

ANNUAL REPORT

2020/21



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



What transformational year for the Law Society and members this has been!

We have all had to speedily overcome and adapt to the challenges of 2020/21. The Law Society has done this while continuing to advocate for law reform and resources that will enhance the effectiveness of the legal profession and ensure the continued equitable administration of justice in the community now and in the future.

During the last 12 months the Law Society strongly advocated in respect of the following issues:

- ▲ COVID practice directions and legislative reform
- ▲ The *Work Health and Safety Bill 2019* (WHS Bill)
- ▲ Delays in the Family Court of Western Australia
- ▲ Aboriginal Cultural Heritage
- ▲ The Statutory Legacy in Western Australia
- ▲ The Community Titles regime
- ▲ Farm Debt Mediation
- ▲ Tendency and Coincidence Evidence
- ▲ Sexual Harassment in the Legal Profession
- ▲ The Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Bills

The number of submissions to government agencies increased from 57 to 65 this year (see page 38 of this Report) and included public policy debates for consumers and industry groups.

Some highlights of our Advocacy work are:

The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act

In support of the Law Council of Australia's advocacy, the Law Society advocated on national issues, including the continuation of the Indigenous Legal Assistance Program and constitutional recognition of Aboriginal and

Torres Strait Islander peoples. A particular focus was reforms to the *WA Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act*, and it is of continued concern that a year after Juukan Gorge the 49-year-old unfit for purpose laws are still in place.

Judicial Commissions

In July/August 2020, the Law Council of Australia called for the establishment of a Federal Judicial Commission, with its main objective to fairly and punctually addressing complaints directed to the judiciary. The Law Society fully supports the creation, by statute, of an independent Federal Judicial Commission, separate to the executive arm of the government. Introduction of an independent Federal Judicial Commission will enable accountability and enhance the public's confidence in the administration of justice.

The Law Society also supports the proposal that a judicial commission be established in Western Australia, generally based on the commission operating in New South Wales; and that any person may complain to the proposed judicial commission about the conduct of a judicial officer. You can read the Briefing Policy *Complaints against Judiciary* [here](#).

Gender Equity Court Appearance Survey

Recent research has demonstrated that women lawyers are not appearing in numbers commensurate with the proportions of women in the profession. To obtain robust and replicable data to identify whether targets are required to address the limited number of women lawyers appearing in WA Courts, the Law Society arranged for a survey to be conducted to identify those matters in which women appeared. A letter was sent

to the Australian Heads of Jurisdiction seeking their assistance with the survey. It is anticipated that survey results will be compiled by the end of 2021.

2021 State Election Advocacy Campaign

The State election in this reporting period provided an opportunity for the Law Society to provide our key policy positions to the Government and Opposition. (Their responses were originally published in the February 2021 edition of *Brief*.)

The re-election of the Labor Government in WA in March 2021 put the state in a unique position to progress well overdue law reform.

Up until now various Western Australian Governments have not had the opportunity due to their numbers in the Parliament to introduce Bills amending out of date legislation, or new legislation. With a government majority in both the Assembly and the Council, WA is now in a unique position to have issues such as the outdated *Equal Opportunity Act* and *Administration Act* updated and progressed through the Parliament in a timely manner, and we advocated for these amendments to be a priority.

The Law Society is closely monitoring the election commitments made by the Government on our priority areas of court resources and infrastructure, access to justice, abolition of mandatory minimum sentences, increasing the statutory legacy and application of the rule of law. The Law Society has an impartial legislative review role. This is particularly important because the unprecedented greatly reduced opposition representation in Parliament means there are significantly reduced resources to review proposed legislation for the community.

Legal Profession Uniform Law

The introduction of the Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Bills is of great significance for the legal profession in Western Australia. Although the Bill lapsed at the prorogation of the Parliament, the Bills have now been introduced into the new session of the Parliament (following the March election). At this stage, the commencement date for uniform law is 1 January 2022.

WA Courts in Crisis


The Law Society raised concerns in June 2021 about the shortage of courtrooms available for criminal trials and the consequent delays in trials in Western Australia. We called on the McGowan Government to urgently commit to an additional four, but preferably seven, new Courts for criminal trials in Perth.

Historic underfunding and a shortage of criminal courts affect the operation of our trial courts and in addition, are limiting and delaying access to justice in the community. The Law Society will continue to press the Federal and WA governments for adequate resourcing for more courts as critical to the ongoing efficiency of the equitable administration of justice in the WA community.

A focus on Access to Justice in the Community – Law Week

Law Week 2021 (17 May to 21 May) brought the legal profession and public together with a focus on law and justice in the community. It was a great success, with over 30 events held across Western Australia, including around Perth metropolitan and regional areas. Law Week attracts a diversity of events including the Law Access Walk for Justice fundraiser, our Old Court House Law Museum Exhibition to honour Edith Cowan, Australia's first female Member of Parliament, entitled *The Women Should Have a Voice*, free clinics for the public, talks and educational initiatives, and the annual Lawyer of the Year Awards. These activities provided increased visibility of the legal profession and the Law Society and highlighted the ongoing commitment to Members and the WA community.

A high point for me was the Law Society hosting its biggest Law Week Breakfast yet – with over 180 legal professionals enjoying an energising morning at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre to acknowledge the importance of access to justice for all and to celebrate lawyers making a difference in the community. We were delighted to host the President of the Law Council of Australia, Dr Jacoba Brasch QC, who travelled to Perth especially to deliver the keynote address, "The Call for Change – Law, Culture, Diversity, Voice".



With the theme of change, the Law Society at the breakfast announced its new cultural change framework (in development at that time). This programme “Change the Culture” aims to provide tools to the profession to help address sexual harassment and bullying in the workplace.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to another successful Law Week, including our valued supporters and sponsors.

Reconciliation and The Law Society

This year’s National Reconciliation Week theme, “More than a word. Reconciliation takes action”, challenged us to take more courageous action that will deliver real impact. As a nation, and also as the legal profession, we need to move from ‘safe’ to ‘brave’ in order to advance reconciliation. As President, I am proud that the Law Society has been involved with reconciliation for many years in an effort to play its part to make a tangible difference.

First Nation Action Plan

The Law Society was privileged to have taken part in Reconciliation Australia’s Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) program. The Law Society had a Reflect RAP in place between 2015 – 2016 and a Innovate RAP in place from 2017 – 2019. That journey has been a valuable learning experience for the Law Society. I was pleased that in March 2021 Law Society Council approved a bespoke and innovative First Nations Action Plan to continue the Law Society’s reconciliation journey.

The Nutha Way Project

As part of the Law Society’s commitment to Indigenous issues and Closing the Gap, its pioneering project Nutha Way reached its first year milestone despite the challenges of operating in regional areas during the pandemic.

Nutha Way is an Indigenous youth leadership programme from the Law Society, working to build better relationships between young people, their communities, the justice system and local police. Essentially, the Nutha Way program is about doing things *another way* – engaging with young Indigenous people in a meaningful way, garnering their input to identify issues faced in their community, and identify solutions they feel would help solve these issues.

Many people talk about co-design, but in practice it is often just a fleeting engagement or one-off workshop. Nutha Way has embedded co-design into every aspect

of the process over the whole lifecycle of the program to endeavour to ensure real outcomes. You can read more about Nutha Way and its positive impact on the community here: <https://nuthaway.org.au/>

Old Court House Law Museum Interpretation

The social history displays at the Old Court House Law Museum emphasise truth-telling, expressing views and stories from both sides of the frontier settlement at the Swan River, as British law was overlaid onto thousands of years of Aboriginal lore. The nature of traditional indigenous social order and law is presented to facilitate understanding of how different systems of law contributed to the breakdown of early friendly relations between Indigenous people and settlers. That Indigenous people continue to be over-represented in the justice system today is also acknowledged. The audio guide provides visitors with an understanding of the continuing importance of the area to Indigenous people today.

This year is the 30th anniversary of the report of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody. The disproportionate rate at which Aboriginal people are imprisoned has risen in that period rather than decreased. It has borne a significant relationship to the number of Aboriginal deaths in custody. We need more people speaking up and I invite you to find out more about the Law Society’s “Closing the Gap” advocacy campaign here: <https://www.lawsocietywa.asn.au/law-reform-and-advocacy/closing-the-gap/>

Reform and Workplace Sexual Harassment

During this year the legal profession came under the spotlight for a culture that has allowed inappropriate workplace behaviour. In July 2020, following media reports into sexual harassment, the Law Council of Australia held a national roundtable that brought together experts across the country to consider the issue. The Law Society of Western Australia was represented at the roundtable by the Chair of the Joint Law Society/Women Lawyers of WA Committee, Charmaine Tsang. Ms Tsang is also the Law Society of Western Australia’s representative on the Law Council’s Equal Opportunity Committee.

I am pleased to report that the Law Society has provided submissions on sexual harassment reforms to the Australian Solicitors Conduct Rules and Commonwealth legislation stemming from the recommendations of the *Respect@Work* report. In WA, a submission on our local

Equal Opportunity Act will be made to the WA Law Reform Commission in the next reporting period.

As mentioned before, the Law Society also launched a new cultural change framework, "Change the Culture" for the profession, providing tools to help address sexual harassment and bullying in the workplace. This programme offers the profession tools and training around four key pillars:

1. The Evidence: Recent research data which sets out the facts about sexual harassment and bullying in the legal profession and supports a call for change within the legal profession
2. Behavioural Change: Tailored training for individuals and law firms to undertake as a means of taking action to shift the culture
3. Systems and Procedures: Tools to support positive work cultures
4. Confidential Support: Support mechanisms for individuals impacted by sexual harassment and bullying

The 2020 National Profile of Solicitors reported that over the past nine years, the growth nationally of female solicitors (+67%) has been higher than that of male solicitors (+26%) and in Western Australia females now make up 52% of the profession, further indicating that more women are continuing to enter and stay in the profession. While parity of female leadership in the profession has not yet been achieved, which I find disappointing after the workplace gender breakthroughs in the universities and the profession that took place in the 1990's and earlier this century, the research indicates that change is underway.

This particular trend underscores the importance of ongoing initiatives such as the *Charter for the Advancement of Women in the Legal Profession*, which was developed by the Law Society of New South Wales and adapted by the Law Society of Western Australia in 2020 to reflect current Western Australian law. The Law Society sees its role as crucial in the drive towards gender equality and is mindful of reflecting gender equity through its management and advisory committees.

In summary

Finally, I would like to thank and congratulate my great Executive team, my engaged Council members, our very helpful advisory committees, and dedicated staff whose outstanding work drives the Law Society through today's

challenging landscape and ensures it remains a strong advocate for the legal profession.

