Assessors in relation to Tribunal work.	5,783	5,783	5,541
Weathertight Homes Tribunal Chair Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23) This appropriation is limited to funding salaries, allowances, or fees for the chair of the Weathertight Homes Tribunal as authorised by schedule 3 section 6(1) of the Weathertight Homes Resolution Services Act 2006.	181	181	181
Total Non-Departmental Other Expenses	404,687	404,647	407,662
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure			
Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services, including the Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services MCA (M19) (A23) The single overarching purpose of this appropriation is to provide courts, tribunals and other authorities services, including the collection and enforcement of fines and civil debts services.	726,634	726,634	775,527
Departmental Output Expenses			
<i>Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services</i> This category is limited to the purchase of collection and enforcement of fines and civil debts services.	63,311	63,311	65,818
<i>District Court Services</i> This category is limited to providing services that support the work of the District Court, including the Youth Court and Family Court.	420,783	420,783	463,610
<i>New Zealand Support of International Jurisdictions</i> This category is limited to the provision of services that support the courts, tribunals and other authorities of international jurisdictions.	5,254	5,254	2,741
<i>Senior Courts Services</i> This category is limited to providing services that support the work of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeal and High Court.	105,072	105,072	108,065

	2024/25		2025/26
Titles and Scopes of Appropriations by Appropriation Type	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
<i>Specialist Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services</i> This category is limited to providing services that support the work of specialist courts, tribunals and other authorities.	132,214	132,214	135,293
Total Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure	726,634	726,634	775,527
Total Annual Appropriations and Forecast Permanent Appropriations	1,131,321	1,131,281	1,183,189

Supporting Information

Part 1 - Vote as a Whole

1.1 - New Policy Initiatives

Policy Initiative	Appropriation	2024/25 Final Budgeted \$000	2025/26 Budget \$000	2026/27 Estimated \$000	2027/28 Estimated \$000	2028/29 Estimated \$000
Court Timeliness - Cost Pressures for Court and Coroner Costs	Court and Coroner Related Costs	20,633	1,668	-	-	-
	Non-Departmental Other Expenses					
Te Au Reka - Digital Case Management Solution for Courts and Tribunals	Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services, including the Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services MCA					
	District Court Services	8,571	56,068	34,112	19,698	16,968
	Departmental Output Expenses					
Remuneration for Frontline Staff	Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services, including the Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services MCA					
	District Court Services	1,298	6,400	8,885	10,124	11,107
	Specialist Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services	617	2,913	4,111	4,708	5,181
	Senior Courts Services	312	1,535	2,190	2,517	2,776
	Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services	288	1,672	2,210	2,478	2,690
	Departmental Output Expenses					
New Tauranga Criminal Courthouse	Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services, including the Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services MCA					
	District Court Services	771	1,831	3,149	8,643	10,387
	Senior Courts Services	86	203	350	960	1,154
	Departmental Output Expenses					
Court Timeliness - Delivering Timely Access to Justice Services	Court and Coroner Related Costs	-	14,786	15,411	15,411	15,411
	Non-Departmental Other Expenses					
	Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services, including the Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services MCA					
	District Court Services	-	3,291	4,134	4,134	4,134
	Specialist Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services	-	2,261	2,706	2,706	2,706

Policy Initiative	Appropriation	2024/25 Final Budgeted \$000	2025/26 Budget \$000	2026/27 Estimated \$000	2027/28 Estimated \$000	2028/29 Estimated \$000
	Senior Courts Services	-	2,188	2,539	2,539	2,539
	Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services	-	919	636	636	636
	Departmental Output Expenses					
Court Timeliness - Investing in Judicial Capacity	Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services, including the Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services MCA					
	Senior Courts Services	-	1,509	1,431	1,444	1,461
	District Court Services	-	665	234	234	234
	Departmental Output Expenses					
	Senior Courts Judges' Salaries and Allowances PLA	-	1,382	1,382	1,382	1,382
	Non-Departmental Other Expenses					
	Community Magistrates Salaries and Allowances PLA	-	1,228	1,428	1,428	1,428
	Non-Departmental Other Expenses					
Continued Funding for District Court Judges	District Court Judges' Salaries and Allowances PLA	-	1,528	1,528	1,528	-
	Non-Departmental Other Expenses					
Auckland District Court Building Infrastructure Replacement	Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services, including the Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services MCA					
	District Court Services	-	933	1,706	2,505	3,853
	Departmental Output Expenses					
Increasing Revenue from Courts and Tribunal Fees	Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services, including the Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services MCA					
	District Court Services	-	311	311	311	311
	Senior Courts Services	-	161	161	161	161
	Specialist Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services	-	40	40	40	40
	Departmental Output Expenses					
Total Initiatives		32,576	103,492	88,654	83,587	84,559

1.2 - Trends in the Vote

Summary of Financial Activity

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25		2025/26			2026/27	2027/28	2028/29
	Actual \$000	Actual \$000	Actual \$000	Actual \$000	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Departmental Transactions Budget \$000	Non- Departmental Transactions Budget \$000	Total Budget \$000	Estimated \$000	Estimated \$000	Estimated \$000
Appropriations												
Output Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benefits or Related Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-	-
Borrowing Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	303,959	303,408	335,602	374,627	404,687	404,647	-	407,662	407,662	409,177	409,177	407,649
Capital Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intelligence and Security Department Expenses and Capital Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure (MCA)												
<i>Output Expenses</i>	553,745	575,509	632,449	704,767	726,634	726,634	775,527	-	775,527	764,196	762,165	746,948
<i>Other Expenses</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Capital Expenditure</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-	-
Total Appropriations	857,704	878,917	968,051	1,079,394	1,131,321	1,131,281	775,527	407,662	1,183,189	1,173,373	1,171,342	1,154,597
Crown Revenue and Capital Receipts												
Tax Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Tax Revenue	138,193	100,883	119,852	124,836	141,879	141,879	N/A	144,711	144,711	145,004	145,347	145,347
Capital Receipts	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-	-
Total Crown Revenue and Capital Receipts	138,193	100,883	119,852	124,836	141,879	141,879	N/A	144,711	144,711	145,004	145,347	145,347

Note - where restructuring of the vote has occurred then, to the extent practicable, prior years information has been restated as if the restructuring had occurred before the beginning of the period covered. In this instance Total Appropriations for the Budgeted and Estimated Actual year may not equal Total Annual Appropriations and Forecast Permanent Appropriations and Multi-Year Appropriations in the Details of Appropriations and Capital Injections.

