



LEGAL AID COMMISSION OF TASMANIA

ANNUAL REPORT 2003

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[Annual Report 2003](#) ➡ Chair's Statement



CHAIR'S STATEMENT

I have been the Chair of the Legal Aid Commission of Tasmania for most of the year we are reporting on.

When I made my first statement as Chair, in last year's annual report, I identified three major issues facing the Commission, and I want to report on the developments that have occurred in relation to them.

Last year I said that new accommodation would have to be found in Hobart for the Commission, because the current accommodation was no longer suitable for our needs. We have now made arrangements for a future move. We have an agreement to take up a building in a central location, which is to be modernised and fitted out in accordance with our needs. When this happens, it will bring us a number of benefits. We will be able to accommodate all our Hobart staff in one location. And we will have the capacity to change some of the ways in which we do business because we will have the physical circumstances that allow us to do that.

This is still some way off in the future, because we are only a short way into the consultation and planning that has to go into an accommodation project of this type. But it is exciting because of the opportunities it offers us to revise and renew our business methods and maintain the high quality of the services we offer to the Tasmanian community. At this stage the Commission is still consulting with its staff, and having preliminary discussions with the architect who has been appointed to design the interior of the building.

During the last eight months, the Commission has spent considerable time, over a number of meetings, discussing the level of fees paid to private legal practitioners for undertaking legally aided work. As I said last year, these fees have not changed since they were set in 1996, and they are now far out of line with legal aid fees paid in the rest of Australia. As a consequence, private practitioners in Tasmania who undertake legal aid work do so at a disadvantage to their colleagues in other parts of the country, and are making a considerable personal contribution to the success of legal aid. To their credit, most Tasmanian

private practitioners still undertake legal aid work. This says something good about the kind of community we live in, but the Commission has agreed that the level of fees constitutes a serious unfairness.

The Commission decided that it ought to bring the level of fees at least up to the level of the next lowest fees paid elsewhere in Australia. Even to do that required a fee increase of about 22%. The Commission decided that this should be done in two stages, the first to take place on 1 July, and the second on 1 January 2004. We know that this will have some impact on the volume of work able to be handled by private practitioners. We have managed to increase the allocation for payments to private practitioners by 1.9%, to a total of \$3.159 million. The Commission will keep the level of fees and the total allocated amount under annual review.

The third was money. Any organisation that does the kind of work performed by the Legal Aid Commission of Tasmania can always find a sensible use for extra funds. For the past two and a half years, we have had to refuse family law applications because of lack of sufficient funding. In the coming year, the new funding agreement between the Commonwealth and the State of Tasmania will be negotiated. We will be taking every opportunity to keep the Commonwealth advised of the levels of work that could be performed by us if we had the resources. We will also be keeping the Commonwealth advised of the scale and success of our PDR program, which is wholly funded by it, and the need for that funding to continue if the Commonwealth wants the program to continue.

This coming year will see the first payment by the State government to the Civil Disbursements Fund. That fund will be designed to assist people bringing actions for civil matters to obtain assistance for the payment of disbursements. The Commission has not been able to support civil actions since 1999. The setting up of the fund comes as a result of the State government recognising a serious gap in access to Justice, and its determination to do something about it. State government has asked the Commission to administer the fund, a task we will happily undertake.

AUDREY MILLS
CHAIR



[Annual Report 2003](#) ⇨ Director's Report



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

During the year, we dealt with our 50,000th elodge. I lead off with this because it is an indication of how deeply our approach to IT influences and guides what we do. Our elodge system had a profound effect on the way in which we handle assignments, and our assignment costs. We have been the benchmark for Australasia for a number of years now. After 1 January 2001, elodge was the only way to make legal aid applications, but it has been running for our in-house practice from February 1999. Tasmania was the first Legal Aid Commission (LAC) to move to elodge for all applications and is still the only LAC which has achieved that.

One of the interesting consequences of elodge has been the way in which the general Tasmanian legal profession has co-operated in the endeavour. All firms who do business with us - and that covers most of the Tasmanian private legal profession - are using elodge over the internet. The use of on-line applications has generated efficiencies for private practice offices, has allowed us to deal with nearly all applications on a same day basis, and improved our contribution to private practice cash flow. No other area of the legal profession in the country has taken to these methods in the same way as the Tasmanian profession.

Staying with IT, I have continued my involvement with the project boards for the two major IT projects covering nearly all Australasia Legal Aid Commissions. As I reported last year, the first project related to continuing support for the IT system used by all LACs. The negotiations on a national template contract with the company chosen after tender to provide a national support service to that system were completed. We, and nearly all my Australasian LAC colleagues, signed up to the national contract and our new support service structure began to operate. I still remain the Chair of the project board working on the replacement system. In the course of the year, we undertook a co-operative exercise involving eight LACs in developing a statement of requirements for the new system. Those were incorporated into a tender, which achieved ten responses. As the year ended we were just concluding the evaluation stage

of dealing with those responses.

Our Primary Dispute Resolution (PDR) program was even stronger this year than it was last year. The number of conferences performed grew by about 10%. There is a [separate report](#) on the program. The growth means that our per capita rate, on which I reported last year, has become even more impressive, and more in advance of similar programs. The significant funding we received from the Commonwealth to set up and run this program just over two years ago, however, has just about run out. We have had discussions with the Commonwealth about providing further funding but have not been able to achieve anything like the level we need. This is a pity, because our refusal rate on family law matters has started to go up again. PDR is a really effective use of resources - it is at least lower than half the cost of taking a matter to a court. It produces a better result for the parties, and relieves pressure on the courts.

The fact that our PDR program has gone on expanding, and at the same time we are under considerable pressure for cases that need to go to Court, is an indication of the high level of family law work in Tasmania. It seems to be one of the social indicators for our community that we have a high level of relationship break down. I keep the Commonwealth constantly advised of these pressures and the figures relating to our work.

NORMAN S REABURN
DIRECTOR



[Annual Report 2003](#) ➔ Our Work

OUR WORK

The Legal Aid Commission provides legal services to the Tasmanian community through grants of legal aid, free legal advice and minor assistance, duty solicitor services, and community education and information.

During the year the Commission received 8,204 applications for legal assistance. Of those, 5,085 were for criminal matters and 3,007 were for family matters - 302 more for criminal matters than the previous year, and 45 less for family matters. There was slightly more difference across the two years for applications approved. For criminal law matters we approved 4,430 - 200 more than the previous year, but for family law matters, we approved 2,391 - 147 more than the previous year. Proportions of approvals to applications received were higher this year than last year.

In applications for civil matters, reflecting the decision the Commission had previously taken to not take on any new state civil cases, we received only 112 applications, of which 86 were approved. This compares with the previous year when 78 applications were received and 58 were approved.

For criminal matters, 55% (2,415) were assigned to members of the private profession and 45% (1,973) to the in house practice. A slightly lower proportion of family law matters, 41% (978), went to the in house practice, with 59% (1,413) going to the private profession.

These figures cover our representation activity, based on grants of aid.

Our duty lawyer service operates in the Magistrates Courts. In house practitioners attend the Court, and are available to give legal advice to people before they appear in Court, or to handle simple representation. Each instance is recorded as a duty lawyer session, and during the year our duty lawyers provided 3,196 sessions. This is a nice increase over last year, when we did 2,926 sessions.

In addition to representation and Court based duty lawyer sessions, our in house lawyers provide free face to face legal advice to people who attend our clinic sessions. Clinics are held at least several times a week at each of our four offices. All legal advice is provided by professional legal staff who, in the course of giving advice, are able to look at any document the client produces, advise on the appropriate course of action, including how to make an application for legal aid and provide minor assistance such as writing a letter. In addition to general advice services, our officers also offer expert advice in child support. During the year we saw 6,858 people and gave them face to face advice.

We aim to ensure that all Tasmanians, no matter where they live and regardless of means, have ready

access to legal information and advice through our state wide program of telephone advice.

