



2016

ANNUAL REVIEW



Supreme Court
of New South Wales

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FOREWORD BY THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF NEW SOUTH WALES

It is with great pleasure that I present the 2016 Annual Review of the Supreme Court of New South Wales. The Review provides a comprehensive analysis of the constituent members of the Court, its operations and case management, and its community programs. In this way it helps to maintain the transparency and accountability required of public institutions in modern democracies. All the judges of this Court remain conscious of the responsibility we have to administer justice, according to law, for the benefit of the people of New South Wales. We consider it a great privilege to have the public's continued trust in our work. I hope that members of the public reading the Review are as pleased as I am with the achievements of the Court throughout 2016.

The overriding obligation of this Court is the resolution of disputes, justly, cheaply and quickly. On the one hand, the Court's performance of this role is ascertained by considering somewhat elusive concepts, such as the quality and accessibility of justice and the openness of process. It is also contained in the carefully considered judgments of the Court and the daily interactions of judges, registry staff, and other Court staff with the public. Nevertheless, we can still be assisted in determining the extent to which we are fulfilling our duties to the public by analysing the statistics provided in this Review.

To this end, the continued performance against national benchmarks in many areas of the Court is encouraging. Cases less than 12 months old remained steady from 2015 in the Court of Appeal at 91% and the Equity Division at 71%, relatively steady in the Common Law Division Civil List at 68% (from 69% in 2015), and improved to 99% of cases in the Court of Criminal Appeal, up from 94% in 2015. The age profile worsened in the Common Law Division Criminal List, from 81% down to 71%, with many cases delayed due to the need to re-list or re-start trials, interlocutory appeals, and a number of very long trials needing accommodation. There was some improvement in listing delays in the Court of Appeal, Court of Criminal Appeal and the Bails List. The Court is continuing to improve the internal allocation of resources to improve listing delays in the Common Law Division Civil and Criminal Trials Lists, and the Equity Division List in coming years.

The Court remains committed to promoting alternative dispute resolution. The Court-Annexed Mediation Program continued to achieve a good settlement rate of 51% in 2016. The introduction of informal settlement conferences in 2014 has reduced the number of cases going to Court-Annexed Mediation, providing cheaper and quicker resolutions for the parties involved.

One of the ways we can continue to maintain these pleasing statistical outcomes is by ensuring judges update their skills and knowledge through judicial education programs. During 2016, each judge attended (on average) 2.8 days of Judicial Commission training, and many also attended orientation programs for new judges, twilight seminars and the Supreme Court's annual conference. I am pleased to report that judges also attended a number of seminars on issues specific to Indigenous offenders, as part of the Court's ongoing commitment to improving the relationship between the justice system and Indigenous Australians.

The Media Manager continued to mediate the Court's relationship with the broader public, completing 6,149 requests for information throughout the year. In addition, the Court's registrars continued the public education program, providing lectures at no cost about the Supreme Court to approximately 1,100 students and members of the public over the course of the year.

As this Annual Review evidences, the Supreme Court of New South Wales is a busy institution which nonetheless runs smoothly and successfully. For this, can I firstly thank all the judicial officers of this Court, who continue to faithfully serve and uphold the rule of law with impartiality and integrity in their daily work. Secondly, I express my gratitude to all Court staff, for their hard work and ongoing commitment to the administration of justice. I commend their dedication and I trust that this Review will provide you an insight into the work we all undertake.



The Hon T Bathurst AC
Chief Justice of New South Wales



1 COURT PROFILE

- The Court's jurisdiction and Divisions
- Who makes the decisions?
- Supporting the Court: the Registry

THE COURT'S JURISDICTION AND DIVISIONS

The Supreme Court of New South Wales: our place in the court system

The court system in New South Wales is structured on a hierarchical basis. The Supreme Court is the superior court of record in New South Wales and, as such, has an inherent jurisdiction in addition to its specific statutory jurisdiction.

The Supreme Court has appellate and trial jurisdictions. The appellate courts are the:

- Court of Appeal
- Court of Criminal Appeal.

The trial work of the criminal and civil jurisdictions is divided between two Divisions:

- Common Law Division
- Equity Division.

This structure facilitates the convenient despatch of business in accordance with the provisions under section 38 of the *Supreme Court Act 1970*.

Section 23 of the *Supreme Court Act 1970* provides the Court with all jurisdiction necessary for the administration of justice in New South Wales. The Supreme Court has supervisory jurisdiction over other courts and tribunals in the State. The Court generally exercises this supervisory jurisdiction through its appellate courts.

The Industrial Court of New South Wales and the Land and Environment Court of New South Wales are specialist courts of statutory jurisdiction. The Judges of these courts have the status of Supreme Court Judges.

The District Court of New South Wales is an intermediate court, and its jurisdiction is determined by statute. The Local Court sits at the bottom of the hierarchy of New South Wales courts, and has broad criminal and civil jurisdictions.

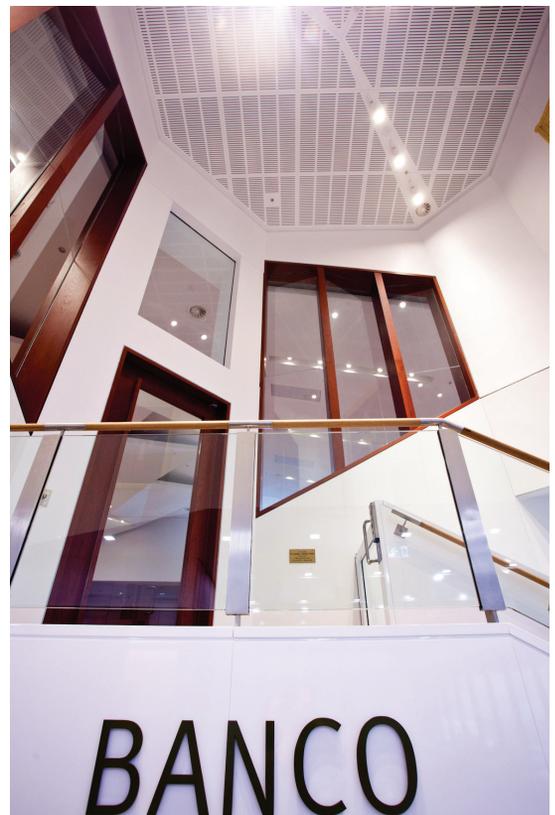
The NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT) was established on 1 January 2014 by the *Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2013*. NCAT is the single point of access for specialist tribunal services in NSW, consolidating the work of 22 former tribunals. NCAT was established in response to the recommendations of the Legislative Council's Standing Committee on Law and Justice Inquiry into opportunities to consolidate tribunals in NSW.

There are four divisions of NCAT: the Administrative and Equal Opportunity Division; the Consumer and Commercial Division; the Guardianship Division; and the Occupational Division.

Figures 1.1 and 1.2 illustrate the court hierarchy in New South Wales and the gateways to appeal in the criminal and civil jurisdictions.

Court of Appeal

The Court of Appeal is responsible for hearing appeals in civil matters against the decisions of the judicial officers of the Supreme Court, other courts, commissions and tribunals within the State, as prescribed in the *Supreme Court Act 1970*.



Court of Criminal Appeal

The Court of Criminal Appeal hears appeals from criminal proceedings in the Supreme Court, the Industrial Court, the Land and Environment Court, the District Court and the Drug Court. Appeals may challenge convictions and sentences imposed upon indictment or in the trial court's summary jurisdiction, or interlocutory orders made by the trial court. Appeals from committal proceedings in the Local Court may also be heard in certain circumstances.

Sittings of the Court of Criminal Appeal are organised on a roster basis, taking into account the other regular judicial duties and commitments of the Judges who form the Court's bench. The Judges who sit in the Court of Criminal Appeal are the Chief Justice, the President, the Judges of the Court of Appeal, the Chief Judge at Common Law and Judges of the Common Law Division. During 2016, each Court of Criminal Appeal bench comprised at least two Common Law judges, with the presiding judge being the Chief Justice, the President, a Judge of Appeal, or the Chief Judge at Common Law.

Common Law Division

The Common Law Division hears both criminal and civil matters. The criminal matters involve homicide offences and offences where the prosecution seeks life imprisonment. Other matters involving serious criminality or matters of public interest may be brought before the Court with the Chief Justice's

approval. The Judges of the Common Law Division also hear bail applications, matters concerning proceeds of crime and post-conviction inquiries.

The Division deals with all serious personal injury and contractual actions, in which the Court has unlimited jurisdiction. The civil business of the Division also comprises:

- claims for damages
- claims of professional negligence
- claims relating to the possession of land
- claims of defamation
- administrative law cases seeking the review of decisions by government and administrative tribunal
- appeals from Local Courts.

Equity Division

The Equity Division exercises the traditional equity jurisdiction dealing with claims for remedies other than damages and recovery of debts, including contractual actions, rights of property, and disputes relating to partnerships, trusts, and deceased estates.

The Division hears applications brought under numerous statutes, including the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth), the *Succession Act 2006*, and the *Property (Relationships) Act 1984*. The Division also handles a diverse range of applications in the areas of admiralty law, commercial law, technology and construction, probate and the Court's adoption and protective jurisdictions.

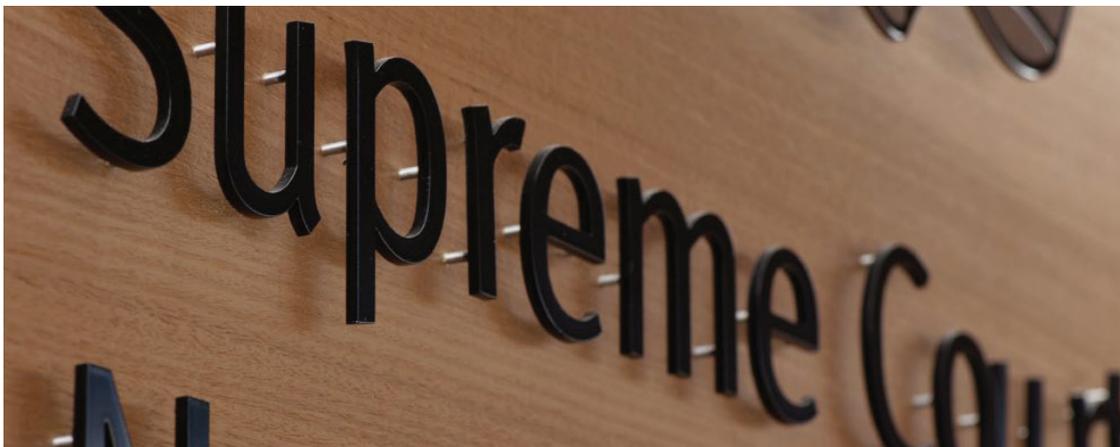
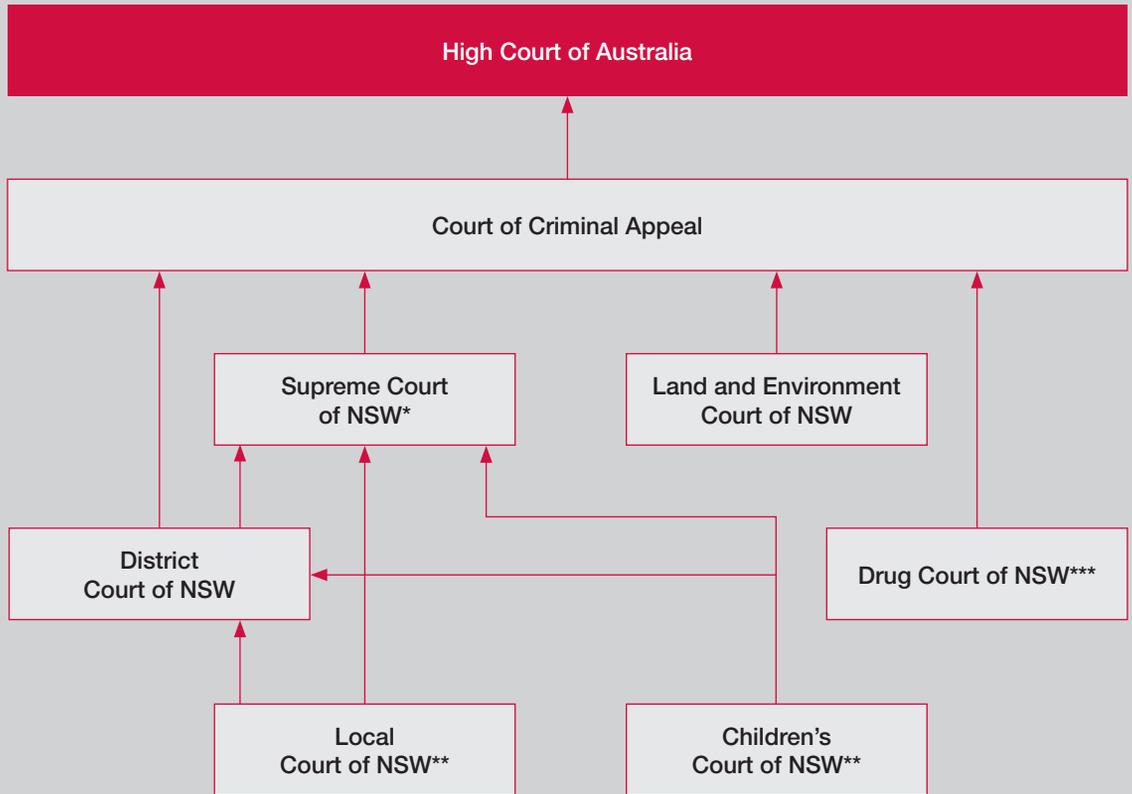


Figure 1.1 NSW COURT SYSTEM CRIMINAL JURISDICTION



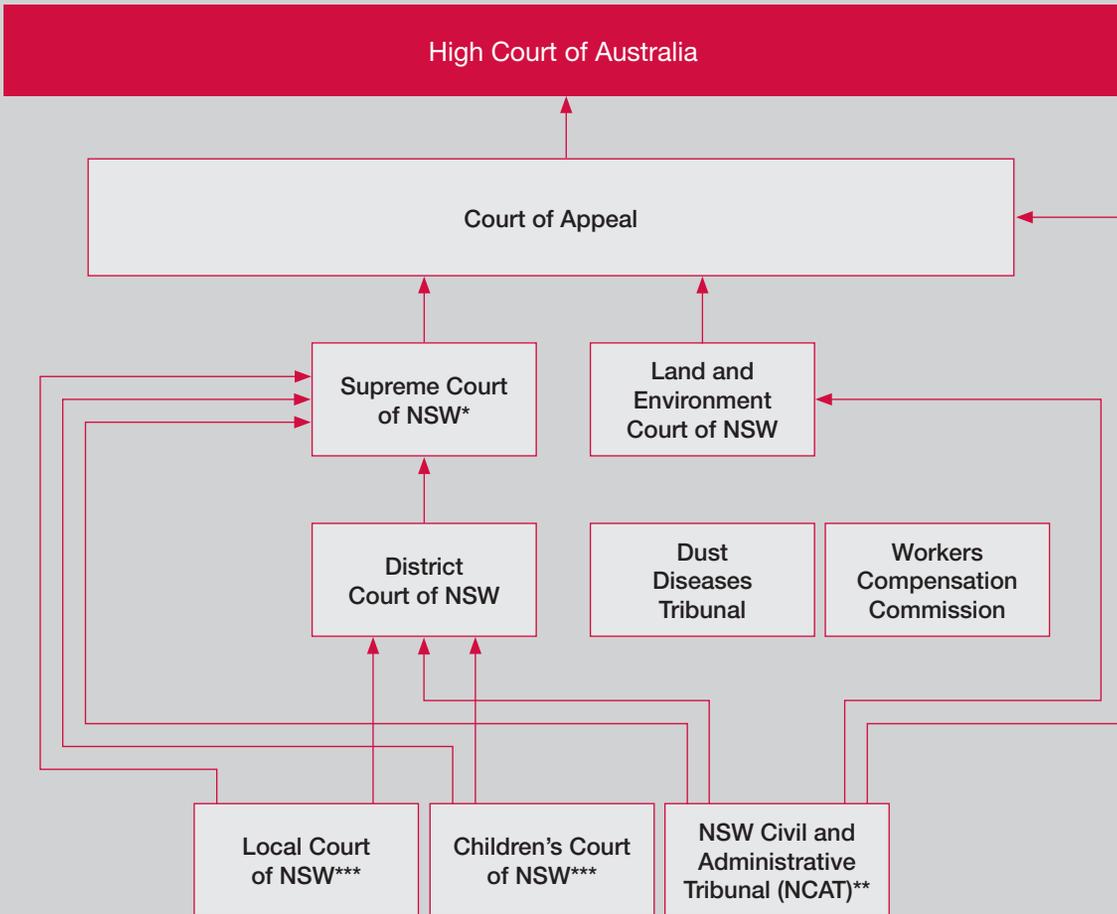
Note: The above diagram is a simplified representation of the appeal process in NSW. Actual appeal rights are determined by the relevant legislation.

* On 8 December 2016, any unresolved criminal proceedings in the Industrial Court of NSW's residual criminal jurisdiction under the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2000* were transferred to the Supreme Court.

** Appeals can be made to the District Court of NSW, or directly to the Supreme Court in certain circumstances.

*** Some appeals from committal proceedings may be made directly to the Court of Criminal Appeal

Figure 1.2 NSW COURT SYSTEM CIVIL JURISDICTION



Note: The above diagram is a simplified representation of the appeal and judicial review process in NSW. Actual appeal rights are determined by the relevant legislation.

* On 8 December 2016, any unresolved civil proceedings in the Industrial Court of NSW were transferred to the Supreme Court.

** Appeals from certain decision of NCAT may be made to the Court of Appeal, Supreme Court, Land and Environment Court or District Court. See *Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2013* ("the Act"), Part 6, Division 3. Also, certain decisions may be judicially reviewed by the Supreme Court or Court of Appeal under Section 34 of the Act; refer to section 48 of the *Supreme Court Act 1970* as to which decisions are assigned to the Court of Appeal.

*** Appeals can be made to the District Court of NSW, or directly to the Supreme Court in certain circumstances

WHO MAKES THE DECISIONS?

The judicial officers of the Supreme Court of New South Wales are its Judges and Associate Judges. The Registrars of the Court have limited decision-making powers.

The Judges

The Governor of New South Wales formally appoints the Judges of the Court following a decision by Cabinet. Judicial appointments are made on the basis of a legal practitioner's integrity, high level of legal skills and the depth of his or her practical experience.

The Governor appoints judges pursuant to section 25 of the *Supreme Court Act 1970*. Section 25 specifies that the Court will include: a Chief Justice, a President of the Court of Appeal and such other Judges of Appeal, Judges and Associate Judges, as the Governor may appoint from time to time. The Governor is also empowered to appoint qualified persons as Acting Judges of Appeal or Acting Judges when the need arises.

The Chief Justice is, by virtue of his office, a Judge of Appeal, and the senior member of the Court of Appeal. The other members of the Court of Appeal are the President and the Judges of Appeal. The Judges of the Court are assigned to specific Divisions, and ordinarily confine their activities to the business of those Divisions. In certain circumstances, the Chief Justice may certify that a particular Judge should act as an additional Judge of Appeal in certain proceedings before the Court of Appeal.

The *Supreme Court Act 1970* also provides that the Chief Justice may appoint Judges to administer a specific list within the Common Law or Equity Divisions. Details of the Judges assigned to these lists in 2016 can be found in Chapter 2.

Set out below are the Judges of the Court, in order of seniority, as at 31 December 2016.

Chief Justice

The Honourable Thomas Frederick Bathurst AC

President

The Honourable Justice Margaret Joan Beazley AO

Judges of Appeal

The Honourable Justice Ruth Stephanie McColl AO

The Honourable Justice John Basten

The Honourable Justice Robert Bruce Macfarlan

The Honourable Justice Anthony John Meagher

The Honourable Justice Clifton Ralph Russell
Hoeben AM RFD

The Honourable Justice Julie Kathryn Ward

The Honourable Justice Peter David McClellan AM

The Honourable Justice Fabian Gleeson

The Honourable Justice Mark James Leeming

The Honourable Justice Carolyn Chalmers Simpson

The Honourable Justice Anthony James Payne

Chief Judge at Common Law

The Honourable Justice Clifton Ralph Russell
Hoeben AM RFD

Chief Judge in Equity

The Honourable Justice Patricia Anne Bergin

Judges

The Honourable Justice Michael Frederick Adams

The Honourable Justice Michael John Walton

The Honourable Justice Robert Calder McDougall

The Honourable Justice Richard Weeks White

The Honourable Justice Peter Anthony Johnson

The Honourable Justice Megan Fay Latham

The Honourable Justice Stephen Rothman AM

The Honourable Justice Paul Le Gay Brereton AM
RFD

The Honourable Justice Derek Michael Price AM

The Honourable Justice David Jacob
Hammerschlag

The Honourable Justice Ian Gordon Harrison

The Honourable Justice Elizabeth Lillian Fullerton

The Honourable Justice Lucy McCallum

The Honourable Justice Nigel Geoffrey Rein
 The Honourable Justice Robert Allan Hulme
 The Honourable Justice Michael John Slattery
 The Honourable Justice David Lloyd Davies
 The Honourable Justice Monika Schmidt
 The Honourable Justice Michael Andrew Pembroke
 The Honourable Justice Michael Lee Ball
 The Honourable Justice Peter Richard Garling RFD
 The Honourable Justice John Robertson Sackar
 The Honourable Justice Ashley John Black
 The Honourable Justice Christine Elizabeth Adamson
 The Honourable Justice Geoffrey John Bellew
 The Honourable Justice James William John Stevenson
 The Honourable Justice Robert Thomas Beech-Jones
 The Honourable Justice Stephen Gerard Campbell
 The Honourable Justice Richard James Button
 The Honourable Justice Geoffrey Charles Lindsay
 The Honourable Justice Philip Hallen
 The Honourable Justice Francois Kunc
 The Honourable Justice Stephen David Robb
 The Honourable Justice Rowan James Hunter Darke
 The Honourable Justice Robertson James Wright
 The Honourable Justice Helen McLeod Wilson
 The Honourable Justice Desmond John Fagan
 The Honourable Justice Natalie Jane Adams

The Acting Judges

Set out below are details of those persons who held commissions as Acting Judges during the 2016 calendar year. Unless otherwise indicated, the judicial officer's commission was effective for the entire calendar year.

Acting Judges are asked to preside over specific hearings as the need arises. The total number of days each person acted as a Judge of the Court during 2016 is also indicated.

Acting Judges of Appeal (in alphabetical order)

- The Honourable Reginald Ian Barrett, former Judge of Appeal of the Supreme Court of New South Wales (commission effective from 3 March 2016, acted as a Judge and Judge of Appeal for 95 days).
- The Honourable Jonathan Barry Rashleigh Beach, Judge of the Federal Court of Australia (commission effective from 22 November 2016, acted as a Judge and Judge of Appeal for 1 day).
- The Honourable Arthur Robert Emmett, former Judge of Appeal of the Supreme Court of New South Wales (acted as a Judge and Judge of Appeal for 231 days).
- The Honourable Ronald Sackville AO QC, former Judge of the Federal Court of Australia (acted as a Judge and Judge of Appeal for 191 days).
- The Honourable Murray Herbert Tobias AM RFD QC, former Judge of the Supreme Court of New South Wales and Judge of Appeal (commission effective until 26 March 2016, acted as a Judge and Judge of Appeal for 12 days).
- The Honourable Peter Wolstenholme Young AO QC, former Judge of the Supreme Court of New South Wales and Judge of Appeal (commission effective until 30 June 2016, acted as a Judge and Judge of Appeal for 39 days).

Acting Judges (in alphabetical order)

- The Honourable Robert Shallcross Hulme QC, former Judge of the Supreme Court of New South Wales (commission effective until 30 June 2016, acted as a Judge for 193 days).
- The Honourable Jane Hamilton Mathews AO, former Judge of the Federal Court of Australia (acted as a Judge for 97 days).
- The Honourable Peter John Hidden AM QC, former Judge of the Supreme Court of New South Wales (commission effective from 7 July 2016, acted as a Judge for 55 days).

Appointments

The following Judges were appointed in 2016 (in chronological order):

- Anthony James Payne SC was appointed a Judge of Appeal of the Supreme Court of New South Wales on 30 March 2016.
- Natalie Jane Adams SC was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court of New South Wales on 5 April 2016.
- The Honourable Justice Michael John Walton was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court of New South Wales on 8 December 2016.

Retirements

The following Judges retired in 2016 (in chronological order):

- The Honourable Justice Peter John Hidden retired as a Judge of the Supreme Court of New South Wales on 17 March 2016.
- The Honourable Justice Peter Michael Hall retired as a Judge of the Supreme Court of New South Wales on 21 December 2016.

The Associate Judges

The Governor appoints Associate Judges to the Court under section 111 of the *Supreme Court Act* 1970. Associate Judges are usually assigned to perform work within either the Equity or Common Law Division. However, they may be asked to work outside the confines of these Divisions in the interests of flexibility.

The work of an Associate Judge generally involves hearing applications that arise before trial, certain types of trial work and work on proceedings that the Court of Appeal or a Judge may refer to the Associate Judge.

Applications that arise before trial include:

- applications for summary judgment
- applications for dismissal of proceedings
- applications for extensions of time to commence
- proceedings under various Acts
- applications for the review of decisions of Registrars.

In the Common Law Division, the Associate Judge conducts trials of actions for personal injury and

possession of property. The Associate Judge also hears other trials (without a jury) that are referred to them by the Court of Appeal or a Judge, in addition to appeals from the Local Court and various tribunals.

In the Equity Division, the Associate Judge deals with proceedings under the *Family Provision Act* 1982 and the *Property (Relationships) Act* 1984, and applications for the winding up of companies under the *Corporations Act* 2001 (Cth). The Associate Judge also deals with inquiries as to damages, or accounts referred by the Court of Appeal or Equity Judges, along with applications relating to the administration of trusts, and certain probate matters.

As at 31 December 2016, the Court's only Associate Judge was The Honourable Joanne Ruth Harrison (Common Law Division).

The Registrars

Registrars of the Court are appointed under section 120 of the *Supreme Court Act* 1970 pursuant to the provisions of the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act* 2002. The Chief Justice may also certify officers of the Supreme Court or Local Courts to act as Deputy Registrars of the Court from time to time.

Registrars are allocated to work within the Court of Appeal, the Court of Criminal Appeal or to one of the Court's Divisions. However, they are permitted to work outside particular Divisions, if required.

Registrars are afforded limited powers of the Court under the *Supreme Court Rules* 1970 and the *Uniform Civil Procedure Rules* 2005, and undertake some of the functions formerly performed by Judges and Associate Judges.

The work of the Registrars commonly includes:

- defended applications in relation to security for costs, discovery, interrogatories, provision of particulars and subpoenas
- costs disputes if the amount in question is unlikely to exceed \$20,000
- unopposed applications for the removal of cases to, or from, the District Court

- conducting examinations under various Acts, including the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) and the *Proceeds of Crime Act 1987* (Cth)
- dealing with applications for orders under many of the provisions of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth), such as the winding up of companies
- handling applications as referred to them by an Associate Judge
- issuing court orders and writs of execution, and
- entering default judgments.

