
PILON: New Zealand Country Report

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**Te Tari Ture
o te Karauna**
Crown Law

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1. MAJOR LAW AND JUSTICE SECTOR DEVELOPMENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

New Zealand's end-to-end response to organised crime

1. In 2019, in response to the growing sophistication of the organised crime environment, and in recognition of the need for a coordinated, end-to-end response across the full spectrum of organised crime, the New Zealand Government established the Transnational Organised Crime Strategy (the TNOC Strategy) and the Resilience to Organised Crime in Communities (ROCC) work programme.

Transnational Organised Crime (TNOC) Strategy

2. The [TNOC Strategy 2020-25](#) sets out a framework for a more coordinated whole-of-system response to TNOC, with the vision of making New Zealand '*the hardest place in the world for organised criminal groups and networks to do business*'. The TNOC Strategy focuses on enhancing cross-agency governance and coordination, strengthening capability and understanding (including within the private sector and communities) and centralising operational priority settings.
3. Over the past year, 19 partner agencies have built on the foundation of strengthened coordination and governance, improving collective understanding of the TNOC landscape, targeting system vulnerabilities through operational and legislative initiatives and increasing engagement with the private sector. Government investment in combating TNOC through the 2022 Budget has also increased intelligence and insights capability, enabling New Zealand to be forward looking at TNOC risks.
4. Government agencies are also focused on building community resilience to the harms associated with organised crime.

Resilience to Organised Crime in Communities (ROCC) work programme

5. [The ROCC work programme](#) combines enforcement action with tailored social intervention. Central to the ROCC approach is engaging with 10 partner agencies, iwi and communities to build resilience to the harms caused by organised crime through locally developed responses, supported by increased services prior to, and in parallel with, enforcement action.
6. Mandated by Cabinet, ROCC has been launched in two locations, initial development work is under way in a third, and expansion has been directed in a fourth. In the 2022 Budget, the Government made a significant investment in the expansion of the ROCC work programme. This funding will go directly to communities to enable the implementation of local responses to organised crime, expand services to address methamphetamine harm, and support whānau impacted by methamphetamine to create pathways to success.

Criminal Proceeds (Recovery) Act 2009

7. The Government has announced amendments to the Criminal Proceeds (Recovery) Act to increase the power to seize illicit assets derived from organised criminal offending. This will contribute to fulfilling the TNOC Strategy.
8. There is a new restraint and forfeiture order that will allow assets to be seized from persons associated with an organised criminal group where their known

legitimate property is likely to have been insufficient to acquire their assets. This responds to organised criminal groups attempting to avoid forfeiture by structuring their activities to create distance between the leaders (who receive a portion of the profits) and the criminal activity.

Criminal Activity Intervention Legislation Bill

9. In September 2022, the Government introduced the [Criminal Activity Intervention Legislation Bill](#). The Bill's purpose is to strengthen New Zealand's criminal legislation and better prevent and respond to the harm caused by criminal activity, particularly gang criminal activity. The Bill amends seven pieces of legislation and creates new offences, orders and enforcement powers targeted at the specific behaviours associated with gangs and organised criminal groups.
10. The Government has set aside \$562 million for law and order in the 2022 Budget for targeted intervention and prevention measures that focus on steering young people away from a life with organised criminal groups. These targeted interventions are designed to give New Zealanders confidence that our Police have the required powers to tackle gang behaviours that make people feel unsafe, and that they are proportionate.

Firearms Prohibition Orders Legislation Act 2022

11. Parliament passed the [Firearms Prohibition Orders Legislation Act](#) in August 2022. The Act, which will come into force on 16 November 2022, provides a new order that courts can impose at their discretion. The aim of these orders is to improve public safety by preventing people whose behaviour and actions represent a high risk of violence, or reflect an underlying risk of violence, from being able to access firearms or restricted weapons for 10 years.

