

Institute of Judicial Studies

STRATEGIC PLAN

1 JULY 2005 – 30 JUNE 2010

Institute of Judicial Studies

Strategic Plan
1 July 2005 – 30 June 2010

Foreword

The Institute of Judicial Studies was established in 1998. It is administered in partnership with the Ministry of Justice.

The relationship between the Ministry of Justice and the Judiciary is set out in a Memorandum of Understanding. This affirms judicial independence as the guiding principle for managing the Institute and developing education programmes and resources.

This Strategic Plan provides an overall framework for the activities of the Institute's Committees and Secretariat for the period 1 July 2005 - 30 June 2010.

It also provides the basis for more detailed and specific annual plans, and for agreements between the Institute, the Ministry of Justice and individual members of the Secretariat as to their roles, responsibilities and contributions to the Institute's performance.

Hon Justice Potter
Chair, Governing Board
September 2005

Statement of Purpose

The Institute of Judicial Studies is the professional development arm of the New Zealand Judiciary.

The Institute provides education programmes and services to the Judiciary which:

- Support them in the ongoing development of their judicial careers
- Promote judicial excellence
- Foster an awareness of developments in the law, its social context, and judicial administration.

The Institute's Governing Board will develop a long term plan of judicial education to give effect to these purposes.

Key Issues

Judicial independence - institutional arrangements

Judicial independence is a cornerstone of the constitution and the justice system. The operation of the Institute brings together the Ministry of Justice and the Judiciary in a partnership which ensures that both the Ministry and the Judiciary can act independently to fulfil their constitutional duties.

Judicial independence - education arrangements

The Judiciary recognise that it is both independent from and responsible to the society in which it operates. The initiative of the Judiciary to provide education through the Institute of Judicial Studies recognises that education fosters responsibility without compromising independence.

Legislative change

The Government's legislative programme and goals for the administration of the justice system will have an impact on the priorities of the Institute requiring a timely response to change.

Diversity

New Zealand is growing in its diversity and that growth makes special demands on all institutions in New Zealand including the Courts. Education is one way to respond appropriately to those demands.

Success Factors

Programme Success Factor

It is critical to the success of the Institute that it provides education, training and information that enhances:

1. The ability of new judicial officers to orient to the judicial role.
This involves a core curriculum of programmes that will enable new judicial officers to perform their duties with confidence and provide the platform for a judicial career.
2. Judicial knowledge in the specialist jurisdictions in which judicial officers operate.
This involves programmes that keep abreast of developments in substantive and procedural areas of the law.
3. Judicial skills and maintains those skills in the changing circumstances in which judicial officers operate.
This involves programmes that reflect the involvement of the public in the courts and the evolving cultural and social diversity of the New Zealand community.
4. The ability of judicial officers to continue to develop throughout their judicial careers.
This involves recognition of the differing needs of new, mid term and senior judicial officers and involves programmes that meet their different needs.

Institutional Success Factors

5. It is critical to the success of judicial education that the Institute evolves to meet the changing needs of the judiciary and contribute as a leader in the field of judicial education.
This involves steps to ensure that it is a contributor to the developing knowledge of best practice in judicial education through national and international co-operation.

Strategies

Success Factors	Strategies
<p>1. New judicial officers are able to orient to the judicial role.</p>	<p>1.1 Research the judicial role to identify learning needs that will arise in 5 to 10 years time.</p> <p>1.2 Identify learning needs of judges defined by: career jurisdiction, responsibility.</p> <p>1.3 Develop a curriculum of programmes that meets the needs of different groups of judges as identified above.</p> <p>1.4 Provide systems of support, including mentoring, to enable judges to identify and satisfy their individual learning needs.</p>
<p>2. Judicial officers are able to keep abreast of developments in the specialist jurisdictions in which they operate.</p>	<p>2.1 Resource bench education committees as the primary resource to identify and deliver specialist jurisdiction education.</p> <p>2.2 Provide a means for ongoing dialogue with bench education committees regarding the quality and balance of the curriculum.</p> <p>2.3 Provide systems of support, including mentoring, to enable judges to identify and satisfy their individual learning needs.</p> <p>2.4 Provide programmes and up to date information in bench books in written and electronic form</p>

<p>3 Judicial officers are able to enhance and maintain their judicial skills in the changing circumstances in which they operate.</p>	<p>3.1 Research the judicial role to identify learning needs that will arise in 5 to 10 years time</p> <p>3.2 Provide programmes that touch the work of each jurisdiction that enable judges to operate effectively in the social and cultural diversity of New Zealand</p> <p>3.3 Develop partnerships with organisations in the provision of programmes that equip judges to engage with complex developments in the laws and deal with cases that require specialist knowledge</p>
<p>4 Initiate and develop programmes of education directed to the development of judicial officers throughout their judicial careers.</p>	<p>4.1 Research the judicial role to identify learning needs that will arise in 5 to 10 years time</p> <p>4.2 Identify learning needs of judges defined by: career jurisdiction, responsibility.</p> <p>4.3 Develop a curriculum of programmes that meets the needs of the different groups of judges identified above.</p> <p>4.4 Provide systems of support, including mentoring, to enable judges to identify and satisfy their individual learning needs.</p>

<p>5 The Institute evolves to meet the changing needs of the judiciary and contributes as a leader in the field of judicial education.</p>	<p>5.1 Co-operate in the international developments in judicial education by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing and maintaining relationships with international judicial training institutions to ensure that the Institute is developing in line with international best practice • Contributing to judicial education in developing jurisdictions in accordance with Board policy. <p>5.2 Increase the capacity of the Institute through recruitment and restructuring, secondment of experts and judges, and by continuing to build relationships with local organisations who can co-operate in the provision of programmes.</p> <p>5.3 Investigate training technologies and match the elements of a curriculum to the technology that provides the most effective and efficient method of delivering it.</p> <p>5.4 Monitor performance to ensure programmes are appropriate to the needs of the Judiciary and that the level of service performance is satisfactory .</p>
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