The Supreme Court Rules 1970 and delegations under the *Civil Procedure Act 2005* permit Registrars to directly assist the Judges in caseflow management. For instance, in the Court of Appeal, the Registrar deals with most interlocutory applications, excluding applications to stay judgment pending an appeal. In the Common Law Division, a Registrar conducts directions hearings in the General Case Management List, and also assists the Possession List and Professional Negligence List Judges.

The Registrars may also be called upon to mediate cases. During 2016, nine of the Court's Registrars were qualified mediators and available to conduct mediations throughout the year on a rostered basis.

Deputy Registrars are rostered to act as Duty Registrar and to provide procedural assistance each day to court users in the Registry, or by email or telephone. They also attend to the issue of court orders, writs of execution and other miscellaneous matters.

Set out below are the Registrars of the Court, as at 31 December 2016:

Executive Director and Principal Registrar

Chris D'Aeth

Director, Assistant Principal Registrar and Prothonotary

Rebel Kenna

Registrar, Court of Appeal

Jerry Riznyczok

Registrar, Court of Criminal Appeal

Alanna Van Der Veen (until June); Katrina Curry (June onwards)

Registrar, Common Law Case Management

Christopher Bradford

Registrar in Equity

Leonie Walton

Acting Registrar, Corporations List

Jennifer Hedge

Rebel Kenna

Senior Deputy Registrars

Nicholas Flaskas

Deputy Registrars

Emoke Durkin

Bhaskari Siva

Suzin Yoo

Brendan Bellach

SUPPORTING THE COURT: THE REGISTRY

The work of the Registry

The Court operates with the support of the Registry, which provides administrative and clerical support to the Court.

In civil matters, the Registry is responsible for: accepting documents filed at the Court; securing the custody of court documents including exhibits and documents produced under subpoena; listing matters for hearing; issuing court process; attending to the information needs of the Court's users by providing procedural guidance; maintaining the Court's physical files and computer records; and ensuring that all the necessary facilities are available for hearings.

In criminal matters, the Registry provides support in processing committals, bail applications, applications under Part 7 of the *Crimes (Appeal and Review) Act 2001* and Common Law Division criminal summary jurisdiction proceedings.

In respect of the Court of Appeal, the Registry provides specialist administrative and clerical support to the Court of Appeal Judges and offers procedural guidance to litigants and their representatives. Similarly, in criminal appeal matters, the Registry provides support to the Court of Criminal Appeal Judges and users, and also issues orders concerning the custody of prisoners.

Management of the Registry

The Chief Justice directs the priorities to be pursued by the Registry. In general, the priorities reflect the central aim of meeting the expectations of Court users competently, efficiently and professionally.

Day to day management of the Registry is handled by the Executive Director and Principal Registrar of the Court. The Executive Director is also responsible for securing and managing the resources the New South Wales Department of Attorney General and Justice provides to the Court, providing executive support to the Court's judicial officers and developing strategies to improve the delivery of Registry services. The Executive Director undertakes these duties in close consultation with the Chief Justice, other judicial officers, the Department, representatives from key professional bodies and the Court's users.



2 CASEFLOW MANAGEMENT

- Overview by jurisdiction
- Regional sittings of the Court
- Alternative dispute resolution

OVERVIEW BY JURISDICTION

Introduction

The Court manages the flow of its cases from inception to completion in a number of different ways, and is continually looking to improve its processes and outcomes.

Caseflow management strategies are reflected in the Uniform Civil Procedure Rules, the Supreme Court Rules and the Practice Notes issued by the Chief Justice. The Judges, Associate Judges and Registrars work together to ensure that cases are resolved as efficiently and justly as possible.

Commonly, cases will be allocated to Registrars to establish the core arguments in dispute and determine when cases should progress to hearing before a Judge or an Associate Judge. A Registrar makes directions to ensure that a case is properly prepared for hearing. If an issue arises that falls outside the specified duties of a Registrar, he or she may refer that case to a Judge or an Associate Judge.

Court of Appeal

New appeal cases are reviewed for competency and, if necessary, referred back to legal representatives to either substantiate the claim of appeal as of right or seek leave to appeal. Applications for leave to appeal are examined to ascertain whether they are suitable for hearing concurrently with the argument on appeal.

Appeals are allocated a directions callover date before the Registrar once a notice of appeal is filed. At that callover, the appeal may be listed for hearing if the appellant has filed written submissions and the red appeal book. Further case management may be ordered with respect to lengthy or complex appeals.

The Registrar manages and lists most appeal cases and applications for leave to appeal, although some cases may be referred to a Judge of Appeal for special case management. Urgent cases are expedited and can be heard at short notice, if appropriate. The Registrar in the Court of Appeal also deals with most interlocutory applications (in accordance with a delegation by the Chief Justice under section 13 of the *Civil Procedure Act 2005*).

Mediation is offered to parties in appeals identified as capable of resolution by this process. Detailed statistics regarding the number of matters referred to mediation can be found in Appendix (I).

Detailed information about case management practices in the Court of Appeal is set out in Practice Note SC CA 1.

Court of Criminal Appeal

Accused persons may initially lodge a Notice of intention to Appeal, without specifying their grounds of appeal. The Notice of Intention to Appeal allows the accused person six months (or such longer time as the Court grants) to file an appeal. Transcripts and exhibits are now provided to accused persons free of charge to facilitate the preparation of an appeal.

Case management begins when an appeal or application for leave to appeal is filed in the Registry. The appeal or leave application is listed for callover within two weeks of filing. Callovers are held fortnightly, although special callovers can be held in urgent matters. At the callover, the presiding Registrar will fix a hearing date and make directions for the filing and serving of submissions by the parties. The Registrar also manages cases that are deemed to require special attention.

Generally, three Judges hear an appeal or leave application. The Chief Justice may also direct that more than three Judges sit on an appeal or leave application, particularly in matters involving an important issue of law. In some circumstances, the Chief Justice may direct that two Judges hear an appeal against sentence. Single Judges hear sentence appeals from the Drug Court of New South Wales, and also deal with bail applications and other interlocutory applications in the Court.

Common Law Division

Case management in the Common Law Division begins when a summons or statement of claim is filed in the Registry. Each summons or statement of claim (with the exception of default matters) is given a return date before a Judge or Registrar and placed in a List. A Judge is appointed to manage

each List, while the Common Law List Judge monitors all cases listed for hearing before a Judge. Registrars handle default matters administratively.

Common Law List Judge

The Common Law List Judge allocates cases listed for hearing to specific Judges. When deciding which Judge will hear a matter, the List Judge considers the type of cases, its estimated hearing length, and whether the Judge has other Court commitments. The List Judge also hears various applications in cases already listed for hearing, including all applications for adjournment. From time to time, the List Judge will issue further case management directions in cases already listed for hearing. The Common Law List Judge during 2016 was Justice Adamson.

Common Law Duty Judge

The Duty Judge is available each day to hear urgent applications, including applications for interlocutory injunctions, during and outside normal Court hours when required. Judges of the Division are rostered to act as the Duty Judge for a week at a time during Law Term. A Vacation Judge is rostered during the court vacation to perform this role.

The Duty Judge also conducts an applications list each Monday. The applications in this list cannot be determined by an Associate Judge or a Registrar and include appeals from the Local Court under the *Crimes (Local Courts Appeal and Review) Act 2001*, applications for restraining orders, applications for declaratory relief, and applications to dispense with a jury. Matters are initially listed at 9 am before a Registrar to determine whether the application is ready to proceed. The Duty Judge may specially fix applications that cannot be heard on the Monday to a later time or date.

The Duty Judge determines interlocutory applications for restraining assets and issues examination orders under the *Confiscation of Proceeds of Crime Act 1989*, *Criminal Assets Recovery Act 1990*, and *Proceeds of Crime Act 1987 (Cth)*. The Duty Judge also considers, in chambers, applications seeking authorisation of warrants, such as those made under the *Surveillance Devices Act 2007*.

Associate Judge

The Associate Judge in the Common Law Division deals with statutory appeals from the Local Court (except under the *Crimes (Local Courts Appeal and Review) Act 2001*). The Associate Judge also deals with applications for summary judgment and dismissal, applications for extension under the *Limitation Act 1969*, and contested applications to transfer matters from the District Court. The Associate Judge may deal with other matters as outlined in Schedule D of the Supreme Court Rules 1970.

Matters allocated to the Associate Judge's List are case managed by a Registrar daily at 9 am. The Registrar refers applications to the Associate Judge when they are ready for hearing.

Lists of the Common Law Division

In addition to the above, the work of the Division is also distributed amongst a number of specialised Lists. The Chief Justice appoints a specific Judge to be responsible for the management of a List throughout the year. These Lists are set out below in alphabetical order, together with the Judge appointed to manage each List in 2016.

Specialised case management List	Judge managing List in 2016
Administrative Law List	Justice Hall (until 21 December); Justice Adamson (from 22 December)
Criminal List	Justice Johnson
Defamation List	Justice McCallum
Possession List	Justice Davies
Professional Negligence List	Justice Harrison

Administrative Law List

The Administrative Law List comprises cases that seek a review of the decisions of government, public officials and administrative tribunals.

The Administrative Law List operates in accordance with the procedures outlined in Practice Note SC CL 3.

Bails List

Applications for bail or to review bail determinations can be made to the Supreme Court under the *Bail Act 1978* in respect of any person accused of any offence, even if the trial will not be heard in the Supreme Court. These applications are listed throughout the year, including during the court vacation. Common Law Division Judges are rostered on a weekly basis to determine these applications.

Criminal List

Arraignment hearings are held each month during Law Term. The aim of the arraignment procedure is to minimise the loss of available judicial time that occurs when trials are vacated after they are listed for hearing, or when a guilty plea is entered immediately prior to, or on the day of the trial's commencement.

The arraignment procedure contemplates the involvement of counsel at an early stage of the proceedings. This allows both the prosecution and defence to consider a range of issues that may provide an opportunity for an early plea of guilty, or to shorten the duration of the trial.

The procedures for arraignment are detailed in Practice Note SC CL 2.

Defamation List

Matters filed in this List after 1 January 2006 are managed in accordance with the provisions of the *Defamation Act 2005*. Matters are first listed before a Registrar for directions. Once the Registrar is satisfied that the initiating process is in order, he or she will refer the matter to a Judge for further directions and legal argument. The parties may also ask the Judge to consider if the dispute should be tried before a jury. If the Judge grants an application for trial by a jury, the matter will be set down for hearing. The jury will determine if the material in question is defamatory and if there is any lawful defence for publishing the material. If the jury finds that the plaintiff has been defamed without any lawful defence being established, the Judge will then determine any damages payable and resolve any outstanding issues under dispute.

Matters filed before 1 January 2006 are case managed in an identical way, but the issues considered by the jury differ slightly. In these matters, the jury is asked to consider whether the matter complained of carries the imputation alleged, and if it does, whether the imputation is defamatory.

Practice Note SC CL 4 governs the operation of this List.

General Case Management List

This List comprises all Common Law Division civil claims that are not included in the Administrative Law, Defamation, Professional Negligence or Possession Lists. It includes money claims, personal injury claims, claims for possession (excluding land), breach of contract, personal property damage, malicious prosecution, and claims under the *Compensation to Relatives Act 1897*. These cases are managed by a Registrar who conducts status conferences and final conferences. At the status conference, the Registrar gives directions to ensure the case is ready for hearing by the compliance date and encourages the early resolution of disputes through mediation or settlement.

The procedures associated with the running of this List are set out in Practice Note SC CL 5.

Possession List

The Possession List deals with all proceedings seeking recovery through the possession of land. The management of the List encourages early resolution of cases through mediation, other alternative dispute resolution processes or settlement. Case management is also used to clarify the real issues in dispute.

Practice Note SC CL 6 applies to cases in this List.

Professional Negligence List

Claims against medical practitioners, allied health professionals (such as dentists, chemists and physiotherapists), hospitals, solicitors and barristers are allocated to the Professional Negligence List. Specialised case management encourages parties to focus on the real issues under dispute in these types of claims. A Registrar monitors cases at regular conference hearings. Conference hearings provide an opportunity for parties to discuss

outstanding issues in the case, and provide a forum for mediation between the parties. The Professional Negligence List Judge hears applications and makes directions according to the specific needs of each matter.

Practice Note SC CL 7 applies to this List.

Equity Division

Proceedings in the Equity Division are case managed by Registrars and Judges of the Division to achieve the just, quick and cheap resolution of the real issues in dispute between the litigants. The work of the Division is administered through the General List and a number of specialised Lists.

Expedition Judge

Cases are expedited when sufficient urgency is shown. Applications for expedition are made to the Expedition Judge on Fridays. The Expedition Judge case manages all expedited cases and hears those cases when they are ready for trial. During 2016, the Expedition Judge was Justice Sackar.

Equity Duty Judge

A Judge of the Division is available at all times for urgent applications. Duty Judges are rostered in blocks of two weeks. If a matter requires an urgent final hearing, the Duty Judge will consult with the Chief Judge with regard to possible allocation of an urgent final hearing date.

General List

All cases other than those in the specialised Lists, including applications for family provision under Chapter 3 of the *Succession Act 2006* or *Family Provision Act 1982*, are entered into the General list.

Family provision applications are managed in accordance with Practice Note SC Eq 7 by the Family Provision List Judge, who also sets the cases down for hearing. Other cases in the General List are managed by the Registrar in Equity in accordance with Practice Note SC Eq 1. The Registrar sets cases down for hearing before the Judges of the Division. During 2015, the Registrar offered parties a hearing date within three to four months of the final directions hearing. The Registrar consults with the Chief Judge in Equity in relation to long and/or complex matters.

Specialised Lists of the Equity Division

The Equity Division's caseload is also managed by allocating certain matters to specific Lists according to the nature of the claims. These Lists are set out below in alphabetical order, together with the Judge appointed to manage each List in 2016.

Specialised case management List	Judge managing the List in 2016
Admiralty List	Justice Rein
Adoptions List	Justice Brereton
Commercial List	Justice Hammerschlag
Commercial Arbitration List	Justice Hammerschlag
Corporations List	Justice Brereton Justice Black
Expedition List	Justice Sackar
Family Provision List	Justice Hallen
Probate List	Justice Lindsay
Protective List	Justice Lindsay
Revenue List	Justice White
Technology and Construction List	Justice Hammerschlag

Admiralty List

The Admiralty List deals with maritime and shipping disputes. It is administered in the same manner as the Commercial List (see below).

Adoptions List

This List deals with applications for adoption orders and declarations of the validity of foreign adoptions under the *Adoptions Act 2000*. Most applications are unopposed. Once all supporting affidavits are filed, a Judge will deal with the application in the absence of the public, and without the attendance of the applicants or their lawyers. Unopposed applications require close attention for compliance with formal requirements, but there is little delay. A small number of contentious hearings take place in court in the absence of the public. Most of these relate to dispensing with consent to adoption. The Registrar in Equity deals with requests for information under the *Adoptions Act 2000*.

Commercial List

The Commercial List is concerned with cases arising out of transactions in trade or commerce. The case management strategy applied to the running of this List aims to have matters brought on for hearing quickly by:

- attending to the true issues at an early stage
- ensuring witness statements are exchanged in a timely manner
- intense monitoring of the preparation of every case.

There is also adherence to the allotted hearing dates, and hearings are continued to conclusion, even though time estimates may be exceeded.

Commercial Arbitration List

The List provides parties with a quick and effective mechanism for resolving disputes in relation to arbitration agreements, or which arise in the context of, or from, arbitral proceedings.

Disputes entered into the List arise from the context of arbitral proceedings in which the Court has prescribed jurisdiction in the *Commercial Arbitration Act 2010*, or by virtue of a provision within an arbitration agreement, or otherwise.

The Judge assigned to manage the List calls over all pending applications fortnightly, and parties to matters entered into the List are expected to comply with the provisions of Practice Note SC Eq 9.

Corporations List

A Registrar sits four days a week to hear most applications and hearings under the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) and related legislation. The Registrar may refer applications to the Judge on a Monday. The Registrar determines routine applications to wind-up companies, applications for leave to proceed against companies in liquidation (limited to personal injury actions) and applications to reinstate companies.

The Judge will give directions and monitor preparations for hearing in longer matters, as well as in other complex corporate cases. Cases managed in this List are generally given a hearing date as soon as they are ready.

Practice Note SC Eq 4 applies to cases entered into the Corporations List.

Probate List

The work performed by the Judges and the Probate Registry consists of both contentious and non-contentious cases. The Registrar and Deputy Registrars deal with the majority of non-contentious cases. This includes the granting of common form probate where applications are in order and are unopposed.

Both the Probate List Judge and the Registrars have procedures whereby some supervision is kept over executors in the filing of accounts, and ensuring beneficiaries are paid.

In court, the Registrar considers routine applications, and applications concerning accounts. Should a routine application require a decision on a matter of principle, the application is referred to the Probate List Judge.

The Probate List Judge sits once a week to deal with complex applications. If an application can be dealt with quickly, it is usually heard immediately. Others are set down for hearing, normally within a month.

Contentious matters are monitored by either a Judge or a Registrar. Contentious matters commonly include disputes as to a testator's last valid will. When these cases are ready to proceed, they are placed in the callover list to receive a hearing date before an Equity Judge.

Protective List

The work of this List is to ensure that the affairs of people deemed incapable of looking after their property, or themselves, are properly managed. The List also deals with appeals from the Guardianship Tribunal of New South Wales, along with applications (in chambers) by the New South Wales Trustee and Guardian for advice regarding the administration of estates. The Court also considers applications regarding missing persons' estates and, in certain circumstances, may order that their estate be managed under the *NSW Trustee and Guardian Act 2009*.

Often the issues under dispute in the Protective List are of a highly sensitive nature. The Court acknowledges this situation, and handles these proceedings with the minimum degree of formality.

REGIONAL SITTINGS OF THE COURT

However, when there is a dispute that cannot be solved in this way, it is decided more formally.

The Protective List Registrar sits in court one day a week. The Registrar may refer a case to be determined by the Judge without further appearance or adjourn a case into the Judge's list. A Judge sits once a week to deal with any referred cases. Most cases are considered on the Judge's usual sitting day as soon as the parties are ready. Longer cases, however, are specially fixed, usually within one month.

Real Property List

The Real Property List was established in June 2015 to manage disputes over land that the filing party seeks to resolve through equitable relief, rather than recovering a monetary sum as damages or debt under the common law. The disputes could relate to a contract for the sale of land, or issues with leases, easements, covenants or strata and community schemes. The Real Property List Judge sits weekly to manage new cases and complex interlocutory applications that have been given leave to proceed. The Registrar provides support to the List Judge by handling procedural applications for substituted service, security for costs or to set aside subpoenas and notices to produce.

Practice Note SC Eq 12 applies to cases entered into the Real Property List.

Revenue List

The Revenue List is dedicated to the hearing of taxation matters. The List was created to ensure that these matters are heard as efficiently as possible. Matters in the Revenue List are heard by a specific Equity Division Judge each month, and allocated the earliest hearing date possible before this same Judge.

Practice Note SC Eq 10 applies to cases entered into the Revenue List.

Technology and Construction List

Cases involving complex technological issues and disputes arising out of building or engineering contracts are allocated to this List. The List is managed by the same Judge and in the same manner as those in the Commercial List.

In 2016, the Court conducted hearings and trials at Albury, Bega, Dubbo, Grafton, Griffith, Lismore, Moruya, Newcastle and Queanbeyan.

Criminal trials and civil hearings will continue to be held in venues outside Sydney as required.



ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Alternative dispute resolution is a broad term that refers to the means by which parties seek to resolve their dispute, with the assistance of a neutral person, but without a conventional contested hearing before a Judge or Associate Judge. The alternative dispute resolution method most commonly employed in Supreme Court proceedings is mediation.

Mediation

Mediation is available for most civil proceedings pursuant to Part 4 of the *Civil Procedure Act 2005*. Mediation is not available in criminal proceedings.

The role of the mediator is to assist parties in resolving their dispute by alerting them to possible solutions, while allowing the parties to choose which option is the most agreeable. The mediator does not impose a solution on the parties. Nine qualified Registrars and Deputy Registrars were certified to conduct mediations throughout 2016 at specified times each week. Alternatively, parties may use private mediators.

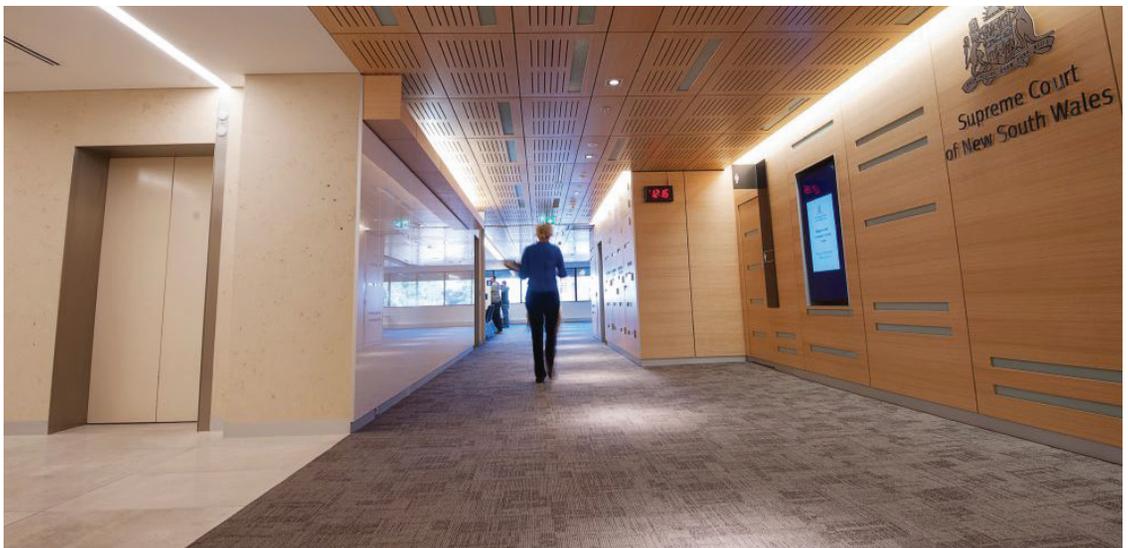
A matter may proceed to mediation at the request of the parties, or the Court may refer appropriate proceedings to mediation, with or without the consent of parties. If the Court orders that a matter

be referred to mediation, there are several ways in which a mediator may be appointed. If the parties are in agreement as to a particular mediator, they can ask the Court to appoint that mediator or they may agree to mediation by a Registrar of the Court. If parties cannot agree upon a mediator, they should attempt to agree on how the Court can appoint a qualified mediator. Some options are set out in Practice Note SC Gen 6.

Settlement of disputes by mediation is encouraged in the Court of Appeal and in the Common Law and Equity Divisions. Parties may derive the following benefits from mediation:

- an early resolution to their dispute
- lower costs
- greater flexibility in resolving the dispute as the solutions that may be explored through mediation are broader than those open to the Court's consideration in conventional litigation.

Even where mediation fails to resolve a matter entirely and the dispute proceeds to court, the impact of mediation can often become apparent at the subsequent contested hearing. Mediation often helps to define the real issues and facts in dispute and this may result in a reduction in court time and, consequently, lower legal costs.





3 COURT OPERATIONS

- Overview of operations by jurisdiction
- Timeliness
 - Measurement against benchmarks
 - Listing delays
- Use of Alternative Dispute Resolution

OVERVIEW OF OPERATIONS BY JURISDICTION *

* to be read in conjunction with Appendix (I)

Court of Appeal

The net number of new cases coming to the Court of Appeal was 397 this year. This is five per cent higher than the number in 2015 but still 14-20 per cent lower than in the years 2012 to 2014.

The principal sources of new cases in 2016 were: Supreme Court decisions (52 per cent) and District Court decisions (34 per cent). These percentages are consistent with those seen in the three years 2012 to 2014. In 2015, however, the percentages had been appreciably different: 60 per cent of new cases came from Supreme Court decisions and 28 per cent came from District Court decisions.

In 2016, 52 per cent of new cases commenced by notice of appeal, 36 per cent by summons seeking leave to appeal, and 12 per cent by summons for the Court of Appeal to exercise its original jurisdiction.

The net number of disposals was 423 this year, which is two per cent lower than last year but consistent with the reduction in new cases coming to the Court of Appeal since 2014. Overall, during 2016, final disposals occurred by the following methods:

- settlement, or else non-progression to an appeal following a grant of leave to appeal – 14 per cent;
- judgment following hearing of either an appeal, an original jurisdiction summons or a concurrent hearing (a concurrent hearing enables the application for leave to appeal and, where leave is granted, the consequent appeal to be determined in a single hearing) – 65 per cent;
- refusal, striking out or other final disposal of an application for leave to appeal – 15 per cent;
- striking out or other final disposal of either an appeal or an original jurisdiction summons – 6 per cent.

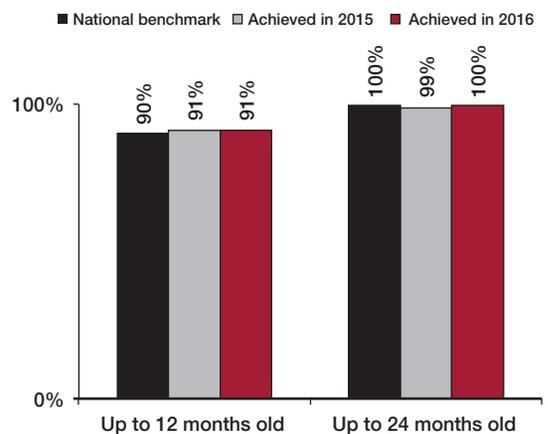
The overall Court of Appeal caseload at the end of 2016 was 210 cases, an 11 per cent reduction from the end of 2015. Of the 210 pending cases, 54 (26 per cent) were cases for which the question of leave to appeal had yet to be determined.

The age profile of the Court of Appeal's pending caseload made a further slight improvement during 2016 and by the end of the year it met or exceeded

the national benchmarks (see Figure 3.1). At the end of the year the proportion of pending cases within 12 months of age was 91 per cent (19 cases were older than 12 months). No case was older than 24 months.

During most of 2016, the listing delay for non-urgent hearing of substantive appeals and for concurrent hearings was three months. It settled at 1 month for the start of the 2017 law term. Hearings for leave applications alone are listed more quickly, and the listing delay for these was 1.5 months or less throughout 2016, settling at less than one month for the start of the 2017 law term.

Figure 3.1 Court of Appeal achievements against national benchmarks for age of pending cases



Court of Criminal Appeal

The number of new cases coming to the Court of Criminal Appeal was 362 this year, six per cent higher than the number in 2015. Over the past five years, the filing rate has been relatively stable.

