



## PUBLIC SECTOR NEWSLETTER - NEW SOUTH WALES

### ICAC finds DSFI ICT project manager corrupt after "hijacking" business name

The ICAC has found that former Department of Finance, Services and Innovation (DFSI) project manager Steven Prestage engaged in serious corrupt conduct through an elaborate scheme has concocted involving "hijacking" the name of his friend's company to help deceive the department into making over \$500,000 in payments that were ultimately used to dishonestly benefit himself

<http://www.icac.nsw.gov.au/component/ investigations/article/5436?Itemid=4196>

### MEDIA

#### Australia Democracy Strengthened as Foreign Donations Banned

The Morrison Government's new political donation laws that ban foreign interference in Australian elections are now in place. The new laws mandate that political campaigning targeting Australians cannot be paid for by foreign donors, including election advertising, campaign phone calls and how-to-vote-cards

<https://www.smos.gov.au/media-release/2019/01/14/australian-democracy-strengthened-foreign-donations-banned>

#### AEC: Funding, Disclosure and Political Parties

Some changes have been made to election funding and disclosure laws in the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918 (Electoral Act) as a result of the Electoral Legislation Amendment (Electoral Funding and Disclosure Reform) Act 2018 (the FAD Reform Act). From 1 January 2019 the Electoral Act restricts the receipt of donations from foreign donors

[https://www.aec.gov.au/parties\\_and\\_representatives/](https://www.aec.gov.au/parties_and_representatives/)

### LCA: Increased judicial appointment transparency and intention to boost legal aid funding applauded

The Law Council of Australia has backed moves to promote greater transparency and accountability of judicial appointments, and an indication that legal aid funding will be boosted, as outlined by the federal opposition

<https://www.lawcouncil.asn.au/media/media-releases/increased-judicial-appointment-transparency-and-intention-to-boost-legal-aid-funding-applauded->

### AHRC: Citizenship bill weakens right protections

Human Rights Commissioner Edward Santow has told a parliamentary committee that enhanced citizenship stripping powers would weaken human rights protections and conflict with our obligations under international law

<https://www.humanrights.gov.au/news/stories/citizenship-bill-weakens-rights-protections>

### Australia's global corruption ranking sparks urgent calls for federal integrity body

Australia has failed to improve on its record low ranking in a global measure of government corruption, promoting renewed calls for a powerful federal integrity commission to be established "without delay and political wrangling"

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2019/jan/29/australias-global-corruption-ranking-sparks-urgent-calls-for-federal-integrity-body>

### NSW union election spending cap unconstitutional, High Court finds

Laws slashing the amount of money unions are allowed to spend on NSW state election campaigns are overturned by the High Court because they place an "impermissible" burden on free political speech

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-01-29/high-court-unions-nsw-free-speech-decision/10759430>

### Cyber watchdog warns on dark web PS data

The Australian Cyber Security Centre (ACSC) has urged organisations and individuals across the Australian Public Service to check if their email addresses and/or passwords are included on recently released lists of stolen data <https://cyber.gov.au/government/news/collection-one-breach/>

### Inquiry into Class Action Proceedings Final Report

On January 24 2019, the Attorney-General for Australia tabled in Parliament the ALRC report, *In Inquiry into Class Action Proceedings and Third-Party Litigation Funders*. The ALRC recommends a Government review of statutory enforcement regimes for regulators so to facilitate effective and consistent statutory redress schemes - to fill gaps and create an alternative to some class action proceedings <https://www.alrc.gov.au/news-media/inquiry-class-action-proceedings-final-report>

### Federal anti-corruption body must have power to make arrests and conduct searches, judges say

A group of high-profile judges have called for a proposed federal anti-corruption body to be given the powers of a royal commission. The coalition released its preferred model for a national integrity commission late last year but the body was quickly criticised for a lack of public hearings, below-par resourcing, its selective treatment of politicians and the high threshold of criminal suspicion required to commence an investigation <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2019/jan/23/federal-anti-corruption-body-must-have-power-to-make-arrests-and-conduct-searches-judges-say>

