



20 JAN 2025

The Expert Panel – Fast-track Approvals Act application  
Environmental Protection Authority  
Waterloo Quay  
Wellington

**Substantive Fast-track Approvals Act application – Waitākere District Court – New courthouse project**

To the Expert Panel

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the substantive application of Waitākere District Court – New courthouse project, under section 53(2)(J) of the Fast-track Approvals Act (FTAA).

Similar to the comments provided during the project's referral application, my comments focus on whether the substantive application is likely to have economic benefits, based on the information provided.

**Waitākere District Court – New courthouse project, FTAA-2508-1096**

The Minister of Justice seeks to deliver a new Justice Facility at 14 Edmonton Road, Henderson, Auckland, to replace the existing Waitākere District Courthouse which has been deemed no longer fit for purpose. The project is part of the Ministry of Justice's 10-year infrastructure investment plan to restore and modernise buildings across the Ministry of Justice's property portfolio.

According to the economic assessment report provided, this project will have a total contribution to GDP of \$218 million over a three-year development period, including 930 FTE jobs during the peak development and operation years. It is likely to create a total of 1,511 FTE jobs over the three-year development period. The project will contribute \$122 million to regional household incomes. While there is a contribution to GDP and employment during the construction phase, the number of employment opportunities available after construction is completed is unclear.

The project is expected to have direct and indirect/induced economic impacts on GDP including improved regional justice infrastructure capacity supporting increased future population and improved justice system efficiency and reduced operational cost

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nicola Willis'.

Hon Nicola Willis  
**Minister for Economic Growth**