

CHAIR



Louise Sziranyi, Thomas Dewar Sziranyi Letts, Lower Hutt

Louise specialises in criminal law and youth advocacy and is the managing partner at TDSL. She has experience acting as a lawyer for clients dealing with mental health issues and is also a District Inspector for Mental Health.

SPEAKERS



Kerryn Beaton KC, Walker Street Chambers, Christchurch

Kerryn is a criminal barrister, and is currently appointed as counsel assisting the Royal Commission into Abuse in Care. She has worked as a Crown prosecutor, Public Defender, United Nations legal officer, and is now a barrister sole. Kerryn co-founded Walker Street Chambers in 2018 which employs eight junior criminal barristers.



Grant Burston, Luke Cunningham Clere, Wellington

Grant has worked as a Crown Prosecutor since 1985 and was appointed Crown Solicitor of Wellington in 2008. In his work as a Crown Prosecutor, he has conducted the prosecution in numerous cases in which the defence of insanity was raised, and is experienced in taking such cases through to disposition.



Donna-Maree Cross, Lorne Street Chambers, Auckland

Maree is a specialist in criminal litigation. She holds an LLM (graduating as a Scholar) from Columbia University, New York, was previously junior to David PH Jones KC, and appears regularly in the jury trial jurisdiction. Maree is Convenor of a New Zealand Law Society Standards Committee in Auckland.



Dr Oliver Hansby, Te Korowai Whāriki – Regional Forensic and Rehabilitation Services, Mental Health, Addictions and Intellectual Disability Service, Wellington

Oliver is a consultant forensic psychiatrist at Health New Zealand's Central Regional Forensic Service. He provides expert testimony to the courts, forensic risk consultations to other mental health providers, and leads the care of a range of people within forensic mental health units. In providing expert testimony, he explores the psychiatric aspect of issues ranging from fitness, insanity, name suppression, disposition, and sentencing. Oliver is also associated with the University of Otago, Wellington, where he is involved in mental health teaching and research.

SPEAKERS



Robin McCoubrey, Meredith Connell, Auckland

Robin is a partner in Meredith Connell's Crown Specialist Group. He appears for the Crown in the District Court, High Court and Court of Appeal. Robin is entrusted with the prosecution of the most serious and complex criminal matters in the Auckland warrant area. His cases frequently include mental health issues.



Ian Murray, Harbour Chambers, Wellington

Ian is a highly experienced litigator who has predominantly represented the Crown for over two decades. His experience covers a wide spectrum of litigation through the entire hierarchy of courts and tribunals. Ian has also provided legal opinions on a wide range of topics.



Emily Pike, DAO – Te Korowai Whāriki – Forensic Community and Justice Liaison Nurse, Mental Health, Addictions and Intellectual Disability Services, Wellington

Emily has worked with the forensic community service for seven years in a variety of roles. Currently, she provides cover and support to the Wellington regional courts and prison in-reach team.

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