To be eligible for a firearms prohibition order (FPO), a person 18 years or older must have been convicted of a qualifying offence after the Act comes into force. The Act outlines qualifying offences, which include firearm-related offences, serious violence offences (eg aggravated burglary, sexual violation) or a serious family violence offence (eg strangulation). The 10-year duration and conditions attached to FPOs have an important part in achieving the Act's aim.

Overseas Development Assistance Programmes

12. New Zealand Police currently has eight capability development programmes in 11 countries across the Pacific.¹ The programmes fall into two categories:
 - 12.1 Those that aim to lift the capability of Pacific Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) to improve security and reduce the risk of instability in the Pacific (ie Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and Bougainville, and the regional Pacific Island Prevention Policing Programme); and
 - 12.2 Those that aim to lift the capability of LEAs to prevent, detect and investigate Transnational Organised Crime (ie Fiji, Tonga and the

¹ Bougainville Police Partnership Programme (B3P), Fiji Police Partnership Programme (FPPP), Pacific Detector Dog Programme (PDDP), Pacific Island Prevention Policing Programme (PIPP), Solomon Islands Policing Support Programme (SIPSP), Tonga New Zealand Policing Programme (TNZPP), Vanuatu Policing Programme (VPP), and the New Zealand Transnational Crime Unit (NZTCU).

regional New Zealand Transnational Crime Unit and Pacific Detector Dog Programme).

13. Through these programmes, New Zealand Police have established strong relationships that allow Police to identify risks early, and influence and cooperate with Pacific law enforcement partners.

Pacific Security Fund (PSF) Projects

14. Over the 2021/22 period, PSF funding was utilised for two staff from the New Zealand Police Dog Section to travel to French Polynesia (FP) to assess and review the current state of FP's detector dog capabilities. This review (and implementation of respective recommendations) will enable FP to effectively optimise its detection and interception capabilities in order to combat regional transnational and organised crime.
15. Improving the Detector Dog capabilities of FP directly strengthens regional and national border security. The overall activity directly contributes to several pillars and actions within the TNOOC Strategy by providing a deterrent to organised crime groups targeting the Pacific as a transit or staging point for moving illicit drugs to our shores. The increased capture of illicit substances in FP reduces the profitability of these substances, and means that less reach New Zealand's borders, reducing harm to communities.

Maritime Powers Act 2022

16. The [Maritime Powers Act](#) was passed in May 2022. The Act provides New Zealand Police, New Zealand Defence Force, New Zealand Customs Officers and Department of Conservation Rangers, Warranted Officers and Endangered Species Officers with the power to stop, board, search and detain a ship, seize evidence off it and arrest suspects. The Act provides consistency to New Zealand's approach to maritime threats in international waters by extending, with appropriate modifications, New Zealand's domestic law enforcement powers regarding serious criminal offences into and in international waters.

Royal Commission of Inquiry – Abuse in Care

17. In December 2021, He Purapura Ora, he Māra Tipu was produced by the Royal Commission of Inquiry into abuse in care. This report makes findings and recommendations on how the Government and faith-based institutions can address the harm suffered by children, young people and vulnerable adults in the care of State and faith-based institutions, including the Crown's approach to historic abuse litigation. The report is publicly available on the Royal Commission webpage [Reports | Abuse in Care - Royal Commission of Inquiry](#). Crown Law issued a public response to the report which is available [here](#).
18. As part of the inquiry, a Pacific Peoples' hearing, Tulou – Our Pacific Voices: Tatala e Pulonga, was held in July 2021. In August 2022, officials from the Ministry for Pacific Peoples appeared before the Royal Commission at the public hearing to examine the responses of State agencies to the abuse and neglect of children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Developing a national action plan against racism for Aotearoa / New Zealand

19. The Government has accepted a recommendation from the United Nations Human Rights Council to develop and implement a national action plan against racism. The draft aim of the plan is to progressively eliminate racism at all levels of society within Aotearoa New Zealand. The action plan will include: aspirations for a racism-free Aotearoa New Zealand, concrete actions for Government, guidance for non-government and community-led solutions, and a clear monitoring and accountability mechanism. The process for developing the plan is underpinned by Treaty of Waitangi / Te Tiriti o Waitangi and international human rights standards. It ensures participation from a wide range of communities, groups and sectors, in particular groups that experience racism. The plan is due for completion in 2024.