The principal sources of criminal appeals in 2016 were: District Court decisions (83 per cent) and Supreme Court decisions (13 per cent). Over the last five years, 79-88 per cent of new cases have come from District Court decisions and 8-15 per cent have come from Supreme Court decisions.

The new cases in 2016 included 237 appeals against severity of sentence (of which 51 were appeals by the Crown), 71 appeals against conviction, 39 appeals against interlocutory

judgments and 27 cases of other types. During 2016 no cases were returned from the High Court for re-hearing.

In 2016, conviction appeals made up 21 per cent of filings, which is more typical than the situation seen over the previous five years when conviction appeals made up 25 to 27 per cent of filings. Conviction appeals are more complex and typically require longer hearings than appeals against severity of sentence. Hearings for conviction appeals are usually at least double the length of those for severity-only appeals, and sometimes extend to a whole day or longer.

The number of disposals was 385 this year, four per cent less than the number last year. Of the 385 disposals this year, 336 were by judgment following a substantive hearing (the same as during 2015), and 37 were by the appellant abandoning or withdrawing the appeal (compared with 39 during 2015).

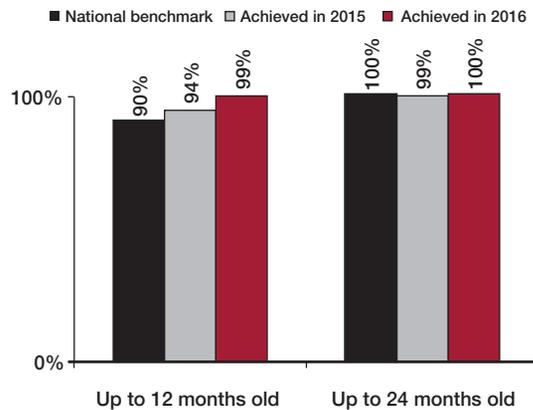
This year, again, the number of disposals exceeded the number of filings, so again the pending caseload decreased – from 168 to 145 cases.

The age profile of the Court of Criminal Appeal's caseload improved again during 2016 and, by the end of the year, it met or well exceeded the national benchmarks (see Figure 3.2). The number of older cases has been reduced: cases older than 12 months decreased from 10 to two, while the number of cases older than 24 months decreased from four to none.

During 2016 the listing delay for non-urgent hearing of criminal appeals fluctuated between 2.5 and four months. It settled at 1.5 months for the start of the 2017 law term. Interlocutory appeals are listed more quickly according to their urgency.

The Court of Criminal Appeal enters 2017 with its age profile and listing delay in an essentially optimal condition.

Figure 3.2 **Court of Criminal Appeal achievements against national benchmarks for age of pending cases**



Common Law Division criminal cases

The Criminal List registered 102 new cases (defendants) in 2016, compared with 118 during 2015 and 72 during 2014. Of the 102 new cases for 2016, 85 involved homicide charges. After entry into the Criminal List, the next step usually is arraignment. The majority of defendants enter a plea of “not guilty” at arraignment, and the arraignment concludes with those cases being listed for trial. Nearly all trials are conducted with a jury.

A total of 102 trial listings (6 of these were listings for judge-alone trials) were ordered at arraignments during 2016, with the trials set to start in either 2016 or 2017. Additionally, 10 defendants were listed for fitness hearings (to deal with the question of the defendant's capacity to stand trial) and 5 defendants were listed for sentence (following entry of the defendant's plea of “guilty” at arraignment).

During 2016, a total of 38 pleas of “guilty” were taken, compared with 16 during 2015. Not only the number, but also the timing, of “guilty” pleas can significantly affect the operation of the Criminal List: fewer pleas of “guilty” entered at arraignment lead to more cases queuing for trials, and this has the potential to increase listing delays and thus the time to finalise cases. In 2016 there were only 5 pleas of “guilty” entered at arraignment, compared with 8 in 2015 and 14 in 2014. Some defendants change

their plea to “guilty” after being given a trial date – sometimes the change occurs as late as the start of, or during, the trial – and it is not always possible to re-assign that trial-time to another case.

For criminal trials arraigned during the year the hearing estimates given to the Court ranged from less than 1 week to 4 months. For trials (not started or not concluded) on hand at the end of each month, the average hearing estimate was between 5.0 and 6.2 weeks.

For many years the Criminal List has used capacity for listing three-week trials as the standard for measuring its listing delay. However, the average hearing estimate for criminal trials has increased: consequently, in November 2016, the standard reference for measuring listing delay for criminal trials became the four-week trial. At the first arraignments of the 2017 law term, the listing delay was 7.3 months for criminal trials requiring at least four weeks of trial time. The listing delay for criminal trials can vary during the year, especially when several long trials are listed simultaneously, when long trials must be vacated and re-listed, or when defendants plead guilty after their trial has been set or started.

Trials for 81 defendants were listed to start during 2016. For nine of those defendants the trial either collapsed or was adjourned (this happened for 10 defendants during 2015 and for eight defendants during 2014). Re-starting or re-listing trials following collapse or adjournment reduces the Court’s capacity to deal with its backlog of cases.

For the eleventh consecutive year, no trial was “not reached” (a situation where the Court, rather than the parties, cannot start a listed trial). Over-listing of criminal trials occurs in a very limited form. With over-listing there is some risk of “not reaching” a listed trial. Additionally, trials that over-run their estimated hearing time can jeopardise the Court’s ability to start other listed trials. The Court is aware of the financial impact for the various publicly funded agencies involved in the criminal justice system, and of the emotional and financial impact for the family of victims and for witnesses, when trials are unable to run. It is a high priority for the Court to allocate its resources so that every criminal trial can start on its listed day.

During 2016, a total of 105 defendants’ cases were finalised, compared with 88 during 2015 and 92 during 2014. The Court prepared and handed down 75 sentences during 2016, compared with 61 during 2015 and 68 during 2014.

By the end of 2016, there were 112 defendants with cases pending in the Criminal List, a decrease of three per cent from the position at the end of 2015 (115 defendants). The variation in the number of filings and the number of disposals from year to year contributes to large changes, on a percentage basis, in the pending caseload from year to year.

With the relatively low number of cases in this resource-intensive list, the age profile can also show some volatility. The age profile for pending cases in the Criminal List worsened during 2016 (see Figure 3.3) with respect to the number of cases older than 12 months (increased from 22 to 32), although the number of cases older than 24 months decreased from six to five. Many of the oldest cases in the Criminal List have been delayed by the need to re-list or re-start trials (in some cases involving very long hearing estimates), interlocutory appeals, and the need to accommodate very long trials.

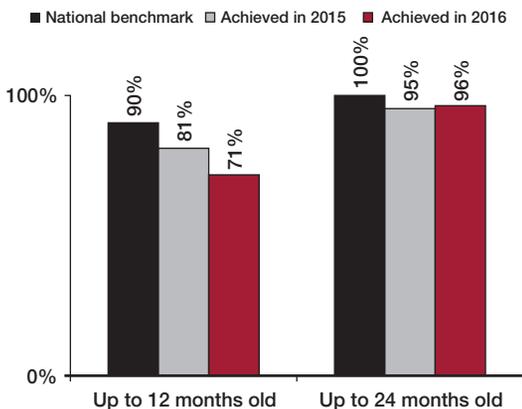
The impact of the Xie trial continued during 2016. That trial had been committed to the Supreme Court in December 2012, and the Court received an initial hearing estimate of 4 months. The trial was started in 2014 but collapsed twice at relatively early stages. It was started for a third time in early 2015, but with a revised hearing estimate of 6 months, and over-ran to 10 months, concluding with a hung jury. In 2016 the trial started for a fourth time and ran from June 2016 until January 2017, with the jury finding the defendant guilty. The sentence was handed down in February 2017. The total hearing time occupied by the Xie trial could have accommodated 12-14 trials of average length.

When evaluating the Court’s performance against the national benchmarks it is important to note that almost all indictments presented to this Court are for offences of murder or manslaughter, or otherwise have the potential for a life sentence to be imposed. In contrast, the criminal lists of most other Australian supreme courts deal routinely with a broader range of charges that includes lesser maximum sentences. The national

timeliness benchmark of 12 months from committal to sentencing is therefore a challenging target for this Court. Additionally, the relatively small size of the List allows just a few cases to make statistically significant changes to percentages within that caseload, and those percentages are then compared with the national benchmarks. Access to acting judges is invaluable in maintaining an acceptable age profile for the Criminal List, as the only alternative would be to take permanently appointed judges away from other areas of work.

During 2016 a total of 3,996 applicants lodged applications in the Bails List, a decrease of nine per cent from the total in 2015 (4,401). The number of disposals also decreased - by six per cent, from 4,201 to 3,991. Because lodgments and disposals were almost equal during the year, the pending caseload has barely changed (742 at the end of 2016, compared with 743 at the end of 2015). The listing delay for Bails List hearings has improved slightly: for publicly aided adults it decreased from 10.5 weeks (at the start of the year) to nine weeks by the start of the 2017 law term. The listing delay is longer than ideal. While the Court allocates extra judges to the Bails List from time to time to reduce the delay, the effectiveness of this strategy is limited by the capacity of other justice agencies that are vital participants in the operation of the Bails List. Juvenile applications are given priority and are listed within two weeks.

Figure 3.3 **Criminal List achievements against national benchmarks for age of pending cases**



Common Law Division civil cases

The civil work of the Common Law Division can be separated into two broad groups: contested or defended cases (including the specialised case-managed lists) and cases requiring no case-management (such as uncontested cases proceeding to default judgment, and the miscellaneous applications dealt with administratively by registrars and registry officers).

Overall, there were 3,216 civil filings in the Division during 2016, a decrease of nine per cent from the number in 2015 (3,538). The principal area of reduction was the Possession List (where typically around 94 per cent of cases are uncontested). Other areas of decreased filings were the Common Law General List and Administrative Law List. Filings increased in the Professional Negligence List and Defamation List. While there was a reduction of 9 per cent in filings overall, we estimate that for cases that would require case-management the reduction in filings was less than 5 per cent.

During 2016 the disposal rate was eight per cent lower than in 2015. This was principally due to the ongoing reduction in work for the Possession List. The total of 3,301 disposals included 1,394 contested cases, of which 442 had been listed for at least one hearing. The remaining 1,907 disposals were uncontested cases: apart from the 437 disposals of miscellaneous applications, there were 718 uncontested cases dismissed for inactivity and 588 finalised by default judgment. During 2016 the Registry received a total of 707 applications for default judgment, all of which were either granted or requisitioned with five working days.

The number of pending cases in the Common Law Division decreased by three per cent during 2016 (see Figure 3.4) but the decrease is only within the uncontested caseload. The number of cases on hand requiring case management has essentially remained stable (1,693 at the end of 2016, compared with 1,694 at the end of 2015).

The JusticeLink system is used to report the age of pending civil cases (see Figure 3.5). The national benchmark measures are set by the Productivity Commission's *Report on Government Services*. Inactive cases that should have been closed were

present in the caseload up until the end of 2014. Consequently, the appropriate point from which to measure changes in the age profile is from the end of 2014 onwards. During 2016, the proportion of the Division’s civil caseload within 12 months of age reduced slightly from 69 per cent to 68 per cent, and the proportion within 24 months of age improved slightly from 84 per cent to 85 per cent. Over the year, the number of cases older than 12 months was reduced by seven, and the number of cases older than 24 months was reduced by 37.

During 2016, the listing delay for non-urgent hearing of Common Law Division civil cases that required five days of hearing time fluctuated between five and 11 months. For the start of the 2017 law term, the listing delay had settled at 1.8 months for two-day hearings, 7.3 months for five-day hearings, and 7.0 months for ten-day hearings. Civil hearings comprise just one area of work covered by the Judges of Common Law Division (see the section “Listing Delays” later in this chapter) and the task of balancing the limited judicial resources between all areas of the Division is challenging.

During the year, 945 matters were listed for a hearing of either the substantive issues or lengthy interlocutory issues (see Figure 3.6). Of those listed matters, 515 proceeded to a hearing, 331 settled after being listed for hearing and 94 successfully applied to vacate the hearing listing. This information is collated independently of the JusticeLink system.

So that available judicial time is used optimally, the Common Law Division’s civil hearings are over-listed. This carries a risk that some cases may be “not reached”. During 2016, there were five hearings “not reached”. Since 2007 the Division has maintained a “not reached” rate of one per cent or less.

Figure 3.4 Common Law Division pending civil caseloads at 31 December

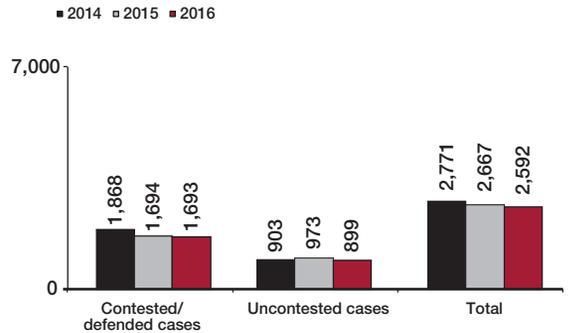


Figure 3.5 Common Law Division civil lists – achievements against national benchmarks for age of pending cases

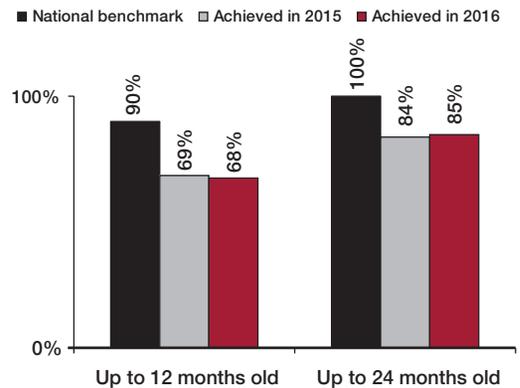
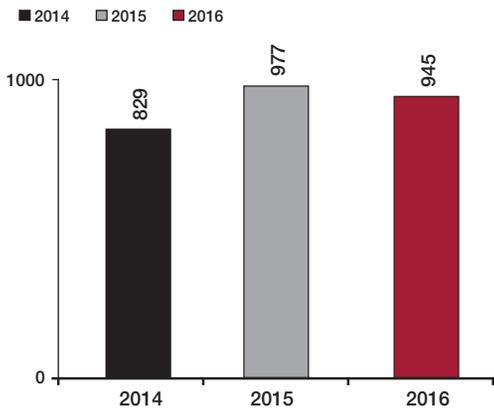


Figure 3.6 Listings for hearing – common law civil hearings



Equity Division

The following analysis of the operational trends within the Equity Division does not include uncontested probate cases. The volume of uncontested probate cases is so large that, if included, it would mask the important trends for all other cases in the Equity Division. Uncontested probate cases are discussed separately at the end of this section.

Overall, there were 4,220 filings in the Division during 2016, a decrease of 18 per cent from the number in 2015 (5,168). The principal area of reduction was the Corporations List (a high-volume list where typically over 85 per cent of cases are case-managed and finalised by the registrar, without requiring any listing before a judge). To a much lesser extent there were decreased filings in the Protective List, Commercial List and Admiralty List. Filings increased for family provision cases, contentious Probate List cases, the Adoptions List and Technology and Construction List. The Real Property List was created in 2015 and many of its cases are of a type formerly commenced in the Equity General List: the operational statistics for the Equity General List (other than for family provision cases) are therefore now re-set at a different level,

and those for the Real Property List are yet to settle, so annual trends for both lists will not emerge reliably until next year. Other lists showed relatively small changes.

Overall, the disposal rate for the Division was 16 per cent lower in 2016 than in 2015 – this relates directly to the reduction in work for the Corporations List. Auditing of inactive Equity Division cases continued into early 2016 but its impact on the number of disposals recorded for 2015 and 2016 was much smaller than on disposals recorded for 2014.

Overall, the number of pending cases in the Equity Division decreased by only one per cent during 2016 (see Figure 3.7). While there were substantial reductions during 2016 in the pending caseloads of the Commercial List, family provision cases and the Technology and Construction List, there were clear increases in the Corporations List and Adoptions List, and within the contentious cases of the Probate List.

The JusticeLink system is used to report the age of pending civil cases (see Figure 3.8). The national benchmark measures are set by the Productivity Commission's *Report on Government Services*. The age of pending Equity Division cases showed significant improvement during 2014, when auditing enabled a large number of inactive cases to be finally closed. Auditing continued through to early 2016 but resulted in only a small number case closures during 2015 and 2016. The age profile of Equity Division cases at the end of December 2016 was unchanged from twelve months earlier: 71 per cent of the Division's cases were within 12 months of age and 89 per cent were within 24 months of age. Over the year, the number of cases older than 12 months was reduced by 12, and the number of cases older than 24 months was reduced by one.

During 2016 the listing delay for two-day hearings of non-urgent General List or Probate List cases time ranged between one and 6.3 months. By the start of the 2017 law term the listing delay had settled at 5.3 months for two-day hearings, six months

for five-day hearings and 6.5 months for 10-day hearings. Some judges of the Equity Division have been assigned for short periods to hear cases in other areas of the Court so that listing delays are managed across all areas of work.

The JusticeLink system does not provide reliable reports regarding the outcomes of matters listed for hearing, and there are no manually maintained statistics, so hearing rates and settlement rates cannot be reported. Since 2014 the Equity Division has over-listed hearings to a small extent, and no cases have been recorded as “not reached”.

Uncontested probate applications are handled by the Court’s registrars – these applications are for a grant of probate, a grant of letters of administration, or a re-seal (of a probate granted elsewhere). During 2016, a total of 26,243 applications were filed (only 165 fewer than the number filed during 2015). If an application meets all procedural requirements when lodged, a grant will be made on initial processing. During the first half of 2016 the waiting time for initial processing increased substantially to as long as 35 working days. The second half of the year showed a strong improvement, and the delay was reduced to six working days by the start of the 2017 law term.

Figure 3.7 Equity Division pending civil caseloads at 31 December

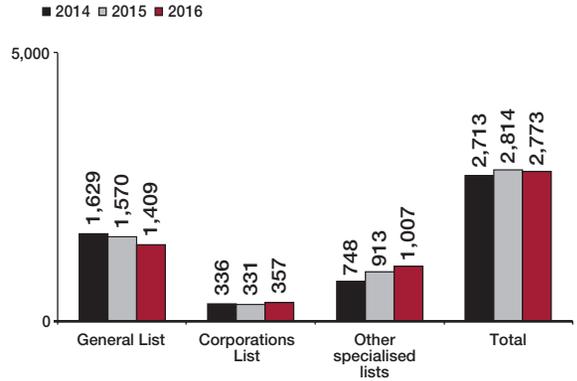
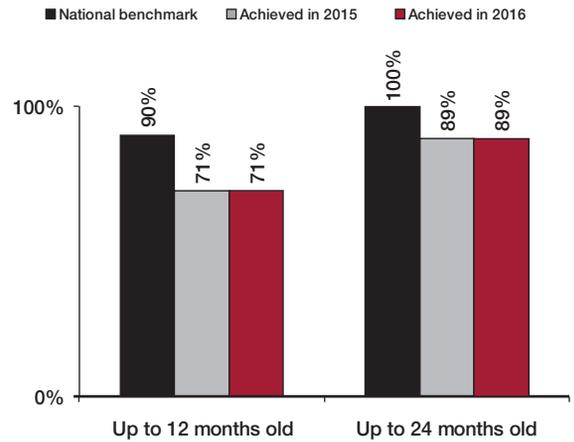


Figure 3.8 Equity Division - achievements against national benchmarks for age of pending cases



TIMELINESS

Measurement against benchmarks

The Court's performance in dealing with cases in a timely way is reported in terms of the age of the pending caseload. Measurement of the age distribution within a pending caseload helps the Court to assess more quickly whether delay reduction strategies are successful and to identify areas where further case management would be beneficial.

Courts and other organisations may use different methods to measure the age of cases or the timeliness of case handling, and this can produce statistics that are not necessarily comparable. To cite criminal cases as an example, some courts report performance by measuring the time between committal and the commencement of trial, while the Australian Bureau of Statistics produces national statistics that measure the time from committal to either acquittal or sentencing. The information in Appendix (I) concerning age of pending cases uses the same definitions of commencement and finalisation as are used by Productivity Commission in its *Report on Government Services*.

Appendix (I) shows the position this Court reached at 31 December for each reported year with regard to the age of its pending caseload. For criminal matters (including criminal appeals) the method of measurement aligns fully with the method used by the Productivity Commission's *Report on Government Services*. For the Court of Appeal, the reporting here is also aligned with the methods used by the Productivity Commission but is confined to those cases lodged in the Court of Appeal (whereas the Productivity Commission's figures cover all civil cases that are appellate in nature, not just those lodged in the Court of Appeal). For civil cases in the Common Law and Equity Divisions, the Court's reporting differs from the Productivity Commission's methods: firstly, the Court reports separately for each Division; secondly, for cases that are appellate in nature but heard in the Common Law or Equity

Division, the Court reports those cases within the appropriate Division and not in combination with Court of Appeal cases; and thirdly, the Court's reports include all pending cases, whereas the Productivity Commission's counting rules allow for exclusion of pending cases that have been inactive for at least 12 months.

Appendix (I) allows comparison of the Court's position with the national benchmarks set by the Productivity Commission. Those benchmarks are applicable to Australia's supreme courts and district/county courts, regardless of the case-mix of those courts. With regard to criminal non-appeal cases, the range of charges routinely brought in criminal lists of supreme courts varies across the country. This Court hears only criminal cases involving charges of murder or manslaughter or where there is otherwise the potential for a life sentence to be imposed; for such cases a 12-month timeframe from committal to sentencing is challenging. With regard to civil non-appeal cases, it is worth noting that every Supreme Court in the country has difficulty meeting the benchmarks (see Table 7A.21 of the latest *Report on Government Services* published by the Productivity Commission).

This is the seventh year of reporting the size and age profile of the civil caseloads of the Common Law and Equity Divisions using data extracted from the NSW courts' case information system, JusticeLink. The extraction of data was continually refined from 2009 through to 2012, at which point the Court obtained reports that were better able to identify inactive civil cases. Since 2012, the Court has been auditing to identify the many inactive cases that had accumulated from 2009. Auditing was substantially completed for the Common Law Division at the end of 2014, and for the Equity Division in early 2016. We estimate that more than 5,000 inactive civil cases have been closed as a result. The impact of the audits needs to be taken into account to understand changes in the size and age profile of the Court's civil caseload since 2010.

Listing delays

The reported listing delays indicate the timeliness with which the Court can allocate non-urgent hearings for various types of cases that have been assessed as ready for hearing, providing the parties are willing to select from the first available group of hearing dates offered by the Court. Listing delays change during the year and updated information is published daily in the court list.

The table of listing delays in Appendix (I) shows the listing delays that applied at the start of the new law term following the close of the reporting year. The listing delays refer to hearing-time requirements that are considered representative or typical of the various areas of the Court, as explained in the footnotes to the table. This standardised measurement of listing delays, in contrast to measurement of the age of pending cases or case finalisation times, focuses on the Court's management of its own resources to deliver timely hearings. It is distinct from other factors that lengthen case finalisation time, such as delays in serving court documents, delays caused by the need to join additional parties to proceedings, time taken up with interlocutory issues or appeals, time needed for parties to prepare their evidence, time that elapses while parties attempt mediation, and the delays caused when parties request a trial date that is later than the first available. During 2016, the representative hearing-time requirement for Criminal List cases was changed: formerly it was a 3-week trial but now it is a 4-week trial.

For the representative hearing lengths described in Appendix (I), over the 12 months leading up to the start of law term 2017:

- appellate listing delays improved to 1 month in the Court of Appeal and improved to 1.5 months in the Court of Criminal Appeal;
- criminal trial listing delays increased to 7.3 months;
- Bails List hearing delays improved to 9 weeks;
- Common Law Division civil hearing delays increased to 7.3 months; and
- Equity Division civil hearing delays increased to 5.3 months.

The listing delay for appellate cases is at an optimal level. Temporary re-allocation of judicial time may be considered to address listing delays that are of concern in other areas of work.

The Common Law Division over-lists its civil cases for hearing, and in 2016 five hearings were “not reached” (a situation where the parties are ready to proceed but the Court is unable to provide a judge for the hearing). There are 22 to 23 permanently appointed judges currently assigned to the Common Law Division - they hear not only the criminal and civil trials of the Division, but also preside over the Bails List and are the principal judicial resource for the Court of Criminal Appeal. The task of appropriately balancing and re-balancing the allocation of Common Law Division judges to these four areas of work is challenging. Without access to acting judges, the listing delays across the Common Law Division would have been more difficult to balance, and would most likely have resulted in longer delays in one or more areas.

USE OF ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

The Supreme Court supports mediation as a method of alternative dispute resolution for Supreme Court civil proceedings. Litigants in any contested civil case (including appeals) can consider using mediation. Mediation is generally inapplicable for cases where no defendant contests the claim and in applications for an uncontested grant of probate, for adoption of children, to wind up companies, for recovery of proceeds of crime and for the miscellaneous applications where only administrative processing is required. For other civil cases mediation is considered generally applicable, although individual cases may have circumstances that make mediation inadvisable or inappropriate.

Since 2014, in addition to its long-standing court-annexed mediation program, informal settlement conferences have been used in family provision cases where the estate is valued at less than \$500,000. These conferences are conducted by Justice Hallen and are timed to occur at an early stage of case management with a view to achieving settlement as soon as possible so as to minimise litigation costs. The informal settlement conferences have reduced the number of cases going to the court-annexed mediation program, and need to be taken into account when interpreting statistics concerning the court's use of mediation, both court-annexed and overall.

During 2016 the registry recorded a total number of 806 referrals to mediation (court-annexed or private), which was a 25 per cent decrease from the 2015 total of 1,070 referrals. The number of court-annexed mediation listings (which are conducted by the Court's registrars) increased from 518 in 2015 to 615 in 2016, so the decrease in the total referrals must arise from a much reduced number of referrals to private mediators. It is possible that the use of private mediation could have decreased significantly over 2016; however, it is also possible that the total number of referrals for 2016 does not include fully the use of private mediation because it is not essential for litigants to obtain a formal referral to private mediation, or even (in many circumstances) to disclose to the Court that private mediation has been used.