For the cost of a local call any Tasmanian can access our service and obtain prompt legal advice or information from a lawyer. There were 28,380 calls dealt with by the service during 2002/2003 compared to 25,436 the previous year. The telephone service consistently achieves figures of this size.

In June 2002, we commenced [Supreme Court Advice Clinics](#) in Hobart on civil matters. The scheme seeks to provide civil advice to clients who would not normally be eligible for Legal Aid or have access to Clinic. The service aims to provide advice on civil process and procedure, not legal advice. During the year, we conducted 19 sessions with 26 client appointments.

The presentation of seminars and workshops continues to be one of our most important activities in increasing community awareness about the law. Our outreach seminars and workshops have been delivered to a range of audiences such as students, migrant groups, workers, and retirees, on varied topics such as employment law, negligence and family law. As part of an ongoing program our community awareness activities have also been supplemented by specialised Child Support presentations. During the year the Commission provided 161 workshops and seminars.

During the past year we have produced a range of publications (pamphlets, posters and factsheets) to increase public access to services. These publications have been distributed among legal services state wide, and have been favourably received by the public and service providers alike.



[Annual Report 2003](#) ➡ Our People

OUR PEOPLE

This seems to have been a year for bedding down, rather than any significant movement. The state-wide structure, involving our more senior lawyers moving about the state to handle the more complex matters, is working well. We have taken on some junior lawyers in the course of the year, interestingly, one for each of our offices. But that is something we would expect to do most years.

We have continued to strengthen and expand the secretarial and administrative support we provide to our lawyers. This reflects a consistent change in the way our lawyers do their work. We will be continuing to refine and improve our work practices and their greater integration with our IT potentialities.

Right at the end of the year, Wendy Heatley took a secondment to the Social Security Appeals Tribunal. That is going to be a wonderful opportunity and we look forward to some fascinating insights into another area of public administration.

Throughout the year, we continued to develop our family friendly structures. In the past, this has been chiefly driven by ACE, but we have been looking for opportunities to extend our flexible approaches to work/family issues to other areas of the Commission wherever possible. At Wendy Heatley's urging, we entered the ACCI/BCA Family Friendly Organisations Awards. We didn't win anything, but it led to a couple of nice mentions of us in the regular weekly legal pages of the Financial Review.



THE COMMISSION

The Commission is an independent statutory body established by the Legal Aid Commission Act 1990. It is principally funded by the State and Commonwealth Governments with other sources of income derived from the recovery of legal costs in successful cases, contributions from legally assisted clients and interest on invested moneys.

Legal services in the areas of criminal law, Commonwealth civil law and family law are provided by the Commission from its head office in Hobart and regional offices in Launceston, Devonport and Burnie. As at 30 June, the Commission employed 22 lawyers in the Commission practice and it utilises the services of private legal practitioners to ensure that within the limits of funds available, no person is denied access to the law by reason of financial or social disadvantage.

Under Section 6 of the Legal Aid Commission Act 1990, the Commission's principal function is to provide legal aid in accordance with the Act. In the performance of this function, the Commission may:-

- Determine the matters in respect of which legal aid may be granted;
- Specify the criteria, including the imposition of a means test, to be applied in determining applications for legal aid;
- Establish and operate such local offices as are considered necessary;
- Publicise the services of the Commission;
- Determine the conditions subject to which legal aid may be granted and contributions paid;
- Liase with professional bodies representing private practitioners;
- Provide agencies of the Commonwealth with statistical or other information;
- Make reports and recommendations to the Minister in relation to any reforms of the law considered desirable.

The Commission consists of 7 Commissioners appointed by the Minister in accordance with Section 5(1) of the Legal Aid Commission Act 1990. During the 2002/2003 year, the Commission met on 10 occasions. Meetings of the Commission are usually held about every four to five weeks.



[Annual Report 2003](#) ⇨ [The Commission](#) ⇨ [Members of the Commission](#)

MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

Commissioners

The Legal Aid Commission of Tasmania is responsible to a board of Commissioners.

Audrey Mills

Chair - appointed on 15 November 2002 for a term of three years.

Ms Mills is a partner at the firm of Piggott Wood and Baker, based in Hobart. She was admitted as a legal practitioner in 1981 and practices in the area of civil litigation.

She was the first female member of the Law Council of Tasmania, the governing body of the Law Society. She also holds the following positions: Chair of the Board of Anglicare Tasmania; Chancellor of the Anglican Diocese of Tasmania; Chair of the Employment and Equal Opportunities Committee of the Law Society of Tasmania; Member of the Law Council of Australia's EOL Committee; Member, Faculty of Law, University of Tasmania Teaching and Learning Committee.

Norman Reaburn

[Norman Reaburn is the Director of the Legal Aid Commission](#) of Tasmania.

Brian Holloway

Representative of the State Attorney-General - appointed on 15 November 2002 for a term of three years. Prior to retirement Mr Holloway was the Finance Manager of the Department of Justice and Industrial Relations from 1983 to 2001.

He was appointed a member of LACT in June 1992 and has been a member almost continuously since that time. He was employed in accounting and auditing positions in various government agencies from 1970 until joining Justice in 1983, before which he held accounting positions with a chartered accounting

firm and in the manufacturing industry.

Mr Holloway is a member of CPA Australia and a Justice of the Peace.

Simon Brown

Representative of the Law Society of Tasmania - appointed on 15 November 2002 for a term of three years.

Mr Brown is a barrister and solicitor who runs his own firm in Launceston. He was admitted in 1986 and works principally in the areas of personal injury and workers compensation, litigation, and criminal law.

He was first appointed as a Commissioner in 1999. He was a committee member of the Tasmanian Bar Association for fourteen years and has been president of the Association since 2002.

Gina Sidhu

Representative of the Community Legal Centres (CLCs) - appointed on 2 January 2001 for a term of three years.

Ms Sidhu is the Manager of the Women's Legal Service (Tas), Hobart office. She was admitted to practice in 1995.

She has been working with the service since early 1996. Throughout her employment with the Women's Legal Service, Ms Sidhu has been an active member of the Tasmanian State Association of CLCs. She held the position of state representative for one year in a temporary interim capacity and has held the position of state representative to the Professional Indemnity National Committee of CLCs for the last three years.

Melanie Bartlett

Representative of the Law Society of Tasmania - appointed on 15 November 2002 for a term of three years.

Ms Bartlett is a partner at the firm of Bartlett's in Burnie. She was admitted to practice in 1978. Since that time she has worked mainly in private practice, but she was employed in the Australian Legal Aid Office in Burnie in the late 1970s.

She is a member of the Law Society of Tasmania and was the President of the Society in 1999-2000. She is also a member of the Guardianship and Administration Board, the Mental Health Tribunal, and the Anti-Discrimination Tribunal.

Eve Murray

Staff Representative - appointed on 9 December 2002 for a term of three years.

Ms Murray is the Manager of the Advice and Community Education section of the Legal Aid Commission of Tasmania and also manages the Primary Dispute Resolution program.

She was admitted to practice in 1976. She was initially employed at the Crown Law Department, then worked at the Office of Consumer Affairs for two-and-a-half years, before resigning to start a family. In 1980 she took up part-time legal work with a private legal firm, until she commenced work at the Legal Aid Commission in January 1992 as an assignments officer.

Ms Murray is a facilitator for the Department of Youth Justice, and is a member of the Domestic Violence Co-ordinating Committee

Edwina Gelston

Representative of the State Attorney-General - appointed on 15 November 2002 for a term of three years.

Ms Gelston is a practitioner at Clerk Walker & Stops, practising in the areas of family law, child protection and crime. She was admitted to practice in 1996, after being employed as an apprentice-at-law at the Legal Aid Commission of Tasmania.

Ms Gelston then went on to become one of the state's first two youth lawyers, and established the youth law program in the north of Tasmania. For her work in that position she received the Children's Lawyer of the Year Award from the National Children's and Youth Law Centre. In 2003, Ms Gelston was awarded the Australian Young Lawyers Committee Young Lawyer of the Year Award for her involvement in the legal profession and community.

