

I provide the following update with respect to the Downing Centre Local Court, following the Downing Centre's closure on Tuesday 17 June 2025 due to a burst water main on Castlereagh Street and the shutdown of electricity to the building: -

1. It is likely that the Downing Centre will remain closed until electricity and other utilities can be repaired and restored. Currently, the building has no power or water.
2. The Local Court's priority is custody matters.
3. As an interim measure, for the dates of June 19 and 20, the following Downing Centre Local Court matters will be listed at two different locations: -
 - Central Local Court, 98 Liverpool Street, Sydney (**Central**).
 - John Maddison Tower, 86 - 90 Goulburn Street, Sydney (**JMT**).

4.

Court	List type
Central Court 1	All fresh custodies
Central Court 2	Custody Bail and Custody Sentence List – (Court 4.2 equivalent) (NSW Police custody matters and NSW DPP custody matters listed for sentence) (Not including CDPP custodies, NSW Police hearing custodies and NSW DPP hearing custodies)
JMT Court 7A	Custody DPP List
JMT Court 7B	Non-custody DPP List
JMT Court 7D	Charge List (Court 4.5 equivalent)
JMT Court 12A	Registrar's List and matters for transfer and finalisation by Magistrate in Court 7D (Court 4.4 equivalent)

5. As an interim measure, for the dates of June 19 and 20, there will be no other non-custody Downing Centre Local Court list courts or hearing courts operating, than those referred to above. The Registry will organise to vacate and adjourn all other non-custody matters listed on these dates.
6. Downing Centre Local Court bail variation applications will be listed on a date after 21 July 2025, unless they are urgent. An 'urgent' bail variation application is an application in which a failure to vary the bail prior to 21 July 2025 would result in an unavoidable and imminent breach of bail by the defendant and in circumstances which are outside his or her control.
6. Arrangements are being made to source courtrooms elsewhere within the metropolitan area, to which currently listed Downing Centre Local Court custody hearings may be transferred, pending the restoration of sittings at the Downing Centre Local Court. Further information in this regard will be provided to court users as soon as it becomes available.
7. Legal practitioners and prosecutors should prepare clients and witnesses for the fact that matters may not proceed as originally anticipated.

8. This is a significant disruption to the Court, which I hope will be resolved as soon as possible.

I will endeavour to keep all court users informed of any further developments as they arise.

Thank you for your patience.

Judge Michael Allen
Chief Magistrate
Local Court of NSW