

ANNUAL REPORT

2019/20



About Us

The Law Society of Western Australia is the peak professional association for lawyers in Western Australia.

The Law Society is a not-for-profit association dedicated to the representation of its members and to the enhancement of the legal profession through being a respected leader and contributor on law reform, access to justice and rule of law.

The Law Society has four strategic imperatives:

- **A strong and respected voice** – proactively engaging with key stakeholders to influence positive change for the profession;
- **A vital support to members** – delivering targeted, relevant and highly valued services, including offering support, events, and access to communities;
- **A sustainable and supported future for members** – working with members to identify the driving forces of change in the profession, and to develop programmes and services to help them pursue a sustainable career in law; and
- **A forward-thinking organisation delivering value to members** – an engaged, sustainable, and contemporary organisation where Council, Committee members and staff are aligned with the vision and purpose of the organisation.



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President's Report



In January 2020, I commenced my Presidency with a plan. 2020 had other plans...

The Law Society is the voice of the legal profession. We can fulfil that purpose authoritatively, because our membership represents more than half of the practising lawyers in the state. Still, our authority (and capacity) would be greater if that percentage was higher. I thought in January, and still think now, that the strongest future for the Society will be in further collaboration with other law associations in this State, some of which attract practitioners who for financial or other reasons are not yet members of the Society.

It seems like longer ago, but January 2020 was amid the devastating bushfire disasters on the east coast of Australia. The Society responded in partnership with the University of Western Australia (UWA), with a CPD fundraiser. The event was supported also by the WA Bar Association, Asian Australian Lawyers, The Association of Corporate Counsel, Australian Lawyers Alliance, Community Legal WA, Criminal Lawyers Association, Environmental Defenders Office, Family Law Practitioners Association, National Environmental Law Association, The Piddington Society and the WA Society of Jewish Jurists and Lawyers.

The event began as an idea from UWA's Dr Marilyn Bromberg on 13 January. Less than three weeks later, 220 practitioners had come together and raised \$7,600 for the Red Cross Australia Bushfire Relief Fund. The funds raised were significant, but as importantly, practitioners from diverse sections of the profession, and students, all learned of attempts (and failures) in climate change law and policy in Australia from Associate Professor David Hodgkinson. The Honourable Robert

French AC's opening remarks regarding climate change litigation received national media coverage.

The event presented a dynamic and exciting model for other collaborative opportunities. Following the event, representatives from the participating law associations planned a face-to-face meeting to explore other ways to work together. While we got to see each other's faces, we did so over Zoom. Amid COVID-19, the consensus was: "let's revisit this in the future".

What can I say about COVID-19? I suspect we still don't appreciate the structural impact it will have on our profession (and our lives). As I write this, there remains so much uncertainty, although we have some capacity to plan. In March, as the Society needed to plan for its future, information and events moved rapidly.

The Society moved rapidly too. We established a COVID-19 Hub on our website, as an authoritative single point for all the latest information from Courts and other authorities. The hub was soon replicated in other jurisdictions.

We then needed to respond internally. The measures that were taken by the Law Society to support its members with a "one off" COVID-19 Membership Support Package had a significant impact on the revenue base of the Law Society and so it was imperative that, as an organisation, we were able to identify sufficient savings in our cost base in order to be able to deliver it.



Council and Executive teams participate in face-to-face meetings via Zoom during the outbreak of the COVID-19 Pandemic

The response which was led by our Chief Executive Officer and the senior management team was significant and inspiring to all of us on the Council, as it largely came in the form of our operational staff, through their understanding of the situation, volunteering to reduce their hours and respective salaries to help find the necessary savings required to enable the Law Society to maintain a "business as usual" approach and deliver another strong suite of member services and outcomes whilst operating on reduced resources.

Practically, this involved staff reducing their hours and pay by 40%, in an already challenging and foreboding time. Council was humbled by our staff's commitment to the Society, and eager to return staff to their ordinary hours as soon as we were in a financial position to do so. Happily, that has now occurred, although we are all watching closely and ready to act if WA is affected by a second wave. Some staff have elected not to return to full time, having found satisfactory flexible arrangements. While many of us have suffered Zoom fatigue, undoubtedly the profession has benefited from more sophisticated and flexible ways to work.

Another COVID change meant moving Law Week online. While it was a shame to miss some of the exciting events usually held in that week, one positive was the streaming of a forum featuring the Hon Chief Justice and leaders from the community law sector, addressing the topic of access to justice. By streaming the event, the forum reached an audience of more than 250, far bigger than we would ordinarily hope to see in person.

Similar success followed the streaming of our annual Ronald Wilson Oration, and our forum for the National Uniform Profession legislation.

In June, the Hon Chief Justice Kiefel issued a statement relating to the investigation of allegations that the Hon Dyson Heydon had engaged in sexual harassment while a Justice of the High Court. The Law Society supported the statements and advocacy of the Law Council of Australia, Heads of Jurisdiction in WA and Women Lawyers of WA in condemning sexual harassment and discrimination. In addition to other responses, work continues on some new initiatives which I hope can be announced before the end of this year.

In August, State Parliament legislated to unilaterally amend a state agreement. The “Clive Bill” as it became known, required a response from the Society. Following consideration and consultation, I communicated a position on behalf of the Society – the most sensational extract of which called the legislation “unprecedented and extreme”. I’m grateful to the colleagues from Council, Executive, Past Presidents and senior colleagues at the bar who assisted in the construction of a difficult line. I am also grateful to the Members who contacted me to express their support of the Society’s advocacy on the legislation.

While the majority of feedback communicated to me was positive, sadly the more impactful feedback was the member who called me to say that I should be ashamed of myself, and that I was both a communist and that the Society’s statement would have “made Goebbels proud”. As a man with Jewish ancestry, with other ancestors killed by Stalin, the comments stung. If you ever feel like invoking such themes in feedback to anyone, I’d strongly encourage you to restrain yourself.

All of which is to say, 2020 has been a challenging year. It was also the year that I first sought help of a psychologist. I was proud to say so in this year’s Mental Health Week in the Society’s *Brief* and *Friday Facts*. As I noted at the time, my ability to discuss it openly was very much a result of the Hon Attorney General’s similar comments at a Piddington Society mental health event in 2019. To date, the feedback I have received on that bit of advocacy has only been positive, predominantly from fellow practitioners who also benefit from some mental health help, and also wish to normalise assistance and de-stigmatise mental health.

More details and photos of the events from the 2019/20 financial year are shown in the “Year in Review” section of this report. My sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of these (and other) Law Society events.

Advocacy Highlights

One of the objectives of the Law Society, as outlined in its Constitution, is to promote the development and improvement of the law in Western Australia. To this end, the Society continued to advocate for law reforms that would enhance the legal profession and benefit the community.

Two key highlights for this reporting period occurred in the area of access to justice with the Law Society’s support for:

1. The Government’s introduction of pro bono work requirements scheme for law firms that wish to tender for Government legal work; and
2. The Law Council of Australia’s Justice Project, a national review into access to justice in Australia.

The number of submissions to government agencies increased this year (see page 38 of this Report) and included issues that not only provided new areas of law for legal practitioners but were also important public policy debates for consumers and industry groups.

During the last six months of Greg McIntyre SC’s term as President and the first six months of my term, the Law Society was a strong advocate on the following important issues:

- The Justice Project – road map and plan to implement the recommendations of the Report that are most applicable to Western Australia
- COVID practice directions and legislative reform in the area of employment, elder law and courts, the Senate Select Committee on COVID-19’s inquiry into the Australian Government’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Proposal to increase the minimum age of criminal responsibility from 10 to 14
- Convention on the Rights of Older Persons
- *Work Health and Safety Bill 2019*
- Ticket Scalping
- Claims Harvesting
- Modern Award for Early Career Lawyers
- *Strata Titles Act Amendment Bill 2018*
- *Spent Convictions Regulations 1992* (WA) and the Inquiry into Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence
- The *Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2019* (WA)
- The *Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Bill 2019*

It is worth me commenting here on the introduction of the *Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Bill 2019* as it is one of the more significant Bills to be

introduced in Western Australia that will affect all legal practitioners. A road map for informing the profession of the changes is currently being prepared and will continue into the next reporting period. At this stage, the commencement date for uniform law is 1 July 2021 and the Government continues to be committed to this timeframe. Information on the Uniform Law can be found on the Law Society's website.

Another important aspect of the Law Society's ongoing advocacy is the Law Council of Australia's advocacy on national issues including the continuation of the Indigenous Legal Assistance Program and constitutional recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples with important submissions being sent to Government concerning amendments to the *Spent Convictions Regulations 1992 (WA)* and the Inquiry into Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence.

The Law Society has continued to progress initiatives targeted at the advancement of women in the legal profession, including by commissioning a survey on the engagement and retention of legal professionals and developing the *Charter for the Advancement of Women in the WA Legal Profession* to promote strategies to retain women in the profession and encourage career progression.

The advocacy campaigns and initiatives undertaken this year would not be possible without the committee and working group members who volunteer their time to the work of the Law Society. The Law Society acknowledges the significant contribution made by these members.

2021 State Election Advocacy Campaign

Looking ahead, the Law Society has prepared a set of key policy issues to promote to the Government and Opposition during the 2021 Western Australian election campaign based on the following six (6) Election Platform Topics:

1. Increase access to justice;
2. Court resources:
 - Infrastructure;
 - Judicial appointments;
 - Jurisdiction;

3. Reducing crime including sentencing and justice;
4. Justice project (implementation of);
5. Amendments to the Administration Act; and
6. Rule of law.

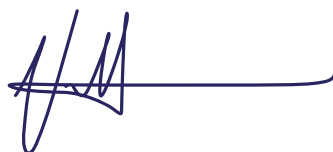
The Law Society will be seeking a response from both the Government and Opposition on these Topics as part of the Law Society's 2021 Election Advocacy Campaign.

In summary

It has been both a privilege and a uniquely challenging year to be President of the Law Society. Despite the pandemic, I am extremely proud but not surprised by the great resilience that the Law Society has demonstrated and how it has continued to deliver on key services and support to its members and the broader legal profession in a positive and meaningful way.

I would especially like to acknowledge and thank our Chief Executive Officer, Executive Committee and fellow Councillors, the Senior Management team and our staff for all of their strong commitment and dedication to the Law Society and providing me with their invaluable support this year.

Importantly also, I would like to thank all our Law Society members for their loyal support and in particular for renewing your membership again for 2020/21. It has never been more important for the legal profession to stand together – and because of your ongoing support, the Law Society can strongly and proudly continue to be the voice of the legal profession and promote the development and improvement of law throughout the State of Western Australia.



Nicholas van Hattem

President

The Law Society of Western Australia



Chief Executive Officer's Report



This past year has been like no other. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought some significant challenges to our entire community, and the Law Society was not immune.

However, it has also brought opportunities, solutions and realisations which did not exist previously. The challenges of engaging with 35 staff, 18 Councillors, 33 Committees and over 4,000 members remotely, in a meaningful and effective way, required the Law Society like many organisations to alter or adapt our existing views and approaches in order to deliver its outcomes. COVID-19 has impacted the Law Society both directly by removing or significantly reducing the ability for us to hold face-to-face meetings, CPD and networking events, and indirectly through the economic impact on the profession and our membership community.

In 2019/20, the Law Society's strong culture of providing excellent customer service, listening to members' needs, and continually striving to provide genuine value for members was most clearly demonstrated in the implementation of the Society's COVID-19 Membership Renewal Support Package.

COVID-19 Renewal Support Package

In response to the ongoing impact of COVID-19 pandemic on legal practitioners and the profession in Western Australia as a whole, the Society put specific measures in place to ensure members remained supported and connected to their peak professional body.

To remove cost as a potential barrier from continuing membership with the Society, all Ordinary membership fees were reduced by 30% for the 2020/21 renewal period. In addition to this, Sole Practitioners and

Individual members were given the option to pay their subscription in monthly instalments through the development of a Part Payment Plan. Eligible firms were also able to access quarterly or biannual payment options.

As an added benefit, CPD (via CPD Freedom) was offered to all Ordinary or eligible Associate members who renewed or joined by 31 July 2020 at no cost for the 2020/21 membership year.

On Leave memberships were also extended to members who had been made redundant or stood down.

The Law Mutual Administration Levy (of \$100 per practitioner) was reduced to Nil for practitioners who were members of the Law Society. (Practices who had already paid for qualifying practitioners were entitled to a repayment of the levies.) In addition, Law Mutual (WA) offered all practices the option to defer payment of their annual contribution and administration levy to November 2020.

The provision of support to Ordinary members by way of the 30% reduction to members fees was primarily funded through accessing a portion of the Society's cash reserves and savings in operational and staffing costs. I am extremely proud and humbled by the trust and support our staff and the Council placed in me. Our staff, with an understanding of the challenges before us, volunteered to reduce their contracted



Annual General Meeting, 21 November 2019

The Society put specific measures in place to ensure members remained supported and connected to their peak professional body.

hours and remuneration by 40% to support the Law Society's ability to fund such membership support initiatives and enable the retention of all of our team.

In addition to those significant operating cost savings, the Law Society also accessed a portion of its capital reserves to support members. This was conducted in a considered and measured way to ensure that the maximum membership fee support could be provided to our Ordinary Members while still maintaining the reserves required to meet our capital commitments and maintain a solid financial platform from which to rebuild and grow once these challenges are behind us.

