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ANNUAL REPORT OF COMMITTEES 2021



THE LAW SOCIETY
OF NEW SOUTH WALES

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INTRODUCTION

The Law Society's committees are committees of the Council with powers, authorities and tasks delegated by the Council. They are established as a source of expert advice and assistance to Council, the Law Society and the profession and are convened annually on the basis of need.

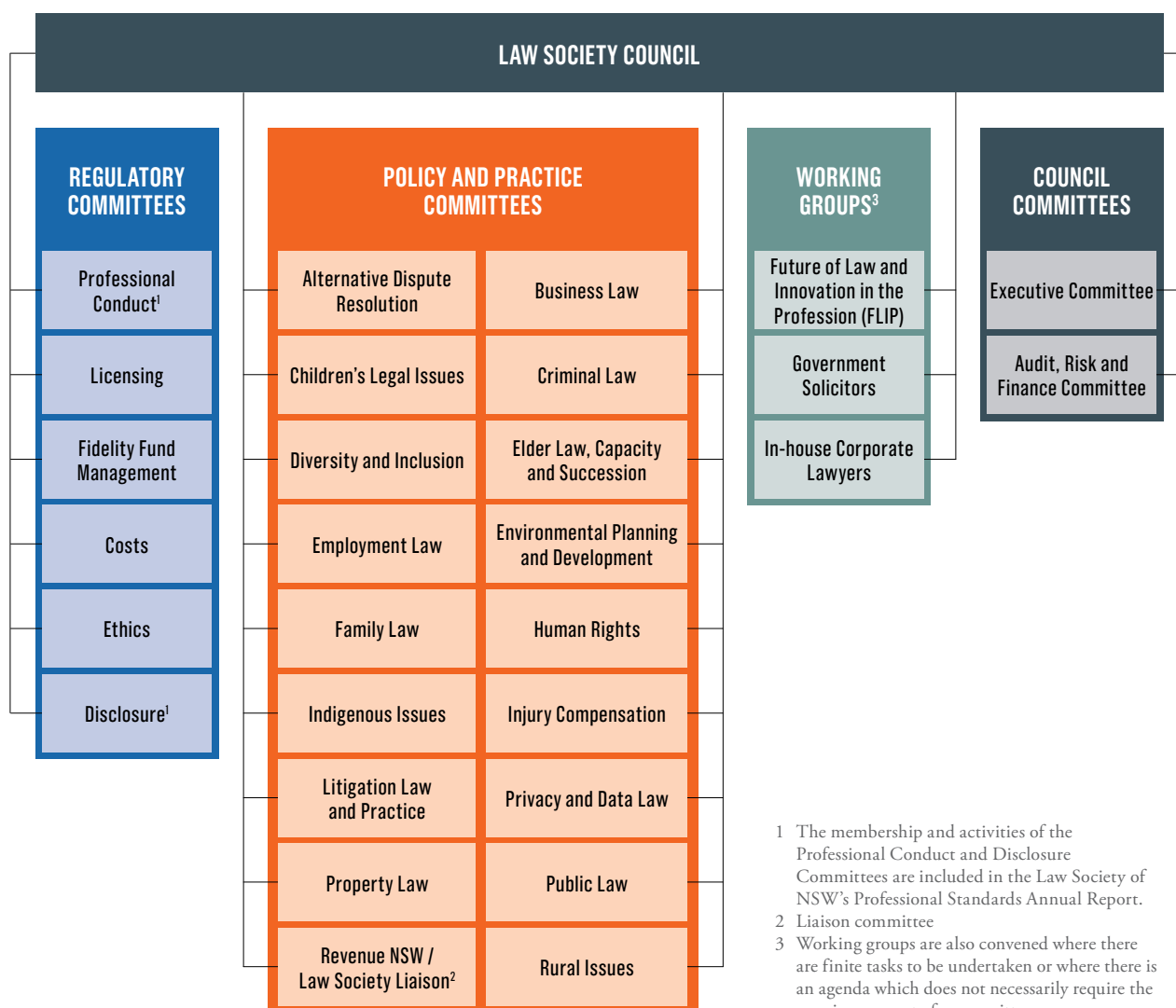
Functions vary somewhat from committee to committee but, typically, are as follows:

- a source of policy proposals and reform initiatives
- a forum for consideration of practical issues and resolution of problems

- a review body and commentator (in relation to legislation, discussion papers, reports, etc)
- a monitor of practice standards and advocate of ongoing training and skills development
- a liaison body

Committees have an important role and the way in which they perform is integral to the professionalism of Council's decision making and the performance of the Law Society as a whole. Members' participation is welcomed and is critical to the success of committees.

Law Society Committees



ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

2020 membership: Z. Kekeff (Chair), G. Ulman (Deputy Chair), J. Anderson, P. Argy, J. Ashby-Boyd, L. Bishkov, A. Boyd-Boland, K. David, G. Ettinger, P. Farrell, N. Flaskas, R. Hughes, C. Jeffery, M. Kofman, Judge L. Levy, K. Lewis, P. Lewis, A. Lopes De Lima, J. McDermott, H. Miedzinski, T. Peisley, A. Scarcella, F. Townend, J. Tyrell, J. Woodward, N. Harvey (Policy Lawyer).

2021 membership: Z. Kekeff (Chair), G. Ulman (Deputy Chair), P. Argy, A. Boyd-Boland, B. Bryant, G. Carabetta, K. David, G. Ettinger, G. Fabiani, P. Farrell, N. Flaskas, R. Hughes, Judge L. Levy, P. Lewis, A. Lopes De Lima, J. McDermott, B. McGrath, H. Nandni, T. Peisley, C. Peterson, A. Scarcella (until February 2021), C. Seil, G. Strazzeri, M. Ziegler, N. Harvey (Policy Lawyer).

Functions

The role of this Committee is to represent the Law Society and its members on policy and practice issues arising in relation to Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR).

The Committee's priorities include:

- Developing and commenting on law reform and legal policy proposals (including preparing submissions, and liaising with government and other stakeholders in this process)
- Educating the legal profession about changes to the law and the application of ADR, and providing guidance on practice and other issues
- Exchanging information about issues arising in legal practice (such as recent case law) that may indicate a legal policy issue or concern

Committee priority issues for 2021

The Committee identified the following priority issues for 2021:

- Promoting the benefits of ADR to the NSW Government, including investigating whether there is scope to develop a mediation program similar to the Family Law Settlement Service "FLSS" in another jurisdiction
- Consideration of collaboration with universities about topical ADR issues
- To encourage the use of ADR clauses to the profession and to liaise with other stakeholders and professional bodies, such as chartered accountants, to encourage mediation and arbitration
- The globalisation of Alternative Dispute Resolution, and efforts to improve cross-border enforcement – including via The Singapore Convention

Activities

The Committee carried out the following activities during the year under review:

- On 19 August 2020 Ms. Deborah Lockhart, CEO of the Australian Disputes Centre, addressed the Committee
- The Committee commenced a project to develop a mediation program similar to the Family Law Settlement Service "FLSS". An initial proposal for a fixed fee mediation program involving experienced solicitor mediators to assist parties in reaching an agreement has been shared with other Policy and Practice Committees for feedback
- On 14 October 2020 Ms. Amber Williams, CEO of the Resolution Institute, addressed the Committee
- The Committee started considering a new concept of working with universities on topical ADR issues
- The Mediator's Standards Board Annual General Meeting was held on 29 October 2020 and the Committee put forward a member for election to the MSB Board
- On 18 November 2020 Ms. Mary Walker of Counsel addressed the Committee on the Singapore Convention on Mediation and Australia becoming a signatory
- The Committee was given an update on the work of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Directorate by Ms. Katrina Spyrides, Director on 9 December 2020

The Committee contributed to the following joint submissions during the year under review:

- Missing Middle Project
- Singapore Convention on Mediation

BUSINESS LAW

2020 membership: A. Cerny (Chair), T. Russell (Deputy Chair), C. Bertuch, A. Boog, D. Castle, C. Felicio, T. Hunter, J. Kabos, T. Masters, K. McLean, T. Mylecharane, D. Ramsay, B. Roe, L. Serafim, R. Snowden, J. Stathis, A. Vatani, L. Booth (Policy Lawyer).

2021 membership: A. Cerny (Chair), T. Russell (Deputy Chair), S. Ajitkumar (from June 2021), M. Bush, A. Care, J. Hsu, T. Hunter, H. Huynh (until June 2021), O. Kubyk, M. Lo, T. Masters, K. McLean, T. Mierendorff, M. Milnes, B. Roe, L. Serafim, R. Snowden, J. Stathis, L. Booth (Policy Lawyer).