Ms Gelston is also involved in a number of community organisations including: secretary of the Family Law Practitioners Association; board of management of the Hobart Community Legal Service; Volunteer Legal Advisor at the Hobart Community Legal Service; member of the Tasmanian Pathways Committee; member of CCS advisory group.



Director

Mr Norman Reaburn has been Director of the Legal Aid Commission of Tasmania since January 2000, returning to Tasmania after seventeen years at the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department, eleven of them as Deputy Secretary.

He was the Chair of National Legal Aid from August 2002 until April 2004.

Before his appointment to the Department, he was a legal academic for nineteen years at the Universities of Monash, Tasmania and New South Wales.

He is a barrister of the Supreme Courts of New South Wales and Tasmania.



[Annual Report 2003](#) ⇨ [The Commission](#) ⇨ [Our Services](#)

OUR SERVICES

Over the phone legal advice service allows you to speak directly to a Legal Aid lawyer over the phone each weekday from 9am to 5pm. You pay only the cost of a local call wherever you ring from within Tasmania.

Call 1300 366 611

Face to face legal advice sessions allow you to speak to a Legal Aid lawyer face to face in a private consultation at any of our four offices, if you have a health care card or pension card. Your session will be limited to approximately 10 minutes. You do not need to make an appointment and will be seen as quickly as possible. The hours for this service are:

Hobart

Monday to Friday - 12:45 to 1:30 pm.

Launceston

Monday, Wednesday and Friday - 12:00 to 1:30 pm.

Devonport

Tuesday and Thursday - 1:00 to 2:00 pm.

Burnie

Tuesday and Thursday - 12:30 to 1:30 pm.

Legal help at all Magistrates Courts in Tasmania is provided by a Legal Aid Duty Lawyer. The Duty Lawyer can help you with information about Court procedures, bail applications, pleas and penalties. The Duty Lawyer will appear for you if you have been arrested and wish to apply for bail or if you are eligible for a grant of legal aid.

Child Support free information & advice. By using our child support service you can access free information and advice about paying and receiving child support and maintenance.

The lawyer that you will see at your appointment specialises in child support and maintenance problems. This service is available at all of our offices. Our child support service offers a free appointment, of up to one hour, to anyone needing information, advice and/or assistance with a child support or maintenance matter.

Community Legal Information via seminars for community groups on various legal topics are held by our lawyers who will visit your community organisation, school or other educational institution. The seminars are state-wide, free of charge and can be tailored to suit the needs or interests of your particular group. For more information or to make a booking please call 1300 366 611.

Legal Representation by our lawyers or a private lawyer is available to you if you are granted legal aid. Applying for legal aid will involve you making an application with your own solicitor or at your nearest Legal Aid office.



[Annual Report 2003](#) ⇨ [The Commission](#) ⇨ Office Locations

OFFICE LOCATIONS

Hobart

123 Collins Street Hobart
GPO Box 9898 Hobart 7001 - DX 123
Phone: 6233 8383 Fax: 6233 8555

Launceston

64 Cameron Street Launceston
PO Box 810 Launceston 7250 - DX 70126
Phone: 6336 2050 Fax: 6336 2074

Devonport

8 Griffith Street Devonport
PO Box 87 Devonport 7310 - DX 70354
Phone: 6421 7870 Fax: 6421 7871

Burnie

50 Alexander Street Burnie
PO Box 550 Burnie 7320 - DX 70209
Phone: 6434 6444 Fax: 6434 6440



[Annual Report 2003](#) ⇨ [The Commission](#) ⇨ Freedom of Information

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

The *Freedom of Information Act 1991* commenced on 1 January 1993.

As an "agency" under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991*, the Commission is required to determine requests for access to, or amendment of, information held by the Commission. In the period ended 30 June 2002, 1 application was received.



[Annual Report 2003](#) ➔ Primary Dispute Resolution

PRIMARY DISPUTE RESOLUTION

The Legal Aid Commission's Primary Dispute Resolution Program (PDR Program) has now been operating successfully for in excess of two years.

The aim of the program is to assist legally aided clients with their family law disputes at an early stage, before the issues become too entrenched to be resolved without litigation. The parties are granted aid to attend a conference with their solicitor. A Chair is appointed to conduct the conference and the parties are encouraged to participate and hopefully negotiate an agreement that both are happy with. This agreement is then incorporated into consent orders that are registered in the Family Court. The Chair provides a report to the Commission with recommendations as to future funding in the event that the matter does not settle.

There are seven Chairs around the State. All have attended a mediation course and have experience in family law matters. Conferences are conducted at the Legal Aid Offices in Hobart, Launceston, Devonport and Burnie.

The program has achieved very satisfactory results. A total of 444 conferences were completed in the last financial year. Of those, 92% achieved a full or partial settlement. Further, the agreements reached seem to be lasting. There has been positive feedback by both the legal profession and the parties regarding the program, and solicitors frequently request a grant of aid specifically for a PDR conference on behalf of their clients.

The Commission is optimistic that this program will continue to operate for the foreseeable future.



[Annual Report 2003](#) ➡ Supreme Court Advice Clinic

Supreme Court Advice Clinic

Free Legal Assistance at the Supreme Court on civil matters was begun in Hobart in June 2002. The scheme seeks to provide civil advice to clients who would not normally be eligible for Legal Aid or have access to Clinic. The service aims to provide advice on civil process and procedure, not legal advice.

Appointments are conducted on Wednesdays and the client receives an hour's free advice with a solicitor staffed from the Advice and Community Education unit.

Specifically, the Legal Aid solicitor will give advice about how to start a case, about Court processes and procedure, how to complete forms and other documents, and will provide information about other support services that may be able to assist.

The Legal Aid solicitor does not provide specific legal advice, and does not appear in Court on behalf of the client.

Clients are asked to complete an appointment form to provide details of what they would like to learn more about. They are also asked to provide a case summary in 50 words or less.

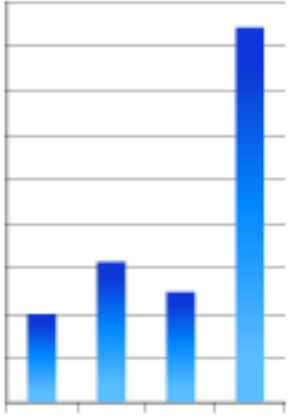
Whilst there have been times of low and high numbers, on the whole the usage of the service has increased and therefore demonstrated a need in line with the increased number of litigants-in-person in the Supreme Court jurisdiction. For the year 2003 to the end of October, there were 78 litigants in person on new matters alone filed with the Supreme Court registry.

Feedback from clients indicates an appreciation of the service, whether or not they choose to commence, continue or step away from the litigation process.

A breakdown of the figures for the 2002/2003 financial year, shows 19 sessions with 26 client appointments.



[Annual Report 2003](#) ⇨ Statistical Profile



STATISTICAL PROFILE

[Duty Lawyer Services 2002 - 2003](#)

[Legal Advice by Office 2002 - 2003](#)

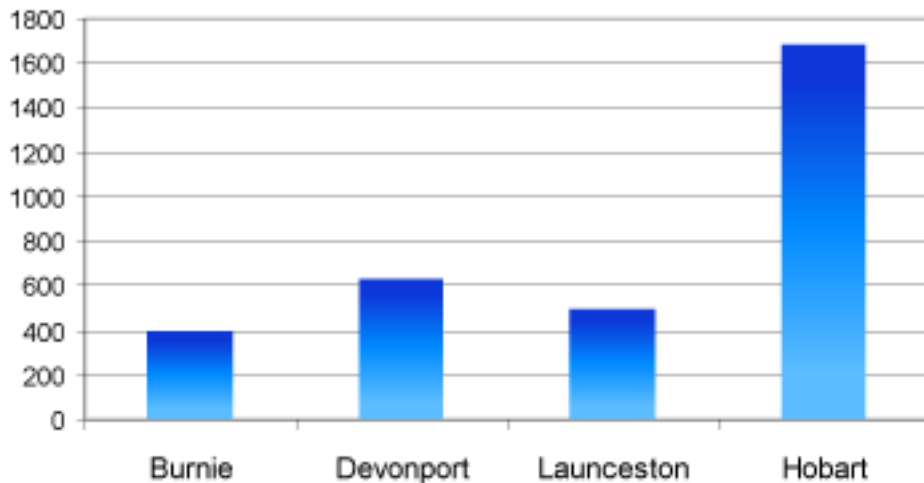
[Applications Received, Approved, Refused 2002 - 2003](#)