Financial Performance

The 2019/20 financial year resulted in a surplus of \$803,011. As always, the Law Society remains committed to operating efficiently and effectively to ensure that members' funds are used to provide value to members and support the initiatives and responsibilities that accompany a Professional Membership Body such as ours. As mentioned above, it was particularly important this year for our leadership group to manage the finances conscientiously, not only to ensure the preservation of capital, but also to respect the challenges faced by our members and the sacrifices made by our staff and stakeholders.

The Law Society ended the financial year with net assets of \$3,136,667 and cash reserves of \$1,655,901. A further \$831,500 is kept in the Building Loan redraw facility held by the Law Society to utilise interest savings.

The Law Society's Income Statement and Statement of Financial Position is included at the end of this year's Annual Report.

Public Purposes Trust

The Law Society of Western Australia is the trustee of the Law Society Public Purposes Trust.

The Trust's financial and administrative functions are undertaken by the Corporate Services team. This financial year \$2,120,000 was paid out in grants from the Trust as authorised by the Attorney General. In addition, grants totalling \$498,250 have also been approved for payment in the 2020/21 year.

Note: The Law Society of Western Australia is the trustee of the Law Society Public Purposes Trust. However, it does not decide which applicants are to receive funding. Applications are assessed through an independent three-stage process with the final decision being made by the Attorney-General.

Membership

The Law Society's vision to be the essential membership for the legal profession ensures a strong focus on providing unique member benefits that cannot be obtained elsewhere. Working with our membership and providing timely and relevant information and events has resulted in very positive engagement with the legal profession as illustrated by our membership numbers.

The 2019/20 membership year resulted in the Society achieving a total membership of 4,054 members along with a strong membership retention rate of 85%. I would like to thank all of our individual members and member firms whose ongoing support through your membership and personal contribution through involvement committees, attendance at events and general support enable the great work that your Society performs each year.

Member Survey

Based on our members' feedback, the Law Society's overall performance remains strong and continues to improve. The annual Strategic Plan member scorecard survey conducted by CATALYSE® in March-April 2020 found that 86% of members are satisfied with the Law Society's overall performance and 89% consider membership to be essential or nice to have.

Importantly, the Law Society is seen to be doing more to understand members' needs and to keep members well informed about changes in legislation and key issues affecting the profession. (For the full report, please see page 27.)

Engaging with Members of the Profession

Expanding the means by which we communicate with our members has been a focus over the past 12 months. This year saw the move of the Law Society's *Brief* journal to digital format only. This has brought about many efficiencies and has been well received. We have observed a steadily growing online audience who are enjoying its content in a digital format.

Providing essential information to our members remains a key service and at the onset of the pandemic, a dedicated COVID-19 Hub was launched on the Law Society's website designed to provide valuable resources and keep our members updated about the latest developments, including those relating to the government announcements, courts, tribunals and other relevant organisations.

Our social media communities continue to thrive, enabling us to reach different audiences across varying platforms and in turn provide opportunities for our members to engage with us and each other. In recognition of the potential isolation created by the COVID-19 restrictions, the Society launched member-only, closed Facebook groups, to encourage members to stay connected and provide a forum to share experiences and professional advice. The closed member-only groups were developed for specific member segments, Sole Practitioners, Country Practitioners and Young Lawyers, as well as a general members group.

The Law Society's member privileges programme continued to provide significant discounts and value-adds across a range of home, lifestyle and corporate organisations. New member privilege partners for 2019/20 included the Western Australia Cricket Association (WACA).

Find a Lawyer Referral Service

There is an ongoing high demand for the Law Society's Find a Lawyer Referral Service, which provided over 30,000 referrals to members of the public seeking access to legal services in 2019/20.

Continuing Professional Development

Professional development has never been more important, particularly with online learning becoming the new norm. The Law Society's CPD programme continues to deliver on its promise of providing a high-quality programme with an unparalleled calibre of speakers from the legal profession and beyond. Over the past year, the Law Society has delivered 150 online and face-to-face CPD offerings across all four mandatory competency areas to over 4,000 attendees. I would like to thank members for their ongoing support of our programme.

Events

2019/20 delivered 11 very successful and well attended face-to-face events for the legal profession attracting 1,272 participants. The majority of 2019/20 event attendees were from our loyal membership base with non-members accounting for approximately 20% of these.

While the restrictions put in place due to COVID-19 resulted in a greatly reduced calendar for face-to-face events in 2020, there were still highlights for the year and 2019/20 provided us with the opportunity to showcase new formats and engage with a wider audience through online events.

The End of Year Celebration was the most well attended End of Year event to date, selling out with over 240 guests at capacity in the beautiful surrounds of The Westin Perth hotel.



Attendees at Careers Uncut October 2019

The District Court of Western Australia celebrated its 50th Anniversary in 2020. A Gala Dinner was planned in recognition of this milestone and was to be held on Saturday, 4 April 2020. In light of the restrictions in place at the time, the gala was rescheduled to February 2021 and I am sure that the profession is looking forward to again gathering together at that time.

Careers Uncut, Young Lawyers Committee Rebrand Sundowner, Sole Practitioner Forum and the Law Access Information Evening were also very well received, and all provided valuable opportunities for a wide cross section of member segments to connect and achieve meaningful engagement with their profession.

LawCare WA

The Law Society remains committed to providing and promoting its LawCare WA services to its members, which includes the Member Assistance Programme (which provides members with up to three free counselling sessions per year), the Employee Relations Advice Line (for assistance with human resources and employee relations issues), the Mentoring Program and the Senior Advisors Panel (for advice on ethical issues).

Professional Standards Scheme (PSS)

The 2019/20 year has seen the commencement of Law Society's new Scheme and the introduction of an Insurance Standard for all participants. Council adopted the amended Five-Year Risk Management Plan, Risk Registers and the Scheme Integrated Risk Compliance Framework that reflect the changes implemented as part of the new Scheme which commenced on 1 July 2019.

During the reporting year there was a major change to the Professional Standards Improvement Program (PSIP) with the introduction of a requirement to facilitate Root Cause Analysis of Claims relating to Scheme participants.

The Scheme closed the year with 1,609 participants as at 30 June 2020.

Looking Ahead – 2020-2023 Strategic Plan

Following the completion of the Law Society's current *Strategic Plan* on 30 June 2020, the Council has adopted a new *2020-2023 Strategic Plan*. Due to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, the plan has been deferred by six months and will now take effect in January 2021.

The *2020-2023 Strategic Plan* retains the current Vision for the Law Society as "the essential membership for the legal profession" and the Purpose "the voice of the legal profession" while introducing four new strategic imperatives:

- "A strong and respected voice" – proactively engaging with key stakeholders to influence positive change for the profession;
- "A vital support to members" – delivering targeted, relevant and highly valued services, including offering support, events, and access to communities;
- "A sustainable and supported future for members" – working with members to identify the driving forces of change in the profession, and to develop programmes and services to help them pursue a sustainable career in law; and
- "A forward-thinking organisation delivering value to members" – an engaged, sustainable, and forward-thinking organisation where Council, Committee

members and staff are aligned with the Vision and Purpose.

Looking at the year ahead, the new *Strategic Plan* provides a clear focus and direction for the future. The Law Society is committed to acting as the voice of the legal profession in Western Australia on issues that are important to our members and will continue to support our members by delivering highly valued services.

Thank you

The success of the Law Society can be attributed to the outstanding service and loyal commitment provided by our Council Members, Executive, Committee Members and Law Society staff.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Immediate Past President Greg McIntyre SC, current President Nicholas van Hattem, and both their Executive teams in 2019/20 for their dedicated and ongoing support.

Thank you also to the Law Society Council Members of 2019 and 2020 and our many Committee Members, all of whom volunteer many hours of their time and make invaluable contributions to the work of the Law Society.

The Committees play an essential role in providing high-quality advice and opinions to the Council, enabling the Law Society to make informed policy decisions and submissions. The Law Society benefits immeasurably from the expertise and commitment of its volunteer committee members and the Society is grateful for all the vital work they perform.

Finally, I would especially this year also like to thank the Law Society's staff members for their loyalty, dedication, hard work and trust. I look forward to building on our success in 2020/21.



David Price

Chief Executive Officer
The Law Society of Western Australia

Our Council

In accordance with the Law Society of Western Australia's constitution, the Law Society Council comprises 20 Members and is made up of 19 elected members and the Immediate Past President. The composition and tenure of the Council is as follows:

- **President – 1 Year**
- **Senior Vice President – 1 Year**
- **Junior Vice President & Treasurer – 1 Year**
- **Immediate Past President – 1 Year**
- **12 Ordinary Members – 2 Years**
- **1 Country Member – 2 Years**
- **3 Junior Members – 1 Year**

The Law Society appoints its Council through its annual elections process which facilitates the election of those positions which are deemed vacant in that year. The nomination and voting processes are conducted in line with the Society's Constitution and overseen by the Society's Chief Executive Officer.

Council Subcommittees

Council has the power to create Committees. The Committees are bound by the relevant By-Laws with their purpose to consider and make recommendation to the Council for consideration.

The Council may delegate any of its powers to committees to ensure effective and efficient management of the Society's responsibilities. The Council operates two subcommittees which directly support the Council with the day to day operation of the Society are:

1. **Executive Committee** – The Executive Committee comprises the President, Senior Vice President, Junior Vice President & Treasurer, the Immediate Past President and one Ordinary Member of the Council who is appointed by the Executive for up to 6 months in each calendar year – Considers and makes decisions on both regular and ad-hoc executive, operational and strategic matters.
2. **Finance and Audit Committee (FAC)** – The Finance and Audit Committee is Chaired by the Junior Vice President & Treasurer and in addition to chair, comprises the President, Senior Vice President, and a member of the Society with financial expertise to be nominated by Council. (The FAC supports the Council with the oversight of key financial responsibilities including but not limited to the annual financial budget and audit processes.

The Law Society's Council is responsible for the Leadership, Strategy and Governance of the Society and includes the setting of the Strategic Plan and oversight of the Society's operating and financial performance. The Council does this in part by delegating responsibility of the day to day operations of the Society to the Executive Committee and Chief Executive Officer who, supported by the Senior Management Group (SMG), have the authority to carry out these responsibilities in accordance with the Society's constitution and policies established by the Council.

Council members are provided with governance and media training to support them in the execution of their duties. Council members also attend a strategic planning day each year with the Chief Executive Officer and the Senior Management Group to support and enhance the delivery of the Society's overall Strategic Plan. The Council is dedicated and committed to the strong representation of the Society, its members, and the legal profession generally.

Council 2019

The Council of the Law Society of Western Australia for 2019
1 July 2019 to 31 December 2019

Executive Members



Greg McIntyre SC

President

John Toohey Chambers



Nicholas van Hattem

Senior Vice President

Francis Burt Chambers



Rebecca Lee

Junior Vice President & Treasurer

Francis Burt Chambers



Hayley Cormann

Immediate Past President

Clayton Utz

Council Ordinary, Country and Junior Members



Jocelyne Boujos

Ordinary Member
Sceales Lawyers



Nathan Ebbs

Ordinary Member
Bennett + Co



Ante Golem

Ordinary Member
Herbert Smith
Freehills



Emma Griffiths

Ordinary Member
Asociatii
Commercial Lawyers
(to October 2019)



Karina Hafford

Ordinary Member
Slater and Gordon
(to May 2019)



Matthew Howard SC

Ordinary Member
Francis Burt
Chambers



Joanna Knoth

Ordinary Member
MDC Legal
(to June 2019)



Fiona Low

Ordinary Member
Edith Cowan
University
(to June 2019)



Gary Mack

Ordinary Member
Abacus Legal &
Mediation
(from June 2019)



Denis McLeod

Ordinary Member
McLeods



Jodie Moffat

Ordinary Member
HHG Legal Group



Shayla Strapps

Ordinary Member
Mental Health Law
Centre



Paula Wilkinson

Ordinary Member
Kim Wilson & Co



Joel Yeldon

Ordinary Member
Fourth Floor
Chambers
(from June 2019)



Zoe Bush

Junior Member
State Solicitor's
Office of Western
Australia



Jack Carroll

Junior Member
Kott Gunning
Lawyers
(from July 2019)



Brooke Sojan

Junior Member
Office of the
Director of Public
Prosecutions



Demi Swain

Junior Member
Pragma Legal



Kerstin Stringer

Country Member
Mandurah Legal
(to August 2019)



Melita Medcalf

Country Member
Legal Aid WA
(from November 2019)

Council 2020

The Council of the Law Society of Western Australia for 2020
1 January 2020 to 30 June 2020

Executive Members



Nicholas van Hattem

President

Francis Burt Chambers



Jocelyne Boujos

Senior Vice President

Boujos Legal



Rebecca Lee

Junior Vice President & Treasurer

Francis Burt Chambers



Greg McIntyre SC

Immediate Past President

Michael Kirby Chambers

Council Ordinary, Country and Junior Members



Rebecca Bunney

Ordinary Member

**Cullen Macleod
Lawyers**



Daniel Coster

Ordinary Member

Moray & Agnew



Nathan Ebbs

Ordinary Member

Bennett + Co



Ante Golem

Ordinary Member

**Herbert Smith
Freehills**



Mark Hemery

Ordinary Member

**Hotchkin Hanly
Lawyers**



Jamie Hodgkinson

Ordinary Member

**Haynes Robinson
(to February 2020)**



Matthew Howard SC

Ordinary Member

**Francis Burt
Chambers**



Craig Slater

Ordinary Member

**Francis Burt
Chambers**



Brooke Sojan

Ordinary Member

**Office of the
Director of Public
Prosecutions WA**



Shayla Strapps

Ordinary Member

**Mental Health Law
Centre**



Paula Wilkinson

Ordinary Member

Kim Wilson & Co



Melita Medcalf

Country Member

Legal Aid WA



Thomas Camp

Junior Member

**Inquiry into the City
of Perth**



Lea Hiltenkamp

Junior Member

Glen McLeod Legal



Gemma Swan

Ordinary Member

**Butlers Lawyers
& Notaries**

A Year in Review

July 2019

Golden Gavel

The Young Lawyers Committee treated an audience of over 200 guests to a hilarious evening of comedy as 10 courageous young lawyers showcased their satirical skills in front of their peers at the 2019 Golden Gavel Competition. The popular and successful dinner is the biggest event on the young lawyer's calendar and was well attended and enjoyed once again. A panel of eminent judges, including Law Society President Greg McIntyre SC judged the competition and provided commentary.