Functions

The role of this Committee is to represent the Law Society and its members on policy and practice issues arising in relation to business law. Without limiting the Committee's area of review, subcommittees have been convened for the following specific areas, which fall within the Committee's consideration:

- Competition and Consumer Law
- Contract Law
- Corporations
- Financial Services
- Insolvency
- Intellectual Property
- Taxation

The Committee's priorities include:

- Developing and commenting on law reform and legal policy proposals (including preparing submissions, and liaising with government and other stakeholders in this process)
- Educating the legal profession about changes to the law, and providing guidance on practice and other issues
- Exchanging information about issues arising in legal practice (such as recent case law) that may indicate a legal policy issue or concern

Committee priority issues for 2021

The Committee identified the following priority issues for 2021:

- Respond to consultations initiated by the NSW and Commonwealth Treasury, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, the Australian Securities and Investments Commission, the Department of Finance, Services and Innovation
- Corporate governance
- Monitoring continuing competition and consumer law reform
- Monitoring tax law and practice developments including legal practitioners' interactions with the Australian Taxation Office

Activities

The Committee carried out the following activities during the year under review:

- Participated in consultative forums with the Tax Practitioners Board
- Participated in a number of meetings with Treasury representatives to discuss reforms to the Foreign Investment Review Framework
- Participated in a meeting with Treasury representatives to discuss draft legislation to introduce permanent reforms in respect of virtual meetings and electronic document execution
- Participated in a stakeholder consultation meeting facilitated by the NSW Treasury to discuss a model introducing automatic mutual recognition of occupational licences across all jurisdictions
- Arranged nominations for the Takeovers Panel
- Committee representatives gave evidence at a Parliamentary Committee hearing in relation to the Rural Fires Amendment (NSW RFS and Brigades Donations Fund) Bill 2020

- Participated in a cross committee working group which reviewed and updated the Law Society's joint copyright Contract for the Sale of Business - 2015 Edition
- Participated in the Standards Australia Technical Committee QR 17 Organisational Governance AS 8001 Fraud and Corruption Control

The Committee made submissions on the following issues during the year under review:

- Draft Guidance for Breach Reporting Reforms
- Major Reforms to the Foreign Investment Review Framework
- Options for mandatory adoption of electronic invoicing by business
- Proposed condition for the disbursement of donated funds following disaster appeals
- Review of the *Personal Property Securities Act 2009* (Cth) (multiple submissions)
- Rural Fires Amendment (NSW RFS and Brigades Donations Fund) Bill 2020

The Committee also contributed to the following joint submissions during the year under review:

- Consultation on Miscellaneous Justice Bills
- Continuing the Productivity Conversation – Productivity Commission Green Paper
- Commissioner's Practice Note – *Payroll Tax Act 2007*
- Revenue Ruling - Build to Rent
- Property Tax Proposal
- Tax Administration Amendment (Combating Wage Theft) Bill 2021
- The Lawyer Project

CHILDREN'S LEGAL ISSUES

2020 membership: J. Wong (Chair), J. Irwin (Deputy Chair), C. Akthar, K. Beckhouse (until November 2020), M. Blanco, N. Callander, A. Choi, M. Dimech, R. Frankham, L. Goodwin, J. Higgins, K. Hopgood, F. Kay, M. Loundar, S. Niles, K. Phillips, Z. Robinson, C. Samuels, Magistrate T. Sheedy, G. Slack-Smith, J. Symons, A. Tang, A. Small (Policy Lawyer).

2021 membership: J. Wong (Chair), J. Irwin (Deputy Chair), C. Akthar, N. Callander, A. Choi, A. Christie-David, A. Dawson (until April 2021), M. Dimech, L. Goodwin, S. Hargans (from February 2021), K. Hopgood, M. Inger, F. Kay, M. Loundar, N. Mekler, S. Niles (from March 2021), K. Phillips, Z. Robinson, C. Samuels, Magistrate T. Sheedy (from March 2021), G. Slack-Smith, J. Symons, A. Tang, A. Small (Policy Lawyer).

Functions

The role of this Committee is to represent the Law Society and its members on policy and practice issues arising in relation to children and child rights, both in the civil (including care and protection matters) and criminal contexts.

The Committee's priorities include:

- Developing and commenting on law reform and legal policy proposals (including preparing submissions, and liaising with government and other stakeholders in this process)
- Educating the legal profession about changes to the law, and providing guidance on practice and other issues
- Exchanging information about issues arising in legal practice (such as recent case law) that may indicate a legal policy issue or concern

Committee priority issues for 2021

The Committee identified the following priority issues for 2021:

- Reducing the number of young people in custody in NSW, including in relation to:
 - The review into the minimum age of criminal responsibility
 - Children on custodial remand in cases of family crises or chronic homelessness
- The intersection of education, children in out of home care, and the criminal justice system in NSW
- The overrepresentation of Indigenous children in out of home care in NSW
- Implications of the judgment in *GR v The Department of Communities & Justice and Ors* [2020] NSWSC 1622 for the care and protection framework in NSW

Activities

The Committee carried out the following activities during the year under review:

- Participated in the NSW Child Protection Legal Conference 2021, of which the Law Society was the principal sponsor and major supporter
- Contributed to a Government Solicitors Week 2020 session titled 'Review and Reform: Youth Justice in Focus' alongside representatives from Youth Justice NSW and the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions
- The Committee was represented on, and contributed to the work of: the Children's Court Advisory Committee, the NSW Legal Assistance Forum *Doli Incapax* Working Group, the Youth Justice Advisory Committee, and the Legal Aid NSW Panel Selection Committees
- The Committee liaised with the NSW Department of Communities and Justice, the NSW Department of Education, the NSW Ministry of Health, Youth Justice NSW, Legal Aid NSW, the Children's Court of NSW, the NSW Police Force, and the office of the Advocate for Children and Young People on various matters in the civil (including care and protection matters) and criminal contexts

The Committee made the following submissions during the year under review:

- *Children (Criminal Proceedings) Regulation 2021*
- Framework to prevent and respond to children with problematic and harmful sexual behaviours
- Practice Note 5 – Case management in care proceedings
- Youth Justice Disability Action Plan (2021-2023)

The Committee also contributed to the following joint submissions during the year under review:

- A New Decision-making Framework for Property Matters in Family Law
- Administrative review of the *Bail Act 2013*
- *Children (Detention Centres) Regulation 2015*
- Consultation on Miscellaneous Justice Bills (multiple submissions)
- Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020
- Family Law Amendment (Federal Family Violence Orders) Bill 2021
- Government response to Australian Law Reform Commission Final Report – Review of the Family Law System
- *GR v The Department of Communities & Justice and Ors* [2020] NSWSC 1622
- Inquiry into family, domestic and sexual violence
- Inquiry into the High Level of First Nations People in Custody and Oversight and Review of Deaths in Custody (multiple submissions)
- Inquiry into the NSW child protection and social services system
- National Information Sharing Network between the Family Law and Family Violence and Child Protection Systems
- The Special Commission of Inquiry into the Drug ‘Ice’

CRIMINAL LAW

2020 membership: A. Lumsden (Chair), M. Mantaj (Deputy Chair), C. Akthar, Deputy Chief Magistrate M. Allen, C. Bell, A. Biliass, P. Blake, V. Chan, P. Coady, E. Conditis, D. Giddy, R. Hoyles, J. Hunter, L. Kaban, H. Ketley, R. Leary, R. McMahon, S. Mortimer, P. Musgrave, R. Ogden, J. Pheils, K. Saddington, J. Sanders, T. Spohr, J. Styles, J. Sutton, J. Weir, R. Geare (Policy Lawyer).

2021 membership: A. Lumsden (Chair), M. Mantaj (Deputy Chair), C. Akthar, Deputy Chief Magistrate M. Allen, C. Bell, A. Biliass, P. Blake, V. Chan, P. Coady, E. Conditis, D. Elston, D. Giddy, S. Hedberg, I. Hogan, R. Hoyles, J. Hunter, L. Kaban, H. Ketley, R. Leary, P. Musgrave, R. Ogden, J. Pheils, K. Saddington, J. Sanders, T. Spohr, J. Styles, J. Sutton, J. Wong, R. Geare (Policy Lawyer).

Functions

The role of this Committee is to represent the Law Society and its members on policy and practice issues arising in relation to criminal law and to uphold the rule of law.

The role of the Criminal Law Committee is to review and comment on law and policy affecting criminal justice and to assist in the just and orderly development of the criminal law, having regard to:

- The interests of people charged with criminal offences and others affected by the criminal justice system
- The rights of people in custody
- The interests of intellectually disabled, mentally ill and other cognitively impaired people as they are affected by the criminal law
- The rights of Indigenous Australians

Committee priority issues for 2021

The Committee identified the following priority issues for 2021:

- The criminal justice response to COVID-19
- Local Court resourcing
- Mental health and cognitive impairment issues in the criminal justice system, including the commencement of the *Mental Health and Cognitive Impairment Forensic Provisions Act 2020*
- Incarceration rates, in particular Indigenous incarceration rates
- Legislative reform of disclosure obligations

Activities

The Committee carried out the following activities during the year under review:

- The Committee was represented on, and contributed to the work of: District Court Criminal Business Committee, Court of Criminal Appeal User Group, Domestic Violence Reforms Consultation Group, Corrective Services NSW Legal Practitioners Consultative Group, Child Sexual Offences Evidence Pilot Implementation Monitoring Group, Early Appropriate Guilty Pleas Working Group, Corrective Services NSW Legal eBrief Committee, and the Summary Offences Online project
- The Committee liaised with the NSW Department of Communities and Justice, NSW Bar Association, NSW Police Force, NSW Local Court, NSW District Court, NSW Supreme Court, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (Cth and NSW), Legal Aid NSW, the Aboriginal Legal Service, NSW Young Lawyers, and Corrective Services NSW on various matters relevant to the criminal justice system

The Committee made the following submissions during the year under review:

- Alternative verdicts for summary proceedings
- Consultation on Miscellaneous Justice Bills
- Court Appointed Questioners
- Court Attendance Notice – contact details
- COVID-19 pre-recorded evidence hearing provisions
- Disclosure by prosecuting authorities
- Discussion Paper: Coercive Control
- Domestic Violence Court Reforms
- Drug Supply Prohibition Order Pilot Scheme Bill 2020
- Exposure draft of the Crimes Legislation (Offences Against Pregnant Women) Bill 2020
- Extension of legislative provisions to deal with COVID-19 pandemic
- Inquiry into assaults on members of the NSW Police Force (multiple submissions)
- Inquiry into coercive control in domestic relationships – question taken on notice
- Inquiry into the Drug Supply Prohibition Order Pilot Scheme Bill 2020
- Inquiry into the Mandatory Disease Testing Bill 2020 (multiple submissions)
- Inquiry into the provisions of the Firearms and Weapons Legislation (Criminal Use) Bill 2020
- Inquiry into the provisions of the Firearms and Weapons Legislation Amendment (Criminal Use) Bill 2020 – questions taken on notice
- Jury reforms
- Law Enforcement Conduct Commission Inquiries
- Listing arrangements for Burwood Local Court
- Local Court Duty Solicitor Scheme
- Local Court Practice Note Crim 1