I am particularly grateful to Immediate Past-President Nicholas van Hattem for his leadership last year, especially given the unprecedented, ever changing and ongoing challenges of the pandemic.

Because of the pandemic, the legal system and legal profession have undergone profound change at a rapid rate. Lawyers and how they practice, and the judicial system including basic administration of justice, have had to adapt to forced changes. Flexible legal systems including the adoption of working from home and the use of existing technology have had to be adopted along with social expectations. Knowledge of the interplay between courts and technology is more relevant than ever. However, lawyers remain always aware that technology cannot replace the ingenuity that exists in a living, breathing lawyer but it can augment that through memory, process retention and automation, and help legal assistants, paralegals and lawyers do their jobs better. The Law Society and the profession are now perfectly placed in time to embrace these changes. It is a most exciting time.

A special thank you to our exceptional Chief Executive Officer David Price for his support and encouragement in making the past year a rewarding and productive year for me personally and the Law Society as an organisation.

Most importantly, I would like to thank all our Law Society members for their ongoing loyal support. It has never been more important as the peak professional membership body to stand strong with members and the profession, working in collaboration on the future of the profession and the maintaining of equitable administration of justice in our community. Because of your support, the Law Society is proud to continue to be your voice to promote the development and improvement of law throughout Western Australia and assist you in meeting your varied and increasingly demanding practice and professional obligations.



Jocelyne Boujos

President

The Law Society of Western Australia

Chief Executive Officer's Report



Like many organisations, the Law Society was presented with dynamic challenges and opportunities in the 2020/21 financial year. In response, I am very pleased to report that the Law Society maintained the confidence of the legal profession which was evidenced by our growth in membership of 7.5%.

The Law Society remained steadfast in its efforts to provide the support members needed during uncertain times. Not only did the COVID-19 Information Hub continue to be an important source of information, our weekly online *Eleven* series kept the profession connected and up to date and the lunchtime Legal Profession Uniform Law CPD Webinar Series provided valuable insight into impending changes for the profession.

While the COVID-19 pandemic presented defining challenges, the Law Society responded by meeting them. Firstly, the Law Society was able to support the profession by providing a 30% discount on membership fees at a time of financial uncertainty for the profession. Secondly, it provided even greater value by including CPD Freedom for free as part of a discounted membership package. This meant that members could obtain their CPD for no cost throughout the year. This was highly valued by our members with over 2,500 members signing up to CPD Freedom. Thirdly, with a robust digital learning platform and webinars already being in place for many years, the Law Society led the way in connecting and delivering services digitally which resulted in greater access and a far greater reach than previously.

The Law Society continued to work collaboratively with the Legal Practice Board of Western Australia, the courts, the Department of Justice, the Attorney-General's Office and many other stakeholders. The Law Society also worked closely with the Law Council of Australia and the other Law Society and Bar Associations around Australia

in an effort to support members and provide solutions to challenges during times of uncertainty and disruption.

Membership Community

The Law Society recorded growth in overall membership during the year ending 30 June 2021, with a continued focus on member and stakeholder engagement activities reinforcing the critical role the Law Society plays on behalf of the legal profession across WA.

Building on the previous year's strong growth, the Law Society achieved a record number of 4,417 members (including 12 Honorary, 35 Life members and 33 On Leave members) in 2020/21. A strong membership retention rate of 86% was also maintained.

Engaging with Members of the Profession

The Law Society utilised dynamic ways to interact with members and the public. We significantly boosted our online presence by launching a number of podcasts, including:

- ▲ A podcast series, "Controversy & Celebrity: Perth's Mayoral Candidates", in partnership with Business News, in time for Perth's mayoral election towards the end of 2020. All six candidates were interviewed to find out what they think the key lessons are from the City of Perth Inquiry, the issues of the day, and if they have any specific message they wish to share with the lawyers of Perth.
- ▲ A popular podcast with (then) WA President of the Australian Medical Association, Dr Andrew Millar, exploring the delay of WA's Phase Five COVID-19 easing of restrictions..

In addition to our Podcasts with *Business News*, we also published a series of articles on the *Business News* online platform to give voice to a number of issues during Law Week and beyond.



... I am very pleased to report that the Law Society maintained the confidence of the legal profession which was evidenced by our growth in membership of 7.5%.

The Law Society invited a number of guest authors to publish with us presenting a diverse voice on issues of importance.

Growing our online presence has enabled us to reach different audiences across varying platforms and in turn provide opportunities for our members to engage with us and each other. As a result, we have seen a steady growth in our online audience as our social media communities continue to grow.

Member Benefits

Find a Lawyer Referral Service – There is an ongoing high demand for the Law Society's Find a Lawyer Referral Service, which provided over 500 referrals per week to members of the public seeking access to legal services in 2020/21.

This referral service is a member only benefit and listed firms receive referrals from the Law Society when members of the public contact the Law Society to seek this information.

CPD Freedom – CPD Freedom was included at no additional cost to those members who joined or renewed their membership subscriptions by 31 July (conditions applied). CPD Freedom offers unlimited attendance at live CPD seminars and webinars as well as access to seminar papers from our archive for free.

LawCare WA – Raising awareness of mental health and support services is an important priority for

the Law Society. The Law Society is partnered with Converge International to provide a member assistance programme as part of our LawCare WA offerings. Law Society members have access to free, independent and confidential professional counselling to provide support for a range of personal or work-related issues.

Member Privileges – The Law Society has also refreshed its range of discounts and benefits to provide tailored offers especially relevant to members' lifestyle and personal needs, with some exciting and diverse new partnerships.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

CPD seminars attracted record numbers of attendees due to sessions being held both in person and online. With restrictions in place, the demand for online attendance increased significantly.

The Law Society offered sessions continuously throughout the year as well as in concentrated Spring and Summer programmes. New initiatives such as 'Webinar Wednesdays' featuring re-runs of popular sessions and Ethics on Friday and Uniform Law proved popular. A total of 55 Seminars and Webinars, involving 31 Chairs and 111 presenters. There were 18 sessions on each of Practice Management and Substantive Law Competency areas, 10 on Professional Skills and 15 on Ethics. Total attendance across the sessions was 5,680 people, a record for the Law Society.

We also saw the return of the 'Essentials of Advocacy' and Country Practitioners Days. Both events were well attended with positive feedback received from participants.

Events with Impact

The Law Society was fortunate to be able to continue delivering high quality face-to-face and online events this year. Some of the highlights included:

District Court 50th Anniversary Black Tie Gala Dinner

– A historic highlight was the District Court 50th Anniversary Black Tie Gala Dinner in February 2021. In recognition of this milestone anniversary, the Law Society presented a gala occasion which attracted over 600 members of the WA legal profession and provided an evening of wonderful celebration.

Women, Finance and Empowerment Forum – The Law Society delivered an impressive online thought leadership event in conjunction with legalsuper on Thursday, 26 November 2020 for the legal profession. Free for members, over 120 attendees enjoyed the thought-provoking webinar that covered important issues in relation to money, finance and our psychology around both.

2021 International Women's Day – Monday, 8 March 2021 marked International Women's Day with the theme *Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world*. The Law Society was proud to be part of the drive to a more gender equal future and hosted a Sundowner with the theme "Stand Tall in Your Flats". A full house showed up in their funky flats to stand tall in celebrating women's place in the world.

YLC Welcome to the Profession Breakfast – It was a real celebration to have over 200 attendees join the Law Society's Young Lawyers Committee for the long-awaited Welcome to the Profession Breakfast at the Westin. The event recognised and congratulated our newest Western Australian legal practitioners from both 2019 and 2020. Keynote speaker, his Honour Judge David MacLean delivered an engaging and inspiring speech for all the up-and-coming lawyers present. Judge MacLean's invaluable advice included: "It's ok to make mistakes; most are fixable. Success

is often preceded by failure which is a great platform from which to learn."

Public Purposes Trust

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

This financial year \$2,710,000 was paid out in grants approved by the Attorney General from the Trust. In addition, grants totalling \$2,700,000 have also been approved for payment in the 2021/22 year.

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

Professional Standards Scheme (PSS)

The year 2020/2021 has seen Council considering and adopting 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 Law Society's Strategic Plan 2020-2023.


During the reporting year, the Law Society participated in several workshops facilitated by the Professional Standards Authority, to assist in the development of a new Professional Standards Improvement Program (PSIP) for Schemes.

The Scheme closed the year with 1,926 participants as at 30 June 2021.

Financial Performance

The 2020/21 financial year resulted in a surplus of \$271,840. 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 of the legal profession's peak membership body.

The Law Society ended the financial year with net assets of \$3,408,507 and cash reserves of \$1,724,882.



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

Looking Ahead – 2020-2023 Strategic Plan

Following the completion of the Law Society's current Strategic Plan on 30 June 2020, the Council adopted a new *2020-2023 Strategic Plan*. Due to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, the plan was deferred by six months, and it took 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.

In January 2021, a minor restructure was made to the organisation to redirect resources to better understand members' needs, improve communication, and strengthen advocacy and professional development. During the course of this next year, the Law Society will be developing a Brand, Marketing and Communications Strategy, covering:

- ▲ Brand – vision, purpose, values, personality, benefits and visual identity;

- ▲ Marketing – member segments, value proposition, services, pricing and more; and
- ▲ Communication – key messages and channel preferences by member segment.

Law Mutual (WA)

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

The Law Mutual insurance arrangements provided professional indemnity cover for over 1100 law practices during the 2020/2021 financial year. The cost of cover had increased by about 6% from the previous year due to the high frequency of claims on recent years and the general 'hardening' of the Australian PI insurance market.

A one-off “COVID-19” support arrangement allowed law practice to defer the payment of the annual contribution until November 2020 and receive a refund of administration fees if practitioners were members of the Law Society.

Law Mutual Risk Management Workshops and Seminars

The 2020/2021 programme of workshops and webinars was well supported with 1382 attendees. We continue to improve our webinar capability and intend to deliver a combination of webinars and seminars as part of the 2021/2022 programme.

Claims Numbers Reducing

The expected ultimate number of claims for the 2020/2021 insurance year is in the range of 55 to 60. This is a very pleasing outcome that continues the downward trend in numbers from the 2017/2018 year where we expect approximately 80 claims.

Over 3,000 Law Mutual 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.

Resources for Legal Practitioners

Legal practices, like many other businesses, have had to change a number of work practices, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Law Mutual received several requests from legal practices for assistance in dealing with the issues posed by the pandemic. Enquiries included questions on managing clients in a remote setting; undertaking client interviews, witnessing documents, and supervising practitioners when everyone is working remotely.

Following consideration of the insureds' enquiries, and discussions with interstate counterparts and other jurisdictions, Law Mutual reviewed the requirements of the Practice and Matter Management Guidelines and developed the following resources to assist legal practitioners:

- ▲ COVID-19 Pandemic Matter Management Guidance;
- ▲ Information Management and Security when Working from Home Guidance; and
- ▲ Video Conferencing Guidance.

