

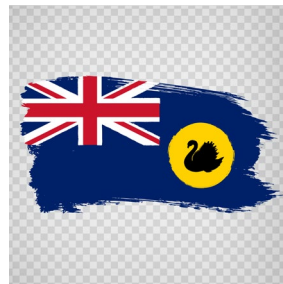


Message from the CEO, Megan Pitt

Welcome to a special edition of our newsletter to mark Western Australia (WA) joining the Uniform Law scheme.

I am pleased to advise that on 1 July 2022, WA joined the Uniform Law scheme. This exciting milestone has brought 75% of all legal practitioners Australia-wide under the Uniform Law scheme, as shown in the infograph below. This is a significant step towards the goal of Australia having a national legal profession which operates under a national regulatory framework.

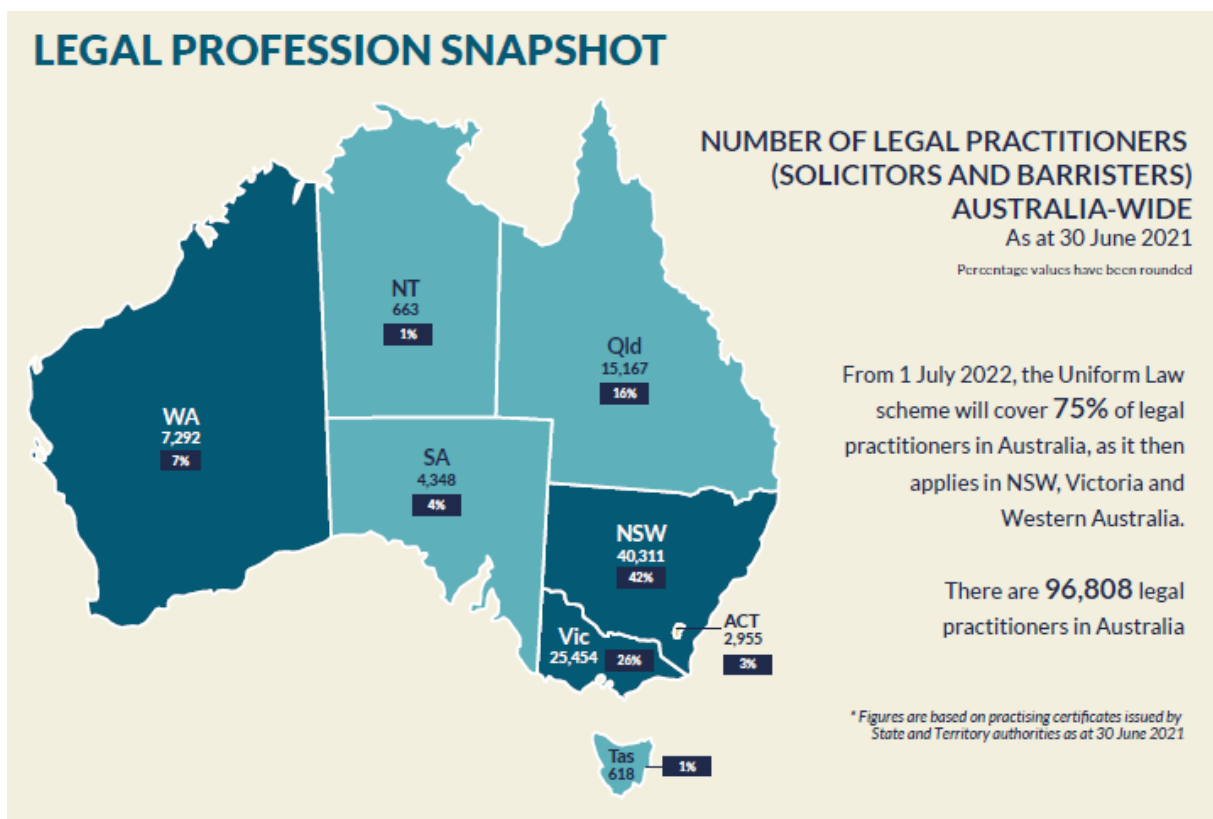
Recently, as part of celebrating this occasion, the Legal Services Council (Council, LSC) was pleased to hold our fourth annual Uniform Law Summit and a Uniform Law Dinner in Perth. The Summit and Dinner were both a success and showcased the collegiate relationships that exist across the Uniform Law



jurisdictions. The progress made by Western Australia in this transition was also demonstrated, as well as the assistance that the NSW and Victorian designated local regulatory authorities have and will continue to provide to WA, as they implement the Uniform Law scheme.