- Online court proposals
- Police body-worn video
- Review of AFP powers
- Review of sentencing for assaults on emergency services workers
- Review of the high-risk offender legislation in NSW
- Section 293 of the *Criminal Procedure Act 1986*
- Supreme Court (Criminal Appeal) Rules
- Tendency and Coincidence reforms
- The prosecution of regulatory offences

The Committee also contributed to the following joint submissions during the year under review:

- Aboriginal mental health workers and mental health care in NSW prisons and mental health facilities
- Administrative review of the *Bail Act 2013*
- Ageing and Disability Commissioner Amendment Regulation 2021
- Consultation on Miscellaneous Justice Bills
- Family Law Amendment (Federal Family Violence Orders) Bill 2021
- *Foreign Evidence Act 1994* (Cth) – application to NSW
- Inquiry into the coronial jurisdiction in NSW
- Inquiry into the High Level of First Nations People in Custody and Oversight and Review of Deaths in Custody
- National Register of Enduring Powers of Attorney
- Stage 2 of the Review of the Model Defamation Provisions
- The Special Commission of Inquiry into the Drug ‘Ice’

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

2020 membership: R. MacSweeney (Chair), J. Warner (Deputy Chair), E. Allen, B. Charlton, A. Drayton, Z. Edries, M. Graczol, R. Grant, K. Hong, M. Kakaire, D. Kelly, E. Lau, I. Luke, A. Lyras, H. McGonagle, B. McGrath, A. Miller, J. Parker, N. Parsons, K. Rathie, I. Reiss, J. Skelton, N. Stewart, T. Tran, J. Vincent, D. Yadav, C. Elvy (July 2020) / A-M. Boumerhe (August 2020) / S. Lee (from September 2020) (Policy Lawyers).

2021 membership: R. MacSweeney (Chair), I. Luke (Deputy Chair), S. Ajitkumar (from June 2021), E. Allen, K. Brooker, G. Burke, J. Camden, J. Dawes, A. Drayton, Z. Edries, R. Grant, M. Gurlica, R. Haynes, K. Hong, D. Kelly, A. Lyras, H. McGonagle, S. Nachiappan, M. Nawaz, J. Parker, N. Parsons, K. Pender, I. Reiss, V. Roles (from March 2021), J. Skelton, N. Stewart, D. Yadav (until June 2021), S. Lee (Policy Lawyer).

Functions

The role of this Committee is to promote diversity, equality and inclusion in the legal profession, in particular by progressing initiatives to ensure the equality of opportunity for all members of the profession, regardless of race, ethnicity, heritage, gender, age, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or intersex status.

The Committee's priorities include:

- Developing and commenting on law reform and legal policy proposals (including preparing submissions, and liaising with government and other stakeholders in this process)
- Educating the legal profession about changes to the law, and providing guidance on practice and other issues
- Exchanging information about issues arising in legal practice (such as recent case law) that may indicate a legal policy issue or concern

Committee priority issues for 2021

The Committee identified the following priority issues for 2021:

- Support the implementation of initiatives that promote cultural diversity in the legal profession
- Develop initiatives and resources in line with the Committee's mission in relation to promoting a disability aware and culturally diverse legal profession
- Consideration of specific issues relating to the advancement of women, intersectionality, people with disability, LGBTIQ+ and other minority groups in the legal profession and undertaking initiatives to create awareness and develop thought leadership on these issues within the legal profession
- Consideration of diversity-related issues that create barriers to entry into, and progression through, the legal profession

Activities

The Committee carried out the following activities during the year under review:

- Updated and relaunched the Law Society's Charter for the Advancement of Women in the Legal Profession. The Committee continued to promote and monitor the uptake of signatories
- Committee members appeared on a panel event hosted by the Law Society to commemorate the third anniversary of Marriage Equality in Australia
- Committee members appeared on a panel event hosted by the Law Society to mark International Day of Persons with a Disability
- Committee members met with the NSW Bar Association's Accessibility Panel to discuss collaborating to address physical accessibility issues in courts in NSW
- Committee members appeared on an LGBTIQ+ careers panel event hosted by NSW Young Lawyers
- Updated and launched the 'Workplace Guide – Model Anti-Discrimination and Sexual Harassment Policies'
- Published the 'Gender Inclusive Language Best Practice Guidance'
- Participated in Sexual Harassment Active Bystander Training
- Committee members contributed a number of articles to the *Law Society Journal* on topics such as sexual harassment and gender in the legal profession
- The Committee liaised with the Women Lawyers Association of NSW, and Muslim Legal Network (NSW)

The Committee made the following submissions during the year under review:

- Harnessing the one thing we have in common: diversity in the Legal Profession - Persons with disability
- National Disability Strategy - Stage 2 Consultations

The Committee also contributed to the following joint submissions during the year under review:

- Addressing Sexual Harassment in the Australian Legal Profession
- ALRC Judicial Impartiality Consultation Paper
- Federal Government response to the Australian Human Rights Commission's *Respect@Work* report
- Judicial Appointments (multiple submissions)
- National Sexual Harassment Roundtable
- Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability
- The Lawyer Project



ELDER LAW, CAPACITY AND SUCCESSION

2020 membership: D. Browne (Chair), R. Neal (Deputy Chair), L. Absalom, L. Baber, K. Bozinovska, L. Brown, J. Clarke, N. Darcy, M. Dixon, B. Dornan, B. Hayward, I. Hoskinson, A. Koumoukelis, R. Lewis, M. Lovelock, S. McAuley, R. McCullagh, P. McGowan, A. McIntyre, J. McMillan, M. Morris, K. O'Donnell, D. Pickering, R. Pollard, M. Reid, N. Scanlon, A. Schiralli, M. Schyvens, T. Tunbridge, K. Whitley, S. Hunt (Policy Lawyer).

2021 membership: J. McMillan (Chair), R. Neal (Deputy Chair), L. Absalom, J. Clarke, N. Darcy, M. Dixon, B. Hayward, G. Kirwan (from March 2021), A. Koumoukelis, R. Lewis, M. Lovelock, R. McCullagh, P. McGowan, A. McIntyre, D. Pickering, R. Pollard, M. Reid, N. Scanlon, A. Schiralli, M. Schyvens (until May 2021), J. Smythe, P. Vartuli, K. Whitley, S. Yoo, S. Hunt (Policy Lawyer).

Functions

The role of this Committee is to represent the Law Society and its members on policy and practice issues arising in relation to elder, capacity and succession law.

The Committee's priorities include:

- Developing and commenting on law reform and legal policy proposals (including preparing submissions, and liaising with government and other stakeholders in this process)
- Educating the legal profession about changes to the law, and providing guidance on practice and other issues
- Exchanging information about issues arising in legal practice (such as recent case law) that may indicate a legal policy issue or concern

Committee priority issues for 2021

The Committee identified the following priority issues for 2021:

- Elder abuse awareness, prevention and mitigation
- Enduring appointments including guardianship, powers of attorney and financial management, including the NSW Government response to NSWLRC *Review of the Guardianship Act 1987*
- Accommodation designed for, or particularly affecting, older people, including the outcome of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety
- Succession law, including harmonisation across states and territories

Activities

The Committee carried out the following activities during the year under review:

- Engaged with the NSW Department of Communities and Justice regarding measures introduced in response to COVID-19 which allow documents such as wills, enduring powers of attorney and enduring guardianship appointments to be witnessed by audio-visual link
- Promoted awareness of the implications of these reforms for practitioners through written guidance published on the Law Society website, *Monday Briefs* and the *Law Society Journal*
- Engaged with the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department, Law Council of Australia, NSW Department of Communities and Justice, NSW Land Registry Services and NSW Office of the Registrar General regarding the development of a national register of enduring powers of attorney and relevant laws

- Engaged with the Law Council of Australia on national issues including superannuation death benefit nominations, reform of taxation and social security laws relating to granny flat arrangements and banking practices relating to powers of attorney and deceased estates, as well as on promoting consistency across state and territory laws governing wills and estates and enduring documents
- Engaged with the Supreme Court of NSW on operational aspects of the Succession List
- Engaged with the Ageing and Disability Commissioner on issues including information sharing and other cross-agency strategies for addressing financial elder abuse
- Engaged with the Inspector-General of Taxation regarding Australian Taxation Office systems and processes for dealing with deceased estates
- Engaged with the Department of Communities and Justice on the regulation of restrictive practices with respect to NDIS participants
- Updated resources on the Law Society website relating to elder law, estate planning and estate administration
- Worked with the CPD team to develop a program to educate practitioners on the legal, ethical and practice issues arising in elder law

The Committee made the following submissions during the year under review:

- 2020-21 Pre-Budget Submission
- Advice on solicitors reporting elder abuse
- Australian Taxation Office consultation with the legal profession regarding deceased estates
- End of Life Care and Decision-Making
- Extension of legislative provisions to deal with COVID-19 pandemic

- Laws, forms and practices relating to enduring powers of attorney and estate administration
- Taxation and social security laws relating to granny flat arrangements

The Committee also contributed to the following joint submissions during the year under review:

- Ageing and Disability Commissioner Amendment Regulation 2021
- Ageing and Disability Commissioner regulatory provisions
- Commissioner's Practice Note - Powers of Attorney
- Consultation on Miscellaneous Justice Bills (multiple submissions)
- National Register of Enduring Powers of Attorney
- Persons with Disability (Regulation of Restrictive Practices) Bill 2021
- Remote witnessing via audio-visual link
- Revenue Ruling - *Land Tax Management Act 1956*
- Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety – Final Report
- South Australian Law Reform Institute inquiry into Powers of Attorney
- The Lawyer Project

EMPLOYMENT LAW

2020 membership: N. Keats (Co-Chair), J. van der Plaat (Co-Chair), B. Akers, P. Almond, T. Angelopoulos, M. Byrnes, J. Camden, P. Costigan, C. Divani, M. Doherty, B. Feltham, L. Forsyth, A. Grayson, L. Izzo, C. Kerley, D. King, K. Lewis, H. Macken, P. Macken, V. Maroulis, D. McEvoy, D. Potts, C. Stebbing, W. Steenson, S. Trimby, A. Small (Policy Lawyer).

