

holder; obtaining feedback from members of the judiciary, representatives of the New Zealand Police and other stakeholders; and an assessment of application documents and applicant interviews by an evaluation panel (chaired by the Deputy Solicitor-General (Criminal)) against evaluation criteria.

- 3.4 **The formal appointment stage:** The successful applicant is appointed on the recommendation of the Attorney-General and by warrant of the Governor-General. The formal appointment process involves completion of appointment documentation. The successful applicant is notified once that process is complete.

Public nominations

4. While the Crown Solicitor appointment process involves meeting with and interviewing key stakeholders² to obtain their feedback on short-listed applicants, that does not extend to inviting public nominations.

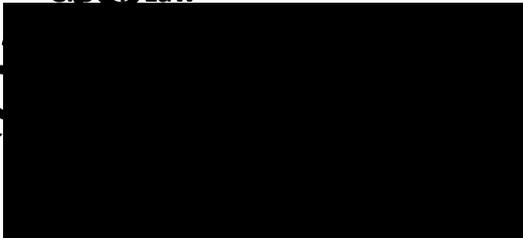
The number of Crown Solicitors that can be appointed

5. There is no statutory limit on the number of Crown Solicitors that can be appointed. The Crown Solicitor Network currently consists of 17 Crown Solicitors who are partners in private law firms throughout New Zealand.³ It is only when an existing Crown Solicitor resigns, or the term of their warrant expires, that the process of appointing a new Crown Solicitor (or re-appointing an incumbent Crown Solicitor) takes place.

Proactive release

6. Please note that we may publish this response (with your personal details redacted), and any related documents, on Crown Law's website if we decide proactive release of this information is or may be in the public interest. If you have any concerns about this, please let us know within 10 working days of the date of this letter.
7. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku nōa, iā
Crown Law



² Including members of the judiciary, representatives of the New Zealand Police, and senior members of the defence Bar and the Public Defence Service.

³ A list of the current Crown Solicitors is publicly available at: <https://www.crownlaw.govt.nz/about-us/crown-solicitor-contacts/>