Adjustments to the Summary of Financial Activity Table Due to Vote Restructuring

There have been no restructuring adjustments to prior year information in the Summary of Financial Activity table.

1.3 - Analysis of Significant Trends

Other Expenses

Over 53% of other expenses relate to permanent legislative authority appropriations for salaries and allowances for judicial and statutory officers. The Remuneration Authority sets the pay for judicial and statutory officers and increases are processed for new salary and allowances determinations issued. Additional Judges have been in place since 2020/21 to initially address backlogs, including caseloads affected by COVID-19 restrictions, with ongoing increases to improve and maintain the timeliness of case processing across the Courts. An increase in Coroners was approved from 2022/23 to improve the coronial system for bereaved families and whānau.

The Court and Coroner Related Costs appropriation has increased from nearly \$123 million in 2020/21 to an estimated actual of nearly \$179 million in 2024/25. The increase in expenditure is due to heightened demand, rising cost of services, and greater case complexity. Ongoing funding at this increased level is provided in outyears to ensure that the judiciary have sufficient information to proceed with cases while court users receive appropriate support and representation.

Multi-Category Output Expenses

The Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services, including the Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services MCA appropriation has increased from nearly \$554 million in 2020/21 to an estimated actual of nearly \$727 million in 2024/25. The increase in expenditure over this period is due to:

- project costs relating to investments in property and information technology infrastructure, including seismic strengthening of current courthouses, new courthouses and Te Au Reka, a digital case management solution for courts and tribunals
- new initiatives to improve the justice system, including Te Ao Marama, a new model for the District Court to deliver services
- costs associated with high profile court events including Whakaari/White Island criminal prosecution and Christchurch masjidain attack court proceedings, and
- increasing costs for staff remuneration and depreciation.

The expenditure is forecasted to increase to nearly \$776 million in 2025/26 due to:

- increasing project cost associated with Te Au Reka as the project progresses to the build phase
- increasing costs for frontline staff remuneration, and
- additional funding for core functions to enable a continued focus on improving timeliness in the Courts and across the justice system.

From 2026/27 to 2028/29 costs are projected to remain relatively stable as projects head towards completion and new initiatives begin to be implemented.

Crown Revenue and Capital Receipts

Over 95% of the non-tax revenue is collected through Court fines, that are subject to judicial decisions.

Part 3 - Details of Non-Departmental Appropriations

3.4 - Non-Departmental Other Expenses

Assistance to Victims of Crime (M19) (A23)

Scope of Appropriation

Funding for the Criminal Justice Assistance Reimbursement Scheme.

Expenses

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	40	-	40

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve effective support and services for victims, to reduce the impact of crime.

How Performance will be Assessed and End of Year Reporting Requirements

An exemption was granted, as the appropriation is one from which resources will be provided to a person or an entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown entity, under s15D(2)(b)(iii) of the Public Finance Act 1989, as the amount of this annual appropriation for a non-departmental output expense is less than \$5 million.

Community Magistrates Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23)

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to the remuneration and allowances of Community Magistrates as authorised by section 60 of the District Court Act 2016.

Expenses

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	3,973	3,973	5,396

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve the efficient running of the courts system by providing payment of salaries and allowances to Community Magistrates.

How Performance will be Assessed and End of Year Reporting Requirements

An exemption was granted, as the appropriation is one from which resources will be provided to a person or an entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown entity, under s15D(2)(b)(ii) of the Public Finance Act 1989, as additional performance information is unlikely to be informative because this appropriation is solely for payments under the remuneration provisions of the District Court Act 2016.

Current and Past Policy Initiatives

Policy Initiative	Year of First Impact	2024/25 Final Budgeted \$000	2025/26 Budget \$000	2026/27 Estimated \$000	2027/28 Estimated \$000	2028/29 Estimated \$000
Current Government						
Court Timeliness - Investing in Judicial Capacity	2025/26	-	1,228	1,428	1,428	1,428

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

The increase in this appropriation for 2025/26 is due to an increase of \$1.228 million for additional Community Magistrates to improve and maintain the timeliness of cases across the Courts.

Coroners and Associate Coroners' Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23)

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to the costs related to the terms and conditions of remuneration for Coroners and Associate Coroners pursuant to Section 110 of the Coroners Act 2006.

Expenses

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	16,659	16,659	17,142

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve the efficient running of the coronial function by providing payment of salaries and allowances to Coroners and Associate Coroners.

How Performance will be Assessed and End of Year Reporting Requirements

An exemption was granted, as the appropriation is one from which resources will be provided to a person or an entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown entity, under s15D(2)(b)(ii) of the Public Finance Act 1989 as additional performance information is unlikely to be informative because this appropriation is solely for payments under section 110 of the Coroners Act 2006.

Current and Past Policy Initiatives

Policy Initiative	Year of First Impact	2024/25 Final Budgeted \$000	2025/26 Budget \$000	2026/27 Estimated \$000	2027/28 Estimated \$000	2028/29 Estimated \$000
Previous Government						
Coronial Services - Improving the Coronial System for Bereaved Families and Whānau	2022/23	3,806	3,806	3,806	3,806	3,806

Court and Coroner Related Costs (M19) (A23)

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to meeting the costs of services directed by or provided to courts (including coroners) and tribunals, including the costs of legal services (including settlement of claims) arising out of the exercise of judicial functions or the execution of judicial process, costs required to be met by the Crown under legislation, and remuneration of Lay Members and Visiting Justices.

Expenses

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	178,800	178,800	178,465

Components of the Appropriation

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Family Court Professional Services	57,280	57,280	57,279
Coroner-Directed Post-Mortems	29,909	29,909	27,633
Family Violence Professional Services	21,365	21,365	24,578
Oranga Tamariki Act Professional Services	13,170	13,170	13,170
Youth Court Professional Fees	13,490	13,490	12,371
Medical and Other Professional Services	12,239	12,239	12,239
Interpreter costs	8,888	8,888	8,888
Personal Property Protection Rights Costs	8,746	8,746	8,746
Juror Fees and Expenses	8,202	8,202	8,202
Witness Fees and Expenses	2,134	2,134	1,982
Māori Land Court Special Aid Fund	1,847	1,847	1,847
Judicial Review Costs	957	957	957
Visiting Justices to Prisons	416	416	416
Costs in Criminal Cases	157	157	157
Total	178,800	178,800	178,465

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve effective professional and administrative services to ensure that court users receive appropriate support and representation, and the judiciary have sufficient information to proceed with cases.

