

4 October 2022

Vicki Symmons
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Our ref: 99330

Tēnā koe Vicki

Official Information Act 1982 request: insurance for court processes

Thank you for your email of 13 September 2022 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), information on courts insurance. Specifically, you requested:

Do NZ Courts and/or NZ Judges have insurance to cover the costs of Court when defendants fail to appear? Are Court bonds insured? Who is the insurance provider for the Courts and/or Judges?

Courts and judges in New Zealand do not have insurance to cover costs when a participant fails to appear at a hearing. We understand Court bonds to be judicial surety bonds that ensure protection from any loss in a court proceeding. With this understanding, offering a Court bond is not a practice found in New Zealand.

If you require further information, please contact Media and Social Media Manager, Joe Locke at media@justice.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. The Ombudsman may be contacted by phone on 0800 802 602 or by email to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Nāku noa, nā



Bruce Findlay
Acting Group Manager
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