



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Department of
Justice

Annual Report 2023/24

28

Acknowledgement of Country
In the spirit of reconciliation we acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land, the Whadjuk people of the Noongar Nation and their connection to land, water and community. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today and recognise the contribution of cultural, spiritual and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

THE FIRE

The annual report for 2023/24

is available online from the Justice website.

www.justice.wa.gov.au

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Acknowledgement of Country

The Department of Justice respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land as being the first peoples of this Country. We embrace the vast Aboriginal cultural diversity throughout Western Australia and recognise their continuing connection to Country, water and sky.

We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

The Department is committed to fostering respectful partnerships with our Aboriginal colleagues, clients and those in our care.

The Department uses the term *Aboriginal people* throughout this document to refer to both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The Department acknowledges the over-representation of Aboriginal people in Western Australia in its care.

About the cover artwork

This artwork represents the ashes rising from the burning bush fires.

Artwork by a Ngaanyatjarra artist in the care of Bandyup Women's Prison.



Statement of Compliance



Hon John Quigley MLA
Attorney General; Minister for Electoral Affairs



Hon Paul Papalia CSC MLA
Minister for Police; Corrective Services;
Racing and Gaming; Defence Industry; Veterans Issues

In accordance with Section 61 of the *Financial Management Act 2006*, I hereby submit for your information and presentation to Parliament, the Annual Report of the Department of Justice for the financial year ended 30 June 2024.

This Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006*.

Kylie Maj
Director General
Department of Justice
14 October 2024

Mail: GPO Box F317, PERTH WA 6841
Phone: 9264 1600

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Contents

Overview of the Agency 6

Executive Summary.....	6
Achievements at a Glance	8
Our Leaders	10
Organisational Chart.....	12
Operating Locations	14
Strategic Framework.....	16
Performance Management Framework	17
Financial Summary.....	18
Financial Targets	19
Key Performance Indicators Summary.....	20

Agency Performance 22

Corrective Services	22
Court and Tribunal Services	45
Office of the Commissioner for Victims of Crime	57
Equal Opportunity Commission.....	62
Office of the Public Advocate.....	63
Public Trustee.....	65
Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages	66

Services to Government..... 68

Strategic Reform	68
Advisory Services.....	76
Western Australian Office of Crime Statistics and Research.....	80
Parliamentary Counsel's Office	82

People, Culture and Standards 85

Managing our People 88

Health and wellness programs	88
Staff development and performance	88

Workforce Services	89
Employee Assistance Program.....	89
Multicultural Framework.....	89
Aboriginal Workforce Development	90
Recruitment.....	90
Staff views of workplace inclusiveness	90

Disclosures and Legal Compliance 92

Governance disclosures	92
Financial interests.....	92
Capital works	93
Customer feedback	93
Disability Access and Inclusion Planning	93

Asset Management 97

Other Legal Requirements 99

Recordkeeping Plan.....	99
Advertising and Allied Expenditure	100
Freedom of Information.....	100

Government Policy Requirements..... 101

Substantive equality	101
Work Health and Safety and Injury Management.....	101
Board remuneration	103
Acts Administered by the Department of Justice	108

Independent Auditor's Report..... 111

Financial Statements..... 116

Key Performance Indicators..... 177

Executive Summary

It was a great privilege to be appointed Director General of Western Australia's Department of Justice in June 2024 after serving as Acting Director General since January. I am pleased to present the Department's 2023/24 Annual Report and acknowledge our dedicated workforce's continued commitment to a fair, just and safe community for all Western Australians.



The Department provides judicial, legal, custodial, victim support and other essential services for the State Government and Western Australia's Parliament, courts and community and supports the Attorney General and Corrective Services Minister in developing and implementing policies and administering 189 pieces of legislation.

In doing so, we constantly strive to deliver better outcomes for vulnerable people, including those experiencing family violence, disability, health and mental health challenges, or substance misuse issues. In all our work, we also seek to achieve the socio-economic targets set out in the National Agreement on Closing the Gap. The Department has a role to play beyond the justice targets of reducing the rate of imprisonment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people and adults and is committed to working in partnership with Aboriginal people and communities, as well as other agencies, to deliver on broader priority reforms.

There is significant further work to do to meet these objectives. During the financial year, the Department was deeply saddened by the death of a young person in our custody in October 2023. A coronial inquest into this tragedy began in April 2024 and the Department is closely monitoring these proceedings to learn from the evidence being brought forward.

As an immediate response, the Department welcomed new Corrective Services Commissioner Brad Royce, who moved quickly to strengthen our procedures and training and further equip staff to capably manage both those in our care and under community supervision. Our Corrective Services division, supported by the wider Department, continues its focus on improving conditions in custodial settings and proactively developing and implementing strategies to prevent and reduce suicide and self-harm. In the past

year, a new position of Deputy Commissioner for Young People was also created to solely oversee youth custodial and rehabilitation services, with an emphasis on delivering culturally responsive, therapeutic and trauma-informed care.

During the reporting period, several significant milestones and projects were realised across the Department. Our Court and Tribunal Services division expanded court resources with the opening of the \$86 million state-of-the-art Armadale Courthouse and Police Complex and new Family Court facilities, and commenced a pilot therapeutic court program which aims to divert young people identified as high risk from the criminal justice system and reduce reoffending. Called In-Roads, the program offers individualised, therapeutic and culturally safe community supports to those who have pled guilty to criminal charges.

The prolific legislation team of our Strategic Reform division, working in collaboration with the Parliamentary Counsel's Office, developed extensive legislation, assisted Ministers and guided Bills through parliamentary processes on their way to becoming law, culminating in the introduction of four Bills and the passage of five Acts in 2023/24.

Many of these legislative reforms responded to the Government's commitment to enhance system responses to family and domestic violence and drew on the voices of victims following consultation conducted by the Office of the Commissioner for Victims of Crime. These reforms included enactment of the *Sentence Administration Amendment (Monitoring Equipment) Act 2024*, which introduced a minimum penalty of imprisonment for monitored family and domestic violence (FDV) and other adult offenders who removed or damaged their GPS monitoring device and raised the maximum penalty to three years jail. The Family Violence Legislation Reform Bill 2024 was also introduced to mandate electronic monitoring for high-risk or repeat FDV offenders on bail or otherwise supervised in the community.

The Bill also amends the definition of family violence in the *Restraining Orders Act 1997* to better recognise

the patterned nature of coercive control behaviours, representing the first legislative reform as part of the Government's phased response to the criminalisation of coercive control.

The Office of the Commissioner for Victims of Crime directly engaged with more than 1,120 victims during the year as it continued to co-lead the development of Western Australia's first Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Strategy with the Department of Communities. The Office's Redress Co-ordination Unit also enabled thousands of WA survivors of historical sexual abuse in State Government institutions to access payments and counselling.

Demand continues to increase for the Public Trustee's services to manage the financial and legal matters of Western Australians at-risk of financial abuse, exploitation or neglect. The Auditor General's two-year forensic audit examined \$11.1 billion in payments across 2.2 million transactions and found no evidence of fraud or corruption, instead, observing the Public Trustee's actions were professional, appropriate and in clients' best interests. The major review of the Public Trustee's fee model and fee waiver policy continues with the aim to improve transparency and equity for its clients.

For the Office of the Public Advocate, demand for the statutory services of advocacy and investigation and guardian of last resort has been persistently increasing for more than a decade. This demand has been further impacted by WA's transition to the Commonwealth National Disability Insurance Scheme since 2017/18 as well as the ageing population and legislative reforms under the *Commonwealth Aged Care Act 1997* since the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety.

Our Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages (RBDM) also launched an Online Birth Registration Portal, providing new parents with a welcome alternative to paper-based birth registration forms. A record 140-plus Aboriginal Justice Open Days were held throughout WA, with the Open Days team, RBDM and the Sheriff's Office among

others helping thousands of Aboriginal people with driver's licences, birth certificates, tax returns, fines and Medicare and concession cards. In July last year, the Department's team travelled to the Kiwirrkurra Community in the Gibson Desert to conduct an Open Day in one of Australia's most remote communities. More than 60 residents were provided with these vital services, with other agencies including Transport WA and the Australian Electoral Commission also in attendance.

Whilst I have highlighted just some of our major projects and achievements, I also want to extend my gratitude to all our executive, managers, staff and partner agencies for the wide-ranging responsibilities they undertake and the professional manner in which they discharge their duties, often in tough circumstances.

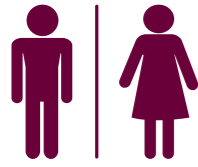
I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge our Ministers, Attorney General the Hon John Quigley MLA and Corrective Services Minister the Hon Paul Papalia CSC MLA, and their ministerial teams for their dedication and valuable strategic guidance.

I also acknowledge former Department Director General Adam Tomison, who resigned in January 2024. Dr Tomison led the Department through a period of complex and challenging issues and the significant policy and legislative reform undertaken during his tenure will have a lasting impact across the agency and wider community.

I look forward to working together in 2024/25 to further our objective of delivering high-quality justice services for all Western Australians and ensuring the safety of our community.

Kylie Maj
Director General

Achievements at a Glance



6,439 Adult male prisoners.
704 Adult female prisoners.
Average populations (per day).



82 Youth detainees.
1,569 Young people in the community.
Average populations (per day).



1st regional alcohol and other drug reintegration service established at Bunbury Regional Prison.



3,631 search deployments by the Drug Detection Unit and **150** seizures of illicit drugs and contraband items.



44,199 people summoned for jury duty.



\$81.15 million awarded to victims of crime through the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme.



150 referrals to the Intellectual Disability Diversion Program Court.



7,914 clients have trust accounts managed by the Public Trustee.



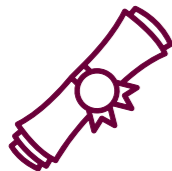
3,598 people under the Guardianship of the Public Advocate.



1,122 direct engagements with victims of crime by the Office of the Commissioner for Victims of Crime.



1,108 requests for information responded to by the Equal Opportunity Commission.



145,285 certificates issued for births deaths, marriages and change of name.



255 items of subsidiary legislation drafted and published.



\$147 million in State and Commonwealth funding allocated to the Legal Assistance Branch.



\$2.2 million allocated to 13 agencies under the Criminal Property Confiscation Grants Program.



141 Open Days delivered, assisting **4,361** community members to access essential identity, registration and licensing documents.

FOCUS ON

16 Days of Action

Staff from across the Department of Justice took part in the Silent March for 16 Days in WA, an annual initiative encouraging community change to end violence against women.

This year's theme was **Stopping Family and Domestic Violence: Play your part.**

The Silent March recognised victims of family violence, with special reflection dedicated to women who have died. Holding banners and signs made by female prisoners from the Boronia, Bandyup, Melaleuca and Wandoo facilities, Department staff walked to honour and pay tribute to victims.

Separate marches were also held at women's prisons across the State where between 70 and 90 per cent of residents have been impacted by family and domestic violence.

The event provided an opportunity for people to learn more about the contributions they can make towards enhancing the safety and respect of women, highlighting the shared responsibility of everyone to work together and play their part to end family and domestic violence.



Our Leaders



Kylie Maj - Director General Kylie was appointed Director General of the Department on 28 June 2024, after having acted in the position since 27 January 2024, and having previously served as the Department's Deputy Director General Strategic Reform from 2019. Kylie has been a driving force for justice reform in Western Australia as a senior executive at several WA Government departments and statutory authorities including the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, the Office of the Auditor General and the Ombudsman WA.



Brad Royce - A/Commissioner, Corrective Services Brad was appointed Acting Commissioner, Corrective Services in October 2023. Brad had previously worked with the Western Australia Police Force for more than 30 years, most recently serving as Assistant Commissioner, responsible for the policing of the Perth Metropolitan area. In recognition of his contributions, he was awarded the Australian Police Medal in 2015. Brad has a proven track record of effective leadership in complex settings and is committed to improving service delivery and building a cohesive Corrective Services that enhances safety across Western Australia.



Gina Hill - A/Deputy Director General, Strategic Reform Gina is a proud Noongar woman who is passionate about improving outcomes for Aboriginal people. Gina's extensive career spans more than 25 years in senior leadership and executive roles in the public and private sector. Prior to joining the Department in 2016, Gina held senior roles in the mining sector, working alongside Aboriginal business partners in QLD, SA and WA. Gina has been instrumental in placing a strong emphasis on the Department's Closing the Gap agenda, the Kimberley Juvenile Justice Strategy and the creation of the Department's Aboriginal Justice Advisory Committee.



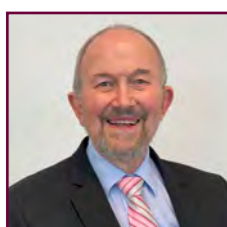
Joanne Stampalia - Deputy Director General, Court and Tribunal Services Joanne Stampalia has worked in the WA public service for more than 30 years, commencing her career with the Office of the Auditor General, before taking up a position with BHP and returning to public service within the Department of Justice. Throughout her career Joanne has focused on continuous improvement to service delivery across the state's courts and tribunals and the broader justice sector. Joanne holds a Master of Business Administration and in 2022 was awarded the Public Service Medal in the Queen's Birthday Honours.



Tony Clark - Deputy Director General, Corporate Services Tony has extensive experience at senior management level within private and public sectors and has provided policy advice at the highest level of government. He specialises in managing industrial relations, HR services, workforce management and discipline within large public sector departments, has a strong focus on organisational change and practical implementation of policy. Tony uses his significant experience to focus on the management of people, improving complaints management and resolving complex and difficult staffing issues. Tony has a Master's Degree in Industrial Relations and Human Resource Management.



Alexandra Filipe - A/Deputy Director General, People, Culture and Standards Prior to this role, Alex was the Department's Executive Director Performance Assurance and Risk. Alex has held senior positions in both public and private settings including with IBM, PwC and most recently with the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development. Throughout her career, Alex has worked closely with key stakeholders across all levels to provide strategic direction and advice in the implementation of contemporary risk, integrity and assurance frameworks to increase organisational performance and retain public confidence in vital services provided.



Dr John Byrne - Commissioner for Equal Opportunity John has been in the role since 2016. In 2020 the Equal Opportunity Commission transitioned to the Department of Justice to improve its access to corporate services. The Commissioner is independent in the performance of statutory functions under the *Equal Opportunity Act 1984*. John has PhD and Masters of Business Administration degrees from the University of Western Australia and in 2020 was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in the Queen's Birthday Honours.



Alison Jackson - Registrar, Births, Deaths and Marriages Prior to this role, Alison held the positions of Registrar of the Fines Enforcement Registry and Deputy Sheriff of WA. With 20 years in the public sector, Alison has extensive experience in policy development and the management of significant projects and contracts. Throughout her career she has worked to promote equal access to services, particularly for those living in regional and remote WA.



Pauline Bagdonavicius - Public Advocate Pauline has more than 35 years' experience in the Western Australian public service, including more than 20 years as a senior executive in government. Her extensive experience in working with vulnerable people has included both service delivery and program development for child protection and family support, as well as for adults experiencing homelessness and alcohol and drug dependency. Since her appointment as the Public Advocate in 2008, Pauline has been a strong voice for adults with a decision-making disability through the provision of advocacy, investigation and guardianship services.



Brian Roche - Public Trustee Brian is an independent statutory officer who leads a team of dedicated staff managing the financial and legal affairs of thousands of vulnerable members of the WA community. Brian has extensive senior management experience in the private and public sectors. Prior to his appointment as the Public Trustee he was a senior executive at the Department of Treasury. Brian was a past recipient of a prestigious Churchill Fellowship by the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust. Brian is currently a non-executive director of the Brightwater Care Group, Trustee of the Give2Good Charitable Foundation and was previously a non-executive director of Dementia Australia and Alzheimer's WA.



Geoff Lawn - Parliamentary Counsel Geoff has held this position since November 2015. In that capacity he is also the Government Printer for Western Australia. Geoff has vast experience in the drafting of legislation, having drafted a huge number of significant items of legislation in both New Zealand and WA. Geoff is passionate about ensuring that WA legislation is drafted as clearly and simply as possible. He also has a longstanding interest in improving public access to legislation on both sides of the Tasman.



Kati Kraszlan - Commissioner for Victims of Crime Kati has held this position since 2020. Before taking up this post, Kati worked extensively in the private sector, then spent many years in the Department of Justice where she contributed to the introduction of the Drug Court and Joondalup Family Violence Court. Kati also delivered the international award-winning West Kimberley Regional Prison. Kati also helped facilitate the State's new family violence laws, delivered the National Redress Scheme in WA for victims of institutional child sexual abuse, helped develop a fund for the funerals of homicide victims, and helped introduce of the State's landmark intimate images abuse laws.



Mark Hainsworth - Executive Director, Advisory Services Mark has worked in the WA Public Service for 36 years and has extensive experience at senior management level within the public sector and has provided policy advice at the highest level of government. Since Mark joined the Department in August 2007, he has specialised in facilitating industrial relations, HR services, workforce management and ICT solutions within a range of public sector agencies. Mark has a strong focus on organisational change and practical implementation of policy. Mark has an Honours Degree in Agricultural Economics and Soil Physics and a Graduate Certificate in Public Sector Management.

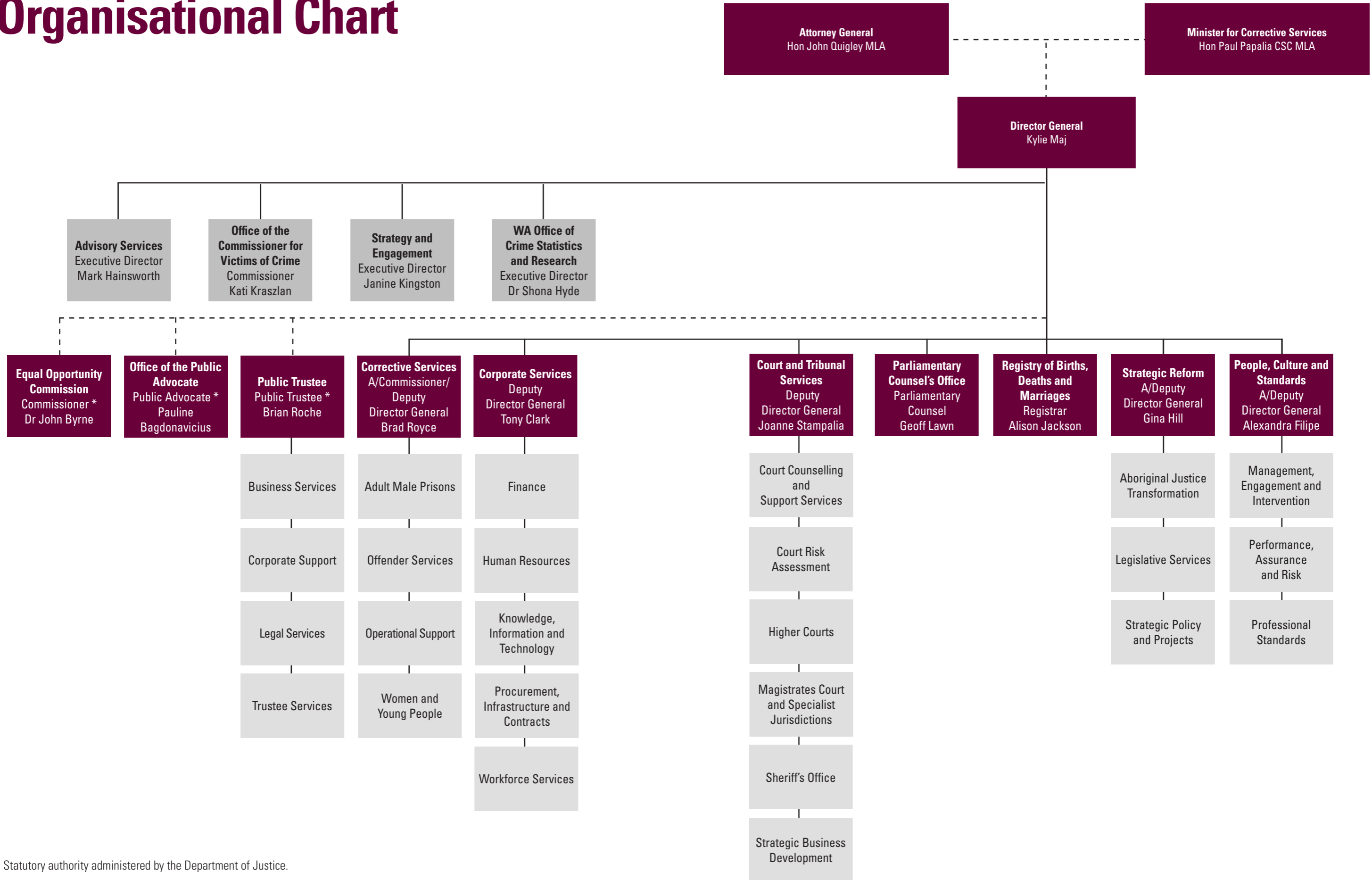


Janine Kingston - Executive Director, Strategy and Engagement Prior to this role, Janine was the Executive Director Strategic Policy where she led the delivery of a substantial and diverse justice policy portfolio as well the implementation of a number of high profile, strategic justice reform projects. Janine has more than 25 years' experience in the Western Australian Public Sector, including, senior leadership and executive roles in the Department of Premier and Cabinet, the then Department of Housing and the Department of Health (State and Federal level). Janine has a Master of Science (Public Health) and is an Australian New Zealand School of Government Fellow.



Dr Shona Hyde, Executive Director, Western Australian Office of Crime Statistics and Research Dr Shona Hyde has been with the Department for more than 17 years, working in a variety of research, evaluation, and policy development roles. Shona has a PhD from the Australian National University and a First Class Honours from Curtin University. Prior to joining the Department, Shona worked in the Office of Crime Prevention in the Department of Premier and Cabinet. Before returning home to Perth, Shona spent four years as a Research Associate at the United Nations University in Tokyo and undertook consultancy work for the United Nations Development Program.

Organisational Chart



* Statutory authority administered by the Department of Justice.

Organisational Chart as at 30 June 2024.

Operating Locations

- Head Office Buildings

- Courthouses

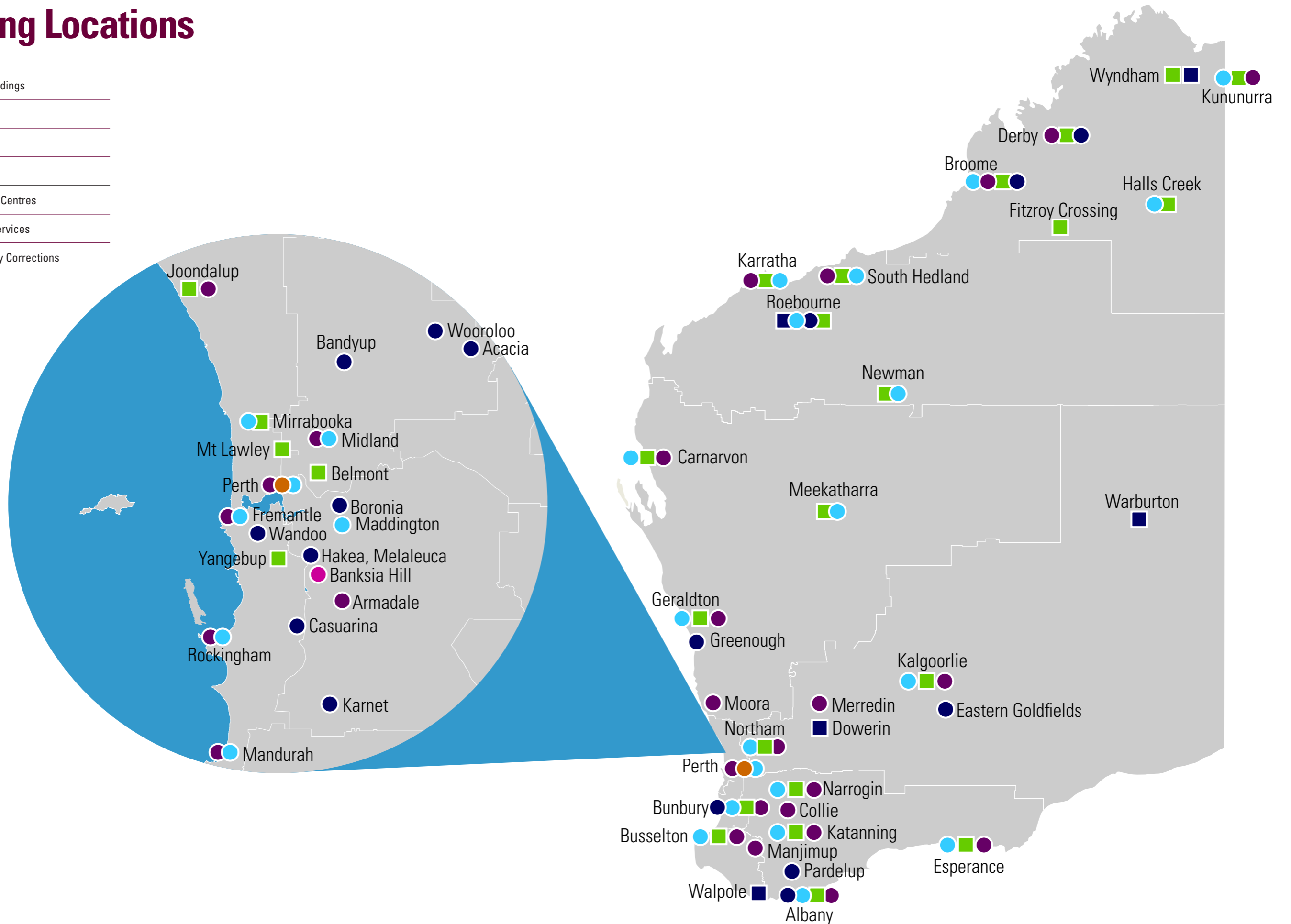
- Prisons

- Work Camps

- Youth Detention Centres

- Youth Justice Services

- Adult Community Corrections



Strategic Framework

Mission

A fair, just and safe community for all Western Australians

Principles

- High performing and professional
- Ethical and accountable
- Trained, safe and supported

Values

- Respecting rights and diversity
- Fostering service excellence
- Being fair and reasonable

Key Result Areas

- Responsive to Government
- Improved data, analytical and evaluative capability
- Targeted and strategic policy development and legislative reform
- Improved service delivery and collaboration
- Improved community safety and security
- Sustainable strategies and outcomes
- Improved community understanding of equal opportunity and human rights

Roles and services

The Department of Justice supports the community, Western Australian Government, judiciary and State Parliament through the provision of access to high quality justice, legal and corrective services, information and products.

The Department is the agency principally responsible for assisting the Attorney General and Minister for Corrective Services in developing and implementing policy and the administration of, and compliance with, 189 Acts.

The Department has a diverse range of services, which have the potential to affect all Western Australians. These include:

Justice Services

- court and tribunal services
- custodial services
- corrections services
- offender management and community safety
- victims support

Services to the Community

- advocacy, guardianship and administration services
- trustee services
- birth, death and marriage services
- equal opportunity information and redress services

Services to Government

- policy advice
- legal advice and representation
- legislative drafting and related services

Performance Management Framework

Relationships to Government goals

Broad government goals are supported at agency level by specific outcomes. Agencies deliver services to achieve these outcomes. The following table illustrates the relationship between the Department's services, desired outcomes and how the Department contributes to government goals.

The key effectiveness indicators measure the extent of impact of the delivery of services on the achievement of desired outcomes. The key efficiency indicators monitor the relationship between the service delivered and the resources used to produce the service.

Government Goal	Department of Justice - Desired Outcomes	Services
Safe, Strong and Fair Communities: Supporting our local and regional communities to thrive	1. An efficient, accessible court and tribunal system	1. Court and Tribunal Services
	2. Trustee, Guardianship and Administration services are accessible to all Western Australians	2. Advocacy, Guardianship and Administration Services 3. Trustee Services 4. National Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse
	3. Western Australian birth, death, marriage and change of name certificates are accurate and accessible	5. Births, Deaths and Marriages
	4. Government receives quality and timely legislative drafting and publication services	6. Services to Government
	5. People who experience discrimination and harassment have efficient and accessible avenues of redress	7. Equal Opportunity Commission Services
	6. Equitable access to legal services and information ¹	8. Legal Assistance ¹
	7. A safe, secure and decent corrective services which contributes to community safety and reduces offenders' involvement in the justice system	9. Adult Corrective Services 10. Youth Justice Services

¹ This outcome and service is delivered by legal assistance agencies that support the delivery of legal services to Western Australians. Grant funding is provided through the Department of Justice to the Legal Aid Commission of Western Australia, Aboriginal Legal Service of Western Australia Limited and Community Legal Centres. The Legal Aid Commission of Western Australia prepares a separate annual report, including reporting against key performance indicators for this desired outcome and service.

Financial Summary

Expenses	Original Budget 2023/24 \$000	Revised Budget 2023/24 \$000	Actual Expenditure 2023/24 \$000
1. Court and Tribunal Services	464,878	506,354	518,744
2. Advocacy, Guardianship and Administration Services	17,588	18,014	14,466
3. Trustee Services	31,346	32,534	31,034
4. National Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse	41,745	47,321	70,063
5. Births, Deaths and Marriages	9,961	10,509	9,762
6. Services to Government	32,398	40,192	38,953
7. Legal Aid Assistance	141,349	157,660	156,794
8. Equal Opportunity Commission	3,651	3,812	3,355
9. Adult Corrective Services	1,030,206	1,117,204	1,158,860
10. Youth Justice Services	117,008	160,889	154,334
Total cost of services	1,890,130	2,094,489	2,156,365

Financial Targets

	Original target 2023/24 \$000	Revised target 2023/24 \$000	Actual 2023/24 \$000	Variance	Comment
Total cost of services (expense limit)	1,890,130	2,094,489	2,156,365	(61,876)	The cost of services was 2.9 per cent higher than the revised target mainly due to increases in provisions for National Redress Scheme, leave entitlements and acknowledgement payments for Western Australian Institute of Sport – Women’s Artistic Gymnastics. In addition, higher than budgeted supplier and services contract costs, and unavoidable breakdown repairs and maintenance.
Net cost of services	1,645,129	1,843,910	1,903,816	(59,906)	Net cost of services was 3.2 per cent higher than the revised target mainly due to the expenditure changes outlined in the comment above.
Total equity	2,343,906	2,457,081	2,535,426	78,345	
Cash assets	21,317	29,426	12,667	(16,759)	

Key Performance Indicators Summary

The Department continued to work towards achieving the key performance indicator targets set in the 2023/24 Budget statements.

In the Supreme Court, ongoing growth in the complexity of civil and criminal matters, coupled with operational constraints, such as a shortage of criminal jury trial facilities have impacted the results this year.

The median time to trial for criminal matters in the Supreme Court criminal jurisdiction was 56 weeks, 17 weeks above the 39 weeks target. This was due to the complexity of cases and the impact of the limited availability of accused counsel for trials. The median time to finalise non-trial matters within the civil jurisdiction of the Supreme Court was 21 weeks, two weeks above the target of 19 weeks.

In the Family Court of Western Australia, the median time to finalise non-trial matters is used to measure the capacity of the court to resolve applications for final order by methods other than by formal trial. In 2023/24, the time to finalise non-trial matters continued to be higher than expected, at 43 weeks and 16 weeks above the target of 27 weeks. This year's above target result was due to continuing long-term growth in the complexity and volume of final order parenting applications lodged, and growth in the finalisation of these applications by court order or direction.

In the District Court criminal jurisdiction, the median time to trial for criminal matters was 64 weeks, 32 weeks above the 32 weeks target. This is due to an ongoing increase in demand for trials, a greater number of pre-trial hearings and the limited availability of accused counsel for trials. Further impacting the result is an increase in the complexity of cases, including multi-accused trials and other operational constraints such as the shortage of criminal jury trial facilities.

In the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT), the median time to finalise a matter was 19 weeks, four weeks above the target of 15 weeks. An increase in the volume of *Building Services (Complaint Resolution and Administration) Act 2011* matters impacted finalisation timeliness.

In the Magistrates Court, the median time to trial for combined criminal and civil matters was 23 weeks, four weeks above the 19 weeks target, due to an increase in demand for criminal trials and an increase in the proportion of criminal trials for offences of a higher seriousness.

The Coroner's Court achieved a median time to inquest of 129 weeks, one week above the target of 128 weeks.

The Fines Enforcement Registry result of 34 per cent of fines and costs satisfied within 12 months of referral was below the target of 35 per cent. The 2023/24 result for infringements satisfied within 12 months was 52 per cent, below the target of 57 per cent. An increasing average debt load per case has resulted in a reduction of clients' financial ability to finalise infringements within 12 months. The non-suspension of licences in remote regions following the amendment of the *Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Enforcement Amendment Act 2020*, effective from the end of September 2020 has further impacted the result.

The Office of the Public Advocate (OPA) continued to experience ongoing and increasing demand for its services to vulnerable adults with decision-making disabilities.

The percentage of guardians of last resort allocated in one day was 92 per cent, which was lower than the target of 95 per cent.

The Public Trustee administered 5.3 per cent of deceased estates in Western Australia during 2023/24, exceeding the annual target of 4 per cent. Additionally, the Public Trustee provided services at a subsidised cost to 61 per cent of clients during 2023/24, meeting the target of 60 per cent.

The Office of the Commissioner for Victims of Crime responded to 87 per cent of requests for information from the National Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse within prescribed timeframes, three per cent below the target of 90 per cent.

At the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages (RBDM), an increase in demand for certificates impacted the timely delivery of certified certificates. In 2023/24, 81 per cent of certified certificates were issued within two days, which was lower than the target of 90 per cent. The RBDM achieved 96 per cent accuracy of its source information, which was one per cent less than the target of 97 per cent.

The Parliamentary Counsel's Office continued to support the State Government's legislative agenda, meeting 100 per cent of the Government's timeframes for legislation it drafted. It also met its commitment to providing free access to the legislation of WA by meeting 100 per cent of its legislation publication target.

The Equal Opportunity Commission (EOC) finalised 95 per cent of complaints alleging unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation within twelve months of receipt by the EOC, meeting the target of 95 per cent for this indicator.

Corrective Services met a number of its targets, with improvements on the previous year.

The rate of return of adult prisoners (either to prison or community corrections) was 37 per cent, which was better than the target of 39 per cent and an improvement on the prior year result. Similarly, the rate of return to youth detention was an improvement from the previous year, at 47.3 per cent, and below the target of 50 per cent.

The target of zero adult escapes was not met, with one minimum security escape occurring during 2023/24. The prisoner was returned to custody and the incident investigated by the Department. There were no escapes from youth detention.

A higher than target rate of successful completion of adult community corrections orders was achieved, at 66.1 per cent, which was above the target of 64 per cent. During 2023/24, the successful completion rate of youth community-based orders was similar to the prior year result, at 61.7 per cent, however below the target of 68 per cent.

The average out of cell hours for adult prisoners was 9.8 hours, lower than the target result due to a range of operational factors.

The rate of serious assault against prisoners and staff of 1.60 per 100 prisoners was higher than the target of <0.48 per 100 prisoners. An increase to the prisoner population, in particular an increase to the remand cohort of prisoners, has contributed toward an increase in the rate of assault.

The complete details of key performance indicators are provided in the Key Performance Indicators section of this report.

Corrective Services

Corrective Services manages the State's prisons, juvenile detention, work camps and people on probation, parole and other community orders. Key priorities include ensuring the safety of the community, staff and those in our care, promoting rehabilitation and upholding ethical and transparent practices.

Corrective Services maintains the custodial estate and community corrections across metropolitan, regional and remote Western Australia. There are prisons, work camps, community corrections and youth justice offices located from Wyndham in the far north, to Warburton in the east and Albany in the south.

In 2023/24 Western Australian prisons held an average daily population of 7,143 adults in custody, while 6,269 adults were managed in the community. During the year there was an average daily population of 82 young people in detention (69 at Banksia Hill Detention Centre and 13 at Unit 18). There was an average daily population of 1,568 young people managed in the community.

Key achievements

- In 2023/24, 244 new Prison Officers and 90 new Youth Custodial Officers undertook training and graduated from the Corrective Services Academy. The Academy also delivered essential foundation training for 66 Adult Community Corrections Officers, 33 Youth Justice Officers and 37 Vocational Support Officers for deployment across the State. Additionally, the Academy developed and initiated a decentralised foundation training model for prison officers at Albany, Eastern Goldfields and Greenough Regional Prisons.
- The Djarraly Alcohol and Other Drug Reintegration Service commenced on 28 August 2023, extending Alcohol and Other Drug through-care services to sentenced prisoners in regional prisons. The service is being delivered by Corrective Services in partnership with Palmerston Association and the South West Aboriginal Medical Service who are responsible for delivery of the Steps Towards Exiting Prison Successfully Program. The service operates using a 'staged approach'. This involves incentivising participants to progress through the hierarchy of prison security ratings for potential placement into an accommodation unit where they experience an environment that is more accustomed to their community living upon release. The model of care aims to achieve a positive, prosocial, recovery-orientated culture and service. It supports individuals transitioning from the prison system back into the community with

a comprehensive 24 month through-care service, innovatively designed to reduce the risk of recidivism.

- In January 2024, a dedicated project team was established to implement a digital evidence management platform including body worn cameras and a digital evidence management system within the Youth Custodial Estate. The Department has equipped all frontline Youth Custodial Officers with modern body worn cameras. The introduction of this digital evidence management platform will improve officer safety, increase evidence gathering capability and provide transparency and accountability surrounding incidents within the Youth Custodial Estate. It will also bring Western Australia in line with other jurisdictions both nationally and internationally, improving staff and prisoner safety and the sharing of information across the justice system.
- In the past year, Banksia Hill Detention Centre has created a specialised team dedicated to providing cultural support to young people in the Department's care. The introduction of the team is unique to Corrective Services and consists of a member of the Senior Management Team, the Aboriginal Services Manager and eight Aboriginal Youth Support Officers. There has been considerable progress towards staff becoming increasingly culturally aware in their engagement with young people and across service delivery, with a view that external organisations will deliver formalised training in cultural security to all staff. Additionally, this team conducts a formalised orientation for all young people at Banksia Hill Detention Centre, allowing them to engage with key staff, and feel supported and heard within the first days of coming to the Detention Centre.
- The Department has delivered a range of initiatives in youth justice to improve outcomes for young offenders. This includes a considerable increase in out of cell hours, improved service delivery, the introduction of the Deputy Commissioner for Young People, in-reach from the Department of Health and training delivered to staff by the National Organisation for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.