How Performance will be Assessed and End of Year Reporting Requirements

	2024/25		2025/26
Assessment of Performance	Final Budgeted Standard	Estimated Actual	Budget Standard
Number of external professional services appointed in the Family Court (see Note 1)	>13,000	At least >13,000	>13,000
Percentage of people who started a non-violence programme who completed the programme (see Note 2)	65%	At least 65%	Measure removed
Percentage of people who completed a safety programme and met the objectives of the programme	70%	At least 70%	70%
Percentage of post-mortems performed within two working days following the later of, receipt of the coroner's direction or arrival of the body at the post-mortem facility (see Note 3)	New measure	New measure	95%

Note 1 - The services include court appointed counsel, such as lawyer for child, lawyer to assist the court and specialist report writers. These services are demand driven and professional service providers are engaged when the judge determines there is a need. An application can have more than one type of service provision appointment.

Note 2 - This performance indicator was removed in 2025/26 as performance is assessed by the percentage of people who completed a safety programme, which is already measured through the performance indicator 'Percentage of people who completed a safety programme and met the objectives of the programme'.

Note 3 - This new performance indicator for 2025/26 was selected to provide a better understanding of the services delivered under this appropriation. Performance of this component is assessed by completing post-mortems in a timely fashion.

End of Year Performance Reporting

Performance information for this appropriation will be reported by the Minister for Courts in a report appended to the Ministry of Justice's Annual Report.

Current and Past Policy Initiatives

Policy Initiative	Year of First Impact	2024/25 Final Budgeted \$000	2025/26 Budget \$000	2026/27 Estimated \$000	2027/28 Estimated \$000	2028/29 Estimated \$000
Current Government						
Court Timeliness - Delivering Timely Access to Justice Services	2025/26	-	14,786	15,411	15,411	15,411
Court Timeliness - Cost Pressures for Court and Coroner Costs	2024/25	20,633	1,668	-	-	-
Court and Coronial Services - Returning Funding for Initiatives with Low Demand	2024/25	(2,893)	(400)	(128)	(128)	(128)

Policy Initiative	Year of First Impact	2024/25 Final Budgeted \$000	2025/26 Budget \$000	2026/27 Estimated \$000	2027/28 Estimated \$000	2028/29 Estimated \$000
Previous Government						
Maintaining Momentum Across Te Aorerekura - Improved Access to Family Violence Programmes in Court and the Community	2023/24	3,250	6,064	8,239	8,239	8,239
Extend Pay Equity Settlement for Social Workers in Community and Iwi Organisations	2023/24	1,339	1,474	1,586	1,586	1,586
Settlement of Pay Equity Claim for Social Work-Related Roles	2023/24	295	320	336	336	336
Meeting Demand for Critical Court and Justice Services	2022/23	13,607	13,607	13,607	13,607	13,607
Justice Sector Resourcing - Addressing the Impacts of the Delta COVID-19 Restrictions	2022/23	1,862	-	-	-	-
Ensuring Ongoing Access to the Māori Land Court Special Aid Fund	2020/21	500	500	500	500	500

Court Martial Appeal Court Judges' Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23)

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to the salaries and allowances of appointed Judges in the Court Martial Appeal Court as authorised by Section 3(3B) of the Court Martial Appeals Act 1953.

Expenses

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	40	40	10

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve the efficient running of the court system by providing payment of salaries and allowances to the Court Martial Appeal Court judiciary.

How Performance will be Assessed and End of Year Reporting Requirements

An exemption was granted, as the appropriation is one from which resources will be provided to a person or an entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown entity, under s15D(2)(b)(ii) of the Public Finance Act 1989, as additional performance information is unlikely to be informative because this appropriation is solely for payments under remuneration provisions of the Court Martial Appeal Act 1953.

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

The decrease in this appropriation for 2025/26 is due to decreased activities and number of sitting days for Court Martial Appeal Court Judges compared to 2024/25.

Disputes Tribunal Referees' Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23)

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to funding salaries, allowances, or fees for the Principal Disputes Referee and Referees as authorised by section 9 of the Disputes Tribunal Act 1988.

Expenses

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	8,228	8,228	8,496

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve the efficient running of tribunals by providing payment of salaries and allowances for the Principal Disputes Referee and Referees'.

How Performance will be Assessed and End of Year Reporting Requirements

An exemption was granted, as the appropriation is one from which resources will be provided to a person or an entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown entity, under s15D(2)(b)(ii) of the Public Finance Act 1989, as additional performance information is unlikely to be informative because this appropriation is solely for payments under the remuneration provisions of the Disputes Tribunal Act 1988.

District Court Judges' Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23)

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to the remuneration and allowances of Judges in the District Court, including the Environment Court, as authorised by section 34 of the District Court Act 2016.

Expenses

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	107,821	107,821	108,210

Components of the Appropriation

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
District Court Judges	102,881	102,881	103,233
Environment Court Judges	4,940	4,940	4,977
Total	107,821	107,821	108,210

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve the efficient running of the court system by providing payment of salaries and allowances to the District Court and Environment Court judiciary.

How Performance will be Assessed and End of Year Reporting Requirements

An exemption was granted, as the appropriation is one from which resources will be provided to a person or an entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown entity, under s15D(2)(b)(ii) of the Public Finance Act 1989, as additional performance information is unlikely to be informative because this appropriation is solely for payments under remuneration provisions of the District Court Act 2016.

Current and Past Policy Initiatives

Policy Initiative	Year of First Impact	2024/25 Final Budgeted \$000	2025/26 Budget \$000	2026/27 Estimated \$000	2027/28 Estimated \$000	2028/29 Estimated \$000
Current Government						
Continued Funding for District Court Judges	2025/26	-	1,528	1,528	1,528	-
Tougher Approach to Sentencing	2024/25	382	382	382	382	382
Addressing Serious Youth Offending	2024/25	181	382	382	382	382
Previous Government						
Supporting the Elimination of Indefinite Compulsory Treatment Orders under the Mental Health Act 1992	2023/24	602	602	602	602	602
Justice Sector Resourcing - Addressing the Impacts of the Delta COVID-19 Restrictions	2022/23	2,577	-	-	-	-

Employment Court Judges' Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23)

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to costs related to the terms and conditions of remuneration for Judges and acting warranted Judges in the Employment Court incurred pursuant to s.206 Employment Relations Act 2000.

