

18 DECEMBER 2020

ISSUE 102



PUBLIC SECTOR NEWSLETTER - NEW SOUTH WALES

Welcome to Issue 102 of the NSW Public Sector Newsletter.

We hope you enjoy this edition of our NSW Public Sector Newsletter, the last for what has been an extra-ordinary year. We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our readers a happy and safe holiday period and a healthy 2021. We will resume again in early February, with an edition summarising any significant news arising over the holiday period.

Please continue to let us know if there are particular matters of interest you would like our newsletter to address.

COVID-19 USEFUL LINKS

[Australian Government latest COVID-19 news, updates and advice](#)

[Businesses and employment updates](#)

[Latest NSW Health Updates](#)

[NSW Government COVID-19 website](#)

[Self isolation and mandatory quarantine](#)

[Supreme Court COVID-19 Protocol - Court Operations](#)

[Travel and transport advice](#)

IN THE MEDIA

LCA: grave concerns about lack of safeguards in new ASIO powers

The Law Council of Australia is concerned that the compulsory questioning powers of ASIO are set to be significantly expanded, without crucial safeguards and out of line with other nations in the Five Eyes alliance. The Law Council of Australia President was especially troubled by the proposal to remove any form of judicial involvement from the process of issuing these extraordinary warrants. <https://www.lawcouncil.asn.au/media/media-releases/law-council-raises-grave-concerns-about-lack-of-safeguards-in-new-asio-powers>

Richardson Review: Law Council deeply concerned by recommendation to cut judiciary out of warrant approval

The Law Council of Australia has expressed deep concern over a key element of the Richardson Review: a recommendation that warrants to exercise intrusive intelligence collection powers should be authorised by the Minister alone and not overseen by a judge. <https://www.lawcouncil.asn.au/media/media-releases/richardson-review-law-council-deeply-concerned-by-recommendation-to-cut-judiciary-out-of-warrant-approval>

National Emergency Declaration Bill

The Australian Government will be better able to respond to major emergencies through a new legislated framework for declaring national emergencies. <https://www.attorneygeneral.gov.au/media/media-releases/national-emergency-declaration-bill-3-december-2020>

Enhancing domestic violence protections for Family Court users

The Morrison Government welcomes the launch of a \$13.5 million pilot program which will enhance protections for families entering the family law system who are at risk of domestic violence. <https://www.attorneygeneral.gov.au/media/media-releases/enhancing-domestic-violence-protections-family-court-users>

LCA: Let's not rush important Bills through Parliament

The Law Council of Australia is calling on the government to give key stakeholders and the Parliament time to scrutinize the Surveillance Legislation Amendment (Identify and Disrupt) Bill 2020. A close inspection of the stated operational case, the criteria, thresholds and process for the issuance of warrants, and the arrangements for independent oversight and review is needed. <https://www.lawcouncil.asn.au/media/media-releases/lets-not-rush-important-bills-through-parliament>

New campaign urges Australians to protect themselves against cybercrime

Australians are being urged to strengthen their cyber defences and be alert to online threats through a new national cyber security campaign. Australia's Cyber Security Strategy 2020 represents our nation's largest ever investment in cyber security and expands the cyber security capabilities and assistance provided through the Australian Signals Directorate and the ACSC. <https://minister.homeaffairs.gov.au/peterdutton/Pages/new-cybercrime-campaign.aspx>.

For information on how to protect yourself and your business from cyber threats, report a cyber incident, learn how to become an ACSC partner, and find the latest help and advice – visit cyber.gov.au.

The legal profession has taken a hit over Lawyer X. Can mandatory reporting fix it?

The Lawyer X royal commission found Nicola Gobbo breached the fundamental rules at the heart of the legal profession. While lawyers largely support the idea of mandatory reporting of misconduct, some believe police should be subjected to the same rules. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-12-01/lawyers-support-reforms-on-mandatory-reporting-gobbo-lawyer-x/12937372>.