These resources were made available on the Law Mutual section of the Law Society's website.

A Final Thanks

The success of the Law Society can be attributed to the outstanding service and commitment of many. The Law Society's Council and Executive members make an enormous contribution to our governance, and our various committees provide powerful input and value to our leadership of the profession.

The Law Society also has highly skilled and dedicated staff to ensure the Law Society serves its members and reaches its strategic outcomes. Their ongoing support and sacrifice through these continuing uncharted and challenging circumstances and the personal adjustments that were necessary last year were extemporaneous and I thank each and everyone of them. It has also been my pleasure to work with and support the serving Presidents Nicholas van Hattem (2020 President) and Jocelyne Boujos (2021 President) over the past year.

Finally, I would like to thank you our members who are the very reason the Law Society exists. Your loyalty and ongoing support are very much appreciated and helps drive an important voice for the legal profession and community in Western Australia.



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 Law Society's Constitution and overseen by the Law 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 Law Society's responsibilities. The Council operates three subcommittees which directly support the Council with the day to day operation of the Law 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 Law 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.
3. **The Professional Indemnity Insurance Management Committee (PIIMC)** – The Professional Indemnity Insurance Management Committee provides the Council with advice and recommendations regarding the Law Mutual (WA) insurance arrangements and associated matters. It is chaired by Dudley Stow and is comprised of three independent members with specific expertise in relevant areas and four current Council members.

The Law Society's Council is responsible for the Leadership, Strategy and Governance of the Law Society and includes the setting of the Strategic Plan and oversight of the Law Society's operating and financial performance. The Council does this in part by delegating responsibility of the day to day operations of the Law 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 Law 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 Law Society's overall Strategic Plan. The Council is dedicated and committed to the strong representation of the Law Society, its members, and the legal profession generally.

Council 2020

The Council of the Law Society of Western Australia for 2020
1 July 2020 to 31 December 2020

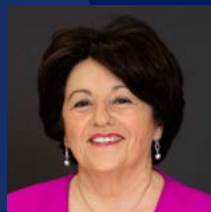
Executive Members



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**



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 of WA



Thomas Camp

Junior Member

**Butcher, Paull &
Calder**



Lea Hiltenkamp

Junior Member

Glen McLeod Legal



Gemma Swan

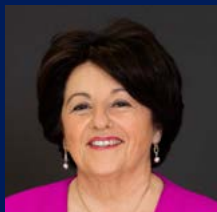
Ordinary Member

**Butlers Lawyers
& Notaries**

Council 2021

The Council of the Law Society of Western Australia for 2021
1 January 2021 to 30 June 2021

Executive Members



Jocelyne Boujos

President

Boujos Legal



Rebecca Lee

Senior Vice President

Francis Burt Chambers



Shayla Strapps

Junior Vice President & Treasurer

Mental Health Law Centre



Nicholas van Hattem

Immediate Past President

Francis Burt Chambers

Council Ordinary, Country and Junior Members



Rebecca Bunney

Ordinary Member

**Cullen Macleod
Lawyers**



Daniel Coster

Ordinary Member

Moray & Agnew



Angie Gimisis

Ordinary Member

Hall & Wilcox



Ante Golem

Ordinary Member*

**Herbert Smith
Freehills**



Mark Hemery

Ordinary Member
(resigned February 2021)

**Hotchkin Hanly
Lawyers**



Matthew Howard SC

Ordinary Member

**Francis Burt
Chambers**



June Kenny

Ordinary Member

JDK Legal Services



Gary Mack

Ordinary Member

**Abacus Legal and
Mediation**



Judy McLean

Ordinary Member

**Fremantle
Community Legal
Centre**



Craig Slater

Ordinary Member

**Francis Burt
Chambers**



Brooke Sojan

Ordinary Member

**Francis Burt
Chambers**



Paula Wilkinson

Ordinary Member*

Kim Wilson & Co



Melita Medcalf

Country Member

Magenta Legal



Thomas Camp

Junior Member

**Butcher, Paull &
Calder**



Selina Gates

Junior Member

Hammond Legal



Lea Hiltenkamp

Junior Member

Glen McLeod Legal

A Year in Review

July 2020

Society Sundowner

For the first event since the COVID-19 lockdown, the Law Society held one of its popular Society Sundowners at the bustling City Beer Hall in the Perth CBD on Tuesday, 28 July. This collegial event helped to bring together the legal profession in a social setting for the sharing of ideas and the establishing of connections. It was a very welcomed opportunity since events ceased earlier that year in March, and over 60 attendees were keen to catch up in a socially distanced environment.

2021 State Election Advocacy Campaign

The Law Society prepared a set of key policy issues to promote to Government and Opposition during the 2021 Western Australian election campaign based on six Election Platform Topics.

Mandatory Sentencing Advocacy

The Law Society updated and released two Briefing Papers, "Mandatory Sentencing" and "Mandatory Sentencing and How it Contributes to the Incarceration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in Western Australia" opposing the successive WA governments' populist approach to sentencing to counter media hysteria, attract voter support and to give the perception of being 'tough on crime'.

Francis Burt Law Education Programme

25 metro and regional teachers participated in this year's 11-12 Politics and Law Teacher On Demand Seminar Package. This professional learning opportunity focused on three contemporary matters from the High Court of Australia.

August 2020

The Joint Law Society/Australian Women Lawyers Charter

The Law Society adopted the *Charter for the Advancement of Women in the WA Legal Profession*, prepared by the Joint Law Society/Women Lawyers



Pauline Wright, President of the Law Council of Australia, remotely presenting the Sir Ronald Wilson Lecture



Year 11-12 Politics and Law Teacher On Demand Seminar

Committee, as part of its ongoing commitment to the advancement of women in the legal profession. (originally developed by the Law Society of NSW and adapted to reflect current Western Australian law.)

The Charter was designed to promote and support strategies to retain women in the profession over the course of their careers and encourage and promote the career progression of women into senior executive and management positions.

Destruction of Caves at the Juukan Gorge

Following the destruction of these caves, an inquiry was launched by the Joint Standing Committee on Northern Australia, in seeking to avoid future destruction of heritage sites. The Law Society's submission concluded that there was no legislative regime at a State or Commonwealth level which was effective to guarantee the protection of culturally and historically significant sites such as the caves at Juukan Gorge.

2020 Sir Ronald Wilson Lecture

Online and Live Webinar Q&A: Kids in Jail
- Raising the age of criminal responsibility,
Presented by Ms Pauline Wright, President,
Law Council of Australia - 280 people in WA
and beyond took part in this community legal
education initiative.

University of Notre Dame students at the Old Court House Law Museum

Five students from the University of Notre Dame were hosted by the Museum for training sessions and access to the collection to produce extended Professional Project research reports for the completion of their undergraduate degrees and provided to the Museum's research library.

September 2020

YLC Sundowner

The Young Lawyers Committee hosted its first post-lockdown sundowner at 77 Social's rooftop bar on St Georges Terrace. The sell-out crowd of 85 people enjoyed a night of inter-profession networking, drinks and some socially distanced collegiality. There was a great representation of



Over 2000 school students visited in the 2020/21 year as part of the Francis Burt Law Education Programme



Below and above: The YLC's first post lockdown sundowner at the rooftop of 77 Social.



Careers Uncut information and networking evening (L-R) Carla Michan-Ranieri, Leo Cussen Centre for Law, Julie Anderson, Leo Cussen Centre for Law, Lyle Swithenbank, Blackwall Legal

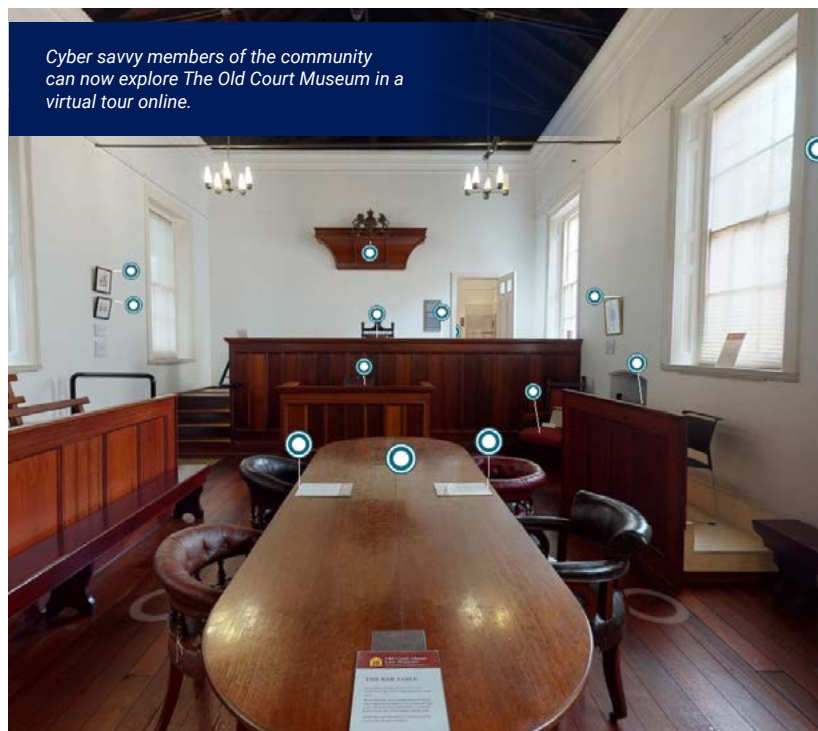
legal professionals from all over Perth and it was amazing to see everyone in such good spirits enjoying the company and the warmer weather.

Society Sundowner

The Law Society partnered with Far East Consortium to host a members only cocktail party on Thursday, 24 September in the stunning waterfront penthouses at The Towers at Elizabeth Quay. Over 100 members enjoyed a complimentary evening of canapés and refreshments and a tour of the two penthouses. Celebrated Chef Jed Gerrard of The Ritz-Carlton designed an exquisite canapé menu and was present on the evening to deliver some key tasting notes.

Controversy & Celebrity: Perth's Mayoral Candidates

Law Society President Nicholas van Hattem and *Business News* journalist Jordan Murray began a new podcast initiative focusing on local topical issues and how they relate to the legal profession. Kicking off with a discussion with Perth Mayoral Candidates about the key lessons from the *City of Perth Inquiry* the podcast series continued through the following months to look at other matters of contention including WA's Phase Five COVID-19 Easing of Restrictions with Dr Andrew Millar the President of the Australian Medical Association.



