

WOMEN'S
LEGAL
SERVICE
NSW

ANNUAL
REPORT
2016/2017

CONTACT US

Trading as Women's Legal Service NSW

PO Box 206

Lidcombe NSW 1825

Administration line: 02 8745 6900

Fax: 02 9749 4433

Email: reception@wlsnsw.org.au

Web: www.wlsnsw.org.au

Office hours: 9:00am–4:30pm

(Monday to Friday)

Telephone advice services

Women's Legal Contact Line:

8745 6988

1800 801 501

Mondays

9:30am–12:30pm
(discontinued 1 May 2017)

Tuesdays

1:30–4:30pm

Thursdays

9:30am–12:30pm

Provides free confidential legal information advice and referrals for women in NSW with a focus on family law, domestic violence, sexual assault and discrimination.

Domestic Violence Legal Advice Line:

8745 6999

1800 810 784

Mondays:

1:30–4:30pm

Tuesdays:

9:30am–12:30pm

Thursdays

1:30–4:30pm

Fridays

9:30am–12:30pm
(discontinued 1 May 2017)

Provides free confidential legal information, advice and referrals for women in NSW with a focus on domestic violence and Apprehended Domestic Violence Orders.

Indigenous Women's Legal Contact Line:

8745 6977

1800 639 784

Mondays

10:00am–12:30pm

Tuesdays

10:00am–12:30pm

Thursdays

10:00am–12:30pm

Provides free confidential legal information, advice and referrals for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women in NSW with a focus on domestic violence, sexual assault, parenting issues, family law and discrimination.

Working Women's Legal Service: 8745 6954

Tuesdays and Thursdays by telephone appointment.

Provides advice, referrals and pro bono assistance to women discriminated against at work by reason of gender, pregnancy, caring responsibilities or experiencing sexual harassment.

Care Project: 8745 6908

Free confidential legal advice for women dealing with DoCS and child welfare issues.

Outreach advice clinics:

Blacktown	every second Friday Phone: 9831 2070
Liverpool	every second Thursday Phone: 9601 3555
Penrith	every second Tuesday Phone: 4721 8749

Local Courts domestic violence duty work:

Mt Druitt	once a month on Monday
Penrith	once a month on Tuesday
Blacktown	once every two months on Wednesday

Family Relationships Centres:

Blacktown	once a month (once every six weeks from 1 May 2017)
Penrith	once a month (once every six weeks from 1 May 2017)

Women's Correctional Centres:

Silverwater	once a month
Emu Plains	once in two months

Ask LOIS

A legal on-line information service for community workers: **www.asklois.org.au**



Women's Legal Service NSW would like to acknowledge the Wongal and Burramattagal people who are the traditional owners of the land on which we work.

CONTENTS

Contact us	2
Chairperson's report	5
WLS NSW Foundation activities and events report	6
WLSNSW Strategic Plan 2016–2019	8
Our personnel during 2016/2017	10
We provided legal advice and representation	12
We advocated for changes to law and legal processes	16
Community legal education	23
Indigenous Women's Legal Program	26
Our publications	30
Treasurer's report	32
Directors' report	33
Auditor's independence declaration	38
Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income	39
Statement of financial position	40
Statement of changes in equity	41
Statement of cash flows	42
Notes to the financial statements	43
Directors' declaration	57
Independent auditor's report	58

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

This has been a challenging year for Women's Legal Service NSW, and for community legal services generally. And despite a lot of additional funding being made available for the provision of domestic violence services, we have not been provided with additional resources to meet increased demand.

Fortunately the reduction in our core funding we anticipated has been averted, but the strain on our staff and resources has nonetheless taken its toll.

I congratulate the staff, volunteers and Board for continuing to provide such high quality specialist and focussed services to disadvantaged and vulnerable women during this difficult year.

Throughout this time we have continued to advocate, to educate and to campaign for law reform, as this annual report shows.

My thanks to the Board; Anna Hartree, Anusha Duray, Belinda Louis, Louise Goodchild, Liz Simpson, Heather McKinnon, Sheridan Emerson and Emma Palmer.

On behalf of the Board I would like to acknowledge the members of the Aboriginal Women's Consultation Network: Elsie Gordon, Anusha Duray, Tina West, Bronwyn Penrith, Pam Greer and Vicki Dennison. Thanks to the contribution of these wonderful women we can improve the cultural appropriateness of our services for women across NSW.

There are also many pro bono solicitors and barristers who provide great assistance to our staff and clients. Thank you all for your support.

To all those who have contributed to the work of Women's Legal Service NSW the Board extends its gratitude. To the staff I thank you for your dedication and your tireless efforts to better the lives of women.

Denele Crozier
Chairperson



WLS NSW FOUNDATION ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS REPORT

The WLS NSW Foundation now in its fifth year, has continued to build its relationships and raise awareness of funding struggles. Key achievements for the Foundation in the last 12 months include:

Foundation Events

All have been free of charge.

International Women's Day Fair: Sunday 5 March

Format:	A community festival in partnership with Marrickville Legal Centre.
Location:	Steel Park, Marrickville
Attendees:	estimated 100 public (not including WLS staff and presenters)
Details:	www.wlsnsw.org.au/iwd-fair-2017
Sponsorship:	Foundation sponsor Travel With Jane paid for the jumping castle
PR benefit:	Extensive coverage on Facebook; 1500 flyers delivered in the local area; Three other participating stallholder organisations; Local community radio station 'Radio Skid Row' promoted the event

View the mailing list follow up:

<http://us4.campaign-archive2.com/?u=b5dfc360e8fc51e67b57aaede&id=5d291def44>

Bright Spark Awards: Thursday 15 June

Format:	A cocktail party to present awards to outstanding women in 3 categories: Equal Rights; Advocacy or Law Reform; Community Service.
Location:	Colin Biggers and Paisley
Registrations:	27
Details:	http://www.wlsnsw.org.au/bright-spark-awards-2017/

Sponsorship: The ASU provided some funding and Travel With Jane paid for prizes

A donation bucket was placed at the door.

PR benefit: Six nominations were received and all nominators and nominees were invited

There was a significant reduction in the number of submissions from last year.

View mailing list follow up:

<http://mailchi.mp/7250336f7157/reminder-wls-nsw-bright-spark-awards-party-950249>

Campaigns and Marketing

The emailing list contains 570 contacts. In 2017, in addition to event invites and information, the following EDMs were sent:

End of Year Appeal

In June an end of financial year appeal was sent out twice to our mailing list. There were some significant donations through Give Now in this month. <http://mailchi.mp/5701a0d28265/update-where-we-stand-950253>

Autumn Update

In August an update on our funding position for the current financial year was sent out:

<http://mailchi.mp/1820f3323d64/update-where-we-stand-963773>

Sponsorship

The Foundation has continued a relationship with Colin Biggers & Paisley as venue providers and hosts for events. Holding events in the central CBD, close to public transport is key in ensuring that key stakeholders can easily attend.

Colin Biggers & Paisley is also a generous donor of funds.

A charity partnership with the women's travel insurance company 'Travel With Jane' has continued with them paying for cost items at our events.

WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED

ABN 88 002 387 699



On 20 March 2017, the Soroptimist International Region of NSW presented WLSNSW with a \$7,605.33 donation.

Sydney University Union has selected Women's Legal Service as their charity partner for two years. This support commenced in March 2017. They will donate a small percentage of money raised at two student events each year. Chloe and Helen have met with them to explore other in-kind benefits and have put forward a proposal from them to provide a venue for events in 2018. We are awaiting an outcome from this meeting.

Give Now

Regular donors were acknowledged with a thank you letter at Christmas. One off donors receive an email thanking them and notifying them that they will be added to the mailing list.

WLSNSW STRATEGIC PLAN 2016–2019

Vision

- Access to justice and a just legal system for women in NSW, as all women are entitled to a society that respects their human rights.

Purpose

- Women's Legal Service NSW works from a feminist perspective to promote access to justice for women in NSW. We seek to promote women's human rights, redress inequalities experienced by women and to foster legal and social change through strategic legal services, community development, community legal education and law and policy reform work. We prioritise women who are disadvantaged by their cultural, social and economic circumstances.
- We focus on areas of law that most directly have a gendered impact on women. This includes domestic violence, sexual assault, family law, care and protection, and discrimination.

5 Priority Areas

The five priority areas of service delivery for Women's Legal Service NSW are:

Policy and law reform

- Influence reform of policy, legislation and legal processes that affect the rights and limit the lives of women, particularly those most disadvantaged in their access to justice.

Community legal education and community development

- Promote women's understanding of the legal system, their rights and avenues for the resolution of their legal problems. Undertake community development initiatives to achieve this purpose, particularly for those women most disadvantaged in their access to justice. Develop the capacity of service providers working with women to assist their clients appropriately with legal problems.

Improving the lives of individual women

- Targeted and effective legal services that best meet the unmet needs of the most disadvantaged women in NSW. Strategic casework selected within our capacity that promotes women's human rights and supports assistance for those women at greatest disadvantage.

Enhance access to justice for, and self-determination by, Indigenous women

- Provide a specialised and culturally appropriate Indigenous Women's Legal Program, with respect for Indigenous decision-making and a commitment to supporting community strengthening.

Infrastructure, sustainability and organisational support

- Maintain the efficiency and effectiveness of Women's Legal Service NSW infrastructure to sustain and support the service delivery priority areas.

What we intend to achieve:

1. Women will be safe from violence.

We prioritise services for women experiencing domestic violence and sexual assault. We will practice within a domestic violence and trauma-informed framework. Twenty-five percent of matters undertaken will concern domestic violence and sexual assault.

2. Women will be supported to take control of their own lives.

We assist women to make decisions about their families and care for their children. Thirty-three percent of matters undertaken will concern family law and child protection.

We support women who have been discriminated against on grounds of gender, race, marital status and caring responsibilities, and who have experienced sexual harassment. Five percent of matters undertaken will concern discrimination.

3. Women will be resourced to make choices.

We will work collaboratively with other services to offer holistic responses to our clients' needs. We will undertake 16 outreaches and partnerships.

We will use systemic advocacy to enhance our client's access to justice. We will undertake 100 law reform activities each year.

4. Our services will be inclusive of all women

We will provide services in a manner that is inclusive of the needs and interests of all women, including Indigenous women, women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, women in regional rural and remote areas, older women, young women, women in prison, women at risk of homelessness, LBGQTI women and women with disabilities.

Our service provision will take into account the cross-cultural and intersecting issues that may compound the experience of disadvantage.

5. Sustainable Development Goals

This Strategic Plan accords with the United Nations "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" goals for gender equality, access to justice, and peaceful inclusive societies. (Goals 5, 8, 11, 16)

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld>

OUR PERSONNEL DURING 2016/2017

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Denele Crozier	Chairperson
Belinda Louis	Treasurer
Liz Simpson	Secretary
Anusha Duray	AWCN Representative
Anna Hartree	(retired 16 November 2016)
Louise Goodchild	
Sheridan Emerson	
Emma Palmer	
Heather McKinnon	
Lesley Unsworth	(3 May–9 August 2017)

ABORIGINAL WOMEN'S CONSULTATION NETWORK

Aunty Elsie Gordon	TAFE NSW, Dubbo
Anusha Duray	Aboriginal Projects
	Co-ordinator, Coffs Harbour
Tina West	Aboriginal Health Service,
	Central Coast
Vicki Dennison	Aboriginal Community Justice
	Co-ordinator, Armidale
Bronwyn Penrith	Mudgin-Gal Aboriginal
	Women's Centre
Pam Greer	Education Centre Against
	Violence

STAFF

Management

Helen Campbell	Executive Officer
Janet Loughman	Principal Solicitor
Kim Ly	Management Accountant

Indigenous Women's Legal Program

Dixie Link-Gordon	Senior Community Access Officer
Gabrielle Craig	Senior Solicitor
Karen Mifsud	Senior Solicitor
Yasmine Khan	Community Access Officer
Gail Tobler	Community Access Officer
Vickie Fair	Community Access Officer
	(to 5 July 2017)

Community Legal Education

Rebecca Ebel	Community Legal Education Officer (to 30 September 2016)
Jessica Raffal	Community Legal Education Officer

Law Reform

Liz Snell	Law Reform and Policy Co-ordinator
-----------	------------------------------------

Solicitors

Janet Loughman	Principal Solicitor
Pip Davis	Assistant Principal Solicitor
Carolyn Jones	Senior Solicitor
Rebecca Frost	Senior Solicitor
Kellie McDonald	Senior Solicitor
Alicia Jillard	Solicitor
	(until 28 September 2016)
Cecilia Lee	Solicitor
Mari Vagg	Solicitor
Jessica Hannam	Solicitor
Ida Nursoo	Solicitor (contract to 18 November 2016)
Anna Swain	Solicitor (contract to 31 March 2017)

Administrative Staff

Lita Chiv	Accounts clerk
Daryna Ieth	Receptionist
Kuny Chhor	Data entry
Nicole Long	Receptionist (casual)

Consultants and contractors

Niko Ramos	MacCentre
Aaron Lippincott	
Priscilla McCorristan	Counsellor
Pichhorda Phy	Data analysis
Chloe Wyatt	Foundation events co-ordinator

Volunteers and Students

We would like to thank all our students and volunteers who give their time to help us to serve our clients. We appreciate your work.

