



Legal Aid Western Australia

Online Quarterly Report

1 October 2020 - 31 December 2020



LEGAL AID
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Performance this Quarter

2 QTR 2020-2021

LAWA WEBSITE
UNIQUE PAGE VIEWS

470,680



↑49%

on the same period
in 2019-2020

TELEPHONE CALLS TO
LAWA'S INFOLINE WITH
AN OUTCOME OF SERVICE

13,933



↑2%

on the same period
in 2019-2020

EXTERNAL REFERRALS
FROM INFOLINE

5,981



↑4%

on the same period
in 2019-2020

ADVICE, ADVOCACY
& DOCUMENT
PREPARATION

6,328



GRANTS DECISIONS

REVIEWED



9

OVERTURNED



0



2,583 NEW
GRANTS
OF AID

6,499 EXTENSIONS
OF EXISTING
GRANTS OF AID

↑4%

on the same period
in 2019-2020

78% % OF NEW GRANTS ASSIGNED TO
THE PRIVATE PROFESSION

11,771 DUTY LAWYER SERVICES

FAMILY DISPUTE RESOLUTION MEDIATIONS **215**

RECIPIENTS OF COMMUNITY LEGAL EDUCATION **7,554**

SERVICES TO PEOPLE EXPERIENCING FAMILY VIOLENCE **10,593**

↑9%

on the same period
in 2019-2020

ONLINE
LEGAL CHAT

3,947



Priority Project Updates

New service launched

In early October Legal Aid WA launched a new service that allows someone who is experiencing hardship to clear their court fines. They do this by participating in approved work, or development activities. These activities include unpaid work, mental health treatment, vocational training or drug and alcohol rehabilitation. This new service will keep people out of prison for unpaid fines and help them turn their lives around.

New wraparound service

Legal Aid WA is providing a lawyer to the new Naala Djookan family violence hub at Mirrabooka. The hub is a ten-agency centre that provides an integrated 'one-stop-shop' service to victims. The hub simplifies access to specialist family violence services in one safe, inclusive and welcoming location. Our lawyer is triaging legal issues; providing advice to clients; delivering community legal education; and applying for grants of aid.

Best in class

On 11 November the Auditor General tabled a report in Parliament naming Legal Aid WA as a best practice entity for the quality of financial reporting and controls.

The report acknowledges the performance of Legal Aid WA across many criteria, including the timely preparation for audit, high quality financial and key performance indicator reporting, and the maintenance of good financial management controls.



Legal Aid at the Naala Djookan Family Violence Hub

Priority Project Updates

New Commissioner

In November, the Governor appointed Alana Padmanabham as a Commissioner. Alana has over 15 years experience in criminal law. She has her own firm and appears in all Western Australian criminal jurisdictions. Alana is enthusiastic about legal aid and feels strongly about access to justice.



Alana Padmanabham, Commissioner of Legal Aid

And one more thing.....

In October, Legal Aid WA's Giulia Reale-Fucile won the Criminal Lawyers Association's Hodge Award. The Hodge Award goes to a person who is 'an inspirational role model for other young criminal lawyers.' The winner also has to 'demonstrate leadership within the criminal law community' and be a lawyer who 'promotes justice and equality.' The Hodge award is fabulous recognition for Giulia, who, in our Youth Law Team, makes the impossible possible every day.



Giulia Reale-Fucile, Youth Law Team at Legal Aid, with Maureen Kavanagh, Director of Criminal Law Division

Financial Performance

Legal Aid is forecasting a better than expected result at the end of the financial year. The forecast deficit of \$3.36 million is upon the basis of accrual accounting standards. It includes a \$2.015 million accounting adjustment for leases and a \$2.848 million carryover as a result of an underspend the previous year, partially offset by expected salary savings of \$1.294 million.

Financial Performance	Year-to-date Sept 2020	Forecast[^] June 2020
Commonwealth Funding	\$33,221,436	\$41,961,429
State Funding	\$31,854,540	\$54,411,077
Other Income	\$1,922,061	\$3,348,240
Total Revenue	\$66,998,037	\$99,720,746
Total expenditure	\$51,584,887	\$103,088,647
Surplus/Deficit*	\$15,413,150	-\$3,367,901

**The operating surplus of \$15,413,150 as at 31 December 2020 is due to the receipt of Commonwealth and State funding in advance which is scheduled to be expended by the end of June 2021.*

[^]Forecast Actuals to the end of June are Legal Aid WA's best estimate of where we believe the Commission's finances are currently expected to be at the 2020-21 year end.

These are management figures and have not been audited.



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