

Annual Report

2017/2018



Thank you for your generous support for Law Access!



Photo above: Law Access Walk for Justice 2018 participants walking along the Swan River.

Photo on cover: Bell Tower photo before the Inaugural Walk: Adam Ebell (Chairperson, Law Access, State Prosecutor, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions for Western Australia), Iva Brnadic (Treasurer, ECU Student Law Society), Cav. Maria Saraceni (Director, Law Access), Amy Bradley (President, Notre Dame Law Students' Society), Joshua Sanchez-Lawson (President, Blackstone Society, The UWA Law Students' Society), Femke Elferink (President, ECU Student Law Society), Julian Sher (Director of Professional Programs, Curtin Law School, Curtin University, Natasha Terbeeke (Academic Services Team Leader, UWA Law School, University of Western Australia), Carrie Hannington (Chairperson, Community Legal Centres' Association of Western Australia), Corina Martin (Chief Executive Officer, Aboriginal Family Law Service), Michael Cole (Executive Director, College of Law), The Hon. Jennifer Smith (Acting President of the Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission), Žemyna Kuliukas (President, Curtin Student Law Society), Dr Jürgen Bröhmer (Dean and Professor of Law, School of Law, Murdoch University), Krishna Prasad (partially obscured) (Associate Dean, School of Business and Law, Edith Cowan University), Carmen Grobbelaar (President, Murdoch Student Law Society), Toby Nisbet (School of Business and Law Edith Cowan University), The Hon. Justice Richard O'Brien (Family Court of Western Australia), The Hon. Wayne Martin AC (Chief Justice of Western Australia), The Hon. Justice Stephen Thackray (Chief Judge of the Family Court of Western Australia), Paula Wilkinson (Director, Law Access, Director, Kim Wilson & Co), Matt Keogh MP (Federal Member for Burt, Western Australia), Michael Berry SC (President, Family Law Practitioner's Association of Western Australia), Marshall McKenna (Partner, Gilbert + Tobin, Law Access Director), Professor Joan Squelch (Dean of Law, University of Notre Dame Fremantle), Karen Shepherd (Vice President, Criminal Lawyers' Association of Western Australia).

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Board Members

Adam Ebell, Chairperson

State Prosecutor, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions for Western Australia

Helen Creed

Executive Director, Community Legal Centres Association of Western Australia
Director until December 2017

Emma Griffiths-Blacklow

Principal, Associatii Commercial Lawyers
Director from December 2017

Eric Heenan

Barrister, Francis Burt Chambers
Director from December 2017

Matthew Keogh

MP, Member for Burt, Western Australia
Director until December 2017

Marshall McKenna

Partner, Gilbert + Tobin

Elizabeth Needham

Barrister, Francis Burt Chambers

Maria Saraceni

Barrister, Francis Burt Chambers

Paula Wilkinson

Director, Kim Wilson & Co



About Law Access

Law Access assists some of the most vulnerable people in WA, who would otherwise be unable to obtain legal assistance. We receive requests for assistance from all over the State, and in all areas of the law, and match those who will most benefit from legal assistance, with lawyers willing to provide pro bono assistance. Law Access allows scarce pro bono resources to be utilised in the most effective way possible, benefiting both applicants and the profession.

Law Access is a company limited by guarantee and a public benevolent institution registered with the Australian Charities and Not For Profits Commission. Law Access Limited was established by the Law Society of Western Australia in December 2014 to implement the recommendations of a Lotterywest funded feasibility study *Doing The Public Good* by Kalico Consulting. Law Access Limited commenced delivering the Law Access Pro Bono Referral Service, formerly delivered by the Law Society of Western Australia from 1 July 2015.





Report from the Chairperson

In June 2018 following receipt of my notice of intention to resign as Chairman and Director of Law Access, the Board appointed The Hon. Malcolm McCusker AC CVO QC as Chairman and Director effective 1 August 2018. It has been a pleasure and honour to serve as a founding Director on the board of an organisation as important as Law Access.

In our first three years of operation Law Access has:

- Responded to 1657 first enquiries
- Received 1500 applications for pro bono assistance
- Made 500 referrals to lawyers to provide free, reduced or deferred fee assistance as appropriate.
- Provided 795 applicants with detailed advice and information about their options in matters that were not appropriate for referral.
- Since 1 July 2015 we have also supervised and trained 78 Law student volunteers and interns.
- This year we have also provided Practical Legal Training for 3 volunteer graduates.