Conversion Practices Prohibition Legislation Act 2022

20. The [Conversion Practices Prohibition Legislation Act](#) was enacted on 19 February 2022. The Act prohibits and prevents conversion practices that seek to change or suppress a person's sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. It amends the Human Rights Act 1993 making it unlawful for any person to perform a conversion practice or arrange for one to be performed. The Act includes a criminal provision and a civil provision to deter the performance of conversion practices. The criminal provision creates two criminal offences intended to capture particularly serious cases. It also provides a pathway for redress via the Human Rights Commission and since enactment a complaints service has been established.

Three Strikes Legislation Repeal Act 2022

21. The Government has passed the [Three Strikes Legislation Repeal Act](#) which repeals the mandatory sentencing regime commonly known as the three strikes law. The Act reverts the sentencing process for strike offences to standard sentencing practices by allowing the judge to reach an appropriate outcome on a case by case basis.

Review of the Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) Act 2009

22. The Ministry of Justice has completed a statutory review of the AML/CFT Act. This review concluded on 30 June 2022 with a report that outlines how the Act has performed since 2017 and whether any amendments are desirable or necessary. One key area of the review that the Ministry examined was whether more needs to be done to ensure that the Act does not prevent legitimate remittances flowing to the Pacific from New Zealand.

Adoption Law Review

23. The Government is reviewing New Zealand's adoption laws to ensure that they reflect the values and needs of contemporary New Zealand. Current adoption laws have remained largely the same since 1955. The aim of the review is to create a new system that provides strong safeguards for protecting the rights, best interests and welfare of children, and upholds our international human rights obligations.

24. Following initial public engagement in 2021, a second round of engagement ran from June – August 2022 seeking the public’s views on options for creating a new adoption system in New Zealand. Over 20 in-person and online engagements were held and over 140 written submissions were received. Feedback received will be used to refine policy proposals and inform advice to the Government.

Family Justice Reforms

25. The [Family Court \(Family Court Associates\) Legislation Bill](#) introduced in July 2022 establishes the Family Court Associate role which will help to reduce delay for Family Court participants. This will free up judges’ time by taking on some of their administrative workload, including decisions made at the early stages of proceedings and interlocutory applications.
26. The [Family Court \(Supporting Children in Court\) Legislation Act 2021](#) will introduce a new emphasis on children’s participation in the resolution of disputes around their care, where appropriate. To support the implementation of the Act, the Ministry of Justice commissioned a report on best practice for children’s participation in mediation and court processes. The stocktake has been received and next steps are being considered. The Act will commence in August 2023, or earlier by Order(s) in Council.

Te Ao Mārama

27. The *Te Ao Mārama – Enhancing Justice for All* initiative is the District Court’s response to longstanding calls for transformative change to the justice system. Led by the judiciary, the initiative is being designed and implemented together with local iwi, communities, justice sector agencies and the legal profession. Te Ao Mārama is inclusive of all people, no matter their means and regardless of their ethnicity or culture. It will help ensure that all people, including victims and whānau, will be seen, heard, understood and able to meaningfully participate in court proceedings.