Expenses

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	4,623	4,623	4,652

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve the efficient running of the courts system by providing payment of salaries and allowances to the Employment Court judiciary.

How Performance will be Assessed and End of Year Reporting Requirements

An exemption was granted, as the appropriation is one from which resources will be provided to a person or an entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown entity, under s15D(2)(b)(ii) of the Public Finance Act 1989, as additional information is unlikely to be informative because this appropriation is solely for payments under s206 Employment Relations Act 2000.

Environment Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners' Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23)

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to funding salaries, allowances, or fees for the Environment Commissioners and Deputy Environment Commissioners as authorised by section 263 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Expenses

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	3,100	3,100	3,100

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve the efficient running of the Environment Court by providing payment of salaries and allowances for the Environment Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners.

How Performance will be Assessed and End of Year Reporting Requirements

An exemption was granted, as the appropriation is one from which resources will be provided to a person or an entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown entity, under s15D(2)(b)(ii) of the Public Finance Act 1989, as additional performance information is unlikely to be informative because this appropriation is solely for payments under the remuneration provisions of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Family Court Associates Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23)

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to funding salaries, allowances, or fees for Family Court Associates as authorised by section 7E of the Family Court Act 1980.

Expenses

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	2,437	2,437	3,735

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve the efficient running of the Family Court system by providing payment of salaries and allowances to Family Court Associates.

How Performance will be Assessed and End of Year Reporting Requirements

An exemption was granted, as the appropriation is one from which resources will be provided to a person or an entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown entity, under s15D(2)(b)(ii) of the Public Finance Act 1989, as additional performance information is unlikely to be informative because this appropriation is solely for payments under section 7E of the Family Court Act 1980.

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

The increase in this appropriation for 2025/26 is due to full year forecasted salaries, allowances or fees for additional Family Court Associates appointed in 2024/25 to enable faster resolution of disputes in the Family Court.

Human Rights Review Tribunal Chairperson and Deputy Chairpersons' Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23)

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to funding salaries, allowances, or fees for the Chairperson and Deputy Chairpersons of the Human Rights Review Tribunal as authorised by section 118A of the Human Rights Act 1993.

Expenses

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	1,674	1,674	1,199

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve the efficient running of tribunals by providing payment of salaries and allowances for the Human Rights Review Tribunal Chairperson and Deputy Chairpersons'.

How Performance will be Assessed and End of Year Reporting Requirements

An exemption was granted, as the appropriation is one from which resources will be provided to a person or an entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown entity, under s15D(2)(b)(ii) of the Public Finance Act 1989, as additional performance information is unlikely to be informative because this appropriation is solely for payments under the remuneration provisions of the Human Rights Act 1993.

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

The decrease in this appropriation for 2025/26 is mainly due to a \$515,000 reduction in time-limited funding for three Human Rights Review Tribunal deputy chairpersons, which concluded in 2024/25.

Immigration and Protection Tribunal Deputy Chair and Other Members' Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23)

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to funding salaries, allowances, or fees for the deputy chair and the other members of the Immigration and Protection Tribunal as authorised by schedule 2 of the Immigration Act 2009.

Expenses

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	5,310	5,310	5,445

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve the efficient running of tribunals by providing payment of salaries and allowances for the Immigration and Protection Tribunal Deputy Chairpersons' and Members.

How Performance will be Assessed and End of Year Reporting Requirements

An exemption was granted, as the appropriation is one from which resources will be provided to a person or an entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown entity, under s15D(2)(b)(ii) of the Public Finance Act 1989, as additional performance information is unlikely to be informative because this appropriation is solely for payments under the remuneration provisions of the Immigration Act 2009.

Justices of the Peace Association (M19) (A23)

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to the cost of administrative services from the Royal Federation of Justices including training and rostering Justices of the Peace for court hearings, and training for Visiting Justices.

Expenses

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	450	450	450

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve the efficient provision of Justices of the Peace services by providing funding for the work performed by the Royal Federation of New Zealand Justices' Associations.

How Performance will be Assessed and End of Year Reporting Requirements

An exemption was granted, as the appropriation is one from which resources will be provided to a person or an entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown entity, under s15D(2)(b)(iii) of the Public Finance Act 1989, as the amount of this annual appropriation for a Non-Departmental other expense is less than \$5 million.

Māori Land Court Judges' Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23)

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to costs related to the terms and conditions of remuneration for Judges and acting warranted Judges in the Māori Land Court incurred pursuant to s.13 Te Ture Whenua Māori Land Act 1993.

Expenses

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	8,478	8,478	8,536

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve the efficient running of the courts system by providing payment of salaries and allowances to the Māori Land Court judiciary.

How Performance will be Assessed and End of Year Reporting Requirements

An exemption was granted, as the appropriation is one from which resources will be provided to a person or an entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown entity, under s15D(2)(b)(ii) of the Public Finance Act 1989, as additional information is unlikely to be informative because this appropriation is solely for payments under s13 Te Ture Whenua Māori Land Act 1993.

Senior Courts Judges' Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23)

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to the remuneration and allowances of Judges of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeal and High Court as authorised by section 135 of the Senior Courts Act 2016.

Expenses

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	49,770	49,770	49,453

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve the efficient running of the courts system by providing payment of salaries and allowances to Judges in the Supreme Court, Court of Appeal and High Court.

How Performance will be Assessed and End of Year Reporting Requirements

An exemption was granted, as the appropriation is one from which resources will be provided to a person or an entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown entity, under s15D(2)(b)(ii) of the Public Finance Act 1989, as additional performance information is unlikely to be informative because this appropriation is solely for payments under the remuneration provisions of the Senior Courts Act 2016.

Current and Past Policy Initiatives

Policy Initiative	Year of First Impact	2024/25 Final Budgeted \$000	2025/26 Budget \$000	2026/27 Estimated \$000	2027/28 Estimated \$000	2028/29 Estimated \$000
Current Government						
Court Timeliness - Investing in Judicial Capacity	2025/26	-	1,382	1,382	1,382	1,382
Previous Government						
Justice Sector Resourcing - Addressing the Impacts of the Delta COVID-19 Restrictions	2022/23	2,071	-	-	-	-

Tenancy Tribunal Adjudicators' Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23)

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to funding salaries, allowances, or fees for the Principal Tenancy Adjudicators, Deputy Principal Tenancy Adjudicator, and Tenancy Adjudicators as authorised by section 69 of the Residential Tenancies Act 1986.

