The Chief Justice
New South Wales

Changes to the Supreme Court's administrative arrangements

From Monday 7 September 2026, the following changes to the Supreme Court's administrative arrangements will apply:

1. Justice Ian Pike will move to the Commercial List and will also become the Class Actions List Judge for the whole of the Court, that is to say, his Honour will manage Class Actions filed both in the Equity Division and Common Law Divisions of the Court. Such matters will still be heard by judges from both Divisions but will be managed centrally by Justice Pike.

2. Justice Kate Williams will become the Real Property List Judge.

3. Justice Scott Nixon will replace Justice Ashley Black as the Corporations List Judge (rotating periodically with Justice Peter Brereton).

4. Justice Black will continue to sit in the Corporations List and manage all matters involving Schemes of Arrangements. He will also from time to time sit as an Additional Judge of Appeal.

5. Justice James Emmett will replace Justice Michael Slattery as the Admiralty List Judge.

I wish particularly to thank Justice Black for his commitment to running the Corporations List for well over a decade. His hard work and that of his Associate, Margaret Smith, have been nothing short of extraordinary. The Court and the profession owe them both a great debt for their professionalism and commitment which has regularly involved much after hours and weekend work.

Andrew Bell AC
Chief Justice of New South Wales
31 July 2026