October 2020

Mental Health Week Panel

The Law Society presented "Creating Positive Mental Health: Different Perspectives, Doing it Better, Walking the Talk", an inclusive conversation about moving forwards towards positive mental health outcomes. Our panellists gathered in person to discuss how both firms and individuals can "walk the walk" when it comes to creating positive mental health, highlighting the importance of Mental Health Week. The shared message of positive change starting from the top and putting structures in place to maintain one's own mental health is relative to all areas of the profession.

YLC COVID-19 Survey

The YLC working group on early career lawyers working environments carried out a survey of experiences during COVID-19. The survey overwhelmingly found that early career lawyers want to keep the option to work flexibly from home, but need their employers' support to do so effectively. The survey results informed our work on a *Guide to Workplace Entitlements for early career lawyers*, and a *Best Practice for Legal Workplaces Discussion Paper* released in later in September 2021.

YLC Careers Uncut

The Young Lawyers Committee held its popular "Careers Uncut" information and networking evening on Thursday, 1 October at the Melbourne Hotel. The event was hosted by Lyle Swithenbank of Blackwall Legal and over 100 students and legal professionals were in attendance to hear from a fantastic



Practical Advocacy Weekend 2020

selection of talented lawyers from all sectors of the profession. Eight short and sharp presentations were followed by refreshments and canapés as speakers and attendees enjoyed networking and discussion.

Virtual Tour - Old Court Law Museum

An exciting new era arrived for Perth's oldest public building with the release of an impressive virtual online tour. Now anyone in any country can virtually explore our amazing museum and displays.

During the same month custom-built art racking was installed in the Court 8 collection store to facilitate storage of the Museum's collection of framed works to a national professional standard.

November 2020

Practical Advocacy Weekend

The Law Society hosted its Practical Advocacy Weekend at the Perth Children's Court on 14 and 15 November where delegates were able to receive 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 and Paul Yovich SC, Francis Burt



Society sundowner in the stunning waterfront penthouses at The Towers at Elizabeth Quay



Celebrating a milestone - 40 years of the Young Lawyers Committee



The Women, Finance and Empowerment Forum progressing better financial outcomes for women



The President of the Law Society, Nick van Hattem, attending La Salle College to present students with the 2020 mock trial winner's trophy

Chambers and to the young lawyer volunteers who dedicated their time to assist over the weekend.

YLC Mixed Netball

The Law Society's Young Lawyers Committee hosted the annual Mixed Netball Competition at the UWA Sports Centre on Friday, 20 November 2020. Over 110 young lawyers (and some young at heart) switched their corporate attire for netball bibs to appear on a different type of court to compete in a friendly, yet spirited netball tournament. Unlike 2019, the weather held out and made for a perfect evening for our combatants. Congratulations to the unstoppable Clayton Utz who claimed the top prize for the third year in a row. After the competition, the teams shared stories while enjoying wood-fired pizza.

Women, Finance and Empowerment Forum

The Law Society delivered an impressive online thought leadership event in conjunction with legalsuper on Thursday, 26 November 2020 for the legal profession. Free for members, over 120 delegates attended the thought provoking webinar that covered important issues in relation to money and finance. Chaired by Kirsten Mander, Chair, legalsuper, the Forum hosted a group of powerful advocates on the front line of progressing better financial outcomes for women. Attendees were able to send in questions in advance for the panel to address.

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

34 metro and regional teachers participated in this professional learning opportunity. The excellent calibre of the event prompting one teacher to comment "Excellent PD - Far and away the most relevant and interesting professional development I have been involved in".

Mock Trial Competition

November saw President of the Law Society, Nick van Hattem, attending the Remembrance Day assembly at La Salle College in Middle Swan

to present their students with the 2020 winner's trophy. During the 2020 season 1,080 students from years 10, 11 and 12 took part in 112 teams from 56 schools. They were helped by 148 legal practitioners and law student coaches. With the threat of COVID lockdowns ever present we piloted trials via Zoom videoconferencing, and then returned to trials in courtrooms of the Supreme Court in mid-June.

December 2020

YLC 40th Anniversary Celebration

The Young Lawyers Committee turned 40 years of age in 2020 and hosted a function at The Melbourne Hotel on Wednesday, 2 December to celebrate the milestone. Over 100 attendees representing all areas and stages of the profession came together for a friendly and inspiring gathering. The event included the launch of a commemorative YLC feature in the December edition of Brief and also recognised the participants of the 2020 Law Student Mentoring Programme. The mix of past YLC Chairs, law student mentees, Brief Editorial Committee members, law school representatives, current young lawyers and Society members lent itself to a great atmosphere and some fantastic conversation.

End of Year Celebration

On Thursday, 10 December 2020, the Law Society was delighted to welcome over 160 guests to our End of Year Celebration. Law Society members, members of the judiciary and friends came together at the Metro Bar & Bistro to enjoy the festivities. On a warm evening, it was the perfect opportunity to catch up with colleagues, toast the year that was and share optimism for the new year. Guests joined us for delicious food, drinks and great conversation for the final event for 2020.

February 2021

District Court 50th Anniversary Black Tie Gala Dinner

On Saturday, 27 February 2021, the Law Society of Western Australia in association with the District Court of Western Australia held the long-awaited District Court 50th Anniversary Black Tie Gala Dinner at Crown Towers. After a last minute postponement in 2020 due to COVID-19, the event went ahead at a rescheduled date and the atmosphere was buzzing, with guests eager to catch up and celebrate the significant milestone at the end of the 50th year. The night was attended by over 600 guests from the wider legal profession who came together for an evening of reflection, socialising and entertainment. Guests enjoyed sophisticated entertainment, quality West Australian wines, and three



La Salle College, winners of the 2020 Mock Trial Competition



160 guests attended the End of Year Celebration



Chief Judge Julie Wager



District Court 50th Anniversary
Black Tie Gala Dinner



District Court 50th Anniversary Black Tie Gala Dinner

courses of fine dining in the luxurious surrounds of the Ballroom at Crown Towers, Perth.

Retired Judge His Honour Stephen Scott, hosted the evening as the MC brilliantly and kick started the night with a very special Welcome to Country with father and son duo Dr Richard Walley OAM and Olman Walley, culminating in a powerful didgeridoo performance to a captivated audience.

Earlier in the evening, guests heard key speeches from Law Society President, Jocelyne Boujos and Chief Judge of the District Court, Julie Wager on the important milestone and the achievements of the District Court. Later on after the entrée, a toast to the Judges of the District Court was delivered by Sam Vandongen SC, Barrister, Francis Burt Chambers and a toast to the profession on behalf of the Judges of the District Court was delivered by His Honour Senior Judge Andrew Stavrianou, District Court of Western Australia.

CPD Access to Justice Fundraiser

The University of Western Australia, in partnership with the Law Society and supported by the WA legal profession, hosted a special 2021 CPD Fundraiser, "Access to Justice in a COVID-19 World" which raised over \$5,000 to support the important work of the Women's Legal Service WA. Dr

Jacoba Brasch QC, the President of the Law Council of Australia, gave a stand-out presentation as one of the keynote speakers.

March 2021

First Nations Action Plan

The Law Society was privileged to have taken part in Reconciliation Australia's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). The Law Society had a Reflect RAP in place between 2015 - 2016 and an Innovate RAP in place from 2017 - 2019. That journey has been an edifying and valuable learning experience for the Law Society. In March 2021 Law Society Council approved a bespoke and innovative First Nations Action Plan to continue the Law Society's reconciliation journey.

2021 International Women's Day Sundowner

Monday, 8 March marked International Women's Day with the theme *Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world*. The Law Society was proud to be part of the drive to a more gender equal future and hosted a Sundowner on Wednesday, 10 March at 77 Social on the Terrace with the theme "Stand Tall in Your Flats". The rooftop bar was the perfect backdrop for over 70 attendees who showed up in their funky flats to stand tall in celebrating women's place in the world.

Mental Health and Wellbeing Recommendations 2021-2025

In late 2020 the Law Society undertook its 5 yearly review of the recommendations of the Report on Psychological Distress and Depression in the Legal Profession 2011. The recommendations were reviewed and refreshed by the Mental Health Committee, to be in place for the next five years. The refreshed recommendations were approved by Council in March 2021 and are available on the Law Society website.

YLC Welcome to the Profession Breakfast

On Thursday, 11 March, over 200 attendees joined the Young Lawyers Committee for the long-awaited Welcome to the Profession Breakfast at The Westin. It was a fantastic morning with a huge attendance, and the event was the perfect opportunity to recognise and congratulate our newest Western Australian legal practitioners from both 2019 and 2020. Keynote speaker, His Honour Judge David MacLean delivered an engaging and inspiring speech for all the up-and-coming lawyers present. Judge MacLean's invaluable advice included 'It's OK to make mistakes; most are fixable. Success is often preceded by failure which is a great platform from which to learn.'

YLC Mixed Beach Volleyball Competition

It was a fun night on Friday, 19 March, at the Young Lawyers Committee Mixed Beach Volleyball Competition at SandSports Arena in Nedlands. The sold-out competition saw 12 eager teams take to the sand to battle it out for the top prize. After five fast paced rounds, CS Legal's "The Humbles" emerged victorious and took home the trophy. It was a great evening of fun and friendly competition, with wood fired pizza, drinks and catch-ups to finish off the night.

April 2021

Edith Cowan's Legacy

April saw the launch of an important exhibit at the Old Court House Law Museum, *'The Women Should Have a Voice: Edith Cowan's legacy of social justice in Western Australia'* commemorating Cowan's enduring influence in Western Australia.

Law Student Mentoring Programme Launch

The 2021 Law Student Mentoring Programme was launched to a full-house on Thursday, 22 April at The College of Law. Over 80 mentors and mentees met for the first time and received some wise insight and advice from keynote



"Stand Tall in Flats" the International Women's Day sundowner upstairs at 77 Social



His Honour Judge David MacLean at the YLC Welcome to the Profession Breakfast



Law Student Mentoring Programme Launch Event (L-R)
Sue-Ellen Soulie, legalsuper, Briony Whyte, Jackson
McDonald, Dr Andrew Lu AM, HBA Legal

speaker, Dr Andrew Lu AM, Partner of HBA Legal. Following the formalities, mentors and mentees got to relax over refreshments and to get to know each other better.

Old Court House Law Museum Open Day

Almost 800 visitors crammed into the museum across two days for its open day as part of the Heritage Perth Weekend.

Containers for Change

The Law Society implemented a new scheme where funds raised are donated to the Chief Justice's Law Week Youth Appeal Trust which was established to represent an ongoing charitable effort by legal practitioners in support of youth charities, in particular, youth support services that assist in diverting youth away from the criminal justice system.