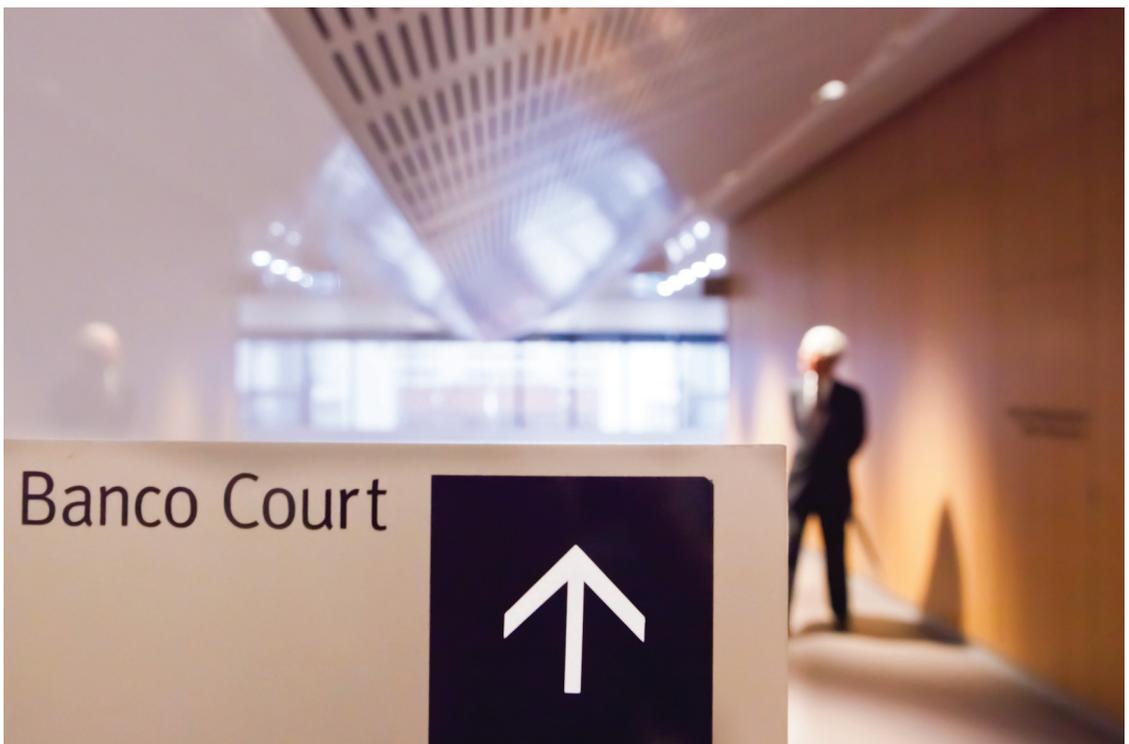
During 2016, approximately 4,654 civil cases were filed that were of types for which mediation was considered generally applicable, not appreciably changed from the number of such cases during 2015 (approximately 4,640).

The "mediation referral index" is the total number of cases referred for mediation in a given year, expressed as a percentage of the total number of cases commenced (in that year) that are of types where mediation is considered to be generally applicable. For 2016 the mediation referral index was 17.3 per cent, a significant decrease from the result of 23.1 per cent in 2015. The introduction, in 2014, of informal settlement conferences has reduced the proportion of family provision cases that proceed to mediation, causing an appreciable reduction in the mediation referral index. The reduction in the index this year is also related to the low number of referrals recorded for private mediation, as discussed above.

There were 615 cases listed for court-annexed mediation in 2016 (19 per cent more than in 2015), and 601 court-annexed mediation sessions were held. These mediations are conducted by those Supreme Court registrars who are additionally qualified as mediators. The court-annexed mediation program continued to achieve a good settlement rate – 51 per cent during 2016. The Court has a stringent convention for recording cases as "settled at mediation": the parties must have agreed to finalising orders by the close of the mediation procedure or have drafted heads of agreement. An additional 26 per cent of cases were recorded as "still negotiating" at the close of the mediation session, and many of those cases are likely to have settled subsequently. If parties agree to settle their dispute at any time after the close of the mediation session, those settlements are not recorded as "settled at mediation" even though the mediation procedure may have been fundamental to the parties eventually reaching settlement. The statistics for the court-annexed mediation program are collated independently of the JusticeLink system, where the data is not sufficiently reliable for this purpose. There are no statistics on settlement rates for cases referred to private mediators.

The listing delay for non-urgent court-annexed mediation sessions ranged between 3-9 weeks during 2016, but was 3-6 weeks for most of the year. The listing delay for mediations had settled at 5 weeks for the start of the 2017 law term. The listing delay can change during the year, and updated information is published daily in the court list.

Use of arbitration for Supreme Court cases is possible but now extremely rare. The most recent referral to arbitration occurred in 2006 (one referral only). The use of arbitration has declined following re-distribution of work among the State's courts. The types of cases that typically had been referred by the Supreme Court to arbitration no longer come to the Supreme Court.





4 EDUCATION AND PUBLIC INFORMATION

- Judicial officer education (information supplied by the Judicial Commission of New South Wales)
- Public education programme
- The role of the Media Manager

JUDICIAL OFFICER EDUCATION

Many judicial officers updated and developed their skills and knowledge during the year by attending conferences, seminars and workshops. Some of the programs are tailored specifically to the Court's needs, while others target the wider legal community. An overview of some of the educational activities completed during 2016 appears below. For a more comprehensive list of activities, please refer to Appendix (III): Other Judicial Activity.

Domestic judicial education activities undertaken in 2016

- During 2016, judges attended 99 days of face-to-face judicial education organised by the Judicial Commission, an average of 2.8 days of judicial education per judge. Participants are asked to rate the practical value of each education event to their role as a judge. The overall ratings in 2016 (from an average response rate of 42%) reveal that judges find the Supreme Court's education program relevant and a useful source of knowledge and ideas. While 87% of participants said that the education program was applicable to their day to day work.
- In February, two Supreme Court judges attended the National Judicial Orientation Program in Glenelg, Adelaide. This five-day orientation program assists newly appointed judicial officers with their transition to judicial office by facilitating the development and refinement of the skills and knowledge necessary for effective judging. It is conducted by the National Judicial College of Australia with the assistance of the Judicial Commission of New South Wales, the Australian Institute of Judicial Administration and the Judicial College of Victoria.
- In March, eleven Supreme Court judges attended a twilight Seminar on 'The Role of the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal' presented by The Honourable Justice Robertson Wright. The seminar provided a comprehensive outline of the NCAT, including its history and formation; the features and characteristics of the tribunal; the practice and procedures of different tribunal divisions; the legislative framework for practice, procedure and case management; and other features of individual divisions.
- In April, twelve Supreme Court judges attended a twilight seminar on 'Inmate Classification, Placement and Case Management' presented by Mr Mac La'ulu, A/Director, Inmate Classification and Placement, Corrective Services. This session provided information on the classification system used by Corrective Services, including the various security ratings, what they mean for the offender, and when and how they are applied in individual cases. Other topics covered included the classification process and information considered by Corrective Services when determining classification.
- The Court's Annual Conference, held in August, included sessions on reform of the civil court structure in the UK, international dispute settlement, developments in criminal law, the in personam exception to indefeasibility, tendency evidence, proportionality, dealing with apprehended bias claims, and DNA. Forty three Supreme Court judges and the Principal Registrar attended.
- In November, nine judges from the Supreme Court attended a cross-jurisdictional seminar on 'Parole and the State Parole Authority' presented by The Honourable James Wood AO QC, NSW State Parole Authority. This session covered the State Parole Authority operational practices concerning parole grants and breaches of parole, ICOs and home detention orders. This session also provided information on the Correction NSW practices in relation to the preparation of inmates for parole and their supervision post release.
- The Ngara Yura Committee presented various seminars and community visits throughout the year:
 - In May, two judges attended a site visit to Kamay Botany Bay National Park. Mr Dean Kelly, Aboriginal Environmentalist, Cultural Ambassador, and member of the La Perouse Aboriginal community, led a group of judicial officers on a tour of Kamay Botany Bay National Park.

PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAMME

- In August, four judges attended a seminar conducted jointly with the Bar Association and Law Society. This session discussed intergenerational trauma and how its impacts can be addressed focusing on Aboriginal communities and discussing how an improvement in the understanding of intergenerational trauma can contribute to improved justice outcomes for Aboriginal people.
- In October, five judges attended another jointly conducted session with the Bar Association and Law Society in the issues arising from Aboriginal early childhood trauma and foetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD). This seminar explained current alcohol and other drug management and health initiatives to reduce the contact between vulnerable Aboriginal young people and the juvenile justice system as well as the impact of FASD on the community.
- Also in October, six judges attended a seminar on the Clean Slate Without Prejudice program in Redfern where Local Area Commander Luke Freudenstein and Shane Phillips talked about the program and other crime prevention initiatives in the Redfern area.
- In November, two judges attended a community visit to Muru Mittigar in Penrith. This event provided insights into the ways in which the organisation achieves its vision and provided an opportunity to engage with programs within the western Sydney region.

Each week the Court's Registrars address secondary school students and community groups regarding the Court's jurisdiction and daily operations. After the lecture, the group is taken to an appropriate courtroom to observe a Supreme Court trial. The Court offers this service at no cost to the attendees.

Approximately 1,100 students and members of the public attended these lectures in 2016. The majority of these visits were from high schools, particularly senior Legal Studies students. These students are encouraged to observe a civil and criminal court in operation while completing their preliminary Higher School Certificate studies to improve their understanding of the legal system and the procedural differences between the two jurisdictions. However, the Registrars also addressed TAFE, university students and community groups throughout the year, in addition to international visitors from China, Dubai and Myanmar.

THE ROLE OF THE MEDIA MANAGER

The Court's Media Manager (MM) is the principal media spokesperson for the superior NSW courts and provides a professional court-media liaison service. The major role of the position is to provide the media with information about court proceedings in the Supreme Court, the Land & Environment Court (LEC) and the Industrial Relations Commission (IRC). The MM works with the media to ensure that judicial decisions are correctly reported to the community and promotes initiatives taken by the courts to enhance access to justice. The MM is also responsible for ensuring that media outlets are alert to any non-publication and suppression orders issued in proceedings, and that they are familiar with the terms and impacts of these orders. This is important because the media's failure to acknowledge or adhere to such orders in their coverage could compromise proceedings.

During 2016, the MM completed 6,149 requests for information. Of these:

- 91.5 per cent related to Supreme Court matters
- 8.5 per cent related to the LEC, IRC and other courts and tribunals.

Sydney metropolitan journalists from major newspapers and radio and TV stations remained the major users of MM services, accounting for 75 per cent of requests in 2016. Nearly 12 per cent of users were from NSW regional newspapers, radio and TV stations, and less than one per cent was from suburban Sydney newspapers. The remaining inquiries were from interstate or overseas journalists, writers for specialist/trade publications, authors, lawyers, students or members of the public.

During the reporting year, the MM received 24 media applications to film criminal sentences, under the broadcasting judgments legislation which includes a presumption in favour of permitting recording and broadcast of judgment remarks that determine proceedings. All but one was granted.

In addition to reactive work, the MM undertook proactive tasks including providing media advice to judges, assisting with the Court's social media (Twitter and Facebook) activity and hosting a visiting Japanese judge and Court official.

2015 also saw the first full year's operation of the broadcasting judgments legislation which includes a presumption in favour of permitting recording and broadcast of judgment remarks that determine proceedings. The MM received 22 media applications to film criminal sentences of which 16 were granted and six refused.

In addition to reactive work, the MM undertook proactive media tasks including drafting media releases and statements, providing media advice to judges, organising media interviews for the Chief Justice, assisting with the Court's social media (Twitter and Facebook) activity, assisting the Judicial Commission of NSW with media inquiries relating to a public inquiry, drafting media reporting guidelines, organising media testing for the new Banco Court audio visual equipment, administering the Media Consultation Group and participating in the national Court Media Officers Conference.



5 OTHER ASPECTS OF THE COURT'S WORK

- Uniform Civil Procedure Rules
- Law Courts Library
- Admission to the legal profession and appointment of Public Notaries
- Admission under the mutual recognition Acts
- Administration of the Costs Assessment Scheme
- Pro Bono Scheme
- Judicial Assistance Program

UNIFORM CIVIL PROCEDURE RULES

The Civil Procedure Act 2005 and Uniform Civil Procedure Rules 2005 commenced operation in 2005. The Uniform Rules Committee was established under sections 8 and Schedule 2 of the Act. The Chief Justice (who acts as chair) and the President of the Court of Appeal are ex-officio members of the Committee. The other Supreme Court representatives on the Committee during Justice Adamson and Justice Lindsay. As well as considering amendments to the Rules the Uniform Rules Committee approves forms for use in civil proceedings under section 17 of the Act.



LAW COURTS LIBRARY

The Law Courts Library is one of the premier law libraries in Australia; its collection predates the formation of the Supreme Court in 1824. The Library is a legal resource and information centre for all judicial officers, court staff and registrars in the Law Courts Building.

Legal authorities and accurate information are provided to support the timely and effective decision making of the courts. In 2015, librarians answered more than 2,000 requests from the Supreme Court, and around 4,600 legal resources were borrowed. Law Courts Library reader services librarians continued to provide support for court use of online resources and e- publications on iPads and other mobile devices.

In 2016 the judicial functions of the NSW Industrial Relations Commission (IRC) were transferred to the Supreme Court. Library staff evaluated the IRC's extensive library, and incorporated judgments and specialist texts into the Law Courts Library collection.

In addition, 2,451 Supreme Court (including Court of Appeal and Court of Criminal Appeal) decisions were published on the NSW Caselaw website during 2016, which is managed and supported by the Library.

The NSW Department of Justice and the Federal Court of Australia jointly fund the Law Courts Library. The operations of the Library are overseen by the Library Advisory Committee, consisting of three Judges from the Federal Court of Australia and three Judges from the Supreme Court of NSW.

The Committee provides advice on matters of collection development and service provision.

During 2016, the Supreme Court representatives on the Advisory Committee were:

The Honourable Justice Basten,
The Honourable Justice Macfarlan. and
The Honourable Justice Emmett

ADMISSION TO THE LEGAL PROFESSION AND APPOINTMENT OF PUBLIC NOTARIES

The Legal Profession Admission Board is responsible for:

- determining the eligibility and suitability of people seeking to be admitted as a lawyer in NSW
- accrediting academic law courses and practical legal training courses in NSW
- registering, enrolling and examining students in the Board's own Diploma in Law course
- appointing public notaries in NSW, and
- maintaining the Roll of Lawyers and the Roll of Public Notaries in NSW.

Constituted by the *Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Act 2014*, the Board is a self-funding statutory corporation. Membership of the Board comprises:

- the Chief Justice of NSW
- three Judges of the Supreme Court nominated by the Chief Justice
- a nominee of the Attorney General
- nominees of the Committee of NSW Law Deans, the Bar Council, and the Law Society Council.

During 2016, the members of the Board were:

- The Honourable Chief Justice
- The Honourable Justice Emmett (Presiding Member)
- The Honourable Justice Davies (Deputy Presiding Member)
- The Honourable Justice Lindsay
- The Honourable Justice Payne (from 17 December 2016)
- Professor Michael Adams
- Ms Margaret Allars SC
- Mr Charles Cawley
- Mr John Dobson
- Professor Lesley Hitchens
- Mr Garry McGrath SC
- Mr Marcel Savary (until 7 August 2016)
- Dr Jacob Campbell (from 30 August 2016).

A detailed account of the Board's activities and achievements can be found in its Annual Report, which is available for download from www.lpab.justice.nsw.gov.au

ADMISSION UNDER THE MUTUAL RECOGNITION ACTS

The Registry liaises with the Legal Profession Admission Board in performing the task of managing applications from legal practitioners for admission under the mutual recognition Acts: from New Zealand legal practitioners under the *Trans Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1997*, and from Australian legal practitioners from other States and Territories under the *Mutual Recognition Act 1992*.

In 2016, 69 New Zealand practitioners were enrolled under the *Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act*. In comparison, there were 54 trans-Tasman admissions in 2015 and 45 in 2014.

The number of Australian legal practitioners enrolled under the *Mutual Recognition Act 1992* remains negligible after each State and Territory, except South Australia, enacted legislation that allows interstate practitioners to practise seamlessly throughout Australia. There have been only five enrolments recorded under the *Mutual Recognition Act* in New South Wales since January 2007, and none since 2012.



ADMINISTRATION OF THE COSTS ASSESSMENT SCHEME

The Costs Assessment Scheme is the mechanism through which clients and practitioners can resolve disputes about costs, and also quantify costs orders made by a NSW court or tribunal. The Scheme's processes are governed by the NSW legal profession legislation in force when the litigation in which the costs dispute arose commenced, or the costs order was made, commenced.

The Chief Justice appoints independent Costs Assessors to determine applications for costs assessment and review. All Costs Assessors are legally qualified and must have been a practising Australian lawyer for at least 5 years to be considered eligible for appointment.

The Costs Assessment section of the Registry undertakes the day-to-day administration of the Scheme under the guidance of the Manager, Costs Assessment.

During 2016, 1,340 costs assessment applications were lodged. Of these, 553 (41 per cent) related to costs between parties to costs orders; 171 (13 per cent) were brought by clients against practitioners; and 434 (32 per cent) were brought by practitioners to recover against client. There were 182 reviews (14 per cent of applications).

The review process is undertaken by a review panel comprising two senior assessors. The review panel generally considers the material before the assessor and can affirm or vary the original assessment. If the application is made under the *Legal Profession Act 2004* (LPA) a costs assessment determination can be appealed to the District Court as of right on

questions of law and otherwise by leave. Although now repealed, the LPA still applies to assessments where the matter in which the costs order was obtained was commenced before 1 July 2015 or where first instructions from a client were given before 1 July 2015.

The *Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Act 2014* (as amended) incorporates the recommendations of the Chief Justices' Review concerning reviews. For matters falling under the new legislation, an appeal is now to the District Court, but only with leave if the amount in dispute is less than \$25,000 or to the Supreme Court but only with leave if the amount in dispute is less than \$100,000.

The Chief Justice appoints the Costs Assessment Rules Committee (CARC). Since 1 July 2015, with the commencement of the Application Act, CARC was reconstituted in the legislation to include a Supreme Court Judge, a District Court Judge, a nominee of Office of Legal Services Commissioner and of both NSW Law Society and NSW Bar Association as well as representative Costs Assessors. The CARC is chaired by The Honourable Justice Paul Brereton AM RFD.

The Costs Assessment User Group meets as necessary to discuss issues on costs assessment from a user's perspective. The User Group met regularly during 2016 to progress updates to application forms required to accommodate the uniform legislation and draft updated practice guidelines for decision makers and prospective costs applicants and respondents.

PRO BONO SCHEME

The Court established the Pro Bono Scheme with support from the New South Wales Bar Association and Law Society of New South Wales in 2001.

The Scheme operates in accordance with Part 7 Division 9 of the Uniform Civil Procedure Rules 2005 and enables unrepresented litigants to be referred to a barrister and/or solicitor once the Court determines they are deserving of assistance.

During 2016, the Court made 36 referrals under the Scheme: 12 referrals were made in Court of Appeal cases, and 24 referrals were made by Judges across the Common Law and Equity Divisions. The Scheme's success depends upon the continued goodwill of barristers and solicitors who have indicated a willingness to participate in the Scheme. The Court gratefully acknowledges and extends its sincere thanks to those who support the scheme by volunteering their services.

JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

A Judicial Assistance Program was launched to help New South Wales judicial officers meet the demands of their work whilst maintaining good health and well-being. The scheme provides for 24-hour access to a professional, confidential counselling service and free annual health assessments. The Court administers this Program on behalf of all the jurisdictions.





6 APPENDICES

- I Court statistics – comprehensive table of statistics
- II The Court’s committees and user groups
- III Other judicial activity: conferences, speaking, engagements, publications, appointments to legal and cultural organisations, delegations and international assistance and commissions in overseas courts

APPENDIX (I): COURT STATISTICS – COMPREHENSIVE TABLE OF STATISTICS

(to be read in conjunction with Chapter 3)

- Filings, disposals and pending cases
- Timeliness
 - Age of pending cases at 31 December
 - Listing delays after the end of the year
- Alternative dispute resolution

Filings, disposals and pending cases

NOTES:

The figures for pending cases exclude cases that have been re-opened after judgment.

Pending caseload figures within the Common Law and Equity Divisions (or within case management lists within those Divisions) will not always reconcile with associated filing and disposal figures. This is because cases that are commenced in one case management list or Division may subsequently be transferred to another list or Division for further case management and disposal.

The statistics for 2012 through to 2016 for civil cases in the Common Law Division, for the Equity Division (other than the Adoptions List, Protective List and contested Probate List cases), and for the Bails List (for 2015 and 2016) have been extracted from the JusticeLink system. All other statistics are manually collated.

The statistics are subject to audit and revision.

“n/a” – figures not available or not separately reported

“-” – item not applicable

“0” – zero count

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
COURT OF APPEAL ^{1,2}					
Filings (net new cases) ³	493	502	461	379	397
<i>Filings of appeals / applications for relief</i>	333	334	310	255	261
<i>Filings of applications for leave to appeal</i> ⁴	169	183	166	134	144
Disposals (final disposals) ⁵	493	510	501	433	423
<i>Disposals of appeals / applications for relief</i>	319	337	330	312	278
<i>Disposals of applications for leave to appeal</i>	184	188	186	131	153
Pending cases at 31 December	338	330	290	236	210
<i>Appeals / applications for relief</i>	252	249	230	173	156
<i>Applications for leave to appeal</i>	86	81	60	63	54

¹ These statistics exclude notices of intention to appeal because those documents do not commence substantive appeals or applications.

² These statistics cover Court of Appeal cases only. They are not comparable to “civil appeal” case statistics reported within the Productivity Commission’s Report on Government Services, which comprise all civil cases of an appellate nature, including appeals and reviews dealt with in the Common Law Division or Equity Division.

³ When a notice of appeal is filed after a successful application for leave to appeal, the appeal and the leave application are counted as one case (not two). For this reason, the figures for filings of notices of appeal (and applications for relief) and filings of applications for leave, combined, exceed the number of net new cases.

⁴ This item includes not only leave applications, but also applications where parties have elected to have a concurrent hearing of both the application for leave to appeal and the appeal (if leave is granted).

⁵ Where an application for leave to appeal is granted and a notice of appeal is consequently filed, this is counted as one continuous case, with a final disposal being counted only when the substantive appeal is finalised. For this reason, the figures for disposals of notices of appeal (and applications for relief) and disposals of applications for leave, combined, exceed the number of final disposals.

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEAL ¹					
Filings	339	385	373	342	362
Disposals	336	381	376	400	385
Pending cases at 31 December	225	229	226	168	145

¹ These statistics exclude applications concerning decisions of the NSW State Parole Authority. The Court of Criminal Appeal received 8 such applications during 2016 (26 were received over the five-year period 2012-2016). The Administrative Law List of the Common Law Division also receives applications concerning decisions of the Parole Authority.

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
COMMON LAW DIVISION – Criminal ^{1, 2}					
Criminal List					
Filings (registrations) ³	130	110	72	118	102
Disposals ⁴	157	121	92	88	105
Pending cases at 31 December	116	105	85	115	112

Bails List ⁵

Filings (applicants)	n/a	3,698 (est.)	3,780	4,401	3,996
Disposals (applicants)	n/a	3,742 (est.)	3,637	4,201	3,991
Pending applicants at 31 December	339	439	561	761	742

¹ In all years, the figures exclude matters under Part 7 of the *Crimes (Appeal and Review) Act* (formerly s474D of the *Crimes Act*), applications for re-determination of a life sentence, and summary jurisdiction cases (which are included among “other summons cases” within the Common Law General List, where they are managed).

² Since 2005, the Court has used counting rules that align with national counting rules. Therefore the figures reported now are not directly comparable with those reported before 2005.

³ Registrations include committals for trial/sentence, ex officio indictments, re-trials ordered by the Court of Criminal Appeal or High Court, matters referred from the Mental Health Review Tribunal, transfers from the District Court, and re-activated matters (eg where a bench warrant is executed).

⁴ Disposals are counted at sentence, acquittal or other final disposal. (“Other final disposal” includes referral to the Mental Health Tribunal, no bill, death of the accused, order for a bench warrant to issue, transfer to another court, and other final orders.)

⁵ From 2013 onwards, the figures for Bails List cases count the number of applicants, not the number of applications. At a Bails List hearing, the Court may deal concurrently with multiple applications for any one applicant. Because the change in counting was implemented in mid-2013 and was not retrospective, an estimate has been made for the filings and disposals for 2013. During 2016, new reports have been used to extract data from the JusticeLink system – it is possible that these reports do not take into account a small number of cases that are either created or closed retrospectively.

2012 ¹ 2013 2014 2015 2016

COMMON LAW DIVISION – Civil

Administrative Law List

Filings	206	122	144	134	127
Disposals	119	148	136	158	149
Pending cases at 31 December	110	86	109	91	70

Defamation List

Filings	46	67	58	47	69
Disposals	55	76	65	65	52
Pending cases at 31 December	90	84	81	65	84

Common Law General List (formerly the General Case Management List)

Filings	982	1,177	1,056	1,176	1,105
Contested claims	496	503	454	484	484
– <i>personal injury</i>	251	213	266	315	291
– <i>other claims</i>	245	290	188	169	193
Uncontested claims	52	161	133	169	185
Proceeds of Crime cases	93	104	94	120	93
Other summons cases	341	409	375	403	378
Disposals	1,041	1,556	1,408	1,149	1,134
Contested claims	533	616	572	525	495
– <i>personal injury</i>	248	365	283	299	291
– <i>other claims</i>	285	251	289	226	204
Uncontested claims	32	317	185	109	154
Proceeds of Crime cases	97	100	116	77	97
Other summons cases	379	523	535	438	388
Pending cases at 31 December	1,891	1,656	1,286	1,275	1,247
Contested claims	1,104	999	886	850	865
– <i>personal injury</i>	554	418	531	562	575
– <i>other claims</i>	550	581	355	288	290
Uncontested claims	162	139	70	94	69
Proceeds of Crime cases	145	148	134	176	173
Other summons cases	480	370	196	155	140

	2012 ¹	2013	2014	2015	2016
Possession List					
Filings ²	3,259	2,447	1,844	1,600	1,312
Disposals	4,439	3,647	2,641	1,592	1,376
<i>Contested</i>	207	155	136	100	60
<i>Uncontested</i>	4,232	3,492	2,505	1,492	1,316
Pending cases at 31 December	2,922	1,711	914	903	838
<i>Contested</i>	178	136	92	56	60
<i>Uncontested</i>	2,744	1,575	822	847	778
Professional Negligence List					
Filings	161	194	162	127	150
Disposals	138	204	193	191	153
Pending cases at 31 December	409	402	370	301	301
Miscellaneous applications ³					
Filings	458	566	415	454	453
Disposals	465	608	436	435	437
Pending cases at 31 December	77	26	11	32	52
COMMON LAW DIVISION TOTALS – Civil					
Filings	5,112	4,573	3,679	3,538	3,216
Disposals	6,257	6,239	4,879	3,590	3,301
Pending cases at 31 December	5,499	3,965	2,771	2,667	2,592

¹ The figures reported for 2012 are affected by errors in classification of some case types – particularly, the distribution of cases between the Administrative Law List and the Common Law General List is considered to be inaccurate. Those errors were addressed at the end of 2012 when the Court implemented a new set of case-type descriptors.

² All Possession List cases are assumed to be uncontested at the time of filing. If a subsequent defence or cross-claim is filed the case is listed for case-management and counted as a contested case.

³ These include applications under the *Mutual Recognition Act*, *Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act*, applications for production orders, requests for service within NSW of documents related to civil proceedings being conducted outside NSW, and applications to enforce judgments given outside Australia.