### Clive Palmer loses bid to have criminal charges dropped

Clive Palmer says the charges, brought against him by ASIC, are "doomed to fail" and are an attempt to make him ineligible from running in the upcoming federal election, but the Supreme Court has denied his bid to have the charges dropped <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-01-23/clive-palmer-loses-court-bid-to-have-asic-charges-dropped/10739118>

### Disgraced former NSW RSL president charged with fraud

NSW Police charged Don Rowe with fraud offences and accuse him of misusing his corporate credit card to cover personal expenses during his 11 year tenure at the NSW RSL <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-01-23/don-rowe-former-nsw-rsl-president-charged-with-fraud-offences/10742474>

### Report on Government Services

The Report on Government Services is a vital tool in providing information to the community and holding all Australian governments accountable for the effectiveness and efficiency of government services. This 2019 Report continues this important information provision. There remain, however, data limitations in some key areas <https://www.pc.gov.au/research/ongoing/report-on-government-services#media>

### A Clearer Path for Child Abuse Survivors to sue in NSW

A child abuse survivor can now sue an unincorporated organisation, which can nominate a proper defendant with sufficient assets to meet the claim. If it fails to do so, the court can appoint associated trustees to be sued who can access trust property to pay the compensation <https://www.justice.nsw.gov.au/Pages/media-news/media-releases/2018/a-clearer-path-for-child-abuse-survivors-to-sue.aspx>

### Uniform Civil Procedure Rules 2005 -Rule 7.3 Amendment

The Uniform Civil Procedure (Amendment No 88) Rule 2018 has inserted [Rule 7.4](#) into the Uniform Civil Procedures Rules 2005. The rule makes provision for an unincorporated organisation to appoint an entity to act as the proper defendant in proceedings for a civil claim arising from abuse against a child. The rule commenced on 1 January 2019 when [Division 4 of Part 1B](#) of the *Civil Liability Act 2002* commenced. "UCPR from 162 - Consent to act as proper defendant" is available [here](#)

### Award of a \$44.3 million grant to the Great Barrier Reef Foundation

Australian National Audit Office: 16 January 2019  
The objective of the audit was to assess whether the award of a \$44.3 million grant to the Great Barrier Reef Foundation was informed by appropriate departmental advice and a thorough process that complied with the grants administration framework <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-05-22/great-barrier-reef-funding-labor-accuse-due-diligence/9785782>

### Trial of Mr Wang Quanzhang

In this letter to Foreign Affairs Minister Marise Payne, Law Council President, Arthur Moses SC, calls for China to be held accountable for detaining human rights lawyer Wang Quanzhang without charge <https://www.lawcouncil.asn.au/media/news/trial-of-mr-wang-quanzhang>

### My Health Record system data breaches rise

The number of data breaches involving My Health Record has risen year-one-year from 35 incidents in the last financial year to 42 incidents this year, a report by the Australian Digital Health Agency (ADHA) has shown <https://www.healthcareit.com.au/article/my-health-record-system-data-breaches-rise>

### LCA: Cautious approach for sex offender register required

While the Law Council of Australia does not object in principle to the establishment of a National Public register of Child Sex Offenders, it believes only offenders who pose a demonstrated risk to children should be required to register. He also stated inclusion on such a register should never be automatic <https://www.lawcouncil.asn.au/media/media-releases/cautious-approach-for-sex-offender-register-required-says-law-council>

### Free online pathways to solve legal problems

The LawAccess NSW website now provides two interactive guided pathways to match people with the information they need to resolve their issues before they spiral out of control, with another four pathways on other topics to come

<https://www.justice.nsw.gov.au/Pages/media-news/media-releases/2019/free-online-pathways-to-solve-legal-problems.aspx>

### Global hack of managed service providers

The Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) advises managed service providers which may be affected by a global cyber security hack to take steps to ensure Australians' personal information is being safeguarded

