

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

Details of Appropriations and Capital Injections

Annual Appropriations and Forecast Permanent Appropriations

Titles and Scopes of Appropriations by Appropriation Type	2024/25		
	Estimates Budget \$000	Supplementary Estimates Budget \$000	Total 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.	3,769	204	3,973
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.	15,334	1,325	16,659
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.	158,167	20,633	178,800
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.	10	30	40
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
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.	102,635	5,186	107,821
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.	4,472	151	4,623
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
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.	1,716	721	2,437
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
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

	2024/25		
	Estimates Budget \$000	Supplementary Estimates Budget \$000	Total Budget \$000
Titles and Scopes of Appropriations by Appropriation Type			
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
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.	8,213	265	8,478
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.	45,903	3,867	49,770
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.	7,176	144	7,320
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
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
Total Non-Departmental Other Expenses	372,161	32,526	404,687
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.	695,565	31,069	726,634
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.	62,861	450	63,311
<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.	397,443	23,340	420,783
<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.	2,690	2,564	5,254
<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.	102,974	2,098	105,072
<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.	129,597	2,617	132,214
Total Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure	695,565	31,069	726,634
Total Annual Appropriations and Forecast Permanent Appropriations	1,067,726	63,595	1,131,321

Supporting Information

Part 1 - Vote as a Whole

1.2 - Trends in the Vote

Summary of Financial Activity

	2024/25				
	Estimates \$000	Supplementary Estimates			Total \$000
		Departmental Transactions \$000	Non- Departmental Transactions \$000	Total Transactions \$000	
Appropriations					
Output Expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Benefits or Related Expenses	-	N/A	-	-	-
Borrowing Expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	372,161	-	32,526	32,526	404,687
Capital Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-
Intelligence and Security Department Expenses and Capital Expenditure	-	-	N/A	-	-
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure (MCA)					
<i>Output Expenses</i>	695,565	31,069	-	31,069	726,634
<i>Other Expenses</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Capital Expenditure</i>	-	N/A	-	-	-
Total Appropriations	1,067,726	31,069	32,526	63,595	1,131,321
Crown Revenue and Capital Receipts					
Tax Revenue	-	N/A	-	-	-
Non-Tax Revenue	119,842	N/A	22,037	22,037	141,879
Capital Receipts	-	N/A	-	-	-
Total Crown Revenue and Capital Receipts	119,842	N/A	22,037	22,037	141,879

Part 3 - Details of Non-Departmental Appropriations

3.4 - Non-Departmental Other Expenses

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.

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

This appropriation increased by \$204,000 to \$3.973 million for 2024/25 due to additional funding in accordance with salary and allowance determinations issued by the Remuneration Authority.

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.

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

This appropriation increased by \$1.325 million to \$16.659 million for 2024/25 due to additional funding in accordance with salary and allowance determinations issued by the Remuneration Authority.

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.

Components of the Appropriation

	2024/25		
	Estimates \$000	Supplementary Estimates \$000	Total \$000
Family Court Professional Services	56,441	839	57,280
Coroner-Directed Post-Mortems	22,296	7,613	29,909
Family Violence Professional Services	20,776	589	21,365
Youth Court Professional Fees	17,968	(4,478)	13,490
Oranga Tamariki Act Professional Services	11,576	1,594	13,170
Medical and Other Professional Services	5,786	6,453	12,239
Interpreter costs	7,938	950	8,888

	2024/25		
	Estimates \$000	Supplementary Estimates \$000	Total \$000
Personal Property Protection Rights Costs	3,148	5,598	8,746
Juror Fees and Expenses	6,864	1,338	8,202
Witness Fees and Expenses	2,742	(608)	2,134
Māori Land Court Special Aid Fund	1,847	-	1,847
Judicial Review Costs	222	735	957
Visiting Justices to Prisons	355	61	416
Costs in Criminal Cases	157	-	157
Representations for Blood Sampling	51	(51)	-
Total	158,167	20,633	178,800

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

This appropriation increased by \$20.633 million to \$178.800 million for 2024/25 due to additional funding for demand driven services that support the courts.

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.

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

This appropriation increased by \$30,000 to \$40,000 for 2024/25 to reflect an increase in activities and number of sitting days for Court Martial Appeal Court Judges.

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.

Components of the Appropriation

	2024/25		
	Estimates \$000	Supplementary Estimates \$000	Total \$000
District Court Judges	97,302	5,579	102,881
Environment Court Judges	5,333	(393)	4,940
Total	102,635	5,186	107,821

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

This appropriation increased by \$5.186 million to \$107.821 million for 2024/25 due to additional funding in accordance with salary and allowance determinations issued by the Remuneration Authority.