Bella Worner-Butcher	Nicole Smith
Ellie Greenwood	Vee Tranh
Alex Lachsz	Taylah Mihell
Rojda Dag	Myfanwy Henry-Jones
Ruby Catsanos	Isabel Howie
Denise O,Dea	Lucy Tran
Rina Le	Rachel Stokker

EVENING ADVICE SERVICE VOLUNTEER SOLICITORS

Alice Schober	Allessandra Schiavuzzi
Alicia Elliott	Bernadette Smyth
Eliza George	Jennifer Keane
Jessica Ross	Laura Donnelly
Lucinda Aboud	Melanie Stern
Natalie Moffett	Priyanka Sharma
Rishika Pai	Rachael Vincent
Rachel Miller	Rose Camilleri
Sherlene Heng	Victoria Broomfield
Kirrily Buckett	Michelle Hutchinson

PRO BONO PARTNERS

Individual legal practitioners and firms continue to assist our clients by giving generously of their time providing pro bono services. We value their contribution and acknowledge the difference they make to our ability to respond to unmet legal need in the community.

Colin Biggers & Paisley

Special thanks to Colin Biggers & Paisley who have provided us with a range of in-kind, pro bono and financial support through its CBP Foundation and the generosity of its staff. The CBP Foundation aims to promote and protect the rights of women and children and has made WLSNSW one of its priority clients.

Victims Support Project with Colin Biggers & Paisley

We entered into the second year of an MOU with Colin Biggers & Paisley to enable their solicitors to act as WLS NSW volunteers to undertake victims support casework. This has expanded our capacity to undertake this work in matters where legal argument could make a difference to the awards received for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Victims Support Project with Baker & McKenzie

We established an MOU with Baker & McKenzie to enable their solicitors to act as WLS NSW volunteers to undertake victims support casework.

This has expanded our capacity to undertake the work in matters where legal argument could make a difference to the awards received for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Gilbert + Tobin

Thanks to Gilbert + Tobin for making their beautiful premises and hospitality available to us for our fundraising and Foundation events during the year as well as client support.

Barristers

Corrie Goodhand	Eight Selborne Chambers
Louise Goodchild	Frederick Jordan Chambers
Monica Neville	Sir James Martin Chambers
Maria Gerace	Maurice Byers Chambers
Radhika Withana	12 Wentworth Selborne Chambers
Tim Hammond	Samuel Griffith Chambers
Tracey Stevens	Maurice Byers Chambers
Will Tuckey	Samuel Griffith Chambers
Larissa Andelman	15 Wardell Chambers
Ian Neil SC	Atlas Chambers
Rhys O'Brien	Culwulla Chambers
Verity McWilliam	10th Floor Chambers
Michelle McMahon	6th Floor St James Hall Chambers

WE PROVIDED LEGAL ADVICE AND REPRESENTATION

WLS NSW provided legal advice and representation to women most disadvantaged in our community. We provided¹:

- **2,303** information and referral services;
- **1,798** legal advices either by phone or face-to-face at outreach advice clinic locations, women's prisons and Local Courts
- **54** legal tasks
- **538** representation services

Apprehended Domestic Violence Order duty work

We attended local courts in Western Sydney to represent women in Apprehended Domestic Violence Order (ADVO) matters and provide associated advice. During the year solicitors attended Mt Druitt, Penrith and Blacktown Local Courts.

State-wide telephone advice services

We provided state-wide telephone advice services for family law, sexual assault, domestic violence legal advice, discrimination in employment advice, care and protection advice and advice for Aboriginal women through our designated Indigenous Women's Legal Contact Line. Our Tuesday evening telephone advice service, provided with the assistance of 20 volunteer solicitors, continued into its second year.

Outreach advice clinics in western Sydney

We provided face-to-face legal advice through four outreach advice clinics in Women's Health Centres in western Sydney at Liverpool, Fairfield, Penrith and Blacktown. During the year, the Fairfield Migrant Women's Health Centre closed and our advice clinic ceased to operate from there. Our Indigenous Women's Legal Program provided outreach advice clinics for Aboriginal women at various locations in Western Sydney.

¹ During the year all community legal centres transferred to a new national data base (CLASS). This transition and some change in data definitions means that the statistical reports may not be entirely accurate nor comparable to previous years' data.

Legal Assistance at Family Relationship Centres

We provided advice clinics and lawyer assisted family dispute resolution in family law matters through Family Relationship Centres at Penrith and Blacktown (operated by Relationships Australia).

Legal Education and Advice in Prison (LEAP) for Women

We continued our work in the metropolitan women's prisons through the LEAP for Women project. This collaborative initiative with Wirringa Baiya Aboriginal Women's Legal Centre and Hawkesbury Nepean Community Legal Centre is now in its ninth year and has identified high level legal needs of women in prison. WLS NSW does not receive additional funding to provide this service and it remains a high priority need in terms of access to justice.



Working Women's Legal Service

We continued to provide an advice and representation service in relation to discrimination on the basis of sex, pregnancy, carer/family responsibilities and sexual harassment in employment. WLS NSW does not receive additional funding to provide this service and has been greatly assisted by our volunteer solicitor Ruby Catsanos every Tuesday and Thursday.

Case work

Women's Legal Service NSW has limited capacity to take on on-going representation services for clients and we focus our work on cases that will have the most impact on improving the legal system for others or for making a significant difference to the individual circumstances of our client.

In 78% of our representation services women were experiencing family violence.

In 25% of our representation services women identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

Examples of our casework

Family Court appeal – change of child's name

WLS represented the respondent mother in a Family Court appeal case. The father was appealing orders made in the Federal Circuit Court (FCCA) which dispensed with service of the mother's application on him and authorised the mother to apply to the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages to change her child's name. There was a history of physical and psychological domestic violence by the father. Final orders were made some years ago in the FCCA that the mother have sole parental responsibility for the child, that the child live with the mother and spend no time with the father. The mother still needed a court order to change the child's surname. The father's appeal was based on his claim that he was denied natural justice in not being given an opportunity to respond to the mother's application. Barrister Rhys O'Brien acted on a pro bono basis for our client. The father's appeal was dismissed.

District Court – change of name

We represented a client in her application to the District Court to change her child's name. Our client had previously obtained ex parte orders made by the Federal Circuit Court giving our client sole parental responsibility and live with orders. For safety reasons, she wanted to change her child's name. Our client sought non-publication and pseudonym orders, that service on the father be dispensed with and that the matter be dealt with in chambers. The Court made orders directing the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages to register a change of name.

Australian Human Rights Commission – sexual harassment

We represented a client who was sexually harassed at work by her employer. The sexual harassment included being propositioned for sex, frequent comments about her physical appearance and clothing and questions of a sexual nature. Our client sought a settlement against the individual and the company for economic and non-economic loss and training for all staff on non-discrimination and equal employment. The employer agreed to pay damages and undertake training.

Federal Circuit Court – application for Aboriginal grandmother

We represented an Aboriginal grandmother who had not seen her grand-daughter for 5 years in an application to the Federal Circuit Court for our client to spend time with her grand-daughter. An important part of our client's case was that it was her role to pass on Aboriginal culture to her granddaughter.

AVO ex parte hearing

We represented a young woman in an application for an AVO after she was assaulted and harassed by her brother's ex-partner on a number of occasions. On the day of the hearing, the respondent failed to attend court and the Magistrate made an order protecting our client for a period of two years on an ex parte basis.

Subpoena objection in Federal Circuit Court

We represented a client whose personal health records had been subpoenaed in a family law matter where she was a related party. We objected to the subpoena issued by the Federal Circuit Court and assisted the client to inspect and redact the records.

Tallant & Kelsey [2017 FamCA210]²

We acted for an Aboriginal mother who was the respondent to an application by the father that the children live with him. Our client sought 'no time' orders based on the grounds of family violence and child abuse. It was a long and protracted case eventually discharging consent orders made in 2013 for shared care. The matter was finalised before Justice Hannam in December 2016 and in April 2017, the judgment was handed down which provided for the father to have no time with the children. During the course of the case, we challenged the adequacy of the family violence risk assessment undertaken by the family report writer and accepted by the Independent Children's Lawyer. The mother's allegations of family violence were corroborated by an independent incident of cruelty to the family pet in the presence of one of the children and witnessed by the supervised contact worker and members of the public. The father was subsequently charged with animal cruelty and the supervision service terminated its services. Barristers Louise Goodchild and Michelle McMahon were briefed in this matter.

Betros & Betros [2016 FamCA 225]; Betros & Betros [2017 FamCAFC 90]³

We represented the mother in family law proceedings where there was family violence perpetrated by the father. Prior to WLS acting for the mother, parenting orders for equal shared parental responsibility and the children to live with the mother and spend time with the father were made by consent in 2013. The consent orders did not resolve the parties' conflict. The father commenced fresh proceedings in December 2013, which were determined by the orders made on 6 April 2016. The court found that the father had perpetrated family violence and the children were psychologically harmed from being subjected to abuse by the

father. The orders made in April 2016 represented a significant shift from those made in 2013. The father was deprived of any parental responsibility for the children, the time they were to spend with him was both drastically reduced and subjected to professional supervision, and their communication with him was tightly constricted.

The father appealed against the decision contending that the trial judge made erroneous findings about the nature of his coercive and controlling conduct, that the orders unfairly impinged the children's loving relationships with him, and that such findings and orders were not satisfactorily explained by the trial judge's reasons. The court delivered its judgment under the pseudonym *Betros & Betros* dismissing the father's appeal. Barrister Michelle McMahon was briefed in this matter.

BMF v Commissioner of Victims Rights [2016] NSWCATAD 144,⁴

We represented BMF in her application to the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT) for review of decisions made by Victims Services in relation to her applications for victims support. Our client's application was twofold; firstly, that as a result of domestic violence, she suffered a psychological injury which was serious enough to amount to 'grievous bodily harm' and secondly, that Victims Services erred in refusing to approve her application for financial assistance arising out of expenses our client asserted she had arising as a result of the acts of violence. The Tribunal Member found that our client's injury met the test for 'grievous bodily harm' but in relation to the second aspect of her claim, the Tribunal Member found that NCAT did not have jurisdiction to consider an application for review arising out of a decision relating to financial assistance (finding that NCAT only has jurisdiction to consider an application for review of a decision relating to a recognition payment).

² A reported decision published under a pseudonym

³ A reported decision published under a pseudonym

⁴ A reported decision published under a pseudonym



Alicia Jillard presenting at the domestic violence legal training day, 8 September 2016.

CRT v Commissioner of Victims Rights [2017] NSWCATAD 174

We acted for a client in an application for Victims Support in relation to child sexual assault. Her claim went on appeal to the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT) on the question of whether her claim fell within the more serious category of injury (Category B injury rather than a Category C injury). CRT applied for victims support for counselling, financial assistance for immediate needs and a recognition payment in relation to an aggravated sexual assault. The Tribunal member found that the offence was a serious sexual assault since CRT was a child at the time of the offence and serious threats to kill her were made in the commission of the offence. The Tribunal member accepted WLS submissions that the injury was long term and had a significant and extremely detrimental effect on her

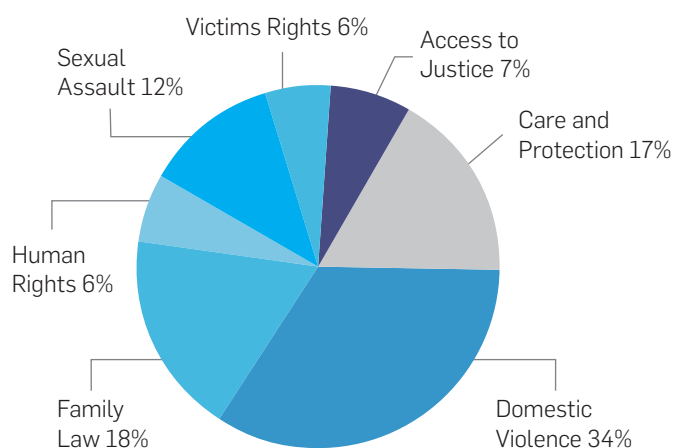
life and ability to perform normal day to day functions and clearly met the criteria for "serious bodily injury", which is not defined in the legislation". The offender threatened to kill CRT with a "6ft metal pole", if she said or did anything about the sexual assault. The term "offensive weapon" is also not defined in the Act and the Tribunal member found that the "6 ft. metal pole" satisfied the definition of an "offensive weapon" for the purposes of s 35 (2) (a) of the Act.

WE ADVOCATED FOR CHANGES TO LAW AND LEGAL PROCESSES

We maintained a strong commitment to our objective of engaging in policy and law reform, with 211 law reform and stakeholder engagement projects completed over the year. Our policy and law reform activities focus on the justice needs of women, and aspects of the law and the legal structures that affect women's lives.

We were quoted or cited in Hansard and in reports published following inquiries on over 70 occasions. Over 20 of our recommendations were adopted in part or in full in reports and 12 of our recommendations were supported in government responses.