May 2021

Law Week 2021

This year's Law Week (17 to 21 May 2021) recognised the significant contributions to the community made by the profession with a week-long programme of events which was highlighted by:

YLC Law Week Special Screening: "In My Blood it Runs"

As part of Law Week, the Young Lawyers Committee hosted a special event on Monday, 17 May at Corrs Chambers Westgarth, to celebrate Aboriginal culture and provide a spotlight on the important work of Aboriginal legal centres. Guests attended a screening of the documentary *In My Blood it Runs*. Betty Garlett, member of the Baladong Clan and a respected Noongar Elder provided a special Welcome to Country and Lexi Lachal, Lawyer, Civil Law and Human Rights Unit of the Aboriginal Legal Service, then spoke about the Aboriginal Legal Service's important work in providing access to justice. In keeping with the theme of the event, canapés

inspired by the unique flavours of Aboriginal cuisine were served, as attendees networked and discussed the film.

Law Access Walk for Justice

The Law Society team were up bright and early to join the legal profession for the Law Access Walk for Justice along Perth's picturesque Riverside Drive to support a vision for equal access to justice for everyone in Western Australia. Over 400 participants took part in the walk from the Bell Tower along the foreshore. The Law Society team met with members, took photos and curated dynamic social media posts to promote the cause. The walk was the most successful fundraising year yet and raised \$119,069 with the uniting purpose of raising funds for pro-bono legal services via Law Access, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Law Society.

Law Week Breakfast Featuring the Announcement of the Attorney General's 2021 Community Service Law Awards

On Wednesday, 19 May 2021, the Law Society hosted its biggest Law Week Breakfast yet – with over 180 legal professionals enjoying an energising morning at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre to acknowledge the importance of access to justice for all and to celebrate lawyers making a difference in the community. The Law Society was delighted to host the President of the Law Council of Australia, Dr Jacoba Brasch QC, who travelled to Perth especially to deliver the keynote address, "The Call for Change – Law, Culture, Diversity, Voice".

Law Week Cocktail Party – Celebrating the Lawyer of the Year Awards in Style

On Friday, 21 May 2021 the Law Society hosted a cocktail party at the Westin Hotel, Perth for the conclusion of Law Week and to celebrate the contributions of lawyers to the profession and the community. The week finished on a high with over 180 Law Society members, VIPs, members of the judiciary and a broad spectrum of the legal fraternity, who came together to recognise and acknowledge the 2020 and 2021 Lawyers of the Year. The night also included recognition of practitioners who have held a practicing certificate for 50 and 60 years and celebrated the Law Society's newest Law Society Life Members.

Law Week Programme of Community Events

Law Week 2021 was bigger than ever this year following a more demure year in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



Dr Jacoba Brasch QC, giving the keynote speech at the Law Week Breakfast



Braving the brisk morning for the Law Access Walk for Justice



Winners of 2021 Lawyer of the Year - Peter Le, more than 5 years experience and Kendra Turner, less than 5 years experience



Six of the Seven Panelists for the Law Week Panel Discussion: The Women Should Have a Voice: The future of women's social justice in WA
 Pictured (L-R): Dr Carolyn Tan, Emeritus Professor Carmen Lawrence, Dr Christine Cunningham, Sandy Angie, Toni Church, Krista Dunstan (not pictured panel member Conrad Liveris)

Law Week is the WA legal profession's annual celebration of law and justice in the community. Over the decades it has gone from strength to strength, evolving into a week-long celebration for the legal profession and the community. Law Week has always been about connecting the legal profession with the community, demystifying our justice system, and keeping people informed about their rights and responsibilities before the law. In 2021, the Law Society was proud to showcase a dynamic programme of events that inspired, informed and brought people together. Over 30 events were delivered across the state and included events by LegalAid WA, Department of Justice, South West Community Legal Centre, Strata Community Australia (WA), Aboriginal Legal Service of Western Australia, and more.

Panel Discussion: The Women Should Have a Voice

As a companion event to the launch of the Edith Cowan exhibit at the Old Court House Law Museum a Law Week Panel Discussion event "The Women Should Have a Voice": The future of women's social justice in Western Australia' was held in association with the Karrakatta Club. Over 80 people attended with excellent feedback from all involved.

CPD Day for Rural Regional and Remote Legal Practitioners

A Law Society annual event held during Law Week where regional practitioners come to Perth to share collegiality and support, and to learn from each other through tailored Continuing Professional Development. The event this year was held both in person and online. This free event for Country members of the Law Society had over 60 participants from all around the State.

June 2021

YLC Sundowner

After a postponement due to a COVID-19 lockdown in April, the Law Society's Young Lawyers Committee finally hosted the sundowner on Thursday 10 June at Print Hall in the City. Guests enjoyed a night of networking over refreshments and nibbles to wind down after work. There was a great representation of young legal professionals, graduates and students, and it was amazing to see everyone in such good spirits despite the wintery weather.

YLC Social Justice Career Opportunities Evening

After a few years break, the YLC brought back its popular Social Justice Career Opportunities Evening on Wednesday, 23 June 2021, where over 80 law students, graduates and young lawyers learnt about the important work being done in the human rights and social justice space, and how they could be part of it. Held at The College of Law, the sponsor for the event, the panel of seven inspiring speakers spoke from the heart about their careers, and gave advice on job opportunities in the sector, volunteering roles and how to provide pro bono support. After the panel presentation, guests had direct access to the speakers and spoke to them over canapés and refreshments.

Cluedunnit Kids

Cluedunnit attracts an increasing number of participants each year – this year 448 students in 84 teams from 26 metropolitan and regional schools covering all socio-economic groups participated. The 24 submissions received were very creative ranging from digital video files in the style of news reports, game shows (I'm Guilty. Get Me Out of Here!), The Inspectigators (possibly modelled on the ABC show The Inbestigators), re-enactments, as well as raps, PowerPoint presentations and hard copy police files.

Francis Burt Law Education Programme

The Francis Burt Law Education Programme concluded for the 2020/21 year with 2,647 total participants in the programmes; 96% of total group visits were school groups.



Rockingham Autumn Centre group visit
Francis Burt Law Education Programme

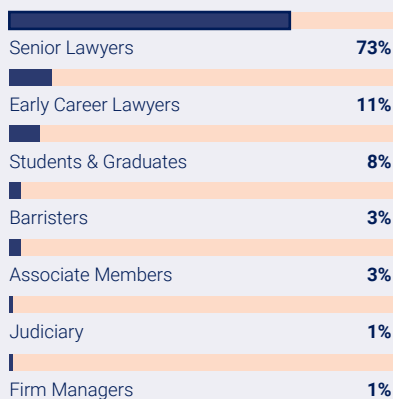


"The Women Should Have a Voice: Edith Cowan's legacy of social justice in Western Australia" exhibition.

A Strong Voice



4,417
Members



Includes 12 honorary, 35 life members and 33 on leave members.



3,023

People attended
19 Society events

Vital Support

Valuable insights
Efficient and effective messages
Equip our members for a successful career



5,680

Registrations for the Law Society's Continual Professional Development offering. Most were delivered remotely for COVID safety reasons.



8 Face-to-face seminars



58
Live webinars



72

eLearning
on-demand seminars



1,926

Professional
Standard Scheme
participants



1,382

Law Mutual Risk
Management
Workshop
and Seminar
participants



49

Family Law
Specialists
Accredited



47

Firms accredited
through the Quality
Practice Standard



**500 per
week**

The average number of members of
the public helped with a referral via our
"Find a Lawyer" service



250+

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



65

Policy paper submissions produced on key issues affecting the profession and advocating on rule of law



3,846

Total visitors to the Old Court House Law Museum

Supported Future

The voice and mentor for young practitioners
Partnerships and collaborations which add value



625

Mock Trial student participants

- 80** Mock trials
- 56** School teams competed
- 78** Legal Professionals volunteered
- 264** Students gained WACE accreditation



\$2,710,000

Grants approved by the Attorney General from the Public Purposes Trust



68

Lawyers paired with mentors in our mentoring program



2,647

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



398

Students from metro and regional schools participated in the Lawyer Visits to Schools Network

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 (Council ex officio), Tracy Albin, Maryse Aranda, Jenny McKenzie, Nicholas Snare, Rosaline Tan, Eli Bernstein, Lara Gotti



Accreditation

Trevor O'Sullivan (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Sam Fahey, Rod Hooper SC, Elizabeth Hynes, Natalie Kam, Denby Kerr, Kim Morrison, Devin Sanghavi, Paula Wilkinson, Mary Basta



Administrative Migration Law

Crawford Yorke (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

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



Alternative Dispute Resolution

Scott Ellis (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

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



Brief Editorial

Jason MacLaurin SC (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Gregory Boyle, Thomas Camp, Jack Carroll, Dianne Caruso, Lucy Clark, Megan Cramp, Patricia Femia, the Hon John McKechnie QC, Pat Saraceni, Robert Sceales, Teresa Szunejko, Eu-Min Teng



Commercial Law

Shane Stewart (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Robert French (Deputy Chair), Christopher Booth, Jenny Cutri (LCA), Andrew Crean, Paul Evans, Emma Garlett, Robert Macredie, Bruce Meredith, Maggie McGuinn, Fiona Ng (Observer), Gemma Nugent, Rachel Webber, Andreas von Altenstadt, Steven Standing, Trina Storm, Michael Berkeley-Hill, Steven Pynt, Tony Fifield, Aarahnan Raguragavan (observer)



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



Costs

Maria-Luisa Coulson (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Fraser Robertson, Lachlan Palmos, Milos Supljeglav, Peter Lochore, David Garnsworthy, Richard Graham, David Davidson, Amy Pascoe (Deputy Chair), Tony Fifield, Murray Thornhill, Tanya Lavan, Daniel Coster, Dale Wescombe (Observer)



Country Practitioners

Melita Medcalf (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Peter Brindal, Amelia Englert, Cally Hannah, Michael Ryan



Courts

Edward Greaves (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Charmian Barton (ex officio), Mark Blundell, Geoffrey Bourhill, David Bruns, Rebecca Collins, Rick Cullen, Shonelle Duthie (Leave of Absence), Paul Evans, Registrar Leonie Forrest (ex officio), Angelina Gomez, Patricia Femia, Richard Graham (Deputy Chair), Fiona Halsey, Matt Howard SC (Council ex officio), Registrar George Kingsley (ex officio), Nathan Landis, Aaron McDonald, Acting Principal Registrar Kate McDonald, Mark Pendlebury, Martyn Plummer (ex officio), Pat Saraceni, Jonathon Slack-Smith, District Registrar Russell Trott (ex officio), Magistrate Matthew Walton (observer), Alexander Ward-Noonan, Deputy Chief Magistrate Elizabeth Woods (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, Judy Mclean (ex officio), Anthony Elliot (observer), Lisa Boston (observer)