Our third year of operation saw our service and structure evolve and adapt to meet growing demand for pro bono assistance. Law Access engaged our stakeholders to help us develop effective and strategic

approaches to improving co-ordination of pro bono service delivery in WA. For example we have applied donated funds to employ a new part-time Senior Family Lawyer since August 2017.

Our service is constantly responding to emerging opportunities and challenges. We are currently collaborating with the UWA Law School Mediation Clinic which is offering free mediations to Law Access' clients. Where necessary, Law Access is sourcing lawyers to assist vulnerable clients participating in mediations. Family Law and Elder Abuse are two current areas of focus for this aspect of our service.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those that volunteer and work with Law Access. You all do such outstanding work, and I am confident that under the stewardship of the incoming Chairman the organisation will continue to grow from strength to strength.

I would also like to thank all of our generous funders, donors and supporters. Your vital contributions sustain our work towards achieving our vision of *Equal access to justice*.

Adam Ebell
Retiring Chairman

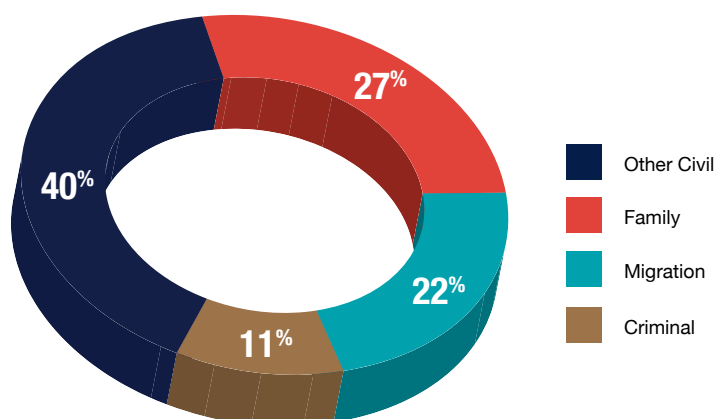
Photo Above: Event Ambassador The Hon. Wayne Martin AC Chief Justice of Western Australia, with the 2018 Law Access Walk for Justice trophy winners.

Left to Right: Top Individual Fundraiser The Hon. Jennifer Smith (Formerly Acting President of the Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission, now a Justice of the Supreme Court of Western Australia), Top Student Law Society Team Curtin Student Law Society, Top University Law Student Fundraiser Sophie McKay (Curtin Law Student Society), Top Fundraising Team King & Wood Mallesons, Top University Team Murdoch School of Law/SCALES.

Law Access Statistics

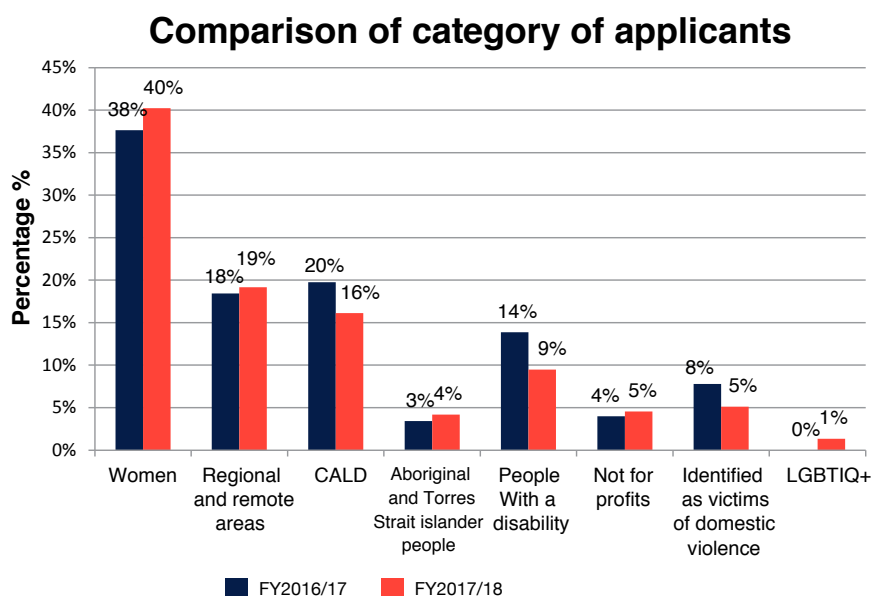
Applications by matter type for FY 2017/18

The figure below shows that Family Law and Migration Law were the matter types with the highest numbers of applications. Criminal law applications as a proportion of total applications have increased by a third. In 2016/17 8% of total applications received were criminal law matters. This increase is lower than expected given the cuts to legal assistance in Magistrates Court matters.