Publication of the Final Report of the Royal Commission into the Management of Police Informants

The Australian Bar Association welcomes the publication of the Final Report of the Royal Commission into the Management of Police Informants. <https://austbar.asn.au/index.php/news-media/publication-of-the-final-report-of-the-royal-commission-into-the-management-of-police-informants>

Family Court merger 'undesirable' for families, former Family Court Chief Justices say

The government's bill to abolish the specialist, stand-alone Family Court would have devastating impacts on families and result in a significant loss of structural, systemic specialisation, a coalition of stakeholders including the first and second Chief Justices of the Family Court has warned. <https://www.lawcouncil.asn.au/media/media-releases/family-court-merger-undesirable-for-families-former-family-court-chief-justices-say>

Independent National Security Legislation Monitor appointed

Attorney-General Christian Porter announced the substantive appointment of Mr Grant Donaldson SC as Australia's fourth Independent National Security Legislation Monitor (INSLM). <https://www.attorneygeneral.gov.au/media/media-releases/inslm-appointed-27-november>

AHRC: New tools for fairer AI

A ground-breaking new technical paper demonstrates how businesses can identify algorithmic bias in artificial intelligence (AI), and proposes steps they can take to address this problem. With companies increasingly using AI for decision making in everything from pricing to recruitment, Addressing the problem of algorithmic bias explores how these decision-making systems can result in unfairness.

OAIC issues first 6-month COVIDSafe privacy report

Australian Information Commissioner and Privacy Commissioner Angelene Falk released the first 6-month report on the privacy protections in the COVIDSafe app. <https://www.oaic.gov.au/updates/news-and-media/oaic-issues-first-6-month-covidsafe-privacy-report/>

NSW

New justice fund gives voice to legal chatbot

A Sydney community legal centre (CLC) is harnessing artificial intelligence to help disadvantaged clients under the NSW Government's Access to Justice Innovation Fund, was announced by Attorney General Mark Speakman. <https://www.dcj.nsw.gov.au/news-and-media/media-releases/new-justice-fund-gives-voice-to-legal-chatbot>

New bill to address unfair child abuse payouts

Many survivors of institutional child abuse would be able to pursue fairer compensation under proposed new laws even if they have already received a civil settlement. <https://www.dcj.nsw.gov.au/news-and-media/media-releases/new-justice-fund-gives-voice-to-legal-chatbot>

MERIT program marks 20 year milestone

One of NSW's most effective programs to reduce re-offending reached a significant milestone this month, marking two decades since it was first introduced to the Local Court. <https://www.dcj.nsw.gov.au/news-and-media/media-releases/merit-program-marks-20-year-milestone>

\$12 Million boost to domestic violence services

Nearly 100 frontline domestic violence services will receive a funding boost this week to support more victim-survivors, as a campaign to eradicate violence against women kicks off around the globe.

ICAC recommends changes to government water management in NSW after years of focus on irrigation industry interests

The NSW ICAC has made 15 recommendations to the NSW Government to improve the management of the state's water resources. <https://www.icac.nsw.gov.au/media-centre/media-releases/2020-media-releases/icac-recommends-changes-to-government-water-management-in-nsw-after-years-of-focus-on-irrigation-industry-interests>

IN PRACTICE AND COURTS

Adoption of Law Council of Australia's Trilogy of Mediation Guidelines

The Bar Council has resolved to adopt the Law Council of Australia's Trilogy of Mediation Guidelines - the Guidelines for Parties in Mediations, Guidelines for Lawyers in Mediations and Ethical Guidelines for Mediators. The Guidelines for Parties in Mediations, Guidelines for Lawyers in Mediations and Ethical Guidelines for Mediators are a useful resource for ADR Barrister practitioners and their clients. The Guidelines can be accessed [here](#).

[AAT Bulletin](#)

The AAT Bulletin is a weekly publication containing a list of recent AAT decisions and information relating to appeals against AAT decisions, including immigration and citizenship - Issue No. 29/2020, 30 November 2020.

[The Family Court of Australia and Federal Circuit Court of Australia - Lighthouse Project update](#)

The Family Law Amendment (Risk Screening Protections) Bill 2020 legislation provides an important framework and enables the Courts to progress the very important new family-violence and risk screening initiative, the Lighthouse Project. For enquiries please email the Courts at: LighthouseProject@familycourt.gov.au.

[Digital Transformation Agency \(DTA\) Consultation: The Digital Identity Legislation Consultation Paper](#)

The paper outlines key issues surrounding the development of the legislation and poses specific questions about its design, scope and content. The closing date for submissions is 18 December and readers interested in making a submission can access the Digital Identity Consultation Page on this [PS News link](#).

[Commonwealth Integrity Commission: consultation draft](#)

The Australian Government has released an exposure draft of legislation to establish the new Commonwealth Integrity Commission (CIC) and make other consequential legislative amendments. A [fact sheet](#) about the key features of the CIC has also been released. The consultation page includes links to the draft legislation and further information about other issues under consideration. Closing date 12 February 2021.