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

Marshall McKenna (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Joshua Aston, Professor Robert Cunningham, Emeritus Professor Peter Handford, Katja Levy, Kelly Martinelli, The Honourable Chief Justice Peter Quinlan, Professor Natalie Skead, Professor Joan Squelch, Joanne Stampalia, Sonia Walker



Education

Adam Levine (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Ryan Arndt, Rebecca Bunney, Angela Gomez, Pamela Hass, Fiona Low, Andrew Lu OAM, Ellie McGrory, Glen McLeod, Dr Pat Saraceni,



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, Anthony Davis, Gary Thomas, Peta Whyte, Craig Bradley, Damian Collins, Ross McCallum



Elder Law and Succession

Elizabeth Heenan (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Sally Bruce (Deputy Chair), Michael Bowyer, Rob Durey, Anthony Durand, Maria Fifield, Daniel Gill, John Hockley, Amanda Liston, Peter Nevin, Nova Oldfield, Peter MacMillan, Michaela Speering, Gabriel Wong, Tara Connolly, Ross Mendonca, Robert Lilley, Robert Nash



Human Rights and Equal Opportunity

Greg McIntyre SC (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Coraline De Zilwa (YLC), Alexander Dew, Haley Graydon, Cathryn Greville, Michael Jensen, Sara Pearson, Ilse Petersen, Rajesh Saharan, Rabia Siddique (Deputy Chair), Carolyn Tan, Charmaine Tsang (LCA EO Committee representative), Emiko Watanabe



Employee Relations

Stephen Kemp (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

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



Indigenous Legal Issues

Greg McIntyre SC (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Jenny McKenzie (Deputy Chair), Emma Garlett, Chloe D'Souza, Julia Mansfield, Kelsi Forrest, Judy Mclean (ex officio), Nicholas van Hattem (ex officio), Melita Medcalf, John Ralph, June Kenny (ex officio), Juanita King, Aparna Jayasekera



Environment, Town Planning and Local Government

Denis McLeod (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Andrew Carr, Clare Gleeson, Steven Halls, Lea Hiltenkamp (Ex Officio), Eve Lynch, Alex McGlue, Glen McLeod, Belinda Moharich, Gregory Mohen, Linda Rowley, Julius Skinner, Craig Clarke, Stephen Willey (Ex Officio)



In-house/Government Lawyers

Pamela Hass (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

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



Ethics

Fiona Stanton (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

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



Insolvency & Restructuring

Chris Pearce (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

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



Professional Indemnity Insurance Management

Dudley Stow (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Jocelyne Boujos, Rebecca Bunney, Robert Evans, Peter Forbes, Mark Hemery (resigned Feb 2021), Gary Mack, Paula Wilkinson



Intellectual Property

Clare Mould (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

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



Professional Standards Scheme Committee

Vidal Pinckney-Hockless (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Erin Blight, Jocelyne Boujos, Carolyn Moss, Craig Slater, Nicola Watts



Joint Law Society/Women Lawyers

Charmaine Tsang (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Karess Dias, Maria Fifield (WL/LS), Libby Fulham (WL/LS) (Deputy Chair), anielia Ion (WL/LS) (ex officio), Rebecca Lee (ex officio), Aleksandra Miller (LS), Janette McCahon (WL/LS), Sara Pearson (LS), Maya vanden Driesen (LS), Alena Zoric (LS)



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 (Ex Officio), Craig James, Fiona Low, John Prevost, Christine Scott, Doug Solomon, Dora Van der Westhuyzen, Gabriel Wong, Peta Whyte, Anthony Davis, Murray Broadbent



Mental Health and Wellbeing

David Davidson (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

David Blades (Deputy Chair), Michael Berkeley-Hill, Libby Fulham, Justine Howard, Rebecca Rorrison, Shayla Strapps, Jacklyn Smith, Sukhwant Singh, Nik Snare, Julia Sutherland, Coraline De Zilwa, Angie Gimisis, Jessica Baynes



Quality Practice Standard

Craig Slater (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Erin Blight, Jocelyne Boujos, Kevin Chalklin, Anthony Fifield, Andrew McGuiness, Nigel Richards, Teresa Szunejko, Murray Thornhill (retired Nov 2020)



Personal Injuries and Workers' Compensation

Joel Trigg (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Gray Porter, David Bruns, Mark Civitella (Deputy Chair), Dan Connor, Daniel Coster (Council ex officio), Bronte de Cuyper, Erica Dobson, Asanka Gunasekera, Vidal Hockless, Kerry Wood, Sophie Nauwelaers



Taxation Law

David Murphy (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Humphry Faas (Deputy Chair) (LCA), Matthew Crowley, John Fickling, John Hockley (LCA), Jonathon Leek (LCA), Sam Radici, Alex Sceales (LCA), Daniel Taborsky, Clare Thompson (LCA), Zoran Vukojevic, Robert Sceales (LCA), Grahame Young (LCA), Joel Emery (Observer), Chelsea Lyford (Observer)



Young Lawyers

Chris Burch (Chair)

The Law Society acknowledges and thanks:

Jack Carroll (Chair), Hague Skinner (Deputy Chair), Demi Swain (Deputy Chair), Lucy Clark, Coraline De Zilwa, Anthony Dique, Heidi Gan, Sean Gomes, Angela Hayes, Isabel Inkster, Anlee Khuu, Ellie McGrory, Ross Mendonca, Aleksandra Miller, Nicholas Mountain, Lyle Swithenbank, Sam Turton, Dora Van der Westhuyzen, Briony Whyte, Tom Camp (Council ex officio), Lea Hiltenkamp (Council ex officio), Selina Gates (Council ex officio), Gemma Swan (Council ex officio)

Corporate Governance

Annual General Meeting

The Law Society's Annual General Meeting was held on Thursday, 19 November 2020

Councillor Meeting Attendance

1 July 2020 to 31 December 2020

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 2)
Nicholas van Hattem	6	3	3	2
Jocelyne Boujos	6	3	3	2
Rebecca Lee	5	3	3	2
Greg McIntyre SC	4	1	1	1
Rebecca Bunney	5	2	2	1
Daniel Coster	5	3	3	1
Nathan Ebbs	3	3	3	1
Ante Golem	5	2	2	2
Mark Hemery	4	1	1	1
Matthew Howard SC	3	0	0	0
Craig Slater	4	2	2	1
Brooke Sojan	4	1	1	1
Shayla Strapps	4	3	3	1
Paula Wilkinson	5	2	2	2
Melita Medcalf	3	1	2	2
Thomas Camp	4	3	3	1
Lea Hiltenkamp	5	2	2	1
Gemma Swan	5	1	2	1

Councillor Meeting Attendance

1 January 2021 to 30 June 2021

Member	Council (Total 4)	Trustee of Law Mutual Fund (Total 4)	Trustee of the Public Purposes Trust (Total 3)	Trustee of the Chief Justice's Youth Appeal Trust (Total 1)
Jocelyne Boujos	4	4	3	1
Rebecca Lee	3	3	2	1
Shayla Strapps	3	3	3	1
Nicholas van Hattem	2	3	3	1
Rebecca Bunney	2	3	2	1
Daniel Coster	4	4	3	1
Angie Gimisis	4	3	3	1
Ante Golem	3	3	2	1
Matthew Howard SC	2	0	1	0
June Kenny	2	2	2	1
Gary Mack	4	4	3	1
Judy McLean	3	3	2	1
Craig Slater	3	0	3	1
Brooke Sojan	2	2	2	1
Paula Wilkinson	4	4	3	1
Melita Medcalf	3	3	2	0
Thomas Camp	4	3	2	1
Selina Gates	4	4	3	1
Lea Hiltenkamp	3	2	2	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 2020

- Brooke Sojan – 1 June to 31 August 2020
- Craig Slater – 1 September to 31 December 2020

Executive Appointed Councillors 2021

- Paula Wilkinson – 1 February to 16 July 2021
- Ante Golem – 19 July to 31 December 2021

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 2020-2021 year.*

Member	Date of Meeting	Description of Interest
Shayla Strapps	26.08.2020 PPT4 – Confidential Public Purposes Trust – Maximum Annual Grant Pool Allocation Limit Recommendations 2020 2021	The organisation Ms Strapps works for was a previous grant recipient
Rebecca Lee	09.12.2020 – C091220A5 – Committee Resignations/ Appointments	Appointment to PPT Committee
Jocelyne Boujos	09.12.2020 – C091220E4 – Confidential – Appointment of the Chairperson to the PIIMC Committee	Member of the PIIMC
Rebecca Bunney	09.12.2020 – C091220E4 – Confidential – Appointment of the Chairperson to the PIIMC Committee	Member of the PIIMC
Lea Hiltenkamp	24.02.2021 – C240221E3 – Confidential – WA Women's Hall of Fame and Women Lawyers of WA Awards 2021	Member of the YLC
Craig Slater	24.02.2021 – C240221E5 - Confidential – Law Mutual Insurance Arrangement 2021/2022 24.02.2021 – C240221E6 -Confidential – Law Mutual Professional Indemnity Insurance Management Committee Minutes and General Managers Report	Instructed in matters by Law Mutual (WA)
Shayla Strapps	24.02.21 C240221 – PPT Agenda	Noted perceived conflict of Interest - the organisation Ms Strapps works for was a previous grant recipient
Judy McLean	24.02.21 C240221 – PPT Agenda	Noted perceived conflict of Interest - the organisation Ms McLean works for was a previous grant recipient
Gary Mack	31.03.2021 - C310321E4 – Confidential Appointment of One Council Member to the PIIMC to fill casual vacancy	Nominated for appointment to fill casual vacancy
Daniel Coster	26.05.2021 - C260521A5 – Committee Resignations/ Appointments	Nominated for appointment to the Costs Committee
Shayla Strapps	30.06.2021 - C300621D2 – Education and Community Services and Law Week: PPT Applications	Noted perceived conflict of Interest - the organisation Ms Strapps works for was a previous grant recipient
Judy McLean	30.06.2021 - C300621D2 – Education and Community Services and Law Week: PPT Applications	Noted perceived conflict of Interest - the organisation Ms McLean works for was a previous grant recipient



Executive & Stakeholder Meetings

Executive Meetings 2020

Shadow Attorney General; Shadow Minister for Police and Shadow Minister for Corrective Services

Legal Practice Board and Legal Profession Complaints Committee

Family Law Practitioners' Association (FLPA)

Community Legal Western Australia

Criminal Lawyers Association

Executive Meetings 2021

Attorney General (State)

Chief Justice of Western Australia

Chief Judge of the District Court

Solicitor General

Stakeholder Meetings 2021 (President/CEO)

Informal meeting with President, Law Council of Australia

Informal meeting with the State Solicitors Office, Legal Practice Board of WA and Insurance Commission of WA

Informal meeting with Chief Judge of the Family Court of Western Australia

Stakeholder Meetings 2020 (President/CEO)

Attorney General (State)

Chief Executive Officer, Legal Super

Informal meeting with Presidents of Legal Associations in WA

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 2020/21.