Reconciliation Action Plan

The Law Society's Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) completed its two-year timeframe in July 2019 and further consideration was being given to preparing a second RAP Innovate. In the meantime the Law Society has continued to build on the work it has undertaken in this area by providing work experience placements to Aboriginal students and partnering with Herbert Smith Freehill's Career Trackers programme to arrange secondments for Aboriginal law student interns to the Law Society.

August 2019

Sole Practitioner and Small Firm Forum

The Society delivers valuable networking and learning opportunities for sole practitioners and lawyers from small firms in the form of free information and networking forums.

This forum was attended by over 50 practitioners who came together to learn how process management tools can improve and transform their practice. Delegates also enjoyed refreshments and the opportunity to mingle and meet like-minded colleagues.



Golden Gavel winner 2019,
Claudia Carr, Herbert Smith Freehills



Over 50 practitioners attended the Sole Practitioner and Small Firm Forum to learn how process management tools can improve and transform their practice.

Making a difference to the mental health and wellbeing of legal professionals in your workplace

Law Access Information Evening for Young Lawyers – How to Get Involved in Pro Bono Work

The Young Lawyers Committee were pleased to deliver a new initiative in 2019/20 with a free information evening for young lawyers on how to get involved in pro-bono work. The evening was hosted and supported by Kott Gunning Lawyers and celebrated the invaluable work of Law Access and gave detailed information on how young lawyers can get involved.

Over 30 guests enjoyed refreshments and presentations from the following panel members; Greg McIntyre SC, President, The Law Society of Western Australia, Dominique Hansen, Chief Executive Officer, Law Access, Greg Mohen, Partner, Kott Gunning Lawyers and former Law Access pro-bono referral coordinator, Richa Malaviya, PLT Placement at Law Access.

Mental Health and Wellbeing Panel Event

The Society was proud to support the panel event “Making a difference to the mental health and wellbeing of legal professionals in your workplace”, a collaborative effort from legalsuper, ALPMA, AIM and the Law Society of Western Australia.

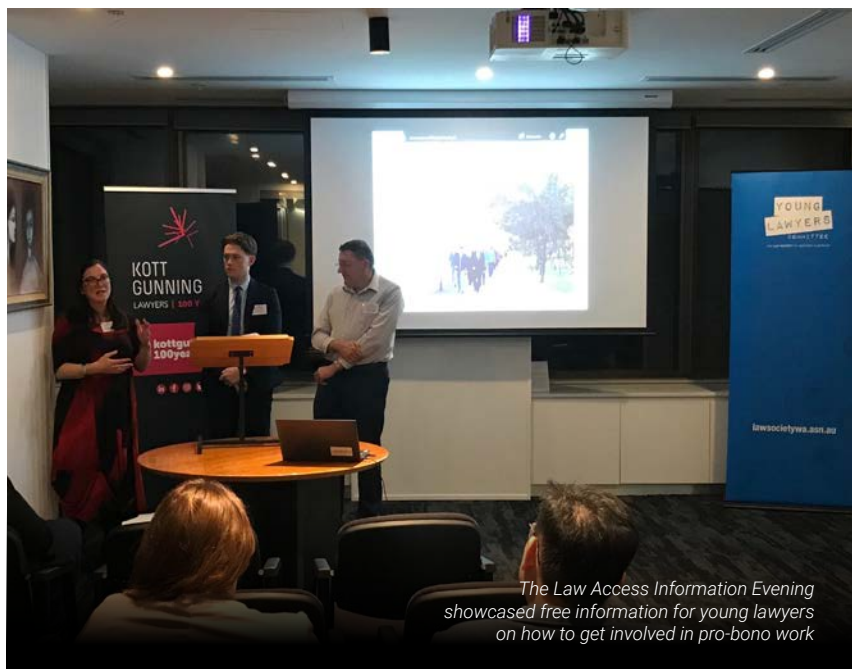
The Society recognizes the importance of addressing mental health in the legal profession by facilitating these types of conversations, and it was fantastic to have industry bodies working together on this important initiative.

Practical Advocacy Weekend

The Law Society hosted its Practical Advocacy Weekend at the Perth Children’s Court on 17 and 18 August where delegates were able to receive



The Society addresses the importance of addressing mental health in the legal profession at the Mental Health and Wellbeing Panel Event



The Law Access Information Evening showcased free information for young lawyers on how to get involved in pro-bono work



Practical Advocacy Weekend at the Perth Children's Court on 17 and 18 August where delegates were able to receive guidance from members of the judiciary and experienced counsel in a courtroom setting.



The Society held its popular Society Sundowner upstairs in a private area at The Spaniard in Wolf Lane, Perth



Networking Event for In-House & Government Lawyers promoting the interests of in-house counsel and government lawyers in Western Australia

In Practical Advocacy Weekend, delegates developed their case analysis and advocacy skills through scenario based learning, with tailored feedback and guidance

guidance from members of the judiciary and experienced counsel in a courtroom setting.

Delegates developed their case analysis and advocacy skills through scenario-based learning, with tailored feedback and guidance.

A special thanks to the coaches for their commitment and expertise, led by Bill Keane, Francis Burt Chambers and to the young lawyer volunteers who dedicated their time to assist over the weekend.

September 2019

Networking Event for In-House & Government Lawyers

The In-house/Government Lawyers Committee hosted a networking event to provide a forum for the exchange of information and ideas and promote the interests of in-house counsel and government lawyers in Western Australia.

October 2019

Society Sundowner

The Society held another one of its popular Society Sundowners upstairs in a private area at The Spaniard in Wolf Lane, Perth. Free for members, this collegial event helped to bring together the legal profession in a social setting for the sharing of ideas and the making of connections.



Careers Uncut presented by the Young Lawyers Committee hosted over 100 students and legal professionals



Careers Uncut presentations were followed by refreshments and canapés as speakers and attendees enjoyed networking and discussion

Over 80 people enjoyed refreshments, Spanish tapas and good weather from the upstairs balcony at this sold out event.

Careers Uncut

The Young Lawyers Committee brought back a previous YLC event with rave reviews called “Careers Uncut”. Held on a Thursday night at the Atrium Theatre in the city, over 100 students and legal professionals heard from a diverse panel of speakers who shared valuable insights and advice for students on entering the legal profession.

Seven short and sharp presentations were followed by refreshments and canapés as speakers and attendees enjoyed networking and discussion.

Based on the success and positive feedback, the event will be delivered annually as part of the YLC’s event offering.

Mental Health First Aid Training

The Law Society hosted 25 law students who took part in an intensive Mental Health First Aid training course delivered by Accredited Mental Health First Aid Instructor, Catherine Stokes.

Following completion of the course and an online accreditation exam, students were awarded a certificate as an Accredited Mental Health First Aider, an accreditation that they can carry with them through their career, bringing long-term benefit to the legal profession.

Mental Health First Aid training will bring long-term benefit to the legal profession



1,080 school students participated in 2019 Mock Trial Competition with 180 trials held. Congratulations to winners Wesley College (Pictured)

Mock Trial Grand Final

The 2019 Mock Trial seasons two undefeated teams competed in the Law Society's Mock Trial Competition Grand Final in Court 1 of the Supreme Court in Stirling Gardens.

The winning team was Wesley Gold from Wesley College, coached by Claire Rossi and Rein Squires. Their opponents, the Carey Counsellors from Carey Baptist College, a team of Year 10 students, attempted to prosecute a defendant who was alleged to have unlawfully used a restricted access computer system at a university.

The night was the culmination of a fantastic season of the Law Society's Mock Trial Competition. 1,080 school students participated in 2019, with 180 trials held. 681 students achieved accreditation towards their high school graduation through their participation. In all, 112 teams from 56 schools took part in the Competition.



Law Student Mentoring Programme saw participation from 62 students representing all five WA law schools and 50 junior practitioner mentors

Family Law Accreditation Programme

The biennial Family Law Accreditation Assessment Programme provides family law practitioners the opportunity to be formally recognised as having a high level of competency in their field. The 2019 Programme saw an increase of 110% in candidates since the previous Programme in 2017 with a total number of 23 participants. Seven candidates passed the Assessment Programme, becoming Accredited Family Law Specialists in Western Australia, consistent with the pass rate in other states.

November 2019

Law Student Mentoring Programme Wrap up Event

The 2019 Law Student Mentoring Programme, which saw participation from 62 students representing all five WA law schools and 50 junior practitioner mentors, marked the conclusion of the 2019 programme with a wrap up event on 28 November. Participants took the opportunity to catch up with colleagues, share their experiences and make further connections.



Mixed Netball Competition

Over 150 early career lawyers braved the wet weather and hit the courts at the University of Western Australia for the 2019 Mixed Netball Competition. The sold-out event saw 16 teams battle it out over four fast-paced rounds. Clayton Utz and King & Wood Mallesons went head to head in the grand final for the second year in a row. Clayton Utz proved they have still got it and claimed the top prize once again.

It was a great evening of fun and friendly competition, with wood-fired pizza and good chats keeping everyone warm.

Francis Burt Law Education Programme (FBLEP) - Professional Learning Day

More than 60 Year 11-12 Politics and Law teachers took part in a professional learning day in November 2019 and 32 Law Society of Western Australia Politics and Law Certificates of Excellence, awarded to the most outstanding Year 12 Politics and Law ATAR course student at individual schools based on in school assessments, were awarded.



Old Court House Law Museum - Open House

In November, the public was invited to an open weekend celebrating Perth's oldest building, as part of "Open House Perth 2019".

150 early career lawyers braved the wet weather and hit the courts at the University of Western Australia for the 2019 Mixed Netball Competition



West Australian Musician at The End of Year Celebration playing the unique instrument, the hand pans



The End of Year Celebration had over 240 registrations. The Westin once again provided the perfect backdrop with balcony views of Hibernian Place

December 2019

End of Year Celebration

The Law Society was delighted to again bring the profession together in the spirit of collegiality at the Westin for a fantastic End of Year Celebration. With over 240 registrations, the Law Society's final event of 2019 was the perfect opportunity to catch up with friends, colleagues, fellow members of the legal profession, the Attorney General, Chief Justice and other members of the Judiciary.

The Westin once again provided the perfect backdrop with balcony views of Hibernian Place and a West Australian musician played the unique instrument, the hand pans.

January 2020

Old Court House Law Museum

Significant conservation initiatives in 2019/20 included works on the Bar Table, which dates back to 1854, and paper conservation works on Sir Archibald Paull Burt documents dating back to 1856 and 1860. The Bar Table and the Burt documents are collection items of State, National and International significance which the Museum is conserving for future generations.

February 2020

Society Sundowner

Over 100 members and non-members congregated once again for one of the Society's popular Sundowners. Free for members, the event has held at and supported by RSM and was a great opportunity for members to get together in the new year.

Guests chatted amongst themselves and enjoyed refreshments and high-quality canapés while taking in the sweeping views of the Swan River skyline and Elizabeth Quay.

Old Court House Law Museum

The Museum collection, identified as being of International, National and State significance, in its entirety was moved to a new collection storage area, formerly Court 8 of the Supreme Court, in February 2020.

Stabilising the environment within the new collection storage area, particularly targeting the damagingly high fluctuations in relative humidity, is of the highest priority to ensure that

Western Australia's legal and social history is conserved for future generations.

Beach Volleyball

The Young Lawyers Committee kicked off the new year with an annual beach volleyball competition in February. Over 60 young lawyers displayed their athletic prowess in a competition ultimately won by Steenhoff Brothers Barristers & Solicitors.

Players digged, spiked and enjoyed an evening of sport, fun and socialising, and finished the evening with delicious wood-fired pizza and drinks.

March 2020

YLC Re-brand Sundowner

The Young Lawyers Committee were lucky enough to scrape in and hold a social gathering before times changed due to COVID-19 with a Sundowner where the YLC officially launched their new logo and caught up with colleagues.

Over 70 young practitioners, graduates and students congregated at HQ Bar & Kitchen to enjoy a great evening with amazing sunset views of Elizabeth Quay.

Nutha Way (formerly Lore Law) Project

An Indigenous youth leadership programme working to build better relationships between Indigenous youth, their community and the police. Nutha Way works on the premise that it is time to try another way of working with Indigenous youth to help them solve the issues they face within their communities.