[Applications Approved, In-house/Assigned 2002 - 2003](#)



[Annual Report 2003](#) ⇨ [Statistical Profile](#) ⇨ Duty Lawyer Services

DUTY LAWYER SERVICES 2002 - 2003

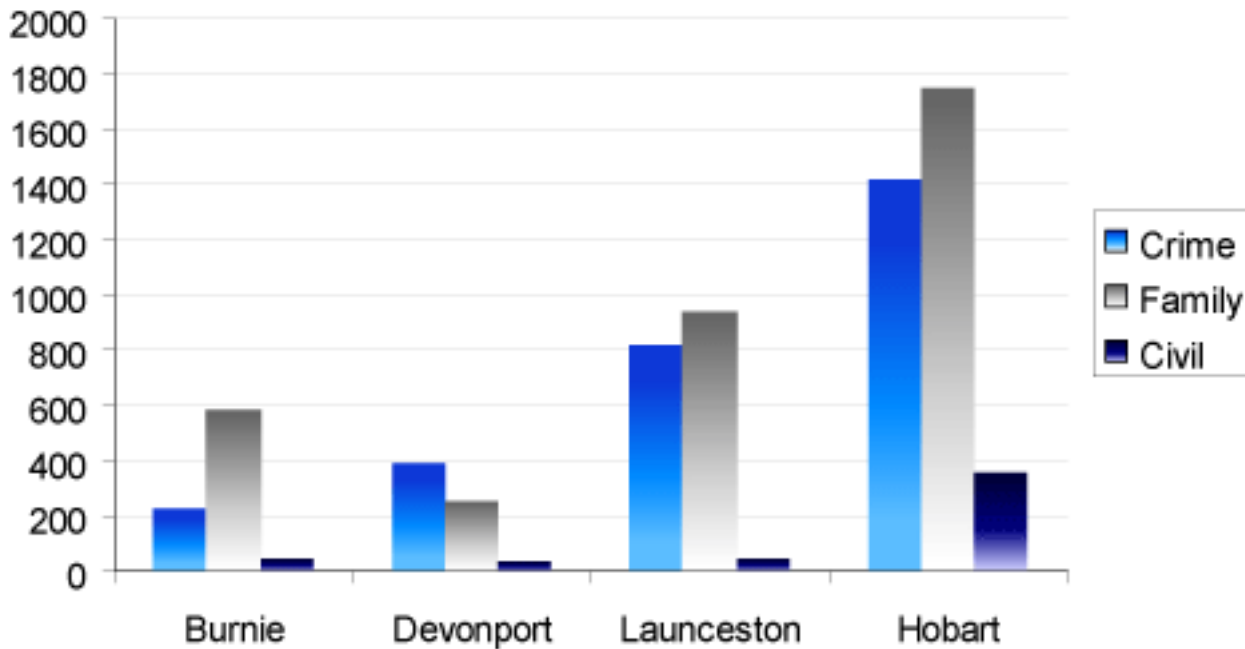


Burnie	393
Devonport	630
Launceston	492
Hobart	1681



[Annual Report 2003](#) ⇨ [Statistical Profile](#) ⇨ [Legal Advice By Office](#)

LEGAL ADVICE BY OFFICE 2002 - 2003

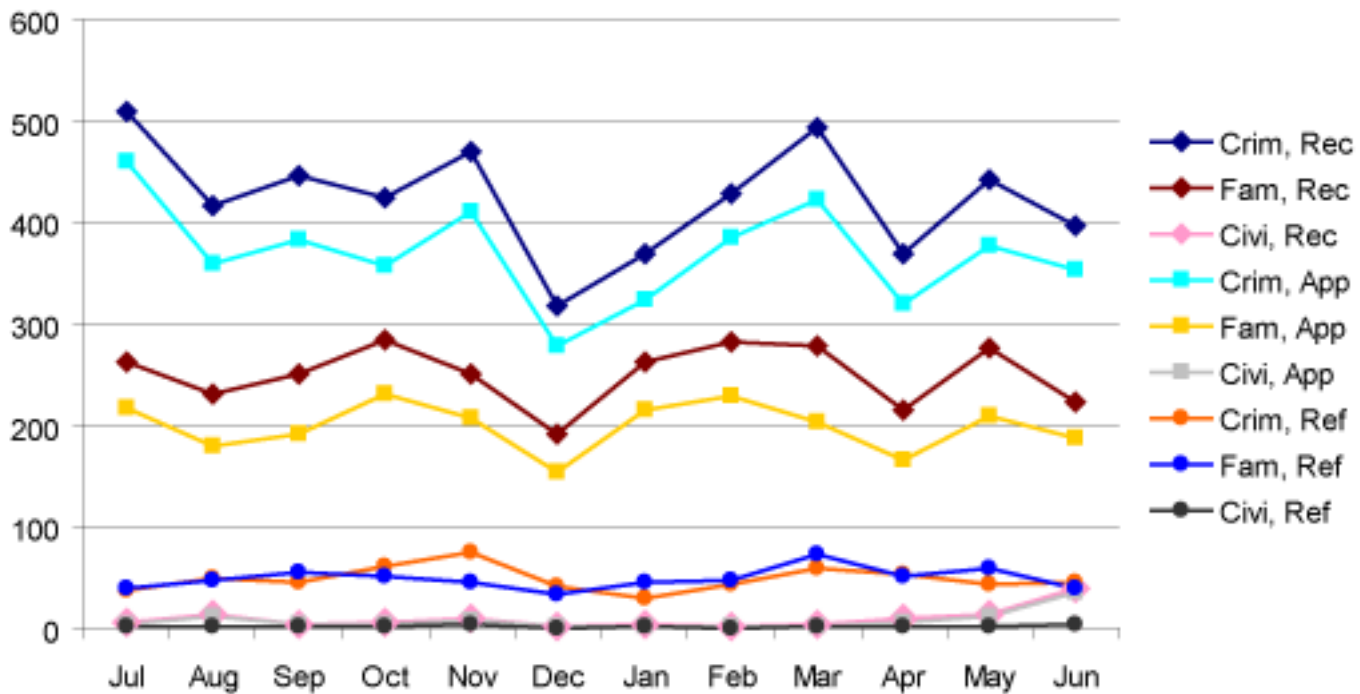


	Crime	Family	Civil	TOTAL
Burnie	223	579	45	847
Devonport	395	253	33	681
Launceston	817	943	41	1801
Hobart	1421	1748	360	3529
				6858



[Annual Report 2003](#) ⇨ [Statistical Profile](#) ⇨ Applications Received, Approved, Refused