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.

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

This appropriation increased by \$151,000 to \$4.623 million for 2024/25 due to additional funding in accordance with salary and allowance determinations issued by the Remuneration Authority.

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.

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

This appropriation increased by \$721,000 to \$2.437 million in 2024/25 due to the appointment of additional Family Court Associates to enable faster resolution of disputes in the Family Court.

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.

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

This appropriation increased by \$265,000 to \$8.478 million for 2024/25 due to additional funding in accordance with salary and allowance determinations issued by the Remuneration Authority.

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.

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

This appropriation increased by \$3.867 million to \$49.770 million for 2024/25 due to additional funding in accordance with salary and allowance determinations issued by the Remuneration Authority.

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.

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

This appropriation increased by \$144,000 to \$7.320 million for 2024/25 due to additional funding in accordance with salary and allowance determinations issued by the Remuneration Authority.

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		
	Estimates \$000	Supplementary Estimates \$000	Total \$000
Total Appropriation	695,565	31,069	726,634
Departmental Output Expenses			
Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services	62,861	450	63,311
District Court Services	397,443	23,340	420,783
New Zealand Support of International Jurisdictions	2,690	2,564	5,254
Senior Courts Services	102,974	2,098	105,072
Specialist Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services	129,597	2,617	132,214

	2024/25		
	Estimates \$000	Supplementary Estimates \$000	Total \$000
Funding for Departmental Output Expenses			
Revenue from the Crown	632,746	26,564	659,310
Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services	54,199	288	54,487
District Court Services	376,642	21,561	398,203
New Zealand Support of International Jurisdictions	190	-	190
Senior Courts Services	90,473	2,098	92,571
Specialist Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services	111,242	2,617	113,859
Revenue from Others	62,716	4,364	67,080
Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services	8,662	162	8,824
District Court Services	20,801	1,779	22,580
New Zealand Support of International Jurisdictions	2,500	2,564	5,064
Senior Courts Services	12,501	-	12,501
Specialist Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services	18,252	(141)	18,111

Components of the Appropriation

	2024/25		
	Estimates \$000	Supplementary Estimates \$000	Total \$000
Departmental			
<i>Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services</i>			
Collection and Enforcement of Fines	52,573	403	52,976
Collection and Enforcement of Civil Debt	10,288	47	10,335
Total	62,861	450	63,311
<i>District Court Services</i>			
Criminal Court	252,740	6,427	259,167
Family Court	113,835	16,370	130,205
Civil Court	30,868	543	31,411
Total	397,443	23,340	420,783
<i>New Zealand Support of International Jurisdictions</i>			
Pacific Regional Justice Sector Programme	2,690	2,564	5,254

	2024/25		
	Estimates \$000	Supplementary Estimates \$000	Total \$000
Senior Court Service			
High Court - Criminal	43,255	2,467	45,722
High Court - Civil	32,120	(160)	31,960
Supreme Court - Criminal	9,778	(74)	9,704
Supreme Court - Civil	9,743	(74)	9,669
Court of Appeal - Criminal	4,200	(32)	4,168
Court of Appeal - Civil	3,878	(29)	3,849
Total	102,974	2,098	105,072
Specialist Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services			
Māori Land Court and Māori Land Information	40,664	194	40,858
Other Tribunals and Authorities	26,951	128	27,079
Coroner Services	15,613	2,074	17,687
Disputes Tribunal	13,229	63	13,292
Waitangi Tribunal Services	12,526	60	12,586
Environment Court	9,035	43	9,078
Tenancy Tribunal	8,763	42	8,805
Employment Court	2,816	13	2,829
Total	129,597	2,617	132,214

How Performance will be Assessed for this Appropriation

	2024/25		
	Estimates Standard	Supplementary Estimates Standard	Total Standard
Assessment of Performance			
Average time to answer calls to the Registry Contact Centre (mm:ss) (see Note 1)	02:00	-	02:00
Percentage of category 3 and 4 criminal cases disposed within 12 months (see Note 2)	90%	Measure removed	Measure removed

Note 1 - This performance indicator was removed from the District Court Category and put into the overarching appropriation as the Registry Contact Centre provides information and advice on a range of jurisdictions across the District Court, Family Court, Senior Courts and tribunals, including civil proceedings, criminal matters, jury service and protection orders.