Expenses

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	7,320	7,320	7,611

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve the efficient running of tribunals by providing payment of salaries and allowances for Tenancy Tribunal Adjudicators'.

How Performance will be Assessed and End of Year Reporting Requirements

An exemption was granted, as the appropriation is one from which resources will be provided to a person or an entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown entity, under s15D(2)(b)(ii) of the Public Finance Act 1989, as additional performance information is unlikely to be informative because this appropriation is solely for payments under the remuneration provisions of the Residential Tenancies Act 1986.

Tribunal Related Fees and Expenses (M19) (A23)

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to funding remuneration, allowances, or fees for the Chairs, Members, Adjudicators and Assessors of Specialist Tribunals, and expenses incurred by those Chairs, Members, Adjudicators and Assessors in relation to Tribunal work.

Expenses

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	5,783	5,783	5,541

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve the efficient running of the tribunals administered by the Ministry of Justice through the payment of remuneration, allowances, fees and expenses for Chairs, Members, Adjudicators, and Assessors of Specialist Tribunals.

How Performance will be Assessed and End of Year Reporting Requirements

An exemption was granted, as the appropriation is one from which resources will be provided to a person or an entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown entity, under s15D(2)(b)(ii) of the Public Finance Act 1989, as additional performance information is unlikely to be informative because this appropriation is solely for funding remuneration, allowances or fees, and expenses.

Current and Past Policy Initiatives

Policy Initiative	Year of First Impact	2024/25 Final Budgeted \$000	2025/26 Budget \$000	2026/27 Estimated \$000	2027/28 Estimated \$000	2028/29 Estimated \$000
Previous Government						
Charities Act 2005 - Implementation of Changes	2023/24	110	110	110	110	110
Increasing fees paid to Judicial Officers	2022/23	1,299	1,299	1,299	1,299	1,299
Supporting the Tenancy Tribunal to Manage Pressures Arising from Rental Law Reforms, to Better Support New Zealanders	2021/22	238	238	238	238	238

Weathertight Homes Tribunal Chair Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23)

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to funding salaries, allowances, or fees for the chair of the Weathertight Homes Tribunal as authorised by schedule 3 section 6(1) of the Weathertight Homes Resolution Services Act 2006.

Expenses

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	181	181	181

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve the efficient running of tribunals by providing payment of salaries and allowances for the Weathertight Homes Tribunal Chair.

How Performance will be Assessed and End of Year Reporting Requirements

An exemption was granted, as the appropriation is one from which resources will be provided to a person or an entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown entity, under s15D(2)(b)(ii) of the Public Finance Act 1989 as additional performance information is unlikely to be informative because this appropriation is solely for payments under schedule 3 section 6(1) of the Weathertight Homes Resolution Services Act 2006.

Part 4 - Details of Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure

4 - Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure

Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services, including the Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services (M19) (A23)

Overarching Purpose Statement

The single overarching purpose of this appropriation is to provide courts, tribunals and other authorities services, including the collection and enforcement of fines and civil debts services.

Scope of Appropriation

Departmental Output Expenses

Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services

This category is limited to the purchase of collection and enforcement of fines and civil debts services.

District Court Services

This category is limited to providing services that support the work of the District Court, including the Youth Court and Family Court.

New Zealand Support of International Jurisdictions

This category is limited to the provision of services that support the courts, tribunals and other authorities of international jurisdictions.

Senior Courts Services

This category is limited to providing services that support the work of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeal and High Court.

Specialist Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services

This category is limited to providing services that support the work of specialist courts, tribunals and other authorities.

Expenses, Revenue and Capital Expenditure

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	726,634	726,634	775,527
Departmental Output Expenses			
Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services	63,311	63,311	65,818
District Court Services	420,783	420,783	463,610
New Zealand Support of International Jurisdictions	5,254	5,254	2,741
Senior Courts Services	105,072	105,072	108,065
Specialist Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services	132,214	132,214	135,293

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Funding for Departmental Output Expenses			
Revenue from the Crown	659,310	659,310	705,998
Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services	54,487	54,487	53,804
District Court Services	398,203	398,203	440,357
New Zealand Support of International Jurisdictions	190	190	213
Senior Courts Services	92,571	92,571	95,130
Specialist Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services	113,859	113,859	116,494
Revenue from Others	67,080	67,080	69,225
Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services	8,824	8,824	12,014
District Court Services	22,580	22,580	23,253
New Zealand Support of International Jurisdictions	5,064	5,064	2,528
Senior Courts Services	12,501	12,501	12,935
Specialist Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services	18,111	18,111	18,495

Components of the Appropriation

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Departmental			
<i>Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services</i>			
Collection and Enforcement of Fines	52,976	52,976	54,960
Collection and Enforcement of Civil Debt	10,335	10,335	10,858
Total	63,311	63,311	65,818
<i>District Court Services</i>			
Criminal Court	259,167	259,167	277,318
Family Court	130,205	130,205	154,363
Civil Court	31,411	31,411	31,929
Total	420,783	420,783	463,610
<i>New Zealand Support of International Jurisdictions</i>			
Pacific Regional Justice Sector Programme	5,254	5,254	2,741
<i>Senior Court Services</i>			
High Court - Criminal	45,722	45,722	45,509
High Court - Civil	31,960	31,960	33,641
Supreme Court - Criminal	9,704	9,704	10,506
Supreme Court - Civil	9,669	9,669	9,996
Court of Appeal - Criminal	4,168	4,168	4,427
Court of Appeal - Civil	3,849	3,849	3,986
Total	105,072	105,072	108,065

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
<i>Specialist Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services</i>			
Māori Land Court and Māori Land Information	40,858	40,858	42,554
Other Tribunals and Authorities	27,079	27,079	28,095
Coroner Services	17,687	17,687	16,121
Disputes Tribunal	13,292	13,292	13,843
Waitangi Tribunal Services	12,586	12,586	13,109
Environment Court	9,078	9,078	9,455
Tenancy Tribunal	8,805	8,805	9,170
Employment Court	2,829	2,829	2,946
Total	132,214	132,214	135,293

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve an efficient and accessible system of courts, tribunals and other authorities, which is trusted by New Zealanders.