External Boards

State Solicitors Office - Pro Bono Evaluation Working Group

Legal Aid Commission – vacancy due to resignation

Judicial Council on Cultural Diversity

Legal Aid Commission – vacancy due to term expiring

Western Australian Reproductive Technology Council

Legal Aid Commission – vacancy due to resignation

Legal Aid Committee 2021-2022

Law Council of Australia – Modernising Document Execution Working Group

Submissions

The Law Society made more than 60 submissions to government agencies, law reform bodies and courts in 2020/21.

2020

- Law Council of Australia - Inquiry into the Destruction of Caves – Juukan Gorge - Law Council of Australia
- Legal Representatives Visiting Yongah Hill Detention Centre - Australian Border Force
- Children and Community Services Amendment Bill 2019 (WA) - Legislative Council Standing Committee on Legislation
- Legal Profession (Magistrates Court) (Civil) Report and Determination 2020 - Legal Costs Committee
- Federal Court Procedural Reform in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic - Law Council of Australia
- Amendment of the Supreme Court (Corporations) (WA) Rules 2004 (WA) - Chief Justice of Western Australia
- Feedback on Magistrates Court Residential Tenancies Jurisdiction - Chief Magistrate
- Law Society of Western Australia Professional Standards Scheme – Risk and Compliance Framework and Five-Year Plan Review – 2019/2024 Scheme - Professional Standards Council
- Exposure Draft of the Building and Construction Industry (Security of Payment) Bill 2020 (WA - Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety Building
- Law Council of Australia – 2020-21 Further Pre-Budget Submission - Law Council of Australia
- Addressing Sexual Harassment in the Legal Profession: Measures Proposed to Drive Cultural Change - Law Council of Australia
- Federal Judicial Commission - Law Council of Australia
- Joint Costs Advisory Committee Inquiry 2020 - Law Council of Australia
- Management of Digital Evidence in Criminal Cases - Chair of WA Courts and Tribunals Technology Steering Committee
- Continuing COVID-19 Procedures in the District Court - Chief Judge of the District Court of Western Australia
- Proposed further Revisions to Australian Solicitors' Conduct Rule 42 – Anti-Discrimination and Harassment - Law Council of Australia
- Submission on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Bill 2020 - Dept of Planning, Lands and Heritage
- Transparency of Legal Costs in Supreme Court Strategic Conferences and Mediations - Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Western Australia
- Statutory Prohibition of Cross Examination by Unrepresented Defendants in Civil Proceedings for Sexual Assault and Sexual Abuse - Department of Justice
- Continuing COVID-19 Procedures in the Supreme Court of Western Australia - Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Western Australia
- Lodgment of Amended Pleadings and Track Changes - Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Western Australia
- Confidential – Law Council of Australia Equitable Briefing Policy - Law Council of Australia
- Code of Inspection Standards for Adult Custodial Services in Western Australia - Inspector of Custodial Services
- Federal Judicial Commission - Law Council of Australia
- Law Council of Australia Request for Constituent Body Advocacy: Charitable Fundraising - Minister for Commerce
- Legal Profession Uniform Law – Local Regulations - Solicitor General
- Confidential – Rural, Regional and Remote National Strategic Plan - Law Council of Australia
- Confidential – National Roundtable Addressing Sexual Harassment in the Legal Profession - Law Council of Australia
- Law Council of Australia – Review of the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) - Law Council of Australia
- Searching for Grants of Probate on the Courts Portal - Chief Justice of Supreme Court of Western Australia
- Australian Taxation Office Consultation: Death and Taxes - Law Council of Australia
- Options to Enhance the Family Safety Competency of Legal Practitioners - Law Council of Australia
- Community Titles Regulation - Landgate
- Advance Health Directives - Attorney General and Minister for Health
- Commonwealth Integrity Commission Exposure Draft - Law Council of Australia



Submissions Continued

2021

- Legal Profession (Solicitors Costs) Determination 2019; Legal Profession (Non-Contentious Probate Costs) Determination 2019; Legal Profession (Public Notaries) Determination 2019 - Legal Costs Committee
- Statutory Farm Debt Mediation Briefing Paper - Minister for Agriculture and Shadow Minister for Agriculture
- Provisional Assessment 2.5% Filing Fee - Attorney General
- Law Council of Australia: Elder and Succession Law Issues - Law Council of Australia
- Accreditation for Estate Practitioners – The Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners
- Tendency and Coincidence Evidence in Western Australia - Department of Justice
- Resourcing the State Administrative Tribunal for Strata Matters – Attorney General and Minister for Lands
- Landgate Notice Periods and Postage Delays - Registrar of Titles and the Commissioner of Titles Landgate
- Mandatory Reporting of Lawyer Misconduct in Uniform Law - Legal Services Council
- Delays in the Family Court of Western Australia - State and Federal Attorney Generals
- Revised Australian Solicitors' Conduct Rules – Commencement Date - Law Council of Australia
- Family Law Accreditation – Proposed Reform Option - Attorney General's Department
- Mediation in the David Malcolm Justice Centre – White Noise - Supreme Court of Western Australia
- Amendments to Criminal Injuries Compensation Act 2003 - Commission for Victims of Crime
- Timely Uploading of Probate Grants on ECourts Portal - Chief Justice of Western Australia
- Bailiff Services in WA – Request to be consulted on next Tender - Attorney General
- Workcover Costs Determination - Workcover
- Law Council of Australia Consultation – Proposed changes to Rule 42 of the Australian Solicitors' Conduct Rules - Law Council of Australia
- Recruitment and Retention of Lawyers in Rural, Regional and Remote Australia - Law Council of Australia
- Consultation Paper on Rules 91B and 91BA of the Legal Profession Uniform General Rules 2015 - Legal Services Council
- Anti-Ademption Provisions - Attorney General
- Magistrates Court (Fees) Regulations 2005 (WA) – Small Business Definition - Attorney General
- Amendment to the Magistrates Court (Civil Proceedings) Act 2004 to Remove the Consumer/Trader Jurisdiction - Court and Tribunal Services, Department of Justice
- Passage of the Migration Amendment (Regulation of Migration Agents) Act 2020 (Cth) - Dept of Training and Workforce Development
- Law Council of Australia – Draft Five Year Strategic Plan 2021-2026 - Law Council of Australia
- Accreditation for Estate Practitioners – The Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (WA)
- Confidential – Law Society of WA Professional Standards Scheme – Risk and Compliance Framework and Five-Year Plan Review – 2019/2024 Scheme - Professional Standards Council
- Confidential – Duties Amendment (Farm-In Agreements) Bill 2021 - Commissioner of Taxation
- Confidential – Draft Revenue Ruling – Substantially One Agreement - Commissioner of Taxation
- Confidential – Charitable Trusts Bill 2021 - State Solicitors Office

Life Members

2020

Mr Denis McLeod

2019

John Ley SC

2018

Kevin John Edwards

Cav. Maria Saraceni

His Honour Judge Hylton Quail

2017

Robert Kronberger

2016

Susan Fielding

The Hon Kevin Parker AC RFD QC

Chris Zelestis QC

2015

The Hon Justice Carmel McLure

Steven Penglis

Clare Thompson

2014

Dudley Stow

2013

Her Hon Antoinette Kennedy AO

The Hon Robert Nicholson AO

2012

His Excellency Malcolm McCusker

AC CVO QC, Governor of WA

The Hon Chief Justice Wayne Martin AC

The Hon Michael Murray QC

The Hon Daryl Williams AM QC

2010

John Fiocco

2009

Elizabeth Heenan

2008

John Gillett

David Garnsworthy

2007

Michal Lewi

2005

The Hon Judge John Chaney

Rick Cullen

2003

The Hon Sir John Lavan

2002

Gregory Boyle

Judy Eckert

The Hon Robert French

The Hon Chief Justice David Malcolm AC

Robert Meadows QC

Her Hon Judge Kate O'Brien

John Syminton

1998

The Hon Sir Francis Burt AC

The Hon P Durack QC

The Hon John Toohey AC

The Hon Ian Medcalf AO

1996

The Hon Barry Rowland QC

The Hon John Wickham QC

Rory Argyle

Financial Statements



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Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

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Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

	NOTE	2021 \$	2020 \$
Revenue and Income	5	4,377,250	5,073,936
Investment income		148	9,556
Gain on the revaluation of properties		-	110,000
Governance expenses		(589,495)	(623,259)
Member services expenses		(1,313,289)	(1,461,673)
Advocacy and community programmes expenses		(866,878)	(896,858)
Interest expenses		(4,288)	(42,251)
Finance and administration expenses		(1,331,608)	(1,366,440)
Surplus for the year		271,840	803,011
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		271,840	803,011

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

Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2021

	NOTE	2021 \$	2020 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	13	1,724,882	1,655,901
Trade and other receivables	6	16,487	252,688
Other assets		82,286	28,620
Total current assets		1,823,655	1,937,209
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	7	3,700,120	3,794,373
Right-of-use asset	16	30,207	-
Intangible assets	8	17,233	18,387
Total non-current assets		3,747,560	3,812,760
Total assets		5,571,215	5,749,969
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	9	477,056	370,983
Provisions	10	259,085	208,459
Lease Liability		8,487	-
Revenue in advance		1,356,395	1,012,292
Total current liabilities		2,101,023	1,591,734
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Borrowings	11	10,000	1,000,000
Provisions	10	29,839	21,568
Lease Liability		21,846	-
Total non-current liabilities		61,685	1,021,568
Total liabilities		2,162,708	2,613,302
Net assets		3,408,507	3,136,667
MEMBERS' FUNDS			
Retained surplus	12	3,408,507	3,136,667
Total members' funds		3,408,507	3,136,667

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

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

	RETAINED SURPLUS	TOTAL
	\$	\$
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 1 July 2020	3,136,667	3,136,667
Surplus for the year	271,840	271,840
Total comprehensive income for the year	271,840	271,840
Balance as at 30 June 2021	3,408,507	3,408,507

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 2021

	NOTE	2021 \$	2020 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Member subscriptions		2,288,222	2,075,305
Interest received		148	10,561
Receipts from other operating activities		3,179,902	3,014,416
Payments to suppliers and employees		(4,324,187)	(4,899,564)
Net cash generated by operating activities	13.1	1,144,085	200,718
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from term deposits - other financial assets		-	500,164
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(74,427)	(142,601)
Payments for intangible assets		(2,200)	(5,000)
Net cash (used in)/generated by investing activities		(76,627)	352,563
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Interest expenses		(4,013)	(42,251)
Payments for right-of-use leases		(4,464)	-
Repayment of borrowings		(990,000)	(831,500)
Net cash used in financing activities		(998,477)	(873,751)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		68,981	(320,470)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		1,655,901	1,976,371
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	13	1,724,882	1,655,901

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.