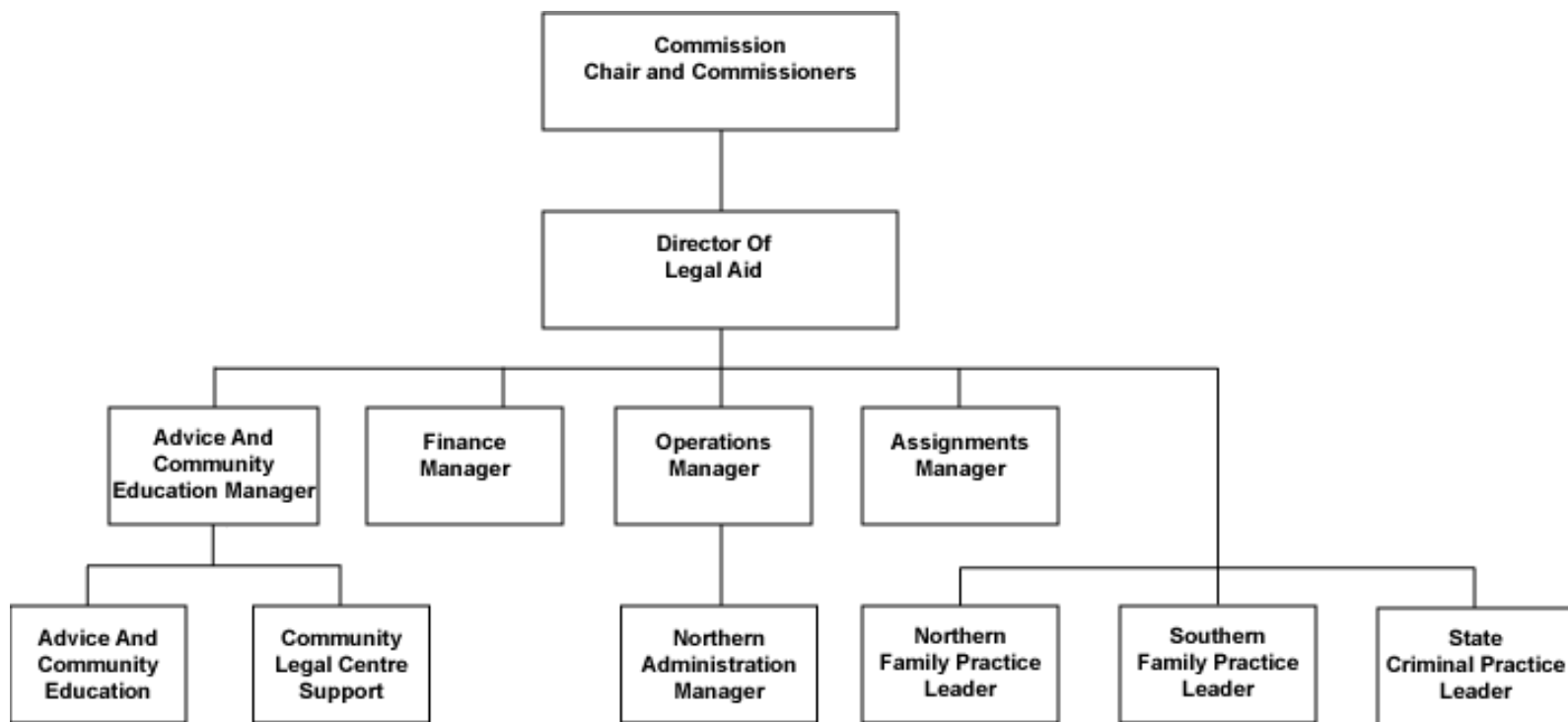
APPLICATIONS RECEIVED, APPROVED, REFUSED 2002 - 2003



	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	TOTAL
Crim, Rec	509	417	447	424	470	317	369	429	494	370	443	396	5085
Fam, Rec	262	230	250	285	250	192	263	282	278	216	276	223	3007
Civi, Rec	6	14	4	5	10	2	3	1	3	10	14	40	112
Crim, App	460	360	383	358	411	278	324	384	423	319	377	353	4430
Fam, App	218	180	192	230	207	154	216	229	203	165	209	188	2391
Civi, App	4	11	3	4	7	2	1	1	1	6	11	35	86
Crim, Ref	37	49	46	61	75	41	30	44	60	53	44	45	585
Fam, Ref	39	47	56	52	46	34	46	48	73	51	60	39	591
Civi, Ref	2	2	1	2	3	0	2	0	2	2	2	4	22



ORGANISATIONAL CHART





[Annual Report 2003](#) ➡ Financial Reports

FINANCIAL REPORTS

[Certification of Financial Statements](#) - 7.4kb PDF file (1 page)

[Independent Audit Report](#) - 97.2 JPEG file (1 page)

[Statement of Financial Performance](#) - 10.8kb PDF file (1 page)

[Statement of Financial Position](#) - 9.3kb PDF file (1 page)

[Statement of Cash Flows](#) - 9.4kb PDF file (1 page)

[Financial Notes](#) - 24.5kb PDF file (9 pages)

APPENDIX A

FINANCE REPORT

CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The accompanying financial statements of the Legal Aid Commission of Tasmania have been prepared in compliance with the provisions of the Financial Management and Audit Act 1990 and are in agreement with the relevant accounts and records to present fairly the financial transactions for the twelve months ending 30th June 2003 and the financial position as at the 30th June 2003.

At the date of signing I am not aware of any circumstances which would render the particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.

AUDREY MILLS
Chair

NORMAN REABURN
Director

**INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT****To the Commissioners of the Legal Aid Commission of Tasmania****Scope**

I have audited the financial report of the Legal Aid Commission of Tasmania comprising a Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows and notes thereto, for the year ended 30 June 2003. The Commissioners of the Legal Aid Commission of Tasmania are responsible for the financial report. I have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the Commissioners.

The audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the financial position of the Legal Aid Commission of Tasmania, the results of its operations and its cash flows.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Audit Opinion

In my opinion the financial report presents fairly in accordance with Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia and applicable legislation, the financial position of the Legal Aid Commission of Tasmania as at 30 June 2003, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended.

TASMANIAN AUDIT OFFICE

D.S Burns
Director - Financial Audit
Delegate of the AUDITOR-GENERAL

17 September 2003
HOBART

LEGAL AID COMMISSION OF TASMANIA

Statement of Financial Performance

For the year ended 30th June 2003

	<i>Notes</i>	<i>Consolidated</i>	
		<i>2003</i>	<i>2002</i>
		<i>(\$'000's)</i>	<i>(\$'000's)</i>
		<i>Actual</i>	<i>Actual</i>
Revenues from Ordinary Activities			
Commonwealth Grant	3	3,116	5,319
Commonwealth Community Legal Centre Disbursements	3	993	979
State Government Grant	3	3,001	2,852
Other Income	4	475	310
		7,585	9,459
Expenses from Ordinary Activities			
Salaries & Related Payments		3,251	2,858
Commission Administrative Running Costs		1,185	1,105
Debts Written Off	5	35	21
Depreciation	6	139	134
Payments to Private Practitioners Legal Services Providers		3,103	3,002
Disbursements to Community Legal Centres	7	1,000	980
	Total	8,713	8,100
Result / (Deficit) from Ordinary Activities		(1,128)	1,359
Increase in Asset Revaluation Reserve	10	17	0
Total Changes in Equity		(1,112)	1,359

LEGAL AID COMMISSION OF TASMANIA

Statement of Financial Position as at 30th June 2003

	Notes	2003 (\$'000's)	2002 (\$'000's)
<u>Current Assets</u>			
Cash Assets	8	1,732	2,697
Receivables	9	72	129
Other Assets		14	5
		1,818	2,831
<u>Non Current Assets</u>			
Land & Buildings	10	251	244
Office Equipment		122	113
Furniture & Equipment		1	0
Library		42	91
Leasehold Improvements		0	5
		416	453
<u>Total Assets</u>		2,234	3,284
<u>Current Liabilities</u>			
Payables	11	143	119
Provision for LS Leave		133	137
Provision for Rec Leave		240	197
		516	453
<u>Non Current Liabilities</u>			
Provision for LSL		11	12
		11	12
<u>Total Liabilities</u>		527	466
NET ASSETS		1,707	2,818
EQUITY			
Capital Contribution		325	325
Asset Revaluation Reserve	10	17	0
Accumulated Surplus		1,365	2,493
Total Equity		1,707	2,818

LEGAL AID COMMISSION OF TASMANIA

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES.

The Legal Aid Commission of Tasmania was established under the Legal Aid Commission Act 1990 on 1st January 1991 and the financial statements of the Commission have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Financial Management and Audit Act 1990. The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements pertaining to General Purpose Financial Reports (GPFR's), including Australian Accounting Standards and Urgent Issues Group (UIG) consensus views.