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
EQUITY DIVISION ¹					
Admiralty List					
Filings	2	0	1	4	0
Disposals	10	2	1	1	4
Pending cases at 31 December	3	1	1	4	0
Adoptions List ²					
Applications	234	206	208	160	198
Orders made	203	218	214	168	179
Pending cases at 31 December	74	62	56	48	67
Commercial List					
Filings	148	175	195	155	147
Disposals	178	190	232	166	224
Pending cases at 31 December	283	278	277	282	223
Commercial Arbitration List					
Filings	6	3	3	2	1
Disposals	9	8	4	1	2
Pending cases at 31 December	7	2	1	1	0
Corporations List					
Filings	1,648	1,353	1,601	2,126	1,097
Disposals ³	1,602	1,617	1,714	2,133	1,071
Pending cases at 31 December	759	465	336	331	357
Equity General List					
Filings	2,037	1,994	1,998	2,146	1,901
<i>Family provision cases</i>	792	790	774	972	1,018
<i>Other cases</i>	1,245	1,204	1,224	1,174	883
Disposals	2,089	2,098	2,595	2,207	2,058
<i>Family provision cases</i>	811	919	855	835	1,068
<i>Other cases</i>	1,278	1,179	1,740	1,372	990
Pending cases at 31 December	2,317	2,235	1,629	1,570	1,409
<i>Family provision cases</i>	649	513	419	554	492
<i>Other cases ⁴</i>	1,668	1,722	1,210	1,016	917

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Probate (Contentious Matters) List					
Filings	137	191	212	207	265
Disposals	116	172	200	187	245
Pending cases at 31 December	122	141	153	173	193
Protective List ⁵					
Applications	106	95	110	107	83
Disposals	85	99	109	105	93
Pending applications at 31 December	36	32	33	35	25
Real Property List ⁶					
Filings	–	–	–	150	394
Disposals	–	–	–	37	248
Pending cases at 31 December	–	–	–	141	292
Revenue List					
Filings	45	56	13	22	26
Disposals	15	35	39	8	18
Pending applications at 31 December	54	40	15	29	36
Technology and Construction List					
Filings	137	129	98	89	108
Disposals	115	95	180	114	139
Pending cases at 31 December	244	283	212	200	174
EQUITY DIVISION TOTALS					
Filings	4,500	4,202	4,439	5,168	4,220
Disposals	4,422	4,534	5,288	5,127	4,281
Pending cases at 31 December	3,899	3,539	2,713	2,814	2,776
PROBATE – Applications lodged for grant of probate etc ⁷	23,790	23,607	24,526	26,408	26,243

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- ¹ The figures reported for 2012 through to 2015 have been extracted from the JusticeLink system, except for the figures for the Adoptions List, Probate (Contentious Matters) List and Protective List (the data for those lists are obtained from manually collated data).
 - ² In this List, all applications types are counted, including information applications.
 - ³ Typically, about 90 per cent of Corporations List are finalised by the registrar and without need for listing before a judge.
 - ⁴ During 2014 and 2015 a large number of inactive cases in this List were audited and, where appropriate, closed. Accordingly, the disposals figures are aberrantly high in those years.
 - ⁵ Applications are counted instead of “cases” because cases in this List can be of a perpetual nature. During the period when a person’s affairs or property are managed under the *NSW Trustee and Guardian Act*, it is possible that more than one application will be made in relation to that person. “Disposals” refers to the number of disposed applications.
 - ⁶ The Real Property List commenced on 1 June 2015. Some cases, commenced earlier in the Equity General List, were subsequently transferred to this List for case management.
 - ⁷ This includes all probate applications that are lodged as uncontested applications for a grant of probate or letters of administration, or for reseal of a probate grant. Registrars deal with uncontested applications. Only a small proportion applications commenced as uncontested grant applications become contested. Contested applications are transferred to the Probate (Contentious Matters) List and are counted additionally as filings there. The figures here do not include probate-related matters handled by the registry, such as probate accounts matters, caveats, deposited wills, and elections to administer estates.

Timeliness – age of pending cases at 31 December ^{1, 2, 3, 4}

Number pending (and % of total)	National benchmark ⁵	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
COURT OF APPEAL						
Total number of cases pending		338	330	290	236	210
Cases within 12 months of age	90%	307 (91%)	297 (90%)	270 (93%)	214 (91%)	191 (91%)
Cases within 24 months of age	100%	332 (98%)	328 (99%)	288 (99%)	234 (99%)	210 (100%)
COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEAL						
Total number of cases pending		225	229	226	168	145
Cases within 12 months of age	90%	187 (83%)	206 (90%)	194 (86%)	158 (94%)	143 (99%)
Cases within 24 months of age	100%	211 (94%)	220 (96%)	222 (98%)	166 (99%)	145 (100%)
COMMON LAW DIVISION – Criminal ^{6, 7}						
Total number of defendants pending		116	105	85	115	112
Cases within 12 months of age	90%	95 (82%)	85 (81%)	56 (66%)	93 (81%)	80 (71%)
Cases within 24 months of age	100%	114 (98%)	101 (96%)	77 (91%)	109 (95%)	107 (96%)
COMMON LAW DIVISION – Civil						
Total number of cases pending		5,499	3,965	2,771	2,667	2,592
Cases within 12 months of age	90%	3,178 (58%)	2,674 (67%)	1,799 (65%)	1,834 (69%)	1,766 (68%)
Cases within 24 months of age	100%	4,474 (81%)	3,365 (85%)	2,299 (83%)	2,242 (84%)	2,204 (85%)
EQUITY DIVISION (excluding uncontested probate matters)						
Total number of cases pending		3,899	3,539	2,713	2,814	2,776
Cases within 12 months of age	90%	2,208 (57%)	2,059 (58%)	1,865 (69%)	2,001 (71%)	1,975 (71%)
Cases within 24 months of age	100%	3,027 (78%)	2,751 (78%)	2,369 (87%)	2,508 (89%)	2,471 (89%)

- ¹ The calculation of age uses the same definitions of commencement and finalisation as are used for the “backlog” performance indicator in the Productivity Commission’s Report on Government Services.
- ² For Equity Division cases and the civil cases of the Common Law Division, the information is based on data from the JusticeLink system, which was not fully reliable until the end of 2012 because many finalised cases remained open in the JusticeLink system and were improperly contributing to the data for the age of pending cases. During 2013, 2014 and 2015, with improved JusticeLink reports, the Registry was able to identify inactive cases in these Divisions – those cases were audited and, where appropriate, closed. The changes in percentages for the civil cases in these Divisions during 2013, 2014 and 2015 are, to some extent, affected by those audits.
- ³ For cases in the Court of Appeal and the Court of Criminal Appeal, the age of any case includes time taken to deal with an associated application for leave to appeal.
- ⁴ These figures include the effect of factors outside the control of the Court, such as the time taken to complete relevant cases in other courts or interlocutory appeals, time taken to prepare essential reports, and time occupied by trials that result in a hung jury.
- ⁵ The national benchmarks are taken from the “backlog” performance indicator within the Courts chapter of the Report on Government Services (published by the Productivity Commission). Note that the national benchmarks apply to district/county courts as well as supreme courts; consequently the national benchmarks apply to a large range of indictments, criminality and civil case types. The case-mix of any court can influence that court’s capacity to achieve the national benchmarks. This Court’s Criminal List deals with a narrow range of offences, with most indictments presented being for homicide offences; other matters, generally involving the most serious criminality, may be brought but only with the approval of the Chief Justice. In contrast, most other supreme courts in Australia regularly deal with a broader range of offences. For civil non-appeal cases, all supreme courts in Australia continue to have difficulty achieving the national benchmarks (see table 7A.21 of the latest Report on Government Services).
- ⁶ The figures exclude matters under Part 7 of the *Crimes (Appeal and Review) Act* (formerly s474D of the *Crimes Act*) and applications for re-determination of a life sentence.
- ⁷ The figures are comparable from year to year. The counting unit is defendants. Cases are considered to be pending until the time of sentence/acquittal or other final disposal. Where a trial collapses and a new trial is ordered, the counting of the age of the case is calculated from the date of committal (not from the date of the order for a new trial).

Timeliness – listing delays after the end of the year ^{1,2}

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
COURT OF APPEAL ³	4 months	4 months	3.8 months	2.3 months	1 month
COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEAL ⁴	2.5 months	3 months	3 months	2.5 months	1.5 months
COMMON LAW DIVISION					
Criminal List ⁵	5 months	6.5 months	2.8 months	5.5 months	7.3 months
Civil lists ⁶	9.5 months	5 months	6.8 months	6.0 months	7.3 months
Bails List ⁷	4 weeks	4 weeks	3 weeks	10.5 weeks	9 weeks
EQUITY DIVISION ⁸	2.5 months	3.8 months	2.8 months	3.0 months	5.3 months

¹ This is the time between the establishment of readiness for hearing and the first group of available hearing dates that the Court offers for criminal and civil trial cases, criminal and civil appeals and Bails List cases. These delays do not apply if the Court orders an expedited hearing.

² The listing delays show the position at the start of the new law term (for example, for 2016 it is the position at the start of the 2017 law term). This removes the end-of-year impact of the law vacation.

³ This refers to substantive appeals (including those heard concurrently with a leave application) requiring 1 day of hearing time. The listing delay is significantly shorter for a hearing of a leave application alone.

⁴ This refers to severity-only appeals requiring 1 hour of hearing time and conviction appeals requiring 3 hours of hearing time.

⁵ For years up to 2015, this refers to cases requiring at least 3 weeks of trial time. For 2016, it refers to cases requiring at least 4 weeks of trial time.

⁶ This refers to cases requiring up to 5 days of hearing time.

⁷ This refers to adult applicants receiving public funding. Applications by juveniles are usually heard within 2 weeks.

⁸ This refers only to General List and Probate (Contentious Matters) List cases requiring 2 days of hearing time before a judge.

Alternative dispute resolution

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Court-annexed mediations listed ^{1,2}					
Total	711	671	486 ³	518 ³	615 ³
<i>Common Law Division</i>	34	44	28	32	38
<i>Equity Division – not probate cases</i>	660	605	432	447	528
<i>Equity Division – probate cases</i>	16	21	25	39	48
<i>Court of Appeal</i>	1	1	1	0	1
Percentage settling at mediation ⁴	54%	55%	54%	51%	51%
Waiting time after the end of the year ⁵	6 weeks	3 weeks	6 weeks	4 weeks	5 weeks
Referrals to mediation generally					
Total referrals recorded ⁶	1,092	1,088	839 ⁸	1,071 ⁸	806 ⁸
Mediation referral index ⁷	23.9%	23.7%	19.0% ⁸	23.1% ⁸	17.3% ⁸
Arbitrations listed					
Common Law Division	0	0	0	0	0

¹ “Court-annexed mediation” refers to mediations conducted by the registrars of the Court who are also qualified as mediators. It excludes settlement conferences conducted by judges and mediations conducted by private mediators.

² This section refers to court-annexed mediation listings for the year – note that referrals to court-annexed mediation that are made late in one year may result in listings early in the following year.

³ The reduction in cases being referred to the court-annexed mediation program since 2014 is principally due to early use of informal settlement conferences for family provision cases involving estates valued at less than \$500,000 (a more detailed explanation of the impact is given in the 2014 Annual Review).

⁴ This refers only to cases where the parties have settled and either agreed upon finalising orders or drafted heads of agreement by the close of the mediation procedure. It does not include cases that advise a settlement at any later time (even though the mediation may have contributed significantly to reaching that settlement). In 2015, for example, in addition to the 51% of cases that settled at the close of their court-annexed mediation session, a further 26% of cases were negotiating a settlement. The registry does not collect settlement data for mediations conducted by private mediators.

⁵ This is the waiting time to the first available group of mediation sessions within the court-annexed mediation program, as reported at the start of the new law term (for example, for 2016 it is the position at the start of the 2017 law term). The waiting time will be less if an urgent mediation session is ordered by the Court.

⁶ This covers all occasions when the Court refers a case to mediation, regardless of whether the mediation is to be conducted through the court-annexed mediation program or by a private mediator.

⁷ The “mediation referral index” is the number of cases referred to mediation during the year, expressed as a percentage of the number of cases lodged (in that year) that are of a type for which mediation is considered to be applicable. For the purpose of calculating the mediation referral index, mediation is considered to be applicable for all civil cases types (including appeal cases) noting the following exceptions: proceeds of crime cases, cases that have a high likelihood of proceeding to default judgment or have no defendant element, all cases in the Adoptions List or Protective List, and 90 per cent of cases in the Corporations List. While a case may be of a type for which mediation is considered to be applicable, there may be a particular aspect of that case individually that makes it inappropriate for mediation; however, the calculation of the mediation referral index does not exclude any cases on that basis.

⁸ Reduced usage of court-annexed mediation, as a result of use of early informal settlement conferences (see footnote 3), has some impact on these figures.

APPENDIX (II): THE COURT'S COMMITTEES AND USER GROUPS

Chief Justice's Executive Committee

The Chief Justice's Executive Committee was established in August 2011 to facilitate contemporaneous consideration and resolution of significant operational strategic issues. The Committee met weekly throughout 2016, except during periods when the Chief Justice was not available or unless the Chief Justice decided not to hold a meeting.

Members during 2016

The Honourable the Chief Justice Bathurst (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Beazley AO
The Honourable Justice Hoeben AM RFD
The Honourable Justice Bergin
Mr Chris D'Aeth, Executive Director and Principal Registrar

Adoptions List Users Group

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Brereton AM RFD (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Kunc
Mr Robert Svoronos,
Ms Grace Romeo, Family and Community Services
Ms Brooke Bowman, Family and Community Services
Mr Derek Smith, Family and Community Services
Ms Nicola Callander, Legal Aid NSW
Ms Amanda Hall, Legal Aid NSW
Ms Nicole Hailstone, Crown Solicitor's Office
Ms Jackie Palmer, Anglicare
Ms Lisa Vihtonen, Barnardos Australia
Ms Lynne Moggach, Barnardos Australia
Ms Donna Ward, Barrister
Ms Esther Lawson, Barrister
Mr Alistair Harvey-Sutton, Solicitor

Alternative Dispute Resolution Steering Committee

The Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Steering Committee which was established in 1993 meets to discuss the Court's ADR processes and consider ways in which they might be improved. The Committee works to encourage the use of ADR (particularly mediation) in resolving disputes, and to ensure the Court has adequate resources to provide this service. The Committee makes

recommendations to the Chief Justice in pursuit of these objectives, consulting with other courts and external organisations where appropriate.

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Ward (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Hall
The Honourable Justice Sackar
The Honourable Justice Hallen
Mr Chris D'Aeth, Executive Director and Principal Registrar
Ms Rebel Kenna, Director & Prothonotary
Ms Leonie Walton, Registrar, Equity
Mr Nicholas Flaskas, Senior Deputy Registrar (Secretary)
Ms A Bowne
Ms Mary Walker
Mr Stephen Titus (Carneys Lawyers)

Appeal Courts Judgment Writing Committee (NJCA)

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Fraser, Court of Appeal Queensland (Chair)
The Honourable the Chief Justice Allsop, Federal Court of Australia
The Honourable the Chief Justice Blow, Supreme Court Tasmania
The Honourable Justice Ainslie Wallace, Family Court of Australia
The Honourable Justice Blue, Supreme Court South Australia
The Hon John Doyle, Supreme Court South Australia (retired)
The Honourable Justice Frances, Court of Appeal, New Zealand
The Honourable Justice Macfarlan
The Honourable Justice Neave, Court of Appeal Victoria
The Honourable Justice Pullin, Court of Appeal Western Australia
The Honourable Justice Southwood, Supreme Court Northern Territory

Australasian Joint Judges' Committee – (Organising Committee Joint Supreme Court/ Federal Court Conference)

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Rothman (Chair)
The Honourable the Chief Justice Blow, Supreme
Court Tasmania
The Honourable Justice Cavanough, Supreme
Court of Victoria
The Honourable Justice Penfold, Supreme Court of
Australian Capital Territory
The Honourable Justice Heath, High Court of
New Zealand
The Honourable Justice Jessup, Federal Court of
Australia
The Honourable Justice Southwood, Supreme
Court of Northern Territory
The Honourable Justice Lyons, Supreme Court of
Queensland
The Honourable Justice Heenan, Supreme Court of
Western Australia
The Honourable Justice Vanstone, Supreme Court
of South Australia

Board of State Records Authority of New South Wales

The State Records Authority of New South Wales is the New South Wales Government's archives and records management authority. Its purposes are to preserve the State's archives and promote their use, and to set standards and provide guidance and services to improve records management in the New South Wales Public Sector. Pursuant to its governing legislation, its Board is required to include a New South Wales judge nominated by the Chief Justice of New South Wales. The Hon Justice Macfarlan is the present nominee.

Members during 2016

Ms Anne Henderson (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Macfarlan
The Hon Dr Peter Phelps MLC
Dr Stephen Coularton
Mr Anthony Lean
Mr Scott Nash

Building Committee

The Committee meets approximately every two months to discuss matters affecting the buildings within the Darlinghurst and King Street court complexes, and the Law Courts Building in Phillip Street. The Committee also identifies facilities that are required to support courtroom operations and the needs of Court users.

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice McDougall (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Hoeben AM RFD
The Honourable Justice Brereton AM RFD
The Honourable Justice McCallum
The Honourable Justice Stevenson
The Honourable Justice Hallen
Mr Chris D'Aeth, Executive Director and Principal
Registrar
Mr Nick Sanderson-Gough, Manager, Court
Operations and Communications
Mr Nathan Gray, Courtroom Support Coordinator
(Secretary)

Caselaw Governance Committee

The Caselaw Governance Committee was established to provide a forum for discussion attended by representatives of the various courts and tribunals which publish judgments and decisions on NSW Caselaw. NSW Caselaw is a platform run by the Department of Justice, of the New South Wales Government.

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Basten (Chair)
The Honourable Justice R A Hulme
The Honourable Justice Adamson
The Honourable Justice Black
The Honourable Justice Craig, Land and
Environment Court
The Honourable Judge Berman, District Court
Her Honour Deputy Chief Magistrate Culver,
Local Court
The Honourable Justice Robertson Wright, New
South Wales Civil and Administrative Tribunal
Mr Chris D'Aeth, Executive Director and Principal
Registrar

Ms Joanne Gray, Registrar, Land and Environment Court

Ms Cathy Szczygielski, Principal Registrar, New South Wales Civil and Administrative Tribunal

Ms Rosemary Davidson, Executive Officer, Children's Court

Ms Vanessa Blackmore, Library Services (Secretariat Support)

Ms Donna Reece, Caselaw Support Officer, Library Services (Secretariat Support)

Civil Bench Book

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Garling

The Honourable Justice Kunc

CLE for Registrars

A number of the registrars and deputy registrars attended a series of eight seminars delivered to the Law Society of New South Wales and the New South Wales Bar Association on matters involving the Probate and Succession List and the Family Provision List.

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice White

The Honourable Justice Schmidt

The Honourable Justice Hallen

College of Law

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Hallen

Commercial List Users Group

The Group provides a forum for discussion amongst the Commercial List Judges and legal practitioners who practise in the Commercial List. The Group meets to discuss various issues concerning the administration of the List, including matters of procedure and practice in relation to the Lists and the potential for revision of the practice to ensure that the Lists operate as efficiently as possible.

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Ward

The Honourable Justice Hammerschlag J (List Judge) (Chair)

The Honourable Justice McDougall

Bar Association of New South Wales

Mr Mark Ashhurst SC, University Chambers

Mr Frank Corsaro SC, State Chambers

Mr Francis Hicks, Blackstone Chambers

Mr Nick Kidd SC, 7 Selborne Chambers

Mr Duncan Miller SC, 7 Wentworth Chambers

Mr Robert Newlinds SC, Banco Chambers

Mr Michael Rudge SC, Nigel Bowen Chambers

Dr Kristina Stern SC, 6 Selborne Chambers

Mr David Sulan, Banco Chambers

Law Society of New South Wales

Ms Jennifer Ball, Clayton Utz

Mr Andrew Carter, Ashurst

Mr Cameron Hanson, Herbert Smith Freehills

Mr Richard Harris, Allens Linklaters

Mr Scott Harris, DLA Piper

Mr Simon Johnson, Norton Rose Fulbright Australia

Mr Brad Kermond, Colin Biggers & Paisley

Mr Alistair Little, TressCox

Mr Lindsay Powers, Minter Ellison

Mr Mark Watson, Watson Mangioni

Common Law Civil Users Group

The Group provides a forum for discussing and addressing matters of concern or interest in the administration of the Common Law Division's civil trial workload. The Committee met to discuss matters including: caseload management, listing practice and delays, specialist lists, jury issues and regional hearings.

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Hoeben

The Honourable Justice Hall

The Honourable Justice Garling

Mr Chris D'Aeth, Executive Director and Principal Registrar

Mr Christopher Bradford, Registrar, Common Law

Mr Peter Deakin QC, Sir James Martin Chambers

Mr Eugene Romaniuk SC, Jack Shand Chambers

Ms Lorna McFee, New South Wales Bar Association

Mr Elias Yamine, Law Society New South Wales

Ms Ramina Kambar, Law Society New South Wales

Corporations List Users Group

The Group promotes open and regular discussion between judicial officers and legal practitioners regarding the Corporations List, and assists in ensuring that the List is conducted in a fair and efficient manner.

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Brereton
The Honourable Justice Black
Ms Rebel Kenna, Director & Prothonotary
Ms Leonie Walton, Registrar, Equity
Ms Jennifer Hedge, Senior Deputy Registrar

Bar Association of New South Wales

Mr Damian Allen, Eighth Floor Windeyer Chambers
Mr Miles K Condon SC, Sixteenth Floor Wardell Chambers
Mr Doran Cook, Blackstone Chambers
Mr Steven Golledge, Third Floor St James Hall Chambers
Mr Jim Johnson, Frederick Jordan Chambers
Mr Roger D Marshall, Ground Floor Wentworth Chambers
Mr Robert Newlinds SC, Banco Chambers
Mr Malcolm Oakes SC, Tenth Floor Chambers
Mr David Pritchard SC, Third Floor St James Hall Chambers
Mr David Stack, Blackstone Chambers
Mr Jim Thomson, Thirteenth Wentworth Selborne Chambers

Law Society of New South Wales

Mr Charles Bavin, Hunt & Hunt
Mr Andrew Carter, Ashurst
Mr Glen Cussen, Kemp Strang
Ms Georgina Hayden, ASIC
Mr Michael Hayter, Gillis Delaney
Mr Ben Hely, Herbert Smith Freehills
Mr Luke Hastings, Herbert Smith Freehills
Mr Michael Hughes, Minter Ellison
Ms Aamena Hussein, Craddock Murray Neumann
Ms Linda Johnson, Mallesons
Mr Khaled Metlej, Craddock Murray Neumann
Mr David McCrostie, Turks Legal
Mr Alexander Morris, Mallesons
Mr Michael Murray, Insolvency Practitioners of Australia

Ms Denise North, Insolvency Practitioners of Australia
Ms Maria O'Brien, Baker McKenzie

Costs Assessment Users Group

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Brereton (Chair)
Her Honour Judge Gibson, District Court of New South Wales
Ms Jennifer Hedge, Manager, Costs Assessment (until August)
Mr Brendan Bellach, Manager, Costs Assessment (August onwards)
Ms Samantha Gulliver (Office of the Legal Services Commissioner)
Mr Gordon Salier
Mr Michael Robinson
Ms Geraldine Daley
Ms Deborah Vine-Hall
Ms Peta Solomon
Ms Michelle Castle
Ms Kerrie Rosati
Ms Alyson Ashe
Ms Valerie Higginbotham
Mr Ross Nicholas
Mr Ross Nicholas

Court of Criminal Appeal/Crime Users Group

The joint Court of Criminal Appeal/Crime Users Group meets as required to promote effective communication between the Court and key users. The Group focuses on ensuring that Court of Criminal Appeal procedures work effectively and efficiently within the required timeframes.

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Hoeben (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Johnson
The Honourable Justice R A Hulme
Mr Chris D'Aeth, Executive Director and Principal Registrar
Ms Rebel Kenna, Director & Prothonotary
Ms Alanna Van Der Veen, Registrar, Court of Criminal Appeal (until June)
Ms Katrina Curry, Registrar, Court of Criminal Appeal (June onwards)
Mr Mark Ierace SC, Public Defenders Office

Ms Eunice Walsham, Manager Business Support, RSB
Mr Phillip Ingram SC, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions
Mr George Galanis, Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions
Ms Ellen McKenzie, Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions
Ms Janet Witmer, Legal Aid Commission New South Wales
Ms Madeleine Schneider, Legal Aid Commission New South Wales
Ms Clair Wasley, Aboriginal Legal Services New South Wales/Australian Capital Territory
Mr S Odgers SC, New South Wales Bar Association
Ms Elizabeth Hall, District Court of New South Wales
Mr David Giddy, Law Society New South Wales
Ms Pam Olsoen, Senior Registrar, Local Courts

Criminal Trial Bench Book

The Criminal Trials Bench Book Committee is chaired by the Honourable Rod Howie QC. Mr Hugh Donnelly, Director, Research and Sentencing, Judicial Commission of New South Wales is the Convenor). The judicial members of the Committee are listed below. Its function is to continually revise and update the Criminal Trials Bench Book with suggested jury directions and information on procedural aspects concerning the myriad issues that arise in the course of criminal trials in the District Court and the Supreme Court. The committee does not convene formal meetings but engages in regular discussion by electronic means.

Members during 2016

The Honourable Rod Howie QC (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Johnson
The Honourable Justice R A Hulme
His Honour Judge Lakatos SC, District Court of New South Wales
His Honour Judge Arnott, District Court of New South Wales
Mr Hugh Donnelly, Judicial Commission (Convenor)

Education Committee

The Supreme Court Education Committee, in partnership with the Judicial Commission of New

South Wales, plans and organises continuing judicial education for judges of the Court.

The principal activity of the Committee involves the planning for the annual Supreme Court conference held in August or September. The underlying focus of the Committee, in its collaboration with the Judicial Commission, is to maintain, as in past years, a high standard of professional development and training for judges of the Court. As in the past, the Committee and the Court are indebted to the speakers who prepared and presented papers at the various seminars and at the conference.

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Basten (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Leeming
The Honourable Justice Hoeben AM RFD
The Honourable Justice Harrison
The Honourable Justice Schmidt
The Honourable Justice Garling RFD
The Honourable Justice Black
The Honourable Justice White
Mr Chris D'Aeth, Executive Director and Principal Registrar
Ms Una Doyle, Education Director, Judicial Commission of New South Wales (Convenor)

Equity Liaison Group

This Group was established in 2001 to promote discourse between the legal profession and representatives of the Equity Division in regard to matters of interest and importance to the operation of the Division. The Group is informal and the meetings facilitate candid discussions about the operations of the Division. Typically, these discussions encourage cooperation between the judges and legal profession in developing suggested improvements to the Division's operations.