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 not adopted any new or 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 2020.

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:

- 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
- 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.

Notes to the Financial Statements

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

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.

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.

Notes to the Financial Statements

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.

Notes to the Financial Statements

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

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.

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

In the prior period ending 30 June 2020, the Law Society of Western Australia assessed its existing lease agreements as low value and the lease payments associated with the leases were recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

In the current period ending 30 June 2021, the Law Society of Western Australia signed a new lease agreement has elected to recognize right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for leases of IT equipment.

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 Australia has not applied any new accounting policies or made changes to existing policies in the period ending 30 June 2021.

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.

Notes to the Financial Statements

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.

Notes to the Financial Statements

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.

Notes to the Financial Statements

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 last 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 2021, management estimates that the fair value of the Building has not materially changed from the last valuation by Opteon on 30 June 2020, being \$3,530,000, adjusted for depreciation in the year ended 30 June 2021.. The next revaluation is scheduled to be done at 30 June 2022.

Notes to the Financial Statements

5. Revenue and Income

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Revenue from contracts with customers		
Member subscriptions	1,702,444	2,168,686
Membership services and activities	237,612	144,023
CPD programme and education	368,701	629,857
Marketing and promotion	137,059	282,175
Finance and administration services	678,728	624,217
Total revenue from contracts with customers	3,124,544	3,848,958
Other revenue		
Other revenue	363,439	449,747
Total revenue	3,487,983	4,298,705
Income		
Grants	400,767	455,481
Government stimulus	488,500	319,750
Total income	889,267	775,231
Total revenue and income	4,377,250	5,073,936

6. Trade and other receivables

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Current		
Trade debtors	-	290
Accrued income	15,371	251,710
Other receivables	1,116	688
	16,487	252,688

Notes to the Financial Statements

7. Property, plant and equipment

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Carrying amounts of:		
Building	3,441,750	3,530,000
Plant and equipment	258,370	264,373
	3,700,120	3,794,373

	Building at fair value	Plant and equipment at cost	Total
Balance at 30 June 2020			
Cost or valuation	3,530,000	1,976,740	5,506,740
Accumulated depreciation	-	(1,712,367)	(1,712,367)
	3,530,000	264,373	3,794,373
Balance at 30 June 2021			
Cost or valuation	3,530,000	2,051,167	5,581,167
Accumulated depreciation	(88,250)	(1,792,797)	(1,881,047)
	3,441,750	258,370	3,700,120

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 2020			
Cost or valuation	3,530,000	1,976,740	5,506,740
Acquisitions	-	74,427	74,427
Balance at 30 June 2021	3,530,000	2,051,167	5,581,167

Accumulated depreciation			
Balance as at 1 July 2020	-	(1,712,367)	(1,712,367)
Depreciation	(88,250)	(80,430)	(168,680)
Balance at 30 June 2021	(88,250)	(1,792,797)	(1,881,047)

Notes to the Financial Statements

7.1 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*.

8. Intangibles

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Carrying amounts of:		
Trademark	17,233	18,387
	17,233	18,387

	Trademark
Balance at 30 June 2020	
Cost	65,283
Accumulated amortisation	(46,896)
	18,387
Balance at 30 June 2021	
Cost	67,483
Accumulated amortisation	(50,250)
	17,233

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

9. Trade and other payables

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Current		
Trade creditors	65,407	63,177
Accrued expenses	59,897	36,132
Other payables	351,752	271,674
	477,056	370,983

10. Provisions

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Current		
Employee benefits	259,085	208,459
Non-current		
Employee benefits	29,839	21,568
	288,924	230,027

Notes to the Financial Statements

11. Borrowings

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Non-current		
Bank loan secured at amortised cost	10,000	1,000,000
	10,000	1,000,000

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 loan facility limit is \$1,831,500 (30 June 2020: \$1,831,500). The interest expense on the facility for the year ending 30 June 2021 is \$4,014 (30 June 2020 was \$42,251).

The Law Society of Western Australia has a letter of credit totalling \$160,000 (30 June 2020: \$160,000) of which \$150,000 (30 June 2020: \$150,000) has been used as at 30 June 2021, for a Transaction Negotiation Authority (TNA) guarantee provided by the bank to all other banks, that payroll related payments will be met.

12. Retained Surplus

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Balance at the beginning of the year	3,136,667	2,333,656
Surplus for the year	271,840	803,011
Balance at the end of year	3,408,507	3,136,667

Notes to the Financial Statements

13. 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.

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Cash and cash equivalents	1,724,882	1,655,901
	1,724,882	1,655,901

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

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Surplus for the year	271,840	803,011
(Gain) on the revaluation of properties	-	(110,000)
Interest expenses	4,288	42,251
Depreciation and amortisation of non-current assets	176,349	168,514
	452,477	903,776
Movements in working capital		
Decrease/(increase) in trade receivables	236,201	(67,931)
(Decrease)/increase in other assets	(53,665)	106,309
(Decrease)/increase in trade and other payables	106,074	(167,143)
(Decrease)/Increase in provisions	58,896	(111,213)
(Decrease)/increase in revenue in advance	344,102	(463,080)
Cash (used in) operations	691,608	(703,058)
Net cash generated by operating activities	1,144,085	200,718

13.2 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 2020	Financing cash flows	Balance as at 30 June 2021
Borrowings (note 11)	1,000,000	(990,000)	10,000
	1,000,000	(990,000)	10,000

Notes to the Financial Statements

14. 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 2021.

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 2021.

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:

	2021 Up to 6 months	2021 > 12 months	2021 Total	2020 Up to 6 months	2020 > 12 months	2020 Total
Trade and other payables	477,056	-	477,056	370,983	-	370,983
Borrowings	-	10,000	10,000	-	1,000,000	1,000,000
Total	477,056	10,000	487,056	370,983	1,000,000	1,370,983

Notes to the Financial Statements

(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:

	2021 Carrying amount	2021 Sensitivity	2020 Carrying amount	2020 Sensitivity
Cash and cash equivalents	1,724,882	4,312	1,655,901	4,140
Borrowings	10,000	25	1,000,000	2,500
Total	1,734,883	4,337	2,655,901	6,640

15. 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 2021 to 30 June 2021	Members who served 1 July 2020 to 31 December 2020
Jocelyne Boujos	Nicholas van Hattem
Rebecca Lee	Jocelyne Boujos
Shayla Strapps	Rebecca Lee
Nicholas van Hattem	Greg McIntyre SC
Rebecca Bunney	Rebecca Bunney
Daniel Coster	Daniel Coster
Angie Gimisis	Nathan Ebbs
Ante Golem	Ante Golem
Mark Hemery (<i>resigned Feb 2021</i>)	Mark Hemery
Matthew Howard SC	Matthew Howard SC
June Kenny	Craig Slater
Gary Mack	Brooke Sojan
Judy McLean	Shayla Strapps
Craig Slater	Paula Wilkinson
Brooke Sojan	Melita Medcalf
Paula Wilkinson	Thomas Camp
Melita Medcalf	Lea Hiltenkamp
Thomas Camp	Gemma Swan
Selina Gates	
Lea Hiltenkamp	

Notes to the Financial Statements

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 30 June 2021 was \$121,376. (30 June 2020: \$118,416).

During the reporting period, legal services were provided to the Law Society of Western Australia, under normal commercial terms and conditions. For the period ending 30 June 2021 nil fees for legal services were paid to firms of which Councillors were partners, employees and consultants (30 June 2020: \$1,320).

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 \$347,524 (30 June 2020: \$334,719) 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 2020: \$174,790).

At 30 June 2021, Law Mutual (WA) had a credit balance of \$18,590 with the Law Society of Western Australia (30 June 2020: \$15,532 credit balance with the Law Society of Western Australia).

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

In the 2020-21 financial year, the Law Society of Western Australia received grants payments from the Public Purposes Trust for the following activities:

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Francis Burt Law Education Programme	240,000	240,000
Francis Burt Law Education Programme - Oral History Project	-	10,000
Law Society of WA - Retention Study	-	20,000
Law Week	20,000	20,000
	260,000	290,000

The Public Purposes Trust paid \$166,196 (2020: \$146,546) to the Law Society of Western Australia for administration, consulting and management services on normal commercial terms and conditions.

At 30 June 2021, no monies were owed by the Public Purposes Trust to the Law Society of Western Australia (30 June 2020: \$Nil).

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 2021 was \$753,618 (30 June 2020: \$865,606).

Notes to the Financial Statements

16. Commitments

See accounting policy in Note 3.8.

For the prior year ended 30 June 2020, the Law Society of Western Australia assessed all leases to be both short-term and low value and these were recognised in the profit and loss statement.

During the current year 30 June 2021, the Law Society of Western Australia entered into new leasing agreements and has recognised right-of-use asset and lease liability for these leases.

Amounts recognized in profit or loss

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Expenses relating to short term leases	2,597	7,992
Interest on lease liabilities	274	-
Depreciation on right-of-use assets	4,315	-
Total amount recognised in profit and loss	7,186	7,992

Right-of-use assets

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Opening Balance	-	-
Additions to right-of-use assets	34,522	-
Depreciation charge for the year	(4,315)	-
Closing balance at end of year	30,207	-

17. Remuneration of auditor

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Audit of the financial statements - KPMG	21,000	20,500
	21,000	20,500

18. Subsequent events

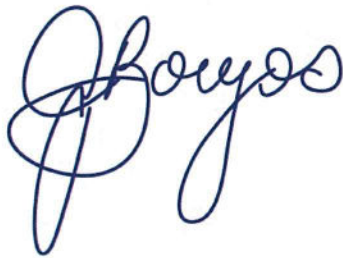
There has not been any matter or circumstance, which has arisen since 30 June 2021 that has significantly affected or may significantly affect, the operations of the Law Society of Western Australia, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Law Society of Western Australia in future 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 2021 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.



Jocelyne Boujos
President

28.10.2021

Date



Shayla Strapps
Junior Vice President/Treasurer

28/10/21

Date



Independent Auditor's Report

To the members of the Law Society of Western Australia

Opinion

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

In our opinion,

- the accompanying Financial Statements gives a true and fair view of the financial position of Association as at 30 June 2021, 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 2021.
- 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 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

28 October 2021



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 2021 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.

KPMG

KPMG

Matthew Beevers

Partner

Perth

28 October 2021