



THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION
of
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ANNUAL REPORT 2026

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STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

Statement of Compliance with the *Financial Management Act 2006 (WA)*

For the year ended 30 June 2026

Hon Dr Tony Buti MLA
Attorney General

In accordance with section 63 of the *Financial Management Act 2006 (WA)*, we hereby submit for your information and presentation to State Parliament the Annual Report of the Law Reform Commission of Western Australia for the year ended 30 June 2026.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006 (WA)*. The content and layout are consistent with the requirements of Treasurer's Instruction 902.

Yours sincerely



The Hon Janine Pritchard

Chair of the Law Reform Commission
of Western Australia

5 October 2026



Ms Breony Allen

Member of the Law Reform Commission
of Western Australia

5 October 2026



Professor Meredith Blake

Member of the Law Reform Commission
of Western Australia

5 October 2026

ABOUT THIS REPORT

This report provides an overview of the activities of the Law Reform Commission of Western Australia (the Commission) during 2025-26.

The overview gives a summary of the Commission's activities, operational structure and performance management framework. The Agency Performance – Report on Operations section details the Commission's operations, including key performance indicators. The last section, Disclosures and Legal Compliance, covers all financial statements, governance requirements and a breakdown of key performance indicators.

Appendix 1 outlines the Commission's current reference.

For further information on the operations of the Commission, to seek copies of this Annual Report, or to view any of the Commission's other publications, please visit the Commission's web page at www.lrc.justice.wa.gov.au.

If you need an alternative format apart from those available through the Commission's website, please contact the Commission.

The Commission's Contact Details

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LAW REFORM COMMISSION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA – CHARTER (adopted 2018)

Purpose of this Charter

The purpose of this Charter is to formally acknowledge the Law Reform Commission of Western Australia (the 'Commission') as an independent statutory authority established under the *Law Reform Commission Act 1972* (WA) (the 'Act'). While the Commission takes its terms of reference and priorities from the Attorney General, it is independent of Government. This Charter sets out the role, responsibilities, values and operational structure of the Commission that are to be upheld and adhered to by the Government and the Commission for the primary purpose of maintaining the Commission's independence, integrity and good standing. This Charter is subject to review where appropriate to ensure it continues to reflect the status of the Commission as required by the people of Western Australia and the Government as constituted from time to time.

Role of the Commission

The role of the Commission is to advise the Government on measures to keep the law up-to-date and relevant to the needs of the people of Western Australia. The Commission achieves this by receiving terms of reference and reviewing selected legislation at the request of the Attorney General to identify opportunities for reform.

References may result from proposals submitted by the Commission, suggestions made by the public or matters referred by the Attorney General. The Attorney General determines the order of priority in which the Commission deals with references and then presents the Commission's reports to State Parliament as soon as practicable after the Commission completes its work on each reference.

Independence as expressed in the *Law Reform Commission Act 1972* (WA)

While the Commission only publishes reports and recommendations on matters referred to it by the Attorney General, it is implicit in the Act that the Commission and its members must act independently. The Act relevantly provides that the Commission:

- Must examine critically the law with respect to the matter mentioned in the reference [section 11 (3)(a)]; and
- May hold and conduct such inquiries as it thinks fit, and inform itself on any matter in such manner as it thinks fit, and obtain such information as to the law and the administration of justice of other countries as appears to the Commission likely to facilitate the performance of any of its functions [section 11 (6)].

The Attorney General has an obligation to ensure that the Commission's proposals and reports (including the recommendations) are presented to each House of Parliament as soon as practicable after they have been submitted to him or her [section 11 (7)].

Commitments aimed at maintaining the independence and integrity of the Commission

Government

The Government and its agencies must ensure:

- non-interference in Commission matters, save for genuine input as a stakeholder during the Commission's consideration of any terms of reference;
- the provision of means necessary for the Commission to perform its statutory functions, such as the provision of financial and administrative support; and
- the Commission is provided an opportunity to take part in or be heard on discussions taken in respect to these matters.

Commission and members

The Commission and its members are responsible to the Government and to the people of Western Australia in reviewing and reporting on potential reform to the laws of the State of Western Australia.

In acknowledging this responsibility, the Commission and its members must ensure:

- they provide frank and fearless advice to the Government;
- every effort is made to be inclusive and fair in satisfying their obligations by maintaining an appropriate level of engagement through communication and consultation with the public and relevant stakeholders;
- work is completed in a reasonably timely fashion so as to ensure the delivery of an efficient and effective service;
- where a member is part-time, the member's contribution to the work of the Commission is provided independently of that member's substantive position in private practice, as an academic member or at the State Solicitor's Office;
- members notify the Commission of any actual or potential conflict of interest that may arise, promptly after becoming aware.

LAW REFORM COMMISSION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA – CHARTER (cont.)

Public consultation and engagement

Being an organisation that spends public funds, the Commission and each of its members understand the importance and the right of the public to be involved in the law reform process and consequently value all input from interested stakeholders. The Commission (and, where applicable, its contractors), is to give due consideration to all submissions it receives and is to specifically acknowledge these in reporting its opinions on law reform.

The Commission must consult with the people of Western Australia in an open and transparent way. Such consultation may be through publication of one or more Discussion Papers on the issues arising in the reference along with proposals for reform and by then allowing the people of Western Australia a reasonable opportunity to provide submissions before taking those submissions into account when drafting any final report to the Government.

Where appropriate, the Commission is to actively engage in targeted consultation with stakeholders who have a particular interest or expertise in the subject matter of any reference to ensure that all reasonable views are taken into account in the formulation of recommendations to the Government.

Values

Integrity

The Commission undertakes open, impartial and ethical research on law reform, performing its duties to a high standard of professionalism to reflect the transparency of its operations and maintain its good standing in the eyes of the people of Western Australia and Government.

Accountability

The Commission responsibly and appropriately utilises State resources in discharging its obligations, acting in accordance with governing legislation, including ensuring review by external auditors as provided for in legislation.

Operational structure

The Commission is structured according to the provisions of the Act and engages with consultants for research, writing and editing purposes. The operational structure of the Commission is subject to change as the Act changes.

Membership

Under Section 5 of the Act, the Commission may consist of up to five members: two full-time and three part-time, appointed by the Governor of Western Australia. No member may be appointed for a term that in aggregate exceeds six years. The Commission elects its Chairman from its members. The Chairman may hold office for a term not exceeding one year but shall be eligible for re-election.

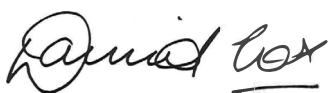
Members' fees

The remuneration for Commissioners is set by the Governor in Executive Council. Section 9 of the Act states that a member *"shall be paid such remuneration and allowances as the Governor may from time to time determine"*.

Contractors

Under Section 14(2) of the Act, the Attorney General may, at the request of the Commission, engage, under contract for services, such professional and research or other assistance as may be necessary to enable the Commission to carry out its functions under this Act. Contractors must be engaged by way of fair and transparent procurement practices.

The Government, through its Department of Justice may also engage contractors on behalf of the Commission under Government procurement practices.



Chair of the Law Reform Commission
of Western Australia



Attorney General
of Western Australia

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

This is the first Annual Report submitted since I was appointed to the Commission and elected as the Chair of the Commission in January 2026. I am honoured to join the two other members of the Commission, Professor Meredith Blake and Ms Breony Allen.

Completion of Project 114

Over the course of this reporting year, the Commission dealt with two references. The first task was to finalise its review of, and recommendations regarding, the *Guardianship and Administration Act 1990* (WA) (Project 114). The second was to commence its review into access to the WA justice system by people with a disability (Project 115).

The Commission delivered its Final Report for Project 114 on 5 December 2025. Delivery of the Commission's Final Report reflected the very considerable efforts of the members of the Commission at that time, namely the Chair the Hon Lindy Jenkins, Ms Jean Shaw SC and Professor Meredith Blake. They dedicated many days to research, reading and listening to stakeholders' submissions, and writing and editing publications on Project 114, including the Final Report.

The Commission was ably assisted by the project director for Project 114, Ms Kathy Blitz-Cokis, together with its principal writer, Ms Kate Dromey, and writers Ms Fiona Lester, Ms Suzie May, Ms Emma Salsano and Ms Manni Ardzewjska.

The Commission was fortunate to have had the input of many interested stakeholders who were willing to bring their experiences, knowledge and skills to the preparation of the Commission's Final Report. The Commission appreciates the efforts made by all involved. Together, the contributions made by individuals and organisations ensured that the Commission's Final Report for Project 114 was comprehensive, accurate, considered and, most importantly, relevant to the needs and expectations of the people of this State. I commend each of the members of the Commission, and the contractors with whom the Commission worked, for producing a report of such high quality, and thank each of them for their outstanding work on such an important law reform project.

Project 115

Following the appointment of new members of the Commission to replace the Hon Lindy Jenkins and Ms Jean Shaw SC, the Commission's work since January 2026 has turned to Project 115. The Terms of Reference for Project 115 are included in Appendix 1 to this Report.