- A group of four young detainees at Banksia Hill Detention Centre completed the full Certificate II in Civil Construction, the first time the full certificate was offered at the Detention Centre. The Certificate II in Civil Construction is a course conducted for young people who are interested in pursuing a career in the construction industry. Delivered by Training Alliance Group with support and funding from the Waalitj Foundation, the course provided participants with the practical skills and knowledge to undertake a range of manual labouring tasks and other jobs on civil construction work sites.
- Corrective Services continued to actively contribute to implementation planning for the *Criminal Law (Mental Impairment) Act 2023*, in accordance with the State Government's election commitment. This involved inter-agency service planning with partner agencies including the State Forensic Mental Health Services, Mental Health Commission and Department of Communities.
- Following the successful implementation of the Smoke Free Policy at Bandyup Women's Prison, a Smoke Free Prisons Project was initiated in May 2023. The Department has developed a staged, risk-based approach for the wider rollout of the policy. Between 28 February 2024 and 28 March 2024, Boronia Pre-Release Facility for Women, Wandoo Rehabilitation Prison, Melaleuca Women's Prison and the Corrective Services Academy successfully transitioned to smoke free. The implementation of the policy has been well received and provides a healthy environment for staff, visitors and individuals in the State's care.
- Working in partnership on multidisciplinary prevention and rehabilitation approaches, West Kimberley Youth Justice Services travelled with the Western Australia Police Force to Fitzroy Crossing in May 2024 for a weeklong trip to complete Juvenile Justice Team referrals. This included Noonkanbah, Yungngora, a remote Aboriginal community situated 280km east-south-east of Broome and 100 km south-west of Fitzroy Crossing.
- Corrective Services continued its commitment to community service in the aftermath of the Bunbury tornado, with Section 95 work teams assisting the Department of Fire and Emergency Services with the clean-up effort.
- Boronia Pre-release Centre for Women established a partnership with Guide Dogs WA, commencing the Boronia Puppy Raising Program.
- The Leave Safe, Stay Safe program has provided female prisoners with valuable knowledge and resources to assist with the prevention of family and domestic violence.

Closing the Gap in Corrective Services

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people make up three per cent of the Western Australian population, yet account for approximately 44 per cent of the adult prisoner population and 38 per cent of the adult community offender population. The number of incarcerated Aboriginal people increased in 2023/24 and Western Australia continues to have the highest rate of Aboriginal imprisonment nationally.

Despite some improvement in detention numbers, the significant over-representation of Aboriginal young people in the criminal justice system continued. The average daily population of Aboriginal young people held in detention decreased from 67 (72 per cent of total detainees) in 2022/23 to 55 in 2023/24 (67 per cent of detainees).

Aboriginal Services Committees

The Department is committed to improving how it manages and delivers services to Aboriginal people held in our care. One of the Department's key initiatives is the delivery of local Aboriginal Services Committees. Aboriginal Services Committees are aligned to the Department's Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2022-2024 and meetings are held in all custodial facilities each quarter. With a priority on implementing, managing and delivering cultural services at a local custodial facility, the Committees' focus on keeping Aboriginal people on-Country, wherever possible; enhancing equitable Aboriginal employment and education opportunities; promoting Aboriginal culture and wellbeing in custody, and improving reporting to identify trends, service delivery gaps and service improvements.

During 2023/24, there were 51 local Aboriginal Services Committee meetings held, with more than 556 internal and external stakeholder attendees and an increased number of prisoner and detainee participants contributing to Aboriginal Services Committee meetings at local custodial facilities.

Developing and delivering culturally co-designed correctional prevention, diversion and intervention programs that contribute to Closing the Gap targets is another key focus of Corrective Services cultural initiatives in custody and community centres across the State.

Yiwarra Kuju – Martu Western Desert Justice Program

The Department's partnership with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa was strengthened in 2023/24 through ongoing delivery of the Yiwarra Kuju Program (the Martu Western Desert Justice Program) and its growing service to Martu people.

The program offers two main diversionary cultural and transitional pathways which aim to reduce over-representation of Martu men and women involved in the criminal justice system.

The first pathway involves diversion from court at the pre-sentencing or sentencing stage at the earliest possible point. The second involves a transition from prison, either on parole or at completion of a sentence, transporting prisoners back on-Country safely and avoiding risks such as township centres to avoid and reduce recidivism.

During 2023/24 there were:

- 83 cultural sessions at Roebourne Regional Prison, with 1,102 Martu men and women participants.
- 41 Wangka Minyirra - Martu Cultural Advisory Panel proceedings facilitating 369 separate hearings for 218 separate Martu individuals.
- 47 Martu bail applications and non-custodial sentence outcomes; of these, Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa provided 22 support letters via the Wangka Minyirra Cultural Advisory Panel, with 16 successful in being granted bail (a 72 per cent success rate).
- 36 Martu participants of Yiwarra Kuju activities offered post-release employment through Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa's Ranger program.
- A significant milestone was reached when the program's Executive Steering Governance Group gathered for the Inaugural Executive Steering Governance Group meeting, held in January 2024. In attendance were:
 - State Government Department Director Generals, Commissioners, and Chief Executive Officers
 - BHP's Head of Indigenous Affairs
 - National Indigenous Australians Agency
 - KJ, Martu board members and observers from the Department of Justice, Corrective Services, Department of the Premier and Cabinet, and Department of Treasury.

On 8 May 2024, the Government announced Budget outcomes, approving a 12-month extension and funding of \$0.653 million to continue delivery of the program and complete program evaluation. The Program evaluation commenced in June 2024.

Aboriginal cultural (language and leadership) programs

The Department recognises the importance of promoting, nurturing and preserving Aboriginal languages in Western Australia and has partnered with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations to deliver Aboriginal Cultural (Language and Leadership) Programs across the State.

This initiative focuses on cultural identity, personal development and empowerment, helping prisoners kickstart their lives to create better futures for themselves and their families.

At present, the suite of local place-based cultural programs, delivered across the State, comprise five separate Grant Agreements and Variations. Throughout 2023/24, the Department, with local Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation partners, delivered cultural programs in various custodial settings, to more than:

- 84 Aboriginal men.
- 55 Aboriginal women.
- 13 Aboriginal youth detainees.

Western Australian Aboriginal Leadership Institute Program

Developing Aboriginal cultural leadership skills is a focus for the Department.

Through partnership with the Western Australian Aboriginal Leadership Institute and YAD Consultancy, the Department created opportunities for Aboriginal women to access Aboriginal leadership programs that promote cultural healing; self-development, learning and leadership skills.

In 2023/24 the program was delivered to 17 Aboriginal women at Melaleuca Women's Prison.

Western Australian Aboriginal Leadership Institute Elders continue to visit custodial sites on a regular basis to facilitate Yarning Circles and provide cultural support.

Prison population at a glance

Western Australia has 16 public prisons, one private prison and five work camps. In 2023/24, the facilities collectively housed an average of 7,143 adult prisoners per day, including an average of 65 prisoners per day in minimum-security work camps. An increase in prisoner numbers in 2023/24 has seen prisoner population exceed pre-COVID-19 levels.

Average daily population ¹	2023/24	2022/23	Change
Overall	7,143	6,352	12.5%
Prison location			
Metropolitan	5,084	4,538	12%
Regional	2,059	1,814	13.5%
Gender			
Male	6,439	5,761	11.8%
Female	704	592	18.9%
Aboriginality			
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	3,131	2,667	17.4%
Non-Aboriginal	4,012	3,685	8.9%
Personal security rating			
Maximum	2,215	1,858	19.2%
Medium	3,354	3,029	10.7%
Minimum	1,574	1,465	7.4%

¹ Figures may not add to total due to rounding.

Adult Male Prisons

Adult Male Prisons is responsible for the operation of four metropolitan male prisons, eight regional prisons, five regional men's work camps and statewide prison industries. The Directorate works to ensure prisons are safely and securely managed and that male prisoners are treated with respect while being offered education and training opportunities as part of their overall rehabilitative journey.

In 2023/24, on average, Adult Male Prisons was responsible for the daily management of 6,439 male prisoners. Adult males constituted 90 per cent of the State's total prison population, with 43 per cent identifying as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent.

Mallee Rehabilitation Centre

The Mallee Unit is the State's first dedicated alcohol and other drug rehabilitation facility for male prisoners.

In 2023/24, 70 participants graduated from the Solid Steps Program and 61 prisoners who completed the program were released from custody. The Western Australia Office of Crime Statistics and Research is tracking the graduates'

progress and will evaluate the program's outcomes over the next two years.

The Djarally Alcohol and Other Drug Reintegration Service which began in August 2023, is partly designed to provide stepdown support to Mallee graduates who will remain in prison once they leave the program (see below).

Djarally Alcohol and Other Drug Reintegration Service

As part of the State Government's Methamphetamine Action Plan, the Department continues to strengthen its efforts to break the cycle of alcohol and drug-related crime. In August 2023 the Djarally Alcohol and Other Drug Reintegration Service commenced at Bunbury Regional Prison. Djarally, the Noongar name for jarrah is described by participants as taking them on a regeneration journey, identifying individuals coming into prison as 'burnt' and the service providing a path that enables regeneration, much like the jarrah trees' recovery from fire and its extraordinary ability to re-shoot and regenerate itself.

The service is being delivered by Corrective Services in

partnership with Palmerston Association and the South West Aboriginal Medical Service. The service has the ability to accommodate up to 72 participants approximately six months prior to release to the community; enabling participants to progress through the hierarchy of prison security ratings for potential placement into accommodation and an environment that is more accustomed to community living. It is underpinned by several key principles of therapeutic community design including, motivational interviewing and client-centered direct counselling approaches that are inclusive, culturally sensitive and grounded in trauma informed care and practice. The service aims to achieve a positive, prosocial and recovery-orientated culture where individuals leaving the prison system are provided with opportunities to strengthen links with family and culture to support successful transition back into the community, and further supported by an extended 24 month through-care service that aims to reduce reoffending.

Roebourne Regional Prison air conditioning upgrade

In November 2022, the Minister for Corrective Services announced that the air conditioning at Roebourne Regional Prison would be expanded. The contract for the project was awarded during the 2023/24 financial year and works scheduled to commence on site during late 2024. The State Government has committed \$17.5 million for this project.

Prison Industries

Prison Industries, co-ordinated by Adult Male Prisons, is an integral part of the Western Australian prison system. Prisoners undertake a broad range of employment and training activities including the completion of accredited TAFE courses and apprenticeships in a wide variety of industries such as; dairy, abattoir, bakery, laundry, kitchen, textiles, carpentry and metal work. The diverse range provides prisoners with the opportunity to be employed in meaningful work while also developing skills and experience to assist with their rehabilitation and reintegration back into the community.

The goods and services produced by Prison Industries contribute to increasing self-sufficiency and sustainability across the custodial estate. The Department is fully self-sufficient in milk and processed meat products (sheep and beef), 35 per cent self-sufficient in the supply of staple fruit and vegetables and 79.2 per cent self-sufficient in the eggs supply.

In 2023/24, Prison Industries produced food to the value of \$25.13 million. This included 875,342 kilograms of processed meat products valued at \$15.36 million, 1.66 million litres of milk valued at \$2.48 million, 109,007 dozen eggs valued at \$408,776 and 609,793 units of fruit and vegetables valued at \$1.32 million. Bread, bakery and processed vegetables contributed \$2.17 million and \$3.38 million respectively to the total value of food produced. The primary, essential, secondary and support industries contributed a combined value of \$82.59 million to the custodial estate.

In 2023/24, on average, prisoners worked approximately 93.62 hours per month, resulting in an annual total of 8.01 million hours worked in either Prison Industries or through Section 95 arrangements. Using the nominal minimum wage of \$22.72 per hour, this equates to a notional labour value in excess of \$182.07 million.

Section 95 community support and activities

Section 95 of the *Prisons Act 1981* allows eligible minimum-security prisoners who are nearing release to make reparation to the community while undertaking training and gaining new skills to assist with their reintegration. These activities are undertaken at five work camps located at Walpole, Dowerin, Warburton, Roebourne and Wyndham.

On-site Section 95 programs operate directly from the custodial estate's prison and prison farms located at Broome, Bunbury, Eastern Goldfields, Greenough, Karnet, Pardelup, Roebourne, West Kimberley and Wooroloo.

These activities include supervised work carried out at custodial facilities and projects undertaken for local communities and government organisations in the community. As COVID-19 restrictions eased in 2023/24, Section 95 activities were able to increase at most sites offering these services.

The total value of Section 95 work undertaken by sites across the State in 2023/24 was \$2.38 million, an increase of 18.8 per cent from 2022/23.

Section 95 activity hours

Type of work	2023/24
Community work	69,057
Government work	35,904
Total hours	104,961

Examples of the external projects that were undertaken by prisoners over 2023/24 included:

South West Region

- A variety of maintenance work including, the Northcliffe to Walpole Bibbulmun Track, gardens and facilities of the Walpole Ficifolia Community Garden and buildings and gardens of the Tingle Dale Community Hall.
- Working in partnership with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions and contributing to the Emergency Bushfire Management, including water bomber reloading training to assist with fire mitigation.

Pardelup Prison Farm

- Tootanellup Exo Site - site clearing, preparing for construction, setting out/installing footings, construction of pergola, information stand and toilet blocks, installing water tanks/fittings and provision of final site clean-up.
- Conducted general garden and grounds maintenance works at several local government and community groups/clubs including Speedway, Noongar Centre, police stations (Mt Barker, Cranbrook, Tambellup, Gnowangerup and Denmark), local churches (Anglican, Uniting, Catholic, Sacred Heart, Seventh Day Adventist) and Shires of Plantagenet and Denmark owned buildings.
- Plantagenet Mt Barker Police Force Games community event - assisted with the set up and organisation of the two-day event.

Bunbury Regional Prison

- Bunbury Regional Hospital - construction of new gardens, decking, gazebo assembly, pressure cleaning of decks, planting, reticulation, erection of new enclosure and site clean-up.
- Ngilgi Cave - assisted with renovation, site clean-up, gravel/mulch spreading, fencing, building demolition, timber stacking, oiling, and paving.
- Section 95 work teams assisted the Department of Fire and Emergency Services in the clean-up effort after the Bunbury tornado.

Karnet Prison Farm

- Distribution of firewood from Alcoa to local elderly/disadvantaged residents - prisoners cut wood donated by Alcoa ready for delivery by community volunteers.
- Jarrahdale Veteran's Transition Centre - refurbishment of 24 chalets, painting/replacing kitchenettes/flooring, construction of two new chalets and general gardening and fire mitigation activities.
- Collaboration with Fire and Emergency Services and Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions staff/volunteers - fire mitigation activities such as tree felling, weed control, mulching, site clean-ups, and gate repairs undertaken in preparation for the next fire season.
- Collaboration with Defence West and Main Roads - 19 Victoria Cross plaques repaired or replaced along the South Western and Albany Highways.
- Conducted internal maintenance, construction, grounds/gardens and general tidying work for Department of Justice sites, the Mt Lawley Youth Justice Centre, Old Armadale Court House, Special Operations Group base, Drug Detection Unit complex, and several WA prison sites.

Greenough Regional Prison

- Geraldton Scouts Hall - ongoing restoration of the weatherboard building that has been used since 1926. Works included re-stumping the building, repairing window/door frames, replacing the weatherboard skin and yard clean-up.
- Restoration of the 20-year-old Batavia Longboat replica - prisoners' woodworking skills were used to replace timber seating and flooring.

West Kimberley Regional Prison

- Maintenance of Government Regional Officer Housing properties in the community - general upkeep and maintenance of gardens and grounds.
- Maintenance of gardens and grounds at the local police station, Tourist Heritage Museum and other local government buildings.

Wooroloo Prison Farm

- Gidgegannup Show - assisted with set-up and clean-up. Prison produced baked goods and fresh produce displayed at the show received several awards.
- Local primary schools (Wooroloo, Wundowie, Gidgegannup and Chidlow) - Section 95 teams assisted with general clean-up of green waste and tree/bush trimming. Additionally they assisted with building a retaining rock wall (Wundowie), clearing an unused garden bed (Wooroloo) and creating wooden paint stands/other items for use at the schools.

Dowerin Work Camp

- Kununoppin Hospital - conducted a range of building maintenance, construction, fire mitigation and grounds activities such as upgrading the chicken coop, constructing a new tool storage shed and removing fire prone native fuel.
- Goomalling Pony Club - built and relocated the horse enclosures, maintaining horse jumps, painting and general maintenance.
- Dowerin school - prepared the children's play area during school holidays by building limestone retaining walls and installing and assembling play equipment.
- Wyalkatchem Museum - flood prevention. Prepared for the construction of limestone retaining walls by digging and levelling the ground and digging and pouring concrete footings.
- Koorda Community Gardens - assisted local elderly people with the upkeep and maintenance of the gardens including the installation of bench seating, building a new storage shed and mulching.

Roebourne Work Camp

- Karratha Pony Club - constructed can/bottle collection cages using recycled fencing for dispersal throughout the community.
- St Johns Wickham Sub Centre shed - fabricated and installed a storeroom using cool room panelling.
- Gurlu Gurlu Maya Child and Parent Centre - construction of picnic tables and outdoor furniture for use by local families as a meeting place to build community spirit.
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions - construction of steel framework for 13 pieces of furniture for distribution and use within the national park.
- Roebourne Police trailer - restoration and repair involving rust removal, welding and repainting.

Warburton Work Camp

- Local cemeteries - made gravestones to prevent graves being disturbed by animals or natural elements.
- Ground/garden maintenance and clean-ups - local police station, road stops, pool, gym and other municipal buildings.

Wyndham Work Camp

- Kimberley Police Station - washed police lock-up blankets for prisoner use.
- Shire of Wyndham (East Kimberley) - maintenance/construction projects and flood damage repairs to infrastructure involving erosion damage repair, rebuilding paths and flood ways and making travel areas safe.

Women and Young People

Women and Young People is responsible for female prisoners in custody, young people in detention and young people being managed in the community. In 2023/24, the directorate was responsible for the management of an average of 704 female prisoners; 82 youth detainees; and 1,569 young people in the community, per day.

As part of a strategic realignment and ongoing commitment to better meet the needs of women and young people in contact with the criminal justice system the Department initiated the restructuring of the Women and Young People directorate into two independent directorates to allow for greater specialisation and responsiveness for the women and young people cohort. The creation of the Young People Directorate, which came into effect on 1 July 2024, will enable the Department to continue to enhance its capacity to develop evidence-based and trauma-informed approaches to address the unique and sensitive needs of young people in contact with the criminal justice system.

Young people managed in the community

Average daily population	2023/24	2022/23	Change
Overall ¹	1,569	1,440	9%
Gender ²			
Male	1,139	1,064	7%
Female	430	376	14.4%
Aboriginality ²			
Aboriginal	862	889	-3%
Non-Aboriginal	485	431	12.5%
Service category ³			
Court order (incl bail)	511	525	-2.7%
Supervised release order	31	35	-11.4%
Youth Justice team (incl Court Conference Referrals)	622	695	-10.5%
Other Youth Justice services	605	359	68.5%

Youth Justice

Youth Justice staff work with some of the State's most disadvantaged and challenging young people. The primary focus of Youth Justice is to keep the community safe, divert young people from the justice system and reduce their reoffending through the provision of programs and services. Services are provided through 10 primary community-based centres and 16 sub-centres across Western Australia.

Youth Justice Services strive to foster multidisciplinary prevention and rehabilitation approaches and working in partnership with a network of supports including families, Elders, and community, along with a wide range of government and non-government agencies. Young people in contact with the youth justice system often present with complex needs and require a multi-faceted approach. Youth Justice Services work with young people and their families in a way that is individualised, holistic, timely, in collaboration with other agencies and with the understanding that connection to culture and family is vital in supporting Aboriginal young people.

Young people in custody

Average daily population	2023/24	2022/23	Change
Overall	82	94	-12.8%
Status ⁴			
Sentenced	35	37	-5.4%
Unsentenced	47	57	-17.5%
Gender			
Male	74	84	-11.9%
Female	8	10	-20%
Aboriginality			
Aboriginal	55	67	-17.9%
Non-Aboriginal	27	27	0%

¹ Includes persons whose gender or Aboriginality is unknown.

² May not total to overall due to persons whose gender or Aboriginality is unknown.

³ May not total to overall as an individual could be counted in multiple categories.

⁴ May not total to overall due to rounding.

In 2023/24 the focus on diversion continued through these centres and included:

- **Juvenile Justice Teams:** A total of 2,336 referrals were made to Youth Justice Teams this year, a nine per cent decrease in the number of referrals on the previous year. Run in partnership with the Western Australia Police Force, Youth Justice Teams manage young people who have committed low level offences or may be in the early stages of offending, by diverting them from court and working with them, their family and the victim (where appropriate) in a restorative justice process.
- **Metropolitan and Regional Youth Bail Services:** Young people were bailed on 816 occasions by these services rather than being placed into custody, a seven per cent increase over the 765 bail episodes in the previous year.
- **Community-based supervision:** The average daily population of young people managed on youth community correction orders was 511 (including bail), a decrease of three per cent from the previous year, when the average daily population was 525. This contrasts with a 13 per cent decrease in the average daily detention population.

Youth Justice Services utilises the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory 2.0 for all young people eligible for Youth Justice Services to determine a young person's risk of reoffending, criminogenic needs and responsivity factors. The 42-item assessment tool incorporates static and dynamic risk factors to provide evidence-based defensibility to the decision-making process and inform case management interventions.

Youth Justice Services conducted a year long pilot program concluding in late 2023 to evaluate the efficacy of seminal research conducted by Youth Justice Psychological Service Clinical Counselling Forensic Psychologist Dr Kristie Dellar into the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory. The research found empirical support for the use of the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory as a reliable method for conducting general risk assessments for young people in Western Australia who offend, including Aboriginal young people. Dr Dellar identified a combination of the five most predictive items in the full Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory to create a screener tool for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal young people.

The pilot program sought to operationalise the utilisation of the 5-Item Screener Tool Assessments and track the recidivism rates of young people who are case managed with a strict adherence to the Risk Needs Responsivity principles. Results from the program found an aggregate 40 per cent reduction in recidivism for both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal young people.

Since the 5-Item Screener Tools and associated changes to case management were implemented across all 10 Youth Justice Services centres statewide, Youth Justice Service has seen a 36 percent reduction in the recidivism rate for young people. This has attracted interest from our Youth Justice counterparts around the world as we strive to deliver the best outcomes for young people, their families and the community.

Banksia Hill Detention Centre

Banksia Hill Detention Centre is Western Australia's main youth detention facility for young people who are serving a custodial sentence or who are remanded in custody. Unit 18, Casuarina was declared a detention centre in July 2022 to manage young people transferred from Banksia Hill Detention Centre as part of the management model. The youth custodial estate offers a range of programs and services to address a young person's health and emotional wellbeing, with the aim of reducing reoffending rates.

In June 2023, the Government announced a range of measures to continue improving youth detention, with these measures being implemented through 2023/24. Additional staff and enhanced training continue to be implemented, along with establishing the Aboriginal Services Unit and Aboriginal Elders and Leaders, which has helped enhance the support and mentoring of young people, along with assisting in connecting them to culture, country, family and community.

Model of care achievements

- The Aboriginal Services Unit has helped increase the focus on cultural safety and awareness. Aboriginal Youth Support Officers provide support across Banksia Hill Detention Centre and Unit 18, helping young people access appropriate cultural support.
- The Aboriginal Elders and Leaders Cultural Mentoring program commenced at Banksia Hill Detention Centre on 14 February 2024 and Unit 18 on 29 February 2024. Aboriginal Elders and Leaders are now in regular attendance at both locations, helping connect young people to culture, and offering guidance and leadership to young people and staff.
- Aboriginal Elders and Leaders dedicate time to support young people including one-on-one as appropriate. They facilitate cultural connection, build rapport and provide guidance and leadership to young people and staff ensuring cultural care remains a primary focus. Work is ongoing to expand the pool of Aboriginal Elders and Leaders to include Elders and Leaders from regions across WA. The Department also strengthened other important partnerships and engaged with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations to deliver cultural enrichment and support to young people.
- The Department has also enhanced specialist advice and training by engaging additional external providers for

services and training for staff. The National Organisation for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Australia (NOFASD) delivered specific training to youth custodial staff to continue improving the understanding of the disability impacting young people in detention and the KIDS Research Institute Australia (formerly the Telethon Kids Institute) facilitated expertise on screening, assessment and intervention for young people with neurodevelopmental disabilities. The model of care also supports strengthening of partnerships with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) and State Forensic Mental Health Service commenced in July with consultant psychiatry, neuropsychology, speech pathology and specialist clinical nursing. Child Protection and Family Support have also allocated dedicated positions to support young people in the care of the CEO.

Enablers of model of care

- Key enablers of the model of care include staff and infrastructure. Stabilising staffing levels and infrastructure improvements has increased capacity to deliver better outcomes.
- Staff are central to a young person's experience at Banksia Hill Detention Centre, they are vital to facilitating positive change in a young person's life.
- In 2023, 86 probationary Youth Custodial Officers graduated from five training programs at the Academy. A further six programs will run in 2024, with the potential for 144 new recruits. Fit-for-purpose infrastructure is fundamental to supporting staff to provide quality care and enabling a safe environment.
- A further \$3.5 million was allocated to develop an Aboriginal Services Unit to provide cultural support and services to address the over-representation of Aboriginal young people at Banksia Hill Detention Centre, including those from regional Western Australia. New staff positions will be created, including additional Aboriginal welfare officers and Aboriginal medical and mental health workers, together with contracted service provision.

Infrastructure

The Department is continuing to improve security and service delivery at Banksia Hill Detention Centre. A significant infrastructure works program has been established to improve the physical environment for young people and staff at Banksia Hill Detention Centre and Unit 18. Throughout 2023/24, this included refurbishment of the Intensive Supervision Unit, which has been completed, and rebuilding units damaged in the May 2023 major disturbance at Banksia Hill Detention Centre.

The Government also announced the intention to construct a new youth detention facility for complex young offenders,

with the Department developing a business case throughout the remainder of 2023/24 for a new purpose-built, high security and therapeutic-based centre. As of June 2024, the business case remained in development.

Programs

Participation by young people in programs and activities at Banksia Hill Detention Centre provides detainees with an opportunity to improve their social skills, self-efficacy and confidence, self-regulation and relational and physical responses. Banksia Hill Detention Centre has continued to expand on the programs and activities available to the detainees, including ensuring a range of programs continue to be available to the young people at Unit 18.

Over the year, Banksia Hill Detention Centre focused on creating increased opportunities for involvement by families. In addition to parents or significant family members continuing to attend case planning meetings and social visits (in-person and electronically), they were invited to the graduation events held to celebrate young people completing programs and education. A Christmas Family Day was also held in December 2023 and an Easter Family Day in April 2024.

Education

A new classroom has been created at Unit 18, as well as new and innovative programs being introduced and delivered at Banksia Hill Detention Centre.

The new classroom at Unit 18 has offered young people the opportunity to do schoolwork in a learning environment designed to see them thrive as students. Seven young people have completed their White Card and three young people their Keys for Life.

New programs introduced to young people at Banksia Hill Detention Centre include Working at Heights, Entering and Working in Confined Space and the Certificate II in Civil Construction. These courses, when combined with the White Card, Keys for Life and Certificate in General Education help the young people build a portfolio of skills and certificates whilst learning in school at the Detention Centre and can set them up for life.

Education Services recently welcomed a new staff member to their team, a former detainee who was released from Banksia Hill Detention Centre 12 months ago.

Young people at Banksia Hill Detention Centre who participate in the school's intensive literacy support program continue to make extraordinary progress.

Women in Custody

Women and Young People oversees four metropolitan women's prisons and provide for women housed at five mixed-gender regional facilities throughout Western Australia in 2023/24.

Bandyup Women's Prison

A significant proportion of the state's sentenced female prisoners are housed at Bandyup Women's Prison. The profiles and pathways into offending for women differ fundamentally from those of men, often involving histories of interpersonal victimisation, including physical, sexual, and emotional abuse, as well as homelessness, poverty, social isolation, unemployment, substance abuse and violent relationships.

These factors lead to diverse pathways into the criminal justice system for women. High rates of trauma correlate with mental health issues and substance dependency, affecting many female offenders. The women's estate focuses on support, recovery, and rehabilitation, encouraging personal responsibility through mentoring, programs, education, vocational opportunities, and constructive activities.

The Bindi Bindi Mental Health Unit at Bandyup Women's Prison, supports prisoners with poor mental health, providing intensive care and a supportive environment for addressing mental health needs. Accommodating 17 women across two units, Bindi Bindi has housed 284 women since its inception.

The sensory room at Bandyup Women's Prison was completed and opened in August 2023. Funded to convert a sub-acute cell in Bindi Bindi Unit, the room is covered by CCTV.

The Bindi Bindi team identified a need for low-stimulus environments to support de-escalation and trauma coping, reducing the need to transfer women to crisis care units. This aligns with the unit's trauma-informed care principles.

Sensory rooms are best practice in mental health care, helping reduce seclusion by addressing escalating behaviour in a therapeutic setting. The Bindi Bindi Unit effectively implemented the sensory room, training staff and using evidence-based tools to develop personalised care plans.

Bandyup Women's Prison offers gender-specific support services and programs, including specialised mother and baby units where approved infants up to 12 months can reside with their mothers, as well as multiple parenting programs, with nearly 90 per cent participation. These programs support mother-child bonding, positive parenting, and child development. In 2023/24, 21 women resided with their babies in these units. Bandyup also continued to provide training opportunities, including a 10-week Foodbank WA healthy eating and cooking program for mothers with children under five which promotes the Government's healthy choices guidelines.

In 2023/24, Bandyup Women's Prison saw 15 residents enroll for university studies and complete a total of 13 units. Industries continued to have the highest enrolment rate due to increased traineeships and vocational training, particularly in textiles and laundry. Literacy and numeracy programs remained strong, with 200 units completed, ensuring a continued focus on reading, writing, and general math skills.

Peer Support Workers have been prioritised to study the Corrective Services Mental Health course delivered through the Australian Medical Association. In consultation with the Australian Medical Association, different units have been provided so Peer Support Workers can gain a full qualification within 12-18 months whilst being appropriately trained for their position.

Additionally, Bandyup launched a pilot program on 2 June 2023 to support victims of family and domestic violence as they prepare to leave prison. Across 2023/24, a total of 22 women successfully completed the Leave Safe Stay Safe program, which received positive feedback. The program is currently supporting its fourth participating group, with another seven women set to finish soon and a new regional course commencing in early July 2024.

Wandoo Rehabilitation Prison

Wandoo was repurposed as the State's first dedicated female alcohol and other drug rehabilitation facility in August 2018 as part of the Government's Methamphetamine Action Plan. Wandoo caters for up to 77 prisoners within a medium security campus style setting, featuring accommodation, communal kitchens, laundries and sports facilities.

In partnership with Cyrenian House, the prison offers a 28-week intensive therapy course designed to tackle the root causes of addiction. Wandoo is recognised as a therapeutic community by the Australasian Therapeutic Communities Association, the first prison in Australia to receive this accreditation. On 30 June 2024, a total of 308 women had graduated from the program since it started operating in August 2018.

In 2023/24, Wandoo Rehabilitation Prison:

- Saw a further 40 women graduate from the program.
- Celebrated five years of operation and conducted special events to celebrate this milestone.
- Introduced a Beekeeping Training Program for residents in September 2023. The prison currently maintains beehives and plans to expand next year. At 30 June 2024, the hives had produced approximately 20 kilograms of honey.

Boronia Pre-Release Centre for Women

Boronia Pre-Release Centre for Women focuses on maximising women's potential to re-enter the community positively, confidently and safely through the provision of meaningful rehabilitation activities and work placements.

Each year Boronia staff and residents host a Gala Day. The Boronia Community Engagement and Advisory Group select a charity, in keeping with the prison's philosophy, to donate money raised from the Gala Day. The residents sell cakes, pastries, artwork, craft and plants propagated at the facility.

A particular highlight of Gala Day is the art auction.

The paintings included in the 2023 Gala Day auction were completed by prisoners from all over WA. The art students at Banksia Hill Detention Centre and offenders completing community-based orders also supported Gala Day and submitted paintings for the auction. This positive restorative justice initiative has now raised \$308,977 for local not-for-profit organisations and charities since it was first held in 2005. The 2023 Gala Day beneficiary was Worthy Australia Foundation Ltd.

Boronia strengthened its relationships with local providers and the National Indigenous Australians Agency identified employers and service providers to create potential employment pathways for women in the hospitality and other industries.

On 29 December 2022, the Minister for Corrective Services opened a special kitchen facility at the Corrective Services Training Academy in Bentley, supported by funding from the National Indigenous Australians Agency. The kitchen is central to the Yirra Djinda program, a Federal-State partnership to help Aboriginal women prisoners to obtain the skills they need to find employment in the hospitality industry after release. Some of the participants have been released and are now working in the hospitality industry. The program continued to deliver successfully on the program's objectives through 2023/24. The Yirra Djinda participants attend employment and training exhibitions and meet regularly with potential employers to build relationships particularly with culturally appropriate employment providers. The program catered for multiple events, including at the Corrective Services Academy, with a total of 29,905 meals between July 2023 and June 2024.

In partnership with SwanCare and Cycling Without Age, Boronia has developed Ride 4 a Reason, a new program that provides Boronia residents with an opportunity to volunteer with Cycling Without Age and provide free bike rides to the SwanCare village residents.

Boronia Pre-release Centre for Women went smoke free on 28 February 2024. A three-month plan of support included providing nicotine replacement therapy, patches and lozenges, establishment of smoke free champions, health

and psychological supports, activities and community events, interfacility volleyball and networking with Melaleuca and Wandoo Prisons.

In collaboration with Guide Dogs Western Australia, Boronia Pre-release Centre commenced the Boronia Puppy Raising Program. The program offers volunteering opportunities for Boronia residents who are coming to the end of their sentence and are preparing for reintegration into the community. Boronia initially received two, eight-week-old Labrador puppies on 20 May 2024 and residents undertook extensive training. With instruction from trainers from Guide Dogs Western Australia, the residents taught the puppies basic obedience and socialisation. Under supervision, selected residents took the dogs to shops, restaurants and on public transport as part of the training to get them well socialised.

Puppies remain at Boronia between 14 and 16 months, before formal training as guide or therapy dogs. The primary objective of the partnership between Guide Dogs Western Australia and Boronia is to prepare puppies for training as guide or assistance dogs for Western Australians living with low vision, disability and illness. Objectives for Boronia residents' engagement include improving self-esteem, mental wellness, connection and relationship building, teamwork, engaging in education and vocational training (Certificate III in Animal Studies), employment opportunities on release, giving back to the community and enhanced community reintegration. Residents attend puppy training at Guide Dogs Western Australia, and Guide Dogs Western Australia trainers attend Boronia for weekly home visits.

Melaleuca Women's Prison

Melaleuca Women's Prison is the State's remand facility for women. The facility focuses on delivering support and services specific to women remanded in custody including access to health assessment and treatment of immediate needs, legal counsel, attendance at court, maintaining family connection assessment and case management. Melaleuca Women's Prison also engages with service providers to deliver a range of constructive activities for women including recreation, education and programs. Melaleuca offers education services and traineeships for prisoners including:

- Certificate I in General Education for Adults in both Literacy and Numeracy. There are approximately 16 units to attain the qualification and two tutors attend three days a week. Melaleuca has 50 per cent Aboriginal participation in all education courses.
- Certificate II in Visual Arts.
- Salon Assistant (Hair Dressing).
- Barista - Coffee Making and Food Hygiene.
- Driver Education – Prisoners attain their Learners Permit from Department of Transport.

- First Aid.
- Public Speaking.
- Certificate II in Horticulture – 12 month qualification offered to women working in the garden.
- Certificate II in Cookery – 9 month qualification offered to women working in the kitchen.
- Certificate II in Supply Chain Operations – 12 month qualification offered to women working in the stores.
- Certificate III in Cleaning Operations – 12 month qualification offered to women working in the cleaning team.

Smoke free women’s facilities

Following the successful implementation of the Smoke Free Policy at Bandyup Women’s Prison on 31 October 2022, Wandoo Rehabilitation Prison, Boronia Pre-Release Centre for Women and Melaleuca Women’s Prison were successfully transitioned to smoke free between 28 February and 28 March 2024.

The implementation of the Smoke Free Policy at these sites has been well received and provides a healthy environment for staff, visitors and individuals in the State’s care. Corrective Services established close relationships with Cancer Council WA, Make Smoking History to support individuals on their smoke free journey.

Offender Services

Offender Services manages the complex needs of offenders and addresses criminal behaviours with a range of interventions. Services include adult community corrections, health, mental health, alcohol and other drug rehabilitation, prisoner support, reintegration and rehabilitation, education, employment and transitional services and offender programs.

Adult Community Corrections

Adult Community Corrections is responsible for the management and supervision of adult offenders who are completing their sentence in the community. This includes those who are subject to bail and offenders completing court orders, parole and post sentence orders. This can include offenders requiring intensive supervision such as those assessed as high risk serious offenders pursuant to the *High Risk Serious Offenders Act 2020* or a Post Sentence Supervision Order under the *Sentence Administration Act 2003*. Adult Community Corrections also provides advice reports to the courts, prisons and releasing authorities, such as the Prisoners Review Board and Mentally Impaired Accused Review Board.

There are 26 Adult Community Corrections centres in Western Australia. In addition, there are four specialty teams in the Adult Court Services Branch located at the Central Law Courts and two specialty teams in the Community Offender Monitoring Unit operating from the Perth central business district. Together they managed an average of 6,269 adult offenders each day throughout the State in 2023/24.

The average number of offenders managed in the community has increased by six per cent over the past five years.

The percentage of offenders who successfully completed Community Corrections Orders decreased marginally from 69 per cent in 2022/23 to 66 per cent in 2023/24.

Since July 2017, there has been an increase in the average daily population of people being managed on Post Sentence Supervision Orders from 38 in 2017/18 to 134 in 2023/24.

In August 2020, the *High Risk Serious Offenders Act 2020* came into operation, repealing the *Dangerous Sexual Offenders Act 2006*. The new Act expands the provisions contained in the *Dangerous Sexual Offenders Act 2006* to apply to serious (physically) violent offenders.

The following table includes High Risk Serious Offenders who were previously on Dangerous Sexual Offender Supervision Orders at the time the new Act came into operation.

High Risk Serious Offenders

	2023/24	2022/23
High Risk Serious Offender Interim Orders	5	7
High Risk Serious Offender Supervision Orders	71	63
Post Sentence Supervision Orders	134	80

Adults managed in the community

Average daily population	2023/24	2022/23	Change
Overall	6,269	5,942	5.5%
Gender ¹			
Male	4,823	4,644	3.9%
Female	1,438	1,294	11.1%
Aboriginality ²			
Aboriginal	2,364	1,972	19.9%
Non-Aboriginal	3,855	3,932	-2%
Order category ³			
Bail order	768	685	12.1%
Court order	4,303	3,939	9.2%
Early release order	1,103	1,238	-10.9%
Work development order	59	59	0%
Post Sentence Order (inc High Risk Offenders)	180	153	17.6%

Electronic monitoring

Global Positioning System monitoring contributes to effective offender/defendant management by helping to provide an additional level of community and victim safety and assists with the case management of the offender/defendant by restricting or monitoring the movements of the wearer.

In December 2023, the Adult Community Corrections team responsible for monitoring offenders subject to Global Positioning System tracking successfully relocated from the Maylands Police Complex to the new Western Australia Police State Operations Command Centre in the central business district. The relocation of the 24/7 central monitoring team further supports the continuing and close working relationship that Adult Community Corrections has with the Western Australian Police Force. The co-location is an important move in the management of offenders subject to electronic monitoring.