- secured \$230,000 from Lotterywest
- commenced engagement in the Goldfields in March 2020



Annual beach volleyball competition where 60 young lawyers displayed their athletic prowess in a competition ultimately won by Steenhoff Brothers Barristers & Solicitors. Pragma Lawyers featured.



Over 70 young practitioners, graduates and students attending the YLC Re-brand Sundowner



The explosion of social media posts and photographs were testimony to people's delight at being able to come together safely with the unifying purpose of raising funds prob bono legal services

April 2020

Law Student Mentoring Programme Launch Event

Despite restrictions on social gatherings due to COVID-19, the Young Lawyers Law Student Mentoring Programme still went ahead as planned, although in a slightly different format. Rather than an in-person launch event, paired mentees and mentors caught up online to kickstart their very first meeting. Pairs used this opportunity to connect, reviewed training materials and discussed their goals for the Programme. The programme had 36 pairings this year.

May 2020

CPD Day for Rural Regional and Remote Legal Practitioners

A Law Society annual event held during Law Week where regional practitioners usually come to Perth to share collegiality and support, and to learn from each other through tailored Continuing Professional Development. In light of COVID restrictions, Zoom came to the rescue once again ensuring the 'show still goes on' and the event was

delivered in a virtual format. This free event for Country members of the Law Society had over 55 participants from all around the State.

Law Week 18 to 22 May 2020

Law Week 2020 hits the right note!

This year presented an opportunity to showcase Law Week in a different format with events being streamed online providing accessible engagement to a much wider audience.

Law Access Virtual Walk

A highlight of the week included the annual Law Access Walk for Justice which successfully became a virtual meeting place of individuals, teams, workplaces, family members and enthusiastic pets, all participating in their own fun way around the State and beyond. The explosion of social media posts and photographs were testimony to people's delight at being able to come together safely with the unifying purpose of raising funds for prob bono legal services via Law Access, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Law Society of Western Australia.

Nearly 500 people registered for the walk and it raised a record \$96,271 which included a generous donation of \$50,000 from the McCusker Charitable Foundation.

Access to Justice Online Forum

Another successful event attracting an audience of more than 250 was the Law Society's Access to Justice in 2020 online forum hosted by Mark Beyer from Business News and live streamed by Business News. This was a wonderful opportunity to hear from leaders in their areas on issues such as the new Pro Bono Model in Western Australia, the effect of COVID-19 on legal processes, mental health, domestic violence, tenancy, and the importance of justice reinvestment.

A distinguished panel comprised of the Hon Peter Quinlan, Chief Justice of Western Australia, Nicholas van Hattem, President of the Law Society of Western Australia, Clare Mould, Senior Associate and Pro Bono Coordinator Corrs Chambers Westgarth Perth; Corina Martin, CEO, Aboriginal Family Law Services; Sharryn Jackson, Executive Director, Community Legal WA; and Shayla Strapps, CEO Mental Health Law Centre all provided us with an hour of stimulating discussion, opinion and insights into the role of the law in our community and the importance of access to justice in 2020.

Community Events

Community events included Curtin Law School Clinics Showcase which ran two sessions on Tuesday, 19 May. The Curtin Law School Clinics offer access to justice for vulnerable members of our community and through the supervised work of Clinic students, clients receive pro bono advice and assistance with legal and tax issues. The sessions included students from the John Curtin Law Clinic and Curtin Tax Clinic together with and Rosaline Tan, Principal Lawyer, Annette Morgan, Director and Donovan Castelyn, Clinic Supervisor.

The Corruption and Crime Commission were pleased to make available their recording from 2019 Law Week on a Mock Examination. Viewers could see first-hand what a Commission examination may involve and the internal workings of the procedures.

June 2020

Francis Burt Law Education Programme

With service delivery suspended for three months of the reporting period, the FBLEP engaged with 4,777

daily visitors with 85% of those groups being primary or secondary school groups. When combined with Cluedunnit Kids and the Lawyer Visits to Schools Network the total number of participants reached 5,774.

Old Court House Law Museum

By the end of the 2019/20 financial year, the Museum had welcomed 4,585 visitors despite being closed from March to June 2020. Museum volunteers had also contributed 526 volunteer hours in 2019/20 which demonstrates the value of, and importance that, the Western Australian community places in the Old Court House Law Museum and the services it provides.



Nearly 500 people registered for the Law Access Walk for Justice

Some of our panelists from the Access to Justice Online Forum
Left to Right: Nicholas van Hattem, President of the Law Society of Western Australia; the Hon Peter Quinlan, Chief Justice of Western Australia; Shayla Strapps, CEO Mental Health Law Centre; Clare Mould, Senior Associate and Pro Bono Coordinator Corrs Chambers Westgarth Perth



Law Mutual Insurance Arrangements - Cover for more than 1100 law practices

The Law Mutual insurance arrangements provided professional indemnity cover for over 1,100 law practices during the 2019/20 financial year. The cost of cover had increased by about 10% from the previous year due to the high frequency of claims on recent years and the general 'hardening' of the Australian PI insurance market.

Law Mutual Risk Management Workshops and Seminars

The 2019/20 programme of workshops and seminars was well supported with 1,667 attendees. We continue to improve our webinar capability and intend to deliver all seminars via webinar as part of the 2020/2021 programme.

Claims Numbers Reducing

The expected ultimate number of claims for the 2019/20 insurance year is in the range of 70 to 75. This continues the downward trend in numbers from the 2017/18 year where we expect more than 80 claims.

Over 3,000 Exemptions Claims Processed

During the year, the Law Society processed exemption claims for over 3,000 practitioners. The practitioners, who are exempt from the requirement to be covered under the Law Mutual insurance arrangements provide legal services to various organisations including national law practices, community legal centres (CLCs), and their employers (in-house). Practitioners who are members of the Law Society or provide services to CLCs do not have to pay an administration fee to have their exemption claim processed.



Member Perceptions Survey

The Law Society of Western Australia's overall performance remains at high levels. An independent survey with 107 members, conducted by CATALYSE® in March-April 2020, found that 89% consider membership to be essential or nice to have.

The Law Society is seen to be doing more to understand members' needs and to keep members well informed about changes in

legislation and key issues affecting the profession. We were pleased to see that perceptions about our level of understanding increased from 68% to 78% and our efforts to keep members informed increased from 78% to 90%.

Members continue to express high levels of satisfaction with key communication channels, including the *Brief Journal*, *Friday Facts*, *CPD News* and *YLC News*.



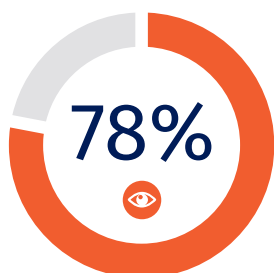
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Member Satisfaction



2

The Society is the Voice of the Legal Profession in Western Australia



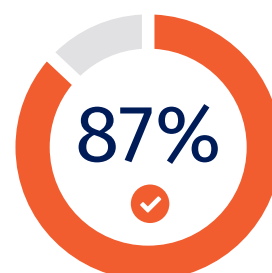
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Has a Good Understanding of Members' Needs



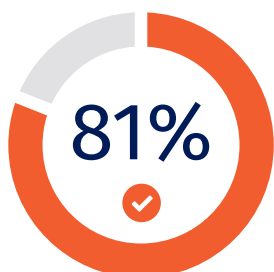
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Keeps Members Well Informed About Changes in Legislation and Key Issues Affecting the Profession.



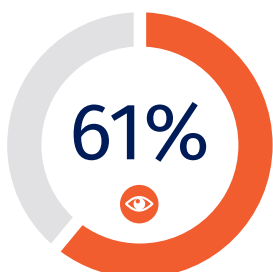
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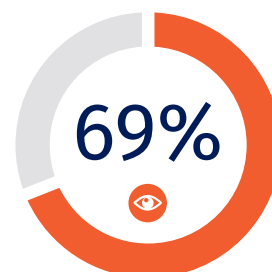
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Brief Journal





7

The Society's Website



8

Continuing Professional Development

-  Target achieved
-  Focus area

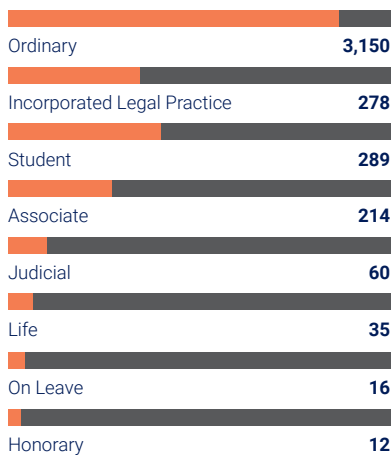
Thank you to those members that responded to the survey. If you have ideas about how the Law Society can improve, or should you wish to discuss these results further, please contact the Chief Executive Officer, David Price on (08) 9324 8600 or dprice@lawsocietywa.asn.au

A Year in Numbers



4,054

Members



31

policy papers
and submissions
produced on key
issues affecting
the profession
and advocating
on rule of law



200+

members shaped
the Law Society's
advocacy by sitting
on committees
and contributing
submissions to
Council



46

firms accredited
through the Quality
Practice Standard



50

members
accredited
through the Family
Law Specialist
Accreditation
programme



1,667

attendees
participated in
Law Mutual Risk
Management
Workshops and
Seminars



4,268

registrations for
the Law Society's
Continual
Professional
Development
offering



5,774

educated on the
legal profession
by participating in
the Francis Burt
Law Education
Programme



314

students from
metro and
regional schools
participated in the
Cluedunnit Kids
Competition



71

face-to-face
seminars



4,585

total visitors to the
Old Court House
Law Museum



72

eLearning
seminars



1,080

Mock Trial Competition
student participants



Committees



Access to Justice

Gary Mack (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Gregory Mohen (Deputy Chair), Dominique Hansen (Observer), Greg McIntyre SC, Brooke Sojan, Justin Stevenson (Observer), Tracy Albin, Maryse Aranda, Jenny McKenzie, Nicholas Snare, Rosaline Tan, Eli Bernstein, Lara Gotti



Commercial Law

Shane Stewart (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Robert French (Deputy Chair), Christopher Booth, Jenny Cutri, Andrew Crean, Nathan Ebbs (Council ex officio), Paul Evans, Emma Garlett, Robert Macredie, Bruce Meredith, Maggie McGuinn, Fiona Ng (Observer), Gemma Nugent, Rachel Webber, Andreas von Altenstadt, Steven Standing, Trina Storm



Accreditation

Trevor O'Sullivan (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Elizabeth Hynes, Rodney Hooper SC, Trevor O'Sullivan, Paula Wilkinson, Devin Sanghavi, Denby Kerr, Natalie Kam, Samuel Fahey, Kimberley Morrison



Construction and Infrastructure

Adrienne Parker (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Robert Shaw, David Ellis, Gregory Steinepreis, Basil Georgiou, Michael Hollingdale, Dan Dragovic, Adrienne Parker, Christopher Ryder, Toby Browne-Cooper, Juliana Jorissen, James Healy, Elisabeth Edwards, Melanie Cave



Administrative Migration Law

Crawford Yorke (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Peter Lochore, Anthony Coates, Amanda Kailis, Anlee Khoo, Janette McCahon, Rajesh Sharan, Martin Udall, David Blades



Costs

Maria-Luisa Coulson (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Matt Curwood (Deputy Chair), Fraser Robertson, Lachlan Palmos, Sandra Costopoulos (ex officio), Milos Supljeglav, Peter Lochore, Marcus Pullen, David Garnsworthy, Richard Graham, David Davidson, Amy Pascoe, Tony Fifield



Alternative Dispute Resolution

Scott Ellis (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Michael Hollingdale (Deputy Chair), Pamela Hass, Nicoletta Ciffolilli, Steven Standing, His Honour Judge Christopher Stevenson, Mark Blundell, Karene Primrose, Maha Chaar, Nathan Landis, Nicholas van Hattem, Amanda Kailis, Rob Lilley, Roselina Kruize, Marcus Pullen, Graham Castledine, Ante Golem



Country Practitioners

Melita Medcalf (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Peter Brindal, Amelia Englert



Brief Editorial

Jason MacLaurin SC (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Pat Saraceni, Commissioner John McKechnie QC, Gregory Boyle, Robert Sceales, Rebecca Collins, Teresa Szunejko, Patricia Femia, Eu-Min Teng, Jack Carroll, Dianne Caruso, Thomas Camp, Megan Cramp



Courts

David Bruns (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Richard Graham (Deputy Chair), Charmian Barton (ex officio), Geoffrey Bourhill, Matthew Howard SC (ex officio), Angelina Gomez, Edward Greaves, Fiona Halsey, Registrar George Kingsley (ex officio), Nathan Landis, Aaron McDonald, Registrar Leonie Forrest (ex officio), Mark Pendlebury, Martyn Plummer (ex officio), Larissa Strk, (ex officio), Deputy Chief Magistrate Elizabeth Woods (ex officio), Magistrate Matthew Walton (observer), Patricia Femia, Rebecca Collins, Rick Cullen, Shonelle Duthie, Richard Lilly, Eva Lin, Stirling Owen, Jonathon Slack-Smith, Alexander Ward-Noonan, District Registrar Russell Trott (ex officio)



Criminal Law

David Davidson (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Karen Farley SC (Deputy Chair), Kirsten Scott, Nicholas van Hattem (ex officio), Registrar Whitbread, Patricia Femia, Ryan Arndt, Avril Bartlett, Clare Brennan, Michael Cashman, Teck John Ling, Carly Price, Nicholas Snare