Note 2 - This performance indicator was removed due to the Chief District Court Judge publishing the Timely Access to Justice Protocol in June 2024, setting a standard of 90% of criminal cases to be disposed of within category-based timeliness thresholds.

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

	2024/25		
	Estimates Standard	Supplementary Estimates Standard	Total Standard
Assessment of Performance			
Departmental Output Expenses			
District Court Services			
Average time to answer calls to the Registry Contact Centre (mm:ss) (see Note 1)	02:00	Measure removed	Measure removed
Percentage of category 2 criminal cases disposed within three months (see Note 2)	70%	Measure removed	Measure removed
Percentage of criminal cases disposed of within category-based timeliness thresholds (see Notes 3 and 4)	New measure	New measure	90%

Note 1 - This performance indicator was removed from the District Court category and put into the overarching appropriation as the Registry Contact Centre provides information and advice on a range of jurisdictions across the District Court, Family Court, Senior Courts and tribunals, including civil proceedings, criminal matters, jury service and protection orders.

Note 2 - This performance indicator was removed due to the Chief District Court Judge publishing the Timely Access to Justice Protocol in June 2024, setting a standard of 90% of criminal cases to be disposed of within category-based timeliness thresholds.

Note 3 - This new performance indicator was selected because in June 2024, the Chief District Court Judge published the Timely Access to Justice Protocol, setting a standard of 90% of criminal cases to be disposed of within category-based timeliness thresholds. This standard is expected to be met by 2027, however will be reported on each financial year.

Note 4 - Category 1=6 months, Category 2=9 months, Category 3 judge alone trials=9 months, Category 3 jury trials=15 months.

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

This appropriation increased by \$31.069 million to \$726.634 million for 2024/25 due to:

- a net increase of \$21.526 million for implementing a digital case management system aimed at reducing delays and improve access to information, reflecting a fiscally neutral adjustment of \$10.455 million from capital to operating funding, new funding of \$8.571 million, and an expense transfer of \$2.500 million from 2023/24 to 2024/25
- an expense transfer of \$4.800 million from 2023/24 to 2024/25 to support the coronial inquiry into the Christchurch masjidain attack and associated judicial review
- fiscally neutral adjustments totalling \$2.564 million to deliver the Pacific Regional Justice Sector Programme, reflecting agency and grant contributions of \$2.382 million and attendance fees of \$182,000 for the Pacific Judicial Conference 2025
- an increase of \$2.515 million for remuneration costs for staff delivering frontline services, including court and security staff

- an expense transfer of \$1.900 million from 2023/24 to 2024/25 for the completion of business cases and securing building consents on priority courthouses
- fiscally neutral adjustments totalling \$1.262 million to reflect new and updated leasing arrangements
- additional funding of \$857,000 to support the construction of a new Tauranga criminal courthouse
- a fiscally neutral adjustment of \$400,000 to reflect the allocation of Ministry overhead in 2024/25
- a fiscally neutral adjustment of \$162,000 to enable the secure transfer of unpaid safety camera infringement data from Waka Kotahi to the Ministry of Justice, and
- a fiscally neutral adjustment of \$125,000 for transcription services provided to the New Zealand Parole Board.

This is partially offset by:

- an expense transfer of \$3.700 million from 2024/25 to 2027/28 for project operating costs associated with the seismic remediation of Auckland District Court, Hamilton District Court, and Wellington High Court reflecting updated timing of costs
- a technical adjustment of \$721,000 to reflect funding returned following the appointment of additional Family Court Associates, which was funded by a separate Permanent Legislative Authority appropriation
- decreased funding of \$545,000 for capital charge as a result of the revaluation of land and buildings as at 30 June 2024, and
- a fiscally neutral adjustment of \$76,000 to Vote Justice to provide funding to the Compensation for Wrongly Convicted Individuals appropriation.

Memorandum Accounts

	2024/25		
	Estimates \$000	Supplementary Estimates \$000	Total \$000
Second Hand Dealers and Pawnbrokers			
Opening Balance at 1 July	323	62	385
Revenue	144	59	203
Expenses	(247)	-	(247)
Transfers and Adjustments	-	-	-
Closing Balance at 30 June	220	121	341
Legal Complaints Review Officers			
Opening Balance at 1 July	1,993	(122)	1,871
Revenue	1,919	(200)	1,719
Expenses	(1,919)	-	(1,919)
Transfers and Adjustments	-	-	-
Closing Balance at 30 June	1,993	(322)	1,671