Wandoo Rehabilitation Prison celebrates fifth anniversary

Australia’s first Alcohol and Other Drug treatment prison for women has celebrated five years of operation in 2023, with figures demonstrating a low level of re-offending among participants. Since the program began in July 2018, 308 women have graduated and 275 women have been released back into the community.

Wandoo Rehabilitation Prison was established under the Western Australian Government’s Methamphetamine Action Plan to break the cycle of substance abuse and drug-related crime.

An intensive 28-week voluntary program is delivered at the prison, alongside therapeutic service provider Cyrenian House.

Participants must confront the emotional and psychological issues driving their addiction, with further support and programs offered as they transition back into the community.

Figures show that only around 10 per cent of released graduates have committed a new offence.

Statistics confirm that without intervention, more than half of all offenders with AOD challenges reoffend within two years.

Wandoo Prison also has a rigorous daily drug testing regime and has had just one positive test returned in its five years of operation – and none in more than two years.



¹ Does not total to overall due to persons whose gender is unknown.

² Does not total to overall due to persons whose gender or Aboriginality is unknown.

³ Does not total to overall as an individual could be counted in multiple categories.

Family and Domestic Violence Response Teams

Staff in Adult Community Corrections have continued to work with the Department of Communities and Western Australia Police Force to roll out the expansion of Family and Domestic Violence Response Teams. The expanded Family and Domestic Violence Response Team model incorporates the Department as a partner agency and pivots the focus from a primarily victim-support model to a perpetrator risk-driven model. The two pilot sites at Fremantle and Broome demonstrated that the improved information exchange processes between the core partner agencies resulted in increased visibility of perpetrators which had a positive impact on family safety. This illustrated the importance of a collective response to family and domestic violence between Communities, the Department, Western Australia Police Force and the non-government response services. In the 2024/25 Budget process, the Department received funding of \$7 million over the forward estimates period to support its family and domestic violence response. A key deliverable for this investment is the integration of the Department as a permanent partner agency to the Family and Domestic Violence Response Teams across the State, and the creation of 17 additional Family and Domestic Violence Response Teams Community Corrections positions statewide over four years. The first five positions will be embedded in the 2024/25 financial year.

The following Family Domestic Violence Response Team locations form the initial phase of the roll out:

1. West Kimberley (Broome) – housed within Broome Police Station (West Kimberley Family Domestic Violence Response Team) and Broome Adult Community Corrections.
2. Midland – housed within the Communities facility in Midland (Midland Family Domestic Violence Response Team) and Midland Adult Community Corrections.
3. Mandurah – housed within the Mandurah Police Station (Mandurah Family Domestic Violence Response Team) and Mandurah Adult Community Corrections.
4. Armadale – housed within Armadale Police Facility (Armadale Gnan-Gnarra Family Domestic Violence Response Team) and Maddington Adult Community Corrections.
5. Pilbara – housed within the East Pilbara (Karratha) Department of Communities Facility (EK Family Domestic Violence Response Team) and Karratha Adult Community Corrections.

Health Services

Health Services provides primary health care at all custodial facilities. The Health Centres are fully accredited under the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners Standards for Health Services in Australian prisons and provides every prisoner and detainee access to health care delivered by registered health professionals at a standard comparable to that which is available in the general community.

Health Services is a registered training provider with the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners enabling the delivery of Continuing Professional Development Education to Prison Medical Officers. All prisoners undertake a comprehensive health assessment within 24 hours of admission to prison by a clinical nurse. They can also request an appointment with the Health Centre at any time.

Prisoners are triaged based on clinical need and referred for further medical assessment or treatment as required. In 2023/24 there were 10,610 custodial receptions (7,067 males, 2,172 females and 1,371 young people) who received an initial health assessment on reception.

Central Pharmacy

The Central Pharmacy provides a critical service to Corrective Services, supplying medications to all prisoners, except for those located at the privately operated Acacia Prison. 51 per cent of the male prisoner population and 76 per cent of the female prisoner population require prescribed medication.

In 2023/24, 157,369 individual prescriptions were dispensed, 193,315 blister packs were distributed across the prison estate and 37,748 methadone doses were dispensed and distributed by the Central Pharmacy.

Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug

The Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Branch provides mental health care and alcohol and other drug healthcare to some of the most vulnerable and high risk offenders in all custodial facilities. Services are delivered by multidisciplinary teams made up of specialised staff including nurses, consultant psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, Aboriginal mental health workers and prison support officers. Mental Health Alcohol and Other Drug staff play key roles in the Bindi Bindi Mental Health Unit at Bandyup Women's Prison and the Mallee Rehabilitation Centre at Casuarina Prison.

Nursing and consultant psychiatry

Mental Health Nurses provide assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation of treatment for patients identified as requiring clinical interventions for mental illness and drug and alcohol issues under a case management model. Treatment is prescribed and overseen by consultant psychiatrists.

Psychological Health Services

Psychological Health Services provide counselling services in prisons across the State, and therapy services in specialist mental health and alcohol and other drug rehabilitation units. The services are provided by clinically experienced social workers, registered psychologists and occupational therapists. Prison counsellors (social workers and counsellors) provide clinical assessments and interventions to prisoners who are at acute risk of suicide or self-harm, vulnerable within the prison system, affected by poor mental health or having difficulty coping in prison.

In 2023/24, Psychological Health Services received 13,724 counselling referrals in public prisons, compared with 10,630 in 2022/23.

Occupational therapists provide assessments and interventions to prisoners located within the Bindi Bindi Mental Health Unit at Bandyup Women's Prison, the Mallee Rehabilitation Centre at Casuarina Prison and the Djarraly Alcohol and Other Drug Reintegration Service at Bunbury Regional Prison.

Functional Impairment Screening Tool

The Functional Impairment Screening Tool records impairment across 10 domains using a simple scoring system. It was upgraded in 2023 to include documentation of the use of hearing, visual, mobility or communication aids. The assessment is now included in prisoner reception and admission processes and in annual health reviews. Work continues to enhance secondary screening processes, improve care pathways for formal assessments, and ensure pathways to the National Disability Insurance Scheme and other supports are used by staff.

Prisoner Support Services

Prison Support Services forms part of Offender Services' Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Branch and contributes to the overall suicide and self-harm prevention and intervention strategy in custodial settings by providing ongoing support and cultural expertise to prisoners at-risk. Prison Support Services is also responsible for the management and performance of the prisoner Peer Support Program, which is a well-established suicide prevention strategy aimed at the early identification and support of prisoners at-risk.

This early identification through peers providing support allows for the optimisation of preventative care whilst providing support to individual prisoners seeking assistance during their time in custody. In 2023/24, Prison Support Officers recorded 18,045 prisoner contacts compared to 23,068 the previous year.

Rehabilitation and Reintegration

The Rehabilitation and Reintegration Branch leads the development and co-ordinated implementation of offender rehabilitation programs, interventions and services with the aim of improving offenders' lives and reducing the likelihood of re-offending. This includes ensuring appropriate assessment and case management practices are in place to assess rehabilitation and reintegration needs and that suitable programs and services are available and delivered.

Rehabilitation and Reintegration consists of the following business areas: Sentence Management, Clinical Governance and Innovation, Assessment and Interventions, Education, Employment and Transitional Services, Offender Programs and Contract Management.

Assessment and Interventions

The Assessment and Interventions Unit is comprised of teams responsible for the management of specialised clinical intervention services, treatment and psychological assessment, reports and expert advice to the courts and releasing authorities, and for the case management of prisoners (including indefinite and high risk serious offenders) in custody and the community.

Improvements in organisational structures also saw the Treatment Assessments area move under Assessment and Interventions. Treatment assessment reports assess criminogenic needs, determine risk of reoffending, inform criminogenic intervention, assist in the completion of individual management plans and guide prisoner movements. Improvements in performance and standards of the treatment assessment service have been achieved through the introduction of clinical governance and procedures, centralisation of operations and provision of clinical supervision. In addition, the development of the Individual Management Plan (IMP) Taskforce has facilitated a strategic and co-ordinated approach to managing the significant backlog of individual management plans and treatment assessment reports. This has resulted in the completion of 1,375 treatment assessment reports to date.

Education, employment and transition services

Prisoner education and vocational training is delivered by Prisoner Education staff through the Departmental prisoner Registered Training Organisation, Auswest Specialised Training Services, as well as through external Registered Training Organisations (RTOs), universities and TAFE colleges. Accessing education and training allows prisoners to develop the skills and knowledge required to successfully navigate community, employment and further training contexts. A

range of career and employment services, such as access to paid external employment, career expos, job readiness and employability skills workshops, are delivered to support prisoners so that they can acquire and maintain employment on release.

In 2023/24 there were 7,770 prisoners enrolled in nationally accredited education or vocational training courses, a 22 per cent increase on 2022/23. A total of 641 prisoners were enrolled in traineeships and apprenticeships during the period, a 19 per cent increase on the previous year.

The Department acknowledges that adult basic education or literacy is a fundamental skill for effective functioning in modern society. Whilst education services are available to all prisoners, those assessed with low language, literacy, and numeracy skills are prioritised for intervention. These prisoners are enrolled in the Certificate I in Entry to General Education, a specialised curriculum targeting incarcerated learners. In 2023/24, 3,882 prisoners were enrolled in 10,049 units of study across various Adult Basic Education curricula.

The Carey Maramara Project

The Carey Maramara Project is a joint venture between the Department and Carey Training, an RTO that is part of the Aboriginal owned Carey Group. The program provides Aboriginal people currently engaged in the criminal justice system with industry training in a supportive environment that leads to career opportunities in the mining, civil and related industries. In 2023, the 12-week course was delivered at Roebourne Regional Prison for the first time, with 10 participants completing the course in August 2023. Of the 10, eight obtained employment immediately upon release.

The Breaking Through Program

In 2024, the Breaking Through Program, a joint venture between the Department, Reboot Australia, Workskil Australia and Yalagan Registered Training Pty Ltd, was launched at Wooroloo Prison Farm. The program provides comprehensive education and mentoring for WA male prisoners in their final months of sentence with subsequent opportunities for employment within WA's mining and resource sector.

The 13-week intensive program has been developed using a through care model to support participants to attain industry skills including a Certificate II in Resource Processing, Working at Heights, Working in Confined Spaces, Elevated Work Platforms, Gas Testing and Basic Fire attending tickets; develop life skills; and gain the confidence and resilience needed to fulfil and sustain employment.

Offender Programs

Offender Programs is dedicated to enhancing community safety by delivering targeted criminogenic programs to offenders both in custody and in the community. By providing the right programs to the right offenders at the right time, the unit contributes effectively to reducing recidivism rates.

The comprehensive suite of offence-specific programs is categorised into five main areas: substance use offending, programs for offenders with risk factors associated with violence, cognitive skills programs, general offending and sex offending. Services are designed to be culturally responsive, gender-specific and trauma-informed, ensuring they meet the diverse needs of offending cohorts in Western Australia.

Contract Management

Contract Management are responsible for the oversight of 27 distinct service agreements delivered by 13 distinct community service providers with an annual value of \$34.3 million. These essential services, delivered in accordance with the Western Australian Government Delivering Community Services in Partnership Policy, provide statewide rehabilitation and reintegration services to prisoners, according to their risk and need; and religious and spiritual services (chaplaincy) for prisoners and staff. Contract Management work with service providers and relevant Departmental staff to maintain compliance and probity, and act as a facilitator for service innovation and continuous improvement across the suite of contracted services.

Clinical Governance and Innovation

Clinical Governance and Innovation is a multidisciplinary team that operates as two business streams: Rehabilitation and Suicide Prevention. The team works to embed a clinical governance system across rehabilitation services and suicide prevention with a focus on clinical evaluation, setting clinical standards, and embedding continuous improvement.

Achievements from Rehabilitation and Reintegration in 2023/24 include:

- Development of a Continuous Improvement Framework to support a commitment to enhance offender rehabilitation service delivery.
- Evaluations of the following programs were completed in 2023/24:
 - Moral Reconciliation Therapy Wandoo Long-Term Impact Evaluation.
 - Medium Intensity Program Long-Term Impact Evaluation.
 - Not Our Way Community Long-Term Impact Evaluation.
 - Mallee Rehabilitation Centre at Casuarina Prison Short-term Impact Evaluation.

- Parole-in-Reach Program Alcohol and Other Drug program Short-Term Impact Evaluation; Parole-in-Reach Program Alcohol and Other Drug Short-Term Impact Evaluation Addendum.
- Parole-in-Reach Program Family and Domestic Violence program Short-Term Impact Evaluation.
- Not Our Way Process Evaluation.
- Choice Change and Consequences Wandoo Pilot Evaluation.
- The following innovation projects commenced:
 - Development of the Department's sex offender programs.
 - Introduction of new assessment tools including the Violence Risk Scale Version 2 and Level of Service Inventory – Revised: Screening Version.
 - The pilot of a Commonwealth funded Countering Violent Extremism Program.
 - Development of an implementation plan to establish and promote family and domestic violence informed practice utilising the Safe and Together Model. This will support consistent and co-ordinated family domestic violence service delivery by capitalising on approved staff training, developing governance of clinical practice with the aim of improving outcomes for individuals, families and the community.
 - Development of disability awareness iLearn training available to Departmental staff.
- A Clinical Learning and Development area was established within Clinical Governance and Innovation to introduce a co-ordinated approach towards professional development, including internal and external training, pathways for students and building a future workforce. Training that has occurred to date included:
 - Continued rollout of the Safe and Together Family Domestic Violence training for staff, as well as one Clinical Governance and Innovation staff member undertaking training to become a certified trainer for Safe and Together.
 - Training from international guests Liam Marshall and Robin Williams in the clinical assessment and intervention of sex offenders.
 - Training in risk assessment tools (Violence Risk Scale, Dynamic Supervision Protocol, Level of Service/Risk Need Responsivity) and Offender Program Delivery (Not Our Way – Family Domestic Violence program).

Suicide Prevention Governance Unit

The Suicide Prevention Governance Unit promotes a safer custody approach through the application of contemporary evidence-based self-harm prevention practices across Western Australian prisons and detention centres. It helps to reduce the likelihood of self-harm by fostering the sharing of knowledge, increasing understanding and awareness of suicide prevention, supporting humane practices and meaningful engagement in a custodial environment. The unit is structured to integrate clinical insight, operational knowledge and cultural expertise, supporting the holistic approach to the prevention of suicide and non-suicidal self-injury for people in our care. Achievements throughout the 2023/24 financial year included:

- The Suicide Prevention online training modules, of which there are three, were updated and launched on 11 September 2023. These modules provide staff with information relating to at-risk prisoner management in prisons and their role in delivering this strategy. To date, 70 per cent of staff have completed these modules.
- The Suicide Prevention Governance Unit has developed an eight-module face-to-face training program for the chairpersons of the Prisoner Risk Assessment Group, acknowledging their pivotal role in ensuring the safety of those identified to be at-risk in prisons. The training program has been designed to cover both theoretical and practical components, which is projected to be delivered in July 2024.
- The Suicide Prevention Governance Unit works with the Mental Health Commission to reinvigorate Gatekeeper training. Gatekeeper training provides staff with a comprehensive understanding of suicide and non-suicidal self-injury risk and how to intervene with an at-risk person. A three-day 'Train the Trainer' program attended by six staff was facilitated in January 2024. These staff will now undertake the process to become fully accredited trainers to support the rollout of Gatekeeper training to all staff.
- The Unit has established regular meetings with Prisoner Risk Assessment Group chairs across all prison estates, both metropolitan and regional, to provide support in the management of at-risk prisoners. These meetings address different topics including compliance and governance matters, cultural conversations, discussion of at-risk management processes, training needs and information sharing in the prevention of suicide and non-suicidal self-injury. These topics form part of a continuous improvement approach in the prevention of self-harm in prisons.
- Development of the draft Aboriginal Suicide Prevention Strategy which aims to reduce the incidence and impact of suicidal behaviour and non-suicidal self-injury in

the Aboriginal prisoner and detainee population. Once completed, the Strategy is intended to support staff to implement ways of working that are culturally sound and informed by the needs of Aboriginal people.

- Regular compliance functions, including quarterly reviews which measure prison performance against a series of practice standards, have been implemented. Prison based performance is analysed, and individual feedback is provided.
- Audits of the At-Risk Management System and Support and Monitoring System.
- Reviews of self-harm related prison incidents. These reviews identify areas of improvements to drive enhanced outcomes.
- In May 2024, the Department created the position of 'Youth Consultant – Suicide Prevention Governance Unit', who is responsible for championing a best practice approach in the prevention of suicide and non-suicidal self-injury (collectively known as self-harm) in youth detention. The consultant will undertake comprehensive monitoring, auditing and review of activities related to the prevention of self-harm in youth detention, aligned with a continuous improvement approach.

Operational Support

Operational Support contributes to maintaining and increasing security across the custodial estate. This work helps to improve community safety through the provision of security and response services, including emergency response operations and the mitigation of drug and alcohol use. Operational Support also oversees the delivery of intelligence services to identify security and safety risks relating to prisoners, facilities and staff and by working with external agencies such as the Western Australia Police Force and Commonwealth agencies to assist with the safe management of offenders in the community.

Operational Support is also responsible for the management and compliance monitoring of operational policy, contract management, strategic projects, assurance planning and performance and the management of the Corrective Services Academy.

Stopping drugs in prison

The Department continued its efforts to disrupt the supply of illegal drugs and contraband into prisons. This included using drug detection dogs and other specialist technologies, such as electronic drug trace detection devices. All facilities have an electronic drug trace detection device on-site for the purpose of screening visitors and prisoners which also complements the use of the Drug Detection Unit canine team. In 2023/24 the devices were used on 462 occasions to search visitors entering prisons resulting in 74 narcotic alarms.

During the year the Drug Detection Unit:

- Celebrated its 30th anniversary of operations and relocated to a new permanent administration complex.
- Carried out unannounced searches of vehicles and visitors entering prisons across the State.
- Created an additional canine team for permanent deployment at Albany Regional Prison and support to Pardelup Prison Farm and Walpole Work Camp.
- Supported the Bunbury Regional Prison Alcohol and Other Drug Rehabilitation Facility by allocating an additional drug detection canine and electronic drug trace detection device to the facility to support drug supply mitigation initiatives. The Drug Detection Unit continued to provide support to the alcohol and other drug treatment facilities at Casuarina's Mallee Rehabilitation Centre and Wandoo Rehabilitation Prison.

The Drug Detection Unit maintained a high operational presence, with 3,631 deployments occurring throughout the financial year in the custodial estate. This equated to 44,480 visitors and 8,598 prisoners and 7,619 inanimate objects being searched by narcotic detection dogs resulting in 2,563 narcotic odour indications. The overt presence of the Drug Detection Unit contributed to the disruption of drug supply and distribution and resulted in the detection and seizure of 150 narcotic substances or narcotic-related paraphernalia.

Security of the prison estate

The security and safety of staff and prisoners are key drivers of operations. The security portfolio is responsible for maintaining a positive security culture within Corrective Services and provides strategic input into all aspects of security in custodial facilities. While meeting security needs across the custodial estate and providing statewide technical advice to security staff and facilities, environmental scanning also continued to identify emerging technologies and best practice in custodial security management. Key initiatives included:

- Continued delivery of new policy, procedures and tools for custodial security teams to maintain best practice standard including a suite of policy and procedure documents and an evidence register tool to guide prisons in effective physical evidence management.
- Continued exploring new technologies to deter and detect the smuggling of contraband (drugs, phones, weapons) into custodial facilities, headlined by the installation of a whole body, low dose X-ray scanner at Hakea Prison in October 2023. The scanner produces a high-resolution representation of a person's body structure and can reveal items hidden under clothing or inside the body. This technology provides a more dignified effective method of searching people, with the added benefit of reducing reliance on physical searches,

such as strip searching. The Department will soon expand this capability with a scanner scheduled to be operational at Casuarina during the next financial year.

- Rollout of the 'Email a Prisoner' platform to multiple adult custodial facilities. The platform is a secure online method for community members to send correspondence to people in custody. It can be electronically screened for illicit content and removes unnecessary postage delays and reduces the volume of physical mail requiring screening for drugs and other contraband.

As part of security operations, the Special Operations Group provides specialised 24/7 armed emergency response and security services supporting custodial facilities to manage the response to incidents across the custodial estate and assist in the safe resolution of these incidents.

The Special Operations Group conducted more than 1,000 separate operational tasks. The Group's on-site presence was increased at youth facilities to respond to incidents and/or to provide enhanced security. This included responding to a number of major incidents at both youth facilities and providing a 24/7 on-site presence at Unit 18 since October 2023.

The Special Operations Group also continued to conduct security search operations aimed at prisoners and visitors entering and leaving prisons, high security prisoner escorts and regular foot and vehicle perimeter patrols. Support from the Special Operations Group for regional escorts increased for at-risk or mentally ill prisoners.

The Special Operations Group introduced new Axon body worn cameras and tasers to assist with security operations and incident and emergency response in prisons. Both capabilities are supported by a digital evidence management system to capture and share evidence and allow for potential live streaming of incidents and emergencies to supporting units and agencies.

In 2023/24, training increased across the State and the Group completed:

- Riot control training delivered to every regional facility which contributes to the operational preparedness of facilities.
- Continued inter-agency training with the Western Australia Police Force's District Support Teams and Regional Operations Group to improve response capability across both agencies. Combined training was held in metropolitan, Great Southern, Pilbara and Wheatbelt districts to develop tactics and awareness of the agencies' respective strengths.
- Sustained delivery of Riot Control training to Entry Level Training, Forward Commander and Response Team Leader Programs for adult and youth custodial staff to bolster operational preparedness.

Emergency management

Corrective Services implemented a new Emergency Management Framework in October 2023, aligning the Department's emergency management approach with the Western Australia State emergency management arrangements. The new framework provides a contemporary approach to incident response and emergency management within prisons. The policy framework includes development and implementation of policy, plans and procedures to enhance Corrective Services' preparedness, response and recovery capabilities, headlined by the Corrective Services statewide Emergency Management Plan. Corrective Services responded to various emergency incidents in prisons and has continued inter-agency training and exercises with partner agencies including the Western Australia Police Force and Department of Fire and Emergency Services. Further enhancements were made through the co-location of the Operations Centre with the Western Australia Police Force State Operations Command Centre in June 2024, which will serve to further bolster the relationship between the partner agencies and improve joint response to emergencies in prisons.

Intelligence Services

Intelligence Services identify security and safety issues relating to prisoners, offenders being managed in the community, staff and facilities. They provide advice and assessments on tactical operational and strategic matters to assist staff to make informed decisions about the management of prisoners and other safety and security issues.

Intelligence Services respond to a high volume of requests for information from internal and external stakeholders. They continue to provide advice and assessments to assist the custodial estate and community corrections to mitigate risk and assist in the management and placement of prisoners and the management of offenders in the community. Intelligence Services continue to allocate resources to specifically focus on gangs, to provide assessments regarding gang status and associated risks to assist in contributing to the safety and security of the custodial and community corrections environments. Ongoing monitoring of the gang environment is also conducted, including ongoing liaison with the Western Australia Police Force Gang Crime Squad to enable the provision of contemporary and timely advice in response to gang related incidents in custody and the community.

Intelligence Services appointed three Field Intelligence Officers who provide direct support to intelligence-led security operations undertaken by the Special Operations Group, Drug Detection Unit and prison-based security teams, enhancing the Department's intelligence and operational capability.

Intelligence Services continued to make important contributions to the operations of the Western Australia Police Force and other law enforcement agencies by providing immediate support to active investigations and referral of important and urgent information to assist with ensuring community safety.

Learning and development

The Corrective Services Academy is an enterprise Registered Training Organisation, responsible for the identification and delivery of learning and development for all Corrective Services staff including foundation training, ongoing work skills, corporate governance and compliance, and professional development.

In 2023/24, the Academy's primary objective was the delivery of foundation training programs for frontline operational staff, including training for 244 Prison Officers, 90 Youth Custodial Officers, 66 Adult Community Corrections Officers, 33 Youth Justice Officers and 37 Vocational Support Officers from metropolitan and regional locations across the State.

In collaboration with local management, the Academy developed and initiated a decentralised prison officer foundation training model at Albany, Eastern Goldfields and Greenough Regional Prisons. Following targeted local recruitment, the Academy will oversee the delivery of the prison officer Entry Level Training Program at the regional locations. In addition, three Corrective Services staff undertook the Graduate Certificate in Business (Executive Leadership and Management) Program through Murdoch University, co-ordinated by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services. An additional five staff from across the State commenced the program in April 2024, with completion in October 2024. This is the sixth year Corrective Services staff have participated in the program. During the year the Academy also:

- Provided ongoing operational governance and compliance, training for Corrective Services staff in the areas of suicide prevention, mental health first aid, safety and security, occupational first aid and fire and emergency.
- Enrolled 454 staff in the Certificate III in Correctional Practice Qualification and completed 366 issuances of the qualification to staff who completed the aligned foundation program.
- Successfully completed all the required actions for the transition to the new Certificate III in Correctional Practice Qualification. The transition ensures all staff enrolled in the qualification receive training in new content and training methods required to equip them with skills relevant to current national industry practice.

Strategic Corrections Projects

Strategic Corrections Projects leads Corrective Services' involvement in significant change management processes and projects of strategic importance. In 2023/24 these included:

- Project management and delivery of the new Alcohol and Other Drug Reintegration Service at Bunbury Regional Prison, ensuring Corrective Services delivered the State Government's election commitment to extend alcohol and other drug through-care services to male prisoners in regional areas. The service commenced in August 2023.
- Implementation of the *Criminal Law (Mental Impairment) Act 2023*. This significantly changes how individuals with a mental impairment are treated and managed through the justice system. Corrective Services will undertake a vital role in the management and supervision of individuals with a mental impairment through Custody and Community Supervision Orders, co-ordinating leave of absence and providing access to mental health advocates.
- The successful transition of three women's prisons and the Corrective Services Academy to be smoke free.
- The establishment of a dedicated project team to implement a digital evidence management platform within the youth custodial estate. This includes equipping all frontline Youth Custodial Officers with body worn cameras and the implementation of a digital evidenced management system. Commissioning is on track to provide all Youth Custodial Officers with body worn cameras; implementation planning resulted in the rollout of the pilot at Unit 18 closely followed by Banksia Hill Detention Centre in July 2024 and the Perth Children's Court in September 2024. The introduction of the Axon Platform will improve officer safety, increase evidence gathering capability, providing transparency and accountability surrounding incidents within the youth estate. It will also bring Western Australia in line with other jurisdictions both nationally and internationally, and improve the sharing of information across the justice system. Further planning will progress to seek funding to rollout the platform across high-risk facilities and functions throughout the Western Australia custodial estate.
- The staged delivery of the Casuarina Prison Expansion Project which is increasing the capacity of the metropolitan prison estate and addressing the need for specialist statewide services across the male custodial estate. Casuarina Prison Expansion Stage 2 Tranche 1 has now been delivered and Stage 2 Tranche 2 has commenced. This \$254 million project will provide an additional 344 beds and an expansion of support services to enable Casuarina Prison to accommodate special needs and high-risk cohort groups.

Operational Policy, Compliance and Contracts

Operational Policy, Compliance and Contracts provides a single area of responsibility and accountability for developing, reviewing and delivering custodial operational policies and procedures for prisons and youth detention centres. The Unit monitors compliance with the policies and procedures, actions complaints received from prisoners and members of the public, and manages key contracts with Serco Pty Ltd for Acacia Prison and Ventia Pty Ltd for the delivery of court security and prisoner movement services across the State.

The Branch has supported all Departmental stakeholders and successfully:

- Completed the scheduled review of 27 policies and procedures, combined with a large number of unscheduled reviews to deliver improved security, safety and rehabilitation outcomes across all facilities.
- Through extensive consultation with stakeholders, transformed the Department's embedded view to now disclose a prisoner's terminal illness to officers in support of a Coroner's recommendation accepted by the Department. This resulted in new processes in policy and amendments to Total Offender Management Solution (TOMS) and forms and detailed communication to staff.
- Reviewed and amended the adult operational policies, to operationalise and support the purpose of the *Criminal Law (Unlawful Consorting and Prohibited Insignia) Act 2021* within Corrective Services operations.
- Supported the Department's commitment to promote and ensure the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people, through a review and update of operational policies to implement the National Child Safe Principles for Child Safe Organisations Western Australia.
- Updated and amended the Operational Policy frameworks to ensure a standardised approach to the formulation and revocation of operational instruments and maintain a single point of oversight and governance.
- Ongoing collaboration with the superintendent of each prison to ensure that Standing Orders made for each prison under the *Prisons Act 1981* reflect site-specific conditions, and that risks remain consistent with changes in the overarching policies and procedures.

Operational Compliance is responsible for the compliance function across operational areas in accordance with the compliance framework. A key focus of Operational Compliance is to cultivate a compliance culture across Corrective Services and drive continuous improvement through positive engagements with stakeholders.

In 2023/24, Operational Compliance continued to work closely with the Operational Contracts teams to provide

independent assurance to contract managers that contractors are delivering services as required. In addition, the branch worked closely with Adult Community Corrections in 2023/24, conducting a review of the East Perth office to examine compliance and service delivery.

The Administration of Complaints, Compliments and Suggestions is a dedicated service within Corrective Services that receives and manages contact from prisoners, detainees, offenders and members of the public. Administration of Complaints, Compliments and Suggestions received and managed 3,755 individual matters which was a 12 per cent increase from the 3,321 matters received for the same period in 2022/23.

Operational Contracts continued to be responsible for the contract management and oversight of Acacia Prison, Electronic Monitoring Services of Offenders in the Community and the Court Security and Custodial Services Contract.

The Acacia Prison Services Agreement 2020, with Serco Pty Ltd, provides the operational and maintenance services at Acacia Prison for an initial five-year term, and commenced operations in May 2021.

In 2023/24 Contract Management continued to oversee the delivery of key contractual improvements including additional performance measures, with improvements in facility management performance services which commenced in 2022/23 and continued this year. In early 2022, a large prisoner disturbance caused significant damage to prisoner accommodation and support services infrastructure. Further, in January 2023, a fire incident occurred in a prison industries block causing further damage to support services infrastructure building. Rectification works to the damage are being addressed concurrently. The Department continues to work with all rectification project parties to assist in expediting the works and mitigate delays. Acacia continues utilising the remaining facilities to maximise prisoners' opportunities for education and employment.

The Court Security and Custodial Services Contract with Ventia Australia Pty Ltd provides transportation services for adults in custody across Western Australia and court security and court custody services for outer metropolitan and major regional court locations. Contract Management is applying significant oversight of the contractor, Ventia as it devises strategies to meet the demand for services. A strong focus is being placed on the introduction of a fleet of new transport vehicles that will replace the 43 ageing vehicles providing a positive contribution to the overall strategy.

Contract Management continues to manage the Electronic Monitoring Services contract which provides GPS and radio frequency equipment necessary for the monitoring of offenders in the community. New technology is being rolled out across the State to maintain pace with the changing technological landscape. Plans are also being put into action

to review contract requirements that enable the State to continue to use electronic monitoring where appropriate and meet the expectations of the community.

Assurance Planning and Performance

Assurance Planning and Performance (APP) provides guidance and support across Corrective Services to assist in the delivery of business operations and enable business improvements through robust planning, governance, assurance, and risk management activities that drives accountability and delivers outcomes. The Branch continued to assess and refine Key Performance Indicator measures and undertook performance reporting to assist in monitoring high level outcomes being achieved within business areas. Additionally, APP continued to represent Corrective Services in respect to department level evaluation, data improvement strategies and solutions, which are integrated across the operational, reporting and technology business areas and research activities, as well as being the Corrective Services representative on the Corrective Services Administrators Council Research Working Group.

In 2023/24, APP continued the provision of integrated data analysis and prisoner population forecasting to assist business areas to make informed decisions. This included:

- Co-ordination and development of the Corrective Services Custodial Infrastructure Plan;
- 'Remand and Demand' analysis for males and females: The Rapidly Increasing Prisoner Population, Remand Numbers and Future Accommodation Demand;
- Conducted behavioural analysis of young people to assess needs and plan for the capacity required for the proposed new youth detention facility to assist with the development of the Business Case;
- Analysis on hospital admission movements – effects on contractor workload and increase rationale; and
- Ongoing analysis of incidents at Hakea Prison to enhance operational insights and efficiencies.

APP continued to enhance the approach to risk management across the custodial estate through ongoing reviews and monitoring of risks by the Local Risk Management Committees at individual custodial facilities and regular reporting and escalation of risks to senior executive to facilitate informed and improved decision making. This risk work has been expanded to include strategic and operational risk management across Corrective Services including Youth Justice Services, Community Corrections, and various corporate business areas within Corrective Services such as Operational Support and Offender Services.

APP facilitated Deaths in Custody lessons learned reviews, specifically for unnatural deaths in custody, to assist Corrective Services in identifying opportunities to improve the safety of prisoners within the Departments care and to reduce the likelihood of similar deaths in custody in the future. Since assuming this responsibility in 2022, seven reviews by way of multidisciplinary workshops were facilitated and one desktop review has been undertaken. Of the finalised reviews, 30 lessons learned have been identified with 50 correlating improvement actions for implementation across the custodial estate to remediate the issues. Planning is underway for a further four lessons learned reviews.

APP also facilitated operational improvements through the co-ordination of internal and external inspections and reviews and monitoring the implementation of recommendations made. In 2023/24, a total of 132 new recommendations were made for Corrective Services through the reports of various oversight agencies including the Office of the Inspector of Custodial Services, the Office of the Auditor General, the Coroner's Court of Western Australia, the Ombudsman Western Australia and other internal reviews. Corrective Services actioned a total of 139 recommendations in the current financial year, of which 63 recommendations were new and 76 from previous financial years.

Court and Tribunal Services

Court and Tribunal Services administers court and tribunal locations across Western Australia. Court and Tribunal Services is also responsible for managing boards, the Sheriff's Office and the Fines Enforcement Registry, as well as providing services to victims of crime.

Key achievements

- A total of 165 families have participated in the Dandjoo Bidi-Ak Court since its commencement in July 2020.
- The new state of the art Armadale Courthouse and Police Complex became operational on 6 November 2023. The courthouse has a spacious registry area, five courtrooms, four criminal and one civil, a dedicated mediation and victim services suite, judicial chambers and a shared custody centre with the Western Australia Police Force.
- A joint project between the Family Court of Western Australia (FCWA) and the Federal Court of Australia has delivered new and improved facilities in the Peter Durack Commonwealth Law Courts Building. The FCWA now has a new courtroom, public waiting areas, improved conference rooms, magistrate chambers and staff areas.
- A major upgrade to the State Administrative Tribunal's AV capability was completed in October 2023. This work involved upgrades to the hardware and wiring in the Tribunal's hearing and mediation rooms. The upgrade has resulted in a significant improvement in the reliability of the Tribunal's capacity to undertake hearings and mediations using video conferencing technology.
- New jury services functionality was implemented into the Integrated Courts Management System. A new user-friendly Jury Portal was also implemented which provides summoned jurors with a service allowing them to update details.

Supreme Court

The Supreme Court is the State's highest court and is divided into two divisions, the General Division and the Court of Appeal. The General Division hears the most serious criminal charges such as murder, manslaughter and breaches of Commonwealth drug enforcement laws. The General Division also deals with civil matters of a complex nature, or where the amount involved in a dispute is more than \$750,000, as well as applications for injunctions and other forms of relief. In addition, the General Division deals with probate matters (including disputes over Wills), admiralty issues (disputes involving ships), disputed elections and applications under the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth).

The Court of Appeal hears appeals from single-judge decisions of the Supreme Court, lower courts and various tribunals.

Outcomes

The Supreme Court has continued to deliver high-quality services to the community in the following ways:

- Finalised 2,275 civil cases and 32 criminal cases.
- Finalised 9,787 probate applications.
- Finalised 124 criminal appeals and 101 civil appeals.
- Dealt with 58 criminal cases in the Stirling Gardens Magistrates Court.

Family Court of Western Australia

The Family Court of Western Australia hears matters relating to divorce, parenting orders, division of the property of a marriage or de facto marriage, maintenance, adoptions and surrogacy. It has State and Federal jurisdiction in matters of family law.

Outcomes

The Family Court continued to experience high demand for its services. The court received 13,726 applications, including:

- 2,532 initiating applications for final orders.
- 1,984 interim order applications.
- 5,724 divorce applications.
- 3,269 consent order applications.

State Administrative Tribunal

The State Administrative Tribunal hears a broad range of matters, in both its original and review jurisdictions.

By way of example, the Tribunal hears large planning and development disputes, disciplinary actions against persons engaged in regulatory professions, disputes arising under the *Strata Titles Act 1985* (WA), reviews of decisions involving firearms licences, and applications under the *Guardianship and Administration Act 1990* (WA), safeguarding the rights of vulnerable members of the community.

The Tribunal can, in determining matters before it, adopt more informal procedures and processes than other jurisdictions. Doing so assists the Tribunal's many self-represented litigants and increases access to justice.

Outcomes

- The median time to finalise a matter in the Tribunal (excluding guardianship and administration, and commercial tenancy section 13(7), 13(7b) and 14A(3) matters) was 19 weeks, being four weeks more than the target of 15 weeks.
- 80 per cent of guardianship and administration matters were finalised within nine weeks.
- The Tribunal received 7,334 applications, a decrease of 9 per cent on 2022/23.

Key application trends in this reporting year included:

- An increase in guardianship and administration applications with 6,061 applications.

- During the reporting period there was a very significant reduction from the previous reporting period in the number of applications under section 13(7) of the *Commercial Tenancy (Retail Shops) Agreements Act 1985* (WA) (from 1,194 to 52) following the decision of the previous President, Justice Pritchard in *Synicast Pty Ltd and Showroom X Pty Ltd [2023] WASAT 47* on 26 June 2023. As a result, the overall volume in commercial and civil applications decreased by 58 per cent from the previous reporting period (from 1,973 to 824).
- An 81 per cent increase in applications under the *Residential Parks (Long Stay Tenants) Act 2006* increasing to 47 from 26 in the previous year.
- Building disputes decreased five per cent this year to 389.
- A 9.8 per cent increase in vocational regulation applications overall.

District Court

The District Court deals with serious criminal offences, including those which carry a maximum penalty of life imprisonment (other than murder-related offences). The Court routinely deals with charges of armed robbery, serious assaults, criminal damage, sex offences (including crimes against children), serious fraud and commercial theft, burglary and serious drug offences including drug trafficking.

The Court has jurisdiction to deal with civil matters involving claims up to \$750,000 and unlimited jurisdiction for claims for damages for personal injuries arising from motor vehicle accidents.

The District Court also has an appellate jurisdiction for civil matters from the Magistrates Court of Western Australia, workers compensation and criminal injuries compensation matters.

Outcomes

- The criminal median time to trial in the District Court was 64 weeks (32 weeks above the budget target of 32 weeks).
- 2,766 criminal cases lodged.
- 2,425 criminal cases finalised.
- 7,691 civil cases lodged, 84 of which were appeals from lower courts.
- 6,720 civil cases finalised, 73 of which were appeals from lower courts.
- 366 criminal cases and 44 civil cases finalised by trial.