[Attorney General Reminder: Privacy Act Review Issues Paper](#)

Public submissions on the Issues Paper would be accepted until 29 November 2020.

[Consultation on proposed new conduct rule](#)

The Law Council of Australia has released a consultation paper proposing that a new rule 11A be added to the Australian Solicitors' Conduct Rules. The proposed rule clarifies how existing ethical principles relating to conflicts of interest may be applied when providing short-term legal assistance services. The consultation closes on 7 December 2020.

LCA Submissions

04 December 2020— Law Council

[Agribusiness industry consultation and the Personal Property Securities Act 2009 \(Cth\)](#)

02 December 2020— Legal Practice

[Requiring Deductible Gift Recipients \(DGRs\) to Register as Charities](#)

02 December 2020— Law Council

[Information sharing between the family law and criminal justice and child protection systems](#)

02 December 2020— Law Council

[Death and Taxes Review – Consultation with the Legal Profession](#)

27 November 2020— Law Council

[Exposure Draft Security Legislation Amendment \(Critical Infrastructure\) Bill 2020](#)

[OAIC Consultation: Requirements to collect personal information for contact tracing purposes](#)

The OAIC and state and territory privacy regulators have produced the following draft guidelines to support a nationally consistent approach to requirements for businesses and venues to collect contact information.

NSW

[New online hearings lists for the Administrative and Equal Opportunity Division and Occupational Division of NCAT](#)

From Monday 30 November 2020, new searchable online hearing lists for NCAT's Administrative and Equal Opportunity Division and Occupational Division will be available from the NCAT website.

[COVID-19: Information for Attending Court - Friday 4 December](#)

The New South Wales Bar Association's consolidated guide to COVID-19-related court arrangements has again been updated in terms of recent developments.

Extension of strata and community lands COVID-19 Regulations

Regulations were published on 12 November 2020 which extend the COVID-19 measures as previously provided for strata and community lands to 13 May 2021. The measures include alternative means of holding meetings and execution of documents by an owners corporation or community association. See [Community Land Management Amendment \(COVID-19\) Regulation \(No 2\) 2020](#) and [Strata Schemes Management Amendment \(COVID-19\) Regulation \(No 2\) 2020](#).

[DCJ NSW: Review of the Advocate for Children and Young People Act](#)

The review will determine whether the policy objectives of the Act remain valid and whether the terms of the Act remain appropriate for securing these objectives. The discussion paper is available [here](#) Submissions close on 12 March 2021.

[DCJ NSW: Exposure Draft Bill for public consultation: Crimes Legislation \(Offences Against Pregnant Women\) Bill](#)

The Government is seeking community views on proposals that aim to acknowledge the loss of victims and appropriately punish offenders. The Exposure Draft Bill, which was developed in response to expert advice and stakeholder feedback, is available on the [Have Your Say](#) website. Submissions close on 29 January 2021.

[Legal Aid NSW DX account decommissioned effective from 30 November 2020](#)

Legal Aid NSW has advised that it is changing its mail service provider from the DX to Australia Post. This change will be effective from 30 November 2020. To ensure no documents are lost Legal Aid NSW encourages members to communicate with them via email using Legal Aid NSW office mailing addresses which are available on the Legal Aid NSW website [here](#).

Extension of the Retail and Other Commercial Leases (COVID-19) measures

The [Retail and Other Commercial Leases \(COVID-19\) Regulation \(No 2\) 2020](#) commenced on 24 October 2020, and extended with some amendments, the prohibitions and requirements in relation to the exercise of certain rights of lessors during the COVID-19 pandemic period, until the end of 31 December 2020.

[JUDCOM: Decisions reserved](#)

The Court of Appeal maintains a list of matters before the Court for which judgment is reserved. The list is updated weekly.

[JUDCOM: Decisions before the High Court](#)

The Court of Appeal maintains a list of decisions of the New South Wales Court of Appeal or Court of Criminal Appeal appealed to the High Court. The list is updated regularly. View the latest publication here: NSWCA Decisions before the High Court as at 3 December 2020.

[JUDCOM: Civil Trials Bench Book](#)

1 December 2020 - The sample orders and accompanying text of the Civil Trials Bench Book are produced as guidelines only. The following changes have been incorporated into this update: Civil Trials Bench Book.

