

# LEGAL AID NEWS

January 2017

*Legal Aid News* is your official regular communication from Legal Aid Services on all matters related to legal aid. *Legal Aid News* is generally published in the last week of every month.

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## **Update on changes to the administration of legal aid**

In the September 2016 *Legal Aid News* we advised that the Ministry was changing the way granting and debt management functions are administered.

As advised we are consolidating granting into two offices, in Takapuna and Wellington and have introduced optimised processes for both granting and debt management.

As of Friday 27 January 2017, the Waitakere and Napier legal aid offices will be closed. Local providers have been informed of new contact information. The Ministry website and grants manual have been updated to reflect the distribution of applications from these offices. Legal aid customers are being directed to the 0800 2 LEGAL AID (0800 253 425) number for any queries they may have.

We thank the staff in these offices for their hard work, commitment and professionalism and wish those staff leaving Legal Aid Services, all the best for the future.

We will continue to keep you informed of future closing dates of other offices as we continue to work through the transition process.

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## **Queries?**

If you have any queries about any article in this newsletter, please contact [legalaidnews@justice.govt.nz](mailto:legalaidnews@justice.govt.nz).