Comparison applicant profile (percentage of total applications)

The number of applications received from women, applicants in regional and remote communities, Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders and Not-for-Profits increased compared to the previous year.



997

enquiries

responded to by email or telephone



527

applications

means tested and merit assessed



272*

applicants

were advised why their matter had no merit



193**

matters placed

applicants matched with lawyers



\$1.5 million***

Estimated value of pro bono legal services provided during 2017/18

* in some cases the reason related to means testing but the great majority related to merit.

** of these, 135 were referred for ongoing pro bono advice and assistance, 22 were referred for one-off pro bono advice (mainly family law), 26 were placed for ongoing legal assistance with a legal assistance provider (mainly legal aid family law or legal aid Dispute Resolution), and 10 were referred for reduced deferred fee assistance (in either family or civil law).

*** this figure is based on a conservative estimate of around \$10,000 worth of pro bono legal services provided per pro bono referral. The \$1.5 million reflects estimated pro bono lawyer time and does not reflect the presumably greater value of the social impact of pro bono legal services delivered to individuals and to the community of Western Australia.

Case Studies

Criminal Law

We are receiving increasing numbers of applications for pro bono assistance in criminal law Magistrates Court matters due to cuts to Legal Aid.

Lucy*, a vulnerable single mother with no criminal record was facing serious charges which could have resulted in a significant fine or imprisonment. She was unable to obtain legal aid for a not guilty plea because in Western Australia legal aid has been cut for most criminal matters in the Magistrates Court.

A community legal centre referred Lucy to Law Access for pro bono assistance. Law Access acted urgently to find her a pro bono criminal lawyer. With the hearing only 2 days away the pro bono lawyer contacted Lucy.

Prior to the hearing the pro bono lawyer made representations on her behalf which resulted in all charges against her being dropped.

This was a fantastic outcome for Lucy who could not have represented herself and who suffers from multiple health conditions including anxiety and depression.

Lucy was relieved to know the charges had been dropped and that she could continue to care for her child who has Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. (*name has been changed to preserve confidentiality)

Employment Law

Law Access regularly refers employment law matters to pro bono lawyers and barristers. Newly arrived workers from non-English speaking backgrounds are particularly vulnerable to exploitation.

Felicity Clarke, Special Counsel of Hall+Wilcox, and barrister Bill Keane acted pro bono in an employment law matter referred by Law Access involving exploitation of a worker from a non-English speaking background.

After two days of hearing the Magistrate's decision upheld the client's underpayment claim for entitlements and leave. The court also found for the client on payslip breaches and superannuation breaches.

The Law Access Disbursements Fund which relies on the support of our donors was used to pay for an interpreter to enable proofing of witnesses in this case.

Family Law

Legal assistance in family law is not meeting community needs and applications for pro bono assistance in family law continue to grow faster than any other area of law. Pro bono family law is an emerging area and Law Access is currently leading the way nationally in providing this type of pro bono legal service.

Examples of family law matters we have referred include:

- A victim of family violence with a young child and no assets obtained a property settlement of over \$300,000.
- A pro bono barrister assisted four Aboriginal women at risk of losing contact with their children in a remote location.
- A young mother and victim of family violence attended a pro bono appointment for one-off advice and assistance with document preparation. The pro bono lawyer managed to obtain a grant of legal aid for the client.

Migration Law

1 in 5 applications to Law Access concern migration law, an area where there is no legal assistance provided in Western Australia at judicial review.

A 2017 Law Access referral to Estrin Saul Lawyers and Migration Specialists resulted in a significant win in the Federal Circuit Court in May 2018. For over three years, the client (who arrived by boat in 2013), was told that he was barred from lodging a protection visa application. When he was finally allowed to lodge a temporary protection visa application in 2015, the client was given very limited review rights and has remained in detention for five and a half years.

Several months of protracted litigation involving expert mariners and navy personnel uncovered evidence which led to the case ultimately being conceded by the Minister for Home Affairs. The result is that the client (and up to 90 others who were on the same boat) was never barred from lodging protection visa applications and now has access to full merits review at the Administrative Appeals Tribunal.

The client's case is testament to a strong Law Access referral system which has the capacity to significantly change outcomes.

Law Access Public Interest Transgender Law Referral Results in WA Law Reform Commission Reference

Law Access has established a Lawyers for LGBTIQ Network to provide pro bono legal assistance to financially disadvantaged members of the LGBTIQ+ community.

