

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	2020/21		
	Estimates Budget \$000	Supplementary Estimates Budget \$000	Total Budget \$000
Non-Departmental Other Expenses			
Abortion Supervisory Committee - Certifying Consultants Fees (M19) (A23) Payments to certifying consultants for providing opinions under Section 33 of the Contraception, Sterilisation and Abortion Act 1977.	5,063	(5,063)	-
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.	1,449	-	1,449
Coroners Salaries and Allowances PLA (M19) (A23) This appropriation is limited to the costs related to the terms and conditions of remuneration for Coroners pursuant to Section 110 of the Coroners Act 2006.	8,525	843	9,368
Court and Coroner Related Costs (M19) (A23) This appropriation is limited to meeting the costs of professional services directed by or provided to courts (including coroners), including costs required to be met by the Crown under legislation, remuneration of Lay Members and Visiting Justices, and payments ordered from the Māori Land Court Special Aid Fund.	121,006	1,951	122,957
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.	91,690	6,335	98,025
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.	4,191	-	4,191
Impairment of Debt Established to Recognise Contributions towards Family Court Professional Services (M19) (A23) This appropriation is limited to the impairment of debt owing as a contribution towards Family Court Professional Services costs in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.	1,292	-	1,292
Impairment of Fines Receivable (M19) (A23) This appropriation is limited to allowing for the impairment of fines, court costs and enforcement fees in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.	2,000	(2,000)	-
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.	6,007	-	6,007

	2020/21		
	Estimates Budget \$000	Supplementary Estimates Budget \$000	Total Budget \$000
Titles and Scopes of Appropriations by Appropriation Type			
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.	46,821	(3,743)	43,078
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.	19,645	800	20,445
Total Non-Departmental Other Expenses	308,179	(877)	307,302
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.	545,729	17,129	562,858
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.	59,830	721	60,551
<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.	293,765	12,838	306,603
<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.	87,954	1,184	89,138
<i>Specialist Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services</i> This category is limited to providing services that support the work of New Zealand's specialist courts, tribunals and authorities.	104,180	2,386	106,566
Total Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure	545,729	17,129	562,858
Total Annual Appropriations and Forecast Permanent Appropriations	853,908	16,252	870,160

Supporting Information

Part 1 - Vote as a Whole

1.2 - Trends in the Vote

Summary of Financial Activity

	2020/21				
	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	308,179	-	(877)	(877)	307,302
Capital Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-
Intelligence and Security Department Expenses and Capital Expenditure	-	-	N/A	-	-
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure (MCA)					
<i>Output Expenses</i>	545,729	17,129	-	17,129	562,858
<i>Other Expenses</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Capital Expenditure</i>	-	N/A	-	-	-
Total Appropriations	853,908	17,129	(877)	16,252	870,160
Crown Revenue and Capital Receipts					
Tax Revenue	-	N/A	-	-	-
Non-Tax Revenue	121,495	N/A	(4,859)	(4,859)	116,636
Capital Receipts	-	N/A	-	-	-
Total Crown Revenue and Capital Receipts	121,495	N/A	(4,859)	(4,859)	116,636

Part 3 - Details of Non-Departmental Appropriations

3.4 - Non-Departmental Other Expenses

Abortion Supervisory Committee - Certifying Consultants Fees (M19) (A23)

Scope of Appropriation

Payments to certifying consultants for providing opinions under Section 33 of the Contraception, Sterilisation and Abortion Act 1977.

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

This appropriation decreased by \$5.063 million to nil for 2020/21 due to the transfer of this funding to the Ministry of Health, following the disestablishment of the Abortion Supervisory Committee when the Abortion Legislation Act came into force on 24 March 2020.

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 pursuant to Section 110 of the Coroners Act 2006.

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

This appropriation increased by \$843,000 to \$9.368 million for 2020/21 in accordance with the Judicial Officers' Salaries and Allowances (2019/20) Amendment Determination 2020.

Court and Coroner Related Costs (M19) (A23)

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to meeting the costs of professional services directed by or provided to courts (including coroners), including costs required to be met by the Crown under legislation, remuneration of Lay Members and Visiting Justices, and payments ordered from the Māori Land Court Special Aid Fund.