How Performance will be Assessed for this Appropriation

	2024/25		2025/26
	Final Budgeted Standard	Estimated Actual	Budget Standard
Assessment of Performance			
Satisfaction of court users with court services and facilities (see Note 1)	80%	At least 80%	Not measured
Percentage of juror survey responses that rate overall juror satisfaction as "satisfied" or better (see Note 1)	90%	At least 90%	Not measured
Average time to answer calls to the Registry Contact Centre (mm:ss)	02:00	02:00	02:00

Note 1 - These performance indicators were measured in 2024/25 but were not measured in 2025/26. This is because from July 2025, the Court User Survey and Juror Survey was merged into one survey and will be conducted biennially from 2025, starting in 2026/27. The survey questionnaire has also been updated to focus on access to justice, participation and reduced harm.

What is Intended to be Achieved with each Category and How Performance will be Assessed

	2024/25		2025/26
Assessment of Performance	Final Budgeted Standard	Estimated Actual	Budget Standard
Departmental Output Expenses			
Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services			
This category is intended to achieve efficient, accessible and responsive collections of fines, reparations and civil debt services that are trusted by the public.			
Total amount of fines collected	>\$180 million	At least >\$180 million	>\$180 million
Civil enforcement applications processed in six days	90%	At least 90%	90%
Percentage of Offender Levy collected or placed under arrangement within four months	75%	At least 75%	75%
Percentage of debt that is under arrangement	45%	At least 45%	45%
Average time to answer calls to the Collections Contact Centre (mm:ss)	01:30	01:30	01:30
District Court Services			
This category is intended to achieve efficient, accessible and responsive District Courts services that are trusted by the public.			
Percentage of Care of Children Act cases disposed of within 12 months in the Family Court	75%	At least 75%	75%
Percentage of criminal cases disposed of within category-based timeliness thresholds (see Note 1)	90%	81%	90%
Number of District Court criminal cases (including youth) disposed of	>110,000	At least >110,000	>110,000
Number of civil cases disposed of	>16,000	At least >16,000	>16,000
Number of Family Court substantive applications disposed of (see Note 2)	>55,000	At least >55,000	>55,000
Number of calls received by the 0800 Victims of Crime Information Line (see Note 3)	17,000-19,000	17,000-19,000	Measure removed
Percentage of calls answered by the 0800 Victims of Crime Information Line answered within 30 seconds (see Note 4)	80%	At least 80%	80%
Dissolution of marriage applications processed within six days	90%	At least 90%	90%
Applications to commence civil proceedings processed within six days	90%	At least 90%	90%
New Zealand Support of International Jurisdictions			
This category is intended to achieve a stable, prosperous and resilient Pacific through support for the development of accessible, fair, responsive and efficient justice systems.			
Milestones delivered as agreed in the Pacific Justice Sector Programme memorandum of understanding between the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade	90%	At least 90%	90%

	2024/25		2025/26
Assessment of Performance	Final Budgeted Standard	Estimated Actual	Budget Standard
Senior Courts Services			
This category is intended to achieve efficient, accessible and responsive Senior Courts services that are trusted by the public.			
Number of Supreme Court civil and criminal applications for leave to appeal and appeals disposed of	100-200	At least 100	100-200
Number of Court of Appeal civil and criminal appeals disposed of	570-730	At least 570	570-730
Number of High Court civil and criminal appeals disposed of	1,500-1,750	At least 1,500	1,500-1,750
Number of High Court civil and criminal cases disposed of	2,100-2,700	At least 2,100	2,100-2,700
Specialist Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services			
This category is intended to achieve efficient, accessible and responsive specialist courts, tribunals and other authorities' services that are trusted by the public.			
<i>Accident Compensation Appeals District Court Registry</i>			
Percentage of Accident Compensation Appeals District Court Registry cases disposed of	85%	At least 85%	85%
<i>Alcohol Regulatory Licensing Authority</i>			
Percentage of Alcohol Regulatory Licensing Authority appeals and enforcements disposed of within six months	75%	At least 75%	75%
<i>Coronial Services Unit</i>			
Number of coronial cases closed	>3,100	At least >3,100	>3,100
Percentage of coronial cases on hand aged under 12 months	60%	At least 60%	60%
<i>Disputes Tribunal</i>			
Number of Disputes Tribunal claims disposed of	>12,000	At least >12,000	>12,000
Percentage of Disputes Tribunal claims disposed of within three months	70%	At least 70%	70%
Disputes Tribunal applications processed within six days	85%	At least 85%	85%
<i>Employment Court</i>			
Number of Employment Court cases disposed of	>150	At least >150	>150
Percentage of Employment Court cases on hand aged under 12 months	75%	At least 75%	75%
<i>Environment Court</i>			
Number of Environment Court cases disposed of	>350	At least >350	>350
Percentage of Environment Court cases on hand aged under 18 months	75%	At least 75%	75%
<i>Human Rights Review Tribunal</i>			
Percentage of Human Rights Review Tribunal cases disposed of	80%	At least 80%	80%
<i>Immigration and Protection Tribunal</i>			
Percentage of Immigration and Protection Tribunal cases disposed of	90%	At least 90%	90%

	2024/25		2025/26
Assessment of Performance	Final Budgeted Standard	Estimated Actual	Budget Standard
<i>Māori Land Court</i>			
Number of Māori Land Court and Māori Appellate Court applications disposed of	>5,000	At least >5,000	>5,000
Percentage of Māori Land Court and Māori Appellate Court applications disposed of within 12 months	80%	At least 80%	80%
<i>Tenancy Tribunal</i>			
Number of Tenancy Tribunal applications disposed of	>18,300	At least >18,300	>18,300
<i>Waitangi Tribunal</i>			
Percentage of Waitangi Tribunal claims processed within 30 days	90%	At least 90%	90%

Note 1 - Category 1 = 6 months, Category 2 = 9 months, Category 3 judge alone trials = 9 months, Category 3 jury trials = 15 months.

Note 2 - A substantive application is an application that initiates the proceedings and identifies the issue that the court is asked to determine.

Note 3 - The performance indicator 'Number of calls received by the 0800 victims of crime information line' was removed in 2025/26 as performance of this category is assessed by answering calls to the Victims of Crime Information Line in a timely fashion.

Note 4 - Victim Support is funded to receive 17,000-19,000 calls to the Victims of Crime Information Line per year.

End of Year Performance Reporting

Performance information for this appropriation will be reported by the Ministry of Justice in its Annual Report.