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

The tables on this page each provide information on prosecution briefs that are currently with the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), and the outcomes of DPP advice and prosecutions in relation to ICAC investigations. Last updated 26 November 2020. Prosecution outcomes web table (26 November 2020)

ICAC Investigation reports

[Investigation into complaints of corruption in the management of water in NSW and systemic non-compliance with the Water Management Act 2000 \(Operation Avon\)](#)

[IPC Annual Report 2019/20](#)

The Information and Privacy Commission NSW (IPC) has published its Annual Report 2019/20 which was tabled in NSW Parliament on 30 November 2020.

PUBLISHED - ARTICLES, PAPERS, REPORTS

[Management of the Australian Public Service's Workforce Response to COVID-19](#)

ANAO: 01 December 2020

The audit objective was to assess the effectiveness of the management of the Australian Public Service (APS) workforce in implementing the Australian Government's COVID-19 priorities.

[2019–20 Major Projects Report](#)

ANAO: 30 November 2020

Increased transparency and accountability on progress with major Defence equipment acquisitions has been a focus of parliamentary interest for some time. The objective of this report was to provide the Auditor-General's independent assurance over the status of the selected major projects.

[NSW Criminal Courts Statistics 2020](#)

NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research: 26 November 2020

The statistics presents information on the characteristics of defendants dealt with by NSW criminal courts. This includes information on the offences, case outcomes and sentences associated with those defendants.

[Australian Institute of Judicial Administration \(AIJA\) newsletter](#)

The AIJA produces a regular newsletter, the most recent of which is available to read [here](#).

[Law Council Update](#)

The Law Council produces a fortnightly newsletter which highlights the Law Council's important activities and advocacy, along with any relevant media and events stakeholders would be interested in.

CASES

[Montenegro v Secretary, Department of Education \[2020\] FCAFC 210](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW – decision of Administrative Appeals Tribunal – decision not made “in accordance with” published Guidelines PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE – application to amend notice of appeal – a new argument on appeal – leave granted ADMINISTRATIVE LAW – adequacy of reasons Administrative Appeals Tribunal Act 1975 (Cth) ss 43, 44.

[Registered Organisations Commissioner v Australian Workers' Union \[2020\] FCAFC 202](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW – Appeal from a decision of the primary judge to uphold an application for judicial review of a decision of a delegate of the Registered Organisations Commissioner to conduct an investigation as to whether civil penalty provisions had been contravened – consideration of the state of mind required in order to exercise the power to conduct an investigation pursuant to s 331(2) of the Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009 (Cth) – whether an exercise of the power in s 331(2) is conditioned on a state of mind of a suspicion that there has been a contravention of a civil penalty provision – whether the delegate held the requisite state of mind in order to exercise the power in s 331(2) – delegate's state of mind was that there were reasonable grounds to conduct an investigation – delegate not required to suspect that there had been contraventions of civil penalty provisions.

STATUTORY INTERPRETATION – whether possible contraventions which occurred prior to the amendment of the Act that established the Commissioner and changed the means of identifying civil penalty provisions could be the subject of an investigation under s 331(2) – where liability for a pecuniary penalty for a contravention of a civil penalty provision was not affected by the amendment of the Act – the power to investigate in respect of possible contraventions before the amendment of the Act was not affected by the amendment – the delegate did not exceed his jurisdiction by exercising the power to investigate in respect of possible contraventions which occurred before the amendment of the Act.

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW – whether interaction between the Minister and the delegate before the delegate’s decision gave rise to jurisdictional error – where there was no challenge to the primary judge’s finding that referral letters from the Minister to the delegate were not a material and operative reason for the delegate’s decision – s 329FA of the Act does not prohibit communication between the Minister and the Commissioner – the interaction between the Minister and the delegate did not give rise to jurisdictional error – appeal allowed.

Acts Interpretation Act 1901 (Cth) ss 2, 7; Administrative Decisions (Judicial Review) Act 1977 (Cth) s 5 Evidence Act 1995 (Cth) s 38.

[Melbourne City Council v Telstra Corporation Limited \[2020\] FCAFC 200](#)

COMMUNICATIONS LAW – whether New Payphone Cabinets are “low-impact facilities” within the meaning of clause 6 of Sch 3 to the Telecommunications Act 1997 (Cth) exempt from planning laws – where Telstra sought planning approval to display commercial advertising on New Payphone Cabinets – where New Payphone Cabinets to be installed only after planning approval to display commercial advertising obtained – whether primary judge erred in concluding that the New Payphone Cabinets are “low-impact facilities” – appeal allowed with costs.