Law reform topics



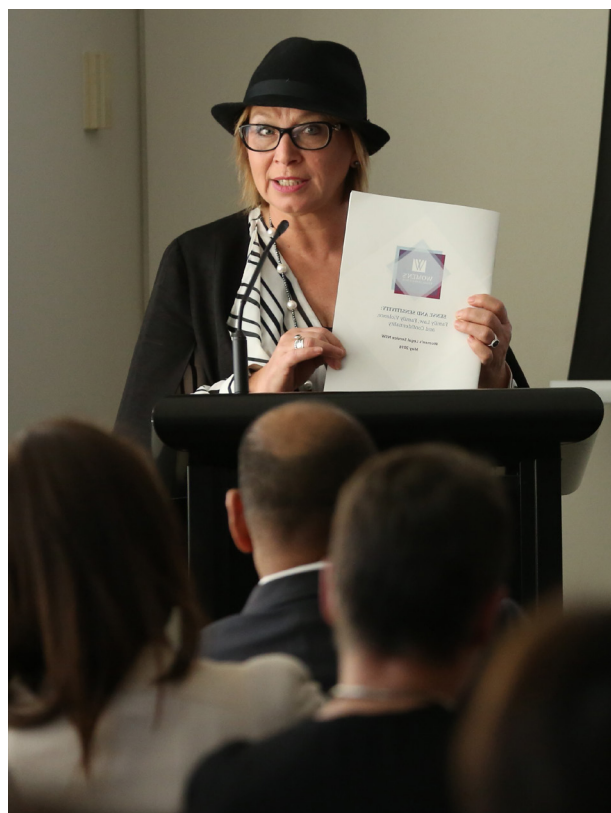
Some highlights of our advocacy work:

Launch of Sense and Sensitivity: Family Law, Family Violence and Confidentiality paper

In August 2016 Rosie Batty launched our *Sense and Sensitivity: Family Law, Family Violence and Confidentiality* paper.

The paper outlines the practices and consequences of information sharing and considers the unintended consequences of disclosure of sensitive materials in family law proceedings involving family violence, including through the use of subpoenas.

The paper considers the impact of disclosure of sensitive material on the safety of victims and their children and how disclosure impacts the integrity of professional relationships, both current and future.



Rosie Batty launching the Sense and Sensitivity report.

The paper advocates for the family law system to adopt a broader responsibility for victim parents by ensuring that records of supportive and therapeutic services are shielded from the perpetrator so that victims can focus on recovery and their capacity to care for their children. The paper proposes this could happen through the development of guidelines for obtaining and using sensitive records that adopts a least intrusive approach. The paper also recommends a pilot project to assist victims and therapeutic service providers to object to family law subpoenas.

The paper was developed with the support of a Law and Justice Foundation of NSW grant.

Australian Law Reform Commission inquiry into elder abuse

In August the Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC) held a consultation with the Aboriginal Women's Consultation Network (AWCN) and Indigenous Women's Legal Program team regarding their inquiry into elder abuse.

This was a valuable opportunity for the ALRC to hear about the experiences of Aboriginal women from a number of communities in NSW.

Some of the issues discussed included the range of forms of elder abuse, including psychological and financial abuse. Members of the AWCN commented that while financial abuse includes children and grandchildren expecting grandparents to feed their family on a daily basis many grandparents did not know this was financial abuse.

Concern was also raised about parents caring for their adult children with disabilities. The AWCN recommended cultural protocols or cultural safety standards to which all organisations working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people should be required to comply.

The AWCN and IWLP team observed that there needs to be much greater community education about elder abuse as many victims-survivors are unaware that what they are experiencing is elder abuse. They also commented that too often there is the assumption that older people cannot talk for themselves. It is important that older Aboriginal people are allowed to speak for themselves and that decision makers listen.

Giving evidence at the Royal Commission into institutional responses to child sexual abuse

We made a submission to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse in response to its Criminal Justice Consultation paper. We supported the proposal that witness intermediaries be available for children and people with disability to assist them to participate in the criminal justice system. We also supported a presumption of joint trials in sexual offence cases in circumstances where there are multiple victims and multiple offences.

Our submission acknowledged particular barriers faced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander survivors of child sexual abuse in disclosing such abuse and highlighted the importance of programs such as "Hey Sis, we've got your back" which is a network of Aboriginal women from all parts of NSW who are committed to working to prevent sexual assault in their communities.

Our submission also acknowledged the high rates of women in prison, particularly Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women, and the lack of understanding regarding pathways to prison as a result of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Representing Women's Legal Services Australia at the pin a pollie day

Liz Snell and Angela Lauman (Women's Legal Centre – ACT and region) represented Women's Legal Services Australia at the Equality Rights Alliance 'pin a pollie' day in Canberra in November 2016. We met with several Members of Parliament and advisors to discuss Women's Legal Services Australia and Rosie Batty's Safety First in Family Law Five Step Plan.

Improving Victims Support

Through the Community Legal Centres NSW Domestic Violence Victims Compensation subcommittee, community legal centres, including Women's Legal Service NSW, have been advocating for the strengthening of the NSW Victims Support scheme, particularly for victims-survivors of child abuse, child sexual abuse, sexual assault and domestic violence.

The NSW Victims Support scheme was reviewed in 2016. Submissions made to the review highlight that a wide range of government and non-government agencies agree that victims-survivors of child abuse, child sexual abuse, sexual assault and domestic violence are being failed by the NSW Victims Support Scheme. There needs to be:

- Higher recognition payments that better recognise the pain and suffering experienced by such victims;
- Removal of time limits for such victims for all aspects of the scheme;
- Acceptance of wider forms of evidence of an act of violence and injury; and
- Greater transparency about the scheme through comprehensive annual reports.



Law Reform and Policy Co-ordinator, Liz Snell with The Hon Mark Speakman SC MP, the Hon Bronnie Taylor MLC, the Commissioner of Victims Rights, Mahashini Krishna and fellow advocates at NSW Parliament on the day of the introduction of the Crimes Amendment (Intimate Images) Bill 2017.

Criminalising image based abuse

After advocating for the criminalising of the non-consensual recording and/or distributing of intimate images for a number of years we welcomed the introduction of the *Crimes Amendment (Intimate Images) Act 2017* in NSW.

The new law criminalises the taking and distributing as well as threats to distribute intimate images without consent. We have been advocating for many years for a quick take down mechanism in the context of image based abuse. This new law also enables the court to make take down orders in criminal proceedings which if contravened is a further offence.

We continue to call for courts to be given the power to make take down orders in other proceedings such as apprehended violence order proceedings.

Open Letter about improving options for victims of domestic violence who are renting in NSW

As part of the five-year statutory review of the *Residential Tenancies Act 2010 (NSW)* we, along with many others, have been advocating for greater protections for victims-survivors of domestic violence.

In July 2016 the Government announced it would amend the legislation so that victims of domestic violence can end their tenancy immediately without penalty. The evidence of domestic violence required will be an apprehended violence order or a family law injunction.

While welcoming these reforms we have continued to advocate that the NSW Government expand the required evidence of domestic violence to also include a statutory declaration from a list of "competent persons". This is because less than half of victims-survivors of domestic violence report the violence to police. The list of "competent persons" should include professionals such as doctors, domestic violence workers and community access workers.

On 15 June 2017 we wrote an open letter to Minister Kean and Minister Goward calling on the NSW Government to adopt this recommendation to ensure that more victims-survivors of domestic violence are able to keep themselves and their children safe. Eighty-eight organisations endorsed the letter.

Submissions and hearings

We made, co-ordinated or contributed to submissions at and about:

- The review of Men's Behaviour Change Programs and workforce development
- Department of Justice Issues Paper about the trial of brief interventions based on behavioural insights for domestic violence perpetrators
- CLCNSW submission to the Department of Justice in response to the statutory review of the *Victims Rights and Support Act 2013 (NSW)*
- Judicial Council on Cultural Diversity Draft Access to Justice Framework
- NSW Legislative Council General Purpose Standing Committee No 2 inquiry into child protection
- Liz Snell gave evidence before the NSW Legislative Council General Purpose Standing Committee No 2 inquiry into child protection
- Launch of *Sense and Sensitivity: Family Law, Family Violence and Confidentiality*, a paper by Carolyn Jones
- Senate Standing Committees on Legal and Constitutional Affairs Inquiry into the Migration Amendment (Family Violence & Other Measures) Bill 2016
- Department of Justice sharing of intimate images without consent discussion paper
- COAG violence against women summit
- Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse Criminal Justice Issues Paper, and Dixie Link-Gordon and Janet Loughman appeared before the Royal Commission to provide evidence
- Department of Family and Community Services Foundation for Change: Homelessness in NSW Discussion Paper
- Department of Communications and the Arts review of the Australian Communications Consumer Action Network (ACCAN)
- Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights freedom of speech inquiry
- Commonwealth Attorney General's Department on the draft terms of reference – Australian Law Reform Commission inquiry into the incarceration rate of Indigenous Australians
- Women's Legal Services Australia (WLSA) submission to the Commonwealth Attorney General's Department on the Family Law Amendment (Family Violence and Other Measures) Bill 2017: exposure draft
- Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women – Country visit to Australia
- Queensland Law Reform Commission inquiry into a domestic violence disclosure scheme
- Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Inquiry into establishing a Modern Slavery Act in Australia
- House of Representatives Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs inquiry into a better family law system to support and protect those affected by family violence
- WLSA submission to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs inquiry into a better family law system to support and protect those affected by family violence
- National Association of Community Legal Centres and Community Legal Centres NSW submission to the Australian Law Reform Commission inquiry into the incarceration rate of Indigenous Australians
- Office of the Children's Guardian on Statutory Review of the *Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012*
- Department of Communications and the Arts on Civil Penalties Regime for Non-consensual Sharing of Intimate Images
- WLSA Submission to the Department of Communications and the Arts on Civil Penalties Regime for Non-consensual Sharing of Intimate Images

- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights NGO Shadow report
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights NGO Shadow report

Consultations, forums and meetings

We sought to change laws and policies by attending and engaging in formal and informal consultations and meetings. Some of these were:

- Participated in the Indicators for the National Outcome Standards for Perpetrator Interventions workshop
- The Australian Law Reform Commission held a consultation with the Aboriginal Women's Consultation Network and Indigenous Women's Legal Program team regarding their inquiry into elder abuse
- Meeting with Minister Goward along with DV NSW, NCOSS and the New England and Western Tenants Advice and Advocacy Service to discuss strengthening the domestic violence provisions of the Residential Tenancy Act reforms
- Meeting with the Office of the Senior Practitioner, Department of Family and Community Services to hear more about the work of FACS and share about our work
- Represented Women's Legal Services Australia at the Equality Rights Alliance pin a pollie day in Canberra
- Participated in the Commonwealth Attorney General's Department NGO Human Rights forum
- Participated in the FaCS consultation regarding the NSW strategy to address homelessness
- Participated in the Technology Safety workshop following the Technology Safety Summit
- Meeting with the NSW Privacy Commissioner to discuss technology-facilitated stalking and abuse
- Meeting with FaCS to highlight the need to improve responses and support for pregnant women in custody
- Participated in a roundtable of organisations meeting with the NSW Premier's representatives to discuss the need for paid domestic violence leave
- Meeting with Minister Goward to discuss the Women's Legal Services Australia 5 step plan to Put Safety First in Family Law
- Meeting with the Director, Legal Services, Department of Family and Community Services
- Participated in a consultation with the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women
- Meeting with Lucy Hadley, Women's Aid, UK
- Meeting with NSW Attorney General Mark Speakman SC about CLC funding and Victims Support law reform.
- Participated in the consultation on the NSW Disability Justice Strategy
- Meeting with Minister for Women, Minister Davies and her advisor to discuss WLS NSW, stronger protections for victims-survivors renting in NSW and Victims Support
- Meeting with Minister Goward's advisors to discuss women in prison and access to housing and support services
- Participated in the Office of the Children's Guardian Working With Children Check consultation
- Dixie-Link Gordon has represented Women's Legal Service NSW on the Women NSW Sexual Assault Expert Group and has participated in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Consultations about the development of the NSW Sexual Assault Strategy
- Participated in the NSW Women's Strategy consultation
- Meetings with Department of Aboriginal Affairs to discuss the Stolen Generations reparations scheme
- Participated in a focus group consultation about responses to women with disability who experience violence
- Meeting with the eSafety Commissioner and a number of her policy advisors to discuss technology facilitated stalking and abuse

- Participated in roundtables on improving child safety and wellbeing organised by the Benevolent Society

Media and articles

Our main media and published work during the year includes:

- Media mention: "Domestic violence victims given the power to terminate rental contracts early", *SMH* 5 July 2016
- Media mention: Kellie McDonald interviewed about reforms to NSW tenancy laws on *702*, 5 July 2016
- Media mention: Kellie McDonald interviewed about reforms to NSW tenancy laws on *2UE*, 5 July 2016
- Media mention: Kellie McDonald interviewed about reforms to NSW tenancy laws on *ABC TV*, 5 July 2016
- Media mention: Kellie McDonald interviewed about reforms to NSW tenancy laws on *Radio National*, 5 July 2016
- Media mention: Kellie McDonald interviewed about reforms to NSW tenancy laws by *APN*, 5 July 2016
- Media mention: Kellie McDonald interviewed about reforms to NSW tenancy laws on *ABC News Radio*, 5 July 2016
- Media mention: Kellie McDonald interviewed about reforms to NSW tenancy laws on *Life Matters*, 6 July 2016
- Media mention: "One mother's view on fast-track adoption: 'I want my children back'" *Sun Herald*, 10 July 16
- Media release: Family law, family violence and confidentiality: launch of research report, 19 August 2016
- Media mention: "Confidentiality in family law requires more clarity", *Lawyers Weekly*, 23 August 2016
- Media mention: Janet Loughman interviewed by *ABC Radio* about the Domestic and Family Violence Benchbook, 5 September 2016
- Journal article: "Proposed Tenancy Reforms: Improve rights for DV victims", Kellie McDonald, *The Law Society of NSW Journal*, September 2016
- Media mention: "Dixie Link-Gordon: Violence is woven into Australia", *The Guardian*, 23 November 2016
- Journal article: "Sense and Sensitivity: Therapeutic records in family law proceedings", Carolyn Jones, *The Law Society of NSW Journal*, November 2016
- Media mention: Details emerge on domestic-violence program, *SBS News*, 28 October 2016
- Media mention: "Turnbull calls Australia's domestic violence 'a disgrace'", *SBS News*, 28 October 2016
- Media mention: Helen Campbell interviewed on *SBS World News* about funding cuts, 28 October 2016
- Media mention: Helen Campbell interviewed on *The Wire* about technology-facilitated stalking and abuse
- Media mention: "Foreign brides win right to stay in Australia after domestic violence allegations", *The Daily Telegraph*, 16 May 2017
- Media mention: "NSW revenge porn offenders to be jailed," *news.com.au*, 24 May 2017
- Media mention: "Frontline domestic violence services face uncertainty", *ABC Radio National Breakfast*, 17 June 2017
- Media mention: "Hi-tech stalking of women rises as one in five report harassment", *The Daily Telegraph*, 17 June 2017

Committees

We built alliances and worked strategically with others by participating in Community Legal Centres NSW, National Association of Community Legal Centres and external committees.