2. SIGNIFICANT COURT DECISIONS

Alan Hall v R [2022] NZSC 71

28. On 8 June 2022 the Supreme Court quashed Mr Alan Hall’s 1986 convictions for murder and aggravated wounding and directed his acquittal. This outcome was invited by the Crown who accepted that Mr Hall had been the victim of a substantial miscarriage of justice. The merits of Mr Hall’s application, filed in the Supreme Court in January 2022, informed the Crown’s approach, it being clear that the prosecution had failed to meet its disclosure obligations, and material evidence was not before the jury at the time of Mr Hall’s trial. While the Supreme Court’s judgment ended Mr Hall and his family’s decades-long fight to clear his name, it has kickstarted other processes within the criminal justice sector. The Solicitor-General has directed an inquiry into what role, if any, Crown lawyers played in this miscarriage and its delayed resolution; police have commenced a similar inquiry into the actions of police officers at the time; and a reinvestigation of the 1985 crime has begun. Pursuant to the miscarriage of justice in this case Mr Hall spent 18 years in prison, and 18 years on parole, for Arthur Easton’s murder. Mr Hall has lodged a claim for compensation for the loss occasioned by the wrongful conviction and time in prison.

R v Smith [2021] NZCA 318, (2021) 29 CRNZ 830

29. Lorraine Smith was the sole carer for four children with varying levels of special needs, including her 13-year-old granddaughter who had behavioural and psychological issues. Ms Smith struggled to cope and was suffering from anxiety and depression when she strangled her granddaughter in a sleepout at the back of her property. Ms Smith pleaded guilty to murder. At sentencing, the Judge found it would be manifestly unjust to sentence her to life imprisonment. Instead, she was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment, with a minimum period of imprisonment (MPI) of six years. The Crown appealed on the grounds that, in the circumstances of Ms Smith's case, the strong presumption in s 102 of the Sentencing Act 2002 that those convicted of murder will be sentenced to life imprisonment was not displaced.
30. First, the Court of Appeal was satisfied that, given the victim's particular vulnerability, s 104(1)(g) of the Sentencing Act was engaged, which required the court to impose an MPI of at least 17 years' imprisonment unless it would be manifestly unjust to do so. However, the Court had no hesitation in concluding that a 17-year MPI would be manifestly unjust.
31. The Court then assessed all the circumstances of the case. Ms Smith's personal circumstances justified considerable compassion and leniency; however, the victim's vulnerability, the gross breach of trust and the determined manner of the killing which would have been terrifying for the victim meant that life imprisonment would not be manifestly unjust. The sentencing objectives of accountability, denunciation and deterrence could be achieved by imposing life imprisonment with a 10-year MPI.

P v the District Court at Manukau [2022] NZHC 1102

32. Victims and complainants have important roles to play in criminal cases, but they are not a "party" to the proceeding and do not make the decisions about key steps in the prosecution. In this proceeding, Ms P, the complainant in a criminal prosecution, sought judicial review of a District Court decision to dismiss criminal charges against the defendant, Mr S. Ms P was successful in part. The High Court found that, due to the unusual combination of circumstances, Ms P had a sufficient personal interest in the underlying prosecution to bring judicial review proceedings. Those unusual circumstances included the District Court Judge finding, without having heard her evidence, that Ms P's allegations had been false. The High Court also considered that the decision to dismiss Mr S's criminal charges had been wrong.
33. The High Court, however, declined to make an order setting aside the District Court's decision, as such an order would cut across and subvert statutory appeal pathways. Instead, the Court granted Ms P declarations that the District Court decision was erroneous and that references to her having made false sexual allegations were erroneous and made without cogent or sufficient foundation.

Fitzgerald v R [2021] NZSC 131

34. In this case the Supreme Court considered the "three strikes" sentencing regime. The appellant had been convicted of his third strike offence, a low-level indecent assault, and sentenced to the seven-year maximum term of imprisonment. By

majority, the Court held that the regime does not require the imposition of the maximum sentence on a third strike offender in the rare case where such a sentence would be so disproportionately severe as to breach s 9 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. On that basis, the Court quashed Mr Fitzgerald’s sentence and directed he be resentenced.