The Commission has been fortunate to secure the assistance of a number of talented individuals who have agreed to work on Project 115. Ms Roslyn Affleck is the project director for Project 115. Ms Kate Dromey is the principal writer, supported by Ms Emma Salsano and Ms Tegan Chick.

Preliminary submissions were sought from targeted stakeholders to inform the Commission in its preparation of a consultation paper, which will be released later in 2026. The Commission anticipates holding public consultations in early 2027. Further details will be available on the Commission's website in due course.

During the reporting year, the Commission has liaised with national and international law reform bodies on current trends and projects in law reform. Professor Blake attended the 50th anniversary of the Australian Law Reform Commission in Melbourne and the associated conference which featured representatives from all Australian jurisdictions as well as significant attendance from law reform bodies from overseas countries.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR (cont.)

Funding and governance

The Commission's financial position is outlined later in this report. Regrettably, its financial position is far from ideal. While the Commission receives recurrent funding to cover the remuneration of its members, the Commission must apply for further funding, when it receives a law reform reference, to cover anticipated expenses on that reference project.

While the Commission has now been granted funding to cover its costs on Project 115, its funding arrangements mean that when further references are made, it will need to apply for funding for the costs of undertaking its work on those references.

The Department of Justice (Department) has, to date, covered any shortfalls in the Commission's budget pending approval for further funding to cover its costs in relation to a reference made to it. The Commission is very grateful for the Department's support. Nevertheless, the position remains that the Commission's ability to discharge its statutory obligations depends on the extent to which the Department is able to provide it with adequate funding to cover any shortfall from year to year. This is an undesirable arrangement, which constitutes a continuing challenge for the Commission in discharging its statutory duties, as an independent statutory agency.

Furthermore the present funding arrangement means that the Commission does not have a permanent workforce comprising a project director, writers and researchers, who are able to work on any and all references given to the Commission. It does not have a physical office space. All of its members work remotely, as do the contractors with whom it works. Upon receiving a reference, the Commission must identify suitably qualified persons to carry out the roles of project director, writers and researchers and request the Attorney General to engage these persons as contractors. That process is cumbersome and time consuming, and hinders the Commission's timely completion of references. It is also inefficient as the Commission cannot be assured of its ability to expeditiously identify and engage staff with expertise in such work in future reference projects.

While the Commission is a small statutory body, it is still required to meet the governance standards set for all statutory bodies by the Public Sector Commissioner and the financial standards in the *Financial Management Act 2006* (WA) and Treasurer's instructions. Its Memorandum of Understanding with the Department ensures that the Commission has the continued benefit of executive and corporate services support from the Department to enable the Commission to meet its governance and financial obligations. In addition, the governance standards require the Commission to have its own policies, instruments and frameworks. I thank the Director General of the Department, Ms Kylie Maj, for her continued support. I also thank the Commission's Executive Manager, Ms Natalie Barton Leeson, for her work in administering the Commission, for her support to the new members of the Commission, and for her administrative support for Project 115.

I would like to thank the members of the Commission, the Hon Lindy Jenkins and Ms Jean Shaw SC, whose terms of appointment concluded in December 2025. The service they provided to the Commission during their terms was exemplary.

Finally, I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Hon Dr Tony Buti MLA for his commitment to law reform and for his support for the Commission. Western Australia's laws cannot be kept up-to-date and improved without the commitment and advocacy of the Attorney General. The Commission looks forward to continuing to work with the Attorney General to perform its important statutory functions.



The Hon Janine Pritchard
Chair

5 October 2026

OVERVIEW OF THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Executive Summary

The Commission's role is to keep the law up-to-date and relevant to the needs of Western Australian society. The Commission achieves this by receiving terms of reference and reviewing laws at the request of the Attorney General to identify opportunities for reform.

References may result from proposals submitted to the Attorney General by the Commission, suggestions made by the public or areas of potential law reform identified by the Attorney General. The Attorney General determines the subject of the reference(s) allocated to the Commission for consideration, and the time frame within which the Commission must report on each reference. The Attorney General presents the Commission's report to State Parliament as soon as practicable after the Commission completes its work on a reference.

The Commission's output is measured by its progress to complete a reference by the due date. The extent to which the Commission delivers its report on a reference within the time frame set by the Attorney General for that reference is therefore considered to be a key performance indicator which measures the extent to which the Commission is performing its functions under the Act.

The community served

It is a critical aspect of law reform to ensure a thorough and balanced examination of the law and to make meaningful and effective recommendations for change where required. To maintain this balanced approach, the people of Western Australia are the Commission's primary focus.

The law reform process includes communication and consultation with the public and relevant stakeholders concerned with the subject of each reference. The Commission's work must be completed in a timely fashion to be relevant and effective.

Stakeholders

The Commission's stakeholders include those governed by particular laws and those charged with enforcing and administering them. For each reference, the Commission seeks to identify all stakeholders concerned with, or who have expertise in, the specific topic and invites submissions to assist in developing its recommendations. The Commission considers and values all submissions from people and organisations who wish to contribute to its work.

Performance Highlights

Current reference - Project 115 – Access to the WA Justice System by people with a disability

On 8 December 2025, the Attorney General referred Project 115 to the Commission. A copy of the Terms of Reference for Project 115 is attached to this report at Appendix 1. Given the breadth of this reference the Commission requested, and was granted, an extension of time until 31 December 2027 in which to deliver its report.

During the reporting year, the focus of the Commission's work on Project 115 was concerned with the engagement of a project director, writers and researchers, planning for the conduct of its work on Project 115, engaging in preliminary consultations with targeted stakeholders and drafting a consultation paper for release in late 2026.

Previous reference - Project 114 - Guardianship and Administration

Project 114 was referred to the Commission in 2024. During the reporting year, the focus of the Commission's work on Project 114 was its analysis of the final submissions received from the community and the completion of its Final Report. The Commission's Final Report for Project 114 was submitted to the Attorney General in December 2025 and tabled in Parliament in February 2026.

Other Commission work

From time to time the Commission receives requests from community and stakeholder groups to speak about its past and current references. Where possible, the Commission responds positively to these requests to promote topics of law reform within the community.

Technological and Administrative Changes

Through an ongoing arrangement, the Commission's administrative duties and executive support are provided by the Department, primarily through the Commission's Executive Manager, who is an employee of the Department. Ms Natalie Barton Leeson was appointed to the role of Executive Manager on 1 September 2025. The Commission's technology needs and its website continued to be supported by the Department throughout the reporting period.

OVERVIEW OF THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (cont.)

The Commission seeks to ensure it delivers high quality, useful, usable and accessible online information to all consumers, including people with disability, who may use assistive technologies. The Commission's website aims to meet the Western Australian Government's web accessibility requirements, including meeting the World Wide Web Consortium's Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1 (WCAG 2.1) at level A.

To facilitate citation of, and reference to, the Commission's considerable body of work, all publications are available in electronic format as a PDF document on the Commission's website. The Commission's Final Reports are not able to be published on the website until they have been tabled in Parliament by the Attorney General.

Effective law reform requires active public participation. To achieve this, the Commission seeks to inform and engage members of the general public in the law reform process through various mediums, including online.

During the reporting period, the Commission's website had 47,301¹ unique page views. The Commission's home page, along with announcements for Projects 114 and 115, were the most accessed pages on the site during this period. The page for the Review of Aboriginal Customary Laws (Project 94) remained the third most accessed page, despite being finalised many years ago. This highlights the value of maintaining access to all of the reports of the Commission. All projects are important to the Commission's mandate to advise government on keeping the laws of Western Australia up-to-date and relevant to the needs of society.

During the reporting period, the Commission had just over 670 interactions with members of the public and various organisations involved in law reform or the promotion of knowledge about particular legal issues. These interactions were via letter, email, telephone calls to and from members of the public or attendance by members at speaking engagements where Commission work was discussed. The majority of public contacts related to both Projects 114 and 115.

Financial Forecasts

For the reporting period, the Department received funding for the Commission from the Government. That funding was paid to the Commission by the Department through an annual grant.

The Department continued to provide executive and corporate support to the Commission free of charge, pursuant to a memorandum of understanding. The cost of the services was accommodated within the Department's budget.

Operational Structure

Enabling legislation

The Commission was established as a statutory authority under the Act on 31 October 1972.

Responsible Minister

The Hon Tony Buti MLA, Attorney General.

The Commission reviews areas of the law referred to it by the Attorney General to identify potential opportunities for law reform. References may result from proposals submitted by the Commission, suggestions made by the public or topics of interest to the Attorney General. Section 11 of the Act sets out the functions of the Commission.

The Attorney General determines the order of priority in which the Commission deals with references and presents the Commission's reports to State Parliament as soon as practicable after the Commission completes its work on each reference.

Mission

The Commission assists in keeping the law up-to-date and relevant to the needs of the Western Australian society by making recommendations for the reform of areas of law referred to it by the Attorney General.

Structure and membership of the Commission

The Commission may consist of up to five members: two full-time and three part-time, appointed by the Governor of Western Australia.

Of the part-time members, the Commission must have one private legal practitioner with no less than eight years' experience; one member must be engaged in teaching law at a university in Western Australia with a status no less than that of Senior Lecturer; and the third is to be a legal officer of the State Solicitor's Office with no less than eight years' experience.