Community Legal Centres NSW

- Aboriginal Advisory Group
- Care Partners and Care and Protection Network (convened by WLS NSW)
- Community Legal Centres NSW Board
- Domestic Violence and Victims Compensation Subcommittee (co-convened by WLS NSW)
- Law Reform and Policy Committee
- PII Committee
- Prisoner's Rights Working Group (co-convened by WLS NSW)

National Association of Community Legal Centres

- National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Legal Network
- Human Rights Network
- LGBTI Network
- Women's Legal Services Australia

Interagencies, networks and other external committees

- Aboriginal Women's Experiences in Criminal Courts and Beyond: from suffering in silence to writing the story Advisory Group
- The Australian National Research Organisation for Women's Safety (ANROWS) Practitioner Engagement Group meeting
- Apprehended Violence Legal Issues Coordinating Committee (AVLIICC) of NSW Department of Justice
- Better Outcomes For Aboriginal Children – South Western Sydney FaCS District Working Group
- Australian Communication Consumers Action Network

- Australian Women Against Violence (AWAVA) Alliance Advisory Group (as WLSA representative)
- Blacktown & Penrith Family Relationship Centre Partnership Steering Committee
- Children's Court – Care Working Party (CLCNSW representative)
- Communications Industry – Review of Handling of Life-Threatening and Unwelcome Communications Industry Code
- Corrective Services Contact in Custody Working Group
- Equality Rights Alliance Working Groups (as WLSA representative)
- Greater Sydney Family Law Pathways Network
- Legal Education and Advice in Prison
- Legal Practitioners Consultative Group of Corrective Services NSW
- LGBTIQ Domestic Violence Interagency
- NLAf Prisoner's Legal Information Team meeting
- NSW Women's Alliance
- Parramatta Family Law Interagency Meeting
- PATRICIA PROJECT (ANROWS national research project) Advisory Committee
- Sexual Assault Review Committee of Office of Director of Public Prosecutions
- Social and Cultural Resilience & Emotional Wellbeing of Aboriginal Mothers in Prison (SCREAM) Advisory Group
- South West Sydney Early Intervention Working Group
- Women's Advisory Council of Corrective Services NSW
- Women NSW Sexual Assault Expert Group

COMMUNITY LEGAL EDUCATION

Our community legal education (CLE) program strives to increase women's awareness of the law, their legal rights and access to legal services through training seminars, workshops, webinars, conferences, stalls, websites and publications. The majority of our CLE is delivered to community workers with the goal of reaching more women in the community.

We undertook 115 CLE activities and produced 12 resources. The workshops we provided included the following topics:

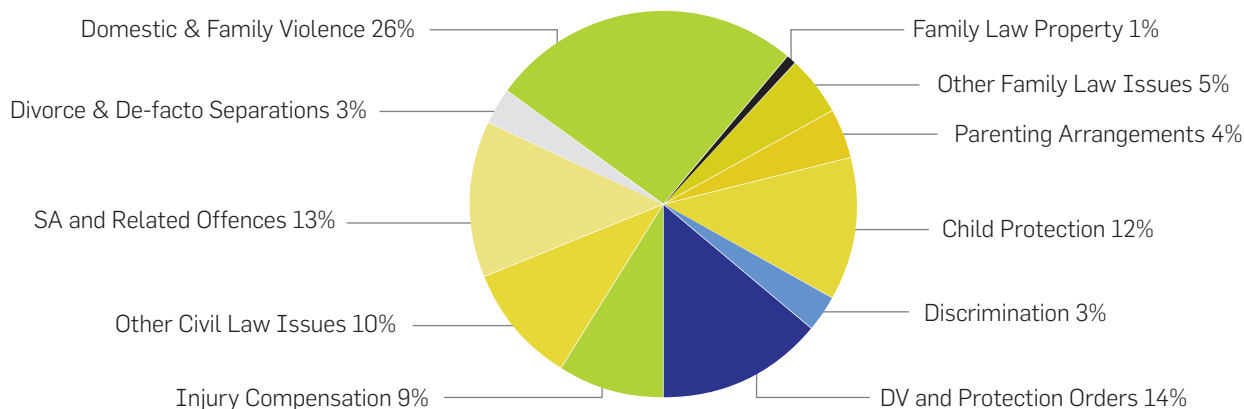
- Apprehended violence orders
- About WLS NSW
- Child care & protection
- Discrimination
- Domestic violence
- Domestic violence & technology
- Domestic violence & tenancy
- Family law
- Minors, violence, sex and the law
- Safety planning in family law
- Sexual assault
- The Victims Support Scheme
- Toolkit for GPs in NSW

We provided workshops, seminars and presented at forums and conferences face-to-face to over 1000 people in Eastlakes, Mount Druitt, North Sydney, Penrith, Petersham, Auburn, Wollongong, Ashfield, Parramatta, Central Coast, Lidcombe, Springwood, Corrimal, Liverpool, Forbes, Bourke and Sydney CBD.

Workshops

Highlights include:

- Domestic Violence Legal Training Day, jointly run with CLCNSW
- Seminar on domestic violence and technology to members of the Outer West Domestic Violence Network
- Full day seminar on Family Law – Basics in Sydney CBD with thanks to our pro-bono partners Collin Biggers Paisley
- Multiple workshop on practical skills in responding to DV to community workers attending ECAV DV training in various locations around Sydney and NSW
- Workshop on early referral for care and protection to FaCS staff at the South Western Sydney office.
- Multiple lectures given to Western Sydney University and Wollongong University students on domestic violence and the law
- Multiple trainings to the NSW Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors staff on the GP Toolkit and working with Women's Legal Service NSW
- Multiple workshops on minors, violence, sex and the law to nurses at Family Planning NSW as part of their Reproductive & Sexual Health Clinical Accreditation Program.
- Presentation to the Dispute Resolution Institute on Safety in Family Law at which Judge Harman and senior solicitors from Legal Aid DV Unit were present.



- Panel presentation to over 150 judges at the Asia Pacific Regional Conference of the International Association of Women Judges about the impact of incarceration of women on children and parenting
- Seminar to around 150 community workers on domestic violence and technology to the Nepean and Blue Mountains Domestic and Family Violence Forum
- Participation in a discussion panel before an audience of around 250 workers and community members at the Shakti InteGreat Women's Conference
- Multiple Safety Planning workshops for legal practitioners and family mediators presented jointly with Jon Graham on behalf of the Greater Sydney Family Law Pathways Network.

Publications

- "Sense and Sensitivity"
Publication was completed and the report was launched by Rosie Batty on 19 August
- "Sexual assault – Your rights and the law"
Published August 2016.
- Law Handbook. Final versions of all of our chapters were submitted to Thompson & Reuters.
- Women and Family Law – The online version of this resource was updated to reflect the recent changes to the law around domestic violence and apprehended violence orders.

- Dealing with FaCS Top Ten Tips
Published August 2016
- Lawyers Practice Manual – Work was completed on updating our previous chapters of the Lawyer's Practice Manual.

Networking and service promotion

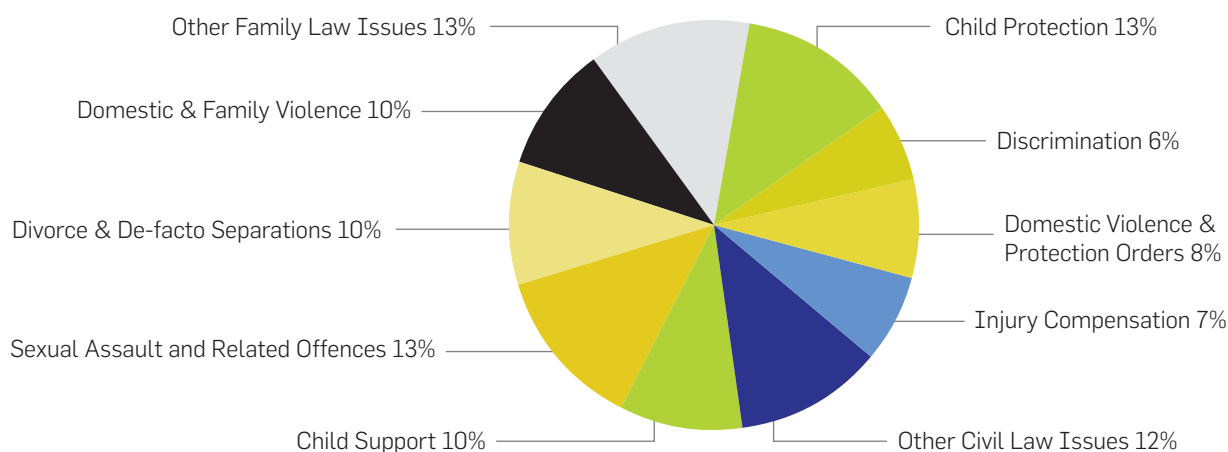
- Legal Information and Referral Forum consultation about distribution of our Sexual Assault publication
- NSW Service for the Treatment and rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors consultation about training relating to our GP toolkit.
- Legal Information and Referral Forum was attended in October.
- International Women's Day Fair with Marrickville Legal Centre was held in March

Ask LOIS

Ask LOIS is a secure website providing a free legal online information service (LOIS) for community workers in NSW, who are responding to women with legal needs.

Ask LOIS provides community workers with free online training and advice on legal issues such as domestic violence, AVOs, family law, child protection, victims support and much more. It offers fortnightly webinars, a comprehensive resource library, case studies and a national DV service directory.

Community Legal Education: areas of law covered:



In 2016–17, there were 338 live webinar participants.

Webinar topics:

- How to Appeal Centrelink Debts (28 live participants)
- Assisting Clients with Interim Hearings (25 live participants)
- Back to Basics: Apprehended Violence Orders (38 live participants)
- Female Genital Mutilation (FGM): the law in NSW (23 live participants)
- Back to Basics: Parenting Arrangements (17 live participants)
- Update on Apprehended Violence Orders Law Reform (45 live participants)
- Plain Language AVOs (47 live participants)
- AVO Plain English (38 live participants)
- Update on new AVO laws (77 live participants)

Past webinars were viewed 463 times.

Webinar Plain English summary factsheets downloaded approximately 4,626 times.

There are 385 new subscribers to Ask LOIS this year.

Ask LOIS is being promoted through ANROWS, Law & Justice Foundation, 1800 Respect, AWAVA, HsNet, weekly E-Newsletters and social media.

We are also forming an exciting pro-bono partnership with LegalVision, a firm specialising in innovation and technology, which we hope will assist us in developing the Ask LOIS program, expanding its reach and increasing its efficiency.

Website

The Women's Legal Service NSW website had over 46,000 unique users, 64,923 sessions and over 128,000 page views over the past year. Around 80% of users were women.

Facebook

We have been increasing our social media engagement over the past year with a particular focus on Facebook, with good results. The WLS Facebook page has 2084 likes, compared to 1729 at the end

of last financial year. We have also seen a dramatic increase in the reach of our posts. The average post for this financial year reached around 1090 people, compared to an average of 292 people for posts in 2015/16.