2021 membership: B. Feltham (Co-Chair), N. Keats (Co-Chair), B. Akers, T. Angelopoulos, M. Byrnes, P. Costigan, M. Doherty, L. Forsyth, A. Grayson, C. Kerley, D. King, K. Lewis, H. Macken, D. McEvoy, D. Potts, S. Ramsay, C. Stebbing, W. Steenson, L. Taylor, M. Tuohy, A. Small (Policy Lawyer).

Functions

The role of this Committee is to represent the Law Society and its members on policy and practice issues arising in relation to employment and industrial law.

The Committee's priorities include:

- Developing and commenting on law reform and legal policy proposals (including preparing submissions, and liaising with government and other stakeholders in this process)
- Educating the legal profession about changes to the law, and providing guidance on practice and other issues
- Exchanging information about issues arising in legal practice (such as recent case law) that may indicate a legal policy issue or concern

Committee work for 2021

The Employment Law Committee considered policy and practice issues arising in relation to employment and industrial law, and in particular, monitored practice issues in the Federal Court, the Federal Circuit Court, the Fair Work Commission and the Industrial Relations Commission.

Activities

The Committee carried out the following activities during the year under review:

- Participated in the Federal Court of Australia (Employment and Industrial Relations National Practice Area) User Group
- Participated in the NSW Industrial Relations Commission User Group
- Collaborated with the Law Society CPD Department on the development of sessions on topics including 'Drafting contracts of employment' and 'The ins and outs of civil penalties'
- Contributed to the updated Law Society publication 'Workplace Guide – Model Anti-Discrimination and Sexual Harassment Policies'
- Contributed to the Contract for the Sale and Purchase of Business: 2020 edition
- Contributed an article for the *Law Society Journal* on the Federal Government's JobMaker scheme

The Committee made the following submission during the year under review:

- Fair Work Amendment (Supporting Australia's Jobs and Economic Recovery) Bill 2020

The Committee also contributed to the following joint submissions during the year under review:

- Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020
- Federal Government response to the Australian Human Rights Commission's *Respect@Work* report
- Judicial Appointments
- National Sexual Harassment Roundtable
- Remote witnessing via audio-visual link
- Revenue Ruling - Build to Rent
- Senate Select Committee on Job Security
- Stage 2 of the Review of the Model Defamation Provisions
- Tax Administration Amendment (Combating Wage Theft) Bill 2021
- The Lawyer Project



ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

2020 membership: R. McCulloch (Chair), C. Drury (Deputy Chair), M. Bonanno, A. Cahill, B. Charlton, L. Finn, C. Huegill, R. James, A. Knox, P. Murray, M. Pearce, A. Penklis, B. Rayment, J. Schipp, J. Sheehan, P. Vergotis, L. Booth (Policy Lawyer).

2021 membership: R. McCulloch (Chair), C. Drury (Deputy Chair), M. Bonanno, A. Cahill, B. Charlton, K. Huxley, R. James, A. Knox, J. Mitchell, P. Murray, A. Penklis, B. Rayment, J. Schipp, J. Sheehan, N. Vella (from March 2021), P. Vergotis, L. Booth (Policy Lawyer).

Functions

The role of this Committee is to represent the Law Society and its members on policy and practice issues arising in relation to planning and environmental law.

The Committee's priorities include:

- Developing and commenting on law reform and legal policy proposals (including preparing submissions, and liaising with government and other stakeholders in this process)
- Educating the legal profession about changes to the law, and providing guidance on practice and other issues
- Exchanging information about issues arising in legal practice (such as recent case law) that may indicate a legal policy issue or concern

Committee work for 2021

The Committee identified the following priority issues for 2021:

- Implementation of the legislative amendments to the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*
- Review of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000*
- Appropriate public consultation on the introduction of legislative planning and related instruments, including State Environmental Planning Policies

Activities

The Committee carried out the following activities during the year under review:

- Participated in, and contributed to, the work of the Land and Environment Court Users Group
- Participated in a working group convened by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment to assist in developing a new class of appeals in the Land and Environment Court
- Participated in a cross-committee working group preparing information for practitioners relating to climate change
- Participated in a series of roundtables hosted by the Department of Customer Service in relation to the development of the *Design and Building Practitioners Regulation 2020*

- Participated in a stakeholder forum convened by the Office of Local Government on options to amend the *Impounding Act 1993*

The Committee made the following submissions during the year under review:

- Building Business Back Better
- Flood Prone Land Package
- Interim Report of the Independent Review of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth)
- Offences for the unlawful removal/lopping of trees which does not require consent
- Proposed Local Character Clause
- Proposed Natural Disasters Clause
- Proposed New Housing Diversity SEPP
- Review of Infrastructure Contributions in NSW – Issues Paper
- Review of the *Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991*
- Review of the *Lands Acquisition Act 1989* (Cth)
- Varying Development Standards

The Committee also contributed to the following joint submissions during the year under review:

- Amendments to building legislation
- *Design and Building Practitioners Regulation 2020* (multiple submissions)

- Digital execution and certification of conveyancing documents
- Inquiry into the Climate Change (National Framework for Adaptation and Mitigation) Bill 2020 and the Climate Change (National Framework for Adaptation and Mitigation) (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2020
- Options Paper: Agricultural Land Use Planning Strategy
- Practice Guide for registered certifiers
- Statutory Review of the NSW Strata Schemes Laws

FAMILY LAW

2020 membership: C. Banks (Co-Chair), Z. Kekeff (Co-Chair), L. Baber, K. Beckhouse, B. Bryant, C. Bryett, J. Burreket, A. Colquhoun, P. Davis, J. Dawson, P. Doolan, B. Hayward, J. Higgins, F. Hoad, T. Kelman, E. Lau, P. Lewis, L. Longbottom, L. Maitland, B. McGrath, M. Meares, H. Miedzinski, A. Sanderson, G. Thompson, M. Whitehead, S. Hunt (Policy Lawyer).

2021 membership: C. Banks (Co-Chair), Z. Kekeff (Co-Chair), B. Bryant, C. Bryett, A. Colquhoun, P. Davis, J. Dawson, P. Doolan, B. Hayward, M. Hayward, F. Hoad, M. Livermore, L. Longbottom, L. Maitland, M. Mastronardi, B. McGrath, M. Meares, C. Oosterhoff, D. Palethorpe, G. Thompson, M. Whitehead, M. Worner, S. Hunt (Policy Lawyer).

Functions

The role of this Committee is to represent the Law Society and its members on policy and practice issues arising in relation to family law issues in New South Wales.

The Committee's priorities include:

- Developing and commenting on law reform and legal policy proposals (including preparing submissions, and liaising with government and other stakeholders in this process)
- Educating the legal profession about changes to the law, and providing guidance on practice and other issues
- Exchanging information about issues arising in legal practice (such as recent case law) that may indicate a legal policy issue or concern

Committee priority issues for 2021

The Committee identified the following priority issues for 2021:

- Monitor the outcome of the Australian Law Reform Commission review of the family law system and the Joint Select Committee for Australia's Family Law System, including identifying priorities and recommendations for implementation
- Advocate for adequate judicial resources and for workable structures and processes in the courts in which family law matters are heard, in particular as regards prioritising the best interests of children
- Encourage and promote the use of alternative dispute resolution in family law, including encouraging the courts' uptake of the Law Society Family Law Settlement Service
- Advocate for better systemic responses to domestic and family violence in the context of family law, and for better access to legal representation, particularly in regional areas, and including adequate legal aid funding

Activities

The Committee carried out the following activities during the year under review:

- Engaged with Family Court Registrars and other staff regarding court-based initiatives including Family Dispute Resolution, the Lighthouse Project, the PPP500 List and Callover campaigns
- Engaged with electronic lodgment network operators and the Office of the Registrar General regarding electronic conveyancing in family law matters
- Engaged with the family courts regarding practice issues such as the processes for inspecting subpoenas during COVID-19 restrictions and the availability of transcripts
- Developed, and published in the *Law Society Journal*, guidance regarding complaints against practitioners in family law matters
- Represented the Law Society at Greater Sydney Family Law Pathways Network events
- Represented the Law Society on a number of groups, including the Family Court and Federal Circuit Court Liaison Groups for the Sydney, Wollongong and Newcastle Registries

The Committee made the following submissions during the year under review:

- Enhancing the family safety competency of legal practitioners
- Harmonised Family Law Rules
- Joint Practice Directions for family law
- Regulation 67B of the *Family Law Regulations 1984*
- Urgent resourcing of Family Court of Australia and Federal Circuit Court of Australia

The Committee also contributed to the following joint submissions during the year under review:

- A New Decision-making Framework for Property Matters in Family Law
- Consultation on Miscellaneous Justice Bills
- Family Law Amendment (Federal Family Violence Orders) Bill 2021
- Federal Court procedural reforms in response to COVID-19 pandemic
- Government response to Australian Law Reform Commission Final Report – Review of the Family Law System
- Inquiry into family, domestic and sexual violence
- Judicial Appointments
- National Information Sharing Network between the Family Law and Family Violence and Child Protection Systems
- National Register of Enduring Powers of Attorney

GOVERNMENT SOLICITORS

2020 membership: R. MacSweeney (Chair), J. Wong (Deputy Chair), A. Abadee, S. Alden, A. Baril, D. Barker, H. Bell, P. Buchberger, J. Camden, A. Duvall, G. Ettinger, M. Graczol, K. Harry, M. Keenan, A. Kennedy, J. McGovern, K. Nash, J. Patterson, M. Pearce, T. Postma, C. Ragusa, C. Samuels, R. Spitzer, J. Stathis, J. Tozer, Dr. A. Tsacalos, P. Vartuli, J. Windsor, N. Justen-Hoven (Policy Lawyer).