Full-time members are to be legal practitioners of at least eight years' standing, or persons suitable for appointment by reason of their legal qualifications and experience, whether in Western Australia or elsewhere.

¹ This appears to be significantly increased from last financial year's total of 25,000. This is consistent with the high levels of interest in the completion of the Final Report for Project 114 and the commencement of Project 115 shortly thereafter.

OVERVIEW OF THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (cont.)

Chair

Under section 5 of the Act, the Commission elects its Chairperson from its members. The Chair may hold office for a term not exceeding one year but shall be eligible for re-election.

The Hon Lindy Jenkins (BA, LLB (Macquarie)) was the Chair during the six months July 2025 to December 2025, having been appointed to the Commission in September 2021.

Ms Jenkins relocated to Western Australia in 1989 and commenced work with the then Crown Solicitor's Office, now known as the State Solicitor's Office. While holding various legal positions, including Deputy Crown Counsel, she appeared in all Western Australian courts, the Federal and High Courts and advised many Departments and successive Governments. Ms Jenkins previously served with the Commission as a part-time member from the Crown Solicitor's Office from 1999 to 2001.

Ms Jenkins served as a judge in the District Court of Western Australia from 2001-2004 and in the Supreme Court from 2004-2020. Prior to her retirement from the Supreme Court, Ms Jenkins was the then longest still serving judge in Western Australia. From March 2021 to March 2022, Ms Jenkins was appointed by the Governor as a Commissioner to the Perth Casino Royal Commission. The Hon. Lindy Jenkins was reappointed to the Commission in September 2021.

The Hon Janine Pritchard (BA, LLB (Hons) (ANU), Grad Dip Wom Stud (Murd), LLM (Dist) (Lond)) was appointed to the Commission in December 2025 and elected as Chair in January 2026.

Ms Pritchard worked as a professional assistant to the Solicitor General for Western Australia in 1991 and 1992. She was then a counsel and solicitor in the WA Crown Solicitor's Office (now the State Solicitor's Office) until her appointment to the bench in 2009. She practised primarily in administrative and constitutional law. She also lectured and tutored in law at various universities in WA during the same period.

Ms Pritchard was appointed as a Judge of the District Court of WA and as the Deputy President of the WA State Administrative Tribunal in June 2009. She was appointed to the Supreme Court of WA in 2010 and to the Court of Appeal in 2018. In June 2019, Ms Pritchard was also appointed for a five-year term as the President of the State Administrative Tribunal. Ms Pritchard retired from the Court in January 2025.

Members

Ms Jean Shaw SC (BA, LLB (Hons) (UWA)) joined the Commission in December 2023 and held that position until December 2025. Ms Shaw holds a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws with First Class Honours from the University of Western Australia. While a member of the Commission, Ms Shaw was the State Counsel at the State Solicitor's Office (SSO), where she had worked since 2003. In that role, Ms Shaw led the SSO's Counsel Team, provided high level, independent legal advice on complex issues across a range of subject areas of relevance to the State Government and appeared as counsel in complex and politically sensitive litigation on behalf of State Government clients. She appeared as counsel in the High Court, Federal Court, Court of Appeal, Supreme Court, District Court, Magistrates Court, Coroner's Court and State Administrative Tribunal, and in both civil and criminal matters. Ms Shaw was involved in various legislative reform projects while working at the SSO. She was appointed a Senior Counsel in 2024.

Professor Meredith Blake (BA, BJuris, LLB (Hons) (UWA), LLM MA (Medical Law and Ethics) (KCL)) joined the Commission in November 2023. She is a Professor at the University of Western Australia (UWA) and Director of International Partnerships and Exchange in the Law School where she has worked as an academic since 2009. She has served as Deputy Head of School, Associate Dean, and was a member of the UWA Human Research Ethics Committee from 2009 to 2018. Professor Blake co-ordinates Criminal Law, Advanced Criminal Law and Procedure and Health Law and Policy. Her research interests include Health Law, Medical Ethics, Criminal Law, Elder Law, Human Rights Law, Torts Law and Legal Education. In 2018 she was the recipient of UWA's Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning award and in 2021 she was awarded Senior Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy. In 2025 she was awarded Fellowship of the Australian Academy of Law.

Professor Blake has published a range of books and scholarly articles across a variety of Australian and international journals.

OVERVIEW OF THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (cont.)

Ms Breony Allen (BA (Hons), LLB (Hons) (UWA), BCL (Oxford))

joined the Commission in December 2025. Ms Allen is a Senior Assistant State Solicitor at the State Solicitor's Office, where she has worked since 2006. Ms Allen provides high level, independent legal advice on legislative reform projects and on a wide range of complex legal and policy issues of significance to the State. Over the past two decades, she has represented the State's interests in royal commissions, commercial negotiations and drafting, and has appeared in, and co-ordinated, complex and politically sensitive litigation across various State courts.

Ms Allen has taught Constitutional Law and Public International Law at the University of WA and has held research roles at the University of Oxford, the London School of Economics and King's College London. She served as a member of the WA Red Cross Board International Humanitarian Law Committee for almost nine years and was named WA Young Lawyer of the Year in 2011 for her contributions to the WA legal profession.

Former members of the Commission are listed on the Commission's website:

<https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/law-reform-commission-of-western-australia/about-the-commission>

OVERVIEW OF THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (cont.)

Members' Remuneration

The remuneration for members of the Commission is set by the Western Australian Governor in Executive Council. Section 9 of the Act states that a member, 'shall be paid such remuneration and allowances as the Governor may from time to time determine'. The remuneration rates were reviewed in 2023.

The State Solicitor's Office representative receives no additional remuneration beyond their ordinary salary.

The following table outlines the remuneration for Commission members during the reporting period:

Law Reform Commission of Western Australia				
Name	Position	Type of remuneration	Period of membership*	Gross/actual remuneration**
Hon Janine Pritchard	Chair (<i>full time</i>)	Honorarium	5 months ^{##}	\$54,589
Ms Breony Allen	Member (<i>part time</i>)	None [#]	6 months	Not applicable
Professor Meredith Blake	Member (<i>part time</i>)	Honorarium	1 year	\$55,013
Ms Jean Shaw	Retired Member (<i>part time</i>)	None [#]	6 months	Not applicable
Hon Carolyn (Lindy) Jenkins	Retired Member (<i>full time</i>)	Honorarium	6 months	\$55,012
			Total	\$164,614

* Refers to board members' membership during the reporting period not their entire tenure on the Commission.

** Rounded to the nearest dollar amount.

As Ms Shaw and Ms Allen were, or are, employed at the State Solicitor's Office (SSO), under the Public Sector Management Act 1994 (WA) they may not be remunerated separately for their membership of the Commission.

There was a 1 month delay in appointing the Hon Janine Pritchard.

AGENCY PERFORMANCE

Report on Operations

Project 114 - Review of Guardianship and Administration laws

During the reporting period, the Commission completed its work on this reference and provided its final report to the Hon Attorney General in December 2025.

In order to undertake its work on Project 114, the Commission engaged principal writer Ms Kate Dromey and writers Ms Fiona Lester, Ms Suzie May, Ms Emma Salsano and Ms Manni Ardzejewska, along with a project director and research assistant.

Project 115 - Review of access to the WA justice system by people with a disability

The Commission received this reference on 8 December 2025.

The Commission commenced its work on Project 115 by engaging a project director, Ms Roslyn Affleck, together with a principal writer, Ms Kate Dromey, and writers Ms Emma Salsano and Ms Tegan Chick, and three research assistants.

The Commission then sought preliminary submissions from targeted stakeholders, to inform its preparation of a consultation paper. The consultation paper will be published in late 2026.

Project 115 is due for completion in December 2027.

Key Performance Indicators

Actual results vs budget targets

Summary of Key Performance Indicators	2025-2026 Target	2025-2026 Actual
Outcome: <i>The law is reviewed as requested by the Attorney General and stakeholders are kept informed.</i>		
Key Effectiveness Indicator: <i>Progress against target milestone timelines – The extent to which the Commission is meeting the Attorney General's law reform requests in a timely manner.</i>	100%	100%
Service: <i>Publications on law reform.</i>		
Key Efficiency Indicator: <i>Average cost per publication⁽¹⁾</i>	\$346,377 ⁽²⁾	\$353,636
<i>Total community contacts</i>	25	678 ⁽³⁾
<i>Average cost per contact⁽⁴⁾</i>	\$1,458	\$55
<i>Number of publications on law reform</i>	2	2

(1) The average cost per publication is calculated as 95% of the total cost of services divided by total publications. This decreased in 2025-26 from the previous year as there were two publications versus one publication in 2024-25.

(2) In accordance with the Treasurer's Direction under section 40(1) of the Financial Management Act (2006), issued 29 May 2026, the Commission was exempt from producing Section 40 Estimates. This figure includes estimated budgets for Project 114 and Project 115.

(3) During reporting periods when the Commission is engaging in consultations with the public in relation to a reference, the number of public contacts may exceed the target. The Commission's preliminary consultation with targeted stakeholders, as well as speaking engagements regarding the completed Project 114, during the reporting period, accounts for the number of public contacts in the 2025-26 financial year.