Magistrates Court

The Magistrates Court of Western Australia hears criminal and civil matters involving people aged 18 years and older.

The Magistrates Court operates across the State. All criminal charges against adults begin in the Magistrates Court.

All simple offences and most 'either way' offences are disposed of in the Magistrates Court by plea or hearing.

Strictly indictable matters and some 'either way' offences are processed in the Magistrates Court before being committed to the District or Supreme Court. The Magistrates Court also deals with civil matters for claims up to \$75,000, as well as the disposal of uncollected goods, dividing fences, restraining orders and extraordinary licence applications.

Outcomes

The Magistrates Court had 93,180 criminal case lodgments, a 10.6 per cent increase (8,927 cases) from 2022/23. This was driven primarily by increases in lodgments of theft and related offences, and acts intended to cause injury.

- Criminal charge lodgments increased by 11.6 per cent; charges per case remained high at two charges per case. A charge per case figure indicates the number of offences alleged against a defendant within a single case. A case represents any number of charges lodged at one registry on a single day against one defendant.
- The Magistrates Court experienced a 5.6 per cent increase in civil lodgments. This result was due to an increase in the lodgment of Restraining Order applications, General Procedure Claims and Minor Case Claims.
- The median time to trial for criminal and civil trials in the Magistrates Court was 23 weeks, above the target of 19 weeks. Contributing to the above higher than target result is an increase in the demand for criminal trials and an increase in the proportion of criminal trials for offences of a higher seriousness.

Mental Health Court (Start Court and Links)

The Mental Health Court Diversion and Support Program began in 2013 and comprises an adult program, Start Court, and a children's program, Links. This program is the first mental health court diversion program in Western Australia and offers a solution focused response for individuals experiencing a mental health issue.

The Mental Health Court Diversion and Support Program provides a tailored response for individuals whose offending is linked to mental illness. Program participants are supervised by a court while they receive holistic treatment and support that addresses the underlying causes of their offending behaviour.

This approach aims to improve participants' health and wellbeing, break the cycle of offending and provide an alternative to imprisonment. It is also aimed at improving community safety. The program is a joint initiative between the Mental Health Commission and the Department. The project involves dedicated and trained staff from multiple agencies including Legal Aid Western Australia, Aboriginal Legal Service of Western Australia Limited, the Mental Health Law Centre, the Western Australia Police Force and the Department of Health – State Forensic Mental Health Services. Outcare, a non-government organisation and a private psychologist, also provide services to the program.

The adult component of the program, Start Court, operates as a dedicated court within the Perth Magistrates Court, and the children's component, Links, offers clinical and psycho-social support to young people who appear before the Perth Children's Court.

Outcomes

- 274 referrals to the Start Court.
- 102 referrals to the Start Court Clinical Team for assessment, for phase one of the Start Court program.
- 78 people placed on phase two of the Start Court program.
- The Links Clinical Assessment Team provided advice, assessment or assistance in 445 cases, (20 cases were managed by the Links team), compared with 379 in 2022/23. Of the 20 case managed clients, 75 per cent (15) were substance users (cannabis, alcohol and methamphetamine).

Perth Drug Court and Diversion Programs

The Perth Drug Court diverts serious offenders who have significant substance abuse problems into highly intensive and supervised treatment responses. Participants who successfully complete a Drug Court program will have addressed their offending behaviour and may avoid a term of imprisonment to continue their rehabilitation in the community.

A series of diversion programs are also delivered within the Magistrates Court and Children's Court that specifically assist people with drug and/or alcohol related problems. These programs are jointly delivered by the Mental Health Commission and the Department. Participants in these programs can access treatment and counselling aimed at assisting them to break their cycle of drug and/or alcohol related problems and offending.

Since 2013, offenders in the broader metropolitan area who experience alcohol-related problems have been able to access these programs. In response to the increasingly complex needs of offenders, the diversion programs are also available within other case management regimes including the Family Violence List and the Start Court.

Outcomes

- There were 201 referrals to the Drug Court in the Magistrates Court.

Intellectual Disability Diversion Program Court

The Intellectual Disability Diversion Program Court seeks to reduce the number of individuals in the adult criminal justice system who may have one or more of the following diagnoses:

- Intellectual Disability.
- Cognitive Disability.
- Autism Spectrum Disorder.

The court aims to work with individuals living in the community to:

- Reduce their future contact with the criminal justice system and thereby improve community safety.
- Increase their access to positive behaviour support with a focus on skill building and goal setting.
- Identify undiagnosed disability or impairment as well as physical and/or mental health issues.
- Achieve an outcome relating to their criminal charge(s) that is proportionate, fair, considers the interests of the victim of the offence, if any, and is appropriate to the circumstances of the accused's offence and their disability or impairment.

Outcomes

- There were 150 referrals to the Intellectual Disability Diversion Program Court.

General Court Intervention Program

The General Court Intervention Program is a pilot voluntary program for people residing in the community with charges before the Magistrates Court of Western Australia at Perth. It provides case management and priority access to programs and services at the earliest opportunity, to address identified needs that may contribute to offending behaviours. Palmerston Association in partnership with Wungening Aboriginal Corporation have been contracted to provide interventions through the joint venture known as Connect Wanju, a service tailored specifically for General Court Intervention Program participants.

Outcomes

- Completed its third full year at the conclusion of the reporting period.
- Provided priority services to 212 participants, primarily catering to mental health and alcohol and other drug counselling.
- Of those who successfully completed the program, 90 per cent received non-custodial dispositions.

Family Violence List

The Family Violence List is available for criminal matters which have been identified as family violence matters in the Magistrates Court of Western Australia at Armadale, Fremantle, Joondalup, Midland, Perth and Rockingham.

Armadale does not currently have a designated list; however, the features of the Family Violence List model remain available. A key feature of the model is a collaborative and integrated response from stakeholders which is supported by a Memorandum of Understanding and interagency collaboration between Government departments including the Department of Communities, the Western Australia Police Force and the Department of Justice.

Barndimalgu Aboriginal Family Violence Court

Barndimalgu is an Aboriginal Family Violence Court operating in Geraldton, which is the only one of its kind in Western Australia. Barndimalgu provides a culturally appropriate court-based model to meet the needs of the Geraldton Aboriginal community with the aim of reducing family and domestic violence.

Children's Court

The Children's Court of Western Australia deals with offences alleged to have been committed by young people aged 10 to 17 years. The court also hears protection and care matters and restraining order applications involving children under the age of 18 years, delivers diversion programs including a Children's Drug Court, which aims to divert young people who are experiencing drug related problems into intensive case management and treatment.

The Mental Health Court Diversion and Support Program, known as Links, gives the President and Magistrates of the Children's Court access to a team of mental health specialists, including a clinical psychologist, a consultant psychiatrist, mental health nurses and support workers. The Links team provide assessments and reports to the Court, make referrals to appropriate services, offer clinical intervention and alternative sentencing options for those whose offences are the result of mental illness.

The Dandjoo Bidi-Ak Court, a therapeutic protection and care court, commenced in July 2020 and has a total of 165 families that have participated in the court since 2020, with 38 families having current active cases open at 30 June 2024. Family violence was identified as an issue in more than 70 per cent of the cases. Dandjoo Bidi-Ak works with families towards reunification, giving them a voice in decisions being made about their children.

The In-Roads Therapeutic Court was piloted in the Perth Children's Court. The program offers individualised, therapeutic and culturally safe community supports to young people. Funding has been secured for 2024/25 and 2025/26 to continue the pilot.

Outcomes

- Finalisation of criminal cases increased to 6,904 from 6,834 the previous year.
- Civil lodgments increased to 2,445 from 2,385.

Coroner's Court

The Coroner's Court investigated 3,317 cases where the death arose from apparent unnatural causes or when the cause of death was unknown.

The role of the Coroner is to ensure deaths reported to the Coroner are investigated and, where appropriate, an inquest is held. The hearing is usually open to the public. During an inquest, witnesses are called to give evidence to enable the Coroner to determine a cause of death.

A comprehensive annual report on the deaths which have been investigated is provided each year to the Attorney General for tabling in State Parliament by the State Coroner under section 27 of the *Coroners Act 1996*.

This was the fifth year that the dedicated Computed Tomography (CT) scanner has been operating at the State Mortuary at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital. There were 3,568 non-invasive scans performed in 2023/24, an increase of 111 (three per cent) from the previous year. The CT scanner continues to ensure fewer Western Australians need an invasive post-mortem examination.

Outcomes

- The Coroner's Court continued its focus on older, backlog coronial cases. At 30 June 2024, the backlog of coronial cases was 804, a decrease of 316 backlog cases compared to 30 June 2023. There has been significant improvement in the backlog (804), having reduced from 1,120 in 2022/23 equating to a reduction of 28.2 per cent. This has occurred through a collective effort and increase in resourcing across the coronial system (Court, Police and Department of Health).

Of the 804 backlog cases:

- 47 were backlog inquest cases.
 - 502 were cases where no further finalisations were possible at 30 June 2024 because the Coroner was awaiting completion of aspects of the coronial investigation by external entities.
 - 255 were pending analysis before finalisation.
- The court dealt with 3,317 reportable deaths, in addition to 1,783 death certificates, and finalised a total of 3,328 matters.
 - The Coroner's Court sat for 98 days and finalised 50 inquest cases.

Boards

The Department provides administrative support to four justice related boards. These are the:

- Prisoners Review Board.
- Mentally Impaired Accused Review Board.
- Supervised Release Review Board.
- Gender Reassignment Board.

Prisoners Review Board

The Prisoners Review Board (PRB) is an independent statutory authority that is administered by the Department. The PRB considers whether prisoners are eligible for early release from custody, sets or varies conditions of release and considers the suspension and/or cancellation of orders where appropriate. During 2023/24, the PRB held 589 meetings, compared with 599 the previous year.

The PRB also determines whether to impose a Post Sentence Supervision Order upon liable offenders. The PRB considered 678 liable offenders and imposed 151 Post Sentence

Supervision Orders during the year. The PRB made 1,189 orders to release offenders on discretionary parole which was 14.9 per cent lower than the 1,398 made in the previous year.

A comprehensive annual report for the PRB is provided to the Attorney General by the Chairperson under section 112 of the *Sentence Administration Act 2003*.

Mentally Impaired Accused Review Board

The Mentally Impaired Accused Review Board (MIARB) is an independent statutory authority administered by the Department. The MIARB is concerned with people found not guilty of a crime due to unsoundness of mind and those found to be mentally unfit to stand trial.

The MIARB held 29 meetings in 2023/24. Pursuant to section 33 of the *Criminal Law (Mentally Impaired Accused) Act 1996*, the MIARB is required to provide the Attorney General with a written report about an accused at least once in every year. The MIARB prepared 97 statutory reports.

A comprehensive annual report for the MIARB is provided to the Attorney General by the Chairperson under section 48 of the *Criminal Law (Mentally Impaired Accused) Act 1996*. In late 2024, the MIARB will be abolished and replaced by the Mental Impairment Review Tribunal pursuant to the commencement of the *Criminal Law (Mental Impairment) Act 2023*.

Supervised Release Review Board

The Supervised Release Review Board (SRRB) is an independent statutory authority administered by the Department.

The SRRB is created under the *Young Offenders Act 1994* and is responsible for determining the suitability of juvenile offenders (young offenders) for release from detention into the community on a Supervised Release Order and to impose the conditions of that Order. The Board met 68 times in 2023/24.

A comprehensive annual report for the SRRB is provided to the Minister for Corrective Services by the Chairperson under section 165 of the *Young Offenders Act 1994*.

Gender Reassignment Board

The Gender Reassignment Board considers applications from people applying to have their gender reassigned and issues gender recognition certificates, in accordance with the *Gender Reassignment Act 2000*. The Gender Reassignment Board received 59 applications in 2023/24, a decrease of 21 compared with the previous year.

Office of Criminal Injuries Compensation

The Office of Criminal Injuries Compensation is a specialist tribunal providing a flexible and informal approach to determining applications for compensation by victims of crime in Western Australia. A comprehensive annual report on the operations of the Office of Criminal Injuries Compensation is provided to the Attorney General for State Parliament by the Chief Assessor under section 62 of the *Criminal Injuries Compensation Act 2003*.

Outcomes

- The number of criminal injuries compensation applications lodged this year increased by 24.2 per cent from 8,907 in 2022/23 to 11,064.
- Finalisations increased by 2.8 per cent from the previous year with 6,344 finalisations in 2022/23 compared to 6,523 finalisations in 2023/24.
- A total of \$81.15 million was awarded to victims of crime. To assist in compensating the State for this cost, a total of \$2.18 million was recovered from offenders, 3.5 per cent less than the previous year.

Fines Enforcement Registry

The Fines Enforcement Registry is responsible for the collection of unpaid court fines and infringements registered by prosecuting authorities throughout Western Australia.

Outcomes

- The number of court fines lodged with the Fines Enforcement Registry increased by 9.9 per cent from 66,311 in 2022/23 to 72,891 in 2023/24.
- The number of infringements lodged increased by 3.1 per cent from 314,128 in 2022/23 to 324,089 in 2023/24.
- Overall, the number of lodgments in 2023/24 increased by 4.3 per cent from 2022/23, while matters finalised decreased by 1.7 per cent.
- The Fines Enforcement Registry collected \$139.4 million.

Work and Development Permit Scheme

A person experiencing hardship can apply for a Work and Development Permit under the supervision of an approved sponsor to reduce their court fines with the following activities:

- Unpaid work.
- Medical or mental health treatment.
- Educational, vocational or personal development course.
- Treatment for a drug or alcohol problem.
- Mentoring for persons under 25 years.

The Work and Development Permit Scheme is delivered by the Department in partnership with the Aboriginal Legal Service of Western Australia Limited and Legal Aid Western Australia.

As the Work and Development Permit Scheme is a sponsor-driven program, Aboriginal Legal Service of Western Australia Limited and Legal Aid Western Australia actively recruit and support sponsors and direct eligible clients to sponsors who can support them in a Work and Development Permit.

Outcomes

- At 30 June 2024, there were 235 active sponsors registered.
- 2,429 Work and Development Permits were issued to 2,065 individual clients. This is an increase of 21.4 per cent from 2022/23, satisfying \$2,743,384 of court fines.

Justices of the Peace

A Justice of the Peace is a voluntary and statutory position involving a range of duties and responsibilities, most commonly including witnessing of documents. The Department has responsibility for supporting and training Justices of the Peace.

Outcomes

- Provided training opportunities for the State's 2,526 Justices of the Peace.
- 17 training sessions were offered with five in the metropolitan area, two in regional or country locations and 10 online modules.
- A total of 324 Justices of the Peace registered to participate in approved Departmental training sessions. As Justices of the Peace no longer perform judicial duties, the number of Justices of the Peace enrolling in training has reduced. As Justices of the Peace in the regions have previously completed online modules, the number of enrolments for these is also lower this year.

Court Counselling and Support Services

Court Counselling and Support Services provide a range of services to people involved in the court system. This includes victims of crime, child witnesses, family violence victims, and adults and children involved in Family Court of Western Australia parenting matters.

Victim Support Service

The Victim Support Service offers a range of specialist services to help victims of crime with their contact with the criminal justice system and to assist them in their recovery from trauma. The provision of this service often requires intensive case management and support to victims of crime.

These services are provided by telephone, video link, email, and in-person. A range of court-based information and support services to assist victims attending court is also available, together with help to prepare victim impact statements.

The Victim Support Service also provides prosecution agencies with assessment reports to support applications to the court for vulnerable witnesses to provide their evidence by closed circuit television.

Victim Support Service is based in the Perth metropolitan area. Support services are also available to victims of crime in regional locations through the Victim Support and Child Witness Service.

Outcomes

- There were 16,709 referrals for victim support, compared to 15,167 the previous year. Offer of service letters were sent to all referred clients.
- Support and case management is provided to victims of crime who voluntarily request assistance. This year assistance was provided to 7,697 people.

Child Witness Service

The Child Witness Service provides services to children who give evidence in all criminal jurisdictions. It provides an assessment, court preparation and support service to children under 18 years of age. The Child Witness Service provides advocacy to ensure children receive all their entitlements under the legislation and also assists with victim impact statements.

Child Witness Service continued to provide valuable training to a range of key stakeholders including the Western Australia Police Force, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and other agencies about the impact on children who give evidence. Training included appropriate ways to interact with children to ensure the best possible outcomes

for them and to support children so they may provide the best evidence possible to the court.

Child Witness Service is based in the Perth metropolitan area. In addition, support services are also available to child witnesses in regional locations by Victim Support and Child Witness Service.

Outcomes

The following includes details about victim support services delivered from both Child Witness Service in the Perth metropolitan area and Victim Support and Child Witness Service in regional locations:

- There was an increase in new child witness referrals, with 1,316 new referrals this year compared with 1,288 in the previous financial year. Offer of service letters and follow-up support were provided to all referrals.
- 63 per cent of child witness clients were aged between 13 and 17 years.

Family Violence Service

The Family Violence Service provides services to victims of family violence in the Magistrates Court of Western Australia at Armadale, Fremantle, Joondalup, Midland, Perth and Rockingham.

This includes supporting family violence victims who are making an application for a restraining order and/or are involved in a Family Violence List criminal matter. The service also assists judicial officers in the Family Violence List through the provision of bail risk assessment reports.

Outcomes

- There were 5,186 new referrals compared with 4,751 in the previous financial year.

Family Court Counselling and Consultancy Service

The Family Court Counselling and Consultancy Service provides services relevant to child-related proceedings in the Family Court of Western Australia. The service assists the Family Court of Western Australia to individually case manage and assess child-related proceedings. This includes making referrals to other agencies, gathering information and reporting back to the presiding magistrate or judge. The Family Court Counselling and Consultancy Service provides assessment through either a case assessment conference, child inclusive conference, or child review conference.

Outcomes

- The Family Court Counselling and Consultancy Service received 1,146 new referrals in 2023/24.

Court Risk Assessment

The remit of the Court Risk Assessment Directorate includes:

- Identification and treatment of risks and threats to courts and tribunals, the Office of the Public Advocate and the Sheriff's Office of Western Australia.
- Conducting reviews of court security infrastructure and technologies.
- Judicial residential security.
- Staff security training.

Court Risk Assessment is responsible for ensuring court facilities comply with the Department's architecture standard design brief with the Directorate conducting regular security reviews of all metropolitan and regional courthouses to ensure compliance.

The Directorate operates an intelligence-led security framework to identify and mitigate threats against facilities and court users.

Outcomes

- An intelligence-led framework designed and implemented by Court Risk Assessment for the collection, analysis, and production of threat assessments to support the actions of the Sheriff of Western Australia Criminal and Civil Enforcement teams has over the past year been further developed and enhanced with collaboration from both sides of the business. This has assisted greatly in the mitigation and management of risk within the business.
- Security upgrades were undertaken at the Kununurra and Moora Courthouses along with the finalisation of works and the opening of the joint Armadale Courthouse and Police Complex. Further development and enhancements to the incident and operational management system, and the intelligence and risk security management system, were also completed. As of June 2024, Court Risk Assessment, along with the assistance of Procurement, Infrastructure Contracts Services, have negotiated and finalised a security management system maintenance agreement which will ensure regular software upgrades to court and tribunal security systems statewide.
- Court Risk Assessment has in the past year implemented the production of Strategic and Intelligence Risk Briefings, relating to matters of concern listed at court (all jurisdictions) each quarter period. The document outlines the increased risk matters, the associated risks they may present to court, and an overall threat rating. The documents assists security providers with forecasting resource allocation to ensure appropriate risk mitigation strategies are in place.
- The implementation of the Department's incident

management system WebEOC continues to progress for rollout to the Executive Group. Court Risk Assessment continued to work with external stakeholders on the extension of the WebEOC system known as Fusion. This system will enable stakeholders and external agencies to jointly collaborate and manage emergency management incidents.

- Supported the management of high-risk trials involving multiple accused persons. Many of these trials involved joint planning arrangements with law enforcement agencies.

Sheriff of Western Australia

The Sheriff of Western Australia is responsible to the courts for the statewide delivery of enforcement services associated with civil court orders, criminal court fines and outstanding infringements or penalties referred to the Fines Enforcement Registry of the Magistrates Court.

The Sheriff is also responsible for provision of jury services to the District and Supreme Courts. The Sheriff holds appointments as Marshal of the Family Court, Deputy Marshal of the High Court and Deputy Sheriff of the Federal Court of Australia. The position's authority is vested from a range of State and Federal legislation, each with a statutory responsibility to the courts.

The Sheriff's Office and Court Risk Assessment Directorate have integrated the function of risk assessments for operational field staff. The collaboration of the two areas saw an updated and improved intelligence-led framework designed and implemented.

The primary and secondary threat assessments provide the necessary intelligence for key stakeholders to implement controls to mitigate the risk of an incident occurring when conducting enforcement actions.

Civil Enforcement

The Civil Enforcement team is responsible for the service of processes and enforcement of orders and warrants issued by the courts from civil proceedings and for the service of witness summonses on behalf of the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions. These services are provided directly by the Sheriff's Office in the Perth metropolitan region for District and Supreme Court matters and through a network of bailiffs appointed by the Sheriff for Magistrates Court matters across the State, with the bulk of that work undertaken by Baycorp (WA) Pty Ltd under contract with the Department.

Outcomes

- The Sheriff's Office received 3,637 witness summonses to serve on behalf of the Director of Public Prosecutions, as well as 219 Criminal Injury Compensation Claims.

This is the second year the Sheriff's Office has had the responsibility of serving State Administrative Tribunal documents, receiving 2,767 guardianship orders for service this financial period.

- The number of arrest warrants requiring respondents to be brought before the court increased from 333 in 2022/23 to 428 in 2023/24.
- The number of evictions conducted under Property Seizure and Delivery Orders increased by 18 to 711 in 2023/24.
- The Civil Enforcement Team is now able to undertake auctions online to enforce Property (Seizure and Sale) Orders issued out of the Magistrates, District and Supreme Courts of Western Australia. Auctions are now attracting larger numbers of registered bidders, and risks to Sheriff's Officer and members of the public is mitigated.

Criminal Enforcement

The Sheriff's Office criminal enforcement work consists of the execution of enforcement warrants issued to the Sheriff by the Registrar of the Fines Enforcement Registry. This occurs when the Fines Enforcement Registry has not been able to recover outstanding court fine or infringement amounts. This work is performed through the Sheriff's Office Criminal Enforcement team and regional Sheriff Community Development Officers. Baycorp (WA) Pty Ltd, contracted by the Department, also performs this work.

The number of enforcement warrants received increased by 34.9 per cent to 106,907 in 2023/24.

The *Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Enforcements Act 1994* provides the Sheriff with powers to garnish funds from a debtor's bank account or employer payments. The Sheriff issued 634 garnishee bank orders during the year and recovered \$594,925 through this enforcement method.

Outcomes

- There was a total of \$19.2 million in collections for 2023/24 compared to \$21.3 million in 2022/23.

Jury Services

The core function of Jury Services is to provide sufficient jurors for Supreme Court and District Court jury trials held across the State. Jury Services assists community members, who have been selected for jury duty, in meeting and understanding their civic responsibilities as jurors.

The Jury Services information management system migrated across to the Integrated Courts Management System and simultaneously, an updated user-friendly portal was launched which enables jurors to update relevant information about their jury service. In addition, to ensure a standardised

delivery of jury services across the State, customised training was delivered to all jury officers.

Outcomes

- During this financial year 44,199 people were summoned for scheduled jury trials. Of these, 20,479 people attended for those jury trials that commenced.

Audio visual systems

Audio visual systems in Western Australian courts and tribunals provide interactive and real time video and audio links between local, regional and remote sites. AV systems ensure multipurpose use, including receiving evidence from witnesses in other areas of the State and witnesses located interstate and overseas. The AV systems link to Western Australia's prisons, community-based services offices, youth detention and remand centres as well as some police stations and mining registries.

AV systems facilitate the replay of evidence in trials. Upgrades have enabled courts to web stream proceedings from courtrooms of the Supreme Court (Civil) in the David Malcolm Justice Centre and the Supreme Court Stirling Gardens building. The web streaming capacity allows these courts to stream a proceeding live to the internet or record a proceeding and make it available to the public on the court's website for download.

AV systems enable the recording of audio for transcription as well as video links into the courtroom, reducing the need for persons in custody, witnesses and judicial officers to physically attend court. This makes accessing justice across Western Australia easier, safer, more cost effective and faster.

Outcomes

- There were 57,370 court appearances by persons in custody of which 53,318 (93 per cent) appeared by video conference.
- The Department continued to expand and enhance its court AV facilities to meet demand. Key projects included:
 - The digital upgrade to 22 State Administrative Tribunal hearing rooms. The upgrade provides videoconferencing in an additional 12 rooms, along with enhanced audio conference capabilities.
 - An AV refresh program was undertaken in Magistrates courtrooms for remote court locations to provide robust and contemporary AV systems, including videoconferencing and Microsoft Teams interoperability.
 - To improve access to justice services in remote locations, a pilot was successfully undertaken to use Low Earth Orbit satellites to provide network

connectivity to remote courtrooms. The upgraded service allows for quality videoconferencing and Integrated Courts Management System (ICMS) connections. Planning is underway to deliver network connectivity to a further five locations.

- To improve access to justice services in remote locations, a pilot was successfully undertaken to share Western Australia Police Force network services at two remote police court locations. The shared network service allows for quality videoconferencing and ICMS connections. Planning has commenced to expand the services to a further 15 locations.
- AV solutions in the Armadale Courthouse and Police Complex were completed and handed over in line with the building's official opening. The new complex provides five videoconference enabled courtrooms, three remote witness rooms, wayfinding systems and a secure videoconference enabled cell.
- AV solutions were installed at the Bunbury Courthouse to support Family Violence Restraining Order Conferencing. Upgrades will also support the Family Court of Western Australia at Bunbury Court.

eCourts

The Integrated Courts Management System (ICMS) and the eCourts Portal have been developed in-house by Court and Tribunal Services in Western Australia and provides a consistent approach across all jurisdictions.

To date, the primary focus has been the replacement of legacy case management systems, critical to the operation of courts and tribunals in Western Australia.

In 2023/24, the focus has been on the following:

- A new Jury Portal and additional Jury Services functionality to ICMS.
- Upgraded network and application security including the introduction of Multi-Factor Authentication.
- Commencing modernisation of the ICMS and its related applications. The intention is to develop contemporary and adaptable platforms that improve public access to justice services especially in remote regions.
- Functionality changes to meet operational requirements resulting from the new *Criminal Law (Mental Impairment) Act 2023*.
- Progression of functionality changes required arising from the Government's legislative reform agenda.
- Changes to the Bail Module.
- A detailed review of the eCourts Portal to improve user experience.

- The training framework for users of the case management systems.
- Upgrades to the infrastructure supporting court applications.
- Extensive infrastructure and services cloud migrations completed.
- Cyber security improvements.

Library and Information Services

Library and Information Services operates as part of the Higher Courts Directorate of Court and Tribunal Services where it has continued to support the work of the judiciary, government legal officers and legal practitioners outside of the Department.

The Law Library Advisory Committee provides professional oversight of the Law Library collection and services. This Committee is chaired by a Judge of the Supreme Court and includes representatives of The Law Society of Western Australia, the Western Australian Bar Association, the Legal Practice Board of Western Australia and the Department.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and training initiatives continue to be a focus. In October 2023, library staff presented a CPD on free legal materials to approximately 200 participants on behalf of The Law Society of Western Australia.

Volunteers

Volunteers play an important role in supporting the delivery of justice services across Western Australia. This includes 2,526 Justices of the Peace.

The Department's Family Violence Service, Victim Support Service and Child Witness Service all use volunteers to support victims of crime going through the court process. This includes providing court support to witnesses when they are giving evidence in court through to assisting victims between different locations within the courthouse.

The Department extends its sincere thanks to all the volunteers for their contribution to justice services.

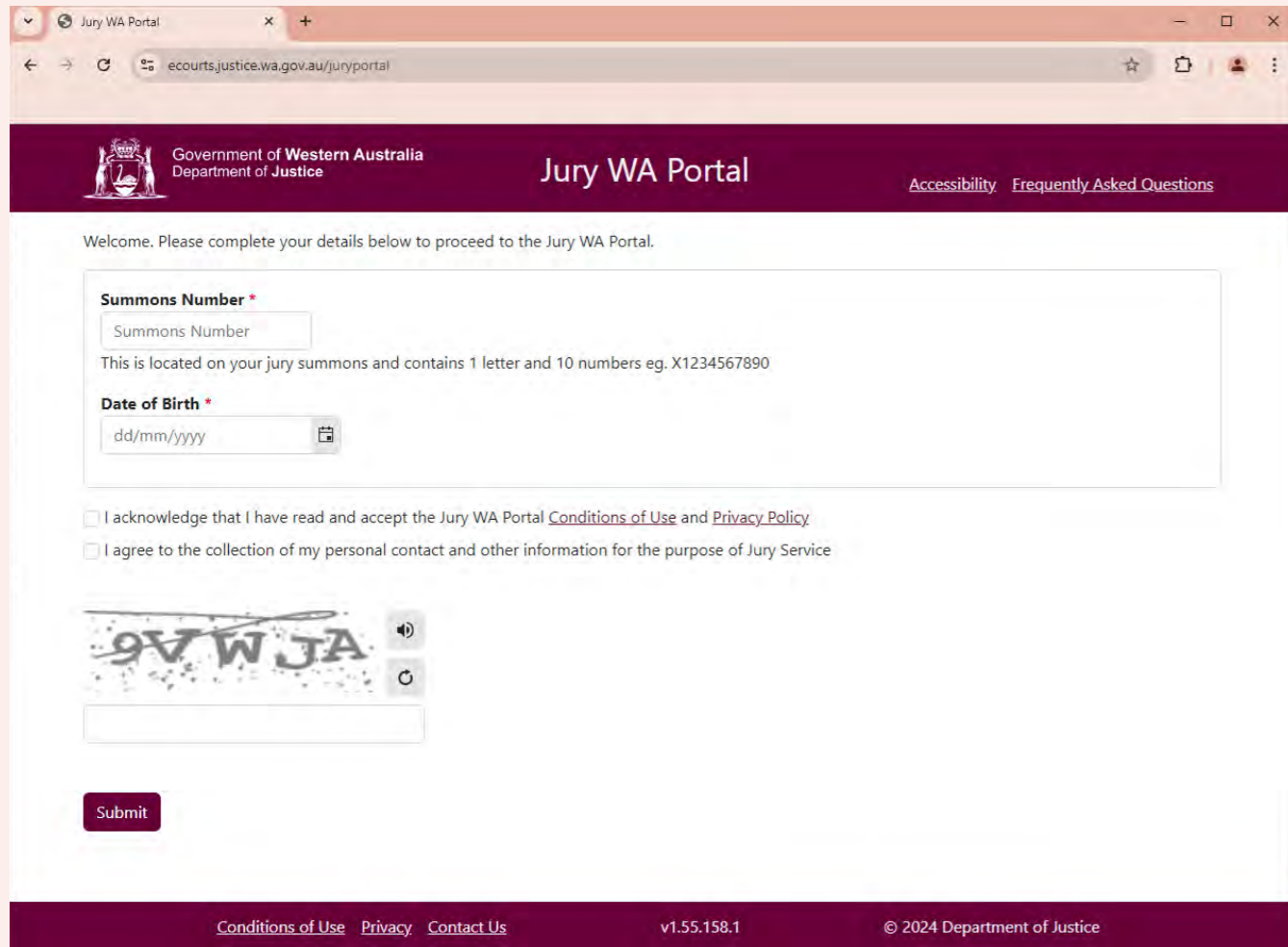
Jury Services Portal

On 11 December 2023, Jury Services farewelled the 25-year-old Jury Information Management System and incorporated these functions into the Department's Integrated Courts Management System.

This migration gave rise to the opportunity to expand jury management functionality by including the launch of the user-friendly Jury Portal of Western Australia with a range of functionality providing a fast and efficient alternative to manual forms.

A QR code or link located on the jury summons document or Department website provides access to the portal. Jurors can lodge claims for reimbursement of primary care costs or if self-employed, lodge a claim for lost personal income as a result of attending jury service once they have attended. Jurors may upload verifiable supporting information for their applications and claims to be assessed.

In the first six months, the portal was accessed by more than 13,500 unique users.



Office of the Commissioner for Victims of Crime

The Office provided advice, advocacy and practical support to victims of crime and played a key role in developing and consulting on Government reforms, with the Commissioner having a continued role in State and national engagements.

The Office of the Commissioner for Victims of Crime has three key functions:

- Provide services to support and empower victims.
- Respond to victim complaints and advocate for systemic change.
- Undertake legislative, policy and project reform to improve the outcomes for, and experiences of, victims in the criminal justice system.

The *Victims of Crime Act 1994*, including the Victims of Crime Guidelines, provides a legislative framework on how victims should be treated as they interact with the criminal justice system.

The Office's key priorities are to:

- Ensure victim services are accessible to all Western Australians regardless of location, age, ability, gender, sexuality, cultural background, or circumstances.
- Advocate for victims of family and domestic violence through appropriate policies, projects and procedures, including State Government election commitments.
- Offer a platform for victims to lodge complaints about Government services.
- Provide offender status information through the Victim Notification Register.
- Facilitate reparative mediation through the Restorative Justice Unit.
- Facilitate post-offender release protective measures for victims through the Victim Engagement Unit's recommendations to the Prisoners Review Board.
- Assist victims in making submissions to the Supreme Court on cases involving high risk serious offenders.
- Manage Western Australia's involvement in the National Redress Scheme for institutional child sexual abuse survivors.
- Monitor the justice system to advocate for systemic change and influence legislation to ensure victims' interests are effectively represented.

Key achievements

- The Office had more than 1,122 direct engagements with victims in 2023/24.
- Led the project to develop Western Australia's first Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Strategy in partnership with the Department of Communities.
- Published 'Legislative responses to coercive control in Western Australia', a report that proposed a suite of reforms.
- Led the State Government's public consultation process on improving victims' experiences and reviewed criminal justice responses to sexual offending.
- Launched an Ambulance Payment Scheme for families of homicide victims.
- Helped thousands of Western Australian survivors of historical sexual abuse in State Government institutions access payments, counselling and direct personal responses from institutions through the Office's Redress Co-ordination Unit.
- Worked with the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries to administer on their behalf an Acknowledgement Payment Scheme for selected former Western Australian Institute of Sport gymnasts.
- Delivered on State Government election commitments, including the Leave Safe, Stay Safe prison exit program and implementing a family violence clinical forensic service.
- Released an independent evaluation of the Justice Facility Dog Program, which found that the use of a support dog in the Perth Children's Court significantly increased the wellbeing of children, caregivers, other court users and staff.

Advice, advocacy and practical support

Victim engagements

The Office recorded 1,122 engagements with victims of crime and other members of the public on victims' issues, which is 36 fewer than the previous year. The Office also responded to 28 complaints against other State Government agencies, which were generally related to decisions made by court or directed against other State Government bodies. The Office attended Aboriginal Justice Open Days to increase the awareness of services and assist Aboriginal victims of crime directly.

The Office also held a well-attended Restorative Justice conference. The conference examined how restorative justice can be used to help victims of crime, assist in resolving sexual violence, and how it can be applied in the workplace and in the justice system, including in shuttle conferencing for family violence restraining orders and in mediation in the Western Australian Children's Court.

The Commissioner continued to chair the National Victims of Crime Working Group, an information-sharing network of Commissioners for Victims of Crime across Australia, and co-chair the Attorney General's Victims of Crime Reference Group. The Reference Group provides strategic advice and recommendations to the Attorney General to inform the development of policy, programs and services for victims of crime in Western Australia. The Group now has seven community representatives along with the Commissioner for Victims of Crime, community co-chair Ms Kirsty Pratt and representatives from the Department of Justice, Western Australia Police Force, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Department of Communities, Department of Health, Legal Aid Western Australia, and the Mental Health Commission. This is the largest and most diverse mix of people, cultural backgrounds and victim experiences so far assembled and formal meetings will commence in 2024/2025.

Keeping victims informed about offenders – pre- and post-sentence support

The Office's Victim Liaison Unit administers the Victim Notification Register, which gives victims the opportunity to access important information about an offender for as long as the offender is under the supervision of the Department. At 30 June 2024, there were 2,410 victims registered with the VNR in relation to 1,990 offenders. This compares with 2022/23, when there were 2108 victims registered in relation to 1,733 offenders. In 2023/24 VNR received 875 new

applications to join, of which 787 were approved. The previous year, there were 737 new applications, of which 700 were approved for registration.

In 2023/2024 the Office's Victim Engagement Unit prepared 4,224 reports for sentencing and releasing authorities and provided input into protective conditions for victims registered in relation to community-based offenders.

The Office's Restorative Justice Unit, as well as administering the National Redress Scheme in Western Australia, works with victims and certain offenders to facilitate reparative mediation. All of these services are free and impartial.

Expungement of historical homosexual convictions

The Historical Homosexual Conviction Expungement Scheme was introduced in 2018. The Scheme is open to people with a conviction for a range of historical homosexual offences relating to consensual activity and which would not be illegal today. The Scheme recognises the hurt and discrimination caused by these historical convictions. The Office manages the application process and continues to promote the Scheme through its website and at outreach events. No applications were received this financial year.

Homicide Funeral Assistance Scheme

The Homicide Funeral Assistance Scheme funds the funeral costs of people in Western Australia who die as the result of homicide and is funded through the Confiscation of Profits Trust Account under the Proceeds of Crime.

The Scheme provides up to \$10,000 towards the cost of a funeral to eligible applicants. As of 1 July 2023, this was increased from \$8,000 to reflect the rising cost of funerals in the wider community. This includes where the cause of the death of the deceased person was murder, manslaughter or unlawful assault causing death.

Financial Year	Total Amount	Number of (Homicide) Victims
2023/24	\$310,857	32
2022/23	\$199,996	25
2021/22	\$127,468	16
2020/21	\$162,379	22
2019/20	\$210,844	28

Ambulance Payment Scheme

The Office launched an Ambulance Payment Scheme to cover the ambulance transport costs of homicide victims. A total of 13 invoices were paid at a cost of \$11,896.

Forensic cleaning of crime scenes in the home

The Office is responsible for co-ordinating the biological and forensic cleaning of houses where a victim has been killed in their own home. This service ensures that a property is thoroughly cleaned before being handed back, aiming to reduce further trauma to family and/or loved ones.

The Office co-ordinated and paid for 13 properties to be cleaned after homicide, with an average cost of \$1,697.

The close working relationship between the Office, housing authorities and the Western Australia Police Force ensures that the cleaning is carried out promptly and allows affected families to return to their homes as soon as possible.

Legislative and policy reform

Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Strategy

The Office, in partnership with the Department of Communities, is leading the development of Western Australia's first Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Strategy. The purpose of the Strategy is to improve outcomes for victim survivors of sexual violence, focusing on primary prevention, support for victim survivors' recovery and holding perpetrators to account. The public consultation process finished in November 2023.