35. Following *Fitzgerald*, a number of third strike offenders have filed out-of-time appeals against their (maximum) sentences. In *Phillips v R* [2021] NZCA 651 and *Mitai-Ngatai v R* [2021] NZCA 679, the Court of Appeal extended the time for appealing and quashed the sentences imposed for third strike indecent assaults. The Court has reserved its judgment on a third appeal, *Allen v R*, where the third strike offence was wounding with reckless disregard, committed during a home invasion.
36. The Court of Appeal has also extended the approach in *Fitzgerald* to second strike sentencing. In *Matara v R* [2021] NZCA 692, it held that sentencing judges are not required to order that the sentence imposed be served without parole if doing so would breach s 9. It accordingly quashed the no-parole order imposed in 2017 on Mr Matara for the attempted murder of a fellow boarding house resident with a pump-action shotgun. The Court directed that he instead serve at least 40% of his 10 year, two month sentence. Applying *Matara*, in *Crowley-Lewis* [2022] NZCA 235 the Court of Appeal quashed the no-parole order imposed on a second-strike offender for offending that included the rapes of two previous partners. It substituted a minimum period of imprisonment of 50% of the sentence of eight years and six months.

Ihaia v R [2022] NZCA 95

37. Can driving the wrong way down a one-way street constitute the offence of endangering transport under s 270 of the Crimes Act 1961? This was the question before the Court of Appeal in *Ihaia v R*. Ultimately, the Court held that such conduct was not captured by s 270. Section 270 prohibits “interference with” or “doing anything to” a “transport facility”. The Court agreed with the appellant in *Ihaia* that simply driving on the road – even in the wrong direction, and in circumstances that were objectively dangerous – did not fall within the meaning of either prohibited action. This applied whether the transport facility identified was the road or an oncoming vehicle; more than driving *on* or driving *towards* is therefore required under s 270 in order to cause the requisite sort of criminal harm to a transport facility.

Wallace v Attorney-General [2022] NZCA 375

38. On 30 April 2000 Mr Wallace went on a violent rampage in the town of Waitara, attacking the police station, a patrol car and numerous retail premises, and threatening bystanders. Two armed police officers approached and attempted to reason with him. Mr Wallace advanced on one of the officers, Constable Abbott, with a baseball bat. Constable Abbott shot and killed him.
39. The Crown decided not to prosecute Constable Abbott, the Solicitor-General having concluded that he acted in self-defence. Mr Wallace’s parents believed the Constable did not act in self-defence, and if he did his actions were not reasonable. They also believed the police homicide investigation that followed was not independent or impartial. They obtained consent of the High Court to

lay an indictment charging the Constable with murder. The Solicitor-General declined to take over the conduct of the prosecution. The Constable was acquitted.

40. Subsequent investigations by a Coroner and the Independent Police Complaints Authority (IPCA) identified deficiencies in police handling of the incident that ended in Mr Wallace's death, but they took it as settled that Constable Abbott acted in self-defence.
41. Mrs Wallace sued for declarations and damages. The claim rested principally on s 8 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act, which provides that "[n]o one shall be deprived of life except on such grounds as are established by law and are consistent with the principles of fundamental justice".
42. The Court of Appeal concluded that there is in s 8 an implied right to have an investigation into potentially unlawful deaths for which the State may be held accountable. The right exists as a necessary incident of the right to life affirmed in s 8. Differing from the court below, the Court of Appeal held that the legal burden of proof remains with the plaintiff in a claim under s 8. That is because justification is not an affirmative defence in such a claim under s 8. Rather, the plaintiff must show that the right to life was breached without lawful justification.
43. The Court of Appeal held that a private prosecution is capable of meeting the State's obligation to investigate a deprivation of life and establish whether it was justified, because the proceeding rested almost entirely on infrastructure provided by the State. The trial was designed to establish, and did establish, what happened and whether Constable Abbott was criminally liable for it. If found guilty he would have been sentenced. All of this was done by the State at the instance of the prosecutor. And there was no evidence there was something inadequate or ineffective about this particular prosecution. The Court held the IPCA and Coroner's investigations which must happen where life has been lost at the hands of a police officer acting in the course of duty should ordinarily meet the State's investigative obligation, and a police criminal investigation may be found to do so where it is sufficiently independent, impartial and effective.
44. The plaintiff has sought leave to appeal the decision to the Supreme Court.