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Bergin (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Slattery
Leonie Walton, Registrar - Equity Division
Mr CRC Newlinds SC
Mr RRI Harper SC
Ms JA Needham SC
Mr GA Sirtes SC

Ms V Whittaker
Mr M Ashhurst SC
Mr MK Condon SC
Ms AM Kennedy
Mr JK Martin
Mr BJ Miller
Ms PG Suttor
Mr C Alexander

Harmonisation Committee

The Harmonisation of Rules Committee is a committee of the Council of Chief Justices. It has representatives of the Federal Court of Australia, the Family Court of Australia, each of the Supreme Courts of Australia and the High Court of New Zealand. The goals of the Committee are the harmonisation of rules of court and, as appropriate, practice in specific subject areas, either as identified by references from the Council of Chief Justices or, with the endorsement of the Council, by consensus amongst participating jurisdictions, through the members of the Committee. The Committee monitors the operation of harmonised rules of court and practice adopted by participating jurisdictions, as well as relevant proposals for modification of the substantive law, to generate amendments to those rules and practices on a harmonised basis. The convenor of the Committee is appointed by the Council of Chief Justices. Other members are nominated by the head of each participating jurisdiction for one or more specific subject area projects, for the monitoring of adopted harmonised rules of court or for both. The Committee is supported by a Registrar of the Federal Court, with research and advice from the Australasian Institute of Judicial Administration.

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Emmett (Chair and Convenor)
The Honourable Justice Hammerschlag, Supreme Court of New South Wales
The Honourable Justice Rein, Supreme Court of New South Wales
The Honourable Justice Cavanough, Supreme Court of Victoria
The Honourable Justice Croft, Supreme Court of Victoria

The Honourable Justice Douglas, Supreme Court of Queensland
The Honourable Justice Le Miere, Supreme Court of Western Australia
The Honourable Justice Blue, Supreme Court of South Australia
The Honourable Justice White, Supreme Court of South Australia
The Honourable Justice Evans, Supreme Court of Tasmania
The Honourable Justice Refshuage, Supreme Court of Australian Capital Territory
Master Luppino, Supreme Court of Northern Territory
The Honourable Justice Strickland, Family Court of Australia
The Honourable Justice Fogarty, High Court, New Zealand
The Honourable Justice Kenny, Federal Court of Australia
The Honourable Justice Lander, Federal Court of Australia
Professor Gregory Reinhardt, Australasian Institute of Judicial Administration
Mr John Mathieson, Deputy Registrar, Federal Court of Australia (Secretary)
Ms Melanie Faithfull, Federal Court of Australia (Minutes)

Information Technology

The Information Technology Committee meets to assess the information technology needs of judicial officers and their staff, the technology facilities in courtrooms throughout the State used by the Court and to review the implementation of IT services.

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Garling (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Gleeson
The Honourable Justice McDougall
The Honourable Justice Sackar
The Honourable Justice Beech-Jones
Mr Chris D'Aeth, Executive Director and Principal Registrar
Mr Nick Sanderson-Gough, Manager, Court Operations and Communications
Mr Sam Zilic, Supreme Court Information Technology Coordinator

Mr Aaron Liu, Director, Information Technology Services
Mr John Mahon, Information Technology Services
Ms Kathy Duke, Information Technology Services
Mr Con Doulgeris, Information Technology Services

Judicial Conference of Australia

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Beech-Jones
The Honourable Justice Philip McMurdo, Supreme Court of Queensland, (President)
The Honourable Justice Steven Rares, Federal Court of Australia (Vice President)
His Honour Judge Brian Withers, Supreme Court of South Australia (Treasurer)
Magistrate Richard Bayly, Magistrates Court of Western Australia
The Honourable Justice David Beach, Supreme Court of Victoria
Chief Justice Alan Blow, OAM, Supreme Court of Tasmania
Chief Magistrate Elizabeth Bolton, Magistrates Court of South Australia
The Honourable Justice Wayne Chivell, District Court of South Australia
His Honour Judge Allan Fenbury, District Court of Western Australia
Magistrate Karyn Fryar, AM, Magistrates Court of the Australian Capital Territory
Magistrate Gregory Groggin, Local Court of New South Wales
Magistrate Donald Jones, Magistrates Court of Tasmania
The Honourable Justice Judith Kelly, Supreme Court of the Northern Territory
Chief Magistrate Peter Lauritsen, Magistrates Court of Victoria
Chief Magistrate John Lowndes, Magistrates Court of Northern Territory
His Honour Judge Michael McInerney, County Court of Victoria
The Honourable Justice Carmel McLure, Supreme Court of Western Australia
The Honourable Justice Peter Murphy, Family Court of Australia
His Honour Judge Gary Neilson, District Court of New South Wales

Magistrate Leanne O'Shea, Magistrates Court of Queensland
Chief Judge John Pascoe, AO CVO, Federal Circuit Court of Australia
The Honourable Justice Hilary Penfold, PSM, Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory
His Honour Judge Michael Shanahan, District Court of Queensland
The Honourable Justice Terry Sheahan, AO, Land and Environment Court of New South Wales
The Honourable Justice Michael Walton, President, Industrial Relations Commission of New South Wales

Judicial Commission of New South Wales

The Judicial Commission of New South Wales provides a continuing education and information program for the judicial officers of New South Wales, and examines complaints about judicial officers' ability or behaviour. Ten Commission members guide the Commission's strategic direction and examine all complaints.

Members during 2016

The Honourable the Chief Justice Bathurst (President and Chair)
The Honourable Justice Beazley
The Honourable Justice Walton, Industrial Relations Commission of New South Wales
The Honourable Justice Preston, Land and Environment Court of New South Wales
The Honourable Justice Derek Price, AM, Chief Judge, District Court of New South Wales
His Honour Judge Henson, New South Wales Local Court
Dr Judith Cashmore AO
Mr David Giddy
Professor Brian McCaughan AM
Mr Yair Miller

Judgment Writing Program Committee (National Judicial College of Australia)

The Planning Committee for Judgment Writing has been developed for the Australian judiciary. The program is designed to enhance participants' judgment writing skills through analysis, discussions and rewriting of judgments in small groups, assisted by professional writers and senior judges.

Members during 2016

The Honourable Tom Wodak, County Court of Victoria (retired) (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Schmidt
Her Honour Magistrate Penny Eldridge, Magistrates Court of South Australia
The Honourable Justice Hollingworth, Supreme Court of Victoria
The Honourable Justice Mullins, Supreme Court of Queensland
The Honourable Justice Murphy, Family Court of Australia
The Honourable Justice Wilson, Supreme Court of Queensland
Mr Ken Grime, CEO NJCA
Mr John McGinness, NJCA
Dr Liza Rybak, NJCA
Ms Julie van den Engel, National Judicial College of Australia (Programme manager)

JusticeLink

The Committee consists of nominated judicial representatives from the Court and key staff members from the Court's Registry who have expertise in working with the Court's case management system, JusticeLink.

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Bergin (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Johnson
The Honourable Justice Hammerschlag
The Honourable Justice R A Hulme
Mr Chris D'Aeth, Executive Director and Principal Registrar
Ms Victoria Bradshaw, Associate to the Honourable the Chief Justice Bathurst
Ms Morna Lynch, Associate to the Honourable Justice Hoeben
Ms Ciana Goodwin, Associate to the Honourable Justice Johnson
Ms Carol Lloyd, Associate to the Honourable Justice R A Hulme
Ms Kim Pitt, Associate to the Honourable Justice Bergin
Ms Colleen Sutton, Associate to the Honourable Justice Hammerschlag
Mr Milio Cesta-Incani, Manager, Listing Services
Ms Naomi Ubrihien, Manager, Client Services (Secretary)

Law Admissions Consultative Committee

The Law Admissions Consultative Committee consists of representatives of the law admitting authority in each Australia jurisdiction, the Committee of Australian Law Deans, the Australasian Professional Legal Education Council and the Law Council of Australia. It is generally responsible to the Council of Chief Justices, which appoints the chairman of LACC. LACC's main role is to forge consensus between the bodies represented by its members on matters relating to the academic and practical legal training requirements for admission to the Australian legal profession. The functions of LACC are to develop, consider and make recommendations about policies, procedures and other matters directly or indirectly related to admission to the legal profession.

Members during 2016

Professor Sandford D Clark (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Emmett

Law Courts Library Advisory Committee

The Committee was established in 2003 pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding between the Federal Court and the New South Wales Attorney General's Department relating to the Law Courts Library situated in the Law Courts Building at Queen's Square Sydney.

The Committee gives advice in relation to the management of the library and its collections and is constituted by three representatives from each of the Supreme Court and Federal Court.

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Basten
The Honourable Justice Macfarlan
The Honourable Justice Emmett
The Honourable Justice Flick, Federal Court of Australia
The Honourable Justice Jagot, Federal Court of Australia
The Honourable Justice Perram, Federal Court of Australia

Law Extension Committee (Sydney University)

Members during 2016

Her Honour Magistrate Daphne A Kok (Senate nominee) (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Brereton (Chief Justice's nominee)
Professor Joellen Riley, Dean, Law School
Mr Ross Anderson, (Law School nominee)
Professor Greg Tolhurst (Law School nominee)
Professor Cameron Stewart (Law School nominee)
Professor Ann Brewer (Senate nominee)
Professor Roslyn Arnold (Senate nominee)
Professor Tyrone Carlin (Senate nominee)
Mr Tony O'Brien (Bar Association of NSW nominee)
Ms Janet Oakley (Bar Association of NSW nominee)
Mr John Dobson (Law Society of NSW nominee)
Ms Heidi Fairhall (Law Society of NSW nominee)
Ms Belinda Hutchinson AM, Chancellor
Dr Michael Spence, Vice Chancellor
Mr Alec Brennan, Deputy Chancellor

Law Reform Commission

Members during 2016

Mr Alan Cameron AO (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Johnson
Deputy Chief Magistrate Jane Motley
Mr Tim Games SC
The Honourable Harold Sperling QC (retired)
Professor David Weisbrot AM
The Honourable Anthony Whealy QC
Mr Paul McKnight

Legal Profession Admission Board

Justice Emmett has been the nominee of the Chief Justice as presiding member on the Legal Profession Admission Board. The Board has responsibility for three broad functions, being the oversight of the approval and admission of lawyers in New South Wales, the accreditation of law schools in New South Wales and the examination of students-at-law for the Diploma of Law course taught in conjunction with the Law Extension Committee of the University of Sydney.

Members during 2016

The Honourable the Chief Justice Bathurst
The Honourable Justice Emmett (Presiding Member)

The Honourable Justice Davies (Deputy Presiding Member)
The Honourable Justice Lindsay
The Honourable Justice Payne (from 17 December)

Bar Association of New South Wales

Mr Garry McGrath SC
Ms Margaret Allars SC

Law Society of New South Wales

Mr Charles Cawley
Mr John Dobson

Organisations

Professor Lesley Hitchens (Dean of Law, University of Technology, Sydney)
Professor Michael Adams (Dean of Law, University of Western Sydney)
Mr Marcel Savary (until 7 August)
Dr Jacob Campbell (from 30 August)

Legal Profession Admission Board Examinations Committee

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Simpson (Chairperson)
The Honourable Justice Hall (Deputy Chairperson until 30 June)
The Honourable Justice Darke (from 1 July)
Mr Ross Anderson
Mr Frank Astill
Ms Susan Carter
Mr Michael Christie SC
Mr John Dobson
Mr Andrew Boog
Mr Maureen Noonan

Legal Profession Admission Board Legal Qualifications Committee

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Adamson (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Beech-Jones (Deputy Chairperson until 30 June)
The Honourable Justice Robb
The Honourable Justice Adams (from 1 July)
Dr Gordon Elkington
Ms Maxine Evers
Mr John Fernon SC
Ms Susan Leis (until 30 June)

Ms Carolyn Penfold
Ms Elizabeth Picker
Professor Peter Radan
Mr Gregory Ross
Mr Thomas Spohr
Ms Pam Suttor (until 30 June)
Ms Blanka Moss (from 1 July)
Mr Peter Underwood

Media Consultation Group

The Media Consultation Group was established in 2002 to promote open discussion between key representatives from the courts, legal profession and media. The Group convenes on a needs basis to discuss issues affecting the reporting of court proceedings by the media. No meetings of the Group were required in 2016.

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice McColl (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Hoeben
The Honourable Justice McCallum
The Honourable Justice Ball
The Honourable Justice Sackar
The Honourable Justice Bellew
The Honourable Justice Hamill
His Honour the Chief Judge Price, District Court of New South Wales
Mr Lloyd Babb SC, New South Wales Director of Public Prosecutions
Mr Mark Ierace SC, Senior Public Defender
Ms Lauren Farrow, Australian Associated Press
Ms Jamelle Wells, Australian Broadcasting Corporation
Ms Amy Dale, Daily Telegraph
Mr Richard Coleman, Fairfax Legal
Ms Kelly Fedor, Nine Network
Mr Paul Bibby, Sydney Morning Herald
Mr Gil Taylor, Radio 2GB
Ms Katie Walsh, Australian Financial Review
Ms Anna Cooper, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions Media Liaison and Communications Officer
Ms Sonya Zadel, Media Manager, Supreme Court of New South Wales
Ms Jo Oakes, Media Manager, Supreme Court of New South Wales

National Admissions Committee

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice White
The Honourable Justice Kyrrou, Supreme Court of Victoria

National Judicial Orientation Programme

The National Judicial Orientation Program committee assists newly appointed judges with their transition to judicial office. The program offers insights into the role and responsibilities of a member of the judiciary, provides the opportunity for new appointees to benefit from the knowledge and experience of senior judges who attend the program as speakers, and allows for an exchange of ideas and experiences among participants.

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Schmidt (Chair)
The Honourable Justice James Edelman, Federal Court of Australia
The Honourable Justice Glenn Martin, Supreme Court of Queensland
His Honour Judge Tom Altobelli, Federal Circuit Court of Australia
Her Honour Judge Penny Hock, District Court of New South Wales
Her Honour Judge Wager, District Court of Western Australia
Professor Greg Reinhardt, Australasian Institute of Judicial Administration
Mr Ernest Schmatt PSM, Judicial Commission of New South Wales
Ms Una Doyle, Judicial Commission of New South Wales
Ms Fiona Dea, Judicial College of Victoria
Ms Annabel Mornement, Judicial College of Victoria

Ngara Yura (Judicial Commission Aboriginal Liaison Committee)

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Rothman (Chair until July)
The Honourable Justice McCallum (Chair from July onwards)
The Honourable the Chief Justice Allsop AO, Federal Court of Australia

The Honourable Justice Rachel Pepper, Land and Environment Court of New South Wales
 His Honour Judge Andrew Haesler, District Court of New South Wales (until July)
 Her Honour Judge Dina Yehia, District Court of New South Wales (July onwards)
 Her Honour Deputy Chief Magistrate Jane Mottley, Local Court of New South Wales
 Her Honour Magistrate Teresa O'Sullivan, Local Court of New South Wales
 Her Honour Magistrate Sue Duncombe, New South Wales Children's Court
 Mr Terry Chenery, CEO, Hunter Aboriginal Children's Services (until July)
 Mr Jason Behrendt, Legal Executive, Chalk & Behrendt Lawyers and Consultants (July onwards)
 Ms Dixie Link-Gordon, Senior Community Access Officer, Indigenous Women's Legal Program, Women's Legal Service NSW (July onwards)
 Mr Ernie Schmitt PSM, Chief Executive, Judicial Commission of New South Wales
 Ms Ruth Windeler, Education Director, Judicial Commission of New South Wales (Convenor)
 Ms Ruth Sheard, Manager, Conferences and Communication, Judicial Commission of New South Wales
 Ms Joanne Selfe, Ngara Yura Program Project Officer

Planning Committee for Dialogues on being a Judge (National Judicial College of Australia)

The Planning Committee for Dialogues on being a Judge develops programs for mid-career judges and magistrates to provide an opportunity for them to examine their approach to their work through the exploration of a number of contemporary themes.

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Dowsett, Federal Court of Australia (Chair)
 The Honourable John Doyle, Formerly Chief Justice of Supreme Court of South Australia
 The Honourable Justice Monika Schmidt
 The Honourable Justice Ann Ainslie-Wallace, Family Court of Australia
 His Honour Gordon Barrett, District Court of South Australia

Mr John McGinness, Director, National Judicial College of Australia
 Ms Jenny Green, National Judicial College of Australia

Possession List Users Group

The Possession List Users Group was established in 2006. The Possession List is, numerically, the largest list in the Common Law Division and involves claims for possession of land following mortgage default. The Group comprises representatives from a range of law firms who regularly appear for plaintiffs in the List and organisations (Legal Aid New South Wales, the Consumer Credit Legal Centre and Redfern Legal Centre) who provide legal assistance to those experiencing problems with debt. The Group does not have appointed members. Rather, representatives from those firms and organisations attend and provide a range of views on relevant issues. The Group's primary objectives are to encourage frank discussion concerning issues affecting the running of the List, to identify how any problems might be overcome and to improve court processes to assist parties in this class of proceedings.

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Davies (Chair)
 Ms Rebel Kenna, Director and Prothonotary
 Mr Christopher Bradford, Registrar, Common Law Division
 Mr Milio Cesta-Incani, Manager, Listing Services

Bar Association of New South Wales

Mr Brendan Burke (Edmund Barton Chambers)

Law Society of New South Wales

Mr Tim Sherrard, Gadens
 Ms Helen van Ravels, Gadens
 Mr Campbell Hudson, Gadens
 Mr Sam Schroeder, Gadens
 Ms Nora Minassian, Gadens
 Ms Samantha Tang, Gadens
 Ms Chamila Fernando, Gadens
 Mr Rod Cameron, Hicksons
 Mr Scott Stierli, Hicksons
 Mr Sean Cameron, Hicksons
 Ms Danielle Kuti, Dibbs Abbott Stillman
 Ms Emma Hodgman, Dibbs Abbott Stillman

Ms Alexandra Streltsova, Dibbs Abbott Stillman
Ms Susan Lever, Herbert Smith Freehills
Ms Fiona Parker, Henry Davis York
Ms Azita Doudman, Henry Davis York
Ms Michelle Glennon, Henry Davis York
Ms Alison McManus, Norton Rose Fulbright
Ms Caitlin Watson, Atkinson Vinden
Mr Michael Connor, DibbsBarker
Mr Matthew Pike, Kemp Strang
Ms Kristina Fraser, Kemp Strang
Mr Addy Pong, Kemp Strang
Ms Samantha Parsons, Kemp Strang

Organisations

Ms Susan Winfield, Consumer Credit Legal Centre
Ms Alice Lin, Consumer Credit Legal Centre
Mr John Moratelli, Legal Aid New South Wales
Mr Dave McMillan, Legal Aid New South Wales
Ms Kate White, NAB - Legal
Ms Hayley Barker, NAB - Legal
Ms Heidi Crawford, NAB - Legal

Probate Users Group

The Group meets from time to time to discuss matters concerning the operation and administration of the Court's probate work. The Group considers improvements to practices and processes and makes recommendations to the Rules Committee when appropriate. The Group also discusses specific issues pertinent to probate matters and deceased estates generally.

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Lindsay
The Honourable Justice Hallen
Mr Chris D'Aeth, Executive Director and Principal Registrar
Ms Rebel Kenna, Manager, Court Services & Prothonotary
Ms Louise Brown, Senior Deputy Registrar
Mr Jonathan Simpkins SC
Mr John Armfield
Professor R Croucher, Macquarie University (representing New South Wales Law Schools)
Ms P Vines, University of New South Wales
Mr R Neal, Law Society of New South Wales
Ms P Suttor, Law Society of New South Wales

Ms R Pollard, New South Wales Trustee and Guardian
Mr P Whitehead (representing trustee companies)
Mr M Willmott, New South Wales Bar Association

Professional Negligence List Users Group

The Group meets as required to discuss issues relevant to the administration and operation of the List.

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Harrison (Chair and Convenor)

Bar Association of New South Wales

Mr David Higgs SC
Mr Richard Weinstein SC
Mr Duncan Graham SC
Mr Michael Fordham SC
Ms Julia Lonergan SC
Ms Jacqui Sandford
Ms Kathryn Sant
Mr Jason Downing
Ms Anne Horvath
Mr Patrick Rooney

Law Society of New South Wales

Ms Louise Cantrell, Henry Davis York
Ms Kerrie Chambers, Ebsworths
Ms Rebecca Kearney, Avant
Ms Karen Kumar, Hicksons
Mr Bill Madden, Slater & Gordon
Ms Julie Mahony, Stacks Goudkamp
Ms Francesca Minniti, Curwoods
Mr Don Munro, Tress Cocks
Ms Anna Walsh, Maurice Blackburn

Rule Committee

The Rule Committee meets as required to consider proposed changes to the Supreme Court Rules 1970 with a view to increasing the efficiency of the Court's operations, and reducing cost and delay in accordance with the requirements of access to justice. The Committee is a statutory body that has the power to alter, add to, or rescind any of the Rules contained in, or created under, the *Supreme Court Act* 1970. The Committee's membership is defined in Section 123 of the Act, and includes representatives from each Division of the Court and

key organisations within the legal profession. Many of the rules that govern civil proceedings are now incorporated in the Uniform Civil Procedure Rules. In these circumstances, fewer meetings of the Rule Committee have been required.

Members during 2016

The Honourable the Chief Justice Bathurst (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Beazley
The Honourable Justice Meagher
The Honourable Justice Hoeben
The Honourable Justice Adamson
The Honourable Justice Lindsay
The Honourable Justice Darke
Ms Sylvia Vernandez, Law Society of New South Wales
Mr Steven Jupp (Secretary)
Mr Nicholas Flaskas (Advising Officer)
Ms Carol Webster SC (NSW Bar Association representative)
Mr David Hing (Law Society of New South Wales deputy/alternate)

Standing Advisory Committee of the Judicial Commission on Judicial Education

The Standing Advisory Committee on Judicial Education advises the Judicial Commission of New South Wales about continuing judicial education. Its activities include identifying specific needs and recommending particular educational activities; recommending papers for publication in *The Judicial Review*, and coordinating the activities of the respective court's Education Committees, where appropriate.

Membership consists of the chairpersons (or their representatives) of the Education Committees of each of the five courts. The Committee is chaired by the representative from the Supreme Court, currently Justice John Basten.

On the recommendation of the Committee, the Judicial Commission adopted the practice of sending an e-Newsletter to judicial officers. A significant part of the business of the members is their consideration of papers for publication in the *Judicial Review*.

The meetings of the Committee, held two or three times each year, provide a valuable forum for each of the courts to exchange ideas and co-ordinate their plans for educational activities, to make recommendations to the Commission for activities which it may wish to organise and to obtain advice from the Commission as to the Commission's experience in obtaining speakers and conducting the various programs.

Members during 2016

The Honourable Justice Basten (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Walton, President, Industrial Relations Commission of New South Wales (until 8 December)
The Honourable Justice Pain, Land and Environment Court of New South Wales
His Honour Judge Lakatos SC, District Court of New South Wales
His Honour Deputy Chief Magistrate Chris O'Brien, Local Court of New South Wales
Ms Una Doyle, Education Director, Judicial Commission of NSW

Uniform Rules Committee

The *Civil Procedure Act 2005* (NSW) and the Uniform Civil Procedure Rules 2005 (NSW) commenced in 2005, consolidating provisions in relation to civil procedure under a single Act. It provides a common set of rules for civil proceedings in the Supreme, District and Local Courts of New South Wales, and, to a limited extent, in the Land and Environment Court of New South Wales and the Industrial Relations Commission of New South Wales. The Uniform Rules Committee was established under Section 8 and Schedule 2 of the Act. The Chief Justice chairs the Committee, with representatives from the Supreme Court and other courts, as well as from the New South Wales Bar Association and the Law Society of New South Wales. The Committee met nine times during 2016. As well as considering amendments to the Rules (under section 9 of the Act), the Committee approves forms for use in civil proceedings (under section 17 of the Act).