Review of criminal justice responses to sexual offending

The Attorney General requested a review of the criminal justice responses to sexual offending and the process from reporting an offence to the release of the offender. The Review examined reforms that will improve victim experiences in the criminal justice system. The Office carried out community and stakeholder consultation in the second half of 2023. The Office is currently finalising its report for the Attorney General.

Legislative responses to coercive control

In November 2023, the Office published the report 'Legislative responses to coercive control in Western Australia'.

The report proposed a suite of 24 recommendations for reform, including amending legislation to enable more effective recognition and response to behaviours such as intimidation, isolation and manipulation.

Criminal law mentally impaired accused

The Office helped develop the *Criminal Law (Mental Impairment) Act 2023* which overhauls Western Australia's mentally impaired accused laws. The Commissioner worked to make sure that affected victims were kept informed about the legislative changes. The Office also successfully obtained funding for dedicated victim engagement officers to support the families and victims of mentally impaired accused people.

Commonwealth working groups

The Office represented Western Australia on Standing Council of Attorneys-General working groups, including the Working Group on Criminal Justice Responses to Sexual Assault, the Family Violence Working Group and the Family Violence Sub-Working Group on Forced Marriage.

Leading the National Redress Scheme in Western Australia

In January 2019, Western Australia joined the National Redress Scheme for survivors of institutional child sexual abuse, which was established in response to recommendations of the Royal Commission. The Scheme provides an opportunity for survivors to seek redress as an alternative to civil litigation.

The Redress Co-ordination Unit within the Office co-ordinates redress payments and personal responses for Western Australian victim-survivors of institutional child sexual abuse.

The Redress Co-ordination Unit contributed to the development of policies which ensured the effective and equitable operation of the Scheme in Western Australia.

In 2023/24, 749 applications for redress were received.

In 2023, the State Government changed the way the State provides the counselling and psychological care (CPC) component of Redress, approving the provision of 20 hours of CPC to a maximum cost of \$5,000 per applicant. Previously, a one-off payment was made to eligible survivors, however, the CPC component of redress is now managed by the Unit which assists applicants to find and access qualified and appropriate service providers.

Family violence election commitments

Leave Safe, Stay Safe prison exit program

The Leave Safe, Stay Safe prison exit program was a State Government election commitment and was trialled in Bandyup Women's Prison and Greenough Regional Prison to give women prisoners their best chance of breaking the cycle of family and domestic violence on release.

Relationships Australia offer the prisoners counselling, risk assessment and safety planning, while Gosnells Community Legal Centre assists with legal support.

After four intakes at Bandyup and one at Greenough:

- 54 women have engaged with the program since it was launched in May 2023.
- 89 per cent of women who engaged with the program go on to graduate.
- 70 legal services have been delivered, including assistance obtaining Family Violence Restraining Orders, parenting matters and criminal injuries compensation.
- 41 per cent of women engaged with the program reported more than a 50 per cent improvement in knowledge and confidence across key focus areas of the program.

Family and Domestic Violence Forensic Service

The establishment of the first specialist Family and Domestic Violence (FDV) Forensic Service in Western Australia is designed to provide the high-quality evidence critical to securing convictions in FDV prosecutions and improve the State's FDV data collection and reporting capabilities. This year the service began to collect data from FDV victim survivors, documenting and certifying injuries relating to FDV and preparing to provide expert opinion in any resulting prosecution. The clinical component includes a full forensic examination of individuals presenting with FDV-related injuries, the preparation of medico-legal reports to support prosecution and the provision of expert opinion and legal testimony at trial.

The community service component involves the assessment and intake of service users, in consultation with the Sexual Assault Resource Centre and relevant prosecuting agencies, to offer safety planning, case management, justice system advocacy and navigation and referrals to other support services.

Family Violence initiatives

Victim representation on Prisoners Review Board

From 1 July 2024, a \$3.2 million State Budget allocation will enable victim representatives from the Office to sit on all hearings of the Prisoners Review Board. Attorney General, the Hon John Quigley MLA, announced in November 2023 that as well as the new victim representatives, all Board members will receive regular training about family and domestic violence.

FDV Disclosure Scheme

The Office was allocated \$396,000 in the State Budget to conduct research and consult key stakeholders to establish the efficacy of a dedicated FDV disclosure scheme.

The Office will look at current models both within Australia and internationally to determine what a Western Australian model should look like and will bring its recommendations to Government.

The Office was also allocated money in the State Budget for FDV advocates in the justice system and to further investigate legislative responses to coercive control.



Office releases landmark coercive control report

The State Government tasked the Office in March 2022 with canvassing the Western Australian community about how best to address the destructive pattern of family violence behaviours known as coercive control.

The Office undertook a comprehensive statewide consultation and presented the outcomes in a report to the Attorney General, in November 2023.

Commissioner Kraszlan said the report made 24 recommendations to Government for systemic and legal changes.

Key recommendations included amending the *Restraining Orders Act 1997 (WA)* to enable more effective recognition and response to behaviours such as intimidation, isolation and manipulation.

"While WA law recognises coercive control to some extent, the legislation is not able to respond adequately to behaviour that represents a pattern rather than a one-off incident," Commissioner for Victims of Crime Kati Kraszlan said.

The report recommends that the systemic reform precedes criminalising coercive control through the creation of a standalone offence.

"Although each person's experience of coercive control may be different, what is consistent is that people exercising coercive control cause their victims significant pain, fear and trauma," Ms Kraszlan said.

"A clear finding from the consultations is that the justice system alone cannot stop coercive control," she said. "What is needed is a whole-of-government and whole-of-community approach to recognising and responding to these behaviours."

The report outlines a way forward to respond to coercive control and provide victim-survivors with the supports that they need.

That includes wraparound services, access to accommodation, legal and social supports, as well as effective programs for perpetrators.

"We extend our deep respect and gratitude to the people who shared their thoughts and experiences with us throughout the consultation process," Ms Kraszlan said.

The State Government is now progressing key recommendations of the report. The report is available at www.victimsofcrime.wa.gov.au



Equal Opportunity Commission

The Equal Opportunity Commission provides an avenue for redress for unlawful discrimination, harassment, and victimisation by investigating and endeavouring to conciliate complaints that fall within the jurisdiction of the *Equal Opportunity Act 1984* and other legislation administered by the Commissioner for Equal Opportunity, and performs the general functions set out in section 80 of the Act.



Commissioner Dr John Byrne, former Federal Sex Discrimination Commissioner Kate Jenkins and Minister for Women's Interests Hon Sue Ellery MLC.

Driving respect at the Mining Industry Summit

WA Commissioner for Equal Opportunity Dr John Byrne participated in a panel discussion at the Mining Industry Summit 2023 on 1 August to discuss respect and inclusion.

The Equal Opportunity Commission is involved in the Mental Awareness, Respect and Safety Program as a Government initiative to improve health, safety and wellbeing of workers in the mining industry.

Dr Byrne said the main issues he discussed were how to increase diversity and make workplaces more inclusive for Aboriginal people, ethnically diverse people, the LGBTIQ+ community, people with a disability, as well as gender diversity.

"One suggestion was to change selection processes to include more diversity on selection panels and an expectation that selection panels should search for candidates to ensure they had a diverse shortlist," he said.

"Also, care in recruitment to ensure new employees do not perpetuate inappropriate attitudes and, in the interim, much better management of inappropriate behaviours by employees," he said.



The Equal Opportunity Commission's functions include delivering education and training to the community and reporting on practices, policies and legislation that may contravene the Act.

The Act provides that the Governor appoints the Commissioner for Equal Opportunity. The Western Australian Commissioner for Equal Opportunity, Dr John Byrne AM is independent in performing the functions of the Commissioner as set out in the Act.

The Equal Opportunity Commission obtains administrative support from the Department. The financial statements and key performance indicators for the Equal Opportunity Commission are included in the Department's annual report.

Key achievements

- Responded to more than 1,108 requests for information and advice on rights and responsibilities under the Act.
- Finalised 407 complaints about unlawful discrimination and harassment.
- Delivered information sessions and complaint clinics to 1,197 participants from agencies, non-government organisations and community members.
- Delivered training sessions to 1,205 participants from organisations and businesses across the State about their obligations under the Act.
- Organised and participated in community events including: Hosting the International Women's Day mentoring event; information stalls in the CBD for the Stall in the Mall series, information stalls for Mirrabooka NAIDOC Week, Pride Fair Day, Katanning Harmony Festival and the Substantive Equality Forum.

Office of the Public Advocate

The Office of the Public Advocate protects and promotes the human rights of vulnerable adults with a decision-making disability through the functions given to the Public Advocate under the *Guardianship and Administration Act 1990*.

A person's ability to make reasoned decisions can be affected by an intellectual disability, a mental illness, an acquired brain injury or dementia. The Office works to protect a growing number of these vulnerable members of the community who may face the risk of exploitation, abuse and neglect, by providing services including:

- Investigations into the need for guardianship and/or administration orders for adults with a decision-making disability.
- Guardian of last resort; that is, the legal decision-maker for personal, lifestyle and treatment decisions for adults with a decision-making disability.
- Information, advice and training regarding the guardianship and administration system and the documents used to plan for future decision-making, as a safeguard in the event an adult loses decision-making capacity.
- Promoting and protecting the human rights of adults with a decision-making disability.

Key achievements

- Carried out 3,034 investigations into the personal or financial welfare of adults with a decision-making disability, representing a 10 per cent increase from the previous year.
- Managed 2,407 new referrals from the State Administrative Tribunal for investigations into the personal or financial welfare of adults with a decision-making disability, a five per cent increase from the previous year.
- Acted as guardian for a total of 3,598 people at 30 June 2024, a seven per cent increase from 30 June 2023.
- Responded to 777 new appointments by the State Administrative Tribunal as guardian of last resort, compared with 737 in 2022/23.
- Delivered 24 community education seminars regarding the guardianship and administration system, the legislation and the planning documents available to people under the legislation.
- The advisory service addressed 5,957 different enquiries by telephone in 2023/24.

The community guardianship program, which aims to match adults who have the Public Advocate appointed as their guardian with volunteers from the community who are willing and able to take over the role as guardian, continued to provide an invaluable service. At 30 June 2024, there were 11 volunteers engaged in the program, 10 of whom were appointed as guardian for their represented person.

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), under the Commonwealth and WA State Government Bilateral Agreement, had a significant impact on the demand for investigator advocate and guardianship services in 2023/24. Since the introduction of the NDIS in 2017/18, guardianship appointments of the Public Advocate for adults with mental illness and intellectual disability have steadily risen and now account for the largest proportion of appointments at 30 June 2024.

Profile of all guardianship orders appointing the Public Advocate by type of decision-making disability at 30 June 2024.

Type of decision-making disability	Number	Percentage
Acquired brain injury	518	14
Dementia	849	24
Intellectual disability	986	27
Mental illness	1,179	33
Other	66*	2
Total	3,598	100%

*Note: 43 of the 66 'other' are represented persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Regulatory amendment, data sharing and improved NDIS outcomes

The Office of the Public Advocate and Public Trustee worked with the State Solicitor's Office and the Department's Legislative Services team in Strategic Reform to develop the Guardianship and Administration Amendment Regulations 2024.

These regulatory amendments were drafted by Parliamentary Counsel to enable the Public Advocate and the Public Trustee to share information with the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) and the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission (NDIS Commission) in certain circumstances relating to the NDIS.

While undertaking this work, the need to share information at a system level to support new information, technologies, and communication (ICT) systems, was identified.

The *National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013* (NDIS Act), at section 55 provides the NDIA and the NDIS Commission with the power to obtain information to ensure the integrity of the NDIS. The *Guardianship and Administration Act 1990*, at section 113 contains the confidentiality provisions by which the Public Advocate and the Public Trustee are bound when sharing personal information of represented persons.

On 5 April 2024, the *Guardianship and Administration Amendment Regulations 2024* came into operation to amend the *Guardianship and Administration Regulations 2005*. The changes have enabled information sharing between the Public Advocate and the Public Trustee with the NDIA at a system level to facilitate the sharing of data about represented persons.

This can occur when the Public Advocate or the Public Trustee is satisfied that the release of the requested information is relevant to the performance of a function under the NDIS Act.

Both offices are now better positioned to share information with the NDIA and the NDIS Commission when the Public Advocate or the Public Trustee is satisfied this is required and appropriate. Such information sharing can greatly improve data accuracy, service planning and enhanced safeguards for vulnerable people with a decision-making disability.

Targeting elder abuse

The Office continues to target elder abuse with a range of activities undertaken across advocacy, investigation and guardianship services; through membership of the Alliance for the Prevention of Elder Abuse; policy development; and collaboration with other organisations.

First Nations translations

After consultation with Aboriginal stakeholders, the Office worked with Aboriginal Interpreting WA and Koort-kadak Consultancy to develop a suite of online audio translations including: Noongar, Martu, Nyangumarta, Kimberley Kriol and Walmajarri. Topics covered included 'How you can plan ahead', 'Is someone you know vulnerable?' and 'What is a guardian?'.

Developing accessibility

To celebrate International Day of People with Disability in 2023, the Office launched a new accessibility webpage and two new easy read fact sheets breaking down the different ways people can access information.

Public Trustee

The Public Trustee offers trustee services, deceased estate administration and Will writing services for all Western Australians. The statutory authority manages net assets of \$1.75 billion and is responsible for managing the financial and legal matters of at-risk people in the community, as well as examining the accounts of private administrators.

Key achievements

- Managing trusts for 7,914 clients, including 1,200 new trust clients.
- Submitting 389 probate applications.
- Examining 2,340 private administrator accounts.

The Office of the Auditor General tabled its forensic audit report on the Public Trustee: Fraud Risks in the Management of Client Funds by the Public Trustee. After analysing more than 35,000 supplier records and \$11.1 billion in payments across 2.2 million transactions over five years, the forensic audit found no evidence of fraud or corruption.

The report found that the Public Trustee's actions were professional and appropriate and had regard to the clients' best interests and in certain cases, the safety of Public Trustee staff involved.

The Public Trustee continues to experience growth in demand for its financial administration services after being appointed to manage a further 986 clients under administration orders. Most new trust clients were referred by the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT). The increase is attributed to the rising number of people whose decision-making capabilities are adversely affected by conditions such as dementia, intellectual disability, mental illness, acquired brain injury or substance abuse, which can leave them at risk of neglect, abuse or exploitation.

The Public Trustee provided essential services and rebated fees for 61 per cent of trust clients as part of its Community Service Obligation, ensuring clients who cannot pay are provided with financial management services. The Public Trustee also plays an important role in protecting Western Australians from financial abuse, with cases of alleged financial elder abuse increasing over the past financial year.

The Private Administrator Support team conducted 2,340 account examinations, where total assets exceeded \$2.2 billion, and the number of private administrators appointed by the SAT increased 12 per cent from 4,712 to 5,275.

The Public Trustee continued to promote and protect the rights of vulnerable people, through representation on the Australian Guardianship and Administration Council, Alliance for the Prevention of Elder Abuse Western Australia and work with membership organisations.

In the 2023/24 State Budget, the Expenditure Review Committee approved the establishment of an Advisory Board to oversee the development of a revised fee model and fee waiver policy for the Public Trustee and the Public Trustee's future transition to an independent Governing Board. The Advisory Board held its inaugural meeting in June 2024.

In late 2023, the Public Trustee engaged leading economics and public policy consultancy Marsden Jacob Associates to conduct a comprehensive review of its fees and charges.

Marsden Jacob's work aims to deliver a new fee model that will improve transparency and equity for the Public Trustee's clients. It is expected the new model will be effective from 1 July 2026.

Fee relief that came into effect from 1 July 2023 will continue until 30 June 2026. This includes a 50 per cent discount in selected trust fees and removing the \$35 minimum administration monthly fee for those under an administration order.

Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages

The Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages creates and stores birth, death, marriage and change of name records. The Registry also performs civil marriages in the Perth office.

Key achievements

- Launched the Birth Registration Online Portal on 20 May 2024, providing a secure portal for parents to lodge their child's birth registration form. Since implementation, approximately 45 per cent of all new registrations have been lodged through the portal.
- Registered 66,445 life events: 31,457 births (including adoptions and surrogate births); 17,875 deaths; 12,722 marriages; and 4,391 change of names.
- Issued 37,454 birth, death, marriage and change of name certificates from applications submitted via the Western Australian Registration Online (WARO) portal.
- Provided key identity documents and registration services at interagency Community Service Delivery Days and events held by organisations that support homeless and vulnerable citizens.
- Relocated all historical registers and registry related records from metropolitan and regional courthouses to secure storage facilities to ensure the preservation of all birth, death and marriages records in the State.

Accessibility of records

There has been increased demand for the Registry's online certificate application platform WARO which launched in 2020/21. The portal supports the Registry's ongoing commitment to provide accessible services for all community members, including Western Australians residing interstate or overseas or those with mobility issues or other disabilities. In addition to these services, 25 Magistrates Court registries processed applications on behalf of the Registry and issued 27,104 certificates, equating to 22 per cent of the total certificates issued by the Registry.

Protection of personal information

The protection of personal information and the prevention and detection of identity fraud and theft is a key priority for agencies responsible for issuing identity documents. The Registry remains committed to the National Strategy for Identity Resilience led by the Commonwealth Attorney-

General's Department. The Strategy aims to improve protection of the identities of Australians by strengthening the integrity and security of identity credentials, such as birth certificates, which can be authenticated through the Commonwealth Identity Verification Service.

Registry services

Registrations

This year the Registry recorded 31,457 births (including adoptions and surrogate births); 17,875 deaths; 12,722 marriages; and 4,391 change of names, totalling 66,445 registrations. This was a slight increase from the 66,160 births, deaths, marriages and changes of name registered in 2022/23.

Provision of certificates

A total of 145,285 certificates were issued during 2023/24 compared to 146,126 certificates issued the previous year:

- 89,317 birth certificates were issued (a two per cent decrease from 2022/23).
- 22,783 marriage certificates were issued (a half per cent decrease from 2022/23).
- 28,815 death certificates were issued (a three per cent increase from 2022/23).
- 4,370 change of name certificates were issued (an 11 per cent increase from 2022/23).

Marriage services

The Registry conducted 799 marriage ceremonies in 2023/24, an increase of 20 per cent from 2022/23.

In 2023/24, couples married by the Registry identified 105 countries as their place of birth. The top five countries were:

Place of Birth	Total
Australia	498
Vietnam	123
China	116
India	95
Philippines	74

Aboriginal Justice Open Days and community outreach

The Registry has participated in the Department's Aboriginal Justice Open Days since 2011. This initiative, operating in partnership with Strategic Reform and other key stakeholders, aims to improve access to services to people living in regional and remote Aboriginal communities.

The Registry has also expanded its community outreach program to include various Identification Clinics and events held by not-for-profit organisations. During the financial year, the Registry issued 1,174 birth certificates, registered 67 previously unregistered births, and processed 44 change of name requests. The Registry assisted a further 50 clients on various registration related matters including several enquiries for interstate applications.

Baby names

The top five girls' names in 2023/24 were:

Name	Occurrence
Isla	169
Olivia	152
Mia	145
Charlotte	126
Amelia	136

The top five boys' names in 2023/24 were:

Name	Occurrence
Oliver	231
Noah	210
Leo	156
Henry	143
Jack	142

Western Australia's top regional baby names are available at www.bdm.justice.wa.gov.au.



Birth registration at your fingertips

In May 2024 the Registry launched their Birth Registrations Online (BROL) application to enable new parents to easily register their child's birth online.

Birth details can be submitted securely, at a time convenient for new parents, and a birth certificate can be ordered simultaneously.

The online service is now being used across the state and has already proven beneficial to people in regional and remote areas.

A number of previously unregistered births have now been submitted online and subsequently recorded with the assistance of the Registry's Community Engagement Team.



Services to Government

Services to Government include policy advice, co-ordination and oversight of operational activities, criminal statistical, legislative drafting and related services.

Strategic Reform

Strategic Reform advises the State Government on law and justice issues, sets the strategic direction for reforms to the criminal and civil justice systems, and leads the development of strategies to address Aboriginal over representation in the justice system.

This is achieved by:

- Facilitating the amendment of legislation to reform criminal and civil law and procedure.
- Developing policy initiatives to improve justice-related outcomes for the community, with a particular emphasis on improved outcomes for Aboriginal people.
- Carrying out reviews, evaluation, and research to recommend improvements to, and future directions for, policy, legislation, and services.
- Providing data and analysis to support making the justice system more efficient, equitable and effective.
- Implementing complex justice reform projects to reduce reoffending and enhance community and victim safety.

Key achievements

Significant progress was made to deliver the Government's legislative reform agenda with the passage and enactment of the following Acts:

- *Sentence Administration Amendment (Monitoring Equipment) Act 2024*.
- *Abortion Legislation Reform Act 2023*.
- *Guardianship and Administration Amendment (Medical Research) Act 2023*.

Additional family and domestic violence initiatives and programs were identified and developed to support the Department's first Family and Domestic Violence Strategic Framework, with work commencing on the development of a second action plan.

The Kimberley Juvenile Justice Strategy (KJJS) provided funding through a series of grant agreements to Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) and other service providers to deliver culturally appropriate services to young people. These included structured activities outside of school hours, community night patrols, cultural camps, a youth engagement program, and a tailored TAFE program.

A Small Grants round was offered for the first time in 2024

which provided one-off funding to four ACCOs across the Kimberley to deliver school holiday and basketball programs, a sporting exchange and a language course for young females in Halls Creek.

Ngurra Buru was officially opened, which provides an immediate response night space for young people in Broome. This initiative, funded by the KJJS, was co-designed with West Kimberley Futures – Empowered Communities, key State Government agencies, the Shire of Broome and Aboriginal community partners to fill a gap in the delivery of services addressing youth crime.

The Aboriginal Justice Open Days Program delivered 141 Open Days to communities across Western Australia, with 4,361 people attending Open Days from metropolitan, regional and remote Aboriginal communities, resulting in:

- 1,156 Birth Certificate applications.
- 322 theory driving tests conducted.
- 178 practical driving assessments passed.
- Achieved more than 14,800 individual outcomes.

The Aboriginal Mediation Service received 67 referrals an increase of approximately 75 per cent from the 2022/23 financial year. Of significance, family matters more than doubled in comparison to the previous financial year. By facilitating mediation in these disputes, the service effectively diverted families and children from complex Family Court proceedings and mitigated potential escalation of violence. The service actively contributed to several Closing the Gap initiatives, notably, the establishment of a referral pathway with the Children's Court of Western Australia aligns with targets 10 and 11 of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.

Additional funding was secured for the In-Roads Therapeutic Court, a court-based therapeutic program being piloted in the Perth Children's Court. The funding has resulted in additional therapeutic programs for participants including:

- Prioritised access to clinical, mental health and disability interventions via the Department of Health's Health Navigator Program.
- Individualised supports and throughcare for participants and their families via the Department of Communities' Target 120 Plus.
- Educational support in the form of an additional Department of Education Principal Consultant at the Children's Court.

The Department will undertake case management and supervision to ensure community safety is maintained where young people are in the community.

Upon successful completion of the program (around four to six months), the participant may receive no further punishment or be granted a conditional release order. In-Roads directly seeks to reduce the number of young people sentenced to detention.

Legislative Services

Develops, implements, and reviews legislation, legal policy and reform initiatives.

Legislation assented to

Legislative Services guided the development of the following new and amending pieces of legislation, which were passed by both Houses of State Parliament and assented to by the Governor in 2023/24:

Criminal Code Amendment Act 2024 (WA)

The *Criminal Code Amendment Act 2024 (WA)* (Amendment Act) introduces higher penalties for assaults on retail workers whose duties involve a public-facing role in a shop. It protects workers by providing a stronger deterrent against deliberate acts of violence, and better meets community standards. The Amendment Act has increased the penalty for assaults on retail workers to bring it into line with the applicable penalty for serious assaults on certain other occupations, including public officers, first responders and custodial officers.

The Amendment Act also made significant changes to the penalty in The Criminal Code for stealing offences to deter repeat offenders who engage in shoplifting and petty theft and ensure that sentencing courts have access to an adequate range of options when dealing with these offenders. A court may also now order an offender to engage in addiction treatment programs, or term of imprisonment. The Amendment Act received Royal Assent on 14 May 2024 and commenced on 1 July 2024.

Abortion Reform Act 2024

The Government delivered on its commitment to modernise abortion legislation and align Western Australia with other Australian jurisdictions in terms of abortion laws with the amendments to The *Criminal Code and the Public Health Act 2016 (WA)*. The amendments complete the decriminalisation of abortions in Western Australia by repealing the offence that still existed in The Criminal Code. Abortions that are carried out by unqualified persons remain an offence under public health legislation. The abortion reforms were a joint project led by the Department of Health, with Legislative Services providing policy advice. In particular, Legislative Services developed the amendments to the *Guardianship and Administration Act 1990* in relation to those adults who are unable to make reasonable judgments in respect of whether

abortions should be performed on them. The amendments commenced on 27 March 2024.

Corruption, Crime and Misconduct Amendment Act 2024

The amendments to the *Corruption, Crime and Misconduct Act 2003 (CCM Act)* delivered two key reforms:

- a timely and effective appointment process for commissioners of the Corruption and Crime Commission (CCC) and acting commissioners,
- the creation of a new position of Deputy Commissioner under the CCM Act.

These reforms modernise the CCM Act and improve the stability and accountability in the leadership and management of the CCC. The Act received Royal Assent on 14 March 2024 and commenced on 15 March 2024.

Sentence Administration Amendment (Monitoring Equipment) Act 2024

The *Sentence Administration Amendment (Monitoring Equipment) Act 2024* (Amendment Act) amended the provisions in the *Sentence Administration Act 2003* which create requirements and offences in relation to monitoring equipment, specifically GPS monitoring devices, that are used to monitor the location of an accused or offender in the community. The purpose of GPS monitoring devices is to improve safety for victims and the community, to provide real-time monitoring and location tracking and enable conditions to be imposed that restrict the wearer to particular areas.

The Amendment Act increased the maximum penalty for the offence where a GPS monitoring device is damaged to three years' imprisonment and a fine of \$36,000 and introduced a six-month minimum penalty for adult offenders. The Amendment Act received Royal Assent on 26 March 2024 and commenced on 27 March 2024.

Guardianship and Administration Amendment (Medical Research) Act 2024

These amendments to the principal Act, the *Guardianship and Administration Act 1990 (GAA)*, were the result of a statutory review conducted by Legislative Services in 2023. The *Guardianship and Administration Amendment (Medical Research) Act 2023 (WA)* (Medical Research Act) broadened the range of health professionals who may enrol a represented person in medical research projects, and repealed the sunset clause that would have deleted the provisions enabling urgent medical research on represented persons. The amendments received Royal Assent on 11 December 2023 and commenced on 12 December 2023.

Bills introduced into State Parliament

Legislative Services developed the following key pieces of legislation:

Family Violence Legislation Reform Bill 2024

The Family Violence Legislation Reform Bill 2024 mandates the use of electronic monitoring for repeat and high-risk family violence perpetrators in Western Australia. Under the Bill, when an eligible person is being considered for a relevant order by a judicial officer, a court, or the Prisoners Review Board, they must be subject to a mandatory electronic monitoring condition unless exceptional circumstances exist. The Bill was introduced into the Legislative Assembly on 19 June 2024.

Civil Liability Amendment (Provisional Damages For Dust Diseases) Bill 2024

This Bill implements a 2016 recommendation made by the Law Reform Commission of Western Australia to provide for a new provisional damages regime for individuals in WA who are afflicted with asbestosis and silicosis. The regime will allow such plaintiffs to apply for subsequent damages under certain circumstances when they have already received an earlier award of damages. The Bill will align Western Australia with New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, and South Australia to ensure a fairer approach to compensation. The Bill passed the Legislative Assembly on 18 June 2024 and is currently in the Legislative Council.

Criminal Code Amendment (Prohibition on Display of Nazi Symbols or Gesture) Bill 2024

The Criminal Code Amendment (Prohibition on Display of Nazi Symbols or Gesture) Bill 2024 amends The Criminal Code to make it an offence to publicly display or graffiti Nazi symbols and to perform the Nazi gesture in public. It will also create a Nazi symbol removal scheme. The Bill was introduced into the Legislative Assembly on 19 June 2024.

Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Amendment (Sex or Gender Changes) Bill 2024

The Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Amendment (Sex or Gender Changes) Bill 2024 will repeal the *Gender Reassignment Act 2000* (WA), abolish the Gender Reassignment Board (GRB), amend the *Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 1998* (WA), and make consequential amendments to other Acts to create a new streamlined administrative process for sex and gender recognition. Western Australia and New South Wales are also the only remaining jurisdictions that require a person to have undergone medical or surgical reassignment before they may register a change of sex or gender on their birth certificate. The Bill implements the Government's 2017 election commitment to abolish the GRB and will ensure that all trans and gender diverse people in WA have proper access

to official identity documents that match their lived identities. The Bill passed the Legislative Assembly with amendments on 9 May 2024 and is currently in the Legislative Council.

Statutes (Repeals and Minor Amendments) Bill 2021

On 29 April 2021, the Statutes (Repeals and Minor Amendments) Bill 2021 was introduced into State Parliament. This is an omnibus Bill that seeks to make minor non-controversial amendments to various Acts across the State's statute book and to repeal Acts that are no longer required.

The Bill was referred to the Standing Committee on Uniform Legislation and Statutes Review, which tabled its report on the legislation on 31 August 2021. On 15 November 2022, the Bill passed the Legislative Council and was subsequently introduced into the Legislative Assembly on 24 November 2022.

Legislation under development

Legislative Services are developing the following key pieces of legislation:

A new Equal Opportunity Act

Legislative Services is currently working on drafting a Bill to replace the *Equal Opportunity Act 1984* as informed by the Law Reform Commission of Western Australia's Report 111 Review of the *Equal Opportunity Act*.

Prison officers deployed at Banksia Hill Detention Centre

In 2023, the Government announced a range of measures to enhance safety and welfare at Banksia Hill Detention Centre. The measures include being able to deploy additional prison officers to Banksia Hill to provide greater security to enable Custodial Officers to focus on rehabilitation, mentoring and the delivery of a new model of care. A Bill to achieve this was drafted and consultation is occurring with key stakeholders to progress these reforms.

Evidence Bill

This Bill will repeal the *Evidence Act 1906* and replace it with a comprehensive new evidence act which is in an advanced stage of drafting. Uniform evidence law will be adopted and highly effective *Evidence Act 1906* provisions will be retained. The new Act will also introduce new provisions to strengthen protections and support for vulnerable witnesses. New provisions proposed will put into place key recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse and will also further protect victims of family and domestic violence.

Response to recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

Work has continued towards the development of a comprehensive response to the civil and criminal law recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. Legislative Services has also co-ordinated the Government's response to the first report of the Community Development and Justice Standing Committee on institutional child sexual abuse, tabled in November 2023.

Statutory Reviews

Legislative Services continued to progress several statutory reviews, including a review of the *Sentencing Act 1995* and the *Civil Liability Legislation Amendment (Child Sexual Abuse Actions) Act 2018* (WA).

Legislative Services continued to support the Attorney General in his role on the Legislative and Governance Forum for Corporations.

Strategic Policy and Projects

Strategic Policy and Projects oversees the development and delivery of strategic policy, projects and other key reforms. The Directorate works collaboratively across the Department and with other Government agencies to provide policy advice and support on whole-of-Government responses to family and domestic violence, mental health and alcohol and other drug, youth offending, housing and homelessness, the disability justice interface pertaining to the National Disability Insurance Scheme and the Royal Commission into Violence and Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability. The Directorate manages a whole-of-Department strategic approach to communications on the above cross-agency policy matters, providing a key co-ordination role and utilising strong stakeholder partnerships.

The Directorate led the co-ordination of the review of the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2018-2023 across the Department, which informed development of the new Disability Action and Inclusion Plan 2024-2029.

Strategic Policy and Projects participated in the FDV Taskforce in response to a Family and Domestic Violence Summit convened by the Centre for Women's Safety and Wellbeing, Stopping Family Violence and lived experience advocates. The Taskforce was established to advise Government on ways to deliver a more integrated and collaborative FDV service system, including more consistent approaches to risk assessment and management and support for workforce upskilling. This resulted in the development of the whole-of-Government FDV System Reform Plan, which sets out several initiatives currently being undertaken by the Department.

A New Disability Access and Inclusion Plan

The Department of Justice launched its Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) 2024-2029, which is informed by people with disability and those with lived experience of disability, and the experiences and voices of stakeholders.

The DAIP 2024-2029 was developed following an extensive review process of the previous DAIP 2018-2023, supported by the Department's Strategic Reform Division, the Department's DAIP Committee and Good Sammy Enterprises.

Key themes identified in the review highlighted that there was organisational commitment and resources in place to improve disability access and inclusion approaches.

The new DAIP 2024-2029 outlines workable and accountable ways that the Department will strive to ensure that people with disability, their carers and families have equal access to information, services and facilities.

It has been developed with regard to 'A Western Australia for Everyone – State Disability Strategy 2020-2030'.

The implementation of DAIP initiatives in the coming years will be informed and influenced by the broader policy context including the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability, and the 'Australia's Disability Strategy 2021-2031'.

Reporting on the progress of DAIP outcomes is delivered annually to the Office of Disability as required by the *Disability Services Act 1993* (WA).

The Department is committed to building upon our achievements to date and to ensuring that through our new DAIP 2024-2029, people with disability, their families and carers are able to access the Department's services, facilities and information by providing them with the same opportunities, rights and responsibilities enjoyed by all other people in the community.

The new DAIP 2024-2029 can be found online at www.justice.wa.gov.au/daip.



Aboriginal Justice Transformation

Aboriginal Justice Transformation provides Aboriginal people with specialist cultural advice, dedicated programs, services and initiatives that are aligned with the Department's objective of providing high quality, culturally appropriate and accessible justice services. The Directorate also provides strategic advice to contribute to the achievement of State Government targets relating to justice priorities and outcomes for Aboriginal people, such as those defined in the National Agreement on Closing the Gap (Closing the Gap) and supports the operation of the State Government's Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy.

Closing the Gap

The Department, through Aboriginal Justice Transformation, remains strongly committed to the National Agreement on Closing the Gap's four Priority Reforms and Justice socio-economic outcomes 10 and 11 and continues to progress a range of related deliverables. The Department is an active member of the Aboriginal Affairs Co-ordinating Committee and the Closing the Gap Deputies Group. The Department continues to be committed to working collaboratively with agencies across Government and key Aboriginal partners on addressing the issues within the criminal justice system and the underlying factors that contribute to the disadvantage faced by many Aboriginal people.

The Department, through Aboriginal Justice Transformation, continues to be an active member of the national Justice Policy Partnership (JPP), which is the first of the five policy partnerships to be established under Priority Reform. JPP leads a national approach to transform law and justice systems through genuine partnerships between all levels of Government and Aboriginal organisations and communities.

The JPP meets on a quarterly basis and continues to develop specific measures to reduce the over-representation of Aboriginal adults and youth in incarceration (Closing the Gap Targets 10 and 11), identify opportunities to work more effectively across commonwealth and state governments to drive the implementation of the National Agreement and to engage with, support and develop Aboriginal community-led, place-based strategies.

The Department's commitment to implement strategies to improve justice outcomes for Aboriginal people as set out in the Western Australian Jurisdictional Implementation Plan is supported by Deliverable 53 of the current Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan.

Reconciliation Action Plan

The Department's reconciliation aim is to provide services in a manner that is culturally responsive, safe and promotes equitable outcomes for Aboriginal people.

The Department sought an extension via Reconciliation Australia to its current Innovate RAP 2022-2024 to January 2025 with a view to concurrently develop a new RAP. This extension was to ensure that there was adequate time to sustainably implement several strategies that were ambitious and would create meaningful change. The RAP Steering Committee have met six times over the year and have been instrumental in driving change across the Department.

Concurrently, the new RAP development is underway in collaboration with the Department's Aboriginal Justice Advisory Committee and staff across each of the Divisions. The Department will focus on strengthening existing relationships, establishing new relationships ensuring they are built on a foundation of trust, respect, and shared understanding. Each Deliverable aims to be underpinned by principles that embed the WA Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy commitments; for example, expanding on the Department's commitment to truth telling to promote healing and embed understanding across the workforce.

Ongoing work as part of Standing Council of Attorneys-General to consider raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility

The issue of raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility has been the subject of ongoing discussions and work as part of the Standing Council of Attorneys-General and the forum's previous iterations, Council of Attorneys-General and Meeting of Attorneys-General since 2018.

The Department has been working with Australian jurisdictions and member representatives of the justice policy partnership to develop a suite of options for diverting children from the criminal justice system. All Attorneys-General have endorsed a report of this work, which was publicly released by the Standing Council of Attorneys-General in December 2023.

Aboriginal Engagement Plan

Aboriginal Justice Transformation has developed the Department's Aboriginal Engagement Plan to guide and improve the way in which the Department engages with Aboriginal people, leaders, organisations, communities and staff. The Plan will be implemented in conjunction with the implementation of the Aboriginal Cultural Capability Training Strategy.

Aboriginal Cultural Capability Training

The Department commenced the development of the first stage of its Aboriginal Cultural Capability Training Strategy – developed in collaboration with an Aboriginal consultancy organisation. This strategic initiative aligns with the Department's Reconciliation Action Plan 2022-2024 and involves a staged roll out of e-learning covering key topics relevant to Aboriginal cultures and the role of the Department. Implementation of the first stage of the Strategy is scheduled for release to all staff between July 2024 and January 2025.

Aboriginal Family Safety Strategy

A Department strategy to focus on the needs of Aboriginal families experiencing family violence is being developed in partnership with Tjallara Consulting. This initiative is a requirement of the Department's Reconciliation Action Plan and the First Action Plan 2020-2022 of the Path to Safety: Western Australia's Strategy to Reduce Family and Domestic Violence 2020-2030.

In developing the strategy, a series of yarning circles were facilitated throughout 2024 in select custodial estates and community groups with current and former Aboriginal people in the Department's care. Consultation through the form of yarning circles informs the development of the strategy and identifies culturally relevant ways of improving the cultural safety of the Justice system for those who use and/or experience violence.

NAIDOC Week

Aboriginal Justice Transformation co-ordinates the Department's NAIDOC week events. In 2023, the Department commissioned artwork from a person in care at Casuarina Prison that adorned the facade of the David Malcolm Justice Centre. The Department also used an image from a resident at Wooroloo Prison to decorate the facade of 585 Hay Street.

During NAIDOC Week, the Department hosted a Panel Discussion as its main event which focused on the positive impact Prison Support Officers have within Corrective Services for Aboriginal residents since its inception. The panel session also paid tribute to Uncle Trevor Demmery ACM who dedicated more than 24 years to the Department as a Prison Support Officer.

Aboriginal Cultural Symposia Series

During National Reconciliation Week 2024, the Department continued its commitment to hosting an Aboriginal Cultural Symposia that aims to increase understanding of Western Australia's shared history and interaction with its Aboriginal communities through truth telling practices and personal narratives based on lived experience. This included a collaboration with Curtin University's Stolen Generation Immersive Hub to launch the 'Taken Away' Cultural Symposium. Taken Away is an interactive virtual reality experience journey to hear stories from Elders with lived experience that are authentic, unfiltered, and decolonised perspective of a significant part of Western Australia's history. The symposium was launched with Curtin University and Stolen Generation survivors on 30 May 2024.