Pro bono work undertaken by barrister Steven Penglis on instructions from Herbert Smith Freehills on a public interest matter referred by Law Access has led to a reference from the Attorney General to the Law Reform Commission.

Mr Penglis has been appointed Special Commissioner of the Law Reform Commission (on a pro bono basis) to assist with the Commission's Review of Western Australian legislation in relation to the recognition of a person's sex, change of sex or intersex status.

The Review will examine and make recommendations as to any legislative reform necessary to the Gender Reassignment Act 2000 (WA) and the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 1998 (WA) to improve the process by which a person's change of sex or a person's intersex status is recognised by law in Western Australia and any consequential amendments required.

Law Access encourages members of the Transgender community in Western Australia to approach us if they need pro bono assistance to make submissions to this inquiry and looks forward to the Commission's recommendations.

Report from the Chief Executive Officer

We are grateful for the support of our pro bono lawyers, funders, donors, stakeholders, secondees and volunteers. Law Access is a team effort. With your combined support, we were able to achieve the key objectives of our strategic plan.

1. Enhancing services

Continuing to expand our pro bono referral service

Law Access expanded our pro bono referral service by engaging a Part Time Senior Family Lawyer in 2017/18. The Senior Family Lawyer has improved the effectiveness of our assessment and referral process, providing more comprehensive advice to applicants that we are unable to refer for pro bono assistance.

Law Access received a \$10,000 grant from the Sidney Myer Foundation for our Law Access Legacy Caseload Project. The funds enabled the Law Access Principal Lawyer to focus on the Asylum Seeker Legacy Caseload Appeals Project for a half day a week in the 17/18 financial year. Law Access spent an estimated 555 hours assessing and placing Legacy Caseload applicants with pro bono lawyers and leveraged at least 500 hours of pro bono assistance for this group during the 12 months ending 30 June 2018.

Implement strategies for increased reach to regional areas

Law Access has continued to work closely with the Community Legal Centres' Association of Western Australia, Legal Aid Western Australia and the Aboriginal Legal Service of Western Australia to increase the numbers of applications we receive from regional and remote areas.

Explore the possibility of developing an alternative dispute resolution referral service

Law Access can now refer appropriate matters to the UWA Law School Mediation Clinic for pro bono lawyer assisted mediations. Family law property settlements have been our first area of focus.

Formulate a training strategy to address the needs of pro bono lawyers in collaboration with the Law Society

Law Access is currently reviewing training needs and anticipates the next area of training that will need to occur is for pro bono lawyers wishing to assist parents in care and protection matters, a growing area of unmet need

2. Working in partnership

Collaborate with universities on a common research agenda

The first Law Access research project on domestic violence

and property disputes led by Associate Professor Jill Howieson of UWA has taken place this year. Release of the public report should occur in the fourth quarter of 2018.

A further research project aligning with our research agenda on the impact of Legal Aid cuts in Magistrates Court criminal law matters was completed by UWA Honours student Olivia de Koning.

Law Access is currently collaborating with researchers to develop further research projects.

Participate in collaborative service planning with other legal assistance providers

The Law Access CEO attended the Collaborative Service Planning group for legal assistance providers and Federal and State Government representatives.

The Law Access Stakeholder Advisory Committee also met three times. The Committee includes representatives from the Courts and from peak legal assistance providers.

Work with stakeholders to identify and plan community legal education

This year Law Access worked with stakeholders in the immigration law and asylum seeker space to develop better information for those seeking advice and assistance in character matters and for asylum seekers who are seeking judicial review.

Collaborate with the Law Society's Access to Justice Committee

I have continued to report on policy and public interest issues arising from Law Access case work to the Law Society of Western Australia's Access to Justice Committee. Law Access also arranged a consultation of Law Access Stakeholders and the Law Society with the Law Council of Australia's *Justice Project*.

3. Building Organisational Capacity

ITC and operational systems

Law Access is grateful to have received a donation of Filepro software which Filepro have adapted for our service. We have developed new templates and migrated all data from our existing databases to Filepro from 1 July 2018. This will assist us to manage our contact information, administration and case files more efficiently.

Law Access continued to receive in kind accommodation and facilities from the University of Western Australia and in kind corporate services and reception support from the Law Society of Western Australia.

Law Access also continued to receive valuable in kind archival services from Compu-Stor.