<https://www.oaic.gov.au/media-and-speeches/statements/global-hack-of-managed-service-providers>

### PUBLISHED - ARTICLES, PAPERS, REPORTS

#### [Review of the National Disability Agreement: Study report](#)

Productivity Commission: 01 February 2019

The report has found that a new National Disability Agreement (NDA) between the Australian, State and Territory Governments is needed to facilitate cooperation, enhance accountability and clarify roles and responsibilities

#### [The Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission's Administration of the Biometric Identification Services Project](#)

Performance audit (Auditor-General Report No.24 of 2018–2019): 21 January 2019

The objective of this audit was to assess the effectiveness of the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission's administration of the Biometric Identification Service project

#### [NSW Custody Statistics: Quarterly Update December 2018](#)

BOSCAR: Embargo: Wednesday, 30 January 2019

Commenting on the findings, the Executive Director of the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) said the slowing growth in adult prisoner numbers was an encouraging sign given the rapid build-up in prisoner numbers over the last few years

#### [President spells out 2019 policy priorities](#)

Law Council of Australia: 17 January 2019

#### [Identity crime and misuse in Australia: results of the 2017 online survey](#)

Susan Goldsmid, Alexandra Gannoni, Russel G. Smith, Australian Institute of Criminology: 30 December 2018

This report presents findings of the latest survey of identity crime and misuse undertaken by the Australian Institute of Criminology as part of the Australian Government's National Identity Security Strategy

#### [Estimating the cost to Australian businesses of identity crime and misuse](#)

Russell G. Smith; Australian Institute of Criminology: 30 December 2018

This study examined the economic scale of the problem of identity crime and misuse targeting businesses in Australia and provides estimates of the direct and indirect costs by affected businesses

### CASES

#### [Unions NSW v New South Wales \[2019\] HCA 1](#)

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW (CTH) – Implied freedom of communication on governmental and political matters – Where s 29(10) of Electoral Funding Act 2018 (NSW) ("EF Act") substantially reduced cap on electoral expenditure applicable to third-party campaigners from cap applicable under previous legislation – Where third-party campaigners subject to substantially lower cap than political parties – Where s 35 of EF Act prohibits third-party campaigner from acting in concert with another person to incur electoral expenditure exceeding cap – Where preparatory materials to EF Act recommended reduction in cap for various reasons, including that third parties should not be able to "drown out" political parties, which should have a "privileged position" in election campaigns – Where subsequent parliamentary committee report recommended that, before reducing cap, government consider whether proposed reduced cap would enable third-party campaigners reasonably to present their case – Where no evidence that such consideration was undertaken – Whether s 29(10) enacted for purpose compatible with maintenance of constitutionally prescribed system of representative government – Whether s 29(10) necessary to achieve that purpose – Whether necessary to decide validity of s 35

#### [Stambe v Minister for Health \[2019\] FCA 43](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW – application for review of exercise of Ministerial discretion pursuant to s 90A(2) of the National Health Act 1953 (Cth) granting approval to supply pharmaceutical benefits at particular premises – whether procedures required by law to be observed were not observed – whether Minister failed to consider comments, information and documents provided by applicant pursuant to invitation by Minister to do so – where Minister's consideration informed by Ministerial briefing note – where Minister adopted draft reasons prepared by departmental staff subsequent to exercise of discretion – consideration of availability of inferences concerning which materials read by Minister – in the circumstances, Minister failed to consider materials provided by applicant – application allowed on ground one

[Barkla v Allianz Australia Insurance Limited \[2018\] FCA 2070](#)

HIGH COURT AND FEDERAL COURT – whether vexatious proceedings order should be made against applicant – applicant frequently instituting vexatious proceedings over several years – present proceedings constituting an abuse of process – applicant conducting present proceedings so as to harass and annoy – applicant having no respect for the finality of court decisions – applicant abusing the Court’s procedures – applicant ignoring directions of the Court – applicant wasting judicial and administrative resources – protective purpose of order – vexatious proceedings order made in terms sought by respondent

