



Rōpū Whakawāwao
Tautōhe Tauwhiro

**Social Workers
Disciplinary Tribunal**

Media Guidelines Practice Note

August 2026

THE TRIBUNAL GIVES NOTICE of the principles and procedures that it will follow concerning media coverage of any part of an in-person or AVL hearing or other procedure by the Tribunal.

[1] **EXCEPT** in individual cases and in general terms, these principles and procedures will follow those applicable from time to time in relation to proceedings in the Courts of New Zealand.

The current Guidelines are titled, ***In court media coverage guidelines***.

<https://www.justice.govt.nz/about/news-and-media/media-centre/media-information/media-guide-for-reporting-the-courts-and-tribunals-edition-4-1/>

[2] **THE** provisions of this Practice Note are subject to the express provisions of the Social Workers Registration Act 2003 (the Act). In particular, but not exclusively, they are subject to the express provisions of section 79 and section 80 (which deal with orders for non-publication of name and identifying details, documents (etc) and privacy for complainants and complaints relating to sexual, intimate or distressing matters).

[3] **THE** Media Coverage Guidelines are also subject to the individual discretion exercised by the Tribunal or by the Chair or Deputy Chair of the Tribunal for the purpose of the relevant hearing.

[4] **ANY** application must be made to the Executive Officer dealing with the charge in the first instance.

[5] **THE** forms in the Guidelines shall apply and be used with any necessary changes having first been made by the applicant.

Catherine Garvey

Chair

Social Workers Disciplinary Tribunal

[Review August 2027]