Left to Right: Garth Brown (Filepro WA State Manager), Katrina Williams (Law Access Principal Lawyer), Todd Keeler (Filepro Director), Lee-Anne Barry (Filepro Operations Manager), Lasse Stenersen (Filepro Director)

Continue to develop service policies, procedures and referral pathways

Law Access is acquiring new referral pathways by building connections with key stakeholder sectors at their annual conferences. Law Access held an information booth at 2018 Western Australian Council of Social Services Conference.

Human resource and knowledge management

Volunteers and student interns

We also received in-kind paralegal and administrative support from University of Western Australia Law Student volunteers and student interns from the University of Western Australia, Edith Cowan University and the University of Notre Dame Australia.

We thank volunteer Practical Legal Training students Terry East, Anika Waldin and Melissa Paterniti for their valuable contribution throughout the year. We thank the Law Society of Western Australia for their valuable new PLT programme.

Law Access is fortunate to have had John Morhall, a retiree with significant senior leadership experience in government and in the private sector commence assisting the CEO of Law Access with Governance and projects including our ADR project.

University of Western Australia Law Student volunteer feedback:

"Law Access has opened my eyes to the difficulties faced by vulnerable people in our society when interacting with Australia's legal system." **Felicity**

"Law Access is often the last resort for disadvantaged members of the WA community. It is truly rewarding to apply my legal skills and knowledge to make a positive impact to the lives of others." **Andrew**

"It has been a great experience being able to help people. It's also nice to see matters that I've worked on get placed with

lawyers." **Mia**

Secondees

Law Access received vital in-kind support in the form of one day a week each of lawyer time from Australian Government Solicitors, Jackson McDonald and MinterEllison. The secondees lawyers provide assistance with triage, merit assessment and referrals.

Staffing

Using funds raised in the 2017 Law Access Walk for Justice we engaged a new 0.4FTE Senior Family Lawyer Meredith Hunter who commenced on 7 August 2017. Funds from the 2018 Walk for Justice event have been applied to extend this position.

Recognition strategy for our pro bono lawyers, volunteers, secondees, pro bono partners and staff

The Board and staff of Law Access celebrated and recognised our pro bono lawyers and volunteers by issuing certificates of recognition, providing letters of support for nominees for Law Week Awards and by holding the 2018 Law Access Walk For Justice to celebrate the contribution of the WA pro bono legal community. We also publicised a number of successful outcomes on social media and where appropriate to do so we named the firms who took our referral.

The Board and staff of Law Access also celebrated our pro bono lawyers and volunteers at our Thank You Drinks held on 4 December 2017. The event was once again sponsored by our generous hosts, MinterEllison. Our guest speaker was the Attorney General The Hon. John Quigley MLA, who spoke about the valuable work undertaken by pro bono lawyers and their contributions to access to justice in Western Australia.

Law Access Disbursements Fund

This fund which was replenished by a \$4000 donation from Allens in June 2017 continued to assist lawyers who took Law



Left to Right: Pro bono lawyers Matthew Howard SC and Bronwyn Waugh of Cornerstone Legal with The Hon. John Quigley MLA, Attorney General of Western Australia at the 2017 Law Access Thank You Drinks hosted by MinterEllison.

Access referrals to meet non-legal disbursements such as interpreting and translating costs and the cost of regional travel. In cases where pro bono lawyers won costs the fund was reimbursed.

4. Ensuring our sustainability

Developing relationships and engagement

Law Access continued to recruit and attract pro bono lawyers through a regular segment in the Law Society of Western Australia's weekly newsletter Friday Facts, and by establishing and supporting relevant pro bono legal networks. The CEO, Principal Lawyer and Senior Family Lawyer also attended the 2017 Family Law Practitioners' Association annual conference, to promote Law Access services and engage with family lawyers for pro bono referrals.

Pro Bono Coordinators' Committee

Our Law Access Pro Bono Coordinators' Committee met four times throughout the year, with representatives from 20 large and medium sized firms. Guest speakers included the Kimberley Interpreting Service (now known as Aboriginal Interpreting WA) who provided training on the use of Aboriginal interpreters.

Law Access Stakeholder Advisory Committee

Our Stakeholder Advisory Committee with representatives from the profession, the Courts and key stakeholders such as the Community Legal Centres' Association of WA, the Aboriginal Legal Service of WA and the five Western Australian Law Schools met three times to guide the development and direction of the service. The Western Australian Council of Social Services also joined our Stakeholder Advisory Committee.

Develop a marketing strategy to build brand and profile

Law Access adopted a media and communications strategy in September 2017. This strategy has been implemented with the assistance of a \$5,000 donation from Allen & Overy.