Education

Adam Levine (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Dr Pat Saraceni, Glen McLeod, Elizabeth Needham, Timothy Houweling, Rebecca Bunney, Alex Ward-Noonan, Ellie McGrory



Elder Law and Succession

Elizabeth Heenan (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Michael Bowyer, Sally Bruce, Rob Durey, Anthony Durand, Maria Fifield, Susan Fielding (Deputy Chair), Daniel Gill, Craig Gregson, John Hockley, Amanda Liston, Peter Nevin, Nova Oldfield, Peter MacMillan, Steven Pynt, Gemma Swan (ex officio), Demi Swain, Michaela Speering, Gabriel Wong



Employee Relations

Stephen Kemp (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

David Blades, Joseph Burke, Cory Fogliani, Giacomo Giorgi (Deputy Chair), Kendra Hagan, Mark Hemery, Michael Jensen, Kimberley Jones, Rajesh Saharn, Ben Watson



Environment, Town Planning and Local Government

Denis McLeod (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Andrew Carr, Graham Castledine, Clare Gleeson, Steven Halls, Lea Hiltenkamp (ex officio), Eve Lynch, Alex McGlue, Glen McLeod, Belinda Moharich, Gregory Mohen, Linda Rowley, Julius Skinner, Craig Slarke, Stephen Willey (ex officio)



Ethics

Fiona Stanton (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Paul Evans (Deputy Chair), Nicola Jansen, Nicola Watts, Michael Cashman, Cinzia Donald, Paul Donovan, Ashley Macknay, Alain Musikanth SC, Nova Oldfield, Craig Slater, Mark Pendlebury



Francis Burt Law Education Programme and Old Court House Law Museum Advisory

Marshall McKenna (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Joshua Aston, Toni Church, Professor Robert Cunningham, Dean Curtis, Emeritus Professor Peter Handford, Katja Levy, Kelly Martinelli, David Price, The Honourable Chief Justice Peter Quinlan, Professor Natalie Skead, Professor Joan Squelch, Sonia Walker, Annie Warburton, Aine Whelan



Joint Form of General Conditions for the Sale of Land

Frank Poeta (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Jolene Ashworth, Peter Beekink, Henrik Bendtsen, Murray Broadbent, Gary Thomas, Peta Whyte, Craig Bradley, Damian Collins, Ross McCallum



Human Rights and Equal Opportunity

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Coraline De Zilwa (YLC), Haley Graydon, Cathryn Greville, Kendra Hagan, Mark Hemery, Michael Jensen, Greg McIntyre, Sara Pearson, Ilse Petersen, Rajesh Saharan, Rabia Siddique, Carolyn Tan, Charmaine Tsang (LCA EO Committee representative)



Indigenous Legal Issues

The Hon Michael Barker QC (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Jenny McKenzie (Deputy Chair), Chloe D'Souza, Emma Garlett, John Ralph, Brooke Sojan (ex officio), Nicholas van Hattem (ex officio), Kelsi Forrest, Melita Medcalf



In-house/Government Lawyers

Pamela Hass (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Elisabeth Edwards (Deputy Chair), Michael Berkeley-Hill, Sarah Coxon, Peter Doherty, Cathryn Greville, Amanda Kailis, Ilse Petersen, Miriam Sauley, Zoran Vukojevic



Insolvency & Restructuring

Chris Pearce (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Adrian Saggars, Alan Ashford, Chris McLeod, James Healy, Michelle Dean, Nino Odorisio, Nirupa Manohara, Philip Blaxill, Rebecca Collins, Robert McKenzie, Sam Dundas, Tina Erickson, Tom Langdon, Wayne Rushton



Professional Indemnity Insurance Management

Dudley Stow (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Paula Wilkinson, Jocelyne Boujos; Rebecca Bunney; Mark Hemery, Peter Forbes, Robert Evans



Intellectual Property

Clare Mould (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Eli Bernstein, Samuel Fiddian, Iain Freeman, Lauren Gore, Amy Lee, Nadia Mansour, Nicole Mumford, Tenille Provost, David Stewart



Professional Standards Scheme Committee

Vidal Pinckney-Hockless (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Carolyn Moss, Jocelyne Boujos, Nicola Watts



Joint Law Society/Women Lawyers

Charmaine Tsang (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Malerie Durham, Maria Fifield, Libby Fulham, Daniela Ion (ex officio), Rebecca Lee (ex officio), Aleksandra Miller, Janette McCahon, Sara Pearson, Maya vanden Driesen, Alena Zoric



Property Law Committee

Gary Thomas (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Marcus Easthope (Deputy Chair), Mark Atkinson, Peter Beekink, Christopher Booth, Sarah Coxon, Susan Dukes, Malerie Durham, Craig James, Fiona Low (ex officio), John Prevost, Christine Scott, Doug Solomon, Dora Van der Westhuyzen, Gabriel Wong, Peta Whyte



Mental Health and Wellbeing

David Davidson (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

David Blades, Michael Berkley-Hill, Justine Howard, Libby Fulham, Melita Medcalf, Kelly Niclaur, Nik Share, Julia Sutherland, Sukhwant Singh, Shayla Strapps (Council ex officio), Jacklyn Smith (student), Rebecca Rorrison (ex officio), Stacey Wellings, Briony Whyte



Quality Practice Standard

Craig Slater (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Jocelyne Boujos, Andrew McGuinness, Anthony Fifield, Murray Thornhill, Teresa Szunejko, Kevin Chalklin



Personal Injuries and Workers' Compensation

Joel Trigg (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Gray Porter, David Bruns, Michelle Antunovich, Mark Civitella (Deputy Chair), Dan Connor, Bronte de Cuyper, Erica Dobson, Irena Ferraro, Asanka Gunasekera, Vidal Hockless, Kerry Wood, Sophie Nauwelaers



Taxation Law

David Murphy (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Humphry Faas (Deputy Chair), Jocelyne Boujos, Matthew Crowley, John Fickling, John Hockley, Jonathon Leek, Sam Radici, Alex Scealess, Clare Thompson, Zoran Vukojevic, Robert Scealess, Grahame Young



Young Lawyers

Jack Carroll (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Hague Skinner (Deputy Chair), Ross Mendonca, Lyle Swithenbank, Sean Gomes, Coraline De Zilwa, Nicholas Mountain, Ellie McGrory, Haley Graydon, Anthony Dique, Briony Whyte, Angela Hayes, Lucy Clark, Christopher Burch, Aleksandra Miller, Gemma Swan (ex officio), Lea Hiltenkamp (ex officio), Thomas Camp (ex officio)

Corporate Governance

Annual General Meeting

The Society's Annual General Meeting was held on
Thursday, 21 November 2019

Councillor Meeting Attendance

1 July 2019 to 31 December 2019

Member	Council (Total 6)	Trustee of Law Mutual Fund (Total 3)	Trustee of the Public Purposes Trust (Total 3)	Trustee of the Chief Justice's Youth Appeal Trust (Total 1)
Greg McIntyre SC	6	3	3	1
Nicholas van Hattem	6	3	3	1
Rebecca Lee	5	2	2	1
Hayley Cormann	4	2	1	1
Jocelyne Boujos	5	2	2	1
Nathan Ebbs	4	1	1	0
Ante Golem	3	2	2	1
Emma Griffiths (resigned October 2019)	1	0	0	0
Matthew Howards SC	2	0	1	0
Fiona Low	5	2	2	1
Gary Mack (from June 2019)	1	0	0	0
Denis McLeod	4	1	1	0
Jodie Moffat	4	1	1	0
Shayla Strapps	3	2	2	0
Paula Wilkinson	5	3	3	1
Joel Yeldon (from June 2019)	4	3	3	1
Melita Medcalf (from November 2019)	1	0	0	0
Kerstin Stringer (resigned August 2019)	1	0	0	0
Jack Carroll (from July 2019)	3	2	2	0
Brooke Sojan	4	2	2	1
Demi Swain	4	2	2	1

Councillor Meeting Attendance

1 January 2020 to 30 June 2020

Member	Council (Total 5)	Trustee of Law Mutual Fund (Total 4)	Trustee of the Public Purposes Trust (Total 1)	Trustee of the Chief Justice's Youth Appeal Trust (Total 1)
Nicholas van Hattem	5	4	1	1
Jocelyne Boujos	5	4	1	1
Rebecca Lee	4	3	0	0
Greg McIntyre SC	5	4	1	1
Rebecca Bunney	3	2	1	1
Daniel Coster	3	2	1	1
Nathan Ebbs	4	3	1	1
Ante Golem	4	3	1	1
Mark Hemery	3	3	1	1
Jaimie Hodgkinson (resigned February 2020)	0	0	0	0
Matthew Howards SC	3	0	1	1
Craig Slater	5	4	1	1
Brooke Sojan	5	4	1	1
Shayla Strapps	4	3	1	1
Paula Wilkinson	3	3	1	1
Melita Medcalf	3	3	1	1
Thomas Camp	5	4	1	1
Lea Hiltenkamp	5	4	1	1
Gemma Swan	4	3	1	1

Constitution: Rule 57

There is an Executive of the Council consisting of the President, the Vice-Presidents, the Immediate Past President and one ordinary member of the Council who is to be appointed by the Executive for up to 6 months in each calendar year.

Executive Appointed Councillors 2019

- Nathan Ebbs – 1 July to 31 December 2019

Executive Appointed Councillors 2020

- Shayla Strapps – 14 February to 31 May 2020
- Brooke Sojan – 1 June to 31 August 2020

Executive & Stakeholder Meetings

Executive Meetings 2019

Attorney General and Director General, Department of Justice
Acting Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner, Department of Corrective Services
President, Children's Court of Western Australia
President, State Administrative Tribunal

Stakeholder Meetings 2019 (President/CEO)

Robin Scott MLC
Chief of Staff, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs (State)
Shadow Attorney General
Chief Justice Family Court of Australia and Chief Judge Federal Circuit Court of Australia; CEO and Principal Registrar Family Court of Australia and Federal Circuit Court

Executive Meetings 2020

Shadow Attorney General; Shadow Minister for Police and Shadow Minister for Corrective Services
Legal Practice Board and Legal Profession Complaints Committee

Stakeholder Meetings 2020 (President/CEO)

Attorney General (State)
Chief Executive Officer, Legal Super
Informal meeting with President's Law Associations of Perth

Associations Incorporation Act 2015

Section 42 – Disclosure of material personal interest.

In accordance with part (2) A member of the management committee of an incorporated association who has a material personal interest in a matter being considered at a management committee meeting must disclose the nature and extent of the interest at the next general meeting of the association.

The following disclosures were made in the 2019-2020 year.

Member	Date of Meeting	Description of Interest
Jocelyne Boujos	23.07.2019 – B2 – Potential for Obtaining Tax Deductibility for Donations to the Old Court House Law Museum	Provided legal advice – Pro bono
Greg McIntyre SC	08.10.2019 – C2 – LCA Annual General Meeting and Nomination for 2020 Executive	Nominee for the 2020 LCA Executive
Hayley Cormann	08.10.2019 – C3 – Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2019	Personal interest
Greg McIntyre SC	22.10.2019 – E3 – Confidential – Appointment of Directors to Law Access	Nominee as Director of Law Access
Jack Carroll	26.11.19 – D4 – Recommendations of Selection Panel – 2019 Biennial Review of Committee Membership	Nominee to a committee
Matthew Howard SC	26.11.2019 – E5 – Confidential - Professional Indemnity Insurance Management Committee Minutes (Law Mutual) and General Managers Report	Instructed in matters by Law Mutual
Jocelyne Boujos	26.11.2019 – D4 – Recommendations of Selection Panel – 2019 Biennial Review of Committee Membership	Nominee to a committee
Nicholas van Hattem	10.12.2019 – C2 – Curtin University of Technology – the John Curtin Law Clinic – Exemption Pursuant to Regulation 97 (1)(e)(iii)	Personal interest
Matthew Howard SC	26.02.2020 – Agenda for the Law Society of WA as Trustee of the Law Mutual Fund February 2020	Instructed in matters by Law Mutual
Matthew Howard SC	26.02.2020 – E9 – Confidential – Insurance Arrangement 2020/2021	Instructed in matters by Law Mutual
Rebecca Lee	24.06.2020 – E4 – Confidential – Legal Services Council: Law Council Recommendees for Appointment	Nominee to the Law Council of Australia

Submissions

The Law Society made more than 50 submissions to government agencies, law reform bodies and courts in 2019/20.