Members during 2016

The Honourable the Chief Justice (Chair)

The Honourable Justice Beazley

The Honourable Justice Adamson

The Honourable Justice Lindsay

The Honourable Justice Walton, President, IRC
(until 8 December)

The Honourable Justice Preston, Chief Judge, LEC

Her Honour Judge Truss, District Court of
New South Wales

His Honour Judge Peter Johnstone, President,
New South Wales Children's Court

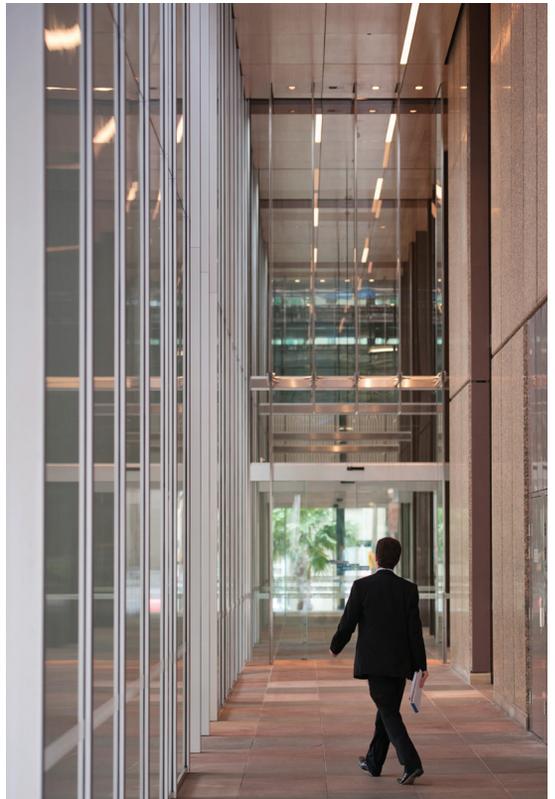
Her Honour Magistrate Jennifer Atkinson,
Local Court

His Honour Magistrate Michael O'Brien, Local Court

Ms Carol Webster SC (New South Wales Bar
Association)

Ms Julia Virgo (Law Society of New South Wales)

Ms Rebel Kenna, Director and Prothonotary
(Secretary)



APPENDIX (III): OTHER JUDICIAL ACTIVITY

THE HONOURABLE T F BATHURST AC, CHIEF JUSTICE OF NEW SOUTH WALES

Conferences:

21 – 22 Jan 2016	Singapore Academy of Law International Conference: Doing Business Across Asia: Legal Convergence in an Asian Century (Singapore)
03 Jun 2016	Opening of Council of Law Reporting Conference
12 – 15 Aug 2016	29 th LAWASIA Conference (Sri Lanka)
12 – 16 Sep 2016	Pacific Judicial Conference 2016 (Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea)
21 – 22 Oct 2016	5 th Judicial Seminar on Commercial Litigation (Hong Kong)
26 Oct 2016	4 th International Arbitration Conference (Sydney)
27 – 28 Oct 2016	Australian Bar Association & Victorian Bar National Conference (Melbourne)
15 Nov 2016	Supreme Court Commercial and Corporate Law Conference 2016 (Banco Court)

Speaking engagements:

22 Jan 2016	Panel speaker at Singapore Academy of Law International Conference: <i>“Doing Business across Asia: Legal Convergence in an Asian Century”</i> (Singapore)
04 Feb 2016	Keynote Address, Law Society of New South Wales, Opening of Law Term (Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney)
10 Feb 2016	Welcome, Opening of Law Term Jewish Dinner (Great Synagogue Sydney)
15 Feb 2016	Oration, Opening of the Newcastle Courthouse (Newcastle)
16 Feb 2016	Oration, Greek Orthodox Opening of Law Term, Remarks to the Clergy and Profession (Redfern, Sydney)
02 Mar 2016	Speech, UNSW Faculty CLE, Evidence Act Seminar: <i>“s138 – Improperly Obtained Evidence”</i> (Sydney)
05 Mar 2016	Speech, NSW Young Lawyers Civil Litigation Committee <i>“Three contemporary issues in civil litigation: expert evidence, discovery and alternative dispute resolution”</i> (Sydney)
08 Mar 2016	Book Launch of J P Hamilton, <i>“Adjudication on the Goldfields in New South Wales and Victoria in the 19th Century”</i> (Banco Court, Sydney)
09 Mar 2016	Panel discussion, Herbert Smith Freehills: Global Diversity Week, <i>“The Importance of Diversity in the Workplace”</i> (Sydney)
16 Mar 2016	Personal Reflection, Biography of The Honourable Richard Edmonds
21 Mar 2016	Speech, UNSW Law Society Lecture Series, <i>“Contemporary Issues in Law”</i> (Law School, UNSW)
31 Mar 2016	Book Launch, MinterEllison <i>“Minters Insurance Contracts Act Handbook, 9th Edition”</i> (Sydney)
11 Apr 2016	Panel Discussion, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons: Domestic Violence (Sydney)
19 Apr 2016	Oration, Newcastle Business Club, <i>“Access to Justice in Regional New South Wales”</i> (Newcastle)
22 Apr 2016	Oration, Admission of Lawyers (Banco Court, Supreme Court NSW)
21 May 2016	Adjudicator, EdWLSA Championship Moot Competition Final

25 May 2016	Speech, General Counsel 1000 Meet the Regulators, " <i>The changing landscape of the in-house profession and its influence on legal practice; The relationship between the roles of General Counsels and the Courts; the interdependence of General Counsels, Courts and Regulators</i> " (Sydney)
31 May 2016	Adjudicator, 2016 MULS Senior Client Interview Competition Grand Final (Sydney)
03 Jun 2016	Opening Address, The Future of Law Reporting In Australia Forum 2016 in conjunction with the Consultative Council of Australian Law Reporting 36 th annual meeting (Federal Court of Australia)
04 Jun 2016	Address, Costs Assessors Annual Seminar " <i>Costs In Representative Proceedings, Costs Budgeting And Fixed Costs Schemes</i> " (Banco Court, Sydney)
21 Jun 2016	Speech, 10 th Information Governance & eDiscovery Summit, " <i>Tweeters, Posters And Grammers Beware: Discovery And Social Media Evidence</i> " (Sydney)
19 Jul 2016	Oration, Law Society of NSW Roll of Honour, Unveiling Ceremony " <i>The impact of WWI on NSW Judiciary</i> " (Sydney)
27 Jul 2016	Speech, The Order of Australia Association, Annual Luncheon (NSW Branch)
04 Aug 2016	Adjudicator, Grand Final Mooting Competition of Australia's First Peoples 2016 (Banco Court, Sydney)
12 – 15 Aug 2016	Panel Discussion, LAWASIA Sri Lanka: Discussing " <i>Judicial Governance</i> " (Sri Lanka)
26 Aug 2016	Welcome, Supreme Court Annual Conference (Craigieburn, Bowral)
02 Sep 2016	Speech, ACT Bar Association's Bench & Bar Dinner, " <i>A Judicial Lament: Obtuse and Obnoxious Judges</i> " (Canberra)
12 – 16 Sep 2016	Speech, Pacific Judicial Conference, " <i>Specialised Courts/Court Tracks, the way to go</i> " (Papua New Guinea)
27 Sep 2016	Brief welcome, Reception hosted by SCT of Japan (Japan)
28 Sep 2016	Speech, Tokyo Seminar hosted by the committee of LAWASIA 2017, the Tokyo Bar Association, The Daiichi Tokyo Bar Association and the Daini Tokyo Bar Association " <i>Impact of the Trans-Pacific-Partnership on Australian Law</i> " (Japan)
21 – 22 Oct 2016	Speech, 5 th Judicial Seminar on Commercial Litigation: Modern developments in commercial law & practice, " <i>Meeting challenges posed by modern international commercial litigation</i> " (Hong Kong)
22 Oct 2016	Closing Address, 5 th Judicial Seminar on Commercial Litigation (Hong Kong)
25 Oct 2016	Oration, Silk Bows Ceremony at NSW Bar Association (Sydney)
26 Oct 2016	Opening Address, 4 th International Arbitration Conference: Arbitration Aware – Financial Market Disputes (Sydney)
27 – 28 Oct 2016	Panel Discussion, Australian Bar Association and Victorian Bar 2016 National Conference " <i>National and International Developments of modern litigation and Courts Practice (Rule of Law)</i> " (Melbourne)
08 Nov 2016	Opening Remarks, Seminar: Online Procedures & Protocols in NSW and Cth Courts (Sydney)
09 Nov 2016	Tutorial, Legal History Tutorial, " <i>The History of Contracts</i> " (Banco Court, Sydney)

10 Nov 2016	Introduction, Remembrance Day: SCT commemorates the sacrifice and service of the NSW Legal Profession in the WWI (Banco Court, Sydney)
11 Nov 2016	Oration, Launch of the NSW Chapter of the Hellenic Australian Lawyers Association
15 Nov 2016	Opening Address, Supreme Court Commercial And Corporate Law Conference "The Burgeoning Use Of Trusts In Real Estate And Infrastructure" (Banco Court, Sydney)
18 Nov 2016	Opening Address, Justice Research "Snapshots" Western Sydney University (Sydney)
21 Nov 2016	Speech, Sydney Arbitration Week, Hosted by King & Wood Mallesons together with ACICA, "Contrast the benefits of International Arbitration with the Singapore International Commercial Court (SICC)." (Sydney)
22 Nov 2016	Opening Address, 4 th International Arbitration Conference (Federal Court, Sydney)
25 Nov 2016	Inaugural to honour Sir James Martin (Barangaroo, Sydney)

Publications:

"*Illegally or Improperly Obtained Evidence: In Defence of Australia's Discretionary Approach*", *The Judicial Review*, September (2016)

"*NSW Young Lawyers Civil Litigation Committee 'Three Contemporary Issues in Civil Litigation: Expert Evidence, Discovery and Alternative Dispute Resolution'*" *Journal of Civil Litigation and Practice* (2016), 3 JCivLP 1

"*NSW Young Lawyers Civil Litigation Committee 'Three Contemporary Issues in Civil Litigation: Expert Evidence, Discovery and Alternative Dispute Resolution'*" *Australian Construction Law Newsletter* (2016)

"*2016 Opening of Law Term speech*" *Judicial Officer's Bulletin* (2016) March

"*Three Contemporary Issues in Civil Litigation*", *Journal of Civil Litigation and Practice* (2016) March

"*Illegally or improperly obtained evidence: in defence of Australia's discretionary approach*" *Journal of Civil Litigation and Practise* (2016)

"*Closing Address at Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (Australia) Centenary Conference*", *Arbitration – The International Journal of Arbitration, Mediation and Dispute Management*, (2016) Vol 82, Issue 2

Contribution to *Australian Bar Review*, Volume 41, Part 3

Contribution to "*Contract in Commercial Law*", Thomson Reuters

"*Costs in representative proceedings, costs budgeting and fixed cost schemes*" Judicial Commission

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

President (Chair) of the Judicial Commission of NSW

Chair of the Supreme Court Rule Committee

Chair of the Uniform Rules Committee

Delegations and international assistance:

8 Mar 2016 Official Visit, His Excellency Dr Obaid Alhairi Salem ALKETBI, Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates

16 Mar 2016 Official Visit, Her Excellency Ms Helena Drnovsek Zorko, Ambassador of Slovenia

22 Mar 2016	Official Visit, His Excellency Mr Yogesh Punja, High Commissioner of Fiji
10 Apr 2016	Official Visit, Mr Cao Jianming Prosecutor General of Supreme People's Procuratorate of P.R.China
03 May 2016	Official Visit, His Excellency Mr Paul Maddison, High Commissioner, Canadian High Commission
09 May 2016	His Excellency Dr Obaid Al Ketbi, Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates', The delegation's main interest is related to the process of law drafting, amendment, governing and monitoring law application, at both Federal and Local levels
12 May 2016	Official Visit, Her Excellency Ms Connie Taracena, Ambassador of Guatemala
31 May 2016	Official Visit, His Excellency Mr Kazi Imtiaz Hossain, High Commissioner for Bangladesh
17 Jun 2016	The Chief Justice Thomas Bathurst, Supreme Court of New South Wales, Australian Delegation to Beijing
22 Jun 2016	Official Visit, Ms Helena Drnovšek Zorko, Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia
19 Jul 2016	HE Mr GU Xiaojie, Consul General of PR China
22 Jul 2016	Mr Ma Fengjun, Senior Judge, Henan High People's Court, People's Republic of China, discussing court operations and roles, legal and court system in Australia
09 Aug 2016	Official Visit, Mr Rimsky Yuen SC JP, Secretary for Justice of the Government of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
10 Aug 2016	Official Visit, His Excellency Mr Martin Pohl, Ambassador of the Czech Republic
28 Aug 2016	Official Visit, Her Excellency Mrs Minda Calaguian-Cruz, Ambassador of the Philippines
09 Sep 2016	Official Visit, HE Mr Keizo Takewaka, Consul-General of Japan
08 Nov 2016	Ahmed Ibrahim Saif, Supreme Court Judge, Chief Justice of Civil Court of First Instance, UAE
17 Nov 2016	Official Visit, His Excellency Mr Mohamed Khairat, Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt
22 Nov 2016	Zhao Chuan Ling, Vice President of Higher People's Court of GuiZhou Province
13 Dec 2016	Zhen Dong, Head of the monitoring room and Judge at Anhui High People's Court China. To learn about court operations and roles, judgment process, judge appointment and management in Australia.

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE BEAZLEY AO, PRESIDENT OF THE COURT OF APPEAL

Conferences:

23 – 27 Jan 2016	Supreme and Federal Courts Judges' Conference (Brisbane)
20 May 2016	Judges and the Academy Conference (Melbourne)
21 May 2016	Competition Law Conference (Sydney)
26-27 Aug 2016	Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Bowral, NSW)
09 Oct 2016	Judicial Conference of Australia Colloquium (Canberra)
21 Oct 2016	8th AJA Appellate Judges' Conference (Melbourne)
28 Oct 2016	Australian Bar Association and Victorian Bar Conference (Melbourne)

Speaking engagements:

8 Feb 2016	Address: <i>Ceremonial Sitting to Mark the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Establishment of the New South Wales Court of Appeal</i> (Sydney)
26 Feb 2016	Paper: <i>The Lawyer, the Client and the Court - the Intersection of Ethical Duties</i> , UNSW Continuing Legal Education (Sydney)
10 Mar 2016	Address: <i>Gender and the Legal Profession</i> , UNSW Law Society (Sydney)
17 Mar 2016	Address: <i>Celebrating Women in the Judiciary</i> , Women Lawyers Association of New South Wales (Sydney)
29 Mar 2016	Paper: <i>Recurring Issues in the Court of Appeal</i> , District Court of New South Wales Annual Conference (Wollongong)
29 Apr 2016	Address: <i>Remarks at Dinner to Mark the Retirement of the Hon Justice Annabelle Bennett</i> , Australian Association of Women Judges (Sydney)
10 May 2016	Address: <i>Catalyst for Change? Legal Developments and Shifting Society</i> , City of Sydney Law Society Law Week Breakfast (Sydney)
21 Jun 2016	Remarks & Panel Chair: <i>The Transformation Challenge – Towards a New Model of Public Sector Leadership</i> , Public Sector Forum (Sydney)
22 Jul 2016	Address: <i>Civil Justice and the Interests of Self-Represented Litigants</i> , Legal Aid NSW Civil Law Conference (Sydney)
08 Aug 2016	Address: <i>Occasional Address at 2016 Law Faculty Dinner</i> , St Paul's College University of Sydney (Sydney)
18 Aug 2016	Address: <i>The Importance of Law Reporting</i> , Launch of the Victorian Reports Portal at Parliament House (Sydney)
25 Aug 2016	Address: <i>Launch of the Charles Sturt University Centre for Law and Justice</i> , Charles Sturt University (Bathurst)
25 Aug 2016	Lecture: <i>Advocacy and Statutory Interpretation</i> , Charles Sturt University Centre for Law and Justice (Bathurst)
02 Sep 2016	Address: <i>Remarks in Commemoration of Donoghue v Stevenson</i> ” NSW Bar Association Common Law Drinks (Sydney)
10 Sep 2016	Paper: <i>Recent Developments in Tendency Evidence</i> , NSW Young Lawyers Annual One Day Evidence CLE Seminar (Sydney)
10 Sep 2016	Panel: <i>Experts on Expert Evidence: How to Help Them Help You</i> , NSW Young Lawyers Annual One Day Evidence CLE Seminar (Sydney)
22 Sep 2016	Interview: <i>Case Management in NSW – a Judicial Perspective</i> , Benchmark TV (broadcast online 6 Oct 2016)
22 Sep 2016	Address: <i>Remarks at Closing Session of the Bar Practice Course</i> , NSW Bar Association (Sydney)
26 Sep 2016	Address & Panel Chair: <i>Hedge Fund Activism Seminar and Book Launch of “Research Handbook on Shareholder Power”</i> , University of Sydney Law & Business Seminar Series (Sydney)
29 Sep 2016	Address: <i>Keynote Address at Baker & McKenzie National Intervarsity Women’s Moot Grand Final</i> , Sydney University Law Society (Sydney)
05 Oct 2016	Panel: <i>First Annual MacKillop Law Students’ Society Women in Law Breakfast</i> , Australian Catholic University (Sydney)

09 Oct 2016	Panel Chair: <i>Well-Being in a Court</i> , Judicial Conference of Australia Colloquium (Canberra)
12 Oct 2016	Paper: <i>10th Annual Whitmore Lecture – Judicial Review & the Shifting Sands of Legal Unreasonableness</i> , Council of Australasian Tribunals (Sydney)
18 Oct 2016	Address: <i>Welcome Remarks & Introduction</i> , Australian Academy of Law Annual Patron's Address (Sydney)
21 Oct 2016	Panel: <i>Judging Judicial Well-Being – Perspectives from the Judicial Conference of Australia</i> , 8 th ALJA Appellate Judges' Conference (Melbourne)
26 Oct 2016	Address: <i>Reliable Memoirs</i> , St George-Sutherland Regional Law Society AGM & Dinner (Sydney)
27 Oct 2016	Address: <i>Opening Remarks at the Future with Blockchain Forum</i> , UNSW Continuing Legal Education (Sydney)
28 Oct 2016	Panel: <i>Modern Litigation and the Move Towards a National Profession and National Court</i> , Australian Bar Association and Victorian Bar Conference (Melbourne)
03 Nov 2016	Address: <i>Remarks at Drinks to Welcome the New Women Silks</i> , Women Barristers' Forum (Sydney)
15 Nov 2016	Paper: <i>Trustee Conflicts in Commercial Trusts</i> , Supreme Court Annual Commercial and Corporate Law Conference (Sydney)
18 Nov 2016	Paper: <i>Duties to the Court – the Modern Scenario</i> , Central West Law Society Annual CLE Seminar (Orange)
23 Nov 2016	Address: Book Launch, Salim Farrar and Ghena Krayem, " <i>Accommodating Muslims under Common Law</i> ", University of Sydney (Sydney)

Publications:

Article: "*Institutional Leadership Amongst Equals*" (2016) 28(7) *Judicial Officers Bulletin* 65

Book Chapter: "*The Distinctive Role of the Judge – The Least Dangerous Branch of Judgment*", with Chris Frommer, in Michael Legg (ed) *Resolving Civil Disputes* (LexisNexis Butterworths, 2016)

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Chair, NSW Chapter, Australian Institute of Administrative Law (Sydney)

Chair, School of Law Advisory Board, The University of Notre Dame Australia (Sydney)

Member of the Advisory Board, Centre for Children and Young People, Southern Cross University (Lismore)

Patron, Toongabbie Legal Centre (Toongabbie)

President, Arts Law Centre of Australia (Sydney)

Delegations and international assistance:

11 Oct 2016 Delegation: DFAT International Diplomats (New Zealand, Myanmar, Vanuatu, Cambodia and Laos)

13 Oct 2016 Official visit: His Excellency Mr Vakur Gökdenizler, Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey

18 Oct 2016 Official visit: His Excellency Mr Manuel Innocencio De Lacerda Santos Jr, Ambassador of Brazil

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE McCOLL AO

Conferences:

5 Mar 2016	Personal Injury/Common Law Conference (Sydney)
26 – 29 May 2016	International Women Judges Conference (Washington DC, USA)
26 – 27 Aug 2016	Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Bowral, NSW)
07 – 09 Oct 2016	Judicial Conference of Australia Colloquium (Canberra)
14 Oct 2016	Supreme Court of Victoria – Melbourne University Law School Conference (Melbourne)
20 – 21 Oct 2016	Appellate Judge's Conference (Melbourne)

Speaking engagements:

5 Mar 2016	Keynote address – Personal Injury/Common Law Conference “ <i>How Common is The Common Law and Other Miscellany?</i> ”
14 Oct 2016	Melbourne University Law School Conference – Speech “ <i>Contractual Ambiguity: an Answer in Search of a Question.</i> ”
20–21 Oct 2016	Appellate Judge's conference – Chair session 5 Recent Developments in Contract Law – the Assessment of Damages

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE BASTEN

Conferences:

23 – 27 Jan 2016	Supreme Court and Federal Court Judges' Conference (Brisbane)
12 Feb 2016	Gilbert & Tobin Constitutional Law Conference (Sydney)
20 May 2016	Judges and the Academy Seminar Series (Melbourne)
12 Aug 2016	Judges and the Academy Seminar Series (Melbourne)
26 – 27 Aug 2016	Supreme Court Annual Conference (Bowral NSW)
12 – 14 Sep 2016	Cambridge Public Law Conference 2016 The Unity of Public Law? (University of Cambridge, Cambridge, England)
02 Dec 2016	ANU Constitutional Interpretation and Legal Education Conference (Canberra)

Speaking Engagements:

2 Mar 2016	Australian Institute of Administrative Law – NSW Chapter Judicial Review In State Jurisdiction (Sydney)
22 Mar 2016	University of New South Wales – Key Insights into Civil Litigation Seminar – The Overriding Purpose Provisions (Sydney)

Publications:

Book Review – “ <i>Public Law Adjudication in Common Law Systems: Process and Substance</i> ” – <i>Cambridge Law Journal</i> Vol 75 No 3 November 2016
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Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Chair, Judicial Commission of NSW Standing Advisory Committee on Judicial Education

Chair, Supreme Court Education Committee

Member, Editorial Board of The Judicial Review, Journal of the Judicial Commission of NSW

Member, Supreme Court CaseLaw Governance Committee

Member, UNSW Law Faculty Advisory Council

Member, Law Courts Library Advisory Committee

Member, Advisory Committee, G&T Centre of Public Law

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE MACFARLAN**Conferences:**

26 – 27 Aug 2016 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Bowral, NSW)

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Member, Board of the State Records Authority of New South Wales

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE MEAGHER**Speaking Engagements:**

6 Oct 2016 UNSW Intermediate Mooting Competition: Grand Final on the topic of estoppel and collateral contract. Chief Judge. (Ashurst offices, 5 Martin Place, Sydney)

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Kincoppal Rose Bay School – Board Member

Sydney Symphony Orchestra – Non-Executive Director

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE HOEBEN AM RFD, CHIEF JUDGE AT COMMON LAW**Speaking Engagements:**

26 Jul 2016 Welcome address and adjudication of the Ron Shorter Memorial Award – conducted by the Australian Insurance Law Association (AILA)

Appointments to Legal, Cultural or Benevolent Organisations:

Board Member of Royal Humane Society of NSW

Member of Sydney University Regimental Council

Commissions in Other Courts

Jan – Dec 2016 Held Commission as a Judge of the Supreme Court of Queensland

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE WARD

Conferences:

23 – 27 Jan 2016	Supreme and Federal Courts Judges' Conference (Brisbane)
27 Feb 2016	AIJA Council meeting (Sydney)
12 – 15 Aug 2016	29 th Law Asia Conference (Colombo, Sri Lanka)
26 – 27 Aug 2016	Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Bowral, NSW)
14 – 15 Oct 2016	AIJA Council meeting (Adelaide)
20 – 21 Oct 2016	8 th AIJA Appellate Judges' Conference (Melbourne)

Speaking engagements:

26 Feb 2016	Newcastle Admission Ceremony at Newcastle Court Complex (Newcastle)
2 Mar 2016	Opening Remarks at the UNSW CLE Seminar at Grace Hotel (Sydney)
19 – 20 May 2016	Keynote address at the Land & Environment Court Annual Conference, " <i>The Kilmuir Rules and Masterchef – What is the Connection?</i> " (Bowral)
10 Jun 2016	Seminar at the CLA June Judge's Series at NSW State Library, " <i>Recent developments in Corporations Law</i> " (Sydney)
22 Jul 2016	Guest Speaker at the Newcastle Bar Association Annual Dinner at The Newcastle Club (Newcastle)
12 – 15 Aug 2016	Speaker at the 29 th Law Asia Conference, " <i>Court Annexed Mediation Session</i> " (Colombo, Sri Lanka)
13 Aug 2016	Judge at the 11 th LawAsia Moot Competition (Colombo, Sri Lanka)
26 – 27 Aug 2016	Commentator at the Supreme Court Annual Conference, " <i>Apprehended Bias Claims</i> " (Bowral)
10 Oct 2016	Wesley College Networking & Mentors Formal Dinner (Q & A Dinner) (Wesley College, University of Sydney)
13 Oct 2016	Panellist at the NSW Young Lawyers – Careers Panel (K & L Gates, Sydney)
17 Oct 2016	Keynote address at The Law Society of NSW History Book launch " <i>Defending the Rights of All: A History of the Law Society of New South Wales</i> " (Parliament House, Sydney)
18 Oct 2016	Keynote address at the NSW Young Lawyers Young Justice Program (Supreme Court, NSW)
22 Oct 2016	Speech at the 2016 Annual Conference of the Environment and Planning Law Association (NSW) Inc, " <i>Recent developments in the Court of Appeal</i> " (Medlow Bath, NSW)
27 Oct 2016	Women In Law Event, Panel discussions, Notre Dame Sydney Law Society (Broadway, NSW)
11 Nov 2016	Speech at the Newcastle Grammar School (Newcastle, NSW)
2 Dec 2016	Speech at the NCAT Guardianship Conference, Salvation Army Conference Centre, " <i>Guardianship Tribunal – Capacity</i> " (Sydney)

Publications:

History of the Law Society of New South Wales – Foreword

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Chair of the Supreme Court ADR Steering Committee

Member and Fellow of The Australian Academy of Law

Member of the AIJA Council

Delegations and International Assistance:

26 Sep – 1 Oct 2016 Discussions for the preparation for the 17th Conference of Chief Justices of Asia & The Pacific (Tokyo, Japan)

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE GLEESON**Conferences:**

26 – 27 Aug 2016 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Bowral)

20 –22 Oct 2016 Fifth Judicial Seminar on Commercial Litigation (Hong Kong)

Speaking engagements:

17 Jun 2016 Commercial Law Association of Australia – June Judges' Series – “*Enforceability of Contracts*” (NSW State Library)

22 Oct 2016 Fifth Judicial Seminar on Commercial Litigation (Hong Kong) – Session 4: Cross-Border Insolvency – panel member

2016 Casual lecturer, University of Sydney, Faculty of Law, Masters of Law course – “*Controlling Liability by Contract*”

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Member of Technical Programme Committee of the Tenth Quadrennial Congress of INSOL 2017 (Sydney)

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE LEEMING**Conferences:**

15 – 16 Aug 2016 “*Equity and Law: Fusion and Fission*” St Catherine's College, University of Cambridge (UK)

26 – 27 Aug 2016 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Bowral)

7 Sep 2016 “*The Role of the Solicitor General*” (University of New South Wales)

9 Sep 2016 “*Taking Common Law Concepts Seriously*” (UTS Private Law Discussion Group)

Speaking engagements:

3 Aug 2016	Land and Environment Court Seminar – Appeals from the Land and Environment Court (Sydney)
15 Aug 2016	“Fusion – Fission – Fusion – Pre-Judicature Equity Jurisdiction in New South Wales 1824-1972” (St Catherine's College, University of Cambridge, UK)
28 Sep 2016	Launch of Holt Prizewinners (University of Melbourne Law School)
Jul – Nov 2016	Equity (series of 20 undergraduate lectures, Faculty of Law, University of Sydney)

Publications:

“Proprietary Relief and Tracing in Equity” (2016) 90 ALJ 92

“The Primary Judge in Equity” (2016) 90 ALJ 783

Jacobs Law of Trusts in Australia (8th ed, LexisNexis), with J D Heydon

“Equity and statute – a commentary” in P Turner (ed), *Equity and Administration* (Cambridge University Press, 2016)

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Challis Lecturer in Equity, University of Sydney

Honours supervisor, University of Sydney (T McClintock)

Director, The Federation Press Pty Ltd

Editorial Board member: Australian Bar Review, Journal of Equity

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE SIMPSON**Conferences:**

26-27 Aug 2016 Supreme Court Annual Judges’ Conference (Bowral)

Speaking engagements:

27 Aug 2016 Panel Session – Supreme Court Annual Judges’ Conference “Tendency Evidence” (Bowral)

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Member of the Legal Profession Admission Board Examinations Committee

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE PAYNE**Speaking engagements:**

2016 Judge of Mooting competitions at UNSW and USYD

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Board member of LPAB

Member of the NSW Supreme Court Education Committee

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE WHITE

Conferences:

26 – 27 Aug 2016 Supreme Court Annual Judges’ Conference (Bowral, NSW)

Speaking engagements:

11 May 2016 Introductory Speech – Bar Practice Course

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Supreme Court Rules Committee

Law Admissions Consultative Committee

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE JOHNSON

Conferences:

26 – 27 Aug 2016 Supreme Court Annual Judges’ Conference (Bowral, NSW)

Publications:

Joint author with the Hon RN Howie QC of loose-leaf service *Criminal Practice and Procedure* (NSW), Sydney.