Our fundraising and revenue strategy

Law Access was pleased to receive a \$100,000 grant from the Department of Justice in December 2017.

The Board of Law Access appointed Elizabeth Needham to Chair the new Fundraising and Sponsorship Committee. The Committee is implementing our updated Fundraising and Revenue strategy. In 2017/18 Law Access progressed the implementation of its fundraising plan attracting \$114,776 in donations, including \$50,000 donation from the McCusker Charitable Foundation.

We were also pleased to have raised \$42,219 in the 2018 Law Access Walk for Justice. The walk was led by distinguished event ambassadors including the Chief Justice of Western Australia the Hon. Wayne Martin AC, the Hon. Justice Stephen Thackray Chief Judge of the Family Court of Western Australia and the Hon. Chief Judge Kevin Sleight of the District Court of Western Australia. This year, we also had ambassadors from all Western Australian Law schools and presidents of all the Law student societies joining us to lead the walk.

More than 450 members of the Western Australian pro bono community walked with us. The event also received media coverage and helped to build our brand and profile in the community.

Thank you

Our sincere thanks go out to the pro bono community and all of our supporters for the role each of you played to help us deliver *Equal access to justice*.

Dominique Hansen,
Chief Executive Officer

Thank you

Pro bono lawyers

To all the pro bono lawyers who took our referrals and the legal assistance service providers and stakeholders who assisted us.

Law student volunteers and interns

Elizabeth Alderson, Rikki Archibald, Zoe Blight, Shani Claasen, Assel Dawood, Parveen Do Dip Chand Gupta, Karan Devgun, Terry East, Ane Espach, Anna Lea Hiltenkamp, Andrew Huxtable, Tiffany Lau, Sam Lowther, Mia Mher, Stephen Minz, Tayt Mumme, Felicity Negus, Alvin Ngo, Ayaan Omar, Melissa Paterniti, Bridget Rumball, Joseph Sabbagh, Emily Taylor, Amy Thomasson, Harriet Templeton-Knight, Anika Waldin, Allison Warrier, Lauren Wright

Seconded lawyers

Australian Government Solicitor:

Thomas de Bes, Alyce Jefferies

Jackson McDonald:

Michael Bragg, Nicole Burns, Laura Dindar, Hala Qandour, Simon Ringrose, Kimberley Swift, Justin Sims, Darcy Thompson, Simon Webster

MinterEllison:

Jessica McGovern, Sharon Milton, James O'Hara, Nicole Rajoo

Volunteer

John Morhall
(governance and projects)

Funders

Public Purposes  Trust



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Justice**

Principal Supporters

The Law  Society
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
The voice of the legal profession in Western Australia



Major Donors



ALLEN & OVERY

McCusker
Charitable
Foundation

Donors

To all those who donated to the Law Access Walk for Justice, the Law Access GiveNow appeal, CPD presenters who elected that the Law Society of Western Australia make a donation to Law Access on their behalf and other generous CPD donors who donated to Law Access.

Law Access Walk For Justice sponsors

College of Law, Curtin University, Edith Cowan University, Murdoch University, the University of Notre Dame Australia, and the University of Western Australia.

Thank you Drinks sponsors

MinterEllison

In-kind supporters

City of Fremantle (donation of stationery), Compu-Stor, FilePro (donation of software and support), King & Wood Mallesons (host of the Law Access Lawyers for Refugees Network Training). John Hockley (provided bequests advice). Reuben Saul, David Blades, Fraser Robertson, Peter Lochore (prepared and delivered judicial review training for the Law Access Lawyers for Refugees Network).

Stakeholder Advisory Committee Members

Thank you to the members of our Law Access Stakeholder Advisory Committee for your input and engagement throughout the year.

Financial Statements



Statement of Profit and Loss

For the year ended 30 June 2018

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2018</u> <u>\$</u>	<u>2017</u> <u>\$</u>
Revenue	3	341,676	303,932
Employee expenses		(280,064)	(231,134)
Depreciation expenses		(2,006)	(2,006)
Fundraising expenses		(2,730)	(2,107)
Other expenses		(30,335)	(28,556)
Surplus for the year		26,541	40,129

The above Statement of Profit and Loss should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2018