During this trip to WA and as part of welcoming WA into the Uniform Law scheme, the Council met with the Attorney General of Western Australia and also key WA stakeholders, the Legal Practice Board of Western Australia, the Western Australian Bar Association and the Law Society of Western Australia.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the newsletter and welcome to Western Australia !



Update on WA joining the Uniform Law scheme

On 1 July 2022, the [Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Act 2022 \(WA\)](#) was proclaimed, marking the commencement of the Uniform Law in WA. The proclamation is available [here](#).

The [Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Regulations 2022 \(WA\)](#) and the [Legal Profession Uniform Law Application \(Accreditation\) Rules 2022 \(WA\)](#) also came into operation on that day.

The commencement of the Uniform Law in Western Australia was accompanied by the commencement of Part 2 of the [Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Amendment Act 2019 \(Vic\)](#), which provides for governance changes to the Council and Admissions Committee to reflect the participation of a third jurisdiction in the Uniform Law scheme. The proclamation is available [here](#).

Law Society of Western Australia's Uniform Law article

The Legal Services Council recently published an article in the Law Society of Western Australia's June edition of its publication *Brief*, marking WA joining the Uniform Law scheme. The article, drafted by Chelly Milliken, Senior Principal Policy Officer is available [here](#).

The article provides a very useful overview of the Uniform Law scheme and the role of the various bodies and individuals relevant to the Uniform Law, for the information of legal practitioners in WA.

An infograph showing each of the bodies in the Uniform Law framework is also shown below.

ROLE OF BODIES UNDER THE LEGAL PROFESSION UNIFORM LAW



LOCAL REGULATORY AUTHORITIES FOR FUNCTIONS AND REGULATION OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION

ADMISSION TO THE LEGAL PROFESSION	AUSTRALIAN PRACTISING AND REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES	TRUST MONEY AND TRUST ACCOUNTING	COMPLIANCE AUDITS AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEM DIRECTIONS	CHAPTER 5 CONSUMER COMPLAINTS, DISPUTE RESOLUTION AND PROFESSIONAL DISCIPLINE
Legal Profession Admission Board (NSW)	Bar Council (NSW)	Bar Council (NSW)	NSW Legal Services Commissioner	NSW Legal Services Commissioner
Victorian Legal Admissions Board	Law Society Council (NSW)	Law Society Council (NSW)	Law Society and Bar Councils (NSW)	Law Society and Bar Councils (NSW)
Legal Practice Board WA	Victorian Legal Services Board	Victorian Legal Services Board	Victorian Legal Services Board	Victorian Legal Services Commissioner
	Legal Practice Board WA	Legal Practice Board WA	Legal Practice Board WA	Legal Services and Complaints Committee (WA)

COURTS AND TRIBUNALS

SUPREME COURT
Appeal or review of some DLRA decisions, disqualification of entities from providing legal services, admission to and removal from the roll of Australian lawyers, appointment of receivers, injunctive relief

**LOCAL COURT OF NSW
MAGISTRATES COURT OF VICTORIA
MAGISTRATES COURT OF Western Australia**
Prosecution of summary offences

CIVIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNALS
Chapter 5 consumer complaints, dispute resolution and professional discipline

Meeting with the Attorney General of Western Australia

During the Council's recent trip to Perth, we were delighted to meet with the Hon John Quigley LLB JP MLA, the Attorney General of Western Australia, together with Joshua Thomson SC, the Solicitor General of Western Australia.

At the meeting were the Council's Chair, Alan Cameron AO, and Council members, Murray Baird, Liz Harris, Juliana Warner, with Noel Hutley SC being an apology. Also in attendance were the Chair of the Council's Admissions Committee, the Hon Arthur Emmett AO QC and the Council's CEO/Commissioner, Megan Pitt.

various other law reform initiatives that he is implementing in Western Australia.



L-R: The Hon Arthur Emmett AO QC, Joshua Thomson SC, Juliana Warner, the Attorney General of Western Australia, Alan Cameron AO, Liz Harris, Murray Baird



L-R: The Hon Arthur Emmett AO QC, Megan Pitt, Joshua Thomson SC, Juliana Warner, the Attorney General of Western Australia, Alan Cameron AO, Liz Harris, Murray Baird



L-R: Joshua Thomson SC, Juliana Warner, the Attorney General of Western Australia, Alan Cameron AO, Liz Harris, Murray Baird



L-R: The Attorney General of Western Australia, Alan Cameron AO



L-R: The Hon Arthur Emmett AO QC, the Hon David Habersberger QC, the Attorney General of Western Australia, the Hon Rene Le Miere QC

The meeting discussed the current operation of the Uniform Law scheme, matters relating to WA joining the scheme and the future expansion of the Uniform Law to other Australian jurisdictions.