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are a general purpose financial report prepared on an accrual accounting basis using historical costs and, except where stated, do not take into account current valuations of non-current assets. Policies have been consistently applied except as otherwise indicated.

(b) Revenue Recognition

Revenues are recognised at fair value of the consideration received, net of GST when applicable. Full details of the revenues received by the Commission are detailed within Notes 3 and 4.

(c) Salaries and Related Payments

The related expense item includes Salaries of Commission employees, Superannuation contributions, leave entitlement adjustments and Commissioner's remuneration.

(d) Recoverable Amount of Non-Current Assets valued on cost basis

The recoverable amount test has not been applied, as the Commission is a not-for-profit entity whose service potential is not related to the ability to generate cash flows.

(e) Revaluation of Non-Current Assets

Classes of non-current assets measured at fair value are revalued with sufficient regularity to ensure the carrying amount of each asset in the class does not differ materially from fair value at reporting date. Independent valuations are obtained every three years. The exception to this policy relates to Library assets, where the most recent independent valuation was undertaken during 1997/98 by MR A NICHOLAS of Sandy Bay. Since then, the Commission has been accelerating its use of desktop digital media and online digital media to supplement, and quite possibly replace traditional library resources. This is undoubtedly going to have impacts for the valuations of libraries in the future, across numerous organisations that maintain traditional bound books as libraries. This factor, in addition to the immaterial nature of the carrying amount of the library collection, has led to the Commission not seeking an up to date valuation for the collection. As per Note 10, Library at Commission valuation takes into account this previous independent valuation plus any additions or disposals from that time.

Revaluation increments, on a class of assets basis, are recognised in the asset revaluation reserve, except for amounts reversing a decrement previously recognised as an expense, which are recognised as revenues. Revaluation decrements are only offset against revaluation increments relating to the same class of asset and any excess is recognised as an expense.

During the year, the Commission revalued its Land and Building assets. For full details refer to Note 10.

(f) Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment are carried at historical cost less accumulated depreciation. Plant and equipment purchased for less than \$1,000 is charged to expense as incurred. Due to the nature of assets held by the Commission, the written down value of the non current assets is considered to be representative of the market value of these assets. Most assets are information technology equipment that is being fully depreciated over 4 years. As a result of this, no external revaluation of these assets has been conducted over the 4 years period.

(g) Depreciation of Non-Current Assets

Assets are depreciated over their expected useful economic lives using the straight line method. The useful life calculation for each asset group is as follows

Asset Group	Useful Life (years)
Furniture and Fittings	4
Office Equipment	4
Alterations to Accommodation	4
Freehold Property	25
Libraries	3

(h) Leases

Operating lease payments are charged to expense in the period in which they are incurred.

(i) Employee Benefits**Wages, Salaries and Recreational Leave.**

Liabilities for employee benefits for wages, salaries and recreation leave expected to be settled within 12 months of the year-end represent present obligations resulting from employees' services provided to reporting date, calculated at undiscounted amounts based on current salary rates, including related on-costs.

Long Service Leave

Employee entitlements are recognised in accordance with Australian Accounting Standard AASB1028. A current liability is provided for all employees with 10 years service or more based on their current remuneration. A Non current liability is calculated for all other employees based on their number of effective years of service and the probability of them attaining the required 10 years of effective service. The non current liability is the total of the net present value cost for 0 - 9 years inclusive taking into account an estimated inflation factor of 2.59% and discounting the entitlement using interest rates attaching to Commonwealth Government guaranteed securities as at the reporting date. Employee on-costs, such as superannuation, have been included in this calculation.

Sick Leave.

No amount is shown for non-vested sick leave as no present obligation to employees exists.

Employer Superannuation Contributions.

The Legal Aid Commission is required to reimburse the Commonwealth for the employer share of the cost of Superannuation benefits paid in respect of staff transferred to the Commission and who remained members of the Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme or the Public Sector Superannuation Scheme. The Commission discharges this liability by periodic payments to the Retirement Benefits Office of amounts, expressed as a percentage of the salaries of eligible employees, estimated by the Retirement Benefits Office to be sufficient to meet the Commission's share of the full accruing cost of the pensions granted on the retirement or death of such employees.

For employees who are contributors under the Retirement Benefits Fund Act, the liability for the scheme is accepted by the Crown and administered by the Retirement Benefits Fund Board.

(j) Financial Instruments

Cash

Cash is measured at nominal amounts. Cash includes, cash on hand, all cash held in the operating account and short term investments. Interest rate risk is considered minimal.

Receiveables

Trade receivables and other receivables are recorded at nominal value due less any provision for doubtful debts.

Client contributions owing are predominantly small contributions from clients and as such exposure to credit risk is considered to be minimal.

Payables

Legal creditor accounts payable are recognised upon certification of those accounts for payment. There were no outstanding amounts as at 30 June 2003

Trade creditor payables are recognised when the economic entity becomes obliged to make future payments resulting from the purchase of goods and services. Measurement is based on the agreed purchase/contract cost. The amounts are unsecured and normally settled within 30 days.

Investments

The Commission is authorised under its act to invest surplus funds in any of the ways referred to in Section 5 of the Trustee Act 1898. During the reporting period investments were held in an at call cash management facility.

Interest revenue is recognised in the operating statement when earned. As the Commissions investments were held in the above instruments and held over relatively short periods it is considered that any interest rate exposure is minimal.

As at the 30th June 2003 the following investments were held

	2002/03	2001/02
	\$'000s	\$'000s
At Call Cash Management Account	1,499	1,290
No 1 – Operating Account	On Call at an interest rate of 4.80%	On Call at an interest rate of 4.86%
At Call Cash Management Account	138	419
No 2 – PDR Program 2002/2003	On Call at an interest rate of 4.80%	On Call at an interest rate of 4.86%
Operating Account	94	988
	On Call at an interest rate of 4.13%	On Call at an interest rate of 4.26%

The At Call Cash Management Account No.2 holds the surplus balance of the Commissions Primary Dispute Resolution Program with is a special purpose program funded by the Commonwealth Government which commenced in July 2001.

NOTE 2: GOING CONCERN.

These statements have been prepared on a going concern basis in the expectation that the Commission will continue to function and be funded in the future on the basis as set out in a new Commonwealth / State Agreement which became effective from the 1st July 2000 covering a four year period.

NOTE 3 – GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTIONS

	2002/03	2001/02
	\$'000s	\$'000s
Commonwealth Base Grant	2,910	3,827
Community Legal Centre Administration Payment	50	52
Law by Telecommunications Program	50	50
Primary Dispute Resolution Project	106	220
Commonwealth Expensive Case Provision	0	200
Commonwealth Receipts in Advance	0	970
	3,116	5,319
Commonwealth Disbursements to Community Legal Centres	993	979
State Government Base Grant	3,001	2,916
State Grant Revenue Adjustment	0	(64)
	3,001	2,852
	7,110	9,150

Government Contributions

Government contributions are as a result of a new Commonwealth / State agreement which became effective from the 1st July 2000 for a duration of 4 years.

Commonwealth**Commonwealth Base Grant**

The Base Grant provides for the Service Delivery program agreed to between the Commission and the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth Base Grant is shown as \$2,910,000 with \$970,000 shown as Commonwealth Receipts in Advance in 2001/2002.

Community Legal Centre Administration Payment

This payment is an agency payment to cover the costs of support for the Commonwealth Community Legal Centre program

Law by Telecommunications Program

This is an agency payment for costs associated with the Commonwealth National Family Law Call Centre referral service.

Primary Dispute Resolution Project

This is specific purpose funding for a Primary Dispute Resolution program, using mediation as an alternative to Courts based outcomes.

Commonwealth Expensive Case Provision

These funds have been provided by the Commonwealth, and held, to provide for expensive cases in the Commonwealth Law jurisdiction.

Commonwealth Receipts in Advance

These funds are an advance payment toward the 2002-2003 Base Program.

Commonwealth Disbursements to Community Legal Centres

The Commission disburses Community Legal Centre funding on behalf of the Commonwealth Government. This item shows the Revenue component, with the corresponding outlay shown at Note 8.