2021 membership: R. MacSweeney (Chair), J. Wong (Deputy Chair), A. Abadee, S. Alden, A. Baril, D. Barker, H. Bell, K. Boyd, K. Brown, J. Camden, A. Duvall, G. Ettinger, M. Filippeli, M. Graczol, T. Haber, K. Harry, M. Keenan, J. McGovern (until April 2021), J. Patterson, C. Ragusa, C. Samuels, M. Siciliano (from May 2021), J. Stathis, A. Thomas, J. Tozer, Dr. A. Tsacalos, P. Vartuli, J. Windsor, N. Justen-Hoven (Policy Lawyer).

Functions

The role of this Committee is to represent the Law Society and its members on policy and practice issues arising in relation to government solicitors.

The Committee's priorities include:

- Addressing issues relating to the practice of government solicitors (including preparing submissions, and liaising with government agencies and other stakeholders in this process)
- Supporting the development of networks between government solicitors in different agencies
- Educating government solicitors about changes to the law, and providing guidance on practice and other issues
- Exchanging information, sharing insights and commenting on issues arising in government solicitors' legal practice (such as recent case law or changes in policy) that are relevant to the practice of government solicitors

Committee priority issues for 2021

The Committee identified the following priority issues for 2021:

- Identifying initiatives to increase engagement with, and raise the profile of, government solicitors within the profession
- Maintaining and strengthening our existing relationships with other stakeholders, including government general counsel organisations at local, State and Commonwealth level, and the In-House Corporate Lawyers Committee
- Advising on topics and speakers for the Government Solicitors Conference
- Promoting and managing the John Hennessy Legal Scholarship and the Michelle Crowther PSM Excellence Award
- Promoting the benefits of Law Society membership to government solicitors

Activities

The Committee carried out the following activities during the year under review:

- Provided advice and assistance for the Government Solicitors Conference and other relevant CPD activities
- Updated the publications for government solicitors including the 'Guide to ethical obligations of government lawyers – for non-lawyer colleagues' publication and the 'Government lawyers guide to rule on ethical issues' publication
- Promoted and administered the John Hennessy Legal Scholarship and the Michelle Crowther PSM Excellence Award
- Arranged a joint forum with the In-House Corporate Lawyers Committee
- Prepared articles for inclusion on the Government Solicitors Committee hub webpage and other Law Society publications
- Met with representatives from the Public Services Commission and Stronger Communities Younger Professionals Network

The Committee contributed to the following joint submission during the year under review:

- Judicial Appointments

HUMAN RIGHTS

2020 membership: A. Mojtahedi (Chair), M. Nawaz (Deputy Chair), W. Ahmed, J. Anderson, P. Blake, S. Bowes, S. Bruck, Dr. S. Calnan, A. Drayton, K. Elali, R. Haynes, J. Le, A. Levin, K. McKenzie, A. Newton, N. Regan, I. Reiss, E. Ryan, S. Sharmin, A. Sinclair, J. Warner, J. Windsor, A. Small (Policy Lawyer).

2021 membership: A. Mojtahedi (Chair), M. Nawaz (Deputy Chair), J. Abraham, W. Ahmed, S. Bowes, S. Bruck, Dr. S. Calnan, S. Clarke, A. Drayton, S. Ek, F. Lay, J. Le, E. Leong, A. Levin, M. Markoulli, K. McKenzie, A. Newton, I. Reiss, A. Sage, A. Sinclair, A. Vaughan (until June 2021), A. Small (Policy Lawyer).

Functions

The role of this Committee is to represent the Law Society and its members on policy and practice issues arising in relation to the obligations of Australia and NSW under international and domestic human rights law, and to uphold the rule of law.

The Committee's priorities include:

- Developing and commenting on law reform and legal policy proposals (including preparing submissions, and liaising with government and other stakeholders in this process)
- Educating the legal profession about changes to the law, and providing guidance on practice and other issues
- Exchanging information about issues arising in legal practice (such as recent case law) that may indicate a legal policy issue or concern

Committee priority issues for 2021

The Committee identified the following priority issues for 2021:

- Advocacy for a NSW Human Rights Act
- Disability advocacy in NSW, including in relation to the Disability Royal Commission
- Housing and homelessness
- The treatment of asylum seekers
- Anti-discrimination law reform
- Climate change and human rights

Activities

The Committee carried out the following activities during the year under review:

- Liaised with the Law Council of Australia, Australian Lawyers for Human Rights, and the Human Rights for NSW Alliance
- Hosted a guest speaker from People With Disability Australia to discuss the implications of the Full Court of the Federal Court of Australia judgment in *Sklavos v Australasian College of Dermatologists* [2017] FCAFC 128
- Hosted a guest speaker from the Public Interest Advocacy Centre to discuss a test case challenging the use of handcuff restraints on asylum seekers
- Participated in a Law Society cross-committee working group on climate change and the law

- Provided evidence on behalf of the Law Society at a public hearing of the Joint Select Committee on the Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020
- Provided evidence on behalf of the Law Society at a public hearing of the Portfolio Committee No. 3 – Education inquiry into the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020
- Inquiry into the Climate Change (National Framework for Adaptation and Mitigation) Bill 2020 and the Climate Change (National Framework for Adaptation and Mitigation) (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2020
- Missing Middle Project
- National Sexual Harassment Roundtable
- Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety – Final Report
- Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability
- Select Committee on Job Security
- Stage 2 of the Review of the Model Defamation Provisions
- The Lawyer Project

The Committee made the following submissions during the year under review:

- Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020 (multiple submissions)
- Australian National Contact Point Peer Review 2021
- Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 – answers to questions on notice
- Migration cases in the Federal Circuit Court of Australia
- Review of Declared Area Provisions

The Committee also contributed to the following joint submissions during the year under review:

- Addressing Sexual Harassment in the Australian Legal Profession
- Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020
- Draft Persons with Disability (Regulation of Restrictive Practices) Bill 2021
- Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020
- Federal Government response to the Australian Human Rights Commission's *Respect@Work* report

INDIGENOUS ISSUES

2020 membership: J. Behrendt (Chair), P. Mulroney (Deputy Chair), Z. Armytage, S. Bailey, Professor D. Barker, D. Barnes, E. Bastable, B. Cansdale, D. Captain-Webb, R. Cook, A. Cregan, S. Crellin, L. De Silva, B. Dufty, M. Dupuis, C. Edwards, D. Elston, M. Gleeson, B. Greenwood (until September 2020), M. Holden, J. Lovric, Dr. T. McComsey, P. Mountain, R. Sexton, T. Shepherd, G. Slack-Smith, A. Vorst-Parkes, T. Wallace, J. Weate, V. Kuek (Policy Lawyer).

2021 membership: J. Behrendt (Chair), P. Mulroney (Deputy Chair), Z. Armytage, S. Bailey, E. Bastable, B. Cansdale, D. Captain-Webb, R. Cook, A. Cregan, S. Crellin, A. Dawson (until April 2021), L. De Silva, B. Dufty, M. Dupuis, J. Fing (from March 2021), M. Gleeson, M. Holden, J. Lovric, Dr. T. McComsey, M. Merritt, P. Mountain, B. Murray (from April 2021), R. Sexton, J. Tyrell, A. Vorst-Parkes (until March 2021), T. Wallace, V. Kuek (Policy Lawyer).

Functions

The role of this Committee is to represent the Law Society and its members on legal policy and practice issues arising in relation to Indigenous people in NSW.

The Committee's priorities include:

- Developing and commenting on law reform and legal policy proposals (including preparing submissions, and liaising with government and other stakeholders in this process)
- Educating the legal profession about changes to the law, and providing guidance on practice and other issues
- Exchanging information about issues arising in legal practice (such as recent case law) that may indicate a legal policy issue or concern

Committee priority issues for 2021

The Committee identified the following priority issues for 2021:

- Indigenous incarceration rates (including disability and cognitive impairment; sentencing and diversion; police accountability; and deaths in custody)
- Domestic and family violence, care and protection and family law
- Improving access to justice, including through Indigenous lists, Indigenous sentencing courts, funding for legal services to Indigenous people and targeted resources for the legal profession
- Aboriginal cultural heritage protection, Aboriginal land rights; native title; and natural resource management
- Consumer and civil law issues (including birth certificates and identity documents; access and engagement with education; housing; and financial services)
- Aboriginal self-determination, community empowerment and Aboriginal economic development (including reform pursuant to the Uluru Statement and Indigenous procurement policies)

Activities

The Committee carried out the following activities during the year under review:

- Participated in the NSW Legal Assistance Forum Aboriginal Incarceration Working Group
- Engagement with the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT) consultative forum on Tenancy, Social Housing and Aboriginal matters

- Liaison with the Legal Profession Reconciliation Network
- Steering advice and oversight of the Law Society's Indigenous Reconciliation Strategic Plan 2019-2022
- Appeared before the Select Committee into High Levels of First Nations People in Custody and Oversight of Deaths in Custody to give evidence
- Arranged meeting between Law Society and Just Reinvest NSW
- Attended consultations with the Audit Office on the administration of Aboriginal land claims in NSW
- Consultation on Miscellaneous Justice Bills
- Declarations under the *Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979* (Cth)
- Draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land
- Family Law Amendment (Federal Family Violence Orders) Bill 2021
- Government response to Australian Law Reform Commission Final Report – Review of the Family Law System
- *GR v The Department of Communities & Justice and Ors* [2020] NSWSC 1622

The Committee made the following submissions during the year under review:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander National Voice proposal
- Civil Liability Amendment (Child Abuse) Bill 2021
- Consumer credit reforms
- Deaths in custody – public disclosure
- Establishment of an Indigenous specific sentencing list in the District Court of NSW
- Indigenous Evaluation Strategy
- Indigenous Voice Co-Design Process Interim Report 2020
- Inquiry into the destruction of 46,000 year old caves at the Juukan Gorge in the Pilbara region of Western Australia
- National Agreement on Closing the Gap – Implementation of targets in NSW
- Inquiry into family, domestic and sexual violence
- Inquiry into the coronial jurisdiction in NSW
- Inquiry into the High Level of First Nations People in Custody and Oversight and Review of Deaths in Custody (multiple submissions)
- Inquiry into the NSW child protection and social services system
- Missing Middle Project
- National Information Sharing Network between the Family Law and Family Violence and Child Protection Systems
- Remote witnessing via audio-visual link
- Rural, Regional and Remote National Strategic Plan
- Second anniversary review of the national redress scheme

The Committee also contributed to the following joint submissions during the year under review:

- Administrative review of the *Bail Act 2013*

IN-HOUSE CORPORATE LAWYERS

2020 membership: R. Hunter (Chair), I. Luke (Deputy Chair), T. Csillag, A. De Govrik, K. Elali, P. Housden, K. Iles, C. James, S. Mackenzie, J. Moses, J. O'Shannassy, Dr. S. Pallavicini, E. Papanikolaou, N. Regan, S. Russo, J. Sefton, J. Wilkin, N. Justen-Hoven (Policy Lawyer).