The Department continues to progress this worthwhile initiative that supports increased cultural capability, empathy and truth telling.

Aboriginal Justice Advisory Committee

The Aboriginal Justice Advisory Committee (AJAC) was established in October 2021 to provide cultural advice and guidance to the Department on justice matters relevant to the Aboriginal community, and to ensure that Department programs, policy and strategies are developed with the meaningful involvement of Aboriginal people.

The AJAC membership comprises a diverse membership of Aboriginal people connected to 10 regions across Western Australia. The AJAC identified five strategic priority areas to focus on:

- Young People.
- Safe Housing and Homelessness.
- Aboriginal Workforce Development and Employment.
- Procurement and Aboriginal Controlled Community Organisations.
- Prevention of Deaths in Custody.

In 2023/24, the AJAC received briefings and provided feedback on the following matters:

- Unit 18 and Banksia Hill Detention Centre.
- Kimberley Juvenile Justice Strategy (DoJ).
- Minimum Age of Criminal Responsibility Reform.
- The Justice Policy Partnership Planning Group.
- Suicide Prevention Governance Unit (DoJ).
- Strategic Commissioning Project (DoJ).
- Council of Aboriginal Services Western Australia.
- Aboriginal Cultural Capability Training Strategy (DoJ).
- Youth Justice Services (DoJ).
- Procurement and Contracted Services (DoJ).

Aboriginal Mediation Service

In 2023/24 the Aboriginal Mediation Service (AMS) received 67 referrals, an increase of approximately 75 per cent from 2022/23. Of these 67 referrals:

- 24 cases remain active.
- 21 were resolved either through case management or mediation.
- 22 were closed due to external barriers such as parties no longer wishing to participate, legal constraints, unsuitable subject matter, or inability to contact the parties.

Predominantly, these matters involved family disputes. Specifically, 40.29 per cent (27) of all referrals were parenting matters, 16.42 per cent (11) were other family matters, and 5.97 per cent (4) were family feuding matters. Community and burial/funeral matters each constituted 10.45 per cent (7) of referrals.

Workplace disputes or issues involving agencies and government services each accounted for 5.97 per cent (4) of matters, while neighbourhood disputes represented 2.99 per cent (2) of all disputes. Additionally, 1.49 per cent fell outside the AMS criteria. This distribution reflects a notable increase in caseload compared to previous years.

Geographically, approximately 67.16 per cent of referrals were received from the southern regions of Western Australia: 44.77 per cent (30) from the metropolitan area, 17.61 per cent (12) from the South West, and 4.48 per cent (3) from the Great Southern. The northern regions accounted for approximately 14.94 per cent of referrals: 10.45 per cent (7) from the Kimberley (with 4 from West Kimberley and 3 from East Kimberley) and 4.48 per cent (3) from the Pilbara.

The central region of Western Australia comprised 11.94 per cent of referrals: 5.97 per cent (4) from the Mid-West Gascoyne, 4.48 per cent (3) from the Wheatbelt, and 1.49 per cent (1) from the Goldfields. Additionally, 5.97 per cent (4) of referrals were from outside Western Australia.

Furthermore, a core focus for AMS during this reporting period was regional outreach and community collaboration with the aim of increasing visibility and accessibility. In addition to creating a referral pathway with the Children's Court of Western Australia, the Aboriginal Mediation Service engaged with 167 individuals, organisations, legal services, government agencies, Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, and other service providers. Staff also attended Aboriginal Justice Open Days in Karratha, Roebourne, Kununurra, Wyndham, Halls Creek, Broome, and the Dampier Peninsula – areas marked by prevalent family violence, community unrest, theft and historical intergenerational feuding. By engaging with various agencies, corporations, community members and Elders, staff raised awareness about the service and encouraged referrals, thereby increasing accessibility of the service to those in need.

Aboriginal Justice Open Days

Aboriginal Justice Open Days were delivered in priority locations by staff using a culturally safe, collaborative service model with partner agencies reflecting service needs identified by a community. This approach allows Aboriginal people to access a range of services including applying for birth certificates and birth registration letters, setting up time to pay arrangements for outstanding fines and being referred to Work and Development Permit sponsors, applying for driver's licences, undertaking theory and practical driver testing, driving training and education, Centrelink services, accessing community development programs and in some cases, accessing legal and financial assistance.

During 2023/24 the WA Senior Card Centre began attending Open Days in an effort to increase access to WA Seniors Cards for Aboriginal people and to raise awareness as to the benefits individuals can access through these cards. As shown in the following table, Aboriginal Justice Transformation co-ordinated 141 Open Days, with 4,361 people attending from metropolitan, regional, and remote Aboriginal communities, achieving more than 14,800 individual outcomes:

Key achievements	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20
Number of Open Days	141	98	94	69	51
People attending Open Days	4,361	2,557	2,116	2,260	1,581
Conversion of fines – time to pay arrangements, stay of execution and orders to attend	\$3,184,500	\$2,068,514	\$1,217,822	\$800,142	\$860,678
Fines paid – actual amount	\$473,258	\$433,161	\$800,587	\$1,181,448	\$1,083,630
People entering into time to pay arrangements	1,688 (320 people)	324	130	78	212
Stay of warrant executions	1,302 (116 people)	126	50	36	107
Licence suspensions lifted	533	370	268	629	976
Birth certificate applications	1,156	777	696	660	476
Confirmation of birth letters issued	75	27	30	27	26
Births registered (pre and post-1980)	106	92	98	107	123
Criminal injuries compensation applications received	20	28	96	135	N/A
Practical driving assessments passed	178	167	104	109	86
Theory driving tests conducted	322	206	141	210	159
Driving logbooks issued/re-issued	232	107	44	54	63
Suspended fines for vehicle driver's licences	55	68	12	23	48
WA Photo Card Application	684	371	271	190	95
Centrelink – applications for Medicare	453	57	16	40	86
Centrelink – concession cards issued	597	140	116	47	59
Curtin Tax Clinic – Tax returns prepared	49	26	27	-	31
Curtin Tax Clinic – Tax File Number applications	209	191	223	N/A	N/A
Curtin Tax Clinic – Superannuation	6	1	28	N/A	N/A
Curtin Tax Clinic – ATO Notifications (Fines)	9	53	13	N/A	N/A
Bank accounts opened	0	54	17	N/A	N/A

Aboriginal Visitors Scheme

The Aboriginal Visitors Scheme (AVS) was established in WA in 1988, pursuant to the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody. The AVS provides support and counselling for Aboriginal detainees and prisoners in prisons and juvenile detention centres in WA. They play an important role in reducing the risk of incidents of self-harm.

In October 2023, the AVS was transferred to Aboriginal Justice Transformation. As part of this process, a revised staffing structure was created, recognising the high value of the AVS Officer role in facilities, ensuring that senior positions were placed in key locations.

The AVS continued to assist Aboriginal people in the Department's care via on-site self-referrals, as well as their family and loved ones via the AVS twenty-four hour, seven days a week free call telephone line.

Strategic planning in the AVS has commenced with initial development of Aboriginal partnerships in Western Australia, aligning with Priority Reform Area One of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap to establish partnerships with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) in Western Australia, for the delivery of bespoke, placed-based programs. Programs which cater to the needs of Aboriginal people in custody, by Aboriginal organisations. The revitalised AVS will assist in addressing the State's commitments to the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, in particular Priority Reform Areas One to Four.

Advisory Services

Advisory Services is part of the Office of the Director General and is responsible for the high-level co-ordination and oversight of the Department's operational activities, including providing advice to Government, and building collaborative relationships within the justice portfolio, public sector and broader community.

Legal Profession Uniform Law Scheme

The Legal Profession Uniform Law Scheme (Uniform Law Scheme) has been in operation in Western Australia since 1 July 2022. The Legal Profession Uniform Law is applied in Western Australia by the *Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Act 2022*, which replaced and repealed the *Legal Profession Act 2008*. Legal practitioners in New South Wales and Victoria have been governed under the Uniform Law Scheme since 1 July 2015.

The Uniform Law Scheme harmonises regulation of the legal profession and creates a common market for legal services across participating jurisdictions. The Uniform Law Scheme contributes to making Western Australia's legal system more accessible, efficient, and cost effective, and affords consumers of legal services greater protection measures.

Following the commencement of the *Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Act 2022* in Western Australia, over 75 per cent of all Australian practitioners are now covered by the Uniform Law Scheme. National uniformity in regulation of the legal profession continues to be a goal in the Uniform Law space.

The Standing Committee of Attorneys-General of the participating jurisdictions (ie New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia) and the Legal Services Council oversee the regulatory regime. Advisory Services has responsibility for the administration of the Uniform Law Scheme in Western Australia and continues to lead and implement legislative reforms, support the facilitation of relevant appointments, and provide advice and support for the Western Australian Attorney General's responsibilities under the Uniform Law Scheme.

Grants

The Department administers the Criminal Property Confiscation Grants Program on behalf of the Attorney General, drawing on funds collected under the *Criminal Property Confiscation Act 2000*.

The legislation allows for the confiscation, in certain circumstances, of property acquired as a result of criminal activity or which is used for criminal activity. It also makes provision for the redistribution of confiscated funds and proceeds of the sale of other confiscated property for a number of purposes, including the development and administration of programs or activities designed to:

- Provide support services and other assistance to victims of crime.
- Prevent or reduce drug-related criminal activity and the abuse of prohibited drugs.
- Aid law enforcement, with a focus on community safety and crime prevention initiatives.

Under the grants program, incorporated, not-for-profit organisations and local governments can apply for up to \$200,000 for these purposes. A total of 13 successful applicants received letters of offer totalling more than \$2.2 million in Round 19 in 2023/24.

Successful Round 19 applicants were:

- Jobs South West Inc.
- Centrecare Incorporated.
- Newman Women's Shelter.
- South West Refuge Inc.
- Tenacious House.
- Waaliti Foundation.
- Wirrimanu Aboriginal Corporation.
- City of Mandurah.
- City of Canning.
- Ruah Legal Services.
- Parkerville Children and Youth Care Incorporated.
- Dismantle.
- Sudbury Community House Association.

Driver Training and Education

Through Royalties for Regions funding, the Department funds five not-for-profit community organisations to deliver the Enhanced Driver Training and Education for Regional and Remote Communities Program. The program assists Aboriginal people in regional and remote communities in contact with the justice system to access driving instruction, driver education and assistance with administrative and testing procedures to obtain or regain a motor vehicle driver's licence.

An average of 220 individuals were recorded as actively participating in driver training and education at the end of each quarter in 2023/24. The program also recorded a total of 316 clients successfully registering as new enrolments; 161 participants were successful in obtaining their learner's permit; 109 were successful in obtaining their provisional licence; 40 individuals obtained an ordinary licence and three participants regained their driver's licence. The program also assisted 131 individuals to obtain identity documents to enable them to commence their licencing journey.

The South West Development Commission concluded its administration of the Bunbury End to End Young Driver Training Program and is now managed by the Department. This continues to be run by Investing in Our Youth and provides services in Bunbury, Collie and surrounds.

Other areas having access to this program are Kalgoorlie, Kununurra, Halls Creek, Derby, Broome, Lombadina, Roebourne, Karratha, Newman, South Hedland and Tom Price.

Legal Assistance

The Legal Assistance Branch is responsible for supporting access to legal assistance for people experiencing vulnerability and disadvantage in WA. Legal Assistance allocates and administers funding from State and Commonwealth sources to legal assistance service providers and related entities, including Legal Aid WA, Aboriginal Legal Service of WA, the community legal sector, Family Violence Prevention Legal Services and Law Access.

The provision and management of State and Commonwealth funding to the legal assistance sector has enabled the Department to continue its work in the areas of legal assistance policy development, service delivery and sector planning in partnership with these stakeholders.

In 2023/24, Legal Assistance allocated more than \$147 million in State and Commonwealth funding to the Western Australian legal assistance sector for the provision of legal services, with more than \$61 million of this funding being provided under the National Legal Assistance Partnership 2020-25 (NLAP). The Commonwealth and State Government also provided funding to the legal assistance sector to support specific or project-based services. Approximately \$4.7 million of the funding was additional

State Government funding to the legal assistance sector to maintain service delivery at current levels due to increased demand for services. This funding will continue to increase access to justice for people experiencing vulnerability and disadvantage in WA. With the current NLAP due to expire on 30 June 2025, the Final Report of the Independent Review of the NLAP undertaken by Dr Warren Mundy was also published in May 2024. The Review recommendations will inform future Commonwealth legal assistance funding arrangements.

As part of wider policy work in 2023/24, extensive work was undertaken to implement the WA Legal Assistance Strategy and Action Plan 2022-25. This included:

- The Legal Assistance Workforce Planning and Development Strategy and Implementation Plan 2024-30 which was published in April 2024 in response to acute workforce pressures experienced by the legal assistance sector. The Workforce Strategy identifies two priorities: grow and sustain the regional and remote workforce; and sustain and support Aboriginal-led legal assistance service providers. The Branch looks forward to working with the legal assistance sector to implement the Workforce Strategy.
- The Legal Assistance Services Commissioning Strategy and Implementation Plan 2024-30 which was published in May 2024, setting a blueprint for the future commissioning of legal assistance services by the Department. The Commissioning Strategy guides approaches to procurement, contract management, and monitoring with the aim to nurture sector sustainability, including through the development of legal assistance service provider roles and minimum levels and standards of service.

Legal Assistance continued to collaborate with members of the legal assistance sector including representatives from the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Office, Legal Aid WA, Aboriginal Legal Service of WA, Community Legal WA, Family Violence Prevention Legal Services and Law Access.

Legal Assistance has an ongoing role in co-ordinating the legal assistance response to emergencies in the WA community, including the 2023 Kimberley Floods in January, the 2023 Marigninup fires and the 2024 Bunbury tornado. In doing so, the Branch works closely with local legal assistance service providers and specialist legal assistance service providers with expertise in the types of legal issues arising as a result of these damage and displacement caused by emergency events.

Legal Assistance also works closely with the Department of Communities and the Department of Fire and Emergency Services to ensure that the legal assistance response to disaster is integrated with the broader, State-led community social recovery initiatives.

In particular, the State-led Kimberley Floods Community Social Recovery Program, announced in August 2023, included a legal assistance component following the Branch's consultation with the legal assistance sector and submission to the Commonwealth Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

Copyright

The Department managed the Government's statutory obligations under section 183 of the *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth) arising from using works or other materials in the services of the State. The Department administered centrally funded, whole of Government agreements with the following copyright collecting societies:

- Copyright Agency Limited for the photocopying and digital copying of third-party copyright works (literary, dramatic, musical and artistic), survey plans and published editions of works, other than works that are included in a sound recording, film or television or sound broadcast.
- APRA AMCOS for the public performance of music through radio and television receivers in public and work areas, background music in lifts and waiting rooms.
- Screenrights for the copying of audio-visual items and works included in audio-visual items.

Professional Standards Council of Western Australia

The Department provides secretariat support to the Professional Standards Council of Western Australia. The Council is an independent statutory authority. The Council is one of eight similar Councils across Australia, with the membership replicated across all jurisdictions. Together, the Councils have functions and powers to facilitate, approve and supervise professional standards schemes that limit the civil liability of occupational groups, and assist in improving occupational standards and protecting consumers who use the services provided by service providers in these occupational groups.

Law Reform Commission of Western Australia

The Law Reform Commission of Western Australia (LRCWA) is an independent statutory authority, currently chaired by the Hon Lindy Jenkins. In late 2023, members Ms Kirsten Chivers and Dr Sarah Murray retired from the Commission and were replaced by Ms Jean Shaw and Professor Meredith Blake.

The Department assisted with these appointments as well as a remuneration review for all Commission members which resulted in increased salaries for all remunerated positions.

The Commission receives terms of reference and reviews laws at the request of the Attorney General. This year, the Commission submitted its review of sexual offences in the *Criminal Code Act Compilation Act 1913* (the Criminal Code) (Project 113), received a new reference to review Guardianship and Administration laws (Project 114) and continued to improve its governance standards.

The Department assisted the Commission to publish the Final Paper for Project 113 and complete a review to improve project management for future references. For Project 114, the Department assisted the Commission to procure contractors and commence initial stakeholder consultation. The Final Report for Project 114 is due to be completed in late 2024/25.

This year, the Department and the Commission finalised the new Memorandum of Understanding setting out the administrative and corporate support provided to the Commission via the Executive Manager LRCWA position in Advisory Services. The Department also assisted the Commission to meet its ethical foundation obligations pursuant to Commissioner's Instruction 40. This included completing its own Code of Conduct and Integrity Framework, and providing bespoke Accountable and Ethical Decision Making training to Commission members.

Strategic Communications

Strategic Communications supports the Department's business by providing communication assets that assist messaging to internal and external stakeholders, including our staff and the wider community. The team works closely with business areas to evaluate, develop and distribute important and relevant information via a range of communication methods and outlets. This includes engagement with traditional media organisations through media statements and responses, regular updates to online services and creating written and digital content for the Department's website, staff intranet and social media pages. Engaging audiences through stories, photos and videos on a variety of platforms helps inform the public about Department services, programs and initiatives that enhance justice outcomes and contribute to public safety. These channels are also used to support and promote staff recruitment and important annual and cultural events, such as NAIDOC Week.

Justice Website

Accessibility improvements were made to the Department's website to enhance the user experience and to ensure compatibility with assistive technologies. This has been achieved by working with the Office of Digital Government under the State Government's comprehensive content management system.

Analytics for www.justice.wa.gov.au

- 1.4 million visits from people in Australia.
- 45,000 visits from people in the United Kingdom and United States.
- 10,000 visits from people in New Zealand.
- 67 per cent were from organic searches.
- 33 per cent were from other referrals and direct website hits.
- 60 per cent of users are on mobile devices using Chrome, followed by Safari browsers.
- Approximately 20 per cent were referrals from the Department's social media platforms.

Analytics for www.justice.wa.gov.au

1. Fines Enforcement Registry.
2. Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages.
3. Staff Gateway.
4. Find a Justice of the Peace.
5. Western Australian Online Index.
6. Pay Your Fines.
7. Forms – Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages.
8. Hakea Prison Online Booking Form.
9. Licence Suspension Check.
10. Enduring Power of Attorney.

New online services

- Western Australian Institute of Sport Acknowledgement Payment Scheme.
- Corrective Services Custodial Staff Re-engagement.
- Prison Officer and Youth Custodial Officer, Entry Level Training Program – Pre-appointment Suitability.
- Sexual violence prevention and response strategy consultation.
- Disability Access and Inclusion Plan consultation.

Social Media

The Department's social media presence is based on the principles of openness and accountability and has helped raise public awareness of Department services, programs and initiatives.

Social media posts allow the Department to communicate its commitment to a fair, just and safe community via contemporary digital communications, whilst providing members of the public a direct and effective way to ask questions and engage with the Department.

Social media has proved a highly effective recruitment tool, driving increased job applications by reaching target audiences through vibrant content that showcases the talent and diversity of our staff and the rewards of working in the justice sector.

The Department's Facebook page demonstrated particularly strong gains in audience reach (up 37.2 per cent to 1.5 million), interactions (up 51.5 per cent to 52,200) and was approaching 11,000 followers at the end of the financial year.

The Strategic Communications team actively collaborated with supporting businesses and brands such as Western Australia Police Force, key service providers and football clubs like the Fremantle Dockers, exposing the Department's social media content to new audiences.

Highest engagement social media posts

Facebook:

- Banksia Hill buoyed by Ben Cousins visit (video): 501K reach, 232.5K views, 8.2K reactions.
- Banksia Boost: The calibre of our latest Youth Custodial Officer graduates is outstanding! (recruitment video): 162K reach, 52.7K views, 516 reactions.
- Career Change: Ranjit (Youth Custodial Officer recruitment video): 137.9K reach, 56.3K views, 606 reactions.

Instagram:

- Now Hiring! Greenough Regional Prison (Prison Officer recruitment photo): 28.7K reach, 73 shares, 125 reactions.
- Pooch Power - Rescue Dog Jimbo at Banksia Hill (video): 12.8K reach, 14.5K views, 936 reactions.
- Sporting Idols Mentor Melaleuca - Dockers AFLW collaboration (video): 9.8K reach, 17.9K views, 533 reactions.

LinkedIn:

- Community Clean Up - S95 Prisoners assist after Bunbury tornado (video): 78.8K reach, 28.7K views, 151 reactions.
- Special Taskforce - Special Operations Group recruitment (video): 42.2K reach, 27.3K views, 60 reactions.
- We're Hiring! Strategic reform recruitment (video): 33.1K reach, 14.6K views, 28 reactions.

Recruitment

The Department's website, social media channels and external communications via print, television and radio media, support staff recruitment.

Working alongside Human Resources, Strategic Communications helped developed multiple end-to-end Corrective Services recruitment campaigns, including for the following positions:

- Special Operations Group.
- Prison Officers.
- Regional Prison Officers (specific to Albany, Greenough and Eastern Goldfields Regional Prisons).
- Youth Custodial Officers.
- Youth Justice Officers.

A regional training announcement for Albany, Geraldton and Kalgoorlie-Boulder Prison Officers received widespread publicity via print, radio and television media.

The campaign delivered results with more than 130 candidates applying for hard to fill positions at Albany Regional Prison within a month of the multi-media announcement.

Other successful campaigns were run for the Department's Strategic Reform Division for suitable candidates to work in the areas of policy, legislation and reform and promotion of the 12-month Aboriginal Traineeship Program.

Both these campaigns featured our talented staff and were hosted on the WA Government website, the Department website, external recruitment websites, the intranet and social media platforms.

Western Australian Office of Crime Statistics and Research

The Western Australian Office of Crime Statistics and Research (WACSAR) was established in 2020 to undertake and support independent research and analysis into crime and criminal justice issues in Western Australia. The Office is responsible for interpreting, understanding and critically evaluating current and emerging issues to inform policy development and government decision-making.

Business Intelligence and Reporting

Business Intelligence and Reporting provides strategic reporting and statistical support, comprising three distinct streams:

Performance Reporting

- Manages the Department's Outcome Based Management Framework.
- Carries out Key Performance Indicator Reporting for the Department.
- Liaises with the Office of the Auditor General during the annual audit process.

Business Intelligence

- Oversees the Corrective Services Reporting Framework.
- Responds to data and report requests from internal stakeholders.
- Provides datasets and statistics to external stakeholders, including Parliament, Ministers, media, and researchers.

Data Analytics

- Provides statistical analysis and other data services to the Research and Evaluation team.
- Engages in data modelling activities to inform strategic decision-making.
- Collaborates and liaises with the Office of Digital Government with respect to the PeopleWA data asset.

Evaluation and research

WACSAR undertakes internal evaluations of programs and initiatives across the Department and oversees the tendering and management of external evaluations.

WACSAR works in partnership with Western Australian universities, the Department of Treasury, non-government organisations, and Aboriginal communities, to build and foster an effective community of practice around criminal justice evaluations.

The Office collaborates with Aboriginal partners to ensure culturally appropriate monitoring and evaluation frameworks are developed to highlight the importance of social and community outcomes alongside government indicators.

In 2023/24, five evaluations were completed, including an evaluation of the Dandjoo Bidi-Ak Therapeutic Pilot Court, the Family Violence List, the Alcohol or Drug Treatment Programs at Wandoo and Mallee, the Kimberly Juvenile Justice Strategy, and an evaluation of the two-year Family and Domestic Violence GPS tracking trial, which was completed and tabled in Parliament in November 2023.

During this period, WACSAR also commenced five new evaluations, which aim to build the evidence base on what works to reduce reoffending and increase community safety. These projects include an evaluation of the Family Violence Restraining Order Conferencing, the Perth Drug Court, Leave Safe Stay Safe program pilot, Hello Initiatives Mobile Support Program, and Boronia's Yirra Djinda program.

Evaluation and Review

Steering Committee

WACSAR also provides strategic governance to all internal evaluation projects and legislative reviews through the Department's Evaluation and Review Steering Committee. The Committee ensures that high levels of intellectual and methodological rigour are maintained across all evaluations and reviews. In addition, the Committee promotes a culture of continuous improvement, where evaluation findings are readily shared across all business areas to better inform policy development and practice. Membership for this Committee is drawn from across the agency.

At 30 June 2024, there were 29 evaluation and review projects underway across the Department.

Research Applications and Advisory Committee

The Research Applications Advisory Committee falls within the remit of WACSAR. This Committee provides high level governance to all external research projects seeking access to Departmental staff, clients, facilities, or data.

This cross-agency Committee oversees all external research

from the point of application through to the publication of findings. At any given point in time, there are more than 30 research projects at various stages of completion across the Department. These range from a master's or doctoral thesis to international research collaborations spanning several years. In 2023/24, 16 new research applications were considered by the Committee, with five of these relating to post-graduate degrees.

Drug use monitoring

The Drug Use Monitoring in Australia-WA project is the only longitudinal study of drug use amongst police detainees in Australia. The project involves surveying detainees at the Perth Watchhouse on a quarterly basis to monitor trends related to the Western Australian drug market. Voluntary urine samples are also collected every six months to augment and validate the survey data.

In addition to the core questionnaire, a short survey addendum is undertaken each quarter on particular topics of interest to inform government policymaking and the research community. The following four addenda topics were selected for 2023/24:

- The medicinal cannabis market.
- Gamma-hydroxybutyrate demand, supply, and harms.
- Family and domestic violence.
- Family and domestic violence restraining order breaches.

Edith Cowan University (ECU) and PathWest are the contracted providers for data collection and urinalysis, respectively.

Criminal Justice Research Grants

The WACSAR Criminal Justice Research Grants Fund was launched in December 2021 and awards up to \$300,000 annually to researchers from Western Australia. Projects are selected based on their calibre and potential to lead to practical improvements in the criminal justice system. Lead researchers must be based or employed at a Western Australian university to be eligible to apply.

Since the fund was launched, the WACSAR Criminal Justice Research Grants have supported a total of ten Western Australian research projects.

In 2023/24, the 'Profile of Women in Prison' by Professor Hilde Tubex from the University of Western Australia (UWA) was completed. Also finalised, were 'Dropouts and Refusers: Why young sex offenders do not engage with treatment' project conducted by James Finney from ECU and 'What offenders do with "the stuff they steal": Comparing offender explanations of stolen goods disposal from 2005 to 2022' project by Associate Professor Joe Clare (UWA) and Associate Professor Natalie Gately (ECU).

Research projects currently underway include 'Exploring the experiences of Aboriginal women accessing post release supports in Perth Metropolitan area' by Emma Tufuga, 'Evaluating Literacy and Numeracy Progressions in Custody and Desistance from Crime' by Professor Mike Dockery, 'Reducing Over-Representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in the Justice System Through Enhancing Social and Emotional Wellbeing' by Dr Ee Pin Chang, and 'Mind the Gap: A study on the reintegration needs of returning prisoners' by Dr Hilde Tubex.

University engagement

In addition to the ongoing DUMA-WA partnership and the Criminal Justice Research Grant, WACSAR also partners with universities to work with students and graduates to build the capacity of the criminal justice research and evaluation community in Western Australia.

In 2023/24, WACSAR hosted three interns from Murdoch University and welcomed a PhD graduate from Murdoch University and a PhD Candidate from Edith Cowan University.

Parliamentary Counsel's Office

The Parliamentary Counsel's Office (PCO) provides comprehensive legislative drafting and related services to the State Government and its departments and agencies to ensure that legislation gives effect to government policy and priorities. PCO is a professionally autonomous division within the Department of Justice. The head of the office is the Parliamentary Counsel, who is directly responsible to the Attorney General in professional matters.

Services include:

- Preparing drafts of Bills for Ministers to introduce into State Parliament in accordance with the Government's legislative program.
- Preparing amendments to Bills for Ministers during their passage through Parliament.
- Preparing drafts of subsidiary legislation for Ministers and government agencies so the Acts they administer can be fully implemented and properly administered.
- Providing legislative drafting services to private Members of Parliament and facilitating the work of Parliamentary committees.
- Compiling texts of Acts and subsidiary legislation with their amendments incorporated so the laws of the State can be made available in a variety of forms to those who must comply with them and those who must apply and enforce them.
- Hosting and maintaining the Western Australian Legislation Website: www.legislation.wa.gov.au.

- Publishing the Government Gazette and hosting the historical collection of the Government Gazette on the Western Australian Legislation Website.
- Maintaining and arranging publication of information about the legislation of Western Australia.
- Undertaking the Bill management process, which involves the provision of printed copies of Government Bills and private Member's Bills to Parliament, including versions of Bills incorporating amendments made by each House of Parliament during a Bill's passage, and versions of Bills to be submitted to the Governor for Royal Assent.
- Providing electronic versions of Bills to Parliament for publication on the Parliament website.
- Managing the contract with LitSupport, the commercial printer contracted to provide printed copies of Bills to Parliament and printed copies of Acts and subsidiary legislation for public sale.

The Parliamentary Counsel is also the Government Printer of Western Australia.

Key achievements

- Completion of a large number of significant drafting tasks to give effect to the State Government's legislative and policy priorities across a diverse range of portfolios.
- Introduction into Parliament of 48 Government Bills drafted by the Parliamentary Counsel's Office.
- Drafting and publishing of 255 items of subsidiary legislation.
- Completion of a successful international recruitment campaign for experienced legislative drafters.

Significant drafting tasks

- Aboriginal Heritage Legislation Amendment and Repeal Bill 2023.
- Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Amendment (Sex or Gender Changes) Bill 2024.
- Civil Liability Amendment (Provisional Damages for Dust Diseases) Bill 2024.
- Climate Change Bill 2023.
- Criminal Code Amendment Bill 2024.
- Criminal Code Amendment (Prohibition on Display of Nazi Symbols or Gesture) Bill 2024.
- Duties Amendment (Off-the-Plan Concession and Foreign Persons Exemptions) Bill 2023.
- Education and Care Services National Law Application Bill 2024.
- Electoral Amendment (Finance and Other Matters) Bill 2023.

- Electricity Industry Amendment (Alternative Electricity Services) Bill 2023.
- Electricity Industry Amendment (Distributed Energy Resources) Bill 2023.
- Family Violence Legislation Reform Bill 2024.
- Firearms Bill 2024.
- Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Application Bill 2023.
- Information Commissioner Bill 2024.
- Insurance Legislation Amendment (Motor Vehicle Claims Harvesting) Bill 2023.
- Perth Parking Management Bill 2023.
- Petroleum Legislation Amendment Bill 2023.
- Planning and Development Amendment Bill 2023.
- Privacy and Responsible Information Sharing Bill 2024.
- Residential Tenancies Amendment Bill 2023.
- Road Traffic Legislation Amendment (Infringement Management Reform) Bill 2024.
- Short-Term Rental Accommodation Bill 2024.
- Sports and Entertainment Trust Bill 2024.
- State Superannuation Amendment Bill 2023.
- State Superannuation Amendment Bill 2023.
- Therapeutic Goods Law Application Bill 2023.
- Western Australian Marine Amendment Bill 2023.

Significant items of subsidiary legislation

- Aboriginal Heritage (Transitional Provisions) Regulations 2023.
- Aboriginal Heritage Amendment Regulations 2023.
- Building Amendment Regulations 2023.
- Building Amendment Regulations 2024.
- Commerce Regulations Amendment (Plumbing) Regulations 2024.
- Electricity Industry Exemption Amendment Order (No. 2) 2024.
- Environmental Protection (Renewable Energy Proposals) Exemption Order 2023.
- Mining Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 2023.
- Planning and Development (Region Planning Schemes) Regulations 2023.
- Planning and Development Amendment Act 2023 Commencement Proclamation (No. 2) 2024.
- Residential Tenancies Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 2023.
- Spent Convictions Amendment Regulations 2023.

- Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition (Western Australia) Endorsement of Regulations Notice 2023.
- Western Australian Marine (Transitional Provisions) Regulations 2023.
- Work Health and Safety Regulations Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 2023.
- Workers' Compensation and Injury Management Amendment Regulations (No. 3) 2023.

Drafting resources

In recent years the Government's extensive legislative program has challenged the PCO. To deliver the Government's legislative program at the pace required by Government, the PCO required a significant increase in legal and non-legal staff.

The PCO are building a workforce of experienced drafters in the short term, that can be sustained in the long term and is supported by the necessary levels of executive, editorial, publications and IT support.

This will give the PCO the drafting capacity to deliver the Government's large reform projects, provide an adequate throughput of legislation to be introduced and debated in Parliament and draft the necessary supporting subsidiary legislation.

In 2023/24 the PCO completed a successful recruitment campaign for experienced drafters that has significantly increased its drafting capacity, which meant the Office was better placed to respond to the Government's substantial legislative reform program in 2023/24.

To support the additional drafting output created by an increase in drafting capacity, PCO also undertook successful recruitment campaigns for additional editorial, publications and IT staff.

While PCO has been building up its internal drafting capability, it has continued to engage a number of experienced contract drafters from the limited pool of retired legislative drafters in Western Australia and interstate.

Editorial Changes Report 1 July 2023 - 30 June 2024

Legislation Act 2021 section 42

The *Legislation Act 2021* Part 3 authorises the Parliamentary Counsel to make editorial changes to laws. The kinds of editorial changes that can be made include:

- correcting minor errors and inconsistencies;
- updating references;
- numbering or renumbering provisions;
- changes to grammar, spelling or punctuation to conform with current drafting practice;
- omitting obsolete or redundant provisions and making format or layout changes to ensure conformity with current drafting practice.

The power to make editorial changes cannot be used to change the effect of a law. If an editorial change is made to a law, the law has effect as if the change had been made by another law.

The *Legislation Act 2021* section 41 provides that, if an editorial change is made, this must be indicated in a suitable way. Those ways can include the provision of a comparison between versions of a law and the inclusion, in the law in which the change is made, of an indication of the change. Editorial changes are indicated on the Western Australian Legislation Website in both of those ways.

The *Legislation Act 2021* section 42 requires the Department's annual report to include a summary of editorial changes made to laws in the financial year to which the report relates.

Below is a summary of editorial changes made to laws in this financial year.

Editorial changes were made to a total of nine laws.

Item	Editorial change	Authorising provision of <i>Legislation Act 2021</i> Part 3	No of changes
1	Changes to reference to a law title (short title or citation)	s. 25	9
2	Changes to name or title of a body, office, person, place, locality	s. 26	1
3	Clerk's amendment to Act	s. 29	1
4	Minor errors and inconsistencies	s. 34	2
Total editorial changes			13

Note that each instance of the power being used in a law is counted.

This means that for a number of laws the power has been used multiple times (for example, to update references in different sections of the same law).

People Culture and Standards

People Culture and Standards (PCS) works to promote and instil good governance and ethical conduct in line with the Department's mission, principles and values. PCS provides a central and safe environment to report unethical behaviour across the Department and responds to a range of integrity, behavioural, performance, competency and conduct issues.

PCS is comprised of the following directorates:

- Management Engagement and Intervention.
- Professional Standards.
- Performance Assurance and Risk.

Key achievements

- Launched 2024 Code of Conduct promoting and encompassing the Departments expectations and values.
- Published the Justice Integrity Framework 2024.
- Revised and published the 2023 – 2027 Fraud and Corruption Control Plan.

Management Engagement and Intervention

Management Engagement and Intervention (MEI) continues to be at the forefront of implementing and delivering corruption prevention and education strategies across the Department to promote, maintain and uphold professional standards and ethical conduct, together with driving cultural reform in partnership with all Divisions.

MEI is responsible for pre-employment screening and staff re-screening, staff drug and alcohol testing, integrity and ethics training, Integrity and Ethics Committee meetings, together with management intervention activities, dealing with staff conduct related matters and broader holistic site interventions. In September 2023, MEI's services were strengthened with the integration of the Employee Relations functions intended to assist in workplace issue resolution and complaint co-ordination. Employee Relations services include advice and consultancy in respect to individual performance and capability concerns, absenteeism issues, fitness for work concerns, non-compensable return to work programs, along with complaint handling functions in respect to workplace bullying, harassment, conflict, equal opportunity, and grievance co-ordination.

During 2023/2024, MEI took significant steps in promoting integrity and ethics awareness within the Department. More than 117 Integrity and Ethics Awareness Sessions were conducted, reaching out to more than 1,950 employees across 19 custodial estates and 14 corporate business areas throughout WA. Additionally, the Accountable and Ethical Decision-Making online training was updated to align with the Public Sector Commission's revised Commissioner's Instruction 40. This mandatory training complements the face-to-face Integrity and Ethics Awareness Sessions provided by MEI staff.

Furthermore, the Directorate facilitated 54 Integrity and Ethics Committee meetings, fostering engagement across various business areas within the Department. The Management Engagement and Intervention Strategy, aimed at addressing staffing and management concerns proactively, continued to be widely utilised resulting in 135 interventions with individual staff members. These interventions focus on strengthening understanding of the Code of Conduct and addressing behavioural and conduct issues to prevent further actions that might lead to disciplinary actions, thereby supporting local management and contributing to improved business operations and service delivery.

This year as part of their pre-employment screening activity, the Employment Screening Unit travelled to the Pilbara and Great Southern regions to assist with onboarding Aboriginal Program Facilitators from remote areas. These individuals provide essential support to Aboriginal offenders, reconnecting them with country and culture.

Gifts and benefits

During 2023/24, offers of 193 gifts and benefits were registered, with 161 (83 per cent) being approved for acceptance by the Delegated Authority. Gifts and Benefits declined included invitations to various functions and seminars, food hampers, gift baskets, plants and a bottle of whiskey. Of the gifts accepted, 116 (73 per cent) had a value of \$50 or less:

- 71 (45 per cent) related to offers of food or alcohol.
- 11 (seven per cent) related to events, courses and tickets.
- 77 (48 per cent) related to other items such as donations or resources for use by those in custody at correctional facilities. These included gifts of crafting items, books, flowers, paintings, children's clothing and teaching resources.

The top three gifts in terms of value accepted were:

1. 300 DVDs donated by the mother of a detainee at Banksia Hill Detention Centre (\$3,000).
2. Teaching resources donated by Loreto Primary School in Nedlands (\$1,000).
3. Two Gazebos and four trestle tables donated by Bunnings to be used for Boronia Pre-Release Centre for Women's annual Gala Day Event (\$814).

Professional Standards

Professional Standards maintains and upholds the Department's professional and ethical standards. Professional Standards receives, assesses, refers and investigates reports of suspected misconduct, breaches of the Code of Conduct and/or criminal activity from across the Department as well as complaints pertaining to conflict, grievances, bullying and harassment. All reports submitted to Professional Standards undergo a mandatory assessment to determine the most appropriate course of action to resolve the matter. An assessment can result in a referral:

- For investigation.
- To Management Engagement and Intervention, including Employee relations for associated relevant employee relations advice and support.
- Back to workplace for local management guidance, retraining and support.