[James v WorkPower Inc \[2018\] FCA 2083](#)

HUMAN RIGHTS – application for leave to commence proceeding otherwise barred by operation of s 46PO(3A) of the Australian Human Rights Commission Act 1986 (Cth) – where complaint to Australian Human Rights Commission terminated on the basis it was misconceived or lacking substance – consideration of principles relevant to Court’s exercise of discretion to grant leave – whether application arguable and not fanciful – leave granted

[Simiana v Harness Racing New South Wales \[2019\] NSWSC 11](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW – judicial review – decision of Harness Racing New South Wales – procedural fairness – manifest unreasonableness – whether imposition of certain licence conditions ultra vires – error established

[DRD v Secretary Department of Family and Community Services \[2019\] NSWCATAD22](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW- whether administratively reviewable decision – where decision to change contact regime for child in authorised care – where internal review has not occurred or been sought in relation to the decision sought to be reviewed – where no jurisdiction to review challenged decision.

[Hanna v NSW Ministry of Health \[2019\] NSWCATAD 21](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW – government information public access - refusal to deal with access application - substantial and unreasonable diversion of resources

[Profitability Consulting Pty Ltd v Thrope \[2019\] NSWCATAP 20](#)

APPEAL – procedural fairness – refusal of representation – apprehended bias – failure to address substantial submissions STATUTORY INTERPRETATION – Property, Stock and Business Agents Act – whether ss 36 and 55 applicable to unlicensed agents – whether appellant was acting as an agent within the meaning of the Act WORDS AND PHRASES – Real estate agent – on-site residential property manager

[CME v University of Technology Sydney \[2019\] NSWCATAP 3](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW – appeal from decision dismissing an application under the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (NSW) for want of jurisdiction – where Tribunal dismissed application for review of conduct by University of Technology Sydney in publishing a decision of the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal to which she was a party – whether the Tribunal erred in law by dismissing the application STATUTORY INTERPRETATION – meaning of s 6 of the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (NSW)

[Lock the Gate Alliance v Department of Planning and Environment & Department of Premier and Cabinet \[2019\] NSWCATAD 6](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW – administrative review – Government Information – Cabinet information – whether document would reveal or tend to reveal Cabinet deliberations or decisions – some information in public domain – the document not the information must have been approved for release ADMINISTRATIVE LAW – administrative review – Government Information – Cabinet information – document that reveal or tends to reveal the position Minister is considering taking to Cabinet – no requirement that position actually taken to Cabinet - meaning of “the position” – not confined to “one” position ADMINISTRATIVE LAW – administrative review – Government Information – legal professional privilege – privilege claimed by Department which was not Department to which legal advice or services provided – provision of advice etc is to the State not the individual administrative Department – sharing of legal advice between Department – question of waiver does not arise ADMINISTRATIVE LAW – administrative review – Government Information – public interest considerations against disclosure – whether information provided in confidence – whether disclosure could reasonably be expected to found an action for breach of confidence – no requirement that entity likely to commence such an action – whether information has “competitive commercial value”

[DRF v Commissioner of Police, NSW Police Force \[2019\] NSWCATAD 5](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW – government information – public interest considerations against disclosure – prejudice to supply of confidential information – prejudice to effective exercise of policing functions – prejudice to detection, prevention or investigation of contraventions of the law – public interest in favour of disclosure where disclosure may show improper or illegal conduct – proactive policing – public interest in favour of disclosure of a person’s personal information – public interest in favour of informing the public about proactive policing

[CEU v University of Technology Sydney; University of Technology Sydney v CEU \[2019\] NSWCATAD 11](#)

PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE – guardian ad litem appointed for applicant – withdrawal of applications – dismissal of proceedings – restraint order - Anti-Discrimination Act 1977; Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2013; Civil and Administrative Tribunal Rules 2014; Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009; Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998

[Pollington v Commissioner of Police, NSW Police Force \[2019\] NSWCATAD 1](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW - Government Information - access application - redaction of information concerning testing methodology - personal information - whether public interest considerations against disclosure outweigh public interest considerations in favour of disclosure.