3. PILON STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Cybercrime

45. New Zealand is in the process of progressing accession to the Council of Europe's Convention on Cybercrime (the Budapest Convention). This will involve the creation of tools that will enhance international partners' ability to secure and obtain digital evidence from New Zealand.
46. New Zealand is also involved in the establishment of a proposed United Nations Convention on Cybercrime. Discussion at the UN has commenced on the proposed Cybercrime Convention, however New Zealand is not a member of the drafting group. Negotiations in respect of the Convention are expected to conclude in 2023.

47. The [Digital Identity Services Trust Framework Bill](#) was introduced into the House on 29 September 2021. The key purpose of the Bill is to establish a legal framework for the provision of secure and trusted digital identity services for individuals and organisations. The Bill establishes an opt-in accreditation scheme for the providers of digital identity services and establishes minimum requirements for the handling of personal and organisational information that must be complied with by accredited providers. The Bill is currently awaiting its Committee of the whole House stage in the House.

Corruption

The Protected Disclosures (Protection of Whistleblowers) Act 2022

48. The [Protected Disclosures \(Protection of Whistleblowers\) Act](#) came into force on 1 July 2022. The purpose of the Act is to promote the public interest by facilitating the disclosure and investigation of serious wrongdoing in the workplace, and by providing protection for employees and other workers who report concerns. The Act extends the definition of serious wrongdoing to cover private sector use of public funds and authority and to cover behaviour that is a serious risk to the health and safety of any individual.

Developing a National Counter Fraud and Corruption Strategy

49. The Serious Fraud Office, Ministry of Justice and New Zealand Police are progressing work to develop a National Counter Fraud and Corruption Strategy. Phase 1 of the strategy involved the production of a landscape report setting out current efforts to combat fraud and corruption and identifying gaps in this response. The next phase of the strategy will see a discussion document containing potential options for the strategy distributed to Government agencies for feedback. The strategy will seek to address the gaps identified in phase 1 and improve coordination across New Zealand's efforts to combat fraud and corruption.

Sexual and Gender-Based Violence

50. Te Puna Aonui (formerly the Family Violence Sexual Violence Joint Venture), a cross-government initiative that aims to improve services, ensure victims are safe and change long-standing behaviours and attitudes, is now an interdepartmental executive board.
51. In December 2021, the Government launched Te Aorerekura – Aotearoa New Zealand's first ever National Strategy for the Elimination of Family Violence and Sexual Violence. Te Aorerekura is a 25-year strategy focused on the wellbeing of all people in Aotearoa, recognising that a range of social conditions contribute to family violence and sexual violence (FVSV). It is the guide for collective work towards eliminating FVSV.
52. A key component of the infrastructure to deliver Te Aorerekura includes developing integrated community-led responses (ICR). This will form the community infrastructure to deliver a spectrum of support to people and whānau experiencing family harm or sexual violence. Existing crisis responses currently provided through Integrated Safety Response (ISR) and Whāngaia Ngā Pā Harakeke (WNPH) will provide the platform (in some locations) for the development of the broader ICR model, which also includes prevention and

healing alongside crisis/safety responses. Two ISR and three WNPH locations secured ongoing funding through the 2021 Budget. Additional funding for more WNPH locations was also secured through the 2022 Budget (implementation is being worked through).

53. Te Puna Aonui is now working with the Budget 2021-funded ISR and WNPH locations to develop and implement the ICR model. This is designed to support a test-and-learn approach to inform ICR development and ultimately expansion of the ICR model across New Zealand over time.
54. New Zealand Police is leading the development of Project Whetū, a national case management system that supports integrated case management for the crisis response as well as enhance connections to support ongoing wellbeing that mitigate family violence risk.