The Attorney General was briefed on the Council's other Uniform Law events in WA including our Uniform Law Summit, our Uniform Law Dinner, at which he was our guest speaker, and meetings with key WA stakeholders including the Legal Practice Board of Western Australia, the Western Australian Bar Association and the Law Society of Western Australia.

This meeting was an excellent opportunity to hear directly from the Attorney General about his views and perspectives on the Uniform Law scheme and involvement of WA in the Uniform Law framework. The Attorney General also spoke about

Western Australia stakeholder meetings

Meetings with Legal Practice Board of Western Australia

As part of our recent trip to WA, the Council met with the Legal Practice Board of Western Australia including John Fiocco, Chair; Libby Fulham, Executive Director; John Ley SC, Chair of the Legal Profession Complaints Committee; Russell Daily, Law Complaints Officer; John Syminton, Convenor of the Professional Development Committee and Convenor of the Western Australian Uniform Law Management Committee; Gary Mack, Deputy

Convenor of the Professional Affairs Committee; and Sabina Schlink, Convenor of the Admissions Registration Committee.

At the meeting, the Council's Chair Alan Cameron AO, gave an overview of the Uniform Law framework and our WA observer, Joshua Thomson SC, Solicitor General of WA provided an update on WA joining the Uniform Law scheme. It was an excellent opportunity to address some of the questions the Legal Practice Board of Western Australia had regarding the Uniform Law framework and the operation of the Council.



Top row (L-R): John Fiocco, Alan Cameron AO, John Syminton, John Ley SC, Gary Mack, Murray Baird
Bottom row: Liz Harris, Libby Fullham Sabina Schlink, Russell Daily

On 6 July, the LSC's CEO/Commissioner Megan Pitt met with Libby Fulham, Executive Director and Russell Daily, Law Complaints Officer, from the Legal Practice Board of Western Australia, to discuss various Uniform Law regulatory matters.

Topics covered were Western Australia's inclusion in the Australian Legal Practitioners Register and linking WA's Register of Disciplinary Action; the Legal Practice Board of Western Australia's Register of Delegations on the LSC's website; a WA Public Register of External Examiners and various Uniform Law Guidelines and Directions.

The meeting progressed various operational aspects of WA's entry in the Uniform Law scheme and is part of a continuing dialogue between the LSC and Legal Practice Board of Western Australia that will continue over the coming months.



L-R: Russell Daily, Megan Pitt, Libby Fulham

Meeting with the Western Australian Bar Association

During our visit to Perth the Council also met with Martin Cuerden SC, President of the Western Australian Bar Association, Debbie Cole, Executive Officer and Matthew Curwood SC, member of the Western Australian Bar Association's Legal Costs Committee.

Meeting attendees discussed the respective roles of the Council and the local regulatory authorities under the Uniform Law scheme. In addition, the Council had a constructive discussion with Mr Cuerden SC, Ms Cole and Mr Curwood SC about the Uniform Law costs disclosure regime and the Legal Profession Uniform Conduct (Barristers) Rules 2015.



L-R: Alan Cameron AO, Liz Harris, Joshua Thomson SC, Juliana Warner, Murray Baird, Martin Cuerden SC, Debbie Cole, Matthew Curwood SC

Meeting with the Law Society of Western Australia

The Council also met with the Law Society of Western Australia including Rebecca Lee, President, and David Price, Chief Executive Officer.

The Council members outlined the role of the Council and its objectives under the Uniform Law scheme. Other matters discussed related to the commencement date of the Uniform Law and the upcoming seminar at the Law Society of Western Australia, at which the Council's Chair, Alan Cameron AO and CEO/Commissioner, Megan Pitt will speak about the Uniform Law to legal practitioners in Western Australia.



Top row (L-R): Joshua Thomson SC, Murray Baird, David Price
Bottom row: Alan Cameron AO, Rebecca Lee, Juliana Warner, Liz Harris

Uniform Law Summit

The Council held its fourth annual Uniform Law Summit in Perth, to coincide with other Uniform Law events celebrating the tremendous milestone of Western Australia joining the Uniform Law scheme on 1 July 2022. Our Summit was an excellent opportunity to acknowledge the past year's achievements, discuss key priorities for the following year and mark the significant progress that has occurred since our last Summit.