Current and Past Policy Initiatives

Policy Initiative	Year of First Impact	2024/25 Final Budgeted \$000	2025/26 Budget \$000	2026/27 Estimated \$000	2027/28 Estimated \$000	2028/29 Estimated \$000
Current Government						
Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services						
Court Timeliness - Delivering Timely Access to Justice Services	2025/26	-	919	636	636	636
Court Fines and Legal Aid Debt Collection Changes	2024/25	1,712	1,438	978	972	972
Remuneration for Frontline Staff	2024/25	288	1,672	2,210	2,478	2,690
Optimising the Ministry's Back-Office Functions	2024/25	(1,143)	(1,133)	(1,133)	(1,133)	(1,133)

Policy Initiative	Year of First Impact	2024/25 Final Budgeted \$000	2025/26 Budget \$000	2026/27 Estimated \$000	2027/28 Estimated \$000	2028/29 Estimated \$000
District Court Services						
Court Timeliness - Delivering Timely Access to Justice Services	2025/26	-	3,291	4,134	4,134	4,134
Auckland District Court Building Infrastructure Replacement	2025/26	-	933	1,706	2,505	3,853
Court Timeliness - Investing in Judicial Capacity	2025/26	-	665	234	234	234
Increasing Revenue from Courts and Tribunal Fees	2025/26	-	311	311	311	311
Te Au Reka - Digital Case Management Solution for Courts and Tribunals	2024/25	8,571	56,068	34,112	19,698	16,968
Responding to Gang Harm	2024/25	2,433	2,083	2,083	2,083	2,083
Addressing Serious Youth Offending	2024/25	2,121	1,710	1,538	1,380	1,380
Remuneration for Frontline Staff	2024/25	1,298	6,400	8,885	10,124	11,107
Tougher Approach to Sentencing	2024/25	1,287	653	653	653	653
New Tauranga Criminal Courthouse	2024/25	771	1,831	3,149	8,643	10,387
Courts and Tribunals Fees - Increased Revenue	2024/25	87	9	9	9	9
Returning Funding for Te Ao Mārama	2024/25	(4,768)	(7,065)	(6,705)	(6,782)	(6,782)
Optimising the Ministry's Back-Office Functions	2024/25	(4,335)	(4,297)	(4,313)	(4,313)	(4,313)
Returning Funding for Lifting Cultural Capability	2024/25	(928)	(1,250)	(1,250)	(1,250)	(1,250)
New Zealand Support of International Jurisdictions						
Optimising the Ministry's Back-Office Functions	2024/25	(17)	(16)	-	-	-
Senior Courts Services						
Court Timeliness - Delivering Timely Access to Justice Services	2025/26	-	2,188	2,539	2,539	2,539
Court Timeliness - Investing in Judicial Capacity	2025/26	-	1,509	1,431	1,444	1,461
Increasing Revenue from Courts and Tribunal Fees	2025/26	-	161	161	161	161
Remuneration for Frontline Staff	2024/25	312	1,535	2,190	2,517	2,776
Courts and Tribunals Fees - Increased Revenue	2024/25	161	14	14	14	14
New Tauranga Criminal Courthouse	2024/25	86	203	350	960	1,154
Optimising the Ministry's Back-Office Functions	2024/25	(970)	(961)	(961)	(961)	(961)
Back-Office Transformation	2024/25	(179)	(179)	(179)	(179)	(179)
Specialist Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services						
Court Timeliness - Delivering Timely Access to Justice Services	2025/26	-	2,261	2,706	2,706	2,706
Increasing Revenue from Courts and Tribunal Fees	2025/26	-	40	40	40	40
Remuneration for Frontline Staff	2024/25	617	2,913	4,111	4,708	5,181
Courts and Tribunals Fees - Increased Revenue	2024/25	332	24	24	24	24
Optimising the Ministry's Back-Office Functions	2024/25	(1,871)	(1,855)	(1,855)	(1,855)	(1,855)

Policy Initiative	Year of First Impact	2024/25 Final Budgeted \$000	2025/26 Budget \$000	2026/27 Estimated \$000	2027/28 Estimated \$000	2028/29 Estimated \$000
Previous Government						
Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services						
Continuing to Pay Employees to Maintain Core Justice Services for New Zealanders	2022/23	6,822	7,517	7,853	7,955	6,212
Investment in Infrastructure - Maintaining Critical Technology for Courts and Justice Services	2022/23	1,218	1,161	1,161	1,161	1,161
Investment in Infrastructure - Ensuring a Secure Technology Environment for Courts and Justice Services	2022/23	272	272	272	272	272
Justice Sector Resourcing - Addressing the Impacts of the Delta COVID-19 Restrictions	2022/23	8	-	-	-	-
Addressing Remuneration Cost Pressures at the Ministry of Justice	2020/21	1,956	1,956	1,956	1,956	1,956
District Court Services						
Wellington District Courthouse Remediation Project	2024/25	961	2,978	3,276	3,276	3,276
Justice Property Health and Safety Remediation - Seismic Strengthening of Ministry of Justice Courthouses	2023/24	9,708	12,201	14,029	13,341	14,286
Te Au Reka - Digital case management solution for courts and tribunals	2023/24	2,888	-	-	-	-
Cultural Capability - Ministry of Justice	2023/24	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Supporting the Elimination of Indefinite Compulsory Treatment Orders under the Mental Health Act 1992	2023/24	1,617	593	593	593	593
Maintaining Momentum Across Te Aorerekura - Improved Access to Family Violence Programmes in Court and the Community	2023/24	130	130	130	130	130
Continuing to Pay Employees to Maintain Core Justice Services for New Zealanders	2022/23	17,908	23,271	24,801	25,263	17,332
Te Ao Mārama - Partnering with Iwi to Design New Solutions for People Going Through the District Court	2022/23	17,049	17,477	16,084	16,084	16,084
Court Security - Strengthening Health, Safety, and Security at the Courts of New Zealand	2022/23	5,899	5,899	5,899	5,899	5,899
Investment in Infrastructure - Maintaining Critical Technology for Courts and Justice Services	2022/23	5,359	5,105	5,105	5,105	5,105
Justice Sector Resourcing - Addressing the Impacts of the Delta COVID-19 Restrictions	2022/23	3,745	200	200	200	200
Continuing the Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Courts: Waikato, Auckland and Waitakere	2022/23	1,661	1,657	1,657	1,657	1,657
Preventing Family Violence and Sexual Violence: Foundational FVSV Training for Ministry of Justice Workforce	2022/23	1,330	1,211	1,211	1,211	1,211
Investment in Infrastructure - Ensuring a Secure Technology Environment for Courts and Justice Services	2022/23	1,195	1,195	1,195	1,195	1,195
Criminal Process Improvement Programme - Make Every Event in the Criminal District Court System Meaningful	2022/23	1,111	1,111	1,111	1,111	1,111