2019

- Criminal Code Amendment (Agricultural Protection) Bill 2019 - Law Council of Australia
- Standing Committee on Public Administration Inquiry into Private Property Rights - Standing Committee on Public Administration's Inquiry into Private Property Rights
- Ticket Scalping Bill 2018 - Standing Committee on Legislation, Legislative Council
- Legal Profession Uniform Law – Proposed Amendment of the Legal Profession Uniform General Rules 2015 - Legal Services Council
- Confidential – Consultation Drafts Strata Titles (General) Regulations 2019 - Landgate
- Australian Guardianship and Administration Council Draft National Guide to Financial Enduring Powers of Attorney - Office of the Public Advocate Victoria
- Confidential – Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Enforcement Amendment Bill 2019 - Department of Justice
- Confidential – Family Violence Legislation Reform Bill 2019 - Department of Justice
- Confidential – Consultation Drafts Strata Titles (General) Regulations 2019 – Termination of Schemes - Landgate
- Addressing Sexual Harassment in the Australian Legal Profession Survey - Law Council of Australia
- Delays in the Family Court of Western Australia - State and Federal Attorneys General
- Directors' Liability Reform Bill 2019 (WA) - Attorney General
- Response to the Chief Justice regarding Proposal for Supreme Court to Cease Accepting Personal Cheques - Chief Justice of Western Australia
- Legal Aid Fees for Private Practitioners - Legal Aid Western Australia
- Professional Competency Relating to Family and Domestic Violence - Department of Justice
- Redrafting Academic Requirement for Admission - Law Council of Australia
- Law Council of Australia – Legal Assistance Funding - Attorney General
- Law Society of Western Australia Professional Standards Scheme – Response to the Professional Standards Councils – Scheme Participation and Exemption - Professional Standards Councils
- Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Bill 2019 – Consultation Draft - Attorney General
- Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2019 - Premier, cc Minister for Health; Attorney General; Shadow Minister for Health and Shadow Attorney General
- Maintenance and Champerty in Western Australia - Law Reform Commission of WA
- Proposed Mediation Legislation – Western Australia – Discussion Paper - Department of Justice
- Productivity Commission Inquiry into Mental Health - Law Council of Australia
- Confidential – Submission to Attorney General re Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Bill 2019 (WA) - Attorney General



Submissions Continued

2020

- Law Council of Australia Legal Profession Policy Statement on Climate Change - Law Council of Australia
- Proposed Amendments to the Legal Profession Uniform Admission Rules - Law Council of Australia
- Adverse Possession Amendment to the Limitation Act 2005 to Exclude Local Government Land - State Solicitor's Office
- Law Council of Australia Draft Issues Paper Modern Award Early Career Lawyers - Law Council of Australia
- Reform of Superannuation Death Benefit Nominations - Law Council of Australia
- Protocol on Standards of Judicial Behaviour and Conduct in the Courtroom - Law Council of Australia
- Voluntary Criminal Case Conferencing Process in the District Court - Chief Judge of the District Court of WA
- Review of Amount Prescribed as Minor Punishment Under the Spent Convictions Regulations 1992 - Department of Justice
- Legal Costs Committee Review of Contentious Business Determinations - Legal Costs Committee
- Minimum Age of Criminal Responsibility - Law Council of Australia
- Suitors' Fund Levy - Department of Justice
- Wills for Minors - Attorney General
- Proposed Amendments to Legal Profession Uniform Law - Law Council of Australia
- Claims for Non-Economic Loss for Wrongful Death Under the Fatal Accidents Act 1959 (WA) - Law Reform Commission of WA
- Strata Titles Reforms – Defer Commencement - Minister for Transport and Planning
- Criminal Law (Mental Impairment Bill) 2020 (WA) - Department of Justice
- Strata Titles Reforms – Resource Implications for the State Administrative Tribunal - Attorney General
- Witnessing Solemn Documents and Crossing State and Territory Borders - Law Council of Australia
- Coronavirus Economic Response Package Omnibus Act 2020 - Department of Treasury
- Law Council of Australia – COVID19 Seeking Changes to the Legal Services Award 2020 - Law Council of Australia (Federal)
- Lodgment of Amended Pleadings and Track Changes - Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of WA and Chief Judge of the District Court of WA
- Delays in the Family Court of Western Australia - State and Federal Attorneys General
- Senate Select Committee on COVID19 - Law Council of Australia
- Participation of People with a Disability in Jury Service - Department of Justice
- Chapter 8 of the Equal Justice Bench Book - Chief Justice of Western Australia
- Law Council of Australia – Options on Addressing Sexual Harassment - Law Council of Australia
- Law Council of Australia – National Collection of Ethnic and Cultural Diversity Data - Legal Practice Board of Western Australia
- Confidential – Guardianship and Administration (Medical Research) Amendment Bill 2020 - Standing Committee on Legislation
- Confidential – Proposals for Money Laundering Law Reform in Western Australia - Department of Justice
- Review of Law Council's Policy Statement on a Commonwealth Criminal Cases Review Commission - Law Council of Australia
- Costs Disclosure for Strategic Conference - Chief Justice of Western Australia
- Law Council of Australia – Inquiry into Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence - Law Council of Australia
- Work Health and Safety Bill 2019 – Industrial Manslaughter - Standing Committee on Legislation cc Attorney General

Nominations to External Boards

The Law Society nominated members to represent the profession on the following external boards and committees, agencies, law reform bodies and courts in 2019/20.

External Boards	Representatives
Appeals Costs Board	Clare Thompson
Federal Court Commercial and Corporations NPS User Groups	General User Group – George Croft; Robert McKenzie; Shane Stewart; Craig Slater; Insolvency User Group – Kate McNally
Federal Court of Australia – Taxation NFA User Group	Alain Musikanth SC; Clare Thompson
Law Council of Australia Crowdfunded Litigation Working Group	Fiona Stanton; Mark Pendlebury; Paul Evans
Law Council of Australia Equal Opportunity Committee	Charmaine Tsang
Law Council of Australia Indigenous Legal Issues Committee	Nicholas van Hattem
Law Council of Australia Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Working Group	Craig Slater
Law Council of Australia Advisory Committee: Future Committee	Rebecca Lee
Law Council of Australia Executive	Greg McIntyre SC
Law Council of Australia – Rural, Regional and Remote Lawyers Committee	Melita Medcalf
Legal Aid Committee 2020 – 2021	Edward Greaves; Warren Elder; Natalie Dimmock
State Records Advisory Committee	Robert O'Connor QC
WA Human Rights Act Campaign Steering Committee	Chris Burch (YLC Committee Observer)
Western Australian Reproductive Technology Council	Dr Andrew Harman (Member) Dr Andrew Lu OAM (Deputy Member)



Life Members

2019	2012	2002
John Ley SC	His Excellency Malcolm McCusker	Gregory Boyle
	AC CVO QC, Governor of WA	Judy Eckert
2018	The Hon Chief Justice Wayne Martin AC	The Hon Robert French
Kevin John Edwards	The Hon Michael Murray QC	The Hon Chief Justice David Malcolm AC
Cav. Maria Saraceni	The Hon Daryl Williams AM QC	Robert Meadows QC
His Honour Judge Hylton Quail		Her Hon Judge Kate O'Brien
	2010	John Syminton
2017	John Fiocco	
Robert Kronberger		1998
	2009	The Hon Sir Francis Burt AC
2016	Elizabeth Heenan	The Hon P Durack QC
Susan Fielding		The Hon John Toohey AC
The Hon Kevin Parker AC RFD QC	2008	The Hon Ian Medcalf AO
Chris Zelestis QC	John Gillett	
	David Garnsworthy	1996
2015		The Hon Barry Rowland QC
The Hon Justice Carmel McLure	2007	The Hon John Wickham QC
Steven Penglis	Michal Lewi	Rory Argyle
Clare Thompson		
2014	2005	
Dudley Stow	The Hon Judge John Chaney	
	Rick Cullen	
2013	2003	
Her Hon Antoinette Kennedy AO	The Hon Sir John Lavan	
The Hon Robert Nicholson AO		

Financial Statements

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

	NOTE	2020 \$	2019 * \$
Revenue and Income	5	5,073,936	4,874,372
Investment income		9,556	34,956
Other gains and losses	6	-	20
Gain/(Loss) on the revaluation of properties		110,000	-
Governance expenses		(623,259)	(655,966)
Member services expenses		(1,461,673)	(1,748,044)
Advocacy and community programmes expenses		(896,858)	(858,290)
Interest expenses		(42,251)	-
Finance and administration expenses		(1,366,440)	(1,515,541)
Surplus for the year		803,011	131,507
Total comprehensive income for the year		803,011	131,507

The above Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

* See Note 3.10, the Law Society of Western Australia has initially applied AASB 16, AASB 15 and AASB 1058 as at 1 July 2019. Under the transition method chosen, comparative information has not been restated.

Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2020

	NOTE	2020 \$	2019 * \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	15	1,655,901	1,976,371
Other financial assets	7	-	500,164
Trade and other receivables	8	252,688	184,757
Other assets		28,620	134,929
Total current assets		1,937,209	2,796,221
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	9	3,794,373	3,707,136
Intangible assets	10	18,387	16,536
Total non-current assets		3,812,760	3,723,672
Total assets		5,749,969	6,519,893
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	11	370,983	538,126
Borrowings	13	-	1,831,500
Provisions	12	208,459	310,020
Revenue in advance		1,012,292	1,475,372
Total current liabilities		1,591,734	4,155,018
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Borrowings	13	1,000,000	-
Provisions	12	21,568	31,219
Total non-current liabilities		1,021,568	31,219
Total liabilities		2,613,302	4,186,237
Net assets		3,136,667	2,333,656
MEMBERS' FUNDS			
Reserves		-	-
Retained surplus	14	3,136,667	2,333,656
Total members' funds		3,136,667	2,333,656

The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

* See Note 3.10, the Law Society of Western Australia has initially applied AASB 16, AASB 15 and AASB 1058 as at 1 July 2019. Under the transition method chosen, comparative information has not been restated.

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

	RESERVES	RETAINED SURPLUS	TOTAL
	\$	\$	\$
Balance as at 1 July 2018	-	2,202,149	2,202,149
Surplus for the year	-	131,507	131,507
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	131,507	131,507
Balance as at 1 July 2019	-	2,333,656	2,333,656
Surplus for the year	-	803,011	803,011
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	803,011	803,011
Balance as at 30 June 2020	-	3,136,667	3,136,667

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

	NOTE	2020 \$	2019 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Member subscriptions		2,075,305	2,242,407
Interest received		10,561	34,627
Receipts from other operating activities		3,014,416	3,110,343
Payments to suppliers and employees		(4,899,564)	(5,146,364)
Net cash generated by operating activities	16.1	200,718	241,013
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from/(Payments for) term deposits - other financial assets		500,164	(500,164)
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(142,601)	(89,250)
Payments for intangible assets		(5,000)	(10,980)
Net cash from/(used in) investing activities		352,563	(600,394)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Interest expenses		(42,251)	-
Repayment of borrowings		(831,500)	-
Net cash used in financing activities		(873,751)	-
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents		(320,470)	(359,382)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		1,976,371	2,335,753
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	15	1,655,901	1,976,371

The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. General Information

In the opinion of the Council, the Law Society of Western Australia is not publicly accountable. These financial statements are Tier 2 general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements adopted by the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the Associations Incorporation Act 2015 (WA). These financial statements comply with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements.

The Law Society of Western Australia is an incorporated association registered in Western Australia.

The Law Society of Western Australia is a not-for-profit entity for the purpose of preparing the financial statements under the Australian Accounting Standards.

This is the first set of financial statements in which AASB16 Leases, AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers and AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities have been applied. Changes to significant accounting policies are described in Note 3.10.

2. Application of new and revised Australian Accounting Standards

2.1 Amendments to Accounting Standards that are mandatorily effective for the current reporting period

The Law Society of Western Australia has adopted all of the new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australia Accounting Standards Board (the AASB) that are relevant to its operations and effective for an accounting period that begins on or before 1 July 2019. Refer Note 3.10.

Applications of the amendments have had no impact on the Law Society of Western Australia.

2.2 New and revised Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations on issue but not yet effective

At the date of authorisation of the financial statements, the Law Society of Western Australia has not applied the following new and revised Australian Accounting Standards, Interpretations and amendments that have been issued but are not yet effective:

Standard/Interpretation	Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after	Expected to be initially applied in the financial year ending
AASB 1060 General Purpose Financial Statements – Simplified Disclosures for For-Profit and Not-for-Profit Tier 2 Entities (Appendix C)	1 July 2021	30 June 2022

The impact of adopting the above standards is yet to be determined.

3. Accounting policies

3.1 Goods and services tax

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except:

- a) where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office, it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of an asset or as part of an item of expense; or
- b) for receivables and payables which are recognised inclusive of GST.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the Australian Taxation Office is included as part of payables in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are included in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis. The GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable from, or payable to, the Australian Taxation Office is classified within operating cash flows.

3.2 Revenue recognition

Revenue recognition – Policy applicable from 1 July 2019.

3.2a Revenue recognition policy for revenue from contracts with customers (AASB 15)

AASB 15 requires revenue to be recognised when control of a promised good or service is passed to the customer at an amount which reflects the expected consideration.

Revenue is recognised by applying a five-step model as follows:

1. Identify the contract with the customer
2. Identify the performance obligations
3. Determine the transaction price
4. Allocate the transaction price
5. Recognise revenue

Generally the timing of the payment for sale of goods and rendering of services corresponds closely to the timing of satisfaction of the performance obligations, however where there is a difference, it will result in the recognition of a receivable, contract asset or contract liability (revenue in advance).

The following revenue streams were identified as having performance obligations over time.

- Member Subscriptions
- Finance and administration services

The following revenue streams were identified as having performance obligations at a point in time.

- Member services and activities
- CPD programme and education
- Marketing and promotion
- Other revenue

None of the revenue streams of Law Society of Western Australia have any significant financing terms as there is less than 12 months between receipt of funds and satisfaction of performance obligations.

3.2b Revenue recognition policy for revenue streams which are either not enforceable or do not have sufficiently specific performance obligations (AASB 1058)

Grant income

Assets arising from grants in the scope of AASB 1058 are recognised at their fair value when the asset is received. These assets are generally cash but may also be property which has been donated or sold to the Law Society of Western Australia at significantly below its fair value.