L-R: Megan Pitt, Alan Cameron AO, Murray Baird, Liz Harris, Juliana Warner, Joshua Thomson SC

The Summit was opened by the Council's Chair Alan Cameron AO who warmly welcomed all attendees and introduced Council members, Murray Baird, Liz Harris, and Juliana Warner, with apologies from Noel Hutley SC. He also mentioned our Council observer, the Solicitor General of Western Australia, Joshua Thomson SC and the Admissions Committee Chair, the Hon Arthur Emmett AO QC. Alan Cameron AO acknowledged the significance of Western Australia's entry into the Uniform Law scheme and the importance of having this Summit in Perth.



Alan Cameron AO



Megan Pitt

The Council's CEO/Commissioner Megan Pitt outlined the Council's achievements over the last year, priorities for the upcoming year, gave an overview of the Uniform Law scheme and introduced the Council's Secretariat.



LSC Secretariat

L-R: Bridget Sordo, Chelly Milliken, Jessica Wardle, Tina O'Brien
Absent: Ella Howard

Our Summit speakers then expertly outlined the roles of their respective organisations, work that had been undertaken since the last Summit and their priorities for the following year.

Our speakers were Libby Fulham (Executive Director, Legal Practice Board of Western Australia), Russell Daily (Legal Complaints Officer, Legal Profession Complaints Committee

Western Australia), Jeff O'Halloran (Senior Advisor, Western Australian State Solicitor's Office), Fiona McLeay (Victorian Legal Services Commissioner), Samantha Gulliver (Assistant Commissioner, NSW Office of the Legal Services Commissioner), Sonja Stewart (CEO, Law Society of NSW), Andreas Heger (Executive Director, NSW Bar Association), the Hon Arthur Emmett AO QC (Presiding Member of the Legal Profession Admission Board (NSW)), the Hon David Habersberger QC (Chair of the Victorian Legal Admissions Board), Marian Chapman (Deputy Secretary, Victorian Department of Justice and Community Safety) and Michael Tidball (Secretary, NSW Department of Communities and Justice).



Libby Fulham and Russell Daily



Jeff O'Halloran



Fiona McLeay



Samantha Gulliver



Sonja Stewart



Andreas Heger



The Hon Arthur Emmett AO QC



The Hon David Habersberger QC



Marian Chapman



Michael Tidball

The Council was pleased that over 50 Uniform Law representatives were able to attend the Summit in person or by video link from Sydney, Melbourne and Perth. The Summit was an important opportunity for attendees to meet their counterparts in other Uniform Law jurisdictions, hear about their roles and work and to celebrate the cooperation and collaboration that exists in the Uniform Law scheme. Our next Uniform Law Summit will take place in Melbourne in the second half of 2023.

Uniform Law Dinner

As part of our recent trip to Perth, the Council hosted a Uniform Law dinner to mark the historic occasion of Western Australia joining the Uniform Law scheme on 1 July 2022. The Attorney General of Western Australia, the Hon John Quigley LLB JP MLA, was our guest speaker.

In his opening remarks, the Council's Chair, Alan Cameron AO thanked the Western Australian Attorney General for his endorsement of the dinner and other related Uniform Law events held by the Council in Perth at the time, and for accepting our invitation to be our guest speaker.

Alan Cameron AO acknowledged the inaugural Council Chair, Michael Black AC QC FAAL and the first CEO/Commissioner, Dale Boucher, together with the former Council members for their invaluable work in establishing the Council, in terms of its structure, operations and sound reputation.

In introducing the guest speaker, Alan Cameron AO highlighted the visionary leadership and active involvement of the Attorney General of Western Australia in achieving this milestone and the support of the Attorneys General of NSW and Victoria.

He also acknowledged the Council's former and current observers from Western Australia, the current Chief Justice, the Hon Peter Quinlan, when he was the Solicitor General of Western Australia, and the current Solicitor General of Western Australia, Joshua Thomson SC for their significant contributions. The valuable work of the current Western Australian observer on the Admissions Committee, the Hon Rene Le Miere QC, was also highlighted.

The Legal Practice Board of Western Australia and the Legal Profession Complaints Committee were also congratulated for their work behind the scenes and for their collaboration with the Uniform Law regulators in NSW and Victoria, whose contributions were also recognised.

The Attorney General gave a highly engaging and informative speech that provided insights into his positive views about the Uniform Law scheme, its benefits for the legal profession in Western Australia and the future expansion of the scheme into other jurisdictions.



The Attorney General of Western Australia

The Attorney General also noted that Western Australia's entry into the scheme ensured that 75% of the Australian legal profession would now be covered by the Uniform Law and that this represented a significant step towards the goal of Australia having a national legal profession, operating under a national regulatory framework.