[Scenic NSW Pty Ltd v Office of Environment & Heritage \[2019\] NSWCATAD 7](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW-government information- decision to defer access after granting access-power to decide to defer access- rights of internal review- sections 80(h), 78,88, 54(6) and (7) Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009

## PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE

### Consultation opens on Public Interest Determination

An application from the Australian Federal Police (AFP) for a Public Interest Determination is now open for public comment. The application to the OAIC under s 72 of the Privacy Act would allow the AFP to disclose limited personal information about homicide offenders and suspects to the Australian Institute of Criminology without breaching Australian Privacy Principle 6. It is intended to replace a [previous determination](#) with expired on 1 October 2018. [More information](#) is available on our website.

### [Report on Government Services](#)

The annual Report on Government Services (RoGS) provides information on the equity, effectiveness and efficiency of government services in Australia.

### Report on Government Services 2019: Part C, Chapter 7 - Courts

The focus of this chapter is the court administration functions of Australian and State and Territory courts. Data are reported for the Federal Court, the Family Court of Australia and the Federal Circuit Court, the criminal and civil jurisdictions of the supreme courts (including probate registries), district/country courts, magistrates' courts (including children's courts), coroners' courts and the Family Court of WA.

<https://www.pc.gov.au/research/ongoing/report-on-government-services/2019/justice/courts>

## AAT Bulletins 2019

The AAT Bulletin is a weekly publication containing a list of recent AAT decisions and information relating to appeals against AAT decisions

[Issue No. 4/2019](#), 29 January 2019

[Issue No. 3/2019](#), 21 January 2019

## Current Consultations

### [Review of the Telecommunication and Other Legislation Amendment \(Assistant and Access\) Act 2018](#)

Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security. This review is in addition to two separate statutory reviews, amendments to include a review due to commence April 2019.

### [The Establishment of a Commonwealth Integrity Commission](#)

Attorney-General's Department.

### [Freedom of Speech Legislation Amendment \(Censorship\) Bill 2018, Freedom of Speech Legislation Amendment \(Insult and Offend\) Bill 2018, Freedom of Speech Legislation Amendment \(Security Bill\) 2018](#)

On 3 December 2018, the Senate extended the committee's reporting date to 8 March 2019.

### Practice and procedure: New AVL Regulation commences

The Evidence (Audio and Audio Visual Links) Amendment (Bali Exemptions) Regulation 2019 (NSW) commences on 25 January 2019. The object of this Regulation is to ensure that accused detainees held in custody at the Newcastle Justice Precinct are not required to appear physically before a court in bail proceedings. Download a copy [here](#)

### Practice and Procedure: New rule for indexation of amounts under the Uniform Law

The [Legal Profession Uniform General Amendment \(Indexation\) Rule 2019](#), made by the Legal Services Council pursuant to the Legal Profession Uniform Law, was published on the Legislation NSW website. The new rule provides the formula for indexation of amounts pursuant to s 471 Legal Profession Uniform Law, and commences on 1 July 2019

### [New President of the NSW Court of Appeal](#)

Prominent Sydney barrister Dr Andrew Bell SC will be elevated to the bench of the Supreme Court and will replace Governor-designate Justice Margaret Beazley AO QC as President of the Court of Appeal

### New barristers' conduct rule

The Legal Services Council (LSC) has published the *Legal Profession Uniform Conduct (Barristers) Amendment (Refusal of Briefs) Rule 2018*. The new rule comprises r 101A of the *Legal Professional Uniform Conduct (Barristers) Rules 2015* (r 101A) and replaces r 101(n). It commenced on 18 January 2019. View the new rule [here](#)

**IPC Reminder: 2018-19 Report on the Operation of the GIPA Act**

Under the GIPA Act and the GIPA Regulation, agencies are required to report annually on their obligations. The 2018-19 annual report is currently being prepared and is due to be tabled in Parliament in February 2019