[Nguyen v Pasarela Pty Ltd \[2020\] NSWSC 1730](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW – Error of law on the face of the record – Whether third defendant failed to correctly apply guidelines – Whether third defendant failed to properly explain path of reasoning – Whether fourth defendant erred in finding no error in third defendant’s application of guidelines.

[Rodriguez & Sons Pty Limited v Queensland Bulk Water Supply Authority t/as Seqwater \(No 26\) \[2020\] NSWSC 1728](#)

REPRESENTATIVE ACTION – Queensland floods – damages – determination of separate questions concerning whether certain payments deductible from group members’ damages – payments made under Premier’s Relief Fund not deductible – certain payments under the National Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements deductible – others not deductible – assessment of two individual group member claims – damages for physical inconvenience arising from home flooding – calculation of cleaning costs – methodology – treatment of damages recovered from insurance broker for failure to obtain insurance cover.

[Owen v Commissioner of Police \[2020\] NSWCATAD 296](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW – government information – access application – information relating to the applicant and the management of the applicant’s workplace injury – whether prejudice the supply of information – whether reveal a deliberation or consultation – whether prejudice the effective exercise of an agency’s functions – personal information - whether public interest considerations against disclosure outweigh public interest considerations in favour of disclosure Owen v Commissioner of Police [2020] NSWCATAD 296.

[Smith v Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages \[2020\] NSWCATAD 295](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW – registration of birth – whether Registrar should correct the Applicant’s date of birth as recorded in the Register – most reliable information.

[Stalvies v Snowy Monaro Regional Council \[2020\] NSWCATAD 292](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW – government information – access application – whether disclosure could reasonably be expected to reveal personal information – whether disclosure could contravene an information protection principle – whether public interest considerations against disclosure outweigh public interest considerations in favour of disclosure.

[Ugur v Commissioner of Police \[2020\] NSWCATAD 293](#)

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – government information – whether further information held by the agency Public interest considerations against disclosure – informants – personal information.

[Environment Protection Authority v Mouawad \(No 2\); Environment Protection Authority v Aussie Earthmovers Pty Ltd \(No 3\) \[2020\] NSWLEC 166](#)

PROSECUTION – sentencing individual defendant for two charges of knowingly supply false and misleading information about asbestos waste disposal – location of asbestos waste unknown – aggravating factors of financial gain, committed with no regard for public safety, planned criminal activity – high level of objective seriousness – subjective matters considered – totality principle considered where gaol time served for related fraud offences PROSECUTION – sentencing company defendant for two charges of knowingly supply false and misleading information about asbestos waste disposal – location of asbestos waste unknown – aggravating factors of financial gain, committed with no regard for public safety, planned criminal activity –no participation by defendant at any stage of proceedings – no subjective matters to consider – totality principle considered.

[MacMahon v Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages \[2020\] NSWCATAD 290](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW – registration of change of name – power to refuse STATUTORY INTERPRETATION – linguistic maxims – context.

[Rosenthal v The Owners – Strata Plan No 20211 \[2020\] NSWCATAP 251](#)

JUDGMENTS AND ORDERS – Consent order – meaning of order – interim or final order – admissibility of extrinsic evidence ADMINISTRATIVE LAW – procedural fairness – order made without submissions from parties and without providing parties with an opportunity to be heard.

[SafeWork NSW v BOC Limited \[2020\] NSWCA 306](#)

CRIME – work health and safety – application for judicial review of verdict of acquittal –JUDICIAL REVIEW – supervisory jurisdiction – acquittal – principle of double jeopardy – application for judicial review in supervisory jurisdiction of the Supreme Court by prosecutor following acquittal – circumstances in which the Court’s jurisdiction to review an acquittal is engaged JUDICIAL REVIEW

– supervisory jurisdiction – discretion to refuse relief – opportunity to address trial judge or to seek stated case to the Court of Criminal Appeal prior to final orders – failure to apply to judge – subsequent attempt to invoke supervisory jurisdiction.

[Bandelle Pty Ltd v Sydney Capitol Hotels Pty Ltd \[2020\] NSWCA 303](#)

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION – limitation period – limitation period for actions arising out of defective building work more than ten years after completion of work. STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION – amending legislation – limitation section renumbered and reworded – transitional and savings regulations – regulations deferred commencement and qualified scope of limitation period – effect of repeal of regulation – further regulations including amended regulations preserving repealed sections and qualifying renumbered section – whether effect of legislation and amendment was a period of time during which limitation period did not apply – whether legislation displaced operation of Interpretation Act 1987 – observations on undesirability of regulations affecting operation of statute. [Bandelle Pty Ltd v Sydney Capitol Hotels Pty Ltd \[2020\] NSWCA 303](#).