Once the asset has been recognised, the Law Society of Western Australia recognises any related liability amounts (e.g. provisions, financial liabilities). Once the assets and liabilities have been recognised then income is recognised for any difference between the recorded asset and liability.

Revenue recognition – Policy applicable before 1 July 2019.

Revenue is recognised only when it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Law Society of Western Australia and the amount can be reliably measured.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable after taking into account any trade discounts and volume rebates.

3.3 Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs are recognised in profit or loss in the period in which they are incurred.

3.4 Employee benefits

A liability is recognised for benefits accruing to employees in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave, long service leave, and sick leave when it is probable that settlement will be required and they are capable of being measured reliably.

Liabilities recognised in respect of short-term employee benefits, are measured at their nominal values using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

Liabilities recognised in respect of long term employee benefits are measured as the present value for the estimated future cash outflows to be made by the Law Society of Western Australia in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date.

3.5 Taxation

The Law Society of Western Australia is exempt from income tax under section 50-5 of the Income Tax Assessment Act (1997).

3.6 Property, plant and equipment

Land and buildings held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, or for administrative purposes, are stated in the statement of financial position at their revalued amounts, being the fair value at the date of revaluation, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses. Revaluations are performed with sufficient regularity such that the carrying amounts do not differ materially from those that would be determined using fair values at the end of each reporting period.

Any revaluation increase arising on the revaluation of such land and buildings is recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated within equity, except to the extent that it reverses a revaluation decrease for the same asset previously recognised in profit or loss, in which case the increase is credited to profit or loss to the extent of the decrease previously expensed. A decrease in the carrying amount arising on the revaluation of such land and buildings is recognised in profit or loss to the extent that it exceeds the balance, if any, held in the properties revaluation reserve relating to a previous revaluation of that asset.

On the subsequent sale or retirement of a revalued property, the attributable revaluation surplus remaining in the properties revaluation reserve is transferred directly to retained earnings. No transfer is made from the revaluation reserve to retained earnings except when an asset is derecognised.

Fixtures and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives, using the straight-line method. The estimated useful lives, residual values and

depreciation method are reviewed at the end of each reporting period, with the effect of any changes in estimate accounted for on a prospective basis.

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected to arise from the continued use of the asset. Any gain or loss arising on the disposal or retirement of an item of property, plant or equipment is determined as the difference between the sales proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and is recognised in profit or loss.

3.7 Intangible assets

Intangible assets acquired separately

Intangible assets with finite lives that are acquired separately are carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses. Amortisation is recognised on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives. The estimated useful life and amortisation method are reviewed at the end of each reporting period, with the effect of any changes in estimate being accounted for on a prospective basis. Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives that are acquired separately are carried at cost less accumulated impairment losses.

Derecognition of intangible assets

An intangible asset is derecognised on disposal, or when no future economic benefits are expected from use or disposal. Gains or losses arising from derecognition of an intangible asset, measured as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset are recognised in profit or loss when the asset is derecognised.

3.8 Leases

The Law Society of Western Australia has applied AASB 16 using the modified retrospective approach and therefore the comparative information has not been restated and continues to be reported under AASB 117 and AASB Interpretation 4. The details of accounting policies under AASB 117 and AASB Interpretation 4 are disclosed separately.

Leases – Policy applicable from 1 July 2019.

At inception of a contract, the Law Society of Western Australia assesses whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. A contract is, or contains a lease, if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration. To assess whether a contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset, the Law Society of Western Australia uses the definition of a lease in AASB 16.

This policy is applied to contracts entered into, on or after 1 July 2019.

Short-term leases and leases of low-value assets.

The Law Society of Western Australia has elected not to recognize right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for leases of low-value assets and short-term leases, including IT equipment. The Law Society of Western Australia recognises the lease payments associated with the leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Leases – Policy applicable before 1 July 2019.

Operating lease payments are recognised as an operating expense on a basis which reflects the time pattern in which the economic benefits from the leased assets are consumed.

3.9 Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Law Society of Western Australia has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that the Law Society of Western Australia will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the

obligation.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the end of the reporting period, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation. When a provision is measured using the cash flows estimated to settle the present obligation, its carrying amount is the present value of those cash flows (where the effect of the time value of money is material).

When some or all of the economic benefits required to settle a provision are expected to be recovered from a third party, a receivable is recognised as an asset if it is virtually certain that reimbursement will be received and the amount of the receivable can be measured reliably.

3.10 Changes in accounting policy

The Law Society of Western has initially applied AASB 16 *Leases*, AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* and AASB 1058 *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities* for the first time in the current year with a date of initial application of 1 July 2019.

AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers and AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities

The key changes to the Law Society's accounting policies and the impact on the financial report from applying AASB 15 and AASB 1058 are described below.

The Law Society has applied AASB 15 and AASB 1058 using the modified retrospective method which means the comparative information has not been restated and continues to be reported under AASB 118 *Revenue* and related interpretations.

There has been no material financial impact from the adoption of AASB 15 and AASB 1058.

AASB 16 Leases

The Law Society has elected to adopt AASB 16 *Leases* using the modified retrospective method from 1 July 2019 and therefore the comparative information for the year ended 30 June 2019 has not been restated and has been prepared in accordance with AASB 117 *Leases* and associated Accounting Interpretations.

There has been no material financial impact from the adoption of AASB 16.

A number of other new standards are also effective from 1 July 2019 but the adoption of these standards and interpretations did not have any material effect on the financial position or performance of the Law Society of Western Australia.

3.11 Financial instruments policy

Recognition and initial measurement

Trade receivables are initially recognised when they are originated. All other financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Law Society of Western Australia becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets – Classification.

On initial recognition, a financial asset is classified as measured at amortised cost. Financial assets are not reclassified subsequent to their initial recognition.

Financial assets – subsequent measurement and gains and losses.

Financial assets at amortised cost

These assets are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. The amortised cost is reduced by impairment losses. Interest income and impairment are recognised in profit and loss. Any gain or loss on derecognition is recognised in profit and loss.

Impairment

The Law Society of Western Australia recognises loss allowances for expected credit losses (ECLs) on financial assets measured at amortised cost. The Law Society measures loss allowances at an amount equal to lifetime ECLs.

When determining whether the credit risk of a financial asset has increased significantly since initial recognition and when estimating ECLs, the Law Society of Western Australia considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis, based on the Law Society of Western Australia's historical experience and informed credit assessment and including forward-looking information.

The Law Society of Western Australia assumes that the credit risk on a financial asset has increased if it is more than 30 days past due.

Measurement of ECLs.

ECLs are a probability-weighted estimate of credit losses. Credit losses are measured as the present value of all cash shortfalls (i.e. the difference between the cashflows due to the trust in accordance with the contract and the cashflows that the trust expects to receive).

ECLs are discounted at the effective interest rate of the financial asset.

Write-off

The gross carrying amount of a financial asset is written off when the Law Society of Western Australia has no reasonable expectations of recovering a financial asset in its entirety or a portion thereof.

Derecognition of financial assets

The Law Society of Western Australia derecognises a financial asset when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire, or when it transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the asset to another party. If the Law Society of Western Australia either transfers nor retains substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership and continues to control the transferred asset, the Law Society of Western Australia recognises its retained interest in the asset and an associated liability for amounts it may have to pay. If the Law Society of Western Australia retains substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of a transferred financial asset, the Law Society of Western Australia continues to recognise the financial asset and also recognises a collateralised borrowing for the proceeds received.

On derecognition of a financial asset in its entirety, the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the sum of the consideration received and receivable and the cumulative gain or loss that had been recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity is recognised in profit or loss.

On derecognition of a financial asset other than in its entirety (e.g. when the Law Society of Western Australia retains an option to repurchase part of a transferred asset), the Law Society of Western Australia allocates the previous carrying amount of the financial asset between the part it continues to recognise under continuing involvement, and the part it no longer recognises on the basis of the relative fair values of those parts on the date of the transfer. The difference between the carrying

amount allocated to the part that is no longer recognised and the sum of the consideration received for the part no longer recognised and any cumulative gain or loss allocated to it that had been recognised in other comprehensive income is recognised in profit or loss. A cumulative gain or loss that had been recognised in other comprehensive income is allocated between the part that continues to be recognised and the part that is no longer recognised on the basis of the relative fair values of those parts.

3.12 Financial liabilities

The financial liabilities of the Law Society of Western Australia including borrowings and trade and other payables, are initially measured at fair value, net of transaction costs.

Other financial liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, with interest expense recognised on an effective yield basis.

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial liability and of allocating interest expense over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments through the expected life of the financial liability, or (where appropriate) a shorter period, to the net carrying amount on initial recognition.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

The Law Society of Western Australia derecognises financial liabilities when, and only when, the Law Society of Western Australia's obligations are discharged, cancelled or they expire. The difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability derecognised and the consideration paid and payable is recognised in profit or loss.

3.13 Fair value measurement

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date, regardless of whether that price is directly observable or estimated using another valuation technique. In estimating the fair value of an asset or a liability, the Law Society of Western Australia takes into account the characteristics of the asset or liability if market participants would take those characteristics into account when pricing the asset or liability at the measurement date. Fair value for measurement and/or disclosure purposes in these financial statements is determined on such a basis, except for share-based payment transactions that are within the scope of AASB 2, leasing transactions that are within the scope of AASB 117, and measurements that have some similarities to fair value but are not fair value, such as net realisable value in AASB 2 or value in use in AASB 136.

In addition, for financial reporting purposes, fair value measurements are categorised into Level 1, 2 or 3 based on the degree to which the inputs to the fair value measurements are observable and the significance of the inputs to the fair value measurement in its entirety, which are described as follows:

- Level 1 inputs are quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Law Society of Western Australia can access at the measurement date;
- Level 2 inputs are inputs, other than quoted prices included within Level 1, that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly; and
- Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

4. Critical accounting judgments and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the Law Society of Western Australia's accounting policies, which are described in note 3, management is required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources.

Estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision

affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods in the revision affects both current and future periods.

4.1 Key sources of estimation uncertainty

The key assumptions concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the end of the reporting period, that may have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below or elsewhere in the financial statements:

Useful lives of property, plant and equipment

As described above, management reviews the estimated useful lives of property, plant and equipment at the end of each reporting period. There has been no change to the estimated useful lives of property, plant and equipment in the current financial year.

Valuation of building

The Law Society of Western Australia's premises on 160 St Georges Terrace are measured and reported at fair value.

The premises were revalued by Opteon Property Group Pty Ltd (Opteon) on 30 June 2020 and the valuation was undertaken in accordance with applicable financial reporting standards, namely *AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement*.

As at 30 June 2020, the fair value of the Building as revalued by Opteon is \$3,530,000 (At the previous valuation as at 30 June 2018, the Building was valued at \$3,600,000).

5. Revenue and Income

	2020
Revenue from contracts with customers	\$
Member subscriptions	2,168,686
Membership services and activities	144,023
CPD programme and education	629,857
Marketing and promotion	282,175
Finance and administration services	624,217
Total revenue from contracts with customers	3,848,958
Other revenue	
Other revenue	449,747
Total revenue	4,298,705
Income	
Grants	455,481
Government stimulus	319,750
Total income	775,231
Total revenue and income	5,073,936

	2019
Revenue under AASB 118 / AASB 1004	\$
Member subscriptions	2,137,102
Membership services and activities	180,556
CPD programme and education	679,597
Grants	339,689
Marketing and promotion	398,317
Finance and administration services	619,065
Other revenue	520,046
Total Revenue	4,874,372

6. Other gains and losses

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment	-	20
Net gain	-	20

7. Other financial assets

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Term Deposits	-	500,164
	-	500,164

8. Trade and other receivables

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Current		
Trade debtors	290	98,276
Accrued income	251,710	85,476
Other receivables	688	1,005
	252,688	184,757

9. Property, plant and equipment

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Carrying amounts of:		
Building	3,530,000	3,510,000
Plant and equipment	264,373	197,136
	3,794,373	3,707,136

	Building at fair value	Plant and equipment at cost	Total
Balance at 30 June 2019			
Cost or valuation	3,600,000	1,834,139	5,434,139
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	(90,000)	(1,637,003)	(1,727,003)
	3,510,000	197,136	3,707,136
Balance at 30 June 2020			
Cost or valuation	3,530,000	1,976,740	5,506,740
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	-	(1,712,367)	(1,712,367)
	3,530,000	264,373	3,794,373

The following useful lives are used in the calculation of depreciation.

- Plant and Equipment 4-11 years
- Buildings 40 years

Reconciliation of Property, Plant and Equipment	Building at fair value	Plant and equipment at cost	Total
Balance as at 1 July 2019			
Cost or valuation	3,600,000	1,834,139	5,434,139
Gain/(Loss on revaluation)	(70,000)	-	(70,000)
Acquisitions	-	142,601	142,601
Disposals	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2020	3,530,000	1,976,740	5,506,740

Accumulated depreciation and impairment

Balance as at 1 July 2019	(90,000)	(1,637,003)	(1,727,003)
Depreciation	(90,000)	(75,364)	(165,364)
Gain/(Loss on revaluation)	110,000		110,000
Elimination of accumulated depreciation on asset revaluation	70,000	-	70,000
Balance at 30 June 2020	-	(1,712,367)	(1,712,367)

9.1 Measurement techniques of revalued amounts

The fair value as at 30 June 2020 of the Law Society of Western Australia's premises was determined by Opteon Property Group Pty Ltd. This valuation has been prepared using the direct comparison valuation method in accordance with the International Valuation Standards 2018 and AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement*.