The Council was delighted that over 60 people including members

of the judiciary and the legal profession, departmental officers, representatives of Uniform Law bodies, legal professional associations, and stakeholders from Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra and Perth were able to attend the dinner.

This dinner was an excellent opportunity to bring all the key stakeholders in the Uniform Law scheme together, to celebrate this tremendous milestone. The Council, its CEO/Commissioner, its Admissions Committee and Secretariat were very pleased to meet our key stakeholders in person at the dinner and to discuss Uniform Law matters with them. In particular, the dinner enabled the Council's guests from Western Australia to be introduced to others in the Uniform Law scheme and to become more familiar with the Uniform Law framework.

From all accounts, the dinner was a great success and paved the way for Western Australia's entry into the Uniform Law scheme on 1 July 2022.



Top row (L-R): Angela Kominos, Liam Nicholls, the Hon Justice Stephen Hall
Bottom row: Joanna Vincent, the Attorney General of Western Australia, Alan Cameron AO, the Hon Chief Justice Peter Quinlan, Joshua Thomson SC



Top row (L-R): Sabina Schlink, the Hon David Habersberger QC, Megan Pitt
Bottom row: The Hon Arthur R. Emmett AO QC, the Hon Rene Le Miere QC, Professor Jenni Lightowlers, Deborah Jones, Robert Hollo SC



Top row (L-R): Fiona McLeay, Dr Matt Collins AM QC, Juliana Warner, John Ley SC
Bottom row: Martin Cuerden SC, John Syminton, Libby Fulham, John Fiocco



Top row (L-R): Mitch Hillier, Kerri-anne Millard, Kate Malcolm
 Bottom row: Chelly Milliken, Jeff O'Halloran, Clare Thompson SC, Elizabeth Harris



L-R: Russell Daily, Samantha Gulliver, Chelly Milliken, Dale Wescombe, Anthony Lean, Murray Baird



L-R: Stephen Ramsay, Maria Di Palma, Bridget Sordo, Kristen Murray, Rachel Webber, Roxane Marcelle-Shaw, John Rogers, Gary Mack



L-R: The Attorney General of Western Australia, Sonja Stewart, Joanne van der Plaat, the Hon Peter Quinlan



Top row (L-R): Sonja Stewart, Adam Awty, Mitch Hillier, Debbie Cole, David Price
 Bottom row: Rebecca Lee, Tass Liveris, Joanne van der Plaat, Tania Wolff



L-R: John Ley SC, John Fiocco, Libby Fulham, John Syminton, the Hon Rene Le Miere, Martin Cuerden SC



Top row (L-R): Michelle Marfurt, John-Paul Colella, Sarah Hingston, Dale Wescombe
 Bottom row: Tina O'Brien, Jessica Wardle, Catherine Ferrari, Vicki Butler



L-R: David Price, Juliana Warner, Adam Awty



L-R: Deborah Jones, The Hon David Habersberger QC, Maria Di Palma



L-R: Liz Harris, Sabina Schlink



L-R: Alan Cameron AO, the Hon Justice Stephen Hall



L-R: Fiona McLeay, Libby Fulham, Russell Daily

Law Society of Western Australia – Uniform Law seminar

On 6 July, the Law Society of Western Australia hosted a seminar on the Uniform Law scheme for legal practitioners in WA. Craig Slater, barrister and former President of the Law Society introduced a panel of speakers comprising the Legal Service Council's Chair, Alan Cameron AO and CEO/Commissioner, Megan Pitt and Libby Fulham, Executive Director and Russell Daily, Law Complaints Officer from the Legal Practice Board of Western Australia. The seminar was attended by 285 Western Australian solicitors and barristers, 25 in person and 260 by webinar.

The Council's Chair welcomed Western Australian's legal practitioners to the scheme and congratulated the Law Society of Western Australia on hosting this seminar and other related CPD events, and on providing materials to assist the legal profession to understand the Uniform Law scheme.

An overview of the Uniform Law framework, its key bodies, the role of the Council and its interaction with the Legal Practice Board of Western Australia was provided by Megan Pitt. She also emphasised that the Council is not a regulator and that, although the scheme does involve some changes, many of the current features of legal regulation in Western Australia will remain the same.

Libby Fulham and Russell Daily explained the role of the Legal Practice Board of Western Australia in the scheme, and particularly mentioned the new aspects of legal regulation that will affect WA legal practitioners. At the end of the seminar, there was a Q&A session.



L-R: Russell Daily, Libby Fulham, Megan Pitt, Alan Cameron AO

For more information

Visit the LSC website: www.legalservicescouncil.org.au

Or contact us at lsc@legalservicescouncil.org.au