In line with statutory notification obligations imposed on the Department, some matters may be referred to external agencies for consideration, such as the Western Australia Police Force, Corruption and Crime Commission, the Ombudsman Western Australia, or the Public Sector Commission. During 2023/24:

- Professional Standards received and assessed:
 - 1,161 reports through the Online Complaints and Referral Portal.
 - 66 through the Safe2Say Reporting Platform.
- Commenced 150 disciplinary processes for employees of the Department. A total of 202* disciplinary processes were completed by Professional Standards during this period resulting in actions ranging from termination of employment, reclassification, transfer to new work locations, reprimands and 35* improvement actions in the form of warnings, counselling or further training and development.
- Notified the Corruption and Crime Commission of 57 matters, the Ombudsman Western Australia of nine matters and the Public Sector Commission of 46 matters.
- The Online Complaints and Referral Portal and the Safe2Say Reporting Platform continue to be fundamental tools for reporting alleged misconduct and workplace behaviour issues to People, Culture and Standards.

Performance Assurance and Risk

Performance Assurance and Risk is the Department's internal audit function which reports directly to the Director General and the Department's Risk Management and Audit Committee to maintain its functional independence. It provides independent and objective assurance and consulting services designed to improve the Department's operations, governance, risk management and internal control. The Directorate operates in accordance with the International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing and is governed by a Charter that is approved by the Director General.

During 2023/24, the Directorate undertook audits of the Department's business areas, in accordance with the Internal Audit Plan endorsed by the Risk Management and Audit Committee and approved by the Director General. The Directorate also performed independent reviews of deaths in custody where the Coroner directs the death is reportable under the *Coroners Act 1996*. The Directorate also worked with all business areas to build and embed risk management capability across the Department.

The Department's Risk Management and Audit Committee is established under the authority of the Director General as an advisory committee to the Director General. The Risk Management and Audit Committee's objective is to assist the Director General and the Corporate Executive to fulfil their corporate governance and oversight responsibilities in relation to internal audit, external audit, risk management and other external agency assurance providers. Its scope, powers, roles and responsibilities are set out in its Terms of Reference.

The role of the Risk Management and Audit Committee also includes monitoring the implementation of recommendations from internal and external audits, inspections and reviews, and if required, ensuring management implements the recommendations in a timely manner.

The Risk Management and Audit Committee comprises 10 members, one of which is the Chair of the Committee. The Chair is independent and external to the Department and is appointed by the Director General. Four members (excluding the Chair) are also independent of the Department, appointed by the Director General and drawn from the WA Public Sector. The remaining five members are drawn from the Department's Corporate Executive.

*Some disciplinary processes were commenced prior to 1 July 2023 but completed during this period.

Managing our People

The Department is committed to delivering excellent service to the community, its stakeholders and Government, and has continued to focus on building a strong workforce driven by the development of the skills and expertise of its staff.

Health and wellness programs Mental Health Framework

The Department's Strategic Mental Health Framework 2021-2024 includes a range of initiatives to support the overall health, safety and wellbeing of all employees. The Framework includes practical strategies and initiatives to improve mental health and wellbeing in the workplace and comprises three overarching pillars:

- Monitoring and accommodating mental health.
- Minimising harm and protecting against risk.
- Optimising wellbeing and generating our people's future capabilities.

Some of the key achievements associated with the Framework during the 2023/24 financial year include:

- 6,654 employees trained in mental health awareness.
- 122 managers and leaders trained in responding to potentially traumatic events in the workplace.
- 66 managers and leaders trained in responding to mental health matters in the workplace.
- 500 employees trained on self-care in the workplace.
- 74 new staff supporters recruited, trained and inducted into the staff support network.

A review of the Mental Health Framework will commence in the next financial year.

Mental health campaigns

The Framework is based on the Thrive at Work model, a Western Australian initiative which presents contemporary and evidence-informed strategies designed to protect against psychological harm and foster the development of a mentally healthy workplace. The Department is a member of the First Responder Working Group, which is co-ordinated by the Mental Health Commission. During 2023/24, the Mental Health Commission funded the development of a resource for Custodial Officers within Corrective Services that supports officers in facilitating effective, learning-focused operational debriefs, with a specific focus on immediate debriefs conducted shortly after an incident or emergency.

The focus in 2023/24 was also to expand delivery of mental health information and training, and support for staff involved in potentially traumatic events.

Corporate health and wellbeing

The Department's corporate partnership with providers such as Bupa, Medibank and HBF brings a range of benefits to employees, including discounted health insurance and access to health initiatives.

External agencies, such as the Department's Employee Assistance Program provider, deliver mental health and wellbeing presentations to staff. Staff can access a quarterly online magazine containing news articles relating to mental and physical wellbeing on the Department's intranet.

Staff development and performance Employee Performance Planning and Development (PPD) system

The Department's online PPD system enables capture of meeting outcomes between employees and their managers. The PPD cycle runs from 1 May to 31 April. The cycle is comprised of three cycle points: Planning, Mid-cycle Review and Achievement Meeting. The cycle points can commence at any time across the 12-month cycle depending on employee commencement in their role.

Training and development

The Department ensured employees had access to a broad range of learning and development opportunities, which included:

New courses:

- Asbestos Awareness.
- Introduction to Financial Administration.
- Operational Financial Administration.
- Introduction to Mentoring.
- Mentoring Others.
- Introduction to Content Manager.
- Introduction to Discrimination and Harassment.

Updated courses:

- Accountable and Ethical Decision Making.
- Cyber Security Awareness.
- Purchasing Card.

- Conflict Resolution Officer Role.
- Mental Health Awareness.
- WHS Awareness.
- Work Health and Safety for Managers.

Conflict Resolution Officer Network

Conflict Resolution Officers (CROs) provide a valuable service to the Department by giving their time to advise and help their colleagues resolve conflict in the workplace quickly at a local level.

CROs are selected through a Department-wide recruitment campaign which includes manager assessments to confirm suitability and business area support, as well as integrity checks from People, Culture and Standards.

Appointments are subject to CROs successfully completing the two-day training program presented by Workforce Development. This occurred on 5-6 June 2024 and resulted in a total of 50 CROs located across the State.

Leadership Expectations

The Department is committed to implementing the Public Sector Commission's Leadership Expectations which sets a clear direction for what leadership means for the WA public sector. It describes everyday behaviours that create a common understanding of what "good" leadership looks like as well as the mindsets that drive these behaviours.

The Department is progressively implementing Leadership Expectations, by Leadership Context, in tranches.

To date, Tranche 1: Level 9+ positions, and Tranche 2: Level 8 positions, have been implemented. Work is currently progressing on Tranche 3: Level 7 positions.

Workforce Services

Workforce Services provides the Department's industrial relations advisory and specialist workforce support services functions.

Established in September 2023, the Directorate successfully consolidated the Department's existing industrial relations functions with the inclusion of a newly established workforce support functions into one area. The combination of these two specialist and dedicated functions within one Directorate in the Department is actively supporting improvements in the knowledge and delivery of industrial practice, including compliance with relevant workplace laws and industrial instruments.

The newly established Workforce Support Services team provides holistic, people-centred and trauma-informed support for Department employees impacted by a range of workplace concerns, harmful behaviours, and psychosocial hazards. This may include bullying, harassment, sexual harassment, and family and domestic violence.

Informed by recommendations and findings of the Respect@Work: Sexual Harassment National Inquiry Report (2020) conducted by the Australian Human Rights Commission, and changes to the *Sex Discrimination Act 1984* (Cth) and the *Work Health Safety Act 2020*, the team not only provide a tailored response to disclosures of unsafe workplace behaviours, but also work collaboratively with colleagues across the Department to build understanding and capabilities in respect to establishing a more psychologically safe, supportive, and respectful workplace.

The Directorate also delivers the Department's industrial relations functions, providing advice and consultancy services focused on supporting delivery of operational needs while creating people practices that develop and maintain positive working relationships between the Department and its employees.

Employee Assistance Program

The Department's Employee Assistance Program (EAP) services can be accessed for personal or work-related issues for employees and their immediate family members.

The provider facilitated 3,497 counselling sessions throughout the year. This is an annual usage rate of approximately 10 per cent, with 17 per cent of these sessions provided to family members of employees.

The Department expanded EAP services during this period to include a suite of wellbeing services including financial, nutrition and exercise support to complement existing initiatives to support the wellbeing of employees.

	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20
Clients	1,617	947	874	807	960

Multicultural Framework

Developed in consultation with the Office of Multicultural Interests and aligned with the Western Australian Multicultural Policy Framework, the Department's Multicultural Plan 2021 - 2025 is an integral part of the Department's commitment to ensuring a culturally safe and inclusive workplace and a responsive service that meets the needs of the Department's customers. Implementation of actions and initiatives progressed to date include the development and promotion of anti-discrimination policies, recognising and celebrating dates of significance for diverse groups and culturally and linguistically diverse people as well as supporting flexible working arrangements to ensure staff are better equipped at meeting and balancing cultural obligations.

Aboriginal Workforce Development

The Department recognises the importance of developing a sustainable and empowered Aboriginal workforce to better reflect the Western Australian community and service needs. The Department's Workforce Diversification and Inclusion Action Plan, as well as the Aboriginal Workforce Development Strategic Commitment, set out several initiatives to progress Aboriginal workforce development.

Aboriginal staff represent approximately five per cent of employees, which exceeds the Public Sector Commission's benchmark target. Aboriginal employment remains a key focus of the Department and as a result, a higher aspirational target has been set.

The Department continues to utilise innovative practices and targeted recruitment approaches for current and future opportunities across the Department. The Department is building a clear talent pipeline, establishing streamlined processes to match suitable Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander candidates with opportunities across the State. In addition, social media content has highlighted positive stories, featuring Aboriginal employees, promoting the Department as an employer of choice. As a result, there has been an increase in the number of Aboriginal people securing employment with the Department.

Recruitment

The tight labour market and the demand to hire has presented some challenges across the Department in this past financial year. These challenges provided the opportunity to review, improve and streamline recruitment processes to achieve recruitment outcomes.

During 2023/24 the Department advertised 874 vacancies (including general, pools and expressions of interests).

From the Department's recruitment activities, 781* applicants identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. This number includes internal applicants and those who have applied for multiple vacancies.

High volume recruitment activities resulted in 244 Prison Officers being permanently appointed across the prison estate. A total of 90 Youth Custodial Officers were permanently appointed to Banksia Hill Detention Centre.

* The number of Aboriginal applicants is higher than previous reporting period due to expanding the categories in RAMS covering Aboriginal, Aboriginal Descent, Torres Strait Islander or both.

Graduate Program

The 12-month Graduate Program is an initiative targeting recent university graduates to launch their career and commence their journey toward becoming the Department's

future leaders. This is a rotational program, enabling Graduate Officers to gain exposure to multiple workplace environments where they can develop interpersonal and professional skills. Throughout the duration of program, Graduate Officers are provided with professional development, networking opportunities, mentoring and support.

School-based trainees

The 18-month School-Based Traineeship program commenced in February 2022, and saw nine school students work part time with the Department while undertaking a Certificate II in Government. The trainees were employed across various business areas, including Advisory Services, Corporate Services, the Public Trustee, Court and Tribunal Services and Corrective Services. All nine trainees graduated the program in August 2023 – with five trainees securing ongoing employment with the Department.

Aboriginal trainees

The Aboriginal Traineeship Program is an annual 12-month initiative providing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander trainees an opportunity to work within the Department. Trainees gain on-the-job experience while completing a Certificate III in Government. The program expanded in 2023 to include regional placements and eight trainees graduated the program, with 5 securing ongoing employment opportunities. Another traineeship intake commenced in January 2024. A large cohort of 11 trainees, including two regionally based trainees, have commenced employment across multiple business areas, including, Courts and Tribunal Services, Corrective Services, Corporate Services and the Public Trustee.

Staff views of workplace inclusiveness

The Department is committed to a diverse and inclusive workplace. As part of the most recent WA Public Sector Census, employees were invited to participate in a voluntary questionnaire regarding diversity. They were asked whether they had provided information to the Department, and if not, the reason for not doing so. Initiatives include:

- **Establishing Diversity Champion Groups and Employee Networks.** Champion Groups and networks celebrate workforce diversity, raise awareness about key issues affecting diversity groups, and promote active allyship.
- **Celebrating Diversity Dates of Significance.** Celebrations include sharing information and resources, hosting events for staff, and participating in community events. The dates celebrated include Harmony Week, International Women's Day, National Reconciliation

Week, NAIDOC Week, Wear it Purple Day, 16 Days in WA and WA Pride. Participation in these events and activities ensures employees and stakeholders know their identities are valued and celebrated.

- **Providing Education and Training.** The Department provided Disability Awareness Training sessions to staff, produced resources on how to support neurodivergent colleagues, and provided training on language and communication methods that best support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse people. Training and resources provided staff with a greater insight into the lived experiences of diverse groups, and a better understanding of how to create a more inclusive and supportive workplace for their colleagues.
- **Developing Partnerships and Networks.** The Department has formed partnerships with Disability Employment Service Providers; gained alumni membership and maintained an ongoing relationship with JobAccess; partnered with whole-of-sector recruitment campaigns for youth; and formed a partnership with the Enhanced Aboriginal Engagement Team.

To continue our commitment to workforce inclusiveness we have identified actions to improve diversity and inclusion in the year ahead, including:

- **Expanding Diversity Champion Groups and Employee Networks.** Champion Groups and Employee Networks will be expanded for all diversity groups, enabling all initiatives to be employee-led and informed by lived experiences.
- **Development of Resources.** A guide to supporting workplace adjustments will be developed. This will contain information about employer obligations when providing reasonable adjustments and advice for managers to increase their confidence when co-ordinating the process of a workplace adjustment.
- **Ongoing Training and Development.** Disability Awareness Training will be provided to staff on an ongoing basis, and training to support key diversity groups will be provided.

FOCUS

Roaring with pride

Staff participated in PrideFEST 2023 which brought together community members and supporters to celebrate diversity and inclusivity throughout the month of November.

The Department of Justice was one of more than 100 organisations, and 5,000 marchers, in Australia's second largest Pride event (after the Sydney Mardi Gras), with this year's theme 'Be Brave, Be Strong, Be You!'

The Department is committed to fostering a safe and inclusive working environment for people with diverse genders and sexualities and has established a Diverse Sexualities and Genders Champion Group.

It is important members of the rainbow community feel safe and supported to be their true selves in the workplace.



Disclosures and Legal Compliance

Governance disclosures

Ministerial directives

Nil.

Pricing policy of services

The pricing policy adopted across the Department conforms with Treasury guidelines. The Department charges for goods sold from prison industries. The charges comply with national competition policy principles.

Court and Tribunal Services

Fees are collected for a variety of services. This includes court hearing time, transcripts, and the enforcement of orders, including infringements lodged with the Fines Enforcement Registry for enforcement by various prosecuting authorities.

A review of fees is conducted annually to ensure a balance between the criteria of access to justice, incentives to settle matters and user-pays contributions.

Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages

The fees charged by the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages are reviewed annually. The pricing aims to achieve full cost recovery, and takes into account the Consumer Price Index, the cost of providing and maintaining services and the level of fees charged by other Australian registries for similar services.

Public Trustee

The Public Trustee charges fees for a number of services. Fees are currently based on a work-effort system and the agency provides a rebate of fees for clients subject to administration orders under its Community Service Obligation.

While the review into the agency's fees and funding model continues, the Public Trustee provided fee relief from 1 July 2023 until 30 June 2025, which will now continue until at least 30 June 2026.

Fee relief includes a 50 per cent discount on selected trust fees and removing the \$35 minimum monthly fee for those under an administration order.

Financial interests

At 30 June 2024, other than normal contracts of employment, no senior officers had any interests in existing or proposed contracts with the Department.

Act of grace and ex gratia payments

The Department processes act of grace and ex gratia payments on behalf of the State. No act of grace or ex gratia payments were made during 2023/24.

Unauthorised use of purchase cards

Purchase cards are only issued to staff members whose job responsibilities necessitate their use. These cards are intended solely for business purposes approved by the Department. During the financial year 2023/24, the Department recovered \$4,680.83 from 65 staff members who had used their purchase cards for personal expenses. Currently, there is only one outstanding amount of \$4.06 that is in the process of being recovered. All incidents have been reported to the Acting Chief Finance Officer and the accountable authority in line with Departmental policies.

Below is a summary of the total amounts spent on personal use:

2023/24	Amount
Settled within five working days	\$2,345.25
Settled after five working days	\$2,335.58
Outstanding	\$4.06
Aggregate amount of personal use expenditure	\$4,684.89

Capital works

- Casuarina Capital Works:
 - Stage 2 expansion to deliver a further 344 beds.
 - Alcohol and other drug treatment unit for men.
 - High Security Unit.
- Acacia Prison Infrastructure upgrade and replacements.
- Ligature minimisation program.
- Various Banksia Hill Detention Centre upgrades.
- Emergency Services Radio Network upgrade.
- Roebourne Prison air conditioning.

Customer feedback

The Department is committed to providing quality service to Government, agencies, and the community, and welcomes feedback on its performance. The Department is committed to openness and transparency and ensures all complaints are addressed in a timely and appropriate way.

Feedback management systems

The Department operates two customer feedback mechanisms: one for complaints associated with Corrective Services and another system that captures feedback for the other Departmental services. People can provide feedback, make complaints, give compliments or provide suggestions through the appropriate feedback system in person, online, by mail or phone.

Outcomes

The Customer Feedback Management System received and managed 607 matters comprising:

- 165 Compliments.
- 422 Complaints.
- 20 Suggestions.

Corrective Services ACCESS system received and managed 3755 individual matters comprising:

- 34 Compliments.
- 3,033 Complaints.
- 18 Suggestions.
- 572 Contact only.
- 98 Request for information.

Disability Access and Inclusion Planning

The Department is committed to ensuring people with disability can access its services, facilities and information. The Department's Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2018-2023 (DAIP 2018-2023) has been the mechanism guiding

professional and appropriate service provision to people with disability, their carers and families, and address any barriers to access and inclusion. The DAIP 2018-2023 was compliant with the *Disability Services Act 1993* and has regard to 'A Western Australia for Everyone – State Disability Strategy 2020-2030'. It outlined workable and accountable ways that the Department ensured that people with disability, their carers and families have equal access to our services, facilities and information.

The implementation and monitoring of strategies identified in the DAIP 2018-2023 has been overseen by the DAIP Committee. Key outcomes have focused on equal accessibility of information, events, services, complaint processes, public consultation, employment and facilities to people with disability.

As it comes to an end, the Department, under the Strategic Reform Division, undertook a review of the DAIP 2018-2023, and has developed a new Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2024-2029 (DAIP 2024-2029). The DAIP 2024-2029 was developed following an extensive review process, supported by Good Sammy Enterprises, to ensure the new DAIP 2024-2029 was informed by people with, and with lived experience of, disability and shaped by the experiences and voices of stakeholders.

In the development of the DAIP 2024-2029, the Department considered the broader current policy context of disability reform in Australia, including the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability (DRC), and the Australia's Disability Strategy 2021-2031 and the State Disability Strategy 2020-2030, to ensure implementation of DAIP 2024-2029 initiatives are aligned to the National disability agenda.

The following summary is the final report for the DAIP 2018-2023.

Outcome 1: People with disability have the same opportunities as other people to access the services of, and any events organised by, the Department of Justice.

The Department committed to incorporating the objectives of the DAIP 2018-2023 into its strategic planning framework and increasing the alignment of policy and practice to the whole of government Substantive Equality Policy Framework.

- A People with Disability Champion Group was launched on International Day of People with Disability 2023. The Champion Group leads disability events and provides a lived experience perspective to initiatives and actions in the Department's Workforce Diversification and Inclusion Action Plan.
- We maintained an internal governance structure for all disability strategic actions who are responsible for monitoring, reporting and progressing actions and initiatives.

- Implementation preparations for the *Criminal Law (Mental Impairment) Act 2023*, assented to in April 2023 within the Department and across Government have been in progress, ahead of the Act commencing operation September 2024. The Departments implementation preparation has included the development of subsidiary legislation to support the commencement of the Act.
- The Law Reform Commission of Western Australia has expanded its review of the *Guardianship and Administration Act 1990* (WA) from the original 2015 review following recommendations of the Disability Royal Commission and other law reform developments.
- The Attorney General has approved recommendations presented by Court and Tribunal Services (CTS) relating to possible, practical changes that could be implemented to better assist people with disability as jurors. Project planning has commenced to determine the scope and how to best implement these recommendations.
- We established a Victims of Crime Reference Group, with representatives from the victim community, to better understand how to support victims of crime with disability.
- The Public Trustee launched Wills on Wheels, a mobile Wills service to clients with disability who require preparation of Wills at home, a care facility or hospital. The Public Trustee has conducted 45 Wills on Wheels appointments in the reporting period.
- Reintegration Service Provider performance templates have been aligned with DAIP outcomes, ensuring that service providers are meeting DAIP compliance requirements.

Outcome 2: People with disability have the same opportunities as other people to access the buildings and facilities of the Department of Justice.

The Department remains committed to making sure its buildings and other facilities are both safe and accessible.

- Corporate Services is compliant with all areas of the *Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (DDA) and the associated Disability (Access to Premises - Buildings) Standards 2010 requiring compliance with all established guidelines.
- Emergency Management Plans are in place for all custodial facilities identify staff and prisoners with disabilities to ensure their needs are met in case of emergency. All corporate sites/offices have individual plans based on local building management guidelines and work with employees with disability to meet their needs in case of emergency.
- Fire wardens have been trained in evacuation procedures for people with disability and Work Health and Safety

(WHS) has embedded training and updates of individual plans in the agenda of Building WHS meetings.

- The Office of the Public Advocate (OPA) continues to ensure that all education sessions for community members and services providers, co-ordinated by it alone, are held at accessible venues and/or online.

Outcome 3: People with disability receive information from the Department of Justice in a format that will enable them to access the information as readily as other people are able to access it.

The Department continued to ensure that people with disability can access information readily.

- We continue to provide information to meet the needs of people with disability in compliance with the State Government Access Guidelines for Information, Services and Facilities and the website and intranet complies with web accessibility standards (WCAG 2.1 Level A compliant). Recent updates to the platform have increased accessibility through the use of screen readers.
- The Registry of Births, Death and Marriages online applications are developed in accordance with accessibility guidelines. The Registry is working with the Office of Digital Government to undertake a full accessibility audit of our newest application – Birth Registrations Online (BROL) which will occur in the second half of 2024.
- On International Day of People with Disability, the Office of the Public Advocate (OPA) launched three new accessibility tools: 2 new Easy Read fact sheets, bringing OPA's suite of Easy Read publications to 11, an Easy Read 'button' on the homepage of its website to enable easy navigate to the suite of Easy Read publications, and a dedicated accessibility webpage.
- Six staff members from Public Trustees Office (PTO) attended a Disability Development WA workshop on 'How to create easy read documents' which will be utilised in developing additional easy-read resources for clients.
- The Public Trustee developed a plain English information booklet to inform and educate clients on how a deceased estate is administered and the services provided by the Public Trustee, available to the public via the Public Trustee website.
- Planning has commenced for the translation of the Victim of Crime brochures into easy-to-read language.
- All information provided by the Department is available in alternative accessible formats upon request and all video productions are to have close captions as standard operating procedures for social media platforms and websites.

Outcome 4: People with disability receive the same level and quality of service from the Department of Justice staff as other people receive.

The Department continued to advocate for the delivery of quality services to people with disability and raise awareness of issues by delivering and organising training as appropriate, encouraging representation within professional associations, and promoting associated events. For example:

- We have highlighted and celebrated staff with disability through a number of internal and external communications, including JustUs (intranet) and our external website.
- The Disability Co-ordination Team in Corrective Services noted an increase in prisoners having Enduring Powers of Attorney (EPA) and Enduring Powers of Guardianship (EPG) in place. In 2024, the team added a question to the intake survey (ARMS-RIA) to capture these documents with a data notification automatically forwarded to the team to follow up.
- Corrective Services have partnered with National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) to pilot Justice Liaison Officers (JLOs) in prisons who respond to enquiries regarding the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). JLOs were initially piloted in Bandyup Women's Prison working alongside the Occupational Therapist. JLOs continue to provide support for the women's estate (externally) and have recently expanded to support Bunbury Regional Prison. Partnerships assist with progressing NDIS referrals, troubleshooting, and ensuring supports are in place for prisoners upon release.
- We launched a suite of online training modules accessible to all Corrective services staff as an induction training package. The online modules were developed by a specialist learning platform developer in collaboration with the Corrective Services Disability Co-ordination Team. The suite of training modules can be periodically revisited by staff, and are intended to become mandatory learning for all Department staff. In addition, all Department staff can access a host of training from JobAccess via its designated People with Disability page on JustUs (intranet).

Outcome 5: People with disability have the same opportunities as other people to make complaints to the Department of Justice or associated agencies.

The Department worked to ensure its feedback and complaints processes are accessible for people of all abilities and guide effective and appropriate action to improve its services.

- We recommended a modernisation project to ensure that our Customer Feedback Policy is contemporary and accessible to allow Departmental staff and the public to submit feedback and complaints as required.

- The Department monitors and considers complaints and feedback received to identify areas for improving accessibility for people with a disability.

Outcome 6: People with disability have the same opportunities as other people to participate in any public consultation by the Department of Justice.

The Department worked to ensure that people with disability are appropriately engaged and can participate in public consultation and share their views on relevant matters.

- We continued to ensure that members of the public had the opportunity to participate in consultation via online feedback forms, written letters, emails, or information sessions.
- Public consultation was extensively undertaken as part of the Review of the DAIP 2018-2023. The review included 91 responses from an online survey, 2 written submissions and feedback from 10 stakeholder meetings and workshops with stakeholder groups.

Outcome 7: People with disability have the same opportunities to obtain and maintain employment with a public authority.

- The Department was awarded membership to the JobAccess Alumni Program. Alumni Membership recognises the Department's positive engagement and commitment to improving employment outcomes and inclusivity for people with disability throughout its 12-month membership with JobAccess.
- We commissioned an independent recruitment process review, conducted by JobAccess. This resulted in recruitment process improvements, which included the creation of a project plan to obtain Disability Confident Recruiter accreditation. We are progressing the project plan.
- In partnership with the JobAccess National Recruitment Co-ordinator, we facilitated a Disability Employment Services Information Session in September 2023. Fifteen Disability Employment Service providers informed staff across the Department of their service, support, and current candidates who are seeking employment opportunities.
- The Public Trustee attended a presentation by JobAccess with a view to ensuring that our recruitment, selection and retention strategies are designed to be equitable for employees and potential employees with a disability.

Summary of employee numbers by occupational group (award) and gender

Award Groups	2023/24					2022/23				
	Number			%		Number			%	
	F	M	Total	F	M	F	M	Total	F	M
Enrolled Nurses & Nursing Assistants	2	0	2	100	0	2	0	2	100	0
Government Services (Miscellaneous)	2.93	1	3.93	74.58	25.42	2.93	0	2.93	100	0
Jury Officers	3.72	0.41	4.13	90.08	9.92	5.15	0.71	5.86	87.83	12.17
Juvenile Custodial Officers	110.09	199.6	309.69	35.55	64.45	93.5	167.08	260.58	35.88	64.12
Medical Practitioners Agreement	10.48	12.44	22.92	45.74	54.26	9.38	13.47	22.85	41.06	58.94
Nurses Industrial	119.49	25.36	144.85	82.49	17.51	111.45	24.23	135.68	82.14	17.86
Prison Officers Agreement	719.15	2,033.26	2,752.41	26.13	73.87	710	1,981.34	2,691.34	26.38	73.62
Public Service Employees	2,523.8	1,107.02	3,630.82	69.51	30.49	2,409.14	1,045.40	3,454.54	69.74	30.26
Salaries and Allowances Tribunal	3.8	8.5	12.3	30.89	69.11	2.6	7.9	10.5	24.76	75.24
Youth Detention Centre Teachers	14.8	3	17.8	83.15	16.85	13	3	16	81.25	18.75
Total	3,510.27	3,390.58	6,900.85	50.87	49.13	3,359.15	3,243.13	6,602.28	50.88	49.12
Judicial Services										
Government Officers (Award)	105.72	46	151.72	69.68	30.32	107.92	37	144.92	74.47	25.53
Parole and Other Board Members	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Public Service Employees	32.3	9	41.3	78.21	21.79	32.9	6	38.9	84.58	15.42
State Administrative Tribunal	19.24	7.3	26.54	72.51	27.49	18.27	5.09	23.36	78.22	21.78
Judicial Services Total	157.26	62.3	219.56	71.63	28.37	159.09	48.09	207.18	76.69	23.21
Overall Total	3,667.53	3,453.12	7,120.65	51.51	48.49	3,518.24	3,291.22	6,809.46	51.67	48.33

The Department has 7,120.65 full time equivalent employees (FTE) comprising 7,536 paid individuals, excluding the judiciary and including trainees.

Note: This table provides the paid employee numbers by Award Groups as at the last pay of the 2023/24 financial year, which is the pay period ending 20 June 2024, and the previous financial year's last pay, the pay period 22 June 2023.

Asset Management

The Department manages court, custodial and other infrastructure around the State. The Department provides advice to Government as part of the budget process, including through integrated planning that involves courts, custodial and other portfolios.

Infrastructure planning

Strategic Asset Plan

The Department's Strategic Asset Plan outlines future requirements to support the budget process.

The long-term custodial infrastructure plan for Corrective Services was updated to support the Strategic Asset Plan and ensure sufficient capacity in the custodial estate to 2031. The long-term planning for Court and Tribunal Services was also refreshed to accommodate demand changes and impacts on current infrastructure.

Work will continue in 2024/25 to improve the Department's strategic asset planning approach to ensure appropriate infrastructure supports a flexible and dynamic response to changes in prisoner population growth and demand for court and tribunal services.

Major projects

Casuarina Prison Expansion Stage 2

This \$254 million project is in progress to provide an additional 344 beds and an expansion of support services to enable Casuarina Prison to accommodate special needs and high-risk cohort groups. The first tranche of these works, which consisted of two accommodation units, a high security unit, and industry and support buildings, were completed. The contract for construction of the second tranche of works was awarded during June 2024 and includes construction of a new High Needs Care and Assisted Care Unit, a Mental Health Unit and upgrades to the existing Gatehouse, Infirmary, Crisis Care Unit, Prisoner Reception, administration, industries, Visitors Centre and staff amenities.

Banksia Hill Detention Centre Upgrades

The Department is continuing to improve security and service delivery at Banksia Hill Detention Centre. A \$46.9million investment in infrastructure has been budgeted. This includes:

- the development of a new Crisis Care Unit, to provide a safe and therapeutic environment to support vulnerable, at-risk young people; expected to be completed in 2026/27.

- \$3.5 million to develop an Aboriginal Services Unit to provide cultural support and services to address the over-representation of Aboriginal young people at Banksia Hill Detention Centre, including those from regional Western Australia. New staff positions will be created, including additional Aboriginal welfare officers and Aboriginal medical and mental health workers, together with contracted service provision.

New Youth Detention Facility

The Department is working closely with key stakeholders to progress planning for a new Youth Detention Facility. The key project aims for the New Youth Detention Facility are: Improving Youth Justice Outcomes; Enhancing Safety; Optimising Care and Efficiency; and Building Community Confidence. The New Youth Detention Facility will be designed to cater specifically to high-needs detainees, recognising the urgent need for a facility that can provide targeted support and a structured environment. The design of the new facility will incorporate best practices from other jurisdictions to ensure resilience and minimise damage to infrastructure.

New Broome Regional Prison

The Department continued to work closely with the Yawuru community and the Shire of Broome to plan for the replacement of the existing Broome Regional Prison.

Emergency Services Radio Network

The Emergency Services Radio Network (ESRN) program is a Western Australian State Government initiative. The ESRN program involves collaboration between the Western Australia Police Force, Department of Fire and Emergency Services, Department of Health and the Department of Justice to transform the existing radio network used by both the Western Australia Police Force and the Department, into a single radio network for use by all of the State's emergency services. A total of \$19.3 million has been allocated by the State Government to fund radio network equipment upgrades at courthouses and corrective services facilities across the State.

Roebourne Regional Prison air conditioning upgrade

In November 2022 the Minister for Corrective Services announced that air conditioning at Roebourne Regional Prison would be expanded. The contract for this project was awarded with works scheduled to commence on site during September 2024. The State Government has committed \$17.5 million for this project.

National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Awareness

The Department has an ongoing program of Asbestos Containing Materials (ACM) Audits which produces an ACM Register that is located at each of its sites. All ACM ranked as high-risk are remediated and the remainder managed according to risk.

Contractors are obligated to view and sign the register before undertaking any works in an area which may have the risk of possible exposure. All contractors are required to undertake an induction process prior to engaging in any site works and produce a Safe Work Method Statement before commencing any works.

The Department's asbestos awareness training program was updated during October 2023 to align with the Asbestos Management Plan. This training is mandatory for all staff who work in workplaces that contain asbestos.

Contracts

Procurement, Infrastructure and Contract Services are responsible for the Department's buyer training, purchasing and procurement.

The tables below provide information on the contract activity undertaken by the Department during the financial year.

Contracts awarded

Value	Number
\$0 - \$4,999	0
\$5,000 - \$49,999	5
\$50,000 - \$249,999	41
\$250,000 - \$4,999,999	33
\$5 million +	4
Total	83

Purchase orders issued

10,447 purchase orders against 1,272 suppliers

Value	Number
\$0 - \$4,999	5,556
\$5,000 - \$49,999	4,019
\$50,000 - \$249,999	547
\$250,000 - \$4,999,999	308
\$5 million +	17
Total	10,447

Information and Communications Technology

During 2023/24, the Department's Information and Communications Technology (ICT) program focused on remediation of ICT risks and resolving outstanding audit issues. This was achieved through the modernisation of essential ICT infrastructure and application services, enhancing the Department's security posture, and aligning more closely with Government policy and the WA Digital Strategy.

The Department strengthened its security capabilities through progressing the implementation of the Essential Eight mitigation strategies to maturity level one and completion of onboarding to the Western Australian Governments Security Operations Centre and vulnerability scanning solution. The Department's Cyber Security Steering Committee (CSSC) governs and manages its cyber security risks, overseeing the implementation of cyber security controls and planned response to cyber security incidents.

Other Legal Requirements

Recordkeeping Plan

The Department is required to have an approved Recordkeeping Plan in accordance with section 19 of the *State Records Act 2000*. The State Records Commission approved the Department's new Recordkeeping Plan in May 2023. The Department continues to update and develop new policies, procedures, systems, and tools to assist staff to meet their recordkeeping responsibilities.

1. The efficiency and effectiveness of the organisation's recordkeeping systems is evaluated not less than once every five years.

The following improvements identified in the Recordkeeping Plan were completed in 2023/24:

- The upgrade to the Department's Electronic Documents and Records Management System (EDRMS) was completed in April 2024. Staff have access to additional functionality to assist with their recordkeeping responsibilities. Work has commenced on integration between the EDRMS and MS Teams, which will enable staff to work within MS Teams whilst their records are captured into the EDRMS and retained in compliance with records management legislation and policies.
- The first instalment of a new Introduction to Content Manager online training course was launched. This new course provides staff with training on how to use the EDRMS.
- The review of the Business Classification Scheme is currently underway to determine its effectiveness and usefulness, including classification terms, ease of use, quality assurance of created folders and requests for any modifications.

2. The organisation conducts a recordkeeping training program.

The online Government Records Education Awareness Training is mandatory for all staff. All staff are required to complete the course as part of their induction training, and then every three years as refresher training. During the 2023/24 financial year 1736 staff completed the course. Staff receive both formal and informal training on how to use the EDRMS as part of their onboarding. Key staff are also trained on how to create and manage their own files within the EDRMS.

Face to face training during 2023/24 continued to be delivered via MS Teams in support of the geographically dispersed staff population.

3. The efficiency and effectiveness of the recordkeeping training program is reviewed from time to time.

Records management training materials, user guides and advice are published on the Department's intranet. The Department has recognised the need for additional online courses to be developed. New courses on Archiving, Corrections Records and Advanced Content Manager are scheduled for the coming year.

	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21
Documents created in EDRMS	1,765,814	1,985,614	1,560,824	1,977,465 ¹
Folders created in EDRMS	235,816	234,676	229,839	359,099 ¹
Boxes created in EDRMS	5,978	6,893	5,281	5,050
Series created in EDRMS ²	8,679	15,261 ³	9,954	9,612

- As part of the Exchange Online Project in 2020/21, the back capture of emails resulted in increased document and folder registrations. Note: this figure was incorrectly published in the 2022/23 Annual Report as 359,0091.
- The Department uses Series record types in the EDRMS to group or link related folders in the system.
- Registration of the Public trust Series record type resulted in an overall increase in registrations in 2022/23.

4. The organisation's induction program addresses employee roles and responsibilities in regard to their compliance with the organisation's recordkeeping plan.

The online Government Records Education Awareness Training is included as part of the induction program for employees. Individual business areas deliver local recordkeeping training as part of their employee inductions. Recordkeeping requirements and the proper use of information are included in the Code of Conduct. Recordkeeping responsibilities are also included in the policies, procedures and operating manuals created and maintained by individual business areas.

Advertising and allied expenditure

In compliance with section 175ZE of the *Electoral Act 1907*, the Department reports on expenditure incurred for advertising, market research, polling, direct mail and media during 2023/24.

Advertising agencies	\$427,383
Initiative	\$290,309
Seek Limited	\$127,985
Agility Staffing Pty Ltd	\$5,950
Price Consulting Group Pty Ltd	\$3,139
Market research organisations	
	NIL
Media advertising	\$177,161
Telstra Group Ltd	\$149,184
LinkedIn Australia	\$15,057
Facebook	\$10,420
Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance	\$2,500
Polling	
	NIL
Direct mail organisation	
	NIL
Total	\$604,544

Freedom of information

Summary of FOI applications

Applications received	
Personal information requests	1,349
Non-personal information requests	42
Amendment of personal information	4
Applications transferred in full	74
Total applications processed ¹	1,513
Outcomes	
Applications withdrawn	59
Internal reviews completed	18
External reviews completed	2
Applications currently being processed	218

¹ Total number of applications processed includes 44 applications (excluding those transferred in full) received in the previous financial year.

The State Solicitors Office, Office of the Public Advocate, the Public Trustee, Equal Opportunity Commission, State Administrative Tribunal, Office of the Solicitor General, Acacia Prison, G4S and Ventia are not listed as part of the Department in the Freedom of Information Regulations 1993 and report their statistics separately.

At the end of this period, 12 reviews remain outstanding with the Information Commissioner.

Government Policy Requirements

Substantive equality

The Department continued to work towards substantive equality in its services and outcomes to meet the needs of employees and stakeholders, as per the State Government's policy framework for substantive equality.

This commitment to the State Government's policy is reflected in our Code of Conduct and embedded into human resource policies, procedures and guidelines.

The public website is designed to meet the State Government's standard established for web accessibility, including meeting the World Wide Web Consortium's Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1 at Level A.

This includes but is not limited to:

- Tab based navigation and skip to links.
- Text resizing.
- Hyperlinks with description of information.
- Images with alternative text.
- Reduction in the use of tables to ensure screen readers are able to read correctly the data presented.
- Language translation services as per the WA Language Services Policy 2020.