10. Intangibles

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Carrying amounts of:		
Trademark	18,387	16,536
	18,387	16,536

	Trademark
Balance at 30 June 2019	
Cost	60,283
Accumulated amortisation	(43,747)
	16,536
Balance at 30 June 2020	
Cost	65,283
Accumulated amortisation	(46,896)
	18,387

Trademarks are amortised over an estimated useful life of 10 years.

11. Trade and other payables

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Current		
Trade creditors	63,177	144,070
Accrued expenses	36,132	44,792
Other payables	271,674	349,264
	370,983	538,126

12. Provisions

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Current		
Employee benefits	208,459	310,020
Non-current		
Employee benefits	21,568	31,219
	230,027	341,239

13. Borrowings

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Current		
Bank loan secured at amortised cost	-	1,831,500
Non-current		
Bank loan secured at amortised cost	1,000,000	-
	1,000,000	1,831,500

The Law Society of Western Australia's loan facility is secured by level 4 and part of level 5, 160 St Georges Terrace, PERTH WA 6000 and a general security interest over the assets and undertakings of the Law Society of Western Australia. This loan facility was renewed in December 2019 for a further 5 years to December 2024. The interest expense on the facility for the year ending 30 June 2020 is \$42,251 (30 June 2019 was \$71,590).

14. Retained Surplus

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Balance at the beginning of the year	2,333,656	2,202,149
Surplus for the year	803,011	131,507
Balance at the end of year	3,136,667	2,333,656

15. Cash and cash equivalents

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and in banks, net of outstanding bank overdrafts. Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period as shown in the statement of cash flows can be reconciled to the related items in the statement of financial position as follows.

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Cash and cash equivalents	1,655,901	1,976,371
	1,655,901	1,976,371

16.1 Reconciliation of profit for the year to net cash flows from operating activities

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Surplus for the year	803,011	131,507
(Gain) on the revaluation of properties	(110,000)	-
Interest expenses	42,251	-
Depreciation and amortisation of non-current assets	168,514	168,409
	903,776	299,916
Movements in working capital		
Decrease/(increase) in trade receivables	(67,931)	(118,664)
(Decrease)/increase in other assets	106,309	38,400
(Decrease)/increase in trade and other payables	(167,143)	55,060
(Decrease)/Increase in provisions	(111,213)	(40,994)
(Decrease)/increase in revenue in advance	(463,080)	7,295
Cash (used in) operations	(703,058)	(58,903)
Net cash generated by operating activities	200,718	241,013

16.2 Reconciliation of liabilities arising from financing activities

Changes in the Law Society of Western Australia's liabilities arising from financing activities are shown in the table below. Liabilities arising from financing activities are those for which cash flows were, or future cash flows will be classified in the statement of cash flows as cash flows from financing activities.

	Balance as at 1 July 2019	Financing cash flows	Balance as at 30 June 2020
Borrowings (note 13)	1,831,500	(831,500)	1,000,000
	<u>1,831,500</u>	<u>(831,500)</u>	<u>1,000,000</u>

17. Financial instruments disclosures

(a) Financial instruments

The financial instruments of the Law Society of Western Australia comprise:

- Cash and cash equivalents;
- Term deposits;
- Trade and other receivables;
- Trade and other payables.
- Borrowings

(b) Fair value of financial instruments

The carrying amounts of each of the financial instruments have been presented within the Statement of Financial Position at 30 June 2020.

In the opinion of Management, the carrying amount of financial instruments not measured at fair value closely approximate their fair value.

(c) Credit risk

Credit risk refers to the risk that the financial institutions (for cash and cash equivalents) and counterparties (for trade and other receivables) may default on their obligations to honour their commitments.

The maximum exposure to credit risk is limited to the carrying amount of cash and cash equivalents, and trade and other receivables noted in the statement of financial position at 30 June 2020.

The Law Society of Western Australia does not consider credit risk to be significant on account of the following factors:

- Cash and cash equivalents are held with the banking institutions that are subject to prudential regulations; and
- A significant portion of income relates to receivables from membership income which is paid upfront with no risk of default;

(d) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Law Society of Western Australia would not be able to meet its obligations to trade and other payables on account of the lack of available cash balance. The Law Society of Western Australia manages the risk through preparation of periodic budgets and holding cash reserves to meet those obligations on time.

The maturity profile of the Law Society of Western Australia's trade and other payables and borrowings are:

	2020 Up to 6 months	2020 Total	2019 Up to 6 months	2019 Total
Trade and other payables	370,983	370,983	538,126	538,126
Borrowings	-	1,000,000	1,831,500	1,831,500
Total	370,983	1,370,983	2,369,626	2,369,626

(e) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risks refer to the variability in future cash flows of the Law Society of Western Australia on account of the changes in market interest rates. The following financial instruments are impacted by interest rate risks:

- Cash and cash equivalents items;
- Borrowings;

The sensitivity of the financial instruments to 0.25% change in market interest rate are:

	2020 Carrying amount	2020 Sensitivity	2019 Carrying amount	2019 Sensitivity
Cash and cash equivalents	1,655,901	4,140	1,976,371	4,941
Borrowings	1,000,000	2,500	1,831,500	4,579
Total	2,655,901	6,640	3,807,871	9,520

18. Related parties disclosures

During the financial year, and in the periods specified below, the following members served in the Council of the Law Society of Western Australia.

Members who served 1 January 2020 to 30 June 2020	Members who served 1 July 2019 to 31 December 2019
Nicholas van Hattem	Greg McIntyre SC
Jocelyne Boujos	Nicholas van Hattem
Rebecca Lee	Rebecca Lee
Greg McIntyre SC	Hayley Cormann
Rebecca Bunney	Jocelyne Boujos
Daniel Coster	Nathan Ebbs
Nathan Ebbs	Ante Golem
Ante Golem	Emma Griffiths
Mark Hemery	Matthew Howard SC
Jamie Hodgkinson (<i>resigned Feb 2020</i>)	Fiona Low
Matthew Howard SC	Gary Mack
Craig Slater	Denis McLeod
Brooke Sojan	Jodie Moffat
Shayla Strapps	Shayla Strapps
Paula Wilkinson	Paula Wilkinson
Melita Medcalf	Joel Yeldon
Thomas Camp	Kerstin Stringer
Lea Hiltenkamp	Brooke Sojan
Gemma Swan	Demi Swain

Transactions between the Law Society of Western Australia and councillor related entities

Other than the President who receives a presidential honorarium, no member of Council receives directly or indirectly any fees, bonuses or other remuneration. The total honorarium paid in the financial year ending 2020 was \$118,416. (30 June 2019: \$126,637).

During the reporting period, legal services were provided to the Law Society of Western Australia, under normal commercial terms and conditions, by firms of which Councillors were partners, employees and consultants. A total of \$1,320 (30 June 2019: \$330) was paid by the Law Society of Western Australia for these legal services.

The Law Society of Western Australia received income from firms of which Council members are partners, employees and consultants. The following types of fees were received from all parties under the same terms and conditions as other members of the Law Society of Western Australia:

- membership fees;
- registration fees for Continuing Professional Developments and membership events.

Transactions between the Law Society of Western Australia and Law Mutual (WA)

During the current financial year, Law Mutual (WA) paid the Law Society of Western Australia administration, consulting and management services on normal commercial terms and conditions amounting to \$334,719 (30 June 2019: \$329,567) which includes the recovery of a percentage of certain key management personnel's compensation paid by the Law Society of Western Australia. Law Mutual (WA) also paid the Law Society of Western Australia rent and outgoings on normal commercial terms and conditions amounting to \$174,790 (30 June 2019: \$181,789).

At 30 June 2020, Law Mutual (WA) had a credit balance of \$15,532 with the Law Society of Western Australia (30 June 2019: \$14,963 debit balance owed to the Law Society of Western Australia).

Transactions between the Law Society of Western Australia and the Law Society Public Purposes Trust

In the 2019-20 financial year, the Law Society of Western Australia received grants payments from the Public Purposes Trust for the following activities:

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Francis Burt Law Education Programme	240,000	200,000
Francis Burt Law Education Programme - Oral History Project	10,000	-
Law Society of WA - Retention Study	20,000	
Law Week	20,000	20,000
	290,000	220,000

The Public Purposes Trust paid \$146,546 (2019: \$146,546) to the Law Society of Western Australia for administration, consulting and management services on normal commercial terms and conditions.

At 30 June 2020, no monies were owed by the Public Purposes Trust to the Law Society of Western Australia (30 June 2019: \$40,300).

Key management personnel compensation

The key management personnel at the Law Society of Western Australia comprise the senior management group. The gross compensation including statutory superannuation paid to these key management personnel during the year ending 30 June 2020 was \$865,606 (30 June 2019: \$839,647).

19. Commitments

See accounting policy in Note 3.8.

The Law Society of Western Australia considers all current leases to be both short-term and low value. The Law Society of Western Australia has elected not to recognise right-of-use asset and lease liability for these leases.

Operating Leases

(i) Amounts recognised in profit or loss	Amount
<i>2020 - Leases under AASB 16</i>	
Expenses relating to short term leases	7,992
<i>2019 - Leases under AASB 117</i>	
Lease expense	7,992

20. Remuneration of auditor

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Audit of the financial statements - KPMG	20,500	20,000
	20,500	20,000

21. COVID-19

The Law Society of Western Australia recognises the impact that the rise and spread of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) has and may continue to have on the financial performance and position of the Society. As such the Society continues to monitor relevant developments in the COVID-19 pandemic and the measures being implemented and recommended by the Western Australian and Australian Government. The Law Society has and will continue to respond to these developments where deemed appropriate and whilst the Law Society recognises the significant impact that the pandemic and in turn the unprecedented global response by Governments may have on the international and domestic economy, based on the available information at the time of this report, the Law Society does not consider this to have impacted the Society's ability to continue to operate into the future.

22. Subsequent events

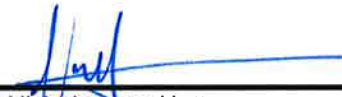
There has not been any matter or circumstance, which has arisen since 30 June 2020 that has significantly affected or may significantly affect, the operations of the Law Society of Western Australia, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Law Society of Western Australia in future financial years.

Statement by Council

In the opinion of the Council of the Law Society of Western Australia

- a. The Law Society of Western Australia is not publicly accountable;
- b. The financial statements and notes that are set out in pages 2 to 21 are in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015 (WA)* and the Law Society of Western Australia's Constitution, including
 - i. Giving a true and fair view of the Law Society of Western Australia's financial position as at 30 June 2020 and of its performance, for the financial year ended on that date; and
 - ii. Complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements.
- c. There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Law Society of Western Australia will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed on behalf of and in accordance with a resolution of the Council.



Nicholas van Hattem
President

30 October 2020

Date



Rebecca Lee
Junior Vice President/Treasurer

30 October 2020

Date



Independent Auditor's Report

To the members of the Law Society of Western Australia Inc.

Opinion

We have audited the **Financial Statements** of the Law Society of Western Australia (the Association).

In our opinion,

- the accompanying Financial Statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Association as at 30 June 2020 and of its financial performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with *Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements* and the Associations Incorporation Act 2015 (WA).

The **Financial Statements** comprise:

- Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020.
- Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, Statement of changes in equity, and Statement of cash flows for the year then ended.
- Notes including a summary of significant accounting policies.
- Statement by Council.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with *Australian Auditing Standards*. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report.

We are independent of the Association in accordance with 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 fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

Other Information

Other Information is financial and non-financial information in the Law Society of Western Australia's annual reporting which is provided in addition to the Financial Statements and the Auditor's Report. The Association's Council members are responsible for the Other Information.

Our opinion on the Financial Statements does not cover the Other Information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the Financial Statements, our responsibility is to read the Other Information. In doing so, we consider whether the Other Information is materially inconsistent with the Financial Statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.



We are required to report if we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this Other Information, and based on the work we have performed on the Other Information that we obtained prior to the date of this Auditor's Report we have nothing to report.

Responsibilities of the Association's Council members for the Financial Statements

The Association's Council members are responsible for:

- preparing Financial Statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Associations Incorporation Act 2015 (WA).
- implementing necessary internal control to enable the preparation of the Financial Statements that give a true and fair view and are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.
- assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern and whether the use of the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate. This includes disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Statements

Our objective is:

- to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Financial Statements as a whole are 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. They 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 Statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Statements is located at the *Auditing and Assurance Standards Board* website at: http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf. This description forms part of our Auditor's Report.

KPMG

Matthew Beevers

Partner
Perth
30 October 2020



Auditor's Independence Declaration under division 5 of the Associations Incorporation Act 2015 (WA)

To the Council of the Law Society of Western Australia

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, in relation to the audit for the financial year ended 30 June 2020 there have been:

- i. no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Associations Incorporation Act 2015 (WA) in relation to the audit; and
- ii. no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

The KPMG logo, consisting of the letters 'KPMG' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font, with a stylized graphic of four vertical bars of increasing height to the left of the text.

KPMG

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Beevers', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Matthew Beevers

Partner

Perth

30 October 2020



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