Sexual Violence Legislation Act 2021

55. The Sexual Violence Legislation Act came into force in part in December 2021, with further provisions due to come into force in December 2022. The purpose of the legislation is to reduce trauma to victim/survivors of sexual violence when they attend court and give evidence, while preserving the fairness of the trial and the integrity of the criminal justice system. The changes include:
 - 55.1 providing a legislative framework for the pre-recording of evidence of complainants and propensity witnesses (including cross-examination and re-examination);
 - 55.2 prohibiting evidence being led about a complainant's sexual disposition or their previous sexual interactions with the defendant (except to establish the mere fact there has been such experience, such as if they are partners);
 - 55.3 requiring jury directions on myths and misconceptions in sexual cases;
 - 55.4 requiring judicial intervention in response to unacceptable witness questions including improper, unfair, misleading, needlessly repetitive or overly complicated questions; and
 - 55.5 expanding the definition of communication assistance.

4. TECHNICAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE

56. In February 2022, the Parliamentary Counsel Office provided legislative drafting training to lawyers and officials in the Cook Islands. In June 2022, Metua Okotai from Crown Law Cook Islands visited the PCO for a two week secondment to receive drafting training. The drafter training included training sessions, seminars, drafting supervision and peer review.
57. New Zealand's Te Pātuitanga Ahumoana a Kiwi (Partnerships in Pacific Fisheries) is a programme led by the Ministry for Primary Industries that provides capacity development opportunities to Pacific Island fisheries agencies in Monitoring, Control, Surveillance and Enforcement (MCSE) and in Fisheries Management (FM). After Covid-19 forced border closures throughout the Pacific region, online tools were developed to provide assistance and training and all the MCSE and

FM training material was refreshed. Borders have reopened over the last six months and training can now be delivered blending remote and in-country tools. Training modules are available in an online e-learning environment, and a practical in-country component is delivered after completion of the online modules. The rollout of the blended learning training has started in Fisheries Management and will soon be available for MCSE. Technical legal assistance, such as managing evidence, preparing casefiles, understanding the courtroom process, through to giving evidence in court for example, is fully supported by the programme in conjunction with partner agencies and also linked to the fisheries MCSE modules. Assistance is also provided in interpreting and applying the powers and offence provisions of fisheries legislation applicable to each Pacific Island country.

58. Following on from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade's evaluation of New Zealand's assistance to the Pacific justice sector from 2010 to 2020, a new five-year regional Pacific Justice Sector Programme commenced in January 2022. This is being implemented by Te Kura Kaiwhakawā (the New Zealand Institute of Judicial Studies) and provides capacity building and other support to jurisdictions across the Pacific. Training and development areas include case management and efficiency, reporting and transparency, access to justice and human rights (including targeted support for women in the judiciary) and litigation skills.
59. The *Cyber Security Support to the Pacific Programme* is an interagency-governed programme aimed at strengthening cyber security capacity in the Pacific, including cybercrime and enforcement capacity. In the past year the programme has funded an extension of New Zealand's Digital Child Exploitation Filter System to Pacific Island Countries and a secondment by New Zealand Police into regional organisation Cyber Safety Pasifika to increase cyber safety awareness and education.

5. CONTACT INFORMATION FOR KEY LAW AND JUSTICE AGENCIES

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Useful websites

Human Rights Committee Decisions

<http://www.worldlii.org/int/cases/UNHRC/>

Law Commission Reports

<http://www.lawcom.govt.nz/>

New Zealand Law Database

<http://www.nzlii.org/>

New Zealand Legislation

<http://www.legislation.govt.nz/>

New Zealand Judicial Decisions

<https://forms.justice.govt.nz/jdo/Introduction.jsp>

<http://www.justice.govt.nz/>

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