(4) The average cost per contact is calculated as 5% of the total cost of services divided by total community contacts. This increased in 2025-26 as compared with the 2024-25 year due to a lower number of community contacts given stakeholder engagement regarding Project 114 tapered off and only preliminary engagement was completed for Project 115.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES IMPACTING THE AGENCY

Current and Emerging Issues and Trends

The most fundamental issue for the Commission is to assist in keeping Western Australian law up-to-date and relevant to the needs of society. This entails making law reform efforts as meaningful and effective as possible. It does this by reviewing areas of the law referred to it by the Attorney General. The Commission continues to benefit from enhanced technology that has been implemented by the Department to enable staff to work remotely, particularly the use of a unified communications platform.

The Commission continues to explore and develop new and efficient means of engaging in public consultations as they are fundamental to its reviews.

Economic and Social Trends

Since 2014, the Department has been providing administrative support to the Commission, free of charge, pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding. It provides this administrative support through the employment of the Commission's Executive Manager, and by providing assistance, when required, through its IT, payroll and human resources staff. The Department provides a high level of service in its corporate and administrative support to the Commission.

Ongoing funding was incorporated into the Department's Cost and Demand Model (CDM) as part of the 2021-22 Budget process. The CDM assumed the Department would internally fund the Commission for the 2025-26 year and provided an annual average funding amount based on the Commission's previous expenditure. This figure was not fixed and was to be updated on a yearly basis to reflect an agreed appropriate level of cash expenditure for future years. The Department undertook to cover any shortfall resulting from this arrangement. This ensured the Commission was able to discharge its statutory functions during the reporting period.

The Commission receives annual funding to cover the remuneration of its members. When a law reform reference is referred to it, the Commission must apply for funding to cover anticipated expenses on that project. The Commission has no ongoing base funding beyond the term of its existing project.

In the reporting period, the Commission was advised that while it would receive funding to cover its costs on Project 115, its request for ongoing funding for any future references was declined. This will mean that when further references are made, it will need to seek funding for the costs of undertaking its work on those references.

The result of this approach to funding is that there will likely be a delay in the Commission receiving funding for its work on new references which are given to it by the Attorney General. Fortunately, the Department of Justice has, to date, agreed to cover these costs until such time as funding may be approved by the Treasury. The Commission is very grateful for the Department's support.

Nevertheless, the position remains that the Commission's ability to discharge its statutory obligations depends on whether the Department is willing and able to provide it with adequate funding to cover any shortfall from year to year. This is an unsatisfactory arrangement, which constitutes a continuing challenge for the Commission in discharging its statutory duties, as an independent statutory agency.

Changes in Written Law

There were no changes in any written law affecting the Commission during the financial year.

Likely Development and Forecast Results of Operations

The structure of the Commission has allowed it to conduct research on more than one reference at a time. It expects to continue to do so, subject to satisfactory resourcing in relation to the issues identified above.

Project 115 will continue into the 2026-27 financial year.

AUDITOR GENERAL'S INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT



Auditor General

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

2026

Law Reform Commission of Western Australia

To the Parliament of Western Australia

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

I have audited the financial statements of the Law Reform Commission of Western Australia (Commission) which comprise:

- the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2026, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended
- notes comprising a summary of material accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In my opinion, the financial statements are:

- based on proper accounts and present fairly, in all material respects, the operating results and cash flows of the Commission for the year ended 30 June 2026 and the financial position as at the end of that period
- in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (applicable to Tier 2 Entities), the *Financial Management Act 2006* and the Treasurer's Instructions.

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of my report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Responsibilities of the Commission for the financial statements

The Commission is responsible for:

- keeping proper accounts
- preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (applicable to Tier 2 Entities), the *Financial Management Act 2006* and the Treasurer's Instructions
- such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

AUDITOR GENERAL'S INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

In preparing the financial statements, the Commission is responsible for:

- assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern
- disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern
- using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Western Australian Government has made policy or funding decisions affecting the continued existence of the Commission.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements. The objectives of my audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control.

A further description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website. This description forms part of my auditor's report and can be found at https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf.

Report on the audit of controls

Opinion

I have undertaken a reasonable assurance engagement on the design and implementation of controls exercised by the Commission. The controls exercised by the Commission are those policies and procedures established to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property, and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with the State's financial reporting framework (the overall control objectives).

In my opinion, in all material respects, the controls exercised by the Commission are sufficiently adequate to provide reasonable assurance that the controls within the system were suitably designed to achieve the overall control objectives identified as at 30 June 2026, and the controls were implemented as designed as at 30 June 2026.

The Commission's responsibilities

The Commission is responsible for designing, implementing and maintaining controls to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property and the incurring of liabilities are in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 2006*, the Treasurer's Instructions and other relevant written law.

AUDITOR GENERAL'S INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (cont.)

Auditor General's responsibilities

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility as an assurance practitioner is to express an opinion on the suitability of the design of the controls to achieve the overall control objectives and the implementation of the controls as designed. I conducted my engagement in accordance with Standard on Assurance Engagements *ASAE 3150 Assurance Engagements on Controls* issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. That standard requires that I comply with relevant ethical requirements and plan and perform my procedures to obtain reasonable assurance about whether, in all material respects, the controls are suitably designed to achieve the overall control objectives and were implemented as designed.

An assurance engagement involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the suitability of the controls design to achieve the overall control objectives and the implementation of those controls. The procedures selected depend on my judgement, including an assessment of the risks that controls are not suitably designed or implemented as designed. My procedures included testing the implementation of those controls that I consider necessary to achieve the overall control objectives.

I believe that the evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Limitations of controls

Because of the inherent limitations of any internal control structure, it is possible that, even if the controls are suitably designed and implemented as designed, once in operation, the overall control objectives may not be achieved so that fraud, error or non-compliance with laws and regulations may occur and not be detected. Any projection of the outcome of the evaluation of the suitability of the design of controls to future periods is subject to the risk that the controls may become unsuitable because of changes in conditions.

Report on the audit of the key performance indicators

Opinion

I have undertaken a reasonable assurance engagement on the key performance indicators of the Commission for the year ended 30 June 2026 reported in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 2006* and the Treasurer's Instructions (legislative requirements). The key performance indicators are the Under Treasurer-approved key effectiveness indicators and key efficiency indicators that provide performance information about achieving outcomes and delivering services.

In my opinion, in all material respects, the key performance indicators report of the Commission for the year ended 30 June 2026 is in accordance with the legislative requirements, and the key performance indicators are relevant and appropriate to assist users to assess the Commission's performance and fairly represent indicated performance for the year ended 30 June 2026.

The Commission's responsibilities for the key performance indicators

The Commission is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the key performance indicators in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 2006* and the Treasurer's Instructions and for such internal controls as the Commission determines necessary to enable the preparation of key performance indicators that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

AUDITOR GENERAL'S INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (cont.)

In preparing the key performance indicators, the Commission is responsible for identifying key performance indicators that are relevant and appropriate, having regard to their purpose in accordance with Treasurer's Instruction 3 Financial Sustainability – Requirement 5 Key Performance Indicators.

Auditor General's responsibilities

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility as an assurance practitioner is to express an opinion on the key performance indicators. The objectives of my engagement are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the key performance indicators are relevant and appropriate to assist users to assess the Commission's performance and whether the key performance indicators are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. I conducted my engagement in accordance with Standard on Assurance Engagements *ISAE 3000 Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information* issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. That standard requires that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to assurance engagements.

An assurance engagement involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the key performance indicators. It also involves evaluating the relevance and appropriateness of the key performance indicators against the criteria and guidance in Treasurer's Instruction 3 - Requirement 5 for measuring the extent of outcome achievement and the efficiency of service delivery. The procedures selected depend on my judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the key performance indicators. In making these risk assessments, I obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the engagement in order to design procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances.

I believe that the evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

My independence and quality management relating to the report on financial statements, controls and key performance indicators

I have complied with the independence requirements of the *Auditor General Act 2006* and the relevant ethical requirements relating to assurance engagements. In accordance with ASQM 1 *Quality Management for Firms that Perform Audits or Reviews of Financial Reports and Other Financial Information, or Other Assurance or Related Services Engagements*, the Office of the Auditor General maintains a comprehensive system of quality management including documented policies and procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

Other information

The Commission is responsible for the other information. The other information is the information in the entity's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2026, but not the financial statements, key performance indicators and my auditor's report.

My opinions on the financial statements, controls and key performance indicators do not cover the other information and accordingly I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

AUDITOR GENERAL'S INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (cont.)

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, controls and key performance indicators my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements and key performance indicators or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact. I did not receive the other information prior to the date of this auditor's report. When I do receive it, I will read it and if I conclude that there is a material misstatement in this information, I am required to communicate the matter to those charged with governance and request them to correct the misstated information. If the misstated information is not corrected, I may need to retract this auditor's report and re-issue an amended report.