Components of the Appropriation

	2020/21		
	Estimates \$000	Supplementary Estimates \$000	Total \$000
Family Court Professional Services	47,599	1,068	48,667
Children Young Persons and Their Families Professional Services	11,400	60	11,460
Coroner-Directed Post-Mortems	18,600	97	18,697
Youth Court Professional Fees	16,566	86	16,652
Domestic Violence Professional Services	13,166	69	13,235

	2020/21		
	Estimates \$000	Supplementary Estimates \$000	Total \$000
Medical and Other Professional Services	5,774	30	5,804
Personal Property Protection Rights Costs	3,100	16	3,116
Witness Fees and Expenses	2,700	14	2,714
Māori Land Court Special Aid Fund	1,327	507	1,834
Visiting Justices to Prisons	350	2	352
Judicial Review Costs	219	1	220
Costs in Criminal Cases	155	1	156
Representations for Blood Sampling	50	-	50
Total	121,006	1,951	122,957

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

This appropriation increased by \$1.951 million to \$122.957 million for 2020/21 due to:

- an increase of \$931,000 for Justice Sector resourcing to address COVID-19 related backlogs
- a fiscally neutral adjustment of \$820,000 for the costs related to the appointment of lawyers for children under the Strengthening the Family Court - Initiatives to Enhance Child and Whānau Wellbeing under COVID-19, which was initially included in the departmental Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services, including the Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services appropriation, and
- an increase of \$500,000 for specialist services provided through the Māori Land Court Special Aid Fund.

This was partially offset by a fiscally neutral adjustment of \$300,000 to the Law Commission to assist in meeting the additional costs of implementing a wellbeing and Te Ao Māori approach in their work programme.

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

	2020/21		
	Estimates \$000	Supplementary Estimates \$000	Total \$000
District Court Judges	87,174	6,335	93,509
Environment Court Judges	4,516	-	4,516
Total	91,690	6,335	98,025

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

This appropriation increased by \$6.335 million to \$98.025 million for 2020/21 due to:

- an increase of \$4 million for the increased use of Part-time and Acting District Court Judges to work through the increasing number of cases and complexity, and
- an increase of \$3.335 million for Justice Sector resourcing to address COVID-19 related backlogs, supporting the work of five new District Court Judges.

This was partially offset by a forecasting adjustment of \$1 million to the Senior Courts Judges' Salaries and Allowances PLA for the Senior Court Judges' superannuation costs that were initially included above.

Impairment of Fines Receivable (M19) (A23)

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to allowing for the impairment of fines, court costs and enforcement fees in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

This appropriation decreased by \$2 million to nil for 2020/21 due to the transfer of this funding to Vote Justice to address the revaluation cost pressure arising from the Impairment of Legal Aid Debt.

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 decreased by \$3.743 million to \$43.078 million for 2020/21 due to:

- a decrease of \$6 million reflecting the forecasted expenditure based on prior years.

This was partially offset by:

- an increase of \$1.257 million for one new Associate High Court Judge and four acting High Court Judges to address COVID-19 backlogs, and
- a forecasting adjustment of \$1 million for Senior Court Judges' superannuation costs that were initially included in the District Court Judges' Salaries and Allowances PLA.

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.

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

This appropriation increased by \$800,000 to \$20.445 million for 2020/21 for the Tenancy Tribunal's increased costs in relation to COVID-19.

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.

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 New Zealand's specialist courts, tribunals and authorities.

Expenses, Revenue and Capital Expenditure

	2020/21		
	Estimates \$000	Supplementary Estimates \$000	Total \$000
Total Appropriation	545,729	17,129	562,858
Departmental Output Expenses			
Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services	59,830	721	60,551
District Court Services	293,765	12,838	306,603
Senior Courts Services	87,954	1,184	89,138
Specialist Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services	104,180	2,386	106,566

	2020/21		
	Estimates \$000	Supplementary Estimates \$000	Total \$000
Funding for Departmental Output Expenses			
Revenue from the Crown	494,580	16,331	510,911
Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services	54,791	647	55,438
District Court Services	274,151	12,391	286,542
Senior Courts Services	76,477	1,146	77,623
Specialist Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services	89,161	2,147	91,308
Revenue from Others	51,212	696	51,908
Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services	5,039	74	5,113
District Court Services	19,614	447	20,061
Senior Courts Services	11,477	38	11,515
Specialist Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services	15,082	137	15,219

Components of the Appropriation

	2020/21		
	Estimates \$000	Supplementary Estimates \$000	Total \$000
Departmental			
<i>Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services</i>			
Collection and Enforcement of Fines	50,561	609	51,170
Collection and Enforcement of Civil Debt	9,269	112	9,381
Total	59,830	721	60,551
<i>District Court Services</i>			
Criminal Court	204,007	5,320	209,327
Family Court	69,385	7,092	76,477
Civil Court	20,373	426	20,799
Total	293,765	12,838	306,603
<i>Senior Court Services</i>			
High Court - Criminal	40,353	673	41,026
High Court - Civil	25,819	277	26,096
Supreme Court - Criminal	7,635	82	7,717
Supreme Court - Civil	7,539	81	7,620
Court of Appeal - Criminal	3,441	37	3,478
Court of Appeal - Civil	3,167	34	3,201
Total	87,954	1,184	89,138