2021 membership: R. Hunter (Chair), I. Luke (Deputy Chair), D. Bitsis, T. Csillag, A. Daquinag, K. Elali, K. Hinde, P. Housden, C. James, J. Moses, K. Murali, J. O'Shannassy, E. Papanikolaou, T. Swan, N. Justen-Hoven (Policy Lawyer).

Functions

The role of this Committee is to represent the Law Society and its members on policy and practice issues arising in relation to in-house corporate lawyers.

The Committee's priorities include:

- Acting as thought leaders in providing guidance and support resources for in-house corporate lawyers throughout NSW
- Facilitating collaboration and knowledge sharing through the in-house corporate segment by hosting informative and innovative engagement opportunities

Committee priority issues for 2021

The Committee identified the following priority issues for 2021:

- Providing collaboration and knowledge sharing opportunities through identification and delivery of appropriate events/forums
- Preparation of practitioner guidance and other resources on relevant and topical issues faced by in-house corporate lawyers
- Collaboration with other industry bodies to better support the in-house segment
- Exploring opportunities for the in-house segment to become more involved in pro-bono work

Activities

The Committee carried out the following activities during the year under review:

- Updated and reviewed practical guidance on issues faced by in-house counsel
- Held several forums for the in-house community and a collaboration with the Government Solicitors Committee
- Established a Practice Network for sole in-house practitioners and those in small teams to collaborate and knowledge-share on common themes and interests

The Committee contributed to the following joint submission during the year under review:

- The Lawyer Project

INJURY COMPENSATION

2020 membership: T. Stern (Chair), T. Concannon (Deputy Chair), A. Abboud, S. Butcher, B. Casado, B. Cassidy, G. Daley, L. Davidson, G. Guest, S. Harris, I. Jones, C. Ktenas, A. Lopes De Lima, H. Macken, P. Macken, R. May, K. McCusker, A. Mulcahy, D. Potts, C. Slan, J. Thurgood, K. Toshack, M. Warton, D. Weng, A. Prigan (Policy Lawyer).

2021 membership: T. Concannon (Chair), L. Davidson (Deputy Chair), A. Abboud, F. Bellissimo, S. Butcher, A. Chan, G. Daley, G. Guest, S. Harris, I. Jones, C. Ktenas, A. Lopes De Lima, P. Macken, R. May, B. McAuley, A. Mulcahy, D. Potts, K. Toshack, H. Turner, M. Warton, D. Weng, R. Yousef, A. Prigan (until June 2021) / A-M. Boumerhe (June 2021) (Policy Lawyers).

Functions

The role of this Committee is to represent the Law Society and its members on policy and practice issues arising in relation to injury compensation law.

The Committee's priorities include:

- Developing and commenting on law reform and legal policy proposals (including preparing submissions, and liaising with government and other stakeholders in this process)
- Educating the legal profession about changes to the law, and providing guidance on practice and other issues
- Exchanging information about issues arising in legal practice (such as recent case law) that may indicate a legal policy issue or concern

Committee priority issues for 2021

The Committee identified the following priority issues for 2021:

- Develop recommendations to better facilitate access to justice and legal services under the *Motor Accident Injuries Act 2017*
- Contribute to the implementation of the Personal Injury Commission
- Monitor legal and policy issues in relation to the workers compensation scheme
- Monitor legal and policy developments in relation to the dust diseases scheme, autonomous vehicle regulation, medico-legal, medical negligence and public liability issues
- Monitor legal costs issues in Commonwealth / NSW redress schemes

Activities

The Committee carried out the following activities during the year under review:

- Represented the Law Society on and contributed to the work of: the Workers Compensation Commission (WCC) User Group, the WCC Pre-Injury Average Weekly Earnings Reference Group, the Motor Accidents Insurance Regulation Quarterly Legal Forum, the State Insurance Regulatory Authority (SIRA) Blameless Accident Workshop, the Policy and Operational Forum, the Personal Injury Commission Stakeholder Group, and the SIRA Legal Forum
- Appeared before the Legislative Council Standing Committee on Law and Justice in relation to its review into the CTP insurance scheme and its review into the Workers Compensation scheme
- Liaised with key stakeholders, including the NSW Bar Association, the Australian Lawyers Alliance and SIRA

The Committee made the following submissions during the year under review:

- 2020 Review of the Compulsory Third Party insurance scheme (multiple submissions)
- 2020 Review of the Workers Compensation Scheme
- Centrelink delays (multiple submissions)
- Dispute Resolution Service Legal Portal – Community of Practice
- Funeral benefits under the Compulsory Third Party scheme
- *Health and Other Services (Compensation) Act 1995* (Cth)
- Injury insurance arrangements for food delivery riders in the gig economy
- Motor Accidents and Workers Compensation Legislation Amendment Bill 2021
- Motor Accidents Guidelines Version 6 (multiple submissions)
- Personal Injury Commission Bill 2020
- Personal Injury Commission Rules consultation
- Personal Injury Commission Stakeholder Reference Group (multiple submissions)
- Review of icare and the *State Insurance and Care Governance Act 2015* (multiple submissions)
- SIRA Review of Legal Support for Injured People in the NSW CTP Scheme (multiple submissions)
- Workers Compensation Enquiry and Complaints Handling Protocol
- Workers compensation guidelines for allied health treatment and hearing service provision

LITIGATION LAW AND PRACTICE

2020 membership: J. Warner (Chair), E. Yamine (Deputy Chair), L. Absalom, J. Ball, S. Baxter, J. Bowker, S. Brodowski, K. David, P. Farrell, S. Fernandez, P. Green, D. Hing, J. Howard, C. Hutchinson, G. Johnson, R. Kenna, K. Martin, K. McLean, S. Murray, C. Peterson, J. Prowse, J. Robb, J. Sefton, M. Stephens, T. Stern, P. Sutherland, S. Webber, P. Wiggins, M. Zraika, C. Elvy (July 2020) / S. Lee (from August 2020) (Policy Lawyers).

2021 membership: E. Yamine (Chair), J. Ball (Deputy Chair), S. Baxter, J. Bowker, S. Brodowski, K. David, S. Fernandez, P. Green, D. Hing, J. Howard, C. Hutchinson, G. Johnson, E. Keir (from May 2021), R. Kenna, M. Kofman, K. Martin, K. McLean, S. O'Connor, C. Peterson, J. Prowse, J. Robb, M. Stephens, T. Stern, P. Sutherland, S. Webber, P. Wiggins, M. Zraika, S. Lee (Policy Lawyer).

Functions

The role of this Committee is to represent the Law Society and its members on policy and practice issues arising in relation to civil litigation.

The Committee's priorities include:

- Developing and commenting on law reform and legal policy proposals (including preparing submissions, and liaising with government and other stakeholders in this process)
- Educating the legal profession about changes to the law, and providing guidance on practice and other issues
- Exchanging information about issues arising in legal practice (such as recent case law) that may indicate a legal policy issue or concern

Committee priority issues for 2021

The Committee identified the following priority issues for 2021:

- Liaise with the Government, courts and tribunals about issues affecting practitioners, including scale costs, cost assessment processes and court Practice Notes
- Monitor developments and, where appropriate, advocate for consistency in relation to online courts and registries in Australian jurisdictions and overseas
- Respond to issues arising from consultations and inquiries relating to class actions, litigation funding and contingency fees, including the Australian Law Reform Commission Inquiry into Class Action Proceedings and Third-party Litigation Funders
- Recognise positive technological changes that have occurred as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and advocate for permanent implementation in the civil court system

Activities

The Committee carried out the following activities during the year under review:

- Represented the Law Society on a number of court committees and User Groups, including the Supreme Court Alternative Dispute Resolution Steering Committee, Supreme Court Common Law (Civil) Users Group, Supreme Court Rules Committee, Uniform Rules Committee, District Court Civil Business Group, District Court Rules Committee, NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT) Liaison Group and NCAT Home Building Consultative Forum
- Updated the list of practitioners willing to act in the role of independent solicitor in the execution of search orders (Anton Piller Orders)
- Revised and published the Uniform Civil Procedure Rules Guide

The Committee made the following submissions during the year under review:

- Court Fees
- Federal Court Practice Note: Commercial Arbitration
- Increasing the fixed scale costs for solicitor fees
- Practice Note DC (Civil) No 1
- Utilising Digital Technology in the Federal Court

The Committee also contributed to the following joint submissions during the year under review:

- Amendments for witnessing oaths, declarations or affidavits
- Consultation on Miscellaneous Justice Bills
- Federal Court procedural reforms in response to COVID-19 pandemic
- *Foreign Evidence Act 1994* (Cth) – application to NSW
- Remote witnessing via audio-visual link
- Singapore Convention on Mediation
- Stage 2 of the Review of the Model Defamation Provisions

PRIVACY AND DATA LAW

2020 membership: P. Leonard (Chair), K. Keogh (Deputy Chair), S. Blanks, H. Brown, G. Collins, N. Commins, A. Cook, T. Csillag, A. Drayton, M. Fai, O. Ganopolsky, C. Higgins, A. Jacquet, R. Jeyasingam, A. Kopsias, B. Liang, T. Long, J. McAteer, M. Meares, S. Ng, S. O’Gorman, J. Rogers, J. Sabet, D. Vaile, K. Watts, A. Prigan (Policy Lawyer).

