



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

15 February 2023

Four District Courts are closed today, Wednesday 15 February, as the impacts from Cyclone Gabrielle make it unsafe for them to open. The affected courts are Thames, Gisborne, Napier and Hastings.

Other courts affected by recent and current severe weather are operating under the local solution framework. Under the framework, priority proceedings can be completed while most non-priority work will be adjourned and rescheduled. This arrangement allows room for urgent non-priority work to still be heard if that can be safely achieved by all parties involved.

We are monitoring the weather and its affects around the country and constantly reviewing the safe operation of District Courts.

Courts are an essential service but health and safety must be a priority.

Ngā mihi

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

Heemi Taumaunu
Chief District Court Judge