	Notes	2018 \$	2017 \$
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	7	234,666	104,543
Trade and other receivables	4	3,275	2,032
Prepayments		-	486
Total current assets		237,941	107,061
Non-current assets			
Office equipment		2,696	4,702
Total non-current assets		2,696	4,702
Total assets		240,637	111,763
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	5	5,424	6,436
Income received in advance		100,000	10,000
Provision for Annual Leave	6	12,534	16,482
Total current liabilities		117,958	32,918
Non-current liabilities			
Provision for Long Service Leave	6	15,476	8,183
Total non-current liabilities		15,476	8,183
Total liabilities		133,434	41,101
Net assets		107,203	70,662
Equity			
Accumulated surplus		107,203	70,662
Total equity		107,203	70,662

The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the year ended 30 June 2018

	Accumulated Surplus \$	Total equity \$
Balance as at 1 July 2016	40,533	40,533
Surplus for the year	40,129	40,129
Balance as at 1 July 2017	80,662	80,662
Surplus for the year	26,541	26,541
Balance as at 30 June 2018	107,203	107,203

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 30 June 2018

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2018</u> <u>\$</u>	<u>2017</u> <u>\$</u>
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from donations, grants, other revenue		474,670	329,164
Interest receipts		1,501	918
Payments to suppliers and employees		<u>(346,049)</u>	<u>(289,086)</u>
Net cash generated by operating activities		<u>130,123</u>	<u>40,997</u>
 Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		 <u>130,123</u>	 <u>40,997</u>
 Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		 104,543	 63,546
 Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	7	 <u>234,666</u>	 <u>104,543</u>

The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2018

1 General information

Law Access Limited is a company limited by guarantee incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The address of its registered office is Level 4, 160 St Georges Terrace, Perth, WA Australia.

The postal address for the principal place of business is PO Box Z5345, Perth WA 6831.

The physical address of the principal place of business has been supplied to the ACNC but is suppressed for publication on the ACNC website as Law Access' work is conducted remotely and members of the public/applicants are not able to attend the principal place of business in person.

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the CEO and Company Secretary on 7 August 2018.

Law Access Limited is a public benevolent institution established to coordinate the giving of free, reduced fee, or deferred fee legal advice or representation by the legal profession. The service is targeted at financially disadvantaged individuals and not-for-profits in the community in genuine need of legal assistance who satisfy a means and merits test and are unable to obtain assistance from Legal Aid or a community legal centre.

2 Summary of accounting policies

A) Basis of Preparation

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the following mandatory Australian Accounting Standards applicable to entities reporting under the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission Act 2012 and the significant accounting policies disclosed below, which the directors have determined are appropriate to meet the needs of members. Such accounting policies are consistent with those of previous periods unless stated otherwise.

AASB 101 - Presentation of Financial Statements
AASB 107 - Cash Flow Statements
AASB 108 - Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors
AASB 1031 - Materiality
AASB 1048 - Interpretation of Standards
AASB 1054 - Australian Additional Disclosures

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis of historical cost, except for certain properties and financial instruments that are measured at revalued amounts or fair values at the end of each reporting period, as explained in the accounting policies below.

Historical cost is generally based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for goods and services. All amounts are presented in Australian dollars, unless otherwise noted.

B) Significant accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstance, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision

affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Useful lives of assets

The entity reviews the estimated useful lives of assets at the end of each reporting period.

C) Revenue

Revenue is measured at fair value of consideration received or receivable.

Revenue is recognised when the amount can be reliably measured and it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the entity.

Grants

Grants are government grants and are recognised when all conditions attached to the grant have been satisfied and there is reasonable assurance that the grant will be received. When the conditions of the grants have not been satisfied it is recognised as a liability in the statement of financial position.

Donations

Donations include grants received from charitable trusts and foundations. Donations collected are recognised when the entity gains control of the funds, usually at the time of receipt.

Other Revenue

Other revenue includes non-government grants (e.g. Law Society of Western Australia Public Purposes Trust) and sponsorship income.

Interest income

Interest income is recognised on an accrual basis using the effective interest method.

D) Income Tax

Law Access Limited is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

E) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and in hand and short-term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

F) Trade and Other Receivables

Trade and other receivables are measured initially at fair value then subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment.

Trade and other receivable are considered impaired when they are past due or when there is objective evidence that the entity will not be able to collect the amount due.

G) Office Equipment

Office equipment is measured at cost less accumulated depreciation. The assets are depreciated over their useful lives to the entity, commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

Gains or losses arising from the disposal of office equipment is the difference between the carrying amount and the disposal proceeds and recognised in profit or loss.

H) Trade and Other Payables

Trade and other payables represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the entity that are outstanding at the end of the reporting period. These amounts are usually paid in 30 days.