[Marist Brothers St Joseph's College v Transport for NSW \[2020\] NSWCATAD 288](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW – Access to information – whether public interest considerations against disclosure outweigh the public interest considerations in favour of disclosure – refusal of access – correct and preferable decision – risk of harm or of serious harassment or serious intimidation.

LEGISLATION

Commonwealth

Acts

[Services Australia Governance Amendment Act 2020](#)

26/11/2020 - Act No. 104 of 2020 as made
[National Disability Insurance Scheme Amendment \(Strengthening Banning Orders\) Act 2020](#)

26/11/2020 - Act No. 103 of 2020 as made
[Family Law Amendment \(Risk Screening Protections\) Act 2020](#)
25/11/2020 - Act No. 98 of 2020 as made

Bills

[Australia's Foreign Relations \(State and Territory Arrangements\) \(Consequential Amendments\) Bill 2020](#)

HR Consideration of Senate message - House disagreed to Senate amendment 03 Dec 2020.

Consequential on the Australia's Foreign Relations (State and Territory Arrangements) Bill 2020, the bill amends the Administrative Decisions (Judicial Review) Act 1977 to provide that decisions made under the Australia's Foreign Relations (State and Territory Arrangements) Act 2020 are not subject to judicial review; and Foreign Acquisitions and Takeovers Act 1975 to authorise the disclosure of protected information.

[Australia's Foreign Relations \(State and Territory Arrangements\) Bill 2020](#)

Finally passed both Houses 03 Dec 2020
Introduced with the Australia's Foreign Relations (State and Territory Arrangements) (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2020, the bill establishes a legislative scheme for Commonwealth engagement with arrangements between State or Territory governments and foreign governments, and their associated entities.

[Electoral Amendment \(Territory Representation\) Bill 2020](#)

Senate 03 December 2020 - The Electoral Amendment (Territory Representation) Bill 2020 amends the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918 to provide more equitable representation, through changes to the method for determining the number of House of Representatives members for the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.

Regulations

[Commonwealth Procurement Rules](#)

The updated Commonwealth Procurement Rules reflect the Australian Government's commitment to sustainable procurement practices; emphasise the importance of paying suppliers on time, particularly small businesses; and includes a new Appendix A exemption that allows for the direct engagement of a Small and Medium Enterprise for procurements up to \$200,000.

This update also includes a number of minor amendments comprising: acknowledgment of the Australian Governments reporting obligations under the Modern Slavery Act 2018.

[Law Enforcement Integrity Commissioner Amendment \(Law Enforcement Agencies\) Regulations 2020](#)

This instrument amends the Law Enforcement Integrity Commissioner Regulations 2017 to expand the jurisdiction of the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity over four additional Commonwealth government agencies.

NSW

Regulations and other miscellaneous instruments

[Electoral Funding \(Adjustable Amounts\) \(Administrative and New Party Policy Development Funding\) Notice 2020](#) (2020-701) – published LW 4 December 2020
[Surveillance Devices Amendment \(Body-Worn Recording Devices\) Regulation 2020](#) (2020-697) – published LW 30 November 2020

[Administrative Arrangements \(Administration of Acts—Amendment No 7\) Order 2020](#) (2020-682) – published LW 27 November 2020

[Administrative Arrangements \(Administrative Changes—Venues NSW Staff Agency\) Order 2020](#) (2020-683) – published LW 27 November 2020

[Children \(Detention Centres\) Amendment \(Disclosure of Information\) Regulation 2020](#) (2020-685) – published LW 27 November 2020

[Liquor Amendment \(Liquor Licence Freeze\) Regulation 2020](#) (2020-687) – published LW 27 November 2020

Proclamations commencing Acts

[Better Regulation Legislation Amendment Act 2020 No 25](#) (2020-679) — published LW 27 November 2020

[Justice Legislation Amendment Act \(No 3\) 2018 No 87](#) (2020-680) — published LW 27 November 2020

Bills assented to

Stronger Communities Legislation Amendment (Domestic Violence) Act 2020 No 36 — Assented to 25

November 2020

Drug Supply Prohibition Order Pilot Scheme Act 2020 No 39 — Assented to 25 November 2020

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

KEY CONTACTS**PANEL RELATIONSHIP CONTACTS**

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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

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

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