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Part-time Commissioner, New South Wales Law Reform Commission (Sydney)

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE ROTHMAN AM

Conferences:

24 – 29 Jan 2016 Supreme and Federal Courts Judges’ Conference (Brisbane)

16 Mar 2016 NSW Judicial Commission – Twilight Seminar: “*The Role of NCAT*” [Justice Wright] (Sydney)

25 May 2016 NSW Judicial Commission – Ngara Yura Twilight Seminar: “*Who Speaks for Country*” [Mr Norman Laing, Acting Commissioner of the Land and Environment Court, and Ms Kellyanne Stanford, Waratah Partners] (Sydney)

3 Jun 2016 Council of Law Reporting Demonstration

20 Jun 2016 Young Muslim Legal Network Iftar

26 – 27 Aug 2016 Supreme Court Annual Judges’ Conference (Bowral, NSW)

6 Oct 2016 NSW Judicial Commission – Ngara Yura Program Seminar: “*Aboriginal trauma, Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder and the juvenile justice system*” [June Oscar AO and Her Honour Judge Dina Yehia SC] (Sydney)

8–9 Oct 2016 JCA Colloquium (Canberra)

19 Oct 2016	NSW Judicial Commission – Ngara Yura Program Seminar: <i>“Tribal Warrior and the Clean Slate without Prejudice”</i> [Presented by: Superintendent Luke Freudenstein APM, Redfern Local Area Command and Indigenous leader Shane Phillips, CEO, Tribal Warrior and Australia’s Local Hero 2013 / Chair: Judge Dina Yehia SC] (Sydney)
22 Nov 2016	The James Spigelman Oration: <i>“Judicial Legitimacy and the limits of Review”</i> [Justice Bell AC] (Sydney)

Speaking engagements:

21 Feb 2016	Address: <i>“Cases of interest & Court Structure in Australia”</i> – B’Nai B’rith Anti-Defamation League (Sydney)
11 Mar 2016	Speech: <i>“Judicial Review of Administrative Decisions”</i> – Australian Lawyers Alliance NSW State Conference (Sydney)
4 Aug 2016	Chair: <i>“Understanding transgenerational trauma in Aboriginal communities”</i> – NSW Judicial Commission – Ngara Yura Joint Seminar (Sydney)
29 Oct 2016	Address: <i>“Whipping Two Dead Horses – Good Faith and the Corporations Power Revisited”</i> – Toongabbie Legal Centre Inc Employment Law Seminar

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

President – The Great Synagogue (Sydney)
Director; Board Member & Chair Workplace Relations Committee – NSW Association of Independent Schools
Honorary Life Member; Executive Member – NSW Jewish Board of Deputies
Co-Chair – Australian Council of Jewish Schools
Chair – Organising Committee of the Joint Supreme Court/Federal Court Judges’ Conference
Chair – Ngara Yura Committee of Judicial Commission of NSW
Board Member – International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE BRERETON AM RFD

Conferences:

28 – 29 Jan 2016	International Conference on Court Excellence (Singapore)
17 – 19 Jun 2016	Law Council of Australia, Corporations Workshop (Hilton Hotel, Surfers Paradise)

Speaking engagements:

22 Mar 2016	Speaker, New Barristers’ Committee Continuing Professional Development, <i>“Appearing in Duty Matters”</i> (Bar Association Common Room, Sydney)
23 Mar 2016	Opening Address, UNSW CLE, Wills, Estates and Inheritance Disputes Seminar (Grace Hotel, Sydney)
8 Apr 2016	Speaker, Children’s Court of NSW Meeting, <i>“Children’s Issues in the Supreme Court”</i> (Judicial Commission Conference Room, Sydney)
26 Apr 2016	Speaker, UNSW CLE, Equity Seminar <i>“Practice and Procedure Before the Duty Judge in Equity”</i>

4 May 2016	Speaker, Judicial Commission of New South Wales Twilight Seminar Series, "Costs Appeals and Costs Orders" (John Maddison Tower, Sydney)
1 Jun 2016	Speaker, ARITA National Conference "A Judicial Perspective" (Sheraton on the Park, Sydney)
12 Aug 2016	Speaker, Specialist Accreditation Conference "Restraints of Trade" (Sebel Resort & Spa, Windsor)
10 Nov 2016	Speaker, On the Eve of Remembrance Day, The Supreme Court commemorates the sacrifice and service of the New South Wales Legal Profession in the First World War, "Lieutenant General J G Legge" (Banco Court, Supreme Court of New South Wales, Sydney)
15 Nov 2016	Speaker, Supreme Court and Corporate Law Conference "The Commercial Trust in the Courts" (Banco Court, Supreme Court of New South Wales, Sydney)

Publications:

"Costs Assessment Appeals and Costs Orders", Judicial Officers Bulletin (2016) Vol. 28 No. 6

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Deputy Chair, NSW Law Reform Commission

Chairman of Trustees, Leycester Meares Bequest

Chair, Costs Assessment Rules Committee

Chair, Costs Assessment User Group

Chair, Adoptions List User Group

Chair, Corporations List User Group

Member, Law Extension Committee

Member, Harmonisation of Rules Committee

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE HAMMERSCHLAG

Conferences:

29 – 30 Jun 2016 London 2016 International Commercial Law Conference (London, England)

Speaking engagements:

6 Feb 2016	57 th Armidale CLE Conference (Armidale)
3 Mar 2016	Opening Remarks at the UNSW CLE Seminar on Building Law (Grace Hotel, Sydney)
22 Mar 2016	NSW Young Lawyers International Law Committee CLE event (Law Society of NSW, Sydney)
10 May 2016	University of Sydney Sir John Peden Contract Law Moot (Sydney)
26 May 2016	Law Society of New South Wales Commercial Law Forum (Law Society of New South Wales, Sydney)
2 Jun 2016	Clayton Utz Senior Mooting Grand Final Competition (Law Courts, Sydney)

26 Jul 2016	Australian Construction Law Discussion Group (Sydney)
28 Jul 2016	Society of Construction Law Australia – “ <i>Quantifying loss caused by disruption – why use the measured mile?</i> ” – Introductory overview (Sydney)
19 Aug 2016	Informal address to the Commercial Dispute Resolution course of the University of Sydney (Sydney)
24 Aug 2016	AILA Seminar “ <i>Conclaves and Hot Tubs: Success or Failure – An Overview</i> ” (Sydney)
7 Sep 2016	SoCLA Panel Discussion: The Future of ADR in Construction (Sydney)

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Chairman – Commercial and Technology & Construction Users Group

Member of the Harmonisation Committee

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE HARRISON

Conferences:

26 – 27 Aug 2016 Supreme Court Annual Judges’ Conference (Bowral, NSW)

Speaking engagements:

29 Mar 2016	2016 District Court Annual Conference – Dinner Address (Wollongong)
20 May 2016	Specialist Legal Conference 2016 – Presentation on “ <i>Preparation and preparedness: The keys to managing a successful case</i> ” (Manly Pacific Hotel)
28 Jul 2016	Annual Judicial Q&A – NSW Bar Association – Panel of Judges (Phillip Street, Sydney)
08 Aug 2016	College of Law Synergy Series – “ <i>Practice & Procedure: The expectation from the bench of Personal Injury Lawyers</i> ” (Elizabeth Street, Sydney)
4 Nov 2016	Claims Discussion Group Annual Christmas Lunch – “ <i>It’s better to be born lucky than rich</i> ” (Sydney Opera House Marquee)

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE FULLERTON

Speaking engagements:

3 Mar 2016	Welcome – Spectrum at Ashurst – “ <i>The Importance of Diversity</i> ” (Sydney)
21 Mar 2016	Presiding Judge – New Barrister’s Committee of the NSW Bar Association – Cross Examination Workshop (Sydney)
26 Oct 2016	Chair – New Barristers’ Committee of the NSW Bar Association – Seminar: “ <i>The Preparation of Appeals to the Court of Criminal Appeal</i> ” (Sydney)

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Board Member – City Recital Hall

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE REIN

Conferences:

26 – 27 Aug 2016	Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Bowral, NSW)
15 Nov 2016	Annual Commercial and Corporate Law Conference (Banco Court)

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE RA HULME

Conferences:

26 – 27 Aug 2016	Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Bowral, NSW)
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Speaking engagements:

22 – 23 Feb 2016	National Judicial Orientation Program, National Judicial College of Australia
29 Mar 2016	District Court of New South Wales Annual Conference – Court of Criminal Appeal Review
1 Jun 2016	Local Court of New South Wales Annual Conference – Criminal Law Update
26 Aug 2016	Supreme Court Annual Conference – Developments in Criminal Law

Publications:

Co-author *Criminal Law News*, LexisNexis Butterworths

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Court of Criminal Appeal List Judge
Member, Jury Task Force
Member, Judicial Commission of NSW Criminal Trial Bench Book Committee
Member, CaseLaw Governance Committee
Member, JusticeLink Committee
Member, Court of Criminal Appeal/Crime Users Group

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE SLATTERY

Conferences:

24 – 29 Jan 2016	Supreme and Federal Courts Judges' Conference (Brisbane)
19 Mar 2016	Reserve Legal Officers National Heads of Panel Conference – Military Law Centre – Victoria Barracks, Paddington, Sydney
7 – 8 May 2016	New South Wales Navy Reserve Legal Panel Annual Conference – HMAS Creswell (Jervis Bay)
12 Aug 2016	Royal Australian Navy – Senior Leadership Group Conference hosted by Vice Admiral T. Barrett, Chief of Navy – Canberra
26 Aug 2016	Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Bowral)
18 – 19 Nov 2016	Australian Defence Force – Judge Advocate General's Conference (Canberra)

Speaking engagements:

20 Feb 2016	Australian Defence Force – Judge Advocate General, Speech to Reserve Legal Officers National Heads of Panel Conference, “Reforms to Military Justice”.
22 Mar 2016	Royal Australian Air Force Legal Workshop Conference Dinner Speech – “ <i>Remembering Air Vice Marshall Michael Helsham DFC, AM</i> ”.
25 Apr 2016	Australian Defence Force – Judge Advocate General, ANZAC Day Commemorative Address – Armidale, New South Wales
7 May 2016	“ <i>The Importance of Military Justice to the Effectiveness of the Australian Defence Force</i> ”, Address to NSW and ACT Navy Reserve Legal Panels at HMAS Cresswell, Jervis Bay
18 Oct 2016	“ <i>The Role of the Judge Advocate General and Reforms to Military Justice</i> ”, address to the Northern Territory Tri Service Reserve Legal Panel Training Seminar, at HMAS Coonawarra, Darwin
19 Oct 2016	“ <i>The Role of the Judge Advocate General and Reforms to Military Justice</i> ”, address to the Townsville Tri Service Reserve Legal Panel Training Seminar, at Lavarack Barracks, Townsville
08 Nov 2016	“ <i>The Role of the Judge Advocate General and Reforms to Military Justice</i> ”, address to the Tasmanian Tri Service Reserve Legal Panel Training Seminar, at Angle Sea Barracks, Hobart
10 Nov 2016	Supreme Court’s Remembrance Day Eve Commemoration – “ <i>Colonel Henry MacLaurin – Soldier and Barrister</i> ”
09 Dec 2016	Adelaide Tri-Service Dinner, after Dinner speech “ <i>Arthur Seaforth Blackburn VC – Lawyer and Hero of Two World Wars</i> ”

Publications:

Report of the Judge Advocate General of the Australian Defence Force to the Australian Parliament for the period 1 January to 31 December 2015.

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Judge Advocate General of the Australian Defence Force from 14 May 2015

Trustee of the Indigenous Barristers Trust – the Mum Shirl Fund

Delegations and International Assistance:

25 Aug 2016 Delegation of ADF Judge Advocate General personnel to receive in Canberra a delegation of Legal Officers from the Office of the Judge Advocate General of Canada to discuss comparative reforms to the Australian and Canadian Military Justice Systems.

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE DAVIES**Conferences:**

26 – 27 Aug 2016 Supreme Court Annual Judges’ Conference (Bowral, NSW)

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Deputy Presiding Member – Legal Profession Admission Board

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE SCHMIDT

Conferences:

16 Mar 2016	Twilight Seminar: The Role of NCAT (Sydney)
20 Apr 2016	Twilight Seminar: Inmate Classification, Placement and Case Management (Sydney)
25 May 2016	Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse – Launch of Research into Jury Reasoning in Joint and Separate Trails of Child Sexual Abuse, Parliament House, (Sydney)
4 Oct 2016	The Inaugural Mason Conversation with Sir Anthony Mason (Sydney)
6 Oct 2016	Joint Initiative of the NSW Judicial Commission Ngara Yura Committee, The NSW Bar Association Indigenous Barristers’ Strategy Working Party and the Law Society of NSW Indigenous Issues Committee: Aboriginal trauma, Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder and the Juvenile Justice System Seminar (Sydney)
12 Oct 2016	The 10th Annual Whitmore Lecture “ <i>Judicial Review & The Shifting Sands of Legal Unreasonableness</i> ” Federal Court of Australia (Sydney)
17 Oct 2016	The Law Society of New South Wales Book Launch of Defending the Rights of All (Sydney)
9 Nov 2016	Twilight Seminar: Parole and the State Parole Authority (Sydney)
10 Nov 2016	SCT Remembrance Day, Banco Court (Sydney)
11 Nov 2016	Launch of New South Wales Chapter of Hellenic Australian Lawyers Association (HAL) (Sydney)
24 Nov 2016	Supreme Court Judges tour of HMAS Canberra (Sydney)

Speaking engagements:

21 – 26 Feb 2016	National Judicial Orientation Program (Glenelg, SA)
21 – 23 Mar 2016	National Judicial College of Australia Judgment Writing (Canberra ACT)

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Chair of the National Judicial Orientation Program
Member of the Advisory Board for the Master of Labour Law and Relations (MLLR), Sydney Law School
Member, National Judicial College of Australia Planning Committee for Dialogues on Being a Judge
Member, National Judicial College of Australia Planning Committee for Judgment Writing
Member, Supreme Court Education Committee
Member, Supreme Court Remuneration Committee
Member, CLE for Registrars

Delegations and International Assistance:

11 Mar 2016	Visit by judicial delegation led by Assistant Judge Taku Okada, Sakai Branch of Osaka District and Family Courts
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THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE BALL

Conferences:

26 – 27 Aug 2016 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Bowral, NSW)

Speaking engagements:

5 May 2016 Seminar on Commercial List, Equity Division presented with Justice Hammerschlag and Justice McDougall (Supreme Court of NSW)

Publications:

"Principles of Insurance Law", LexisNexis, co-authored with David St Ledger Kelly

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE GARLING RFD

Conferences:

20 Apr 2016 Inmate Classification, Placement and Case Management

9 Nov 2016 Parole and the State Parole Authority

Speaking engagements:

6 May 2016 University of Sydney – Law Graduation address

18 May 2016 NSW Bar Association – Bar Practice Courts – Concurrent Expert Evidence

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Civil Trials Bench Book Committee, Judicial Commission of NSW

Supreme Court Education Committee

Chair, Supreme Court IT Committee

Common Law Users Group

Chair, Loreto Ministries Ltd

Chair, NSW Rugby Union Appeals Tribunal

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE BLACK

Conferences:

18 – 19 Jun 2016 Business Law Section, Law Council of Australia, Corporations Workshop, (Gold Coast, Queensland)

28 – 29 Aug 2016 Banking & Financial Law Association Conference (Queenstown, New Zealand).

Oct 2016 Judicial Insolvency Network Conference (Singapore).

Speaking engagements:

26 Apr 2016 Commercial Equity Seminar, Supreme Court of New South Wales.

10 May 2016 Equitable and Statutory Regulation of Conflicts of Interests and Duty – Presentation at University of NSW Law School

18 Jun 2016	Unfinished Business in Corporations Law Reform – BLS Corporations Workshop
Aug 2016	Three recent developments in insolvency Law – Law Council of Australia/Federal Court of Australia Corporation Law Conference
29 Aug 2016	Judicial Case Law Update – Australia – Presentation at Banking & Financial Services Law Association Conference
26 Sep 2016	Presentation at Hedge Fund Activism Seminar and Book Launch of Research Handbook on Shareholder Power, University of Sydney Law School
Oct 2016	Several issues in insolvency law reform – the Australian perspective – presentation for Judicial Insolvency Network Conference Singapore
26 Oct 2016	Development of Corporations Law – presentation at Francis Forbes Society for Australian Legal History, Introduction to Australian Legal History Tutorials
2016	Taught course in financial services regulation, Semester 1, 2016, University of Sydney.

Publications:

Joint author, *Securities and Financial Services Law*, 9th ed, LexisNexis, 2016

Joint Author, *Austin & Black's Annotations to the Corporations Act*, LexisNexis

Contributor, *Australian Corporation Law: Principles and Practice*, LexisNexis

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Adjunct Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Sydney

Visiting Fellow, Faculty of Law, University of New South Wales

Fellow, Australian Academy of Law

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE ADAMSON

Conferences:

26 – 27 Aug 2016 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Bowral, NSW)

7 – 9 Oct 2016 JCA Conference (Canberra)

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Member, Rule Committee

Member, Uniform Rules Committee

Chairperson, Legal Qualifications Committee

Member, NSWLR Liaison Committee

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE BELLEW

Conferences:

12 Mar 2016	CPD
22 Mar 2016	Bar Association MCLE Conference
20 Jun 2016	Magistrates Conference
27 Aug 2016	Eastern Suburbs Law Society Annual Conference

Speaking engagements:

4 May 2016	Law Society of NSW
24 May 2016	Notre Dame University Sydney
20 Jun 2016	Magistrates Conference
27 Aug 2016	Eastern Suburbs Law Society Annual Conference
03 Nov 2016	Notre Dame University Sydney

Publications:

Ritchies Uniform Civil Procedure (NSW) – Author

Uniform Australian Evidence – Author

Court Forms, Precedents and Pleadings – Contributor

Federal Civil Litigation Precedents – Contributor

Halsbury's Laws of Australia – Contributor

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Chairman – Judiciary Panel, National Rugby League

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE STEVENSON

Conferences:

23 –27 Jan 2016	Supreme & Federal Court Judges' Conference (Brisbane, QLD)
21 – 23 Mar 2016	Writing Better Judgments Program, National Judicial College of Australia (shadow presenter) (Canberra ACT)
26 – 27 Aug 2016	Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Bowral, NSW)
21 – 22 Oct 2016	Fifth Judicial Seminar on Commercial Litigation (Hong Kong)

Speaking engagements:

19 Mar 2016	Keynote address at CPD Conference, " <i>Practice & Procedure in the Duty, Commercial & Expedition Lists</i> " (Sydney NSW)
29 Jul – 5 Aug 2016	Keynote address at CPE Conferences – North South Legal Conference, " <i>Fraud in the modern age; recovery of mistaken payments – an Australian perspective</i> " (Stockholm, Sweden)
19 Mar 2016	Keynote address at CPD Conference, " <i>Practice & Procedure in the Duty, Commercial & Expedition Lists</i> " (Sydney NSW)

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE BEECH-JONES

Conferences:

26 – 27 Aug 2016	Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Bowral, NSW)
07 – 09 Oct 2016	JCA Conference (Canberra)

Speaking engagements:

27 Aug 2016	Supreme Court Conference " <i>Issues in relation to tendency and coincidence evidence</i> " (Bowral)
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Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Vice President of the Judicial Conference of Australia (to October 2016)
President of the Judicial Conference of Australia (from October 2016)
Member of the Supreme Court Information Technology Committee

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE CAMPBELL

Conferences:

26 – 27 Aug 2016	Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Bowral, NSW)
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Speaking engagements:

12 Aug 2016	Specialist Accreditation Conference – Windsor
1 Sep 2016	Talk to school students from Sydney Technical High
13 Oct 2016	Talk to school students from West Wyalong High and McCarthy Catholic College

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE BUTTON

Conferences:

6 – 7 Feb 2016	Sentencing Conference (Australian National University)
26 – 27 Aug 2016	Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Bowral, NSW)

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE LINDSAY

Conferences:

16 Mar 2016	The Role of NCAT Seminar (Supreme Court of NSW)
29 – 30 Jul 2016	CEW Bean Conference (ADFA, Canberra)
4 Aug 2016	Judicial Commission Seminar on Aboriginal Transgenerational Trauma
12 Aug 2016	Australasian Lawyers Society Seminar – Justice Pembroke (165 Macquarie Street)
10 Sep 2016	Bar Soccer Conference (Brisbane)
17 – 18 Sep 2016	Blue Mountains Law Society Succession Conference (Hydro Majestic Hotel, Medlow Bath)

19 Oct 2016	Judicial Commission Ngara Yura Programme “Clean Slate Without Prejudice Programme” Seminar (George Street, Sydney)
4 Nov 2016	Queensland Law Society, Succession and Elder Law Residential 2016 (Surfers Paradise)
19 Nov 2016	Judicial Commission Muru Mittigar Aboriginal Cultural & Education Centre Event (Muru Mittigar Centre, Penrith)

Speaking engagements:

22 Mar 2016	UNSW CLE Seminar, Delivered Opening Remarks
20 Apr 2016	UNSW Warrane College Guest Speaker
15 Sep 2016	Delivered “ <i>Rule of Law</i> ” talk to secondary students
25 Oct 2016	Advanced Wills and Estates Day Delivered speech (College of Law)
4 – 5 Nov 2016	Queensland Law Society, Succession and Elder Law Residential 2016, Delivered speech
9 Nov 2016	Law Society of NSW, Legally Assessing Mental Capacity – Elder Abuse Question and Answer Session
10 Nov 2016	Supreme Court Remembrance Day Event: Speech on CEW Bean
16 Nov 2016	L Rundle & Co STEP NSW “ <i>The Literary Executor</i> ” Address
23 Nov 2016	International Law Association/12 Wentworth Chambers, The Uncitral Model Law on Arbitration – A model for legal convergence in the Asia Pacific, Commentary on presentation by Michael Hwang SC (12 Wentworth Chambers)
Late 2016	Lexis Nexis, Smart Law – the evolving legal tech landscape, panel discussion

Publications:

Editor, <i>Australian Bar Review</i> (Lexis Nexis)
Co-Editor, <i>NSW Civil Practice & Procedure</i> (Thomson Reuters)
Consultant Editor, <i>NSW Conveyancing Law & Practice</i> (CCH)

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Francis Forbes Society for Australian Legal History (Councillor)
NSW Law Reporting Liaison Committee

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE HALLEN

Conferences:

26-27 Aug 2016	Supreme Court Annual Judges’ Conference (Bowral, NSW)
16 Sep 2016	Blue Mountain Law Society Succession Conference

Speaking engagements:

23 Mar 2016	Speech – College of Law Wills and Estates Conference
24 Nov 2016	Speech – Succession Law Seminar for UNSW

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Committee Member – STEP Australia

Committee Member – ADR Steering Committee

Committee Member – Wills & Estates Advisory Committee

Committee Member – College of Law

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE KUNC**Conferences:**

23 – 27 Jan 2016 Supreme & Federal Courts Judges' Conference 2016 (Brisbane)

26 – 27 Aug 2016 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Bowral, NSW)

7 – 10 Oct 2016 Judicial Conference of Australia Colloquium 2016 (Canberra)

22 Oct 2016 Environment and Planning Law Association 2016 Annual Conference (Medlow Bath)

Speaking engagements:

18 Feb 2016 The 2016 Barry O'Keefe Memorial Lecture, Australian Catholic University, North Sydney

9 Mar 2016 Rule of Law Institute – Law Day Out Program – speech to 36 students from St Patrick's Sutherland

23 Mar 2016 Professional ethics, Court etiquette and witness preparation
Communications with chambers and minimising interlocutory applications – 11th Floor
Wentworth Chambers CPD lecture

8 Jun 2016 Rule of Law Institute – Law Day Out Program – speech to 19 students from
Murwillumbah High

22 Oct 2016 Section 88K Easements – How Much Discretion Really?
Environment and Planning Law Association 2016 Annual Conference

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Editor, Journal of Equity

Chairperson, Layne Beachley Aim for the Stars Foundation

Director, Opera Australia Capital Fund

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE ROBB**Conferences:**

23 – 27 Jan 2016 Supreme and Federal Courts Judges' Conference (Brisbane)

Speaking engagements:

20 May 2016 The College of Law: Specialist Legal Conference- Opening Keynote: "*Real Property Matters; Expectations of the court and observations from the bench*" (Sydney)

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Committee Member, Legal Qualifications Committee, Legal Profession Admission Board

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE DARKE

Conferences:

26 – 27 Aug 2016 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Bowral, NSW)

Speaking engagements:

20 Jul 2016 Presentation concerning Real Property List, Banco Court

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Legal Profession Admission Board, Examinations Committee

Editor, Butterworths Property Reports

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE WRIGHT

Conferences:

26 Aug 2016 NSW COAT Conference

26 – 27 Aug 2016 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Bowral, NSW)

17 – 18 Oct 2016 AGAC National Conference

Speaking engagements:

16 Mar 2016 Speaker – Supreme Court Judges' Twilight Seminar – NCAT and relationship with Supreme Court and related bodies, scope of appeals and review in the supervisory jurisdiction

12 Aug 2016 Speaker – Resolution Institute (Newcastle Chapter) – A New Approach to Civil Disputes

14 Dec 2016 Panel Member – ATO Dispute Resolution Workshop – Q&A panel disputes experience across jurisdictions

Delegations and International Assistance:

1 Apr 2016 Delegation from QCAT – meeting with Justice Carmody

1 Jun 2016 Delegation from Ministry of Housing, Saudi Arabia – meeting with Mr Mohammed Bin Moammar (Advisor to the Minister & Head of HOA), Mr Mohammad Albuty (Advisor to the Minister & Head of EJARI Program), Mr Rayid Rijraji (Director Titling & Subdivision), Mr Turki Aljabaa (Director Asset Management) and Mr Sushanta Mohapatra (Principal Consultant Strategy)

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE WILSON

Speaking engagements:

19 May 2016 Seminar – Annual Conference of the Land and Environment Court, Bowral NSW
“Some Interesting Recent Developments in the Criminal Law”

7 Oct 2016 Keynote address – University of Newcastle Law Students' Association Breakfast Seminar – *“Mental Health and the Law”*

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE FAGAN

Conferences:

21 – 26 Feb 2016 National Judicial Orientation Program (Glenelg, SA)

26 – 27 Aug 2016 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Bowral, NSW)

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE NATALIE ADAMS

Conferences:

26 – 27 Aug 2016 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Bowral, NSW)

Speaking engagements:

29 Jul 2016 Guest speaker: NSW Bar Association –Tutors and Readers Dinner (Sydney)

21 Oct 2016 NSW Bar Association Female Students Open Day

23 Nov 2016 Rule of Law Institute of Australia Law Day Out Education Program

19 Dec 2016 Keynote speaker Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions Annual Solicitor's Conference, "*Ten things I know now that I wished I knew then*" (Sydney)

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Committee Member – Legal Qualifications Committee, Legal Profession Admission Board

Focus Group – Study on Deaf Jurors, research project conducted by Sandra Hale, Professor of Interpreting and Translation at the University of New South Wales (participant)

Supreme Court of New South Wales

Law Courts Building
Queens Square
184 Phillip Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Australia

GPO Box 3
Sydney NSW 2001
Australia

DX 829 Sydney

Email: sc.enquiries@justice.nsw.gov.au

Internet: www.supremecourt.justice.nsw.gov.au



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