	2020/21		
	Estimates \$000	Supplementary Estimates \$000	Total \$000
<i>Specialist Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services</i>			
Māori Land Court and Māori Land Information	32,730	772	33,502
Other Tribunals and Authorities	21,993	461	22,454
Waitangi Tribunal Services	11,807	144	11,951
Coroner Services	10,281	126	10,407
Disputes Tribunal	9,680	118	9,798
Environment Court	7,653	626	8,279
Tenancy Tribunal	7,636	110	7,746
Employment Court	2,400	29	2,429
Total	104,180	2,386	106,566

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

This appropriation increased by \$17.129 million to \$562.858 million for 2020/21 due to:

- an increase of \$7.674 million to address remuneration cost pressures at the Ministry of Justice
- an increase of \$6.450 million for Strengthening the Family Court - Initiatives to Enhance Child and Whānau Wellbeing Under COVID-19
- an increase of \$6.359 million to fund increased depreciation expense as a result of property revaluations
- an increase of \$4.065 million for Justice Sector resourcing to address COVID-19 backlogs
- an increase in capital charge of \$2.450 million due to the revaluation of land and buildings as at 30 June 2020
- an increase of \$956,000 for sentencing costs for the 15 March Terror Attacks
- an increase of \$598,000 for the Wellington District Court Upgrade
- an increase of \$550,000 for the Tenancy Tribunal's increased costs in relation to COVID-19
- an expense transfer of \$546,000 from 2019/20 to 2020/21 for the work in establishing an Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Court in the Waikato, delayed due to COVID-19
- an expense transfer of \$516,000 from 2019/20 to 2020/21 for the reform of Family Violence Law delayed due to COVID-19
- an increase of \$503,000 for the on-going operating costs of the proposed Waikato Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Court
- an expense transfer of \$372,000 from 2019/20 to 2020/21 for the Whenua Māori Programme delayed due to COVID-19
- a fiscally neutral adjustment of \$331,000 for employees seconded to other government agencies

- a fiscally neutral adjustment in 2020/21 of \$275,000 to assist with hosting the 2021 International Association of Women Judges Conference in New Zealand, with costs reimbursed by third parties
- an expense transfer of \$241,000 from 2019/20 to 2020/21 for the costs of managing the complexities of sentencing in relation to the 15 March Terror Attacks, due to the guilty plea under level 4 lockdown
- an increase of \$192,000 for the forecasted expenditure increase for the Legal Complaints Review Officers Memorandum Account which will be offset by 3rd party revenue received and prior year surpluses, and
- an expense transfer of \$100,000 from 2019/20 to 2020/21 for the collection of information for the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care, delayed due to COVID-19.

This was partially offset by:

- a decrease of \$8.598 million in capital charge costs from 1 July 2020, as the rate reduced from 6% to 5%
- a fiscally neutral adjustment of \$3.807 million to Vote Justice for depreciation for the Christchurch Justice and Emergency Services Precinct due to revaluations as at 30 June 2019
- a fiscally neutral adjustment of \$1.147 million to reflect the allocation of Ministry of Justice overhead costs in 2020/21
- a fiscally neutral adjustment of \$820,000 for Strengthening the Family Court - Transfer of Lawyer for Child Funding to the Court and Coroner Related Costs appropriation
- an expense transfer of \$506,000 from 2020/21 to 2021/22 for Strengthening the Family Court - Initiatives to Enhance Child and Whānau Wellbeing, and
- a fiscally neutral adjustment of \$171,000 towards the Family Violence and Sexual Violence Integrated Community Response to the Reducing Family Violence and Sexual Violence appropriation in Vote Justice.

Memorandum Account

	2020/21		
	Estimates \$000	Supplementary Estimates \$000	Total \$000
Second Hand Dealers and Pawnbrokers			
Opening Balance at 1 July	482	35	517
Revenue	300	-	300
Expenses	(237)	-	(237)
Transfers and Adjustments	-	-	-
Closing Balance at 30 June	545	35	580
Legal Complaints Review Officers			
Opening Balance at 1 July	197	(68)	129
Revenue	1,759	90	1,849
Expenses	(1,759)	(192)	(1,951)
Transfers and Adjustments	-	-	-
Closing Balance at 30 June	197	(170)	27