State**State Government Base Grant**

The Base Grant provides for the Service Delivery program agreed to between the Commission and the State Government.

State Grant Revenue Adjustment

The amount reported relates to the correction of reported revenue from the State Government in the 2000-2001 financial year during the 2001-2002 financial year in accordance with the requirements of AAS1030 Statement of Financial Performance.

The accounting treatment is in accordance with section 6.1 of the accounting standard.

NOTE 4 – OTHER REVENUE

	2002/03	2001/02
	\$'000s	\$'000s
Client Contributions and Cost Recoveries	360	208
Interest Income	111	94
Miscellaneous	4	8
	475	310

Client Contributions and Cost Recoveries

Contributions consist of amounts levied on clients by in-house practitioners and recovered costs. Not included are amounts collected by private legal practitioners and deducted from their accounts for services rendered to the Commission, prior to payment by the Legal Aid Commission. These payments are immaterial and hence have not been quantified for this report. Recovered costs consist of those costs awarded by the courts to the benefit of the Commission.

Interest Income

Derived from cash flow surpluses from monies held on call, or in short term cash management accounts.

NOTE 5: DEBTS WRITTEN OFF

The amount reported comprises the bad debt write off as reported by the Commissions Case Management System (LA OFFICE).

	2002/03	2001/02
	\$'000s	\$'000s
Bad debt write off LA OFFICE	35	21

NOTE 6: DEPRECIATION

	2002/03	2001/02
	\$'000s	\$'000s
Office Equipment	55	58
Furniture and Fittings	2	4
Library	69	60
Leasehold Improvements	4	5
Buildings	9	7
	139	134

NOTE 7: GRANTS TO COMMUNITY LEGAL CENTRES- 2001/2002.

	2002/03	2001/02
	\$'000s	\$'000s
North West Community Legal Centre Inc.	87	85
Environmental Defender's Office (Tas) Inc.	80	77
Hobart Community Legal Service Inc.	333	323
Launceston Community Legal Centre Inc.	234	228
Tenants Union of Tasmania Inc.	53	51
Women's Legal Services (Tas) Inc.	213	207
Transfer to Trust Account – Information Systems Upgrade	0	8
	1,000	980

NOTE 8: INVESTMENTS, CASH AT BANK AND ON HAND 2002/2003.

The Commission maintains an operating account with WESTPAC Banking Corporation, and an at Call Cash Management Account with TASCORP), and a trust account in accordance with Section 37 of the Legal Aid Commission Act 1990.

Transactions pertaining to the Trust Account are shown at Note 13.

	2002/03 \$'000s	2001/02 \$'000s
Operating Account – WESTPAC Bank Account	86	980
Office Advances	8	8
11-00am On Call Cash Management Account	1,637	1,708
	1,732	2,696
Held as		
Commonwealth Grant in advance 2002-2003	0	970
Special Purposes Primary Dispute Resolution Program	138	354
Commonwealth Expensive Case Provision	200	200
	338	1,524
General Reserves	1,394	1,172
Cash Assets	1,732	2,696

NOTE 9: RECEIVABLES.

	2002/03 \$'000s	2001/02 \$'000s
Contributions owing	41	96
Goods and Services Tax (GST) Recoveries Due	33	34
	74	130
Less: provision for doubtful debts	2	2
	72	128

A provision for Doubtful Debts has been estimated for the 2002/2003. This estimate has been made after a review of current debtors portfolio and the likelihood of payments being made. The doubtful debts consist of small contributions unlikely to be paid for which recovery action is considered uneconomical.

Case Management debtors are held as Case Revenue. As a consequence contributions owing include debtors of the Commissions in-house practice at the 30th June 2003 and debtors which are recoverable by private legal practitioners.

NOTE 10 - NON CURRENT ASSETS

A formal independent valuation based on Current Market Value on "an existing use" basis was obtained in July 2002 from Eastaugh Hearps, registered real estate valuers from Burnie, for the Commission's Freehold Property. The valuation obtained was \$260,000 and has resulted in an asset revaluation reserve of \$16,603.76 after write backs of prior years accumulated depreciation provisions in accordance with accounting standards.

	2002/03 \$'000s	2001/02 \$'000s
FREEHOLD PROPERTY		
Land at Fair Value	95	100
Buildings at Independent Valuation July 2002	165	172
Less Accumulated Depreciation	9	28
Buildings at Fair Value	251	244

OFFICE EQUIPMENT AT WRITTEN DOWN VALUE.

Historical cost	1,390	1,324
Less: accumulated depreciation	1,268	1,211
	<u>122</u>	<u>113</u>

FURNITURE AND FITTINGS AT WRITTEN DOWN VALUE.

Historical cost	270	267
Less: accumulated depreciation	269	267
	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>

LIBRARY.

At Commission Valuation	212	191
Less: accumulated depreciation	170	100
Library at Fair Value	<u>42</u>	<u>91</u>

ALTERATIONS TO ACCOMMODATION.

Historical cost	242	242
Less: accumulated depreciation	242	237
	<u>0</u>	<u>5</u>

RECONCILIATION OF ASSET CLASSES 2002/2003**FREEHOLD PROPERTY****2002/03****\$'000s**

Opening Written Down Value	244
Additions	
Disposals	
Asset Revaluation	16
Depreciation Expense	9
Closing Written Down Value	<u>251</u>

OFFICE EQUIPMENT

Opening Written Down Value	113
Additions	64
Disposals	
Asset Revaluation	
Depreciation Expense	55
Closing written Down Value	<u>122</u>

FURNITURE AND FITTING

Opening Written Down Value	0
Additions	3
Disposals	
Asset Revaluation	
Depreciation Expense	2
Closing written Down Value	<u>1</u>

LIBRARY

Opening Written Down Value	91
Additions	21
Disposals	
Asset Revaluation	
Depreciation Expense	69
Closing written Down Value	<u>42</u>

ALTERATIONS TO ACCOMMODATION

Opening Written Down Value	5
Additions	

Disposals	
Asset Revaluation	
Depreciation Expense	5
Closing written Down Value	<u>0</u>

NOTE 11: PAYABLES

	2002/03	2001/02
	\$'000s	\$'000s
Salaries	94	75
Other Operating Costs	49	43
	<u>143</u>	<u>118</u>

NOTE 12: TRUST ACCOUNT TRANSACTIONS.

The following transactions of the Commission acting as trustee have not been included in the financial statement:

	2002/03	2001/02
	\$'000s	\$'000s
Balance at Commonwealth Bank as at 1 July 2002	77	10
Plus receipts	134	408
Less payments	174	341
Balance at Westpac Bank as at 30 June 2003	<u>37</u>	<u>77</u>

NOTE 13: COMMITMENTS.

At 30th June 2003 the Commission's case management system (LA OFFICE) disclosed a commitment of \$1,683,000 (\$982,282 for 2001/2002) in respect of applications for legal assistance made, and accepted by, the Commission or its predecessors and which had not been finalised at that date. The commitment was estimated on the basis of scale fees and/or hourly rates, depending on the nature of the action concerned and includes possible future recoveries.

NOTE 14: RECONCILIATION OF CASH.

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, the entity considers cash to include cash on hand and in banks and investments readily convertible to cash. Cash at the end of the reporting period as shown in the statement of cash flows is the same as the related items in the statement of financial position.

Credit and Standby Facilities

	2002/03	2001/02
	\$'000s	\$'000s
Facility Limit	76	76
Less Used / Committed	(10)	(4)
Balance	<u>66</u>	<u>72</u>

NOTE 15: RECONCILIATION OF NET CASH USED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES TO OPERATING RESULT.

	2002/03	2001/02
	\$'000s	\$'000s
Operating Result	(1,111)	1,359
<u>Change In Assets – (Increase) / Decrease</u>		
Depreciation	139	134
(Increase) in Asset Revaluation Reserve	(17)	0
Decrease Accrued Revenue	0	5
Decrease in Receivables	56	53
(Increase) in Prepayments	(9)	3

<u>Change In Liabilities – Increase / (Decrease)</u>		
Increase in Provision for recreational leave	42	12
Increase in Payables	23	10
(Decrease) in Provision for long service leave	(5)	0
	(879)	1,577

NOTE 16: LEASES.

