



Meeting of the COVID-19 Ministerial Group

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

High Court (COVID-19 Preparedness) Amendment Rules 2020

The group of Ministers with Power to Act on COVID-19 matters [CAB-20-MIN 0130] convened on 9 April 2020 at 10.30am, and in accordance with their Power to Act:

- 1 **noted** that the Rules Committee has resolved to make changes to the High Court Rules 2016 to facilitate the continuation of civil proceedings in the High Court during the outbreak of COVID-19;
- 2 **noted** that section 148 of the Senior Courts Act 2016 requires the concurrence of the Chief Justice and two or more members of the Committee (at least one of whom must be a High Court Judge) to rules regulating the practice and procedure of the High Court;
- 3 **noted** the advice of the Associate Minister for Courts that this requirement has been met;
- 4 **authorised** the submission of the High Court (COVID-19 Preparedness) Amendment Rules 2020 to the Executive Council [PCO 22832/3 0];
- 5 **authorised** a waiver of the 28-day rule on the grounds that the High Court (COVID-19 Preparedness) Amendment Rules 2020 were prepared in response to an emergency;
- 6 **noted** that the High Court (COVID-19 Preparedness) Amendment Rules 2020 will come into force immediately on their notification in the *New Zealand Gazette*.

Rachel Hayward
for Secretary of the Cabinet

Distribution:

The Cabinet
Hon James Shaw

Copied to officials via email