Our post with the greatest reach (number of unique people who saw our post) in the past year reached over 8500 people. That post was:

Post Details

Women's Legal Service NSW
Published by Jessica Louise · 16 June ·

The NSW Government has announced it will strengthen protections for victims of domestic violence by allowing them to end a tenancy immediately and without penalty if they have an apprehended violence order or a family law injunction. Women's Legal Service NSW welcomes and commends this announcement, but we have serious concerns about the safety of victims who face barriers to obtaining an AVO or injunction. Many women do not report DV to police, often out of shame or fear of ... See more

8,516 People Reached

436 Reactions, comments & shares

336 Like	106 On post	230 On shares
10 Love	7 On post	3 On shares
9 Comments	2 On Post	7 On Shares
81 Shares	74 On Post	7 On Shares

595 Post Clicks

1 Photo views	80 Link clicks	514 Other Clicks
----------------------	-----------------------	-------------------------

NEGATIVE FEEDBACK

2 Hide Post	0 Hide All Posts
0 Report as Spam	0 Unlike Page

Reported stats may be delayed from what appears on posts

Get more likes, comments and shares
Boost this post for \$4 to reach up to 1,700 people.

8,516 people reached

113

Like Comment

"The NSW Government has announced it will strengthen protections for victims of domestic violence by allowing them to end a tenancy immediately and without penalty if they have an apprehended violence order or a family law injunction. Women's Legal Service NSW welcomes and commends this announcement, but we have serious concerns about the safety of victims who face barriers to obtaining an AVO or injunction. Many women do not report DV to police, often out of shame or fear of further violence, and going to the family courts is costly and time-consuming."

INDIGENOUS WOMEN'S LEGAL PROGRAM

Thanks to the WLS staff and management and Aboriginal Women's Consultation Network for their ongoing support in recognising our contribution to addressing domestic violence and sexual assault in the pathway of justice for Aboriginal women.

The Indigenous Women's Legal Program provides legal advice, court support and systemic advocacy for Indigenous women throughout NSW through our telephone advice lines, outreach drop in clinics, and rural community visits.

We promote awareness of Aboriginal women's rights and advocate for reforming access to justice.

Staff

Dixie Link-Gordon	Senior Community Access Officer
Yasmine Khan	Community Access Officer
Gail Tobler	Community Access Officer
Vickie Fair	Community Access Officer
Gabrielle Craig	Senior solicitor
Karen Mifsud	Senior solicitor



Indigenous program staff at their stall at Yabun January 2017

Community Outreach Western Sydney

Fortnightly/monthly attendance

- Macarthur Gateway, Campbelltown
- Aboriginal Catholic Care, Emerton
- Blacktown Court – Domestic Violence Advocacy Service.
- Marrin Weejali Aboriginal Corp., Blackett
- Koolyangarra Children's Centre, Cranebrook
- Kari out of home care, Liverpool

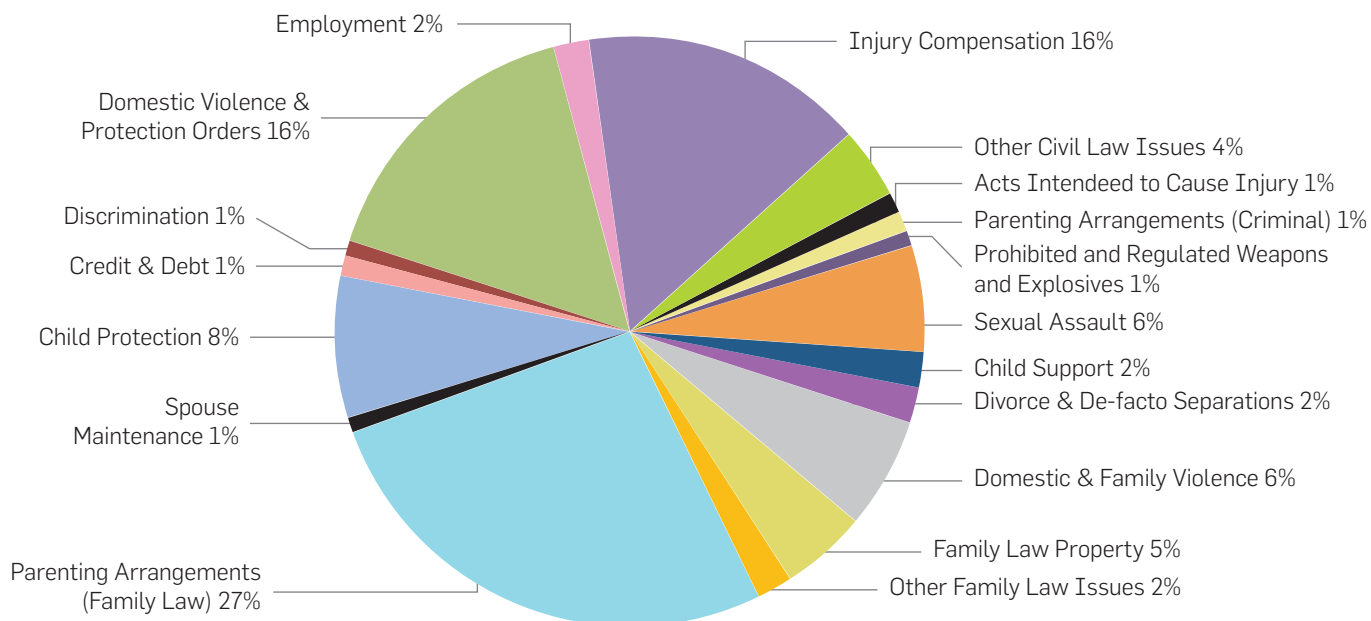


Grand daughters helping out at the International Women's Day Fair

Community events, consultations and meetings

- Wilma Women's Health Centre
- NAIDOC: Jamison Park, Penrith
Tharawal, Campbelltown
- Wayside Aboriginal Program
- Silverwater Women's correctional Centre
- Emerton Catholic Care, Mt Druitt
- Sorry Day: Blacktown City Council
Aboriginal Medical Service, Redfern
- NSW Women's Health Forum, Sydney

Advice provided to Indigenous Clients



- Family Law Reconciliation Luncheon with Judge Sexton and Judge Kemp
- Presentation to Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions: "Aboriginal women, Our challenges in accessing the law"
- Australian Government Roundtable for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women
- Redfern Legal Centre Reconciliation Action Plan meeting
- South West Sydney Department of Family and community services: Better Outcomes for Aboriginal Families; consultation
- Koori radio Pacific Sounds: promoting WLSNSW
- Sydney University social work students: "Aboriginal women accessing justice"
- Safe Home for Life legal update meetings
- Liverpool Women's Health Centre
- Tempe Aboriginal Women and Girls Crisis Service
- Koori Youth Court Parramatta
- Indigenous list, Family Court Sydney Registry
- Domestic Violence Summit FACS Sunnybrook
- Reiby Youth Detention Centre Service Providers Expo
- Koori Radio: Blackchat program: 16 days elimination of violence against women awareness interview
- Marrickville Legal Centre International Women's Day event
- NSW Office for Women Sexual Assault Expert Group
- BaaBayn Aboriginal corporation, Mt Druitt
- Welcome to Social Justice Commissioner June Oscar
- Benevolent Society, discussion of child protection issues



IWLP stall



Dixie Link-Gordon, Julie Oberin, Cindy Southworth and Ashlee Donahue at the United Nations

Contributions to policy and law reform systemic advocacy

- Submission to the Royal Commission into Institutional responses to Child Sexual Abuse on criminal Justice Issues and appearance before the Commission
- Submission to the Department of Family and Community Services Discussion paper: Homelessness in NSW
- Submission to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human rights in response to the freedom of speech Inquiry.
- Submission to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on social Policy and Legal Affairs Inquiry into a better family law system to support and protect those affected by family violence
- NACLC and CLCNSW Submission to the Australian Law Reform Commission Inquiry into the incarceration rate pf Indigenous Australians.
- Submission to the Office of the Children's Guardian Statutory Review of the Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012

- Contribution to the International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights NGO Shadow Report
- NSW Department of Aboriginal Affairs: Stolen Generations Reparations Scheme
- Contribution to the Open letter to the Minister for Housing about options for victims of domestic violence who are renting



Dixie with Aunty Margaret and Aunty Daisy at Baa Bayn



Indigenous program staff visit the women's refuge in Armidale

Workshops /conferences attendance by staff

- Prevalent and Preventable; Violence against Women and Children Conference, September 2016
- Sisters Inside conference, Queensland, October 2016
- Community Legal Centres NSW Quarterly Yarn Up, family law training
- U.N Status of Women AWAVA representative, March 2017.

Hey Sis

Hey Sis work is shared in the promotion of Women's Legal and the service we can provide to community women across NSW. The response has always been that women who would like to see us can have a group yarn up specifically addressing Sexual Assault.

Grandmothers rights and advocacy needs

For this project, funded by the Law and Justice Foundation, consultations were undertaken with elders in Western Sydney and in Dubbo.

Rural NSW trips

- South-Western NSW: Wentworth, Mildura, Balranald, Hay
- New England and Far North Coast
- Mid-North Coast Kempsey, Foster and Taree

OUR PUBLICATIONS



Women and Family Law (2014 Edition)

Cost: \$5 (inc. GST) for organisations which are not CSOs*

An essential tool to assist women to understand the law as it impacts on their relationships with other partners and children. (Hard copy). Also available on our website.



When she talks to you about the violence: A toolkit for GPs in NSW (2014)

This resource has been developed to assist doctors in identifying and responding to women and children who have experienced family violence. The toolkit contains guidelines for

patient care as well as some legal information for doctors such as mandatory reporting and responding to subpoenas. Available in hard copy or from <http://itstimetotalk.net.au/gp-toolkit/>



Dealing with FaCS – Top Ten Tips (2016)

This resource is designed to help women and families deal with the government services in charge of keeping children safe. The main department with this job is called Family and Community Services, or 'FaCS' for short. They used to

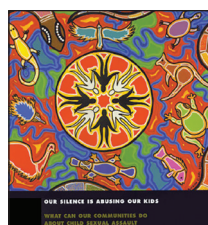
be called DoCS (Department of Community Services) but their name changed in 2011.

This resource is also useful for non-Aboriginal parents. Available in hard copy or on our website.



Sexual assault: Your Rights and the Law (2016)

This resource has information for women and girls who have been sexually assaulted including: What sexual assault means; Getting medical help and counselling after a sexual assault; Reporting to the police; and Legal process and your rights.

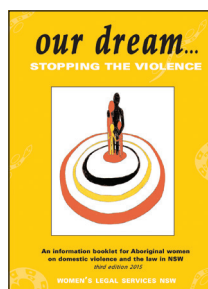


Our Silence is Abusing our Kids (2011 edition)

Cost: \$10 (inc. GST) for non-CSOs

Unique and innovative stories about Aboriginal women working locally to stop child

sexual assault. The booklet contains interviews with community women and Aboriginal workers about their own efforts in their communities to protect children and support young people. Also contains vital information about child sexual assault.



Our Dream... Stopping the Violence (2015)

This information booklet is about domestic violence and the law in NSW. It is designed primarily for Aboriginal women but may also be a useful resource for non-Aboriginal service providers.



A Long Way to Equal (2007) **Cost: \$10 (inc. GST) for non-CSOs \$5 for CSOs**

A Long Way To Equal gives an assessment and analysis of the legal problems and barriers to access to legal services experienced by migrant and refugee women in Australia.

Brochures and Cards



Women's Legal Services NSW Brochure

Information about all the services provided by Women's Legal Service NSW. Cost: Free



Women's Legal Service NSW Pictorial Brochure

This is a pictorial pamphlet with Advice Line contact numbers for Women's Legal Service NSW. Cost: Free



Women's Legal Service NSW Brochures in 10 community languages:

Arabic, Dari, Dinka, Farsi, Filipino (Tagalog), Hindi,

Kirundi, Mandarin, Tamil and Vietnamese. Cost: Free



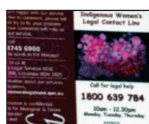
Quick Guide to Working with Interpreters in Legal Settings – Checklist and Poster. Cost: Free



Women's Legal Service NSW Card

This is an informational card with contact details and numbers for the Advice Line contact numbers for Women's Legal Services

NSW. Cost: Free



Indigenous Women's Legal Program Card

Contact details and numbers for Women's Legal Services NSW Indigenous Women's Legal Program. Cost: Free



Domestic Violence Legal Service Card

Contact details for the Domestic Violence Legal Service. Cost: Free



Indigenous Women's Program Fridge Magnet

Contact details and numbers for Women's Legal Service NSW Indigenous Women's Program. Cost: Free



Is this Love? (Indigenous pamphlet)

A resource made for young Aboriginal women in reference to their relationships. Cost: Free



Is this Love? (Non-Indigenous pamphlet)

A resource made for young women in reference to their relationships. Cost:

Free

Publications can be ordered from our website at:
www.wlsnsw.org.au/resources/order-publications

TREASURER'S REPORT

I am pleased to present the 2016–2017 audited Financial Statements of Women's Legal Resources Limited, trading as Women's Legal Service NSW.

Our core income for services was received from the New South Wales and Commonwealth Governments through the Legal Aid Commission of NSW.

In brief, funding income was made up of:

- Women's Legal Resource Centre Program – \$1,195,686
- Indigenous Women's Legal Program – \$299,661
- Domestic Violence Legal Service – \$511,492
- One off funding from:
Legal Aid Commission of NSW "CLC Care Partners" – \$39,900
Legal Aid Commission of NSW "LAC Counsellors & subpoenas" – \$17,791

With an overall revenue of \$2,285,056 and total expenditure of \$2,371,606 there is a deficit of \$86,550 for the year. Given the uncertainties the organisation faced with respect to funding this year, this is a pleasing outcome.