Operating Leases exist for office accommodation for the Legal Aid Commission at Hobart, Launceston, and Devonport. Vehicles are leased for each regional office. The aggregate of lease commitments for which no provisions are included in the financial statements can be classified as follows:

	2002/03	2001/02
	\$'000s	\$'000s
Due within 1 year	406	251
Due within 1 - 5 years	976	141
Due later than 5 years	969	
	2,351	392

NOTE 17: REMUNERATION OF AUDITORS.

The Tasmanian Audit Office audits the accounts for the Legal Aid Commission of Tasmania. In 2001-2002 The Tasmanian Audit Office also provided a systems review of the Commissions information systems and technology business platform.

	2002/03	2001/02
	\$'000s	\$'000s
Auditing the Financial Report	8	8
Other services	0	4
	8	12



[Annual Report 2003](#) ➔ Payments to Private Practitioners

PAYMENTS TO PRIVATE PRACTITIONERS

[Payments to private practitioners](#) - 10.3 kb PDF file (3 pages).

This report provides the dollar figure paid to private firms for work undertaken in the areas of

- Family law
- Criminal law
- Civil matters

Payments to Private Practitioners

Firm	Law Type	Applications	Paid \$
A D PEARCE & COMPANY	Criminal	5	338
	Family	2	475
A T LEGALS	Criminal	262	35,435
	Family	436	62,924
ARCHER BUSHBY LAUNCESTON	Criminal	273	27,343
	Family	4	563
	Civil	4	860
AVERY PARTNERS	Criminal	373	61,959
	Family	511	59,221
BAKER TIERNEY & WILSON	Criminal	39	3,929
	Family	47	4,281
BARTLETTS	Criminal	26	3,032
	Family	67	7,477
BEN LILLAS	Criminal	80	6,065
	Family	2	400
BENNETT HOWROYD	Criminal	2	260
	Family	60	6,505
BIRCH ROSS & BARLOW	Family	6	234
BISHOPS	Criminal	63	6,189
	Family	337	40,678
	Civil	4	822
BUTLER MCINTYRE & BUTLER	Criminal	1,860	197,458
	Family	1,021	106,875
	Civil	2	1,000
CAHILLS	Family	2	630
CHRIS BOLAND	Criminal	6	3,440
	Family	33	2,465
	Civil	1	1,290
CLARKE & GEE	Criminal	38	8,450
	Family	142	20,441
CLERK WALKER & STOPS	Criminal	328	34,144
	Family	993	95,801
COURT & ASSOCIATES	Family	46	4,660
CRAWFORD & CRAWFORD	Criminal	13	1,704
	Family	115	21,514
CREESE CRISP & FAY	Family	20	3,717
CRISP HUDSON AND MANN	Criminal	383	32,832
	Family	625	54,374
DIXON GALLASCH	Family	2	630
DOBSON MITCHELL & ALLPORT	Criminal	9	1,034
	Family	89	7,674
DOOLAN & BROTHERS	Family	53	3,981
DOUGLAS & COLLINS	Criminal	66	7,482
EUGENE ALEXANDER & ASSOCIATES	Family	4	172
FARAM RITCHIE DAVIES	Family	2	258
FAULDS & ASSOCIATES	Criminal	7	989
	Family	17	923
FINLAY WATCHORN	Family	14	1,150
FITZGERALD AND BROWNE	Criminal	132	14,764
	Family	485	47,007
	Civil	21	728
FRIEND & JONES	Criminal	73	4,204
	Family	136	2,027
G A RICHARDSON	Criminal	858	77,508

Payments to Private Practitioners

	Family	4	86
G J NEVIN	Family	85	11,263
G R STEPHENSON	Criminal	134	16,327
GLADE-WRIGHT & MAHINDROO	Criminal	15	1,347
	Family	23	2,090
GLENN S HAY SOLICITOR	Family	218	20,910
GRANT TUCKER	Criminal	296	38,048
	Family	68	11,303
GUNSON WILLIAMS	Criminal	4	432
HAND OGILVIE & BREHENY	Criminal	30	3,874
	Family	268	33,213
HENRY WHERRETT & BENJAMIN	Criminal	426	51,523
IAN GUEST & ASSOCIATES	Criminal	16	3,564
	Family	64	8,531
IERINO & ASSOCIATES	Criminal	302	32,814
	Family	108	10,465
J R & A HOBAN	Family	2	475
JAMES CROTTY	Criminal	123	11,944
	Family	259	21,802
JAMES KITTO	Criminal	32	3,814
JENNIFER FEENEY & CO LAWYERS	Family	1	475
JOHN GREEN	Criminal	23	2,456
	Family	20	1,779
KIM PATERSON & ASSOCIATE	Family	595	66,026
LEVIS STACE & COOPER	Criminal	80	7,927
	Family	320	31,441
MCGRATH & COMPANY	Criminal	205	22,231
	Family	128	12,219
MCLEAN PHILLIPS & BARTLETT	Criminal	118	12,210
	Family	280	31,716
MCVEITY & ASSOCIATES	Criminal	32	3,348
	Family	870	80,734
MICHAEL BOWMAN	Criminal	4	1,124
	Family	20	3,439
MICHAEL BRETT SOLICITOR	Criminal	22	4,682
	Family	77	13,884
MILTON & MEYER	Criminal	784	78,420
MURDOCH CLARKE	Criminal	54	5,407
	Family	439	53,076
	Civil	9	20,000
MURRAY & ASSOCIATES	Criminal	49	4,150
	Family	256	33,208
O'ROURKE & KELLY	Family	1	172
OGILVIE JENNINGS	Criminal	142	18,635
	Family	1,050	121,621
	Civil	16	1,376
P L CORBY & COMPANY	Criminal	188	21,378
	Family	350	55,189
PAGE SEAGER	Family	4	660
PHILIP WELCH	Family	76	10,582
PHILLIPS TAGLIERI	Criminal	13	258
PIGGOTT WOOD & BAKER	Criminal	308	31,373
	Family	323	41,841
R M WEBSTER	Civil	127	36,578
RAE & PARTNERS	Criminal	21	2,102
	Civil	7	1,083

Payments to Private Practitioners

RITCHIE PARKER ALFRED GREEN & CO	Family	35	4,224
ROBERT MENZIE	Criminal	4	520
	Family	26	2,942
SHIELDS HERITAGE	Criminal	6	1,526
SIMMONS WOLFHAGEN	Family	10	702
SIMON BROWN	Criminal	59	8,258
SMITH & GLOVER	Criminal	2	260
	Family	25	3,552
STEVEN CHOPPING	Criminal	323	51,234
	Family	36	4,679
T L MCDERMOTT	Criminal	16	1,559
TEMPLE-SMITH BARCLAY	Criminal	609	48,385
	Family	680	97,111
TREZISE LAWYERS	Criminal	8	2,072
	Family	202	37,936
WALLACE WILKINSON & WEBSTER	Criminal	1,037	140,967
	Family	318	35,193
	Civil	12	1,876
WALSH DAY WILLIAMS PTY	Criminal	117	4,617
	Family	122	11,953
WARDS	Family	2	630
WHYTE JUST & MOORE	Family	2	475
ZEEMAN KABLE & PAGE	Criminal	26	4,236
	Family	17	3,795
TOTAL		23,382	2,675,646



[Annual Report 2003](#) ➡ Transmission Letter

TRANSMISSION LETTER

**The Honourable Judy Jackson,
Attorney-General for the State of Tasmania**

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2002- 2003

In accordance with Section 48 of the Legal Aid Commission Act 1990, we hereby submit the Annual Report of the Legal Aid Commission of Tasmania for the period 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003.

**AUDREY MILLS
CHAIR**

**NORMAN S REABURN
DIRECTOR**



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