Matters relating to the electronic publication of the audited financial statements and key performance indicators

This auditor's report relates to the financial statements and key performance indicators of the Commission for the year ended 30 June 2026 included in the annual report on the Commission's website. The Commission's management is responsible for the integrity of the Commission's website. This audit does not provide assurance on the integrity of the Commission's website. The auditor's report refers only to the financial statements, controls and key performance indicators described above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the annual report. If users of the financial statements and key performance indicators are concerned with the inherent risks arising from publication on a website, they are advised to contact the Commission to confirm the information contained in the website version.



Vignesh Raj
Director Financial Audit
Delegate of the Auditor General for Western Australia
Perth, Western Australia
25 September 2026

DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE

CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 30 June 2026

The accompanying financial statements of the Law Reform Commission of Western Australia have been prepared in compliance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006* from proper accounts and records to present fairly the financial transactions for the financial year ended 30 June 2026 and the financial position as at 30 June 2026.

At the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances which would render the particulars included within the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.



Mr Rodolfo Montilva
Chief Finance Officer

24 September 2026



The Hon Janine Pritchard
Chair of the Law Reform Commission of
Western Australia
24 September 2026



Professor Meredith Blake
Member of the Law Reform Commission of
Western Australia
24 September 2026



Ms Breony Allen
Member of the Law Reform Commission of
Western Australia
24 September 2026

DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Law Reform Commission of Western Australia (the Commission) has pleasure in presenting its audited general purpose financial statements for the reporting period ended 30 June 2026 which provides users with the information about the Commission's stewardship of resources entrusted to it. The financial information is presented in the following structure:

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DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE (cont.)

PRIMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statement of comprehensive income

For the year ended 30 June 2026

	Notes	2026 \$	2025 \$
COST OF SERVICES			
Expenses			
Commission members expenses	2.1	185,444	178,208
Other payroll expenses	2.2	12,560	16,532
Supplies and services	2.3	546,493	532,902
Total cost of services		744,497	727,642
Net cost of services		744,497	727,642
Income from State Government			
Income from other public sector entities	3.1	434,000	279,000
Resources received	3.1	257,474	251,106
Total income from State Government		691,474	530,106
Deficit for the period		(53,023)	(197,536)
Total comprehensive income for the period		(53,023)	(197,536)

The Statement of comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE (cont.)

PRIMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (cont.)

Statement of financial position

As at 30 June 2026

	Notes	2026 \$	2025 \$
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5.1	607,161	648,867
Receivables	4.1	6,976	3,658
Total Current Assets		614,137	652,525
Non-Current Assets			
Receivables	4.1	6,689	5,568
Total Non-Current Assets		6,689	5,568
Total Assets		620,826	658,093
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Payables	4.2	72,876	57,120
Total Current Liabilities		72,876	57,120
Total Liabilities		72,876	57,120
Net Assets		547,950	600,973
Equity			
Contributed equity		17,000	17,000
Accumulated surplus		530,950	583,973
Total Equity		547,950	600,973

The Statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE (cont.)

PRIMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (cont.)

Statement of changes in equity

For the year ended 30 June 2026

	Contributed equity \$	Accumulated surplus/ (deficit) \$	Total equity \$
Balance at 1 July 2024	17,000	781,509	798,509
Deficit	-	(197,536)	(197,536)
Total comprehensive income for the period	-	(197,536)	(197,536)
Balance at 30 June 2025	17,000	583,973	600,973
Balance at 1 July 2025	17,000	583,973	600,973
Deficit	-	(53,023)	(53,023)
Total comprehensive income for the period	-	(53,023)	(53,023)
Balance at 30 June 2026	17,000	530,950	547,950

The Statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE (cont.)

PRIMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (cont.)

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 30 June 2026

	Notes	2026 \$	2025 \$
Cash flows from State Government			
Funds from other public sector entities		434,000	279,000
Net cash provided by the State Government		434,000	279,000
<i>Utilised as follows:</i>			
Cash flows from operating activities			
Payments			
Payments to Commission members		(190,361)	(193,801)
Payments to suppliers		(280,824)	(235,583)
GST payments to taxation authority		(13,729)	(9,662)
Receipts			
GST receipts from taxation authority		10,329	7,396
Net cash (used in) operating activities		(40,585)	(152,650)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Payments			
Payment to accrued salaries account		(1,121)	(5,568)
Net cash (used in) financing activities		(1,121)	(5,568)
Net (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(41,706)	(158,218)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		648,867	807,085
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	5.1	607,161	648,867

The Statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE (cont.)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Basis of preparation

The Law Reform Commission of Western Australia (the Commission) is a government not-for-profit entity controlled by the State of Western Australia, which is the ultimate parent.

A description of the nature of its operations and its principal activities has been included in the 'Overview' which does not form part of these financial statements.

These annual financial statements were authorised for issue by the accountable authority of the Commission on 24 September 2026.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements which have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures, the Conceptual Framework and other authoritative pronouncements issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) as modified by Treasurer's instructions. Some of these pronouncements are modified to vary their application and disclosure.

The Financial Management Act 2006 and Treasurer's instructions, which are legislative provisions governing the preparation of financial statements for agencies, take precedence over AASB pronouncements. Where an AASB pronouncement is modified and has had a significant financial effect on the reported results, details of that modification and the resulting financial effect are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

Basis of preparation

These financial statements are presented in Australian dollars applying the accrual basis of accounting and using the historical cost convention. Certain balances will apply a different measurement basis (such as the fair value basis). Where this is the case the different measurement basis is disclosed in the associated note. All values are rounded to the nearest dollar.

Accounting for Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except that the:

- (a) amount of GST incurred by the Commission as a purchaser that is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) is recognised as part of an asset's cost of acquisition or as part of an item of expense; and
- (b) receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included.

Cashflows are included in the Statement of cash flows on a gross basis. However, the GST components of cashflows arising from investing and financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are classified as operating cashflows.

Contributed equity

Interpretation 1038 *Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly-Owned Public Sector Entities* requires transfers in the nature of equity contributions, other than as a result of a restructure of administrative arrangements, as designated as contributions by owners (at the time of, or prior to, transfer) be recognised as equity contributions. Capital appropriations have been designated as contributions by owners by TI 8 – Requirement 8.1(i) and have been credited directly to Contributed Equity.

Comparative information

Except when an Australian Accounting Standard permits or requires otherwise, comparative information is presented in respect of the previous period for all amounts reported in the financial statements.

Judgements and estimates

Judgements, estimates and assumptions are required to be made about financial information being presented. The significant judgements and estimates made in the preparation of these financial statements are disclosed in the notes where amounts affected by those judgements and/or estimates are disclosed. Estimates and associated assumptions are based on professional judgements derived from historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE (cont.)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (cont.)

2. Use of our funding

Expenses incurred in the delivery of services

This section provides additional information about how the Commission's funding is applied and the accounting policies that are relevant for an understanding of the items recognised in the financial statements. The primary expenses incurred by the Commission in achieving its objectives and the relevant notes are:

	Notes
Commission members expense	2.1
Other payroll expenses	2.2
Supplies and services	2.3

2.1 Commission members expense

	2026 \$	2025 \$
Commission members fees	165,555	159,813
Superannuation – defined contribution plans	19,889	18,395
Total commission members expense	185,444	178,208

Commission members fees relates to salaries and wages for Commission members.

Superannuation is the amount recognised in profit or loss of the Statement of comprehensive income comprising employer contributions paid to the Gold State Super (concurrent contributions), West State Super, GESB Super or other superannuation funds.

2.2 Other payroll expenses

	2026 \$	2025 \$
Other payroll expenses	11,215	14,827
Superannuation – defined contribution plans	1,345	1,705
Total other payroll expenses	12,560	16,532

Other payroll expenses relates to salaries for graduate staff hired by the Commission.

Superannuation relates to salaries for graduate staff and is the amount recognised in profit or loss of the Statement of comprehensive income comprising employer contributions paid to the Gold State Super (concurrent contributions), West State Super, GESB Super or other superannuation funds.

2.3 Supplies and services

	2026 \$	2025 \$
Administrative expenses	257,474	251,106
Services and contracts	267,645	281,796
Audit Fees	16,786	-
Printing	4,588	-
Total supplies and services expenses	546,493	532,902

Administrative expenses include services received free of charge. These items of expenditure were provided in line with the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Justice. Refer to note 3.1 'Income from state government'.

Services and Contracts includes engagement by the Commission for report writing for Project 114 Guardianship and Administration, and Project 115 'Review access to the WA Justice system by persons with a disability'.

Audit fees and Printing was included in administrative expenses in 2024-25 as resources free of charge provided by the Department of Justice. In the current year these expenses were paid by the Commission and are presented separately within supplies and services.

DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE (cont.)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (cont.)

3. Our funding sources

How we obtain our funding

This section provides additional information about how the Commission obtains its funding and the relevant accounting policy notes that govern the recognition and measurement of this funding. The primary income received by the Commission and the relevant notes are:

	Notes
Income from State Government	3.1

3.1 Income from State Government

	2026 \$	2025 \$
Income received from other public sector entities during the period:		
-Grant from the Department of Justice	434,000	279,000
Total income from other public sector entities	434,000	279,000

Resources received from other public sector entities during the period:

Services received free of charge:		
-Department of Justice	257,474	251,106
Total resources received	257,474	251,106
Total income from State Government	691,474	530,106

Income from other public sector entities is recognised as income when the Commission has satisfied its performance obligations under the funding agreement. If there is no performance obligation, income will be recognised when the Commission receives the funds.