On behalf of WLS NSW, I would like to acknowledge with thanks the continuing support provided by the New South Wales and Commonwealth Governments, and to extend our appreciation to the program officers who have worked with us during the year.

I would like to acknowledge the Board's appreciation of the contribution of our staff during the last 12 months. Their professionalism and skill have been essential to effective Board management and to the strategic planning of our services.

Belinda Louis
Treasurer



DIRECTORS' REPORT

Directors' Report

For the year ended 30 June 2017

The directors of Women's Legal Resources Limited present their report together with the financial statements of the Company for the year ended 30 June 2017 and the Independent Audit Report thereon.

Directors Details

The following persons were Directors of Women's Legal Resources Limited during or since the end of the financial year:

Names and responsibilities

Qualifications, experience and other directorships

Denele Crozier

Director – Chairperson

Appointed as a Director on 30 November 2011

RPN, Dip. Acc, Dip. Business.

Order of Australia, member 2017.

35 years working in the NGO sector.

2001 to present – Chief Executive Officer, Women's Health NSW Peak for community women's health centres. 1993–2001 Administrator, Redfern Legal Centre, 1982–1992 Health Worker, Liverpool Women's Health Centre and Administrator, Women's Health Information Resource and Crisis Centres Association.

Currently involved in range of management and advisory committees including FGM Advisory Committee, NSW Ministry of Health NGO Advisory Committee, Treasurer at Australian Women's Health Network and Domestic Violence NSW.

Belinda Louis (CA)

Director – Treasurer

Appointed as a Director on 8 February 2011

B Commerce – University of Sydney (2001)

Grad Dip (Chartered Accountancy) – CAANZ (2004)

MBA (Executive) – UNSW (2014)

April 2017 to present – PwC Australia – Finance Lead, Private Clients

November 2010 to March 2017 – PwC Australia – Risk & Quality.

April 2008 – May 2010 – PwC UK – Transaction Services/M&A (London).

February 2002 – November 2010 – PwC Australia – Various roles in Audit / Forensics / Transaction Services.

January 2016 to present – Member of Finance and Risk Committee for Our Watch.

Anusha Duray

Director

Appointed as a Director on 8 December 2010

BA, Grad Dip Business, TAA, Cert IV Governance, Cert IV Community Services (Aboriginal Family Mediation). Women in Leadership (Executive Management UNSW)

Over ten years' experience working in Aboriginal Community Development policy and management. Currently works as Acquisitions Manager for National Indigenous Television a division of SBS. Experienced board member. Member of the Australian College of Educators. Current member of the Aboriginal Women's Consultation Network. Film Producer.

Directors' Report – (continued)
For the year ended 30 June 2017

Sheridan Emerson

Director

Appointed as a Director on 7 May 2014
LLB (Hons 1), B Econ, University of Queensland
Admitted as a solicitor in 2003
Accredited Family Law Specialist – NSW Law Society
Over 14 years' experience as a solicitor. Partner at Pearson Emerson Meyer Family Lawyers, a specialist family law firm in Sydney providing advice in respect of all aspects of family law. Prior roles in commercial litigation and finance at Allens Arthur Robinson in Sydney and Linklaters in London. Regularly presents to members of the legal profession on family law related issues. Accredited Family Dispute Resolution Practitioner. Member of the Family Law Section of the Law Council of Australia, the International Academy of Collaborative Professionals, Collaborative Professionals (NSW) Inc and the Central Sydney Collaborative Forum.

Louise Goodchild

Director

Appointed as a Director 30 November 2011
BA/LLB MA
Admitted to practice as a solicitor in 1992, called to the NSW Bar 2005 Part time Judicial Member Administrative Decisions Tribunal 2010 – 2013.
Barrister, over 10 years' experience; prior experience over eighteen years including: Law lecturer at University of Western Sydney and University of Technology. Principal Solicitor and Project Co-ordinator National Youth and Children's Law Centre, Legal Aid, Aboriginal Legal Service, Cape York Land Council.

Anna Hartree

Director

Appointed as a Director on 21 November 2012 to November 2016
B Social Science (Welfare Studies), University of Newcastle
Masters in Management (Community), UTS
Over 25 years working in NGO sector including 9 years in rural NSW and a total of 12 years in Community Legal Centres (Hunter Community Legal Centre and Kingsford Legal Centre). While working for the CLCs, was an active member of several CLCNSW networks including Sector Development and the CLE Network. Has been a member of many community management committees and boards, in a range of positions including Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary.
Currently employed as Community Information and Centre Coordinator at the Junction Neighbourhood Centre. In partnership with the NSW Tenants Union, co-facilitates the Community Education workshops for CLCNSW.

Directors' Report – (continued)
For the year ended 30 June 2017

Heather McKinnon

Director

Appointed as a Director on 5 August 2015
Admitted as a lawyer in 1983.
Practice Group Leader Slater and Gordon
Family Law Accredited Specialist,
Independent Children's Lawyer
Arbitrator under the Family Law Act
For the past 30 years, practiced as a Family Law Specialist.
An Independent Children's Lawyer for over 25 years.
Has held various board positions and is currently a member of the New South Wales Law Society's Accredited Specialist Family Law Committee.
Past chair of the Regional Committee of the Family Law Section of the Law Council of Australia.

Emma Palmer

Director

Appointed as a Director on 6 May 2015
LLM, LLB/BCom (Fin) UNSW
PhD candidate at UNSW researching international criminal laws in Southeast Asia.
Research Assistant for two Australian Research Council (ARC) Discovery Projects at UNSW Law: "Combating sexual violence against women post-conflict through 'transformative' reparations: problems and prospects" and "Evaluating civil society participation before international criminal tribunals: the amicus curiae and the rights of the defence".
More than 4 years' experience as an investment analyst responsible for coordinating private equity investments at Macquarie Bank.
Admitted as a solicitor in NSW in 2013, having completed a Practical Legal Training internship in the law reform section of Women's Legal Service NSW.

Elizabeth Simpson

Director

Appointed as a Director on 30 November 2011
BA (Hons)/Arts – University of Queensland
Msc (Dist) – London School of Economics
Admitted as a solicitor of the Supreme Court of Queensland in 2001. Practised in NSW since 2008
Over 10 years' experience as a solicitor. Currently Solicitor – Immigration Advice & Rights Centre. Previous roles included Manager/Principal Solicitor, MOSAIC Program, Justice Connect, senior solicitor at the Public Interest Advocacy Centre, NSW Co-convenor of Australian Lawyers for Human Rights, and committee member of the NSW Council for Civil Liberties, solicitor in the UK Government and at Ashurst Australia.

WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED

ABN 88 002 387 699

Directors' Report – (continued) For the year ended 30 June 2017

Lesley Unsworth

Director (Resigned)

Director from 8 February 2017 to 9 August 2017

Master in Adult Education and post graduate qualifications in the management and business disciplines, including accounting.

varied career across the non-government and government sectors. Worked in women's and youth refuges, managed a legal centre, and held positions in post-secondary teaching and place management.

Currently – tour director of Taste Cultural Food Tours Inc., a Western Sydney social enterprise.

Directors' Meetings

The number of meetings of Directors held during the year, and the number of meetings attended by each director are as follows:

	Directors' Meetings	
	A	B
Denele Crozier	5	5
Anusha Duray	5	3
Sheridan Emerson	5	5
Anna Hartree	2	1
Belinda Louis	5	4
Louise Goodchild	5	3
Heather McKinnon	5	4
Emma Palmer	5	4
Elizabeth Simpson	5	4
Lesley Unsworth	2	1

Where:

- Column A is the number of meetings the Director was entitled to attend
- Column B is the number of meetings the Director attended

Company Secretary

Elizabeth Simpson is a solicitor. Elizabeth has held a number of senior solicitor positions and has a degree in Arts. Elizabeth has been the company secretary of Women's Legal Resources Limited since 11 February 2015.

Contribution in winding up

The company is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 and is a public company limited by guarantee. If the company is wound up, the Constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$20 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the company. At 30 June 2017, the total amount that members of the company are liable to contribute if the company is wound up is \$1,360 (2016: \$1,320).

Directors' Report – (continued)
For the year ended 30 June 2017

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the Company during the financial year were the provision of free community legal services, including legal advice and information, education, training and resources across metropolitan and regional areas of New South Wales. The Company provides free services for all women in the community, particularly for those who are socially and economically disadvantaged.

There were no other significant changes in the nature of the Company's principal activities during the financial year.

Short-term Objectives

The company's short-term objectives are to:

- Work from a feminist perspective to promote access to justice for women in NSW.
- Seek to promote women's human rights, redress inequalities experienced by women and to foster legal and social change through strategic legal services, community development, community legal education and law and policy reform work.
- Prioritise women who are disadvantaged by their cultural, social and economic circumstances.
- Focus on areas of law that most directly have a gendered impact on women. This includes domestic violence, sexual assault, family law and discrimination.

Long-term Objectives

The company's long-term objectives are to:

- Provide access to justice and a just legal system for women in NSW, as all women are entitled to a society that respects their human rights.

Strategy for achieving short and long-term objectives

To achieve these objectives, the company adopted the following strategies:

- Policy and Law Reform.
- Community Legal Education and Community Development.
- Improving the Lives of Individual Women.
- Enhanced access to justice for, and self-determination by, Indigenous Women.
- Infrastructure, Sustainability and Organisational Support.

Auditor's Independence Declaration

A copy of the Auditor's Independence Declaration as required under s60–40 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* is included in page 38 of this financial report and forms part of the Director's Report.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

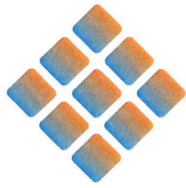


Director

Dated this 26th of October 2017
Sydney, NSW

WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED

ABN 88 002 387 699



**mosaic audit
+ consulting**

Vanessa Patricio
Principal
Level 26
44 Market Street
Sydney NSW 2000

WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED
ABN 88 002 387 699

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION TO THE DIRECTORS OF WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED


In accordance with the requirements of section 60–40 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, as the auditor of Women's Legal Resources Limited for the year ended 30 June 2017, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief there have been:

- i. No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the 60–40 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and
- ii. No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

MOSAIC AUDIT & CONSULTING
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

VANESSA PATRICIO
PRINCIPAL
Registered Company Auditor # 333315

DATED THIS 26TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2017
SYDNEY, NSW

 (02) 9089 8640

 (02) 9089 8989

 vanessa@mosaicac.com.au


CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
AUSTRALIA • NEW ZEALAND

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

**STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

	Notes	2017 \$	2016 \$
Revenue	4	2,285,056	2,314,534
Service expenses		(146,381)	(228,166)
Occupancy expenses		(75,091)	(78,509)
Administration expenses		(131,474)	(121,597)
Employee benefits expense	11(a)	(2,006,042)	(1,908,025)
Financing expense		(395)	(396)
Depreciation Expense		(11,188)	(15,839)
Doubtful debt expense		–	(9,861)
Loss on sale of fixed asset		(1,035)	(22,514)
Surplus/(Deficit) before income tax expense		(86,550)	(70,373)
Income tax expense	3.11	–	–
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		(86,550)	(70,373)
Other comprehensive income		–	–
Other comprehensive income for the period, net of income tax		–	–
Total comprehensive income (loss) for the period		(86,550)	(70,373)

This statement should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statement

WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED

ABN 88 002 387 699

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2017**

	Notes	2017 \$	2016 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	1,362,518	1,246,727
Trade and other receivables	6	8,880	17,004
Other assets	7	10,274	19,040
CURRENT ASSETS		<u>1,381,672</u>	<u>1,282,771</u>
NON-CURRENT			
Property, plant and equipment	8	522,940	552,436
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		522,940	552,436
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>1,904,612</u>	<u>1,835,207</u>
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT			
Trade and other payables	9	540,233	515,312
Other liabilities	10	151,280	19,241
Provisions	11(b)	267,887	254,810
CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>959,400</u>	<u>789,363</u>
NON-CURRENT			
Borrowings	12	4	4
Provisions	11(b)	31,771	45,853
		<u>31,775</u>	<u>45,857</u>
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>31,775</u>	<u>45,857</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>991,175</u>	<u>835,220</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>913,437</u>	<u>999,987</u>
EQUITY			
Reserves	13	145,424	145,424
Retained Earnings		768,013	854,563
TOTAL EQUITY		<u>913,437</u>	<u>999,987</u>

This statement should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statement

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

	Note	Retained Earnings \$	Special Reserve \$	Total Equity \$
Balance at 1 July 2015		924,936	145,424	1,070,360
Loss for the year		(70,373)	–	(70,373)
Other comprehensive income		–	–	–
Balance at 30 June 2016		854,563	145,424	999,987
Loss for the year		(86,550)	–	(86,550)
Other comprehensive income		–	–	–
Balance at 30 June 2017		768,013	145,424	913,437

This statement should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statement

WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED

ABN 88 002 387 699

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
Receipts from Operating Activities			
• Grants		2,404,616	2,332,263
• Other income		79,334	64,067
• Interest income		38,015	47,526
• Donations		61,632	44,248
• Sale of goods		9,207	4,581
• Fees and contributions		43,835	41,779
• Payments to suppliers and employees		(2,538,121)	(3,068,205)
Net cash from operating activities	14(b)	<u>98,518</u>	<u>(533,741)</u>
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
Proceeds from sale of property		<u>17,273</u>	<u>85,173</u>
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>17,273</u>	<u>85,173</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		115,791	(448,568)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 July		<u>1,246,727</u>	<u>1,695,295</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 30 June 2017	14(a)	<u>1,362,518</u>	<u>1,246,727</u>

This statement should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statement

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

NOTE 1: General information and statement of compliance

The financial report includes the financial statements and notes of Women's Legal Resources Limited (the Company).

These financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Act 2012*. Women's Legal Resources Limited is a not-for-profit Company, limited by guarantee for the purpose of preparing the financial statements.

The financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2017 were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 26 October 2017.

NOTE 2: Changes in accounting policies

2.1 New and revised standards that are effective for these financial statements

A number of new and revised standards became effective for the first time to annual periods beginning on or after 1 July 2016. Information on the more significant standard(s) is presented below

AASB 2014-4 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Clarification of Acceptable Methods of Depreciation and Amortisation

The amendments to AASB 116 prohibit the use of a revenue-based depreciation method for property, plant and equipment. Additionally, the amendments provide guidance in the application of the diminishing balance method for property, plant and equipment.

AASB 2014-4 is applicable to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2016.

The adoption of these amendments has not had a material impact on the Company.

AASB 2015-2 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosure Initiative: Amendments to AASB 101

The Standard makes amendments to AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements arising from the IASB's Disclosure Initiative project.

The amendments:

- clarify the materiality requirements in AASB 101, including an emphasis on the potentially detrimental effect of obscuring useful information with immaterial information
- clarify that AASB 101's specified line items in the statement(s) of profit or loss and other comprehensive income and the statement of financial position can be disaggregated
- income and the statement of financial position can be disaggregated
- add requirements for how an entity should present subtotals in the statement(s) of profit and loss and other comprehensive income and the statement of financial position
- clarify that entities have flexibility as to the order in which they present the notes, but also emphasize that understandability and comparability should be considered by an entity when deciding that order
- remove potentially unhelpful guidance in AASB 101 for identifying a significant accounting policy.

AASB 2015-2 is applicable to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2016. The adoption of these amendments has not had a material impact on the Company.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

NOTE 3: Summary of Accounting Policies

3.1 Overall Considerations

The significant accounting policies that have been used in the preparation of these financial statements are summarised below.

The financial statements have been prepared using the measurement bases specified by Australian Accounting Standards for each type of asset, liability, income and expense. The measurement bases are more fully described in the accounting policies below.

3.2 Revenue

Revenue comprises revenue from government grants, fundraising activities and sale of goods. Revenue from major products and services is shown in Note 4.

Revenue is measured by reference to the fair value of consideration received or receivable by the Company for goods supplied and services provided, excluding sales taxes, rebates, and trade discounts.

Revenue is recognised when the amount of revenue can be measured reliably, collection is probable, the costs incurred or to be incurred can be measured reliably, and when the criteria for each of the Company's different activities have been met. Details of the activity-specific recognition criteria are described below.

Government grants

A number of the Company's programs are supported by grants received from the federal and state governments.

If conditions are attached to a grant which must be satisfied before the Company is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of the grant as revenue is deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

Where a grant is received on the condition that specified services are delivered, to the grantor, this is considered a reciprocal transaction. Revenue is recognised as services are performed and at year-end until the service is delivered.

Revenue from a non-reciprocal grant that is not subject to conditions is recognised when the Company obtains control of the funds, economic benefits are probable and the amount can be measured reliably. Where a grant may be required to be repaid if certain conditions are not satisfied, a liability is recognised at year end to the extent that conditions remain unsatisfied.

Where the Company receives a non-reciprocal contribution of an asset from a government or other party for no or nominal consideration, the asset is recognised at fair value and a corresponding amount of revenue is recognised.

Donations and bequests

Donations collected, including cash and goods for resale, are recognised as revenue when the Company gains control, economic benefits are probable and the amount of the donation can be measured reliably.

Bequests are recognised when the legacy is received. Revenue from legacies comprising bequests of shares or other property are recognised at fair value, being the market value of the shares or property at the date the Company becomes legally entitled to the shares or property.

Interest income

Interest income is recognised on an accrual basis using the effective interest method.

Sale of goods

Revenue from the sale of goods comprises revenue earned from the sale of goods such as publications. Sales revenue is recognised when the control of goods passes to the customer.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

NOTE 3: Summary of Accounting Policies (Continued)

3.3 Operating expenses

Operating expenses are recognised in profit or loss upon utilisation of the service or at the date of their origin.

3.4 Intangible assets

Recognition of other intangible assets

Acquired intangible assets

Acquired computer software licences are capitalised on the basis of the costs incurred to acquire and install the specific software.

Subsequent measurement

All intangible assets are accounted for using the cost model whereby capitalised costs are amortised on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives, as these assets are considered finite. Residual values and useful lives are reviewed at each reporting date. In addition, they are subject to impairment testing as described in Note 3.7.

Amortisation has been included within depreciation and amortisation.

Subsequent expenditures on the maintenance of computer software and brand names are expensed as incurred.

When an intangible asset is disposed of, the gain or loss on disposal is determined as the difference between the proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset, and is recognised in profit or loss within other income or other expenses.

3.5 Property, plant and equipment

Land

As no finite useful life for land can be determined, related carrying amounts are not depreciated.

Buildings, plant and other equipment

Buildings, plant and other equipment (comprising fittings and furniture) are initially recognised at acquisition cost or manufacturing cost, including any costs directly attributable to bringing the assets to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by the Company's management.

Buildings, plant and other equipment are subsequently measured using the cost model, cost less subsequent depreciation and impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised on a straight-line basis to write down the cost less estimated residual value of buildings, plant and other equipment.

In the case of leasehold property, expected useful lives are determined by reference to comparable owned assets or over the term of the lease, if shorter.

Material residual value estimates and estimates of useful life are updated as required, but at least annually.

Gains or losses arising on the disposal of property, plant and equipment are determined as the difference between the disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the assets and are recognised in profit or loss within other income or other expenses.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

NOTE 3: Summary of Accounting Policies (Continued)

3.6 Leases

Operating leases

Where the Company is a lessee, payments on operating lease agreements are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Associated costs, such as maintenance and insurance, are expensed as incurred.

3.7 Impairment testing of intangible assets and property, plant and equipment

For impairment assessment purposes, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are largely independent cash inflows (cash-generating units). As a result, some assets are tested individually for impairment and some are tested at cash-generating unit level.

An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount, which is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value-in-use. To determine the value-in-use, management estimates expected future cash flows from each cash-generating unit and determines a suitable interest rate in order to calculate the present value of those cash flows. The data used for impairment testing procedures are directly linked to the Company's latest approved budget, adjusted as necessary to exclude the effects of future reorganisations and asset enhancements. Discount factors are determined individually for each cash-generating unit and reflect management's assessment of respective risk profiles, such as market and asset-specific risks factors.

Where the future economic benefits of an asset are not primarily dependent on the asset's ability to generate net cash inflows and where the entity would, if deprived of the asset, replace its remaining future economic benefits, value in use is determined as the depreciated replacement cost of the asset.

Impairment losses for cash-generating units reduce first the carrying amount of any goodwill allocated to that cash-generating unit. Any remaining impairment loss is charged pro rata to the other assets in the cash-generating unit. All assets are subsequently reassessed for indications that an impairment loss previously recognised may no longer exist. An impairment charge is reversed if the cash-generating unit's recoverable amount exceeds its carrying amount.

3.8 Financial instruments

Recognition, initial measurement and derecognition

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Company becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument, and are measured initially at fair value adjusted by transactions costs, except for those carried at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value. Subsequent measurement of financial assets and financial liabilities are described below.

Financial assets are derecognised when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire, or when the financial asset and all substantial risks and rewards are transferred. A financial liability is derecognised when it is extinguished, discharged, cancelled or expires.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

NOTE 3: Summary of Accounting Policies (Continued)

3.9 Classification and subsequent measurement of financial assets

For the purpose of subsequent measurement, financial assets other than those designated and effective as hedging instruments are classified into the following categories upon initial recognition:

- loans and receivables
- financial assets at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss (FVTPL)
- Held-To-Maturity (HTM) investments
- Available-For-Sale (AFS) financial assets

The category determines subsequent measurement and whether any resulting income and expense is recognised in profit or loss or in other comprehensive income.

All financial assets except for those at FVTPL are subject to review for impairment at least at each reporting date to identify whether there is any objective evidence that a financial asset or a group of financial assets is impaired.

Different criteria to determine impairment are applied for each category of financial assets, which are described below.

All income and expenses relating to financial assets that are recognised in profit or loss are presented within finance costs or finance income, except for impairment of trade receivables which is presented within other expenses.

Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. After initial recognition, these are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. Discounting is omitted where the effect of discounting is immaterial. The Company's trade and most other receivables fall into this category of financial instruments.

Individually significant receivables are considered for impairment when they are past due or when other objective evidence is received that a specific counterparty will default. Receivables that are not considered to be individually impaired are reviewed for impairment in groups, which are determined by reference to the industry and region of a counterparty and other shared credit risk characteristics. The impairment loss estimate is then based on recent historical counterparty default rates for each identified group.

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL)

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL) include financial assets that are either classified as held for trading or that meet certain conditions and are designated at FVTPL upon initial recognition.

Assets in this category are measured at fair value with gains or losses recognised in profit or loss. The fair values of financial assets in this category are determined by reference to active market transactions or using a valuation technique where no active market exists.

Held-to-maturity (HTM) investments

Held-to-maturity (HTM) investments are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturity other than loans and receivables. Investments are classified as HTM if the Company has the intention and ability to hold them until maturity. The Company currently holds long-term deposits designated into this category.

Held-to-maturity (HTM) investments are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method. If there is objective evidence that the investment is impaired, determined by reference to external credit ratings, the financial asset is measured at the present value of estimated future cash flows. Any changes to the carrying amount of the investment, including impairment losses, are recognised in profit or loss.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

NOTE 3: Summary of Accounting Policies (Continued)

3.9 Classification and subsequent measurement of financial assets (Continued)

Available-for-sale (AFS) financial assets

Available-for-sale (AFS) financial assets are non-derivative financial assets that are either designated to this category or do not qualify for inclusion in any of the other categories of financial assets. The Company's AFS financial assets include listed securities.

All Available-for-sale (AFS) financial assets are measured at fair value. Gains and losses are recognised in other comprehensive income and reported within the AFS reserve within equity, except for impairment losses and foreign exchange differences on monetary assets, which are recognised in profit or loss. When the asset is disposed of or is determined to be impaired the cumulative gain or loss recognised in other comprehensive income is reclassified from the equity reserve to profit or loss and presented as a reclassification adjustment within other comprehensive income. Interest calculated using the effective interest method are recognised in profit or loss within 'revenue' (see Note 3.2).

Reversals of impairment losses for AFS debt securities are recognised in profit or loss if the reversal can be objectively related to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised. For AFS equity investments impairment reversals are not recognised in profit or loss and any subsequent increase in fair value is recognised in other comprehensive income.

Classification and subsequent measurement of financial liabilities

The Company's financial liabilities include borrowings and trade and other payables.

Financial liabilities are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method, except for financial liabilities held for trading or designated at fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL), that are carried subsequently at fair value with gains or losses recognised in profit or loss.

All interest-related charges and, if applicable, changes in an instrument's fair value that are reported in profit or loss are included within finance costs or finance income.

3.10 Inventories

Inventories comprise goods for resale and goods for distribution at no or nominal consideration as part of the Company's charitable activities. Inventories may be purchased or printed.

Goods for resale

Inventories of goods for resale are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. No value is ascribed to goods for resale that have been donated to the Company where fair value cannot be reliably determined. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business, less any applicable selling expenses.

Goods held for distribution

Donated goods and goods purchased for nominal consideration held for distribution are initially recognised at their current replacement cost at date of acquisition. Inventories of goods purchased and held for distribution are initially recognised at costs. The cost of bringing each product to its present location and condition is determined on a first-in, first-out basis.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

NOTE 3: Summary of Accounting Policies (Continued)

3.11 Income taxes

No provision for income tax has been raised as the Company is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

3.12 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and demand deposits, together with other short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible into known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

3.13 Reserves

Other components of equity include the following:

- reserves
- Retained earnings include all current and prior period retained profits.

3.14 Employee benefits

Short-term employee benefits

Short-term employee benefits are benefits, other than termination benefits, that are expected to be settled wholly within twelve (12) months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service.

Examples of such benefits include wages and salaries, non-monetary benefits and accumulating sick leave.

Short-term employee benefits are measured at the undiscounted amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

Other long-term employee benefits

The Company's liabilities for annual leave and long service leave are included in other long-term benefits as they are not expected to be settled wholly within twelve (12) months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service. They are measured at the present value of the expected future payments to be made to employees. The expected future payments incorporate anticipated future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service, and are discounted at rates determined by reference to market yields at the end of the reporting period on high quality corporate bonds that have maturity dates that approximate the timing of the estimated future cash outflows. Any re-measurements arising from experience adjustments and changes in assumptions are recognised in profit or loss in the periods in which the changes occur.