2021 membership: P. Leonard (Chair), G. Collins (Deputy Chair), S. Blanks, H. Brown, A. Cerny, N. Commins, T. Csillag, R. Dagher, A. Drayton, M. Fai, O. Ganopolsky, A. Jacquet, K. Keogh, A. Kopsias, B. Liang, J. McAteer, S. McLaughlan, M. Meares, R. Muttusamy, S. Ng, L. Nicholson, M. O’Brien, S. O’Gorman, J. Rogers (until April 2021), C. Sevil, K. Watts, R. Wilkins, A. Prigan (Policy Lawyer).

Functions

The role of this Committee is to represent the Law Society and its members on policy and practice issues arising in relation to privacy and data law.

The Committee’s priorities include:

- Developing and commenting on law reform and legal policy proposals (including preparing submissions, and liaising with government and other stakeholders in this process)
- Educating the legal profession about changes to the law, and providing guidance on practice and other issues
- Exchanging information about issues arising in legal practice (such as recent case law) that may indicate a legal policy issue or concern

Committee priority issues for 2021

The Committee identified the following priority issues for 2021:

- Monitor privacy issues that may arise, including from innovative uses of data, communications, artificial intelligence, including machine learning, and other technology
- Monitor legal and policy developments in relation to privacy laws; access to data (private sector and government); the collection, retention and use of data; and data sharing and data linkage
- Develop proposals in relation to privacy laws; the regulation of the use of surveillance, facial recognition and data derived through surveillance in both the public and private sectors; and the regulation of the use of artificial intelligence, including machine learning

- Monitor legal and policy developments in cyber risk, cyber security and business data governance; and develop proposals in relation to measures to mitigate and address risks
- Monitor causes of action and remedies available to affected individuals, including alternative mechanisms such as codes and statements of principle

Activities

The Committee carried out the following activities during the year under review:

- Liaised with key stakeholders on privacy and data laws, including Federal Government agencies
- Hosted the Surveillance Devices Commissioner for NSW as a guest speaker
- Represented the Law Society on the NCAT Administrative and Equal Opportunity Division Consultation Forum

The Committee made the following submissions during the year under review:

- *Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002*
- Inquiry into the impact of technological and other change on the future of work and workers in New South Wales
- Mandatory notification of data breach scheme in the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Amendment Bill 2021
- *National Health (Privacy) Rules 2018* review
- Review of the *Data Sharing (Government Sector) Act 2015*
- Review of the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth)
- Service NSW Check-in application

The Committee also contributed to the following joint submissions during the year under review:

- Ageing and Disability Commissioner Amendment Regulation 2021
- Ageing and Disability Commissioner regulatory provisions
- *Children (Detention Centres) Regulation 2015*
- Declarations under the *Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979* (Cth)
- Open Justice Review: Consultation Paper

PROPERTY LAW

2020 membership: R. Harvey (Chair), C. Huegill (Deputy Chair), M. Andrews, A. Antony, D. Bluth, A. Cahill, A. Care, G. Channell, J. Crittenden, M. Devitt, D. Fitzclarence, J. Glowrey, R. Goncalves, M. Jebeile, G. Maksimovic, B. Malone, T. McKibbin, J. McMillan, G. Newton, M. Osborne, Dr. S. Pallavicini, P. Rosier, D. Skapinker, S. Stott, M. Swan, K. Tran-Tsai, G. Lea (Policy Lawyer).

2021 membership: R. Harvey (Chair), C. Huegill (Deputy Chair), M. Andrews, E. Ashley, A. Cahill, G. Channell, J. Crittenden, M. Devitt, E. Di Stefano (from May 2021), D. Fitzclarence, J. Glowrey, R. Goncalves, M. Jebeile, G. Maksimovic, B. Malone, T. McKibbin, J. McMillan, G. Newton, M. Osborne, Dr. S. Pallavicini, H. Robilliard, P. Rosier, D. Skapinker, S. Stott, M. Swan, W. van Ede, G. Lea (Policy Lawyer).

Functions

The role of this Committee is to represent the Law Society and its members on policy and practice issues arising in relation to property law and conveyancing practice.

The Committee's priorities include:

- Developing and commenting on law reform and legal policy proposals (including preparing submissions, and liaising with government and other stakeholders in this process)
- Educating the legal profession about changes to the law, and providing guidance on practice and other issues
- Exchanging information about issues arising in legal practice (such as recent case law) that may indicate a legal policy issue or concern
- Where relevant, preparing and reviewing standard documentation for use by the profession (including contracts, leases etc)

Committee priority issues for 2021

The Committee identified the following priority issues for 2021:

- Participate in consultations regarding the interoperability of electronic lodgment networks
- Respond to consultations initiated by the Office of the Registrar General, NSW Land Registry Services and the NSW Department of Customer Service, including strata title reforms
- Participate in consultation on the NSW Property Tax Proposal

Activities

The Committee carried out the following activities during the year under review:

- Participated in various roundtable discussions with NSW Fair Trading, including in relation to building reforms, a proposed strata hub and strata and community reforms
- Participated in quarterly liaison meetings with NSW Land Registry Services and the Office of the Registrar General
- Participated in the National Interoperability Panel for interoperability in electronic conveyancing
- Participated in the Law Council of Australia's National Electronic Conveyancing System Committee
- Participated in consultation with the Office of the Small Business Commissioner and NSW Treasury in relation to the statutory review of the *Retail Leases Act 1994*
- Participated in consultation with NSW Land Registry Services and the Office of the Registrar General regarding cancellation of certificates of title

- Participated in consultation with NSW Land Registry Services, PEXA and the Office of the Registrar General regarding electronic registration of leases
- Participated in consultation with the NSW Treasury taskforce in relation to a possible property tax
- Participated in a collaboration session with Revenue NSW regarding electronic forms

The Committee made the following submissions during the year under review:

- Addressing market power in electronic lodgment services
- Conveyancing Rules Waiver - Required Dealings
- Exposure Draft Real Property Amendment (Certificates of Title) Bill 2020
- Extension of strata and community lands COVID-19 regulations (multiple submissions)
- Lodgment of Electronic Powers of Attorney and Old Systems Deeds through ELNOs
- Model Participation Rules and Model Operating Requirements – version 6.1
- National Industry Panel on Interoperability
- Position Paper on Changes to Enforcement Powers in the Electronic Conveyancing National Law
- Priority Notices Industry and Customer Brochures
- Proposed Regulatory Framework for Interoperability
- *Retail Leases Act 1994*
- Retail Tenant's Guide
- Review of the effectiveness and efficiency of the NSW Home Building Compensation Fund

The Committee also contributed to the following joint submissions during the year under review:

- Amendments for witnessing oaths, declarations or affidavits

- Amendments to building legislation
- Commissioner's Practice Note - Powers of Attorney
- *Design and Building Practitioners Regulation 2020* (multiple submissions)
- Digital execution and certification of conveyancing documents
- National Register of Enduring Powers of Attorney
- Practice Guide for registered certifiers
- Property Tax Proposal
- Remote witnessing via audio-visual link
- South Australian Law Reform Institute inquiry into Powers of Attorney
- Statutory Review of the NSW Strata Schemes Laws

PUBLIC LAW

2020 membership: A. Chalk (Chair), A. Abadee (Deputy Chair), A. Baril, Dr. S. Calnan, A. Duvall, R. Heinrich, G. Johnson, M. Keenan, A. Kennedy, Dr. M. Landrigan, A. Markus, A. Mojtahedi, S. Murray, M. O'Brien, A. Rafter, C. Samuels, H. Sims, K. Smith, M. Smyth, Dr. A. Tsacalos, S. Webb, A. Zekanovic, V. Kuek (Policy Lawyer).

2021 membership: A. Chalk (Chair), A. Abadee (Deputy Chair), A. Baril, J. Boughey, A. Duvall, S. Ek, R. Heinrich, G. Johnson, M. Keenan, Dr. M. Landrigan, A. Mojtahedi, A. Moss (from May 2021), M. O'Brien, A. Rafter, A. Sapienza, H. Sims, K. Smith, M. Smyth, Dr. A. Tsacalos, J. Windsor, A. Zekanovic, M. Zraika, V. Kuek (Policy Lawyer).

Functions

The role of this Committee is to represent the Law Society and its members on policy and practice issues arising in relation to public law matters, including constitutional law, administrative law, the rule of law, the principles of representative and responsible government, the separation of powers, government accountability, and the operation of the federal system.

The Committee's priorities include, in relation to such matters:

- Developing and commenting on law reform and legal policy proposals (including preparing submissions, and liaising with government and other stakeholders in this process)
- Educating the legal profession about changes to the law, and providing guidance on practice and other issues
- Exchanging information about issues arising in legal practice (such as recent case law) that may indicate a legal policy issue or concern

Committee priority issues for 2021

The Committee identified the following priority issues for 2021:

- Identifying opportunities to improve review frameworks in relation to administrative decisions (e.g. greater provision of internal review, external merits review etc)
- Matters that affect the powers and independence of investigative and oversight bodies (e.g. ICAC, LECC)
- Counter-terrorism and national security legislation
- The resilience of public institutions and the role of the rule of law (including the use of delegated powers and public access to the written law)
- Monitoring the changing relationship between areas of public law and private law

These initiatives will be considered in the context of relevant international standards and frameworks.