Resources received from other public sector entities is recognised as income equivalent to the fair value of services received that can be reliably determined and which would have been purchased if not donated.

DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE (cont.)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (cont.)

4. Other assets and liabilities

This section sets out those assets and liabilities that arose from the Commission's controlled operations and includes other assets utilised for economic benefits and liabilities incurred during normal operations:

	Notes
Receivables	4.1
Payables	4.2

4.1 Receivables

	2026 \$	2025 \$
Current		
GST receivable	6,976	3,658
Total current	6,976	3,658
Non-current		
Accrued salaries account ^(a)	6,689	5,568
Total non-current	6,689	5,568
Total receivables at end of the period	13,665	9,226

^(a) Funds transferred to the Department of Treasury and Finance for the purpose of meeting the 27th pay in a reporting period that generally occurs every 11 years. This account is classified as noncurrent except for the year before the 27th pay year.

The Commission recognises a loss allowance for expected credit loss (ECLs) on a receivable not held at fair value through profit or loss. The ECLs based on the difference between the contractual cash flows and the cash flows that the entity expects to receive, discounted at the original effective interest rate. However, the Commission has had no historical credit loss experience, so no expected credit loss is recognised by the Commission with respect to these receivables.

Accrued salaries account contains amounts paid annually into the Treasurer's special purpose account. It is restricted for meeting the additional cash outflow for employee salary payments in reporting periods with 27 pay days instead of the normal 26. No interest is received on this account.

4.2 Payables

	2026 \$	2025 \$
Current		
Trade payables	10,187	25,536
Accrued expenses	51,758	26,773
Accrued salaries	10,931	4,811
Total payables at end of the period	72,876	57,120

Payables are recognised at the amounts payable when the Commission becomes obliged to make future payments as a result of a purchase of assets or services. The carrying amount is equivalent to fair value as settlement for the Commission is generally within 15-20 days.

Accrued salaries represent the amount due to Commission members but unpaid at the end of the reporting period. Accrued salaries are settled within a fortnight after the reporting period. The Commission considers the carrying amount of accrued salaries to be equivalent to its fair value.

DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE (cont.)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (cont.)

5. Financing

This section sets out the material balances and disclosures associated with the financing and cashflows of the Commission.

	Notes
Cash and cash equivalents	5.1

5.1 Cash and cash equivalents

	2026 \$	2025 \$
Cash and cash equivalents	607,161	648,867
Balance at end of period	607,161	648,867

For the purpose of the Statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalent assets comprise cash on hand and short-term deposits with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and which are subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

6. Financial instruments and contingencies

This note sets out the key risk management policies and measurement techniques of the Commission.

	Notes
Financial instruments	6.1
Contingent assets and liabilities	6.2

6.1 Financial instruments

The carrying amounts of each of the following categories of financial assets and financial liabilities at the end of the reporting period are:

	2026 \$	2025 \$
Financial assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	607,161	648,867
Financial assets at amortised cost ^(a)	6,689	5,568
Total financial assets	613,850	654,435
Financial liabilities		
Financial liabilities at amortised cost ^(b)	71,576	55,820
Total financial liability	71,576	55,738

^(a) The amount of financial assets at amortised cost excludes GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable).

^(b) The amount of financial liabilities at amortised cost excludes some invoices that have GST payable to the ATO (statutory payable). It also excludes other payables that do not meet the definition of financial liabilities.

6.2 Contingent assets and liabilities

The Commission has no contingent assets or liabilities to disclose at the end of the reporting period (2025: nil).

DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE (cont.)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (cont.)

7. Other disclosures

This section includes additional material disclosures required by accounting standards or other pronouncements, for the understanding of this financial report.

	Notes
Events occurring after the end of the reporting period	7.1
Key management personnel	7.2
Related parties	7.3
Related bodies	7.4
Affiliated bodies	7.5
Remuneration of auditors	7.6
Supplementary financial information	7.7

7.1 Events occurring after the end of the reporting period

The Commission had no events occurring after the end of the reporting period that impacted on the financial statements.

7.2 Key management personnel

The Commission has determined key management personnel to include cabinet ministers and senior officers of the Commission. The Commission does not incur expenditures to compensate Ministers and those disclosures may be found in the *Annual Report on State Finances*.

The total fees, salaries, superannuation, non-monetary benefits and other benefits for senior officers of the Commission for the reporting period are presented within the following bands:

Compensation band (\$)	2026	2025
110,001 – 120,000	-	1
60,001 – 70,000	3	-
50,001 – 60,000	-	1
	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Total compensation of senior officers	190,254	178,208

7.3 Related parties

The Commission is a wholly owned public sector entity that is controlled by the State of Western Australia.

Related parties of the Commission include:

- all cabinet ministers and their close family members, and their controlled or jointly controlled entities;
- all senior officers and their close family members, and their controlled or jointly controlled entities;
- other agencies and statutory authorities, including related bodies, that are included in the whole of government consolidated financial statements (i.e. wholly-owned public sector entities);
- associates and joint ventures of a wholly-owned public sector entity; and
- Government Employees Superannuation Board (GESB).

Material transactions with related parties

Outside of normal citizen type transactions with the Commission, there were no other related party transactions that involved key management personnel and/or their close family members and/or their controlled (or jointly controlled) entities.

DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE (cont.)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (cont.)

7.4 Related bodies

The Commission had no related bodies during the financial year (2025: nil).

7.5 Affiliated bodies

The Commission has no affiliated bodies during the financial year (2025: nil).

7.6 Remuneration of auditors

Remuneration paid or payable to the Auditor General in respect of the audit for the current reporting period is as follows:

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Auditing the accounts, financial statements, controls, and key performance indicators	17,400	16,786

7.7 Supplementary financial information

(a) Write-offs

There were no write offs of public or other public property during the financial year (2025: nil).

(b) Losses through theft, defaults and other causes

There was no loss of public property during the financial year (2025: nil).

(c) Forgiveness of debts

There were no debts waived during the financial year (2025: nil).

(d) Gift of public property

There were no gifts of public property during the financial year (2025: nil).

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DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE (cont.)

AUDITED KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

AUDITED KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

Certification of Key Performance Indicators

We hereby certify that the performance indicators are based on proper records, are relevant and appropriate for assisting users to assess the Law Reform Commission of Western Australia's performance, and fairly represent the performance of the Law Reform Commission of Western Australia for the financial year ended 30 June 2026.



The Hon. Janine Pritchard

Member of the Law Reform Commission
of Western Australia

24 September 2026



Professor Meredith Blake

Member of the Law Reform Commission
of Western Australia

24 September 2026



Ms Breony Allen

Member of the Law Reform Commission
of Western Australia

24 September 2026



DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE (cont.)

DETAILED INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

GOVERNMENT GOAL: OUTCOME BASED SERVICE DELIVERY

Greater focus on achieving results in key service delivery areas for the benefit of all Western Australians.

THE COMMISSION'S STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Mission: To assist in keeping the law up-to-date and relevant to the needs of the Western Australian society.

Desired Outcome: The law is reviewed as requested by the Attorney General and stakeholders are kept informed.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

KEY EFFECTIVENESS INDICATOR: Progress against target timelines.

The extent to which the Commission is meeting the Attorney General's law reform requests in a timely manner.

The Law Reform Commission of Western Australia (**Commission**) reviews areas of law referred to it by the Attorney General with a view to reform. The Attorney General specifies a time frame within which the Commission must provide its final report on each reference. The extent to which the Commission delivers its report within the time frame set by the Attorney General for that reference is considered to be a key performance indicator (**KPI**) which measures the extent to which the Commission is contributing to keeping the law up-to-date and relevant to the needs of the Western Australian society.

The percentage of references progressing as planned towards meeting the time frames set by the Attorney General for those references:

	2025-2026 Target ^(a)	2025-2026 Actual	2024-2025	2023-2024
% on target	100%	100%	100%	100%

- (a) In the 2025-26 financial year, the Commission met the time frame set by the Attorney General for delivering its final report on its pre-existing reference (Project 114). The Attorney General also set and subsequently extended the time frame for the Commission's new reference (Project 115).

References	2025-2026	2024-2025	2023-2024
Carried over	1	1	1
New	1	0	1
Total	2	1	2
References completed during the year	1	0	1
References with elapsed time frames	0	0	0

DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE (cont.)

DETAILED INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The Commission worked on two references during the financial year 2025-26. The Commission's progress towards meeting the time frames set by the Attorney General for each reference is shown below.

Project 114: Review of the *Guardianship and Administration Act 1990* (WA)

Table A – Progress towards meeting the time frames set by the Attorney General for Project 114

Milestones	Final Report forwarded to AG
Target Date ^(a)	5 December 2025
Actual Date	5 December 2025

Key:

- (a) With approval from the Attorney General, the final report submission date was extended to 1 August 2025, then to 28 November 2025 and finally to 5 December 2025. The Attorney General granted approval for the final extension on 25 November 2025.