The Company presents employee benefit obligations as current liabilities in the statement of financial position if the Company does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve (12) months after the reporting period, irrespective of when the actual settlement is expected to take place.

Post-employment benefits plans

The Company provides post-employment benefits through defined contribution plans.

Defined contribution plans

The Company pays fixed contributions into independent entities in relation to several state plans and insurance for individual employees. The Company has no legal or constructive obligations to pay contributions in addition to its fixed contributions, which are recognised as an expense in the period that relevant employee services are received.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

NOTE 3: Summary of Accounting Policies (Continued)

3.15 Provisions, contingent liabilities and contingent assets

Provisions are measured at the estimated expenditure required to settle the present obligation, based on the most reliable evidence available at the reporting date, including the risks and uncertainties associated with the present obligation. Where there are a number of similar obligations, the likelihood that an outflow will be required in settlement is determined by considering the class of obligations as a whole. Provisions are discounted to their present values, where the time value of money is material.

Any reimbursement that the Company can be virtually certain to collect from a third party with respect to the obligation is recognised as a separate asset. However, this asset may not exceed the amount of the related provision.

No liability is recognised if an outflow of economic resources as a result of present obligation is not probable. Such situations are disclosed as contingent liabilities, unless the outflow of resources is remote in which case no liability is recognised.

3.16 Deferred income

The liability for deferred income is the unutilised amounts of grants received on the condition that specified services are delivered or conditions are fulfilled. The services are usually provided or the conditions usually fulfilled within twelve (12) months of receipt of the grant. Where the amount received is in respect of services to be provided over a period that exceeds twelve (12) months after the reporting date or the conditions will only be satisfied more than twelve (12) months after the reporting date, the liability is discounted and presented as non-current.

3.17 Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST components of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

3.18 Economic dependence

The Company is dependent upon the ongoing receipt of Federal and State Government grants and community and donations to ensure the ongoing continuance of its programs. At the date of this report management has no reason to believe that this financial support will not continue.

3.19 Significant management judgement in applying accounting policies

When preparing the financial statements, management undertakes a number of judgements, estimates and assumptions about the recognition and measurement of assets, liabilities, income and expenses.

Estimation uncertainty

Information about estimates and assumptions that have the most significant effect on recognition and measurement of assets, liabilities, income and expenses is provided below. Actual results may be substantially different.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

NOTE 3: Summary of Accounting Policies (Continued)

3.15 Provisions, contingent liabilities and contingent assets (Continued)

Impairment

In assessing impairment, management estimates the recoverable amount of each asset or cash-generating unit based on expected future cash flows and uses an interest rate to discount them. Estimation uncertainty relates to assumptions about future operating results and the determination of a suitable discount rate.

Useful lives of depreciable assets

Management reviews its estimate of the useful lives of depreciable assets at each reporting date, based on the expected utility of the assets. Uncertainties in these estimates relate to technical obsolescence that may change the utility of certain software and IT equipment.

Inventories

Management estimates the net realisable values of inventories, taking into account the most reliable evidence available at each reporting date. The future realisation of these inventories may be affected by future technology or other market-driven changes that may reduce future selling prices.

Long service leave

The liability for long service leave is recognised and measured at the present value of the estimated cash flows to be made in respect of all employees at the reporting date. In determining the present value of the liability, estimates of attrition rates and pay increases through promotion and inflation have been taken into account.

WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED

ABN 88 002 387 699

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

NOTE 4 REVENUE

	2017 \$	2016 \$
Operating activities		
Grants		
– Legal Aid Commission (Commonwealth)	1,116,435	1,082,149
– Legal Aid Commission – Prior Year	–	38,232
– Legal Aid Commission (State)	890,403	860,817
– Sundry Grants	59,141	139,041
Total Grants	2,065,979	2,120,239
Other income		
– Interest received	38,015	47,526
– Donations	61,632	44,248
– Fees and contributions	39,850	41,779
– Costs recovered and retained	21,310	4,701
– Rental income	49,900	51,460
– Sales of publications and merchandise	8,370	4,581
Total other income	219,077	194,295
TOTAL REVENUE	2,285,056	2,314,534

NOTE 5 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2017 \$	2016 \$
Cash and cash equivalents consist of the following		
Cash at bank	49,757	37,345
Cash on deposit	1,312,261	1,208,882
Cash on hand	500	500
Cash and Cash Equivalents	1,362,518	1,246,727

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

NOTE 6 TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Current		
Trade receivables	18,741	26,865
Less: Provisions for doubtful debt	(9,861)	(9,861)
	8,880	17,004

All trade and other receivables have been reviewed for indicators of impairment.

NOTE 7 OTHER ASSETS

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Other assets consist of the following:		
Prepayments	10,274	19,040
	10,274	19,040

NOTE 8 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Building – at cost	515,877	515,877
Plant & equipment – at cost	138,510	177,037
Less accumulated depreciation	(131,447)	(140,478)
	522,940	552,436

Details of property, plant and equipment and their carrying amounts are as follows:

	Property, Plant and Equipment	Total
Cost		
Balance at 1 July 2016	692,914	692,914
Additions	-	-
Disposals	(38,527)	(38,527)
Balance at 30 June 2017	654,387	654,387
Accumulated depreciation		
Balance at 1 July 2016	140,478	140,478
Depreciation for the year	11,188	11,188
Disposals	(20,219)	(20,219)
Balance at 30 June 2017	131,447	131,447
Carrying Amounts		
Balance at 1 July 2016	522,940	522,940
Balance at 30 June 2017	522,940	522,940

All depreciation charges (or reversals if any) are included within 'depreciation'.

WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED

ABN 88 002 387 699

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

NOTE 9 TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

2017
\$

2016
\$

Trade and other payables recognised consist of the following:

Current

Trade payables	31,489	58,808
Other creditors and accruals	508,744	456,504
	540,233	515,312

NOTE 10 OTHER LIABILITIES

2017
\$

2016
\$

Current

Uncommitted/ Unspent Funds	151,280	19,280
	151,280	19,280

NOTE 11 – EMPLOYEE REMUNERATION

2017
\$

2016
\$

Current

(a) Employee benefits expense

Expenses recognised for employee benefits are analysed below:

Wages and salaries	1,636,097	1,557,083
Superannuation – defined contribution plans	156,470	148,609
Workers compensation insurance	8,328	11,923
Employee training and development	22,614	25,677
Employee benefit provisions	182,533	164,733
	2,006,042	1,908,025

(b) Employee benefits

Annual Leave	101,537	112,693
Long Service Leave	166,350	142,117
	267,887	254,810

Non-Current

Long Service Leave	31,771	45,853
	31,771	45,853

NOTE 12 BORROWINGS

2017
\$

2016
\$

Non-Current

National Australia Bank	4	4
	4	4

The bank loan is secured against the Company's property. The bank loan facility is for \$27,704 (2016: \$50,731) with \$27,700 (2016: \$50,727) unused at year end.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

NOTE 13 RESERVES

	2017 \$	2016 \$
Special Reserve	145,424	145,424
	145,424	145,424

NOTE 14 CASH FLOW INFORMATION

	2017 \$	2016 \$
--	-------------------	-------------------

(a) Reconciliation of Cash

Cash at the end of financial year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled in the statement of financial position as follows:

Cash at bank	49,757	37,345
Cash on deposit	1,312,261	1,208,882
Cash on hand	500	500
Cash and Cash Equivalents	1,362,518	1,246,727

(b) Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities

Profit/(loss) after income tax for the year	(86,550)	(70,373)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	11,188	15,839
Loss on sale of property	1,035	22,514
Changes in assets and liabilities		
Change in other assets	8,766	(365)
Change in trade and other receivables	8,124	8,271
Change in other liabilities	132,039	(130,003)
Change in provisions	(1,005)	(15,073)
Change in trade and other payables	24,921	(364,551)
Net cash from operating activities	98,518	(533,741)

NOTE 15 AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

	2017 \$	2016 \$
Audit and review of the financial report	9,000	9,000
Audit and review of the financial acquittal	1,500	1,000
Other audit services	2,000	4,500
	12,500	14,500

WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED

ABN 88 002 387 699

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

NOTE 16 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Company's related parties include its Directors' and key management personnel described below.

Unless otherwise stated, none of the transactions incorporate special terms and conditions and no guarantees were given or received. Outstanding balances are usually settled in cash.

Transactions with key management personnel

Key management of the Company are the board of directors, Executive Officer and Principal Solicitor.

Key management personnel remuneration includes the following expenses:

	2017 \$	2016 \$
Total key management remuneration	284,023	304,350

NOTE 17 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There are no contingent liabilities that have been incurred by the company in relation to 30 June 2017 or 30 June 2016.

NOTE 18 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

There are no capital commitments that have been committed by the company in relation to 30 June 2017 or 30 June 2016.

NOTE 19 LEASES

	2017 \$	2016 \$
Minimum lease payments due		
Within one year	4,343	4,343
Between one and five years	13,028	17,371
Total	17,371	21,714

Lease expense during the period amount to \$4,343 (2016: \$Nil) representing the minimum lease payments.

The company leases two photocopiers under an operating lease. The lease runs for a period of five years.

NOTE 20 POST-REPORTING DATE EVENTS

No adjusting or significant non-adjusting events have occurred between the reporting date and the date of authorisation.

NOTE 21 MEMBER'S GUARANTEE

The company is incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001* and is a public company limited by guarantee. If the company is wound up, the Constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$20 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the company. At 30 June 2017, the total amount that members of the company are liable to contribute if the company is wound up is \$1,360 (2016: \$1,320).

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

DIRECTORS' DECLARATION


In the opinion of the directors of Women's Legal Resources Limited:

1. The financial statements and notes, of Women's Legal Resources Limited, are in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:
 - a. giving a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2017 and its performance, for the year ended on that date; and
 - b. complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.
2. There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Women's Legal Resources Limited will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.



Director

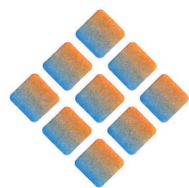


Director

Dated this 26th day of October 2017
Sydney, NSW

WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED

ABN 88 002 387 699



**mosaic audit
+ consulting**

Vanessa Patricio
Principal
Level 26
44 Market Street
Sydney NSW 2000

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED ABN 88 002 387 699

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Women's Legal Resources Limited, being a general purpose financial report, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2017, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the Directors Declaration.

In our opinion, the financial report of Women's Legal Resources Limited has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2017 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.


Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Matters Relating to the Electronic Presentation of the Audited Financial Report

This auditor's report relates to the financial report of Women's Legal Resources Limited for the year ended 30 June 2017 included on the Women's Legal Resources Limited website. The Company's Directors are responsible for the integrity of the Women's Legal Resources Limited's website. We have not been engaged to report on the integrity of the Women's Legal Resources Limited's website. The auditor's report refers only to the financial report. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may be hyperlinked to/ from these statements. If users of this report are concerned with the inherent risks arising from electronic data communications they are advised to refer to the hard copy of the audited financial report to confirm the information included in the audited financial report presented on this website.

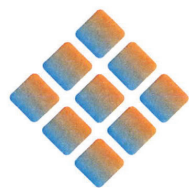
 (02) 9089 8640

 (02) 9089 8989

 vanessa@mosaicac.com.au



Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation



**mosaic audit
+ consulting**

Vanessa Patricio
Principal
Level 26
44 Market Street
Sydney NSW 2000

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE
MEMBERS OF WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED
ABN 88 002 387 699

Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon

Those charged with governance are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Company's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2017, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of Directors for the Financial Report

The Directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, and for such internal control as the Directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Directors either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Company's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.



(02) 9089 8640



(02) 9089 8989

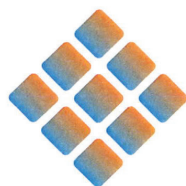


vanessa@mosaicac.com.au



CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
AUSTRALIA • NEW ZEALAND

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation



**mosaic audit
+ consulting**

Vanessa Patricio
Principal
Level 26
44 Market Street
Sydney NSW 2000

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE
MEMBERS OF WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED
ABN 88 002 387 699

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report (continued)

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



(02) 9089 8640



(02) 9089 8989



vanessa@mosaicac.com.au

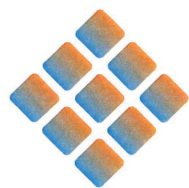


CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
AUSTRALIA • NEW ZEALAND

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES LIMITED

ABN 88 002 387 699



**mosaic audit
+ consulting**

Vanessa Patricio
Principal
Level 26
44 Market Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

In accordance with the requirements of section 60-45(3)(b) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 we are required to describe any deficiency, failure or shortcoming in respect of the matters referred to in paragraph 60-30(3)(b), (c) or (d) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012. We have nothing to report in this regard.

MOSAIC AUDIT & CONSULTING

Vanessa Patricio
Principal

Registered Company Auditor # 333315

**DATED THIS 26TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2017
SYDNEY, NSW**



(02) 9089 8640



(02) 9089 8989



vanessa@mosaicac.com.au



CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
AUSTRALIA • NEW ZEALAND

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