**[ICAC to hold public inquiry into allegations concerning University of Sydney and contract security service providers](#)**

A public inquiry will be held starting on Monday 11 February as part of an investigation it is conducting into allegations concerning the University of Sydney, its contracted security services provider Sydney Night Patrol & Inquiry Co Pty Ltd (SNP Security) and SNP Security's subcontractor, S International Group Pty Ltd (SIG)

**[Prosecution outcomes and briefs with the DPP](#)**

Tables showing information about ICAC-related prosecution outcomes, and briefs with the DPP. Last updated 21 January 2019

**AFP Consultation: Public Interest Determination**

An application from the Australian Federal Police for a Public Interest Determination is now open for public comment. The application to the OAIC under s 72 of the Privacy Act would allow the AFP to disclose limited personal information about homicide offenders and suspects to the Australian Institute of Criminology without breaching Australian Privacy Principle 6. It is intended to replace a [previous determination](#) which expired on 1 October 2018. [More information](#) is available on our website, with submissions due by 1 February 2019

**[High Court Rules: Amendments to Second Schedule](#)**

The Court has agreed to the recommendation of the Committee for an increase of 2.1% to the solicitors' costs, which is to come into operation on 1 January 2019 and will apply in respect of all work done and services performed by solicitors after 31 December 2018

**Federal Circuit Court Practice Direction**

The attached documents are forwarded as part of the Association's group email distribution

**Federal Circuit Court - [Practice Direction No 1 of 2019 - Judicial mediations in family law matters](#)**

This Practice Direction commenced on 1 January 2019

**[ICAC: Operation Dasha public inquiry adjourned to 29 January 2019](#)**

The Operation Dasha public inquiry into allegations concerning the former Canterbury City Council was adjourned to Tuesday 29 January 2019

**LEGISLATION****Commonwealth Act Compilation****[Ombudsman Act 1976](#)**

23/01/2019 - Act No. 181 of 197 - An Act to provide for the appointment of a Commonwealth Ombudsman, a Defence Force Ombudsman, a Postal Industry Ombudsman, an Overseas Students Ombudsman, a Private Health Insurance Ombudsman and a VET Student Loans Ombudsman, and to define their respective functions and powers

**[Australian Crime Commission Act 2002](#)**

23/01/2019 - Act No. 41 of 1984 - 4A. When a State offence has a federal aspect

**[Law Enforcement Integrity Commissioner Act 2006](#)**

22/01/2019 - Act No. 85 of 2006

**[Interactive Gambling Act 2001](#)**

22/01/2019 - Act No. 84 of 2001 - Prohibited interactive gambling services

**[Referendum \(Machinery Provisions\) Act 1984](#)**

16/01/2019 - Act No. 44 of 1984

**[Copyright Act 1968](#)**

07/01/2019 - Act No. 63 of 1968 as amended

**[Copyright Act 1968](#)**

16/01/2019 - Act No 63 of 1968

**[Australian Human Rights Commission Act 1986](#)**

14/01/2019 - Act No. 125 of 1986

**[Independent National Security Legislation Monitor Act 2010](#)**

11/01/2019 - Act No. 32 of 2010 as amended

**[Public Interest Disclosure Act 2013](#)**

11/01/2019 - Act No. 133 of 2013 as amended

**[Privacy Act 1988](#)**

11/01/2019 - Act No. 119 of 1988 as amended

**[Age Discrimination Act 2004](#)**

10/01/2019 - Act No. 68 of 2004

**[Ombudsman Act 1976](#)**

08/01/2019 - Act No. 181 of 1976

**[Freedom of Information Act 1982](#)**

07/01/2019 - Act No. 3 of 1982 as amended

**[Telecommunications \(Interception and Access\) Act 1979](#)**

07/01/2019 - Act No. 114 of 1979 as amended

## Regulation

### [Proclamations commencing Acts](#)

Justice Legislation Amendment Act (No 3) 2018 No 87 (2019-17) — published LW 25 January 2019