Project 115: Legislative Reforms to Improve Access to Western Australia’s court and tribunal system for persons with disability

Table B – Progress towards meeting the time frames set by the Attorney General for Project 115

Milestones	TOR referred to LRC	Final Report forwarded to AG
Target Date ^(a)	-	31 December 2027
Actual Date	8 December 2025	-

Key:

- (a) On 13 February 2026, the Attorney General approved extending the date for submitting the final report to 31 December 2027.

EFFICIENCY INDICATOR: Publications on Law Reform.

The extent to which the efforts of the Commission resulted in recommendations and public awareness.

Service: Publications on Law Reform

The delivery of the Commission’s Service ‘Publications on Law Reform’ is achieved through work undertaken in the preparation of reports on matters referred to it by the Attorney General. The efficiency of the Commission's performance of this service is measured by the extent to which the Commission was able to engage with stakeholders to obtain their views in relation to the matters referred to the Commission by the Attorney General.

DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE (cont.)

DETAILED INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Total Publications and Community Contacts and their Average Cost

The following table shows the total number of the Commission's publications on references and the average cost per publication in 2025-26 and previous financial years. The table also identifies the total number of contacts the Commission had with members of the community, and the average cost per contact in the same period.

	Target 2025-2026	Actual 2025-2026	Actual 2024-2025	Actual 2023-2024
Service: Total Publications ^(a)	2	2	1	2
Average cost per publication ^(c)	\$346,377 ^(b)	\$353,636	\$691,260	\$220,891
Total community contacts ^(e)	25	678 ^(f)	2,625	985
Average cost per community contact ^(d)	\$1,458 ^(b)	\$55 ^(g)	\$14	\$24

Key:

- (a) Total publications refers to the number of publications on references which were published, progressed or completed by the Commission during the 2025-26 financial year, including references carried over from previous financial years.
- (b) In accordance with the Treasurer's Direction under section 40(1) of the *Financial Management Act (2006)*, issued 29 May 2026, the Commission was exempt from producing Section 40 Estimates. This figure includes estimated budgets for Projects 114 and Project 115.
- (c) The average cost per publication is calculated as 95% of the total cost of services divided by total publications. This decreased in 2025-26 from previous year as there were two publications versus one publication in 2024-25.
- (d) The average cost per contact is calculated as 5% of total cost of services divided by total community contacts. This increased in 2025-26 due to a lower number of community contact given stakeholder engagement regarding Project 114 tapered off and only preliminary engagement completed for Project 115.
- (e) Total community contacts refers to any form of engagement with stakeholders by Commission representatives in relation to Commission publications and matters of law reform, including submissions received, incoming and outgoing mail, emails to the Commission's email address, and phone calls. These figures reflect the number of consultations which took place in the financial year in which a final report is published, rather than the total number of consultations which took place over the course of the entire period of a reference up to the date of publication of the final report. Target was set at a lower figure as there were delays in commencing Project 115.
- (f) During reporting periods when the Commission is engaging in consultations with the public in relation to a reference, the number of public contacts is likely to be significantly higher than the target. The Commission's preliminary consultation with targeted stakeholders, as well as speaking engagements regarding the completed Project 114, during the reporting period, accounts for the number of public contacts in the 2025-26 financial year.
- (g) For 2025-26, the WA Government, through the Department of Justice's Cost and Demand Model, has provided ongoing funding for the Commission. The target for the current year was based on estimated community contacts. As the actual community contacts for Project 115 were significantly higher than the target, the average cost per community contact is lower than the target.

DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE (cont.)

Other Financial Disclosures

Capital works

The Commission has no capital works projects.

Employment and industrial relations

Staff Profile	2025-26	2023-24
Full-time permanent	Nil	Nil
Full-time contract	Nil	Nil
Part-time measured on an FTE basis	Nil	Nil
On secondment	Nil	Nil
Casual contract*	2	Nil

*Two casual Graduate positions were created in 2023-24, and filled in 2025-26 for the purpose of engaging law students to assist with data collection and note taking for Project 115.

Staff development

The learning and development of employees of the Department who provide corporate and executive support to the Commission is encapsulated within the Department's Strategic Learning and Development Framework.

Workers' compensation

No workers' compensation claims were recorded during the financial year.

Governance and legal requirements

Ministerial Directives

There have been no ministerial directives in this reporting period.

Contracts with senior officers

No member of the Commission had any interest in or benefit from any contract that the Commission entered.

Personal use of corporate credit card

No member of the Commission was issued with a corporate credit card.

Other Legal Requirements

Advertising and sponsorship

In accordance with section 175ZE of the *Electoral Act 1907* (WA), the Commission incurred the following expenditure relating to advertising and sponsorship during the 2025-26 financial year.

Category	Amount
Advertising agencies	Nil
Market research	Nil
Polling	Nil
Direct mail	Nil
Media advertising	Nil
Total	Nil

Disability access

The Commission is committed to ensuring that when it undertakes consultations with the public, it does so in ways which are appropriate to meet the needs of community members with physical, intellectual, sensory or cognitive disabilities, their carers and families.

This annual report is designed to be print-accessible to people with disabilities and can be supplied in alternative formats on request.

All public meeting venues are selected with disabled access in mind, including special facilities for the hearing-impaired and the projection of discussion notes on large screens so that people attending the meeting can see what is being recorded. Electronic publishing allows documents to be enlarged at will or projected.

Publications on the Commission's website continue to be in an accessible format and screen reader friendly.

Online meetings are enabled with live written transcript and chat boxes for the hearing impaired.

DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE (cont.)

Compliance with Public Sector Standards and Ethical Codes

The Commission has complied with section 31(1) of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994* (WA) in the administration of the Commission's human resource management practices relating to Public Sector Standards, the Western Australian Public Sector Code of Ethics and the Commission's Charter.

The Commission uses the Department's human resource services, and the Executive Manager ensures that human resource management principles have adequate checks in place to ensure compliance requirements are met.

Various measures are in place to ensure that Commission members and staff assisting the Commission are familiar with the WA Public Sector Commission's Code of Ethics. The Commission has its own Charter which is made available to new members.

The Commission has its own Code of Conduct and an accompanying Integrity Framework. These documents collectively guide all members of the Commission, its contractors and staff of the Department who assist it, in their responsibility to uphold ethical behaviour and promote and maintain a culture of integrity in the workplace.

In 2025-26, no breach claims were lodged in relation to either the Public Sector Standards or the WA Public Sector Commission's Code of Ethics.

Recordkeeping Plan

In accordance with section 29 of the *State Records Act 2000* (WA), the Commission must review its Recordkeeping Plan (RKP) every five years or when there is any significant change to the organisation's functions. Following the advent of a newly formed Commission during 2025-26, the Commission has commenced a broad review of governance. During 2025-26, the Commission continued to rely on the Department's RKP given all administrative support is provided by Department staff, but has commenced consideration of whether it should adopt its own RKP.

The Department's RKP presently provides an accurate reflection of its recordkeeping program and is complied with by all Commission members and staff assisting the Commission. New departmental inductees assisting the Commission are required to complete the Department's Recordkeeping Awareness Training course through the Enterprise Learning Management System.

Privacy and Responsible Sharing of Information Act 2024 (PRIS Act)

The Commission is a public entity for the purposes of the PRIS Act. During the reporting period, the Commission prepared to meet its obligations under the PRIS Act from 1 July 2026.

Freedom of Information

In 2025-26, the Commission received no freedom of information (FOI) applications.

It is the aim of the Commission to make information available promptly and at the least possible cost, and whenever possible documents will be provided outside the FOI process.

All of the Commission's publications, including Discussion Papers, Final Reports and Annual Reports are available to download for free from the Commission's website.

The Commission holds other documents which are not published, such as general correspondence, submissions received from stakeholders, minutes of its meetings, contracts and tender documents.

If information is not routinely available, the *Freedom of Information Act 1992* (WA) provides the right to apply for documents held by the Commission and to enable the public to ensure that personal information in documents is accurate, complete, up-to-date and not misleading.

The following information statement is published pursuant to the requirements of the *Freedom of Information Act 1992* (WA).

Access to personal information

No fee or charge is payable for an application for personal information about the applicant. All applications relating to personal information must be in writing.

Personal information can be:

- factual or routine information, for example, date of birth, length of employment, qualifications; and/or
- opinions or evaluative material such as advice or recommendations of a third party – for example records of interviews, material in personnel records.

Applications to access the personal information of an applicant must be accompanied by proof of identification documentation. All applications lodged on behalf of another person must be accompanied by the written authorisation of the individual on whose behalf the application is lodged.

DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE (cont.)

Amendment of personal information

A person can apply to amend personal information in a document held by the Commission.

Applications to amend the personal information of an applicant must be accompanied by proof of identification documentation.

All applications lodged on behalf of another person must be accompanied by the written authorisation of the individual on whose behalf the application is lodged.

Applicants must provide enough details to enable identification of the document containing the relevant information. The applicant must also give details of the matters in relation to which they believe the information is inaccurate, incomplete, out-of-date or misleading, as well as the reasons for this belief. In addition, applicants must provide details of the amendment sought, and indicate whether they want the amendment to be made by:

- altering information;
- striking out or deleting information;
- inserting information; and/or
- inserting a note in relation to information.