Policy Initiative	Year of First Impact	2024/25 Final Budgeted \$000	2025/26 Budget \$000	2026/27 Estimated \$000	2027/28 Estimated \$000	2028/29 Estimated \$000
Safeguarding Child Wellbeing and Building a Strong Foundation for Change in the Family Justice System	2021/22	6,968	6,968	6,968	6,968	6,968
Continuing the Interpreter and Communication Assistance Services to Maintain Access to Justice	2021/22	1,718	1,718	1,718	1,718	1,718
Consistent Access to Justice through Effective Scheduling across the District Court and Tribunals	2021/22	1,437	1,437	1,437	1,437	1,437
Whakaoranga te Mana Tangata - Uplifting the Mana of Offenders, Victims and Whānau	2021/22	1,346	1,346	1,346	1,346	1,346
Strengthening the Family Court - Initiatives to Enhance Child and Whānau Wellbeing under COVID-19	2020/21	10,892	10,892	10,892	10,892	10,892
Addressing Remuneration Cost Pressures at the Ministry of Justice	2020/21	7,186	7,186	7,186	7,186	7,186
Wellington District Court Upgrade	2020/21	593	593	593	593	593
Justice Sector Resourcing to Address COVID-19 Related Backlogs	2020/21	439	439	439	439	439
New Zealand Support of International Jurisdictions						
Continuing to Pay Employees to Maintain Core Justice Services for New Zealanders	2022/23	207	229	239	242	188
Senior Courts Services						
Justice Property Health and Safety Remediation - Seismic Strengthening of Ministry of Justice Courthouses	2023/24	2,350	2,953	3,396	3,230	3,458
Continuing to Pay Employees to Maintain Core Justice Services for New Zealanders	2022/23	4,400	5,167	5,538	5,650	3,726
Justice Sector Resourcing - Addressing the Impacts of the Delta COVID-19 Restrictions	2022/23	1,670	-	-	-	-
Investment in Infrastructure - Maintaining Critical Technology for Courts and Justice Services	2022/23	1,420	1,353	1,353	1,353	1,353
Support for Judicial Branch of Government - Sustainably Expanding Te Kura Kaiwhakawā (Institute of Judicial Studies)	2022/23	1,073	1,073	1,073	1,073	1,073
Investment in Infrastructure - Ensuring a Secure Technology Environment for Courts and Justice Services	2022/23	317	317	317	317	317
Addressing Remuneration Cost Pressures at the Ministry of Justice	2020/21	1,671	1,671	1,671	1,671	1,671
Specialist Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services						
Charities Act 2005 - Implementation of Changes	2023/24	125	125	125	125	125
Continuing to Pay Employees to Maintain Core Justice Services for New Zealanders	2022/23	8,743	10,033	10,659	10,845	7,606
Coronial Services - Improving the Coronial System for Bereaved Families and Whānau	2022/23	4,263	3,963	3,963	3,963	3,963
Investment in Infrastructure - Maintaining Critical Technology for Courts and Justice Services	2022/23	2,266	2,158	2,158	2,158	2,158
Investment in Infrastructure - Ensuring a Secure Technology Environment for Courts and Justice Services	2022/23	504	504	504	504	504
Motor Vehicle Disputes Tribunal Levy Amendments	2022/23	319	319	319	319	319

Policy Initiative	Year of First Impact	2024/25 Final Budgeted \$000	2025/26 Budget \$000	2026/27 Estimated \$000	2027/28 Estimated \$000	2028/29 Estimated \$000
Supporting the Tenancy Tribunal to Manage Pressures Arising from Rental Law Reforms, to Better Support New Zealanders	2021/22	1,133	1,133	1,133	1,133	1,133
Addressing Remuneration Cost Pressures at the Ministry of Justice	2020/21	3,324	3,324	3,324	3,324	3,324

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

The increase in this appropriation for 2025/26 is mainly due to:

- a net increase of \$30.157 million to reflect funding for a digital case management system to reduce delays and improve access to information
- an increase of \$10.005 million for remuneration costs for staff delivering frontline services, including court and security staff
- a net increase of \$9.023 million for project operating costs relating to capital work to be completed on priority courthouses
- an increase of \$8.659 million to support the delivery of core functions to enable a continued focus on improving timeliness in the Courts and across the justice system
- an increase of \$8.137 million to ensure core justice services are maintained by improving remuneration for Ministry of Justice employees, and
- an increase of \$2.174 million for support to additional judicial officers appointed to improve and maintain the timeliness of cases across the Courts.

This is partially offset by:

- a net decrease of \$5.223 million for time-limited funding for justice sector resourcing, aimed at addressing caseloads impacted by COVID-19 restrictions
- a decrease of \$4.800 million for time-limited funding to support the coronial inquiry into the Christchurch masjidain attack and associated judicial review
- a net decrease of \$2.536 million to deliver the Pacific Regional Justice Sector programme, reflecting a reduction in agency and grant contributions of \$2.354 million, and attendance fees of \$182,000 for the Pacific Judicial Conference 2025
- a net decrease of \$1.869 million for Te Ao Mārama programme, the new model for the District Court to deliver services, scaling the implementation to eight sites
- a decrease of \$1.298 million to reflect the appointment of additional Family Court Associates that are funded by a Permanent Legislative Authority appropriation, and
- a decrease of \$1.024 million for independent Mental Health review hearings due to the elimination of indefinite compulsory treatment orders under the Mental Health Act 1992.

Memorandum Accounts

	2024/25		2025/26
	Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Second Hand Dealers and Pawnbrokers			
Opening Balance at 1 July	385	385	341
Revenue	203	203	203
Expenses	(247)	(247)	(247)
Transfers and Adjustments	-	-	-
Closing Balance at 30 June	341	341	297
Legal Complaints Review Officers			
Opening Balance at 1 July	1,871	1,871	1,671
Revenue	1,719	1,719	1,739
Expenses	(1,919)	(1,919)	(1,999)
Transfers and Adjustments	-	-	-
Closing Balance at 30 June	1,671	1,671	1,411