Activities

The Committee carried out the following activities during the year under review:

- Attended the Australian Law Reform Commission practitioner roundtable on its review into judicial impartiality
- Appeared before the Regulations Committee to give evidence on its inquiry into making delegated legislation in NSW
- Appeared before the Committee on the Independent Commission Against Corruption to give evidence on its inquiry into reputational impact on an individual being adversely named in the ICAC's investigations
- Attended a Law Council of Australia constituent body meeting on the draft Commonwealth Integrity Commission Bill 2020

The Committee made the following submissions during the year under review:

- Commonwealth Integrity Commission Bill 2020 – exposure draft
- Effective funding of the NSW integrity agencies
- Inquiry into the Australia's Foreign Relations (State and Territory Arrangements) Bill 2020 and Australia's Foreign Relations (State and Territory Arrangements) (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2020
- Reputational impact on an individual being adversely named in the ICAC's investigations
- Requirements for administrative decision-makers in NSW to give reasons for decisions

The Committee also contributed to the following joint submissions during the year under review

- ALRC Judicial Impartiality Consultation Paper
- Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020
- Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020
- Inquiry into the Climate Change (National Framework for Adaptation and Mitigation) Bill 2020 and the Climate Change (National Framework for Adaptation and Mitigation) (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2020
- Inquiry into the High Level of First Nations People in Custody and Oversight and Review of Deaths in Custody
- Judicial Appointments (multiple submissions)
- Open Justice Review: Consultation Paper
- Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety – Final Report

REVENUE NSW / LAW SOCIETY LIAISON

2020 membership: A. Boog (Co-Chair), C. Smythe (Co-Chair), M. Brewster, A. Chek, G. Chiart, F. Di Francesco, V. Donnelly, J. Dudley, A. Fernandez, B. Hewitt, D. Lam, F. Lam, J. Lee, R. Newey, R. Nguyen, T. Nguyen, M. Nowell, N. O'Reilly, I. Phillips, L. Serafim, J. Shead, M. Telan, L. To, G. Vale, J. Yem, G. Lea (Policy Lawyer).

2021 membership: A. Boog (Co-Chair), C. Smythe (Co-Chair), S. Bazouni (from May 2021), M. Brewster, A. Chek, G. Chiart, G. Cremer, F. Di Francesco, V. Donnelly, J. Dudley, A. Fernandez, J. Gharib, B. Hewitt, D. Lam, F. Lam, J. Lee, R. Newey, R. Nguyen, T. Nguyen, M. Nowell, N. O'Reilly, S. Paterson, I. Phillips, L. Serafim, J. Shead, M. Telan, L. To, G. Vale, J. Yem, G. Lea (Policy Lawyer).

Functions

The role of this Committee is to represent the Law Society and its members on policy and practice issues arising in relation to state revenue issues in New South Wales.

The Committee's priorities include:

- Developing and commenting on law reform and legal policy proposals (including preparing submissions, and liaising with government and other stakeholders in this process)
- Educating the legal profession about changes to the law, and providing guidance on practice and other issues
- Exchanging information about issues arising in legal practice (such as recent case law) that may indicate a legal policy issue or concern

Activities

The Committee carried out the following activities during the year under review:

- Reviewed draft Revenue Rulings and Commissioner's Practice Notes
- Participated in a collaboration session with Revenue NSW regarding electronic forms
- Participated in consultation with the NSW Treasury taskforce in relation to a possible property tax

The Committee made the following submission during the year under review:

- Commissioner's Practice Note - Landholder Duty

The Committee also contributed to the following joint submissions during the year under review:

- Commissioner's Practice Note - *Payroll Tax Act 2007*
- Commissioner's Practice Note - Powers of Attorney
- Continuing the Productivity Conversation - Productivity Commission Green Paper
- Property Tax Proposal
- Revenue Ruling - Build to Rent
- Revenue Ruling - *Land Tax Management Act 1956*
- Revenue Ruling - Transfer of business property between family members
- Tax Administration Amendment (Combating Wage Theft) Bill 2021

RURAL ISSUES

2020 membership: J. Thurgood (Co-Chair), J. van der Plaat (Co-Chair), R. Austin, C. Banks, S. Colquhoun, D. Fitzclarence, A. Fleming, C. Hannah, R. Jarratt, L. Kelly, S. Mason, A. Miller, P. Moffitt, S. Morgan, G. Ryan, N. Scanlon, M. Shepherd, M. Twyford, C. Elvy (July 2020) / G. Lea (August 2020) / S. Lee (from August 2020) (Policy Lawyers).

2021 membership: J. Thurgood (Co-Chair), J. van der Plaat (Co-Chair), M. Anderson, R. Austin, C. Banks, S. Field, D. Fitzclarence, J. Goode, D. Heilpern, R. Jarratt, L. Kelly, P. Moffitt, S. Morgan, S. Nachiappan, G. Ryan, N. Scanlon, J. Spear, M. Twyford, S. Lee (Policy Lawyer).

Functions

The role of this Committee is to represent the Law Society and its members on policy and practice issues arising in relation to rural NSW.

The Committee's priorities include:

- Developing and commenting on law reform and legal policy proposals (including preparing submissions, and liaising with government and other stakeholders in this process)
- Educating the legal profession about changes to the law, and providing guidance on practice and other issues
- Exchanging information about issues arising in legal practice (such as recent case law) that may indicate a legal policy issue or concern
- Where relevant, preparing and reviewing standard documentation for use by the profession (including contracts, leases etc)

Committee priority issues for 2021

The Committee identified the following priority issues for 2021:

- Better access to justice in rural, regional and remote (RRR) areas, including supporting the retention of electronic witnessing provisions, advocating for additional Magistrates, District Court Judges and improved court rooms in RRR areas
- Monitoring legal issues in relation to water management
- Identifying topics for the Rural Issues Conference
- Developing resources to better equip RRR legal practices to recruit and retain lawyers and promote the benefits of relocating to RRR areas
- Reconceptualising factsheets on rural issues in conjunction with updating the Rural Issues Committee webpage

Activities

The Committee carried out the following activities during the year under review:

- Provided advice on topics and speakers for the 2020 Rural Issues Conference
- Engaged with rural and remote practitioners in relation to access to justice issues
- Monitored a drought assistance package for practitioners assisting drought-affected clients

The Committee made the following submissions during the year under review:

- Murray-Darling Basin water markets inquiry – interim report
- Recruitment and Retention of Lawyers in Rural, Regional, and Remote Australia

The Committee also contributed to the following joint submissions during the year under review:

- Amendments for witnessing oaths, declarations or affidavits
- Digital execution and certification of conveyancing documents
- Draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land
- Options Paper: Agricultural Land Use Planning Strategy
- Remote witnessing via audio-visual link
- Revenue Ruling - Transfer of business property between family members
- Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety – Final Report
- Rural, Regional and Remote National Strategic Plan

welcome

Lightning Ridge



Black Opal Country

JOINT SUBMISSIONS

Made by the Law Society on behalf of more than one committee

- A New Decision-making Framework for Property Matters in Family Law
- Addressing Sexual Harassment in the Australian Legal Profession
- Administrative review of the *Bail Act 2013*
- Ageing and Disability Commissioner Amendment Regulation 2021
- Ageing and Disability Commissioner regulatory provisions
- ALRC Judicial Impartiality Consultation Paper
- Amendments for witnessing oaths, declarations or affidavits
- Amendments to building legislation
- Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020
- *Children (Detention Centres) Regulation 2015*
- Commissioner's Practice Note – *Payroll Tax Act 2007*
- Commissioner's Practice Note - Powers of Attorney
- Consultation on Miscellaneous Justice Bills (multiple submissions)
- Continuing the Productivity Conversation – Productivity Commission Green Paper
- Declarations under the *Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979* (Cth)
- *Design and Building Practitioners Regulation 2020* (multiple submissions)
- Digital execution and certification of conveyancing documents
- Draft Persons with Disability (Regulation of Restrictive Practices) Bill 2021
- Draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land
- Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020
- Family Law Amendment (Federal Family Violence Orders) Bill 2021
- Federal Court procedural reforms in response to COVID-19 pandemic
- Federal Government response to the Australian Human Rights Commission's *Respect@Work* report
- *Foreign Evidence Act* (Cth) – application to NSW
- Government response to Australian Law Reform Commission Final Report – Review of the Family Law System
- *GR v The Department of Communities & Justice and Ors* [2020] NSWSC 1622
- Inquiry into family, domestic and sexual violence
- Inquiry into the Climate Change (National Framework for Adaptation and Mitigation) Bill 2020 and the Climate Change (National Framework for Adaptation and Mitigation) (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2020
- Inquiry into the coronial jurisdiction in NSW

- Inquiry into the High Level of First Nations People in Custody and Oversight and Review of Deaths in Custody (multiple submissions)
- Inquiry into the NSW child protection and social services system
- Judicial Appointments (multiple submissions)
- Missing Middle Project
- National Information Sharing Network between the Family Law and Family Violence and Child Protection Systems
- National Register of Enduring Powers of Attorney
- National Sexual Harassment Roundtable
- Open Justice Review: Consultation Paper
- Options Paper: Agricultural Land Use Planning Strategy
- Practice Guide for registered certifiers
- Property Tax Proposal
- Remote witnessing via audio-visual link
- Revenue Ruling - Build to Rent
- Revenue Ruling - *Land Tax Management Act 1956*
- Revenue Ruling - Transfer of business property between family members
- Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety – Final Report
- Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability
- Rural, Regional and Remote National Strategic Plan
- Second anniversary review of the national redress scheme
- Select Committee on Job Security
- Singapore Convention on Mediation
- South Australian Law Reform Institute inquiry into Powers of Attorney
- Stage 2 of the Review of the Model Defamation Provisions
- Statutory Review of the NSW Strata Schemes Laws
- Tax Administration Amendment (Combating Wage Theft) Bill 2021
- The Lawyer Project
- The Special Commission of Inquiry into the Drug ‘Ice’

Made with other organisations

- Aboriginal mental health workers and mental health care in NSW prisons and mental health facilities

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