Access to non-personal information

Requests for access to information held by the Commission that do not relate solely to the applicant under the *Freedom of Information Act 1992* (WA) must be made as non-personal applications.

Access and amendment applications must:

- be in writing;
- give enough information so that the documents requested can be identified;
- give an Australian address to which notices can be sent; and
- be lodged with the Commission together with any application fee payable.

Applications and enquiries should be addressed to the Freedom of Information Coordinator and posted or delivered to:

The Law Reform Commission of Western Australia
Level 23, David Malcolm Justice Centre
28 Barrack Street
PERTH WA 6000

Or emailed to: lrcwa@justice.wa.gov.au

Service delivery

Under the *Freedom of Information Act 1992* (WA), the Commission is required to process applications for access to information within 45 days, and applications to amend personal information within 30 days, of receiving the application. Within these time periods, the Commission must consider and make a decision in relation to the application, and provide the applicant with written notice of that decision.

Notice of decision

The applicant will receive in writing notice of the Commission's decision relating to the request. The notice will include the following information:

- date of the decision;
- name and designation of the decision maker;
- reasons for deleting any exempt matter;
- reasons for deferring access;
- arrangements for giving access;
- reasons for refusing access to any matter;
- details of any amendment to information made;
- reasons for not making any amendment to information sought;
- the amount and basis for any charges levied; and
- the rights of review and procedures to be followed.

Review rights

Applicants have the right to lodge a written application for review of the decision. This must be done within 30 days after being given notice of the decision. The review is to be conducted by a person other than the person who made the original decision. The Commission must respond with a written notice of decision within 15 days. No application fees are payable.

If the applicant remains unhappy, they may lodge a written complaint to the Office of the Information Commissioner within 60 days after being given notice of the internal review decision (30 days for third parties). The Commissioner's decision is final unless an appeal is made to the Supreme Court on a question of law.

DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE (cont.)

Charges

The Commission can apply the following charges when processing a non-personal FOI application:

- charge for time taken dealing with the application - \$30.00 per hour
- charge for access time supervised by staff - \$30.00 per hour
- charges for photocopying - \$30.00 per hour for staff time; and 20c per copy
- charges for staff time in transcribing information from a tape or other device - \$30.00 per hour
- charge for duplicating a tape, film or computer information - actual cost
- charge for delivery, packaging and postage - actual cost.

In cases where charges levied are expected to be higher than \$25.00, the applicant will be provided with an estimate of charges as soon as possible after receipt of the application. The Commission reserves the right to request an advance deposit. A reduction in charges may be sought in the case of financial hardship.

Government Policy Requirements

Substantive Equality

Although the Commission is not required to negotiate annually the scope of implementation for the *Policy Framework for Substantive Equality* with the Commissioner for Equal Opportunity, the Commission is aware of the intent and substance of the Policy Framework. Agencies may choose to report on progress achieved in implementing the Policy Framework for Substantive Equality, noting progress on developing and implementing the framework and/or achievement of outcomes in the framework.

The Commission supports the objective of the Policy Framework to achieve substantive equality in the Western Australian public sector by:

- eliminating systemic racial discrimination in the provision of public sector services; and
- promoting sensitivity to the different needs of client groups.

Western Australian Multicultural Policy Framework

The Commission relies on the Department's Multicultural Plan 2021-2025. The plan was developed in consultation with the Office of Multicultural Interests and is aligned with the Western Australian Multicultural Policy Framework. The Multicultural Plan is an integral part of the Department's commitment to diversity and inclusion and assists the Commission in ensuring a culturally safe and inclusive workplace, and a responsive service that meets the needs of our culturally and linguistically diverse consumers.

Occupational safety, health and injury management

The Commission is committed to meeting its obligations and responsibilities under the *Workers' Compensation and Injury Management Act 1981 (WA)*, the *Work Health and Safety Act 2020 (WA)* and the *Work Health and Safety (General) Regulations 2022 (WA)* in such a manner as to ensure the provision and maintenance of a safe and healthy work environment for its members, Departmental staff and the general public.

As the Commission uses staff resources through the Department, training opportunities are available through Department's Corporate Learning and Development Division.

Although an external audit of the Commission's occupational safety and health management systems has not occurred, the Commission continues to provide a safe and secure working environment for its members and Departmental staff.

Commission members and staff assisting the Commission are expected to comply with the Code of Practice – Occupational Safety and Health in the WA Public Sector, and to conduct themselves in a safe manner, not placing themselves and others at risk. During the reporting period, no workers' compensation claims were lodged, nor was any time lost from work as a result of work-related illness or injury.

In the event of a work-related injury, the Commission will provide effective claims management and rehabilitation assistance aimed at supporting the injured member through the illness or injury to ensure a safe return to work, where possible.

The Commission is committed to consulting with its members and staff assisting the Commission in a meaningful and effective manner on occupational safety and health issues, enabling each Commission member and Departmental staff member to contribute to decisions that may affect their health, safety and welfare at work.

DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE (cont.)

Annual performance for 2025-26

Measure	Actual Results		Results against Target	
	2025-26 ⁽¹⁾	2024-25 ⁽¹⁾	Target	Comment on result
Number of fatalities	0	0	0	
Lost time injury and/or disease incidence rate	0	0	0 or 10% reduction in incidence rate	
Lost time injury and/or disease severity rate	0	0	0 or 10% reduction in severity rate ⁽²⁾	
Percentage of injured workers returned to work: (i) within 13 weeks (ii) within 26 weeks	N/A ⁽³⁾ N/A ⁽³⁾	N/A ⁽³⁾ N/A ⁽³⁾	100% Greater than or equal to 80%	
Percentage of managers trained in occupational safety, health and injury management responsibilities	100%	100%	Greater than or equal to 80%	

Note ⁽¹⁾ The performance reporting examines a three-year trend and, as such, the comparison base year is two years prior to the current reporting year.

Note ⁽²⁾ The reduction may be calculated over a three-year period.

Note ⁽³⁾ There were no injured workers during this reporting year.

National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Awareness and Management

Each State and local government department, agency, authority and government enterprise is required to report on its progress in achieving Western Australia's targets.

As the Commission does not have its own premises, the identification and assessment of risks associated with asbestos-containing material, asbestos awareness and training are undertaken by the Department's Procurement, Infrastructure and Contract Services on the Commission's behalf and reported in the Department's Annual Report.

Government Building Contracts

No contracts subject to the Government Building Training Policy have been awarded.

APPENDIX 1: CURRENT REFERENCES

Terms of Reference: Access to the Western Australian justice system by persons with a disability

1. Pursuant to section 11(2)(b) of the *Law Reform Commission Act 1972* (WA), the Law Reform Commission of Western Australia is to review, provide advice and make recommendations for consideration by the Western Australian Government on legislative reforms to improve access to Western Australia's courts and tribunals system for persons with disability in Western Australia.

2. In carrying out its review, the Law Reform Commission should:

- a) utilise a broad definition of disability, encompassing long-term physical, psychiatric, intellectual, sensory, neurological, and/or learning impairments that, in interaction with barriers, hinder full participation in the community;
- b) specifically consider the experiences of persons with disability within the Western Australian court and tribunal system as:
 - accused persons;
 - convicted persons;
 - victims or family of victims of crime;
 - witnesses;
 - jurors;
 - applicants in civil matters;
 - defendants in civil matters; and
 - other persons appearing in civil matters, including before tribunals.
- c) consider the need for reform, and the best approach to implementing that reform in the Western Australian context, following on from or in the context of the:
 - i. Australian Human Rights Commission Report – *Equal Before the Law: Towards Disability Justice Strategies* (2014);
 - ii. Australian Law Reform Commission Report 124 – *Equality, Capacity and Disability in Commonwealth Laws* (2014);
 - iii. Law Council of Australia – *The Justice Project Final Report* (2018);
 - iv. Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability, particularly Final Report: Volume 8 – *Criminal Justice and People with Disability* (2023);
 - v. the Western Australian *State Disability Strategy 2020-2030*;
 - vi. The Western Australian Department of Justice's *Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2024-2029*; and
 - vii. Western Australian Law Reform Commission Report on Project 114 – *Guardianship and Administration* (2024).
- d) consider the need to legislate supports for persons with disability across the statute book, including the provision of communication partners, interpreters, technology, and other necessary supports to enable effective participation in court and tribunal processes;
- e) have regard to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, to which Australia is a party and which sets out:
 - rights for people with disability to recognition before the law, to legal capacity and to access to justice on an equal basis with others; and
 - a general principle of respect for inherent dignity, individual autonomy, including freedom to make one's own choices, and independence of persons.
- f) consider relevant state and federal reforms, policies and frameworks that impact the participation of persons with disability in the Western Australian court and tribunal system;
- g) have regard to the *Criminal Law (Mental Impairment) Act 2023*, which commenced operation on 1 September 2024, but not undertake specific review of this legislation as it will be subject to a statutory review five years post-commencement; and
- h) have regard to any other matter the Commission considers relevant.

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THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION
of
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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