The object of this Proclamation is to commence amendments to the Victims Rights and Support Act 2013 that enable the Commissioner of Victims Rights to provide funding from the Victims Support Fund

### [Australian Citizenship \(LIN 19/066: Persons Who May Receive a Pledge of Commitment\) Instrument 2019](#)

17/01/2019 - The instrument revokes the Citizenship (Authorisation) Revocation and Authorisation Instrument 2017 and operates to authorise persons and the different class of persons able to receive the pledge of commitment of Australian citizenship

### [Disability Services \(Principles and Objectives\) Instrument 2018](#)

10/01/2019 - This instrument formulates principles and objectives to be furthered and guidelines to be complied with in the administration of the Disability Services Act 1986

## Regulations and other miscellaneous instruments

[Electoral Amendment Regulation 2019](#) (2019-4) — published LW 18 January 2019

[Electoral Funding Amendment \(Administration Fund Payments\) Regulation 2019](#) (2019-5) — published LW 18 January 2019

[Legal Profession Uniform Conduct \(Barristers\) Amendment \(Refusal of Briefs\) Rule 2018](#) (2019-6) — published LW 18 January 2019

[Liquor Amendment \(Special Events Extended Trading\) Regulation 2019](#) (2019-7) — published LW 18 January 2019

[Children and Young Persons \(Care and Protection\) Amendment \(Prescribed Bodies\) Regulation 2019](#) (2019-43) — published LW 1 February 2019

[Criminal Procedure Amendment \(Child Sexual Offence Evidence Pilot Scheme\) Regulation 2019](#) (2019-44) — published LW 1 February 2019

[Criminal Procedure Amendment \(Penalty Notices for Drug Possession\) Regulation 2019](#) (2019-22) — published LW 25 January 2019

[Evidence \(Audio and Audio Visual Links\) Amendment \(Bail Exemptions\) Regulation 2019](#) (2019-24) — published LW 25 January 2019

[Legal Profession Uniform General Amendment \(Indexation\) Rule 2019](#) (2019-25) — published LW 25 January 2019

For the full text of Bills, and details on the passage of Bills, see [Bills](#).

## KEY CONTACTS

### PANEL RELATIONSHIP CONTACTS

Your contacts responsible for navigating our firm, connecting you with the appropriate expertise and achieving maximum efficiency.

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## HELP DESK SERVICES

Thomson Geer is delighted to offer access to NSW Government to its Legal Help Desk on our usual terms of engagement and as set out below.

### Scope

We are pleased to be able to work collaboratively with NSW Government to offer the following services (at no charge):

- advice regarding discrete and non-complex legal queries – up to 30 minute teleconference with a Partner, Special Counsel or relevant Senior Associate or, short written advice (max. 1 page);
- the opportunity to 'brainstorm' or discuss topical and complex legal issues with industry specialists – up to 30 minute teleconference with a Partner, Special Counsel or relevant Senior Associate; and
- advice regarding potential transactions – up to 30 minute

teleconference with a Partner, Special Counsel or relevant Senior Associate.

### (Help Desk Services)

Please note that the Help Desk Services are only available in respect of any matter which is currently unallocated i.e. to this firm or any other firm.

### Key Contact and Help Desk Process

You can access the Help Desk by:

- (a) Calling 02 8248 5810; or
- (b) Emailing [legalhelpdesk@tglaw.com.au](mailto:legalhelpdesk@tglaw.com.au)

Once relevant details are received from you (whether that be by email or over the phone) it will be directed to the appropriate Thomson Geer Partner, Special Counsel or Senior Associate. The Help Desk number and

## SUB-PANEL APPOINTMENTS

Thomson Geer are appointed to the following NSW Government sub-panels:

1(c) Major commercial matters (incl. ICT)

2(a) Commercial and contractual matters

4(a) Employment and industrial relations law

4(f) Discrimination

6(b) General litigation and dispute resolution

6(c) Debt recovery