I) Employee Benefits

Short-term employee benefits such as annual leave, wages and salaries are expected to be settled wholly within 12 months after the reporting period. The amounts are expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

Long-term employee benefits such as long-service leave are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months after the reporting period. The amount is measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made to employees, with consideration given to anticipated future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and period of service. Expected future payments are discounted with reference to market yields at the end of the reporting period using corporate bonds with terms to maturity close to the estimated future cash outflows.

J) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the entity has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the obligation.

K) Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognized net of the amount of GST except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office. In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in are shown inclusive of GST.

3 Revenue

	2018 \$	2017 \$
Revenue		
Government grants	100,000	100,000
Other revenue	135,250	132,500
Donations	104,776	70,524
Interest on investments	1,650	908
	341,676	303,932

4 Trade and other receivables

Current		
Trade debtors	825	-
Accrued Income	350	1,025
Other receivables	2,100	1,007
	3,275	2,032

5 Trade and other payables

Current		
Trade creditors	584	2,436
Accrued expenses	-	1,588
Other payables	4,840	2,412
	5,424	6,436

6 Provisions

	2018 \$	2017 \$
Current		
Provision for Annual Leave	12,534	16,482
	<u>12,534</u>	<u>16,482</u>
Non-current		
Provision for Long Service Leave	15,476	8,183
	<u>15,476</u>	<u>8,183</u>

7 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash at bank and on hand	28,869	43,165
Short-term deposits	205,797	61,378
	<u>234,666</u>	<u>104,543</u>

7.1 Reconciliation of cash

Reconciliation of profit for the year to net cash flows from operating activities

Surplus for the year	26,541	40,129
Depreciation of non-current assets	<u>2,006</u>	<u>2,006</u>
	28,547	42,136
<i>Movements in working capital</i>		
(Increase)/decrease in trade receivables	(1,243)	5,388
Decrease/(Increase) in other assets	486	(41)
Decrease in trade and other payables	(1,012)	(8,567)
Increase in provisions	3,346	2,081
Increase in income in advance	<u>100,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Net cash generated by operating activities	<u>130,123</u>	<u>40,997</u>

8 Income received in advance

Law Access is now showing 2017 and 2018 grants from charitable trusts and foundations as donations rather than income received in advance.

The \$100,000 income in advance in 2018 is a Department of Justice grant for expenditure in 2019.

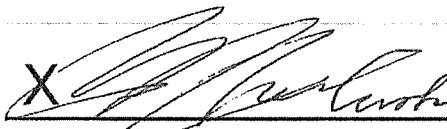

Directors' Declaration

The Directors declare that in the Directors' opinion:

- a. there are reasonable grounds to believe that Law Access Limited will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable; and
- b. the attached financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors made pursuant to subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2013.

On behalf the Directors.

Hon. Malcolm McCusker AC CVO QC
Director and Chairperson

Date: 12/10/18

LAW ACCESS LIMITED

Independent Audit Report

To the members of Law Access Limited

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Law Access Limited which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2018, the statement of profit and loss for the year then ended, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year ended that date, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the declaration by directors.

The Responsibility of directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the entity are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with relevant accounting standards and the financial reporting requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012. The directors' responsibility also includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal controls. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 'Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants', that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia.

LAW ACCESS LIMITED

Audit opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of Law Access Limited is in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for- Profits Commission Act 2012, including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the entity's financial position as at 30 June 2018 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- b) complying with Australian accounting standards to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Regulation 2013.



RG Ledger
Chartered Accountant
Registered Company Auditor

10 AUGUST 2018

GREG LEDGER PTY LTD

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

ABN 63 066 718 134

PO Box 565
Wembley, WA 6913

Suite 3, 20 Altona Street
West Perth, WA 6005

Telephone+(08) 93221114
Facsimile + (08) 9322 1134

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

10 August 2018

The Directors
Law Access Limited
4th Floor, 160 St Georges Terrace
Perth WA 6000

AUDITOR INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

This declaration is made in connection with the audit of the financial report of Law Access Limited for the year ended 30 June 2018 and in accordance with the requirements of Subdivision 60-C of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- No contravention of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 in relation to the audit; and
- No contravention of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Yours sincerely



Ross Gregory Ledger
Chartered Accountant
Registered Company Auditor



Law Access Ltd
ACN 602 771 068

Postal address: M249, The University of Western Australia
35 Stirling Highway, Crawley WA 6009

Phone: (08) 9324 8600 | **Fax:** (08) 9324 8699

Email: lawaccess@lawaccess.net.au | **Website:** lawaccess.net.au