The Department also produces print and online documents in line with disability access guidelines.

Work Health and Safety and Injury Management

The Department is committed to the health and safety of our workers, those who operate within the environment and all others who may be affected by the work we carry out. During 2023/24 the Department developed a comprehensive Health and Safety Policy outlining the key parties and their roles and responsibilities under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2020*. The Department's Health and Safety Commitment Statement and Work Health and Safety Training for Managers were updated to align with the policy.

The Corporate Executive Committee took part in a Work Health and Safety Due Diligence workshop to consolidate their understanding of their duties as Officers. Health and safety governance and reporting has been reviewed to reflect and address these due diligence requirements.

During 2023/24, there has been a focus on providing additional information and guidance to improve consultation with workers and health and safety representatives, including the development of a range of consultation guidance materials and tools. A Work Health and Safety Risk Management Procedure and supporting tools were also developed and published this year.

Workers' compensation

The Department remains committed to supporting workers injured at work, in line with medical advice. The Workers' Compensation and Injury Management team works in partnership with injured workers, local business areas, medical practitioners and external stakeholders to manage claims, and implement early intervention and supportive return to work practices. The Department works towards its objective of positive return to work outcomes through timely injury management and strategic claims management.

Measures	Results 2023/24	Results 2022/23	Results 2022/21	Targets	Comments about targets
Number of fatalities	0	0	0	0	N/A
Lost time injury and disease incidence rate ¹	8.9	7.4	7	0 or 10% reduction in incidence rate	Target not achieved
Lost time injury and severity rate ¹	63.7	64	50.5	0 or 10% reduction in severity rate	Target not achieved
Percentage and number of injured workers returned to work within 13 weeks	55%	63%	60%	No target	N/A
Percentage and number of injured workers returned to work within 26 weeks ²	75%	82%	72%	Greater than or equal to 80%	Target not achieved
Percentage of managers trained in occupational safety, health and injury management responsibilities, including refresher training within 3 years ³	75%	80%	61%	Greater than or equal to 80%	Target not achieved

- As defined by Public Sector Commissioner's Circular 2018-03 Code of Practice: Occupational Safety and Health in the Western Australian public sector.
- Number of incidents resulting in lost time per 100 full-time equivalent staff.
- Number of incidents resulting in lost time classified as severe per 100 incidents resulting in lost time.

Sources:

- Insurance Commission of Western Australia: RiskCover – Workers' Compensation Class – Occupational Safety, Health and Injury Management: Department of Justice as at 30 June 2024.
- Insurance Commission of Western Australia: Lost Time Injury Claims with an incident date during 2023/24 financial year, provided as at 30 June 2024.
- Insurance Commission of Western Australia Injury Management Reporting: Department of Justice as at 30 June 2024.
- Department of Justice Injury Management Consultant Caseload Reporting for the 2023/24 financial year.
- Department of Justice Record of Learning: Certifications Report (iLearn system) as at 30 June 2024.

During 2023/24, a number of critical and potentially traumatic events occurred, therefore the lost time injury and disease incidence rate, as well as the lost time injury severity rates, increased. The increased number and severity of injuries has resulted in a decrease in the percentage of injured workers who returned to work within the 13- and 26-week timeframes.

In response to these issues, the Department is reviewing and updating injury prevention strategies, and implementing a range of process improvements including prioritisation of high intervention injuries to support better return to work outcomes.

Additional communication and promotion will be undertaken to address the reduction in the percentage of managers trained in work health and safety and injury management responsibilities.

Board remuneration

Law Reform Commission of Western Australia

Position title	Member name	Type of remuneration*	Period of membership**	Term of appointment / tenure	Base salary/ sitting fees	Gross/actual remuneration for financial year***
Chair	Hon Carolyn (Lindy) Jenkins	Honorarium	1 year	Full-time	N/A	\$67,301.2
Member	Ms Jean Shaw	N/A*	6 months	Part-time	N/A	N/A
Member	Professor Meredith Blake	Honorarium	7.5 months	Part-time	N/A	\$30,614.08
Retired Member	Ms Kirsten Chivers	N/A*	5 months	Part-time	N/A	N/A
Retired	Dr Sarah Murray	Honorarium	4.5 months	Part-time	N/A	\$17,249.42
Total						\$115,164

* As Ms Chivers and Ms Jean are employed at the State Solicitor's Office (SSO) under the *Public Sector Management Act 1994* (WA), they are not remunerated separately for her membership of the Commission.

** Refers to board members' membership during the reporting period not their entire tenure on the Commission. Ms Chivers and Dr Murray retired from the Commission at the expiry of their terms in November 2023 and were replaced with Ms Jean and Professor Blake respectively. There was a one-month delay between Ms Chivers retiring and Ms Shaw being appointed.

*** On 14 November 2023, the Governor increased the remuneration received Commission members under section 9 of the *Law Reform Commission Act 1972* (WA). This has resulted in an increase in the total remuneration paid this financial year.

Legal Costs Committee

Position title	Member name	Type of remuneration*	Period of membership**	Term of appointment/ tenure***	Base salary to 3 Nov 2023	Base salary after 3 Nov 2023	Gross/actual remuneration for financial year
Chair	Matthew Curwood****	Annual	335 days	3 Year	\$15,350	\$37,353	\$7,293
Member	Craig McKie	Annual	1 year	3 Year	\$6,140	\$20,544	\$15,613
Member	Janice Dudley	Annual	1 year	3 Year	\$6,140	\$20,544	\$15,613
Member	Carolyn Meighan*****	Annual	201 days	3 Year	N/A	\$20,544	\$11,378
Member	Gregory Rickie	Annual	1 year	3 Year	\$6,140	\$20,544	\$15,613
Member	Annette Morgan	Annual	1 year	3 Year	\$6,140	\$20,544	\$15,613
Total					\$39,910	\$140,073	\$81,125

Gross figures are rounded.

* If applicable, include sessional payment per meeting, half day or annual.

** Refers to board members' membership during the reporting period not their entire tenure on the board or committee. Period of membership should correlate with the respective remuneration received.

*** Refers to term of appointment/tenure (if relevant) or appointment type, for example sessional/full time.

**** Mr Curwood was appointed a Judge of the District Court of Western Australia and therefore ineligible for remuneration from 12 December 2023 and vacated as Chair from 31 May 2024.

***** Appointed on 12 December 2023 until end of current term 31 December 2024.

Prisoners Review Board

Position title	Member name	Type of remuneration	Period of membership	Term of appointment / tenure	Base salary / Sitting fees	Gross/actual remuneration for financial year*
Chairperson - The Honourable Jeremy Curthoys		Salary**	From 7 January 2023	Part-time	\$373,703	\$373,703
Deputy Chairperson	A	Sessional	Entire Reporting period	Sessional	\$619	\$31,333
Deputy Chairperson	B	Sessional	Entire Reporting period	Sessional	\$619	\$55,098
Deputy Chairperson	C	Sessional	Entire Reporting period	Sessional	\$619	\$39,578
Deputy Chairperson	D	Sessional	Entire Reporting period	Sessional	\$619	\$27,329
Deputy Chairperson	E	Sessional	Entire Reporting period	Sessional	\$619	\$11,937
Deputy Chairperson	F	Sessional	From December 2023	Sessional	\$619	\$11,927
Deputy Chairperson	G	Sessional	Entire Reporting period	Sessional	\$619	\$18,736
Deputy Chairperson	H	Sessional	Entire Reporting period	Sessional	\$619	\$22,325
Deputy Chairperson	I	Sessional	Up to September 2023	Sessional	\$619	\$6,190
Member	A	Sessional	Entire Reporting period	Sessional	\$497	\$895
Member	B	Sessional	Entire Reporting period	Sessional	\$497	\$20,244
Member	C	Sessional	Entire Reporting period	Sessional	\$497	\$6,792
Member	D	Sessional	Entire Reporting period	Sessional	\$497	\$10,934
Member	E	Sessional	Entire Reporting period	Sessional	\$497	\$17,992
Member	F	Sessional	Entire Reporting period	Sessional	\$497	\$20,410
Member	G	Sessional	Entire Reporting period	Sessional	\$497	\$13,716
Member	H	Sessional	Entire Reporting period	Sessional	\$497	\$39,261
Member	I	Sessional	Up to September 2023	Sessional	\$497	\$497
Member	J	Sessional	From April 2024	Sessional	\$497	\$2,558
Member	K	Sessional	From April 2024	Sessional	\$497	\$4,049
Member	L	Sessional	Entire Reporting period	Sessional	\$497	\$24,650
Member	M	Sessional	From April 2024	Sessional	\$497	\$3,380
Member	N	Sessional	Entire Reporting period	Sessional	\$497	\$20,973
Member	O	Sessional	Entire Reporting period	Sessional	\$497	\$18,124
Member	P	Sessional	Entire Reporting period	Sessional	\$497	\$34,059
Member	Q	Sessional	From April 2024	Sessional	\$497	\$3,850
Member	R	Sessional	From April 2024	Sessional	\$497	\$3,055
Member	S	Sessional	Entire Reporting period	Sessional	\$497	\$29,620
Member	T	Sessional	Entire Reporting period	Sessional	\$497	\$8,250
Member	U	Sessional	Entire Reporting period	Sessional	\$497	\$36,512
Member	V	Sessional	From April 2024	Sessional	\$497	\$5,043
Member	W	Sessional	Entire Reporting period	Sessional	\$497	\$25,247
Member	X	Sessional	Entire Reporting period	Sessional	\$497	\$5,533
Member	Y	Sessional	From April 2024	Sessional	\$497	\$4,347
Member	Z	Sessional	Up to March 2024	Sessional	\$497	\$14,114
Member Corrective Services	AA	Nil	Entire Reporting period	N/A	\$0	\$0
Member Corrective Services	AB	Nil	Entire Reporting period	N/A	\$0	\$0
Member Corrective Services	AC	Nil	Entire Reporting period	N/A	\$0	\$0
Member Corrective Services	AD	Nil	Entire Reporting period	N/A	\$0	\$0
Member Corrective Services	AE	Nil	Entire reporting period	N/A	\$0	\$0
Member WA Police	AF	Nil	Entire Reporting period	N/A	\$0	\$0
Member WA Police	AG	Nil	Entire Reporting period	N/A	\$0	\$0
Member WA Police	AH	Nil	Entire Reporting period	N/A	\$0	\$0
Member WA Police	AI	Nil	Entire Reporting period	N/A	\$0	\$0
Member WA Police	AJ	Nil	Entire Reporting period	N/A	\$0	\$0
Member WA Police	AK	Nil	Entire Reporting period	N/A	\$0	\$0
Member WA Police	AL	Nil	From September 2023	N/A	\$0	\$0
Member WA Police	AM	Nil	From September 2023	N/A	\$0	\$0
Total						\$972,261

* Includes rates paid for attendance at training and professional development sessions and payments at an hourly rate applied to unscheduled meetings of the board where a quorum is required at short notice in relation to a single prisoner and where the matter cannot wait until the next sitting of the board.

** The Chairperson's salary reflects their appointment to the PRB at 0.8FTE and SRRB at 0.2FTE. Under the now repealed legislation, the Chairperson of the MIARB was the Chairperson of the PRB and therefore no salary for the MIARB Chairperson is indicated.

Mentally Impaired Accused Review Board

Position title	Member name	Type of remuneration	Period of membership	Term of appointment / tenure	Base salary / Sitting fees	Gross/actual remuneration for financial year
Chairperson - The Honourable Jeremy Curthoys		Salary*	Entire reporting period	Part-time	\$0	\$0
Deputy Chairperson	A	Sessional Payment	Entire reporting period	Sessional	\$619	\$6356
Member	A	Sessional Payment	Entire reporting period	Sessional	\$497	\$6958
Member	B	Sessional Payment	Entire reporting period	Sessional	\$497	\$9905
Member	C	Sessional Payment	Entire reporting period	Sessional	\$66	\$330
Member	D	Sessional Payment	Entire reporting period	Sessional	\$497	\$994
Member	E	Sessional Payment	Entire reporting period	Sessional	\$497	\$9541
Member	G	Sessional Payment	Entire reporting period	Sessional	\$497	\$1,988
Member Dept of Communities	A	Nil	Entire reporting period	N/A	\$0	\$0
Total						\$36,072

* The Chairperson of the Mentally Impaired Accused Review Board is remunerated as the Chairperson of the Prisoners Review Board appointed under section 103(1)(a) of the *Sentence Administration Act 2003*.

Supervised Release Review Board

Position title	Member name	Type of remuneration	Period of membership	Term of appointment / tenure	Base salary / Sitting fees	Gross/actual remuneration for financial year
Chairperson - The Honourable Jeremy Curthoys					\$93,426	\$93,426
Deputy Chairperson	A	Sessional Payment*	Entire reporting period	Sessional	\$628	\$27,108
Deputy Chairperson	B	Sessional Payment*	Entire reporting period	Sessional	\$628	\$3,853
Member	A	Sessional Payment*	Entire reporting period	Sessional	\$202	\$1,412
Member	B	Sessional Payment*	Entire reporting period	Sessional	\$504	\$13,608
Member	C	Sessional Payment*	Entire reporting period	Sessional	\$504	\$23,050
Member	D	Sessional Payment*	Entire reporting period	Sessional	\$504	\$20,900
Member	E	Sessional Payment*	Entire reporting period	Sessional	\$504	\$7,828
Member Youth Justice Services	F	Nil	Entire reporting period	N/A	\$0	\$0
Member Youth Justice Services	G	Nil	Entire reporting period	N/A	\$0	\$0
Member of WA Police	H	Nil	Entire reporting period	N/A	\$0	\$0
Member of WA Police	I	Nil	Entire reporting period	N/A	\$0	\$0
Total						\$191,185

* Including payments at an hourly rate applied to unscheduled meetings of the board where a quorum is required at short notice in relation to a single young offender and where the matter cannot wait until the next sitting of the board.

Gender Reassignment Board

Position title	Member name	Type of remuneration	Period of membership	Term of appointment / tenure +	Fee for a full day	Fee for a part day
President	Mr Curtis Martyn Ward	Consolidated Account	31/10/2023	31/10/2028	\$732	\$476
President	Mr Grantham Kitto	Consolidated Account	20/12/2022	Resigned as President 3/10/2023	\$450	\$300
Member	Dr Lauren Megaw	Consolidated Account	20/08/2013	31/12/2024	\$476	\$309
Member	Ms Esther Waschk #	Consolidated Account	06/08/2019	31/12/2024	\$476	\$309
Member	Dr Kymberley Wilson	Consolidated Account	01/01/2002	31/12/2024	\$476	\$309
Member	Ms Fiona Margaret Hugo	Consolidated Account	01/01/2022	31/12/2024	\$476	\$309

+ The board commenced on 12 April 2000. The Act states the president can be appointed for up to five years and members up to three years. President and members may be reappointed.

Public Sector worker – full time.

The Board was only administratively supported by the State Administrative Tribunal from 2009.

Effective 3 November 2023 the remuneration rates for the Board increased. For the President, the fee was \$450 for a full day, and \$300 for a part day. For Members, the fee was \$300 for a full day and \$200 for a part day. Due to Mr Kitto resigning prior to the effective date, the remuneration rate reflects the previous amounts.

Acts Administered by the Department

Attorney General

Acts Amendment (Equality of Status) Act 2003
Acts Amendment and Repeal (Courts and Legal Practice) Act 2003
Administration Act 1903
Age of Majority Act 1972
Anglican Church of Australia (Diocesan Trustees) Act 1888
Anglican Church of Australia (Diocese of North West Australia) Act 1961
Anglican Church of Australia (Swanleigh land and endowments) Act 1979
Anglican Church of Australia Act 1976
Anglican Church of Australia Constitution Act 1960
Anglican Church of Australia Lands Act 1914
Artificial Conception Act 1985
Australia Acts (Request) Act 1985
Bail Act 1982
Bail Amendment Act 2008
Baptist Union of Western Australia Lands Act 1941
Bills of Exchange (day for payment) (1836) (Imp)
Bills of exchange (non-payment) (1832) (Imp)
Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 1998
Charitable Trusts Act 2022
Child Support (Commonwealth Powers) Act 2019
Children's Court of Western Australia Act 1988
Choice of Law (Limitation Periods) Act 1994
Civil Judgments Enforcement Act 2004
Civil Liability Act 2002
Civil Procedure (Representative Proceedings) Act 2022
Civil Procedure Act 1833 (Imp)
Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Enforcement Act 1996
Commercial Arbitration Act 2012
Commissioner for Children and Young People Act 2006
Commonwealth Places (Administration of Laws) Act 1970
Commonwealth Powers (De Facto Relationships) Act 2006
Companies (Administration) Act 1982
Constitutional Powers (Coastal Waters) Act 1979
Co-operative Schemes (Administrative Actions) Act 2001

Coroners Act 1996
Corporations (Administrative Actions) Act 2001
Corporations (Ancillary Provisions) Act 2001
Corporations (Commonwealth Powers) Act 2001
Corporations (Consequential Amendments) Act (No. 3) 2003
Corporations (Taxing) Act 1990
Corporations (Western Australia) Act 1990
Corruption and Crime Commission Amendment and Repeal Act 2003
Corruption, Crime and Misconduct Act 2003 (except Part 4A, which is administered by the Minister for Public Sector Management principally assisted by the Public Sector Commission)
Courts and Tribunals (Electronic Processes Facilitation) Act 2013
Crimes at Sea Act 2000
Criminal Appeals Act 2004
Criminal Code Act Compilation Act 1913
Criminal Injuries Compensation Act 2003
Criminal Investigation (Extra-territorial Offences) Act 1987
Criminal Law (Mental Impairment) Act 2023
Criminal Law (Mentally Impaired Accused) Act 1996
Criminal Law (Unlawful Consorting and Prohibited Insignia) Act 2021
Criminal Organisations Control Act 2012
Criminal Procedure Act 2004
Criminal Property Confiscation (Consequential Provisions) Act 2000
Criminal Property Confiscation Act 2000
Cross-border Justice Act 2008
Crown Suits Act 1947
Debts Recovery Act 1830 (Imp)
Debts Recovery Act 1839 (Imp)
Defamation Act 2005
Director of Public Prosecutions Act 1991
District Court of Western Australia Act 1969
Domestic Violence Orders (National Recognition) Act 2017
Domicile Act 1981
Electronic Transactions Act 2011
Equal Opportunity Act 1984 (except Part IX, which is administered by the Minister for Public Sector Management

principally assisted by the Office of Director of Equal Opportunity in Public Employment)
Escheat (Procedure) Act 1940
Evidence Act 1906
Executors Act 1830 (Imp)
Factors (1823) (Imp)
Factors (1825) (Imp)
Factors (1842) (Imp)
Factors Acts Amendment Act 1878
Family Court (Orders of Registrars) Act 1997
Family Court Act 1997
Family Legislation Amendment Act 2006
Family Provision Act 1972
Fatal Accidents Act 1959
Federal Courts (State Jurisdiction) Act 1999
Financial Transaction Reports Act 1995
Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Enforcement Act 1994
Freedom of Information Act 1992
Freemasons' Property Act 1956
Gender Reassignment Act 2000
Guardianship and Administration Act 1990
High Risk Serious Offenders Act 2020 (except Part 3, sections 30-33 & 51, Part 4 Division 6, section 67 & Part 7, which are administered by the Minister for Corrective Services principally assisted by the Department of Justice)
Highways (Liability for Straying Animals) Act 1983
Historical Homosexual Convictions Expungement Act 2018
Imperial Act Adopting Ordinance 1847
Imperial Acts Adopting Act 1836
Imperial Acts Adopting Act 1844
Imperial Acts Adopting Ordinance 1849
Imperial Acts Adopting Ordinance 1867
Infants' Property Act 1830 (Imp)
Interpretation Act 1984
Judges' Retirement Act 1937
Judgments Act 1839 (Imp)
Judgments Act 1855 (Imp)
Juries Act 1957
Jurisdiction of Courts (Cross-vesting) Act 1987
Justices of the Peace Act 2004
Law Reform (Contributory Negligence and Tortfeasors' Contribution) Act 1947
Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1941
Law Reform (Statute of Frauds) Act 1962
Law Reform Commission Act 1972

Law Reporting Act 1981
Legal Aid Commission Act 1976
Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Act 2022
Legal Representation of Infants Act 1977
Legislation Act 2021
Limitation Act 1935
Limitation Act 2005
Magistrates Court (Civil Proceedings) Act 2004
Magistrates Court Act 2004
Mercantile Law Amendment Act 1856 (Imp)
National Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse (Commonwealth Powers) Act 2018
Native Title (State Provisions) Act 1999
Oaths, Affidavits and Statutory Declarations Act 2005
Occupiers' Liability Act 1985
Offenders (Legal Action) Act 2000
Official Prosecutions (Accused's Costs) Act 1973
Off-shore (Application of Laws) Act 1982
Parole Orders (Transfer) Act 1984
Partnership Act 1895
Perth Anglican Church of Australia Collegiate School Act 1885
Perth Diocesan Trustees (Special Fund) Act 1944
Perth Hebrew Congregation Lands Act 1921
Presbyterian Church Act 1908
Presbyterian Church Act 1976
Presbyterian Church Act Amendment Act 1919
Presbyterian Church Act Amendment Act 1924
Presbyterian Church of Australia Act 1901
Presbyterian Church of Australia Act 1970
Prescription Act 1832 (Imp)
Prisoners (Release for Deportation) Act 1989
Professional Standards Act 1997
Prohibited Behaviour Orders Act 2010
Property Law Act 1969
Prostitution Act 2000 (s. 62 & Part 5 only; remainder of Act administered by the Minister for Health principally assisted by the Department of Health)
Prostitution Amendment Act 2008
Public Notaries Act 1979
Public Trustee Act 1941
Restraining Orders Act 1997
Restraint of Debtors Act 1984
Roman Catholic Bishop of Broome Property Act 1957
Roman Catholic Bunbury Church Property Act 1955

Roman Catholic Church Lands Act 1895
 Roman Catholic Church Lands Amendment Act 1902
 Roman Catholic Church Lands Ordinance 1858
 Roman Catholic Church Property Act 1911
 Roman Catholic Church Property Act Amendment Act 1912
 Roman Catholic Church Property Acts Amendment Act 1916
 Roman Catholic Geraldton Church Property Act 1925
 Royal Commission (Police) Act 2002
 Sea-Carriage Documents Act 1997
 Sentence Administration Act 2003 (Part 2 Divisions 1, 3 & 4, Parts 3 & 4, Part 5 Division 4, Part 9, sections 114, 115, 115A, 119 & 122, Schedule 1 & 2 only; remainder of Act administered by the Minister for Corrective Services principally assisted by the Department of Justice)
 Sentencing (Consequential Provisions) Act 1995
 Sentencing Act 1995 (except Part 3 Divisions 3 & 5, Parts 3A, 9, 10, 11 & 12 & Part 18 Divisions 2, 3 & 4 which are administered by the Minister for Corrective Services principally assisted by the Department of Justice)
 Sentencing Legislation Amendment and Repeal Act 2003
 Solicitor-General Act 1969
 Spent Convictions Act 1988
 State Administrative Tribunal (Conferral of Jurisdiction) Amendment and Repeal Act 2004
 State Administrative Tribunal Act 2004
 Statute of Frauds (1677) (Imp)
 Statutory Corporations (Liability of Directors) Act 1996
 Suitors' Fund Act 1964
 Supreme Court Act 1935
 The Salvation Army (Western Australia) Property Trust Act 1931
 Titles (Validation) and Native Title (Effect of Past Acts) Act 1995
 Trustee Companies Act 1987
 Trustees Act 1962
 Trustees of Western Australia Limited (Transfer of Business) Act 2003
 Unauthorised Documents Act 1961
 Uniting Church in Australia Act 1976
 Vexatious Proceedings Restriction Act 2002
 Victims of Crime Act 1994
 Warehousemen's Liens Act 1952
 Warrants for Goods Indorsement Act 1898
 West Australian Trustees Limited (Merger) Act 1989
 Wills Act 1970
 Yallingup Foreshore Land Act 2006

Minister for Corrective Services

Court Security and Custodial Services Act 1999
 High Risk Serious Offenders Act 2020 (Part 3, sections 30-33 & 51, Part 4 Division 6, section 67 & Part 7 only; remainder of Act administered by the Attorney General principally assisted by the Department of Justice)
 Inspector of Custodial Services Act 2003
 Prisoners (International Transfer) Act 2000
 Prisoners (Interstate Transfer) Act 1983
 Prisons Act 1981
 Sentence Administration (Interstate Transfer of Community Based Sentences) Act 2009
 Sentence Administration Act 2003 (Part 1, Part 2 Division 2, Part 5 Divisions 1-3, Part 6, 7 & 8, Part 10 (except section 114 & 115A) only, remainder of Act administered by the Attorney General principally assisted by the Department of Justice)
 Sentencing Act 1995 (Part 3 Divisions 3 & 5, Part 3A, 9, 10, 11 & 12 & Part 18 Divisions 2, 3 & 4 only; remainder of Act administered by the Attorney General principally assisted by the Department of Justice)
 Young Offenders Act 1994

Independent Auditor's Report



Auditor General

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

2024

Department of Justice

To the Parliament of Western Australia

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

I have audited the financial statements of the Department of Justice (Department) which comprise:

- the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended
- administered schedules comprising the administered assets and liabilities as at 30 June 2024 and administered income and expenses by service 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 Department of Justice for the year ended 30 June 2024 and the financial position as at the end of that period
- in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, 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 Director General for the financial statements

The Director General is responsible for:

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

In preparing the financial statements, the Director General 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 Department.

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 Department of Justice. The controls exercised by the Department of Justice 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 Department of Justice 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 2024, and the controls were implemented as designed as at 30 June 2024.

The Director General's responsibilities

The Director General 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 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 Department of Justice for the year ended 30 June 2024 reported in accordance with *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 Department of Justice for the year ended 30 June 2024 is in accordance with the legislative requirements, and the key performance indicators are relevant and appropriate to assist users to assess the Department's performance and fairly represent indicated performance for the year ended 30 June 2024.

The Director General's responsibilities for the key performance indicators

The Director General 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 Director General determines necessary to enable the preparation of key performance indicators that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the key performance indicators, the Director General is responsible for identifying key performance indicators that are relevant and appropriate, having regard to their purpose in accordance with Treasurer's Instruction 904 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 entity'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 ASAE 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 904 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 Director General is responsible for the other information. The other information is the information in the entity's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2024, 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.

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 Department of Justice for the year ended 30 June 2024 included in the annual report on the Department's website. The Department's management is responsible for the integrity of the Department's website. This audit does not provide assurance on the integrity of the Department'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 entity to confirm the information contained in the website version.



Sandra Labuschagne
Deputy Auditor General
Delegate of the Auditor General for Western Australia
Perth, Western Australia
17 September 2024

Certification of Financial Statements

For the reporting period ended 30 June 2024

The accompanying financial statements of the Department of Justice 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 2024 and the financial position as at 30 June 2024.

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.



Rodolfo Montilva
A/Chief Finance Officer

12 September 2024



Joanne Stampalia
A/Accountable Authority

12 September 2024

Primary financial statements

Statement of comprehensive income

For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Notes	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Cost of Services			
Expenses			
Employee benefits expenses	3.1(a)	943,232	902,839
Supplies and services	3.3	527,884	465,307
Depreciation and amortisation expense	5.1.1, 5.2.1, 5.3	92,972	83,064
Finance costs	7.3	49,679	44,749
National Redress Scheme	3.2(a)	53,148	31,568
Grants and subsidies	3.2(b)	231,549	214,972
Accommodation expenses	3.4	55,963	56,818
Prisoner gratuities	3.5	15,747	13,594
Cost of sales	4.3	18,838	15,658
Other expenditure	3.6	167,353	156,632
Total cost of services		2,156,365	1,985,201
Income			
User changes and fees	4.2	118,606	122,156
Sale of goods	4.3	19,876	17,021
Commonwealth grants	4.4	88,571	84,242
Other income	4.5	25,496	15,118
Total income		252,549	238,537
Net cost of services		1,903,816	1,746,664
Income from State Government			
Service appropriation	4.1	1,749,347	1,603,806
Income from other public sector entities	4.1	56,258	54,693
Services received	4.1	31,242	29,664
Royalties for Regions Fund	4.1	11,676	10,455
Total income from State Government		1,848,523	1,698,618
Surplus/(deficit) for the period		(55,293)	(48,046)
Other comprehensive income			
Items not reclassified subsequently to profit or loss			
Changes in asset revaluation surplus	9.10	138,910	194,426
Total other comprehensive income		138,910	194,426
Total comprehensive income for the period		83,617	146,380

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

Statement of financial position

As at 30 June 2024

	Notes	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	7.4.1	9,191	33,268
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	7.4.1	3,476	3,469
Inventories	4.3	5,401	5,075
Receivables	6.1	24,801	24,407
Amounts receivable for services	6.2	11,852	11,625
Other current assets	6.3	9,540	2,683
Biological assets	6.4	1,958	2,972
Total Current Assets		66,219	83,499
Non-Current Assets			
Receivables	6.1	19,149	19,149
Amounts receivable for services	6.2	772,110	701,026
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	5.1	2,462,631	2,328,339
Intangible assets	5.2	5,596	6,310
Right-of-use assets	5.3	401,944	397,909
Total Non-Current Assets		3,661,430	3,452,733
Total Assets		3,727,649	3,536,232
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Payables	6.5	105,389	112,711
Lease liabilities	7.1	34,685	31,665
Employee related provisions	3.1(b)	190,980	182,287
National Redress Scheme provision	6.6	109,000	75,200
Remediation provision	6.6	2,413	1,038
Total Current Liabilities		442,467	402,901
Non-Current Liabilities			
Lease liabilities	7.1	341,822	347,470
Employee related provisions	3.1(b)	28,934	33,028
National Redress Scheme provision	6.6	379,000	390,800
Total Non-Current Liabilities		749,756	771,298
Total liabilities		1,192,223	1,174,199
Net assets		2,535,426	2,362,033
Equity			
Contributed equity	9.10	2,709,975	2,620,199
Revaluation reserves	9.10	464,758	325,848
Accumulated surplus/(deficit)	9.10	(639,307)	(584,014)
Total Equity		2,535,426	2,362,033

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

Statement of changes in equity

	Note	Contributed equity	Revaluation reserves	Accumulated surplus/(deficit)	Total equity
	9.10	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)
Balance at 1 July 2022		2,515,131	131,422	(535,968)	2,110,585
Surplus/(deficit)		-	-	(48,046)	(48,046)
Other comprehensive income		-	194,426	-	194,426
Total comprehensive income for the period		-	194,426	(48,046)	146,380
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Capital appropriations		95,036	-	-	95,036
Other contributions by owners		7,096	-	-	7,096
Special purpose account funding		2,936	-	-	2,936
Total		105,068	-	-	105,068
Balance at 30 June 2023		2,620,199	325,848	(584,014)	2,362,033
Balance at 1 July 2023		2,620,199	325,848	(584,014)	2,362,033
Surplus/(deficit)		-	-	(55,293)	(55,293)
Other comprehensive income		-	138,910	-	138,910
Total comprehensive income for the period		-	138,910	(55,293)	83,617
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Capital appropriations		80,772	-	-	80,772
Special purpose account funding		2,298	-	-	2,298
Other contributions by owners		6,706	-	-	6,706
Total		89,776	-	-	89,776
Balance at 30 June 2024		2,709,975	464,758	(639,307)	2,535,426

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

Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 30 June 2024

Primary financial statements

	Notes	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Cash flows from State Government			
Service appropriation		1,666,638	1,524,500
Funds from other public sector entities		56,258	54,693
Capital appropriations		88,770	97,972
Holding account drawdown		11,398	11,625
Royalties for Regions Fund		11,676	12,825
Net cash provided by State Government		1,834,740	1,701,615
Utilised as follows:			
Cash flows from operating activities			
Payments			
Employee benefits		(952,990)	(867,976)
Supplies and services		(513,729)	(451,101)
Finance costs		(34,296)	(33,159)
Accommodation		(51,152)	(52,008)
National Redress Scheme		(46,530)	(49,757)
Grants and subsidies		(229,299)	(214,973)
GST payments on purchases		(86,149)	(76,130)
GST payments to taxation authority		(1,278)	(3,769)
Other payments		(168,338)	(155,453)
Receipts			
Sales of goods and services		1,972	1,660
User charges and fees		118,658	121,348
Commonwealth grants		83,761	79,431
GST receipts on sales		4,057	4,182
GST receipts from taxation authority		83,301	75,131
Other receipts		27,318	17,734
Net cash provided by/ (used in) operating activities	7.4.2	(1,764,694)	(1,604,840)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments			
Purchase of non-current physical assets		(54,854)	(55,310)
Receipts			
Proceeds from sale of non-current physical assets		3	5
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities		(54,851)	(55,305)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Payments			
Principal elements of lease payments		(39,265)	(35,480)
Payment to accrued salaries account		-	(3,252)
Net cash provided by / (used in) financing activities		(39,265)	(38,732)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(24,070)	2,738
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		36,737	33,999
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	7.4.1	12,667	36,737

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

Administered financial information

Administered schedules
Administered income and expenses by service

	Court and Tribunal Services		Services to Government		General – Not attributed		Total	
	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
INCOME FROM ADMINISTERED ITEMS								
Income								
Judicial fines and penalties	35,441	36,474	-	-	-	-	35,441	36,474
Infringement penalties	7,206	8,324	-	-	-	-	7,206	8,324
Revenue for transfer - other Government agencies	-	-	21,403	20,184	-	-	21,403	20,184
Criminal property confiscations	-	-	19,690	28,488	-	-	19,690	28,488
Law Library Fund	-	-	-	-	600	600	600	600
Other	7	19	-	-	141	297	148	316
Total administered income	42,654	44,817	41,093	48,672	741	897	84,488	94,386
Expenses								
Transfer payments ^(a)	42,641	44,798	-	-	-	-	42,641	44,798
Criminal property confiscations – grant payments ^(b)	-	-	19,878	18,559	-	-	19,878	18,559
Law Library Fund payments	-	-	-	-	600	600	600	600
Payment to Road Trauma Trust Account	-	-	21,403	20,184	-	-	21,403	20,184
Allowance for impairment of receivables - Fines Enforcement Registry	39,713	11,185	-	-	-	-	39,713	11,185
Other	3	15	-	-	126	269	129	284
Total administered expenses	82,357	55,998	41,281	38,743	726	869	124,364	95,610

^(a) Transfer payments represent the transfer of non-retainable regulatory fees to the Consolidated Account.

^(b) Criminal property confiscations grant payments - included in the above Administered income and expenses by services is an amount of \$2,307,227 (2023: \$4,946,511) related to movement of accrued liability in relation to bonus payment.

Revenue is recognised on the income statement in the period when it is realised and earned, irrespective of when cash is received. The revenue generating activity must be fully or substantially completed.

Administered assets and liabilities

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents		
Departmental receipts in suspense	416	395
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		
Law Library	2	2
Confiscation Proceeds Account ^(a)	48,049	50,877
Receivables ^(b)		
Fines Enforcement Registry	205,356	208,343
Less: Allowance for impairment of receivables	(129,651)	(89,937)
Total administered current assets	124,172	169,680
TOTAL ADMINISTERED ASSETS	124,172	169,680
Liabilities		
Accrued expenses – Bonus Payment to Office of the Public Prosecutions (ODPP)	2,307	4,947
Total administered current liabilities	2,307	4,947
TOTAL ADMINISTERED LIABILITIES	2,307	4,947

(a) This includes the amount set aside for ODPP bonus payment.

- (b) Administered assets are not controlled by the Department but are administered on behalf of the Government. These assets included receivables in relation to:
- District and Supreme Court fines and costs and those which are referred to the Fines Enforcement Registry (FER) for action and are outstanding as at 30 June 2024; and
 - Magistrates Courts criminal fines, which are outstanding in each Court and have not been referred to the FER as at 30 June 2024.

Notes to the financial statements**1. Basis of preparation**

The Department is a WA Government not-for-profit entity controlled by the State of Western Australia, which is the ultimate parent. The Department is a not-for-profit entity (as profit is not its principal objective).

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 Department on 12 September 2024.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements constitute general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the Framework, Statement of Accounting Concepts and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board as applied by Treasurer's instructions. Several of these are modified by Treasurer's instructions to vary application, disclosure, format and wording.

The Act and Treasurer's instructions are legislative provisions governing the preparation of financial statements and take precedence over Australian Accounting Standards, the Framework, Statement of Accounting Concepts and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board. Where modification is required and has had a material or significant financial effect upon 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 thousand dollars (\$'000).

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.

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:

- amount of GST incurred by the Department 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
- receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included.

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

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, to be designated as contributions by owners (at the time of, or prior to, transfer) before such transfers can be recognised as equity contributions. Capital appropriations have been designated as contributions by owners by TI 955 *Contributions by Owners made to Wholly Owned Public Sector Entities* and will be credited directly to Contributed Equity.

Administered items

The Department administers, but does not control, certain activities and functions for and on behalf of the Western Australian Government that do not contribute to the Department's services or objectives. It does not have discretion over how it utilises the transactions in pursuing its own objectives.

Transactions relating to the administered activities are not recognised as the Department's income, expenses, assets and liabilities, but are disclosed in the accompanying schedules as 'Administered income and expenses', and 'Administered assets and liabilities'.

The accrual basis of accounting and applicable Australian Accounting Standards has been adopted.

2. Department outputs**How the Department operates**

This section includes information regarding the nature of funding the Department receives and how this funding is utilised to achieve the Department's objectives.

This note also provides the distinction between controlled funding and administered funding:

Notes

Department objectives	2.1
Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service	2.2
Schedule of Assets and Liabilities by Service	2.3

2.1 Department objectives**Mission**

The Department's mission is for a fair, just, and safe community for all Western Australians. The Department supports the community, Western Australian Government, Judiciary, and State Parliament through the provision of access to high-quality justice, legal and corrective services, information, and products.

The Department is predominately funded by State parliamentary appropriations. The financial statements encompass all funds through which the Department controls resources to carry on its functions.

Services

The Department has a diverse range of services, which have the potential to affect all Western Australians. These include:

Justice Services

- court and tribunal services
- custodial services
- corrections services
- offender management and community safety
- victims support

Services to the Community

- advocacy, guardianship, and administration services
- trustee services
- birth, death, and marriage services
- provision of information and services on equal opportunity

Services to Government

- policy advice
- legal advice and representation
- legislative drafting and related services

2.2 Schedule of income and expenses by service
For the year ended 30 June 2024

Notes to the financial statements

	Court and Tribunal Services		Trustee Services		Equal Opportunity Commission Services		Births, Deaths and Marriages		Advocacy, Guardianship and Administration Services		National Redress Scheme	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)
Cost of Services												
Expenses												
Employee benefits expense	207,406	192,243	22,834	21,146	2,626	2,732	5,549	5,351	11,397	10,817	845	1,114
Supplies and services	123,616	123,919	4,402	3,769	310	362	1,333	1,181	1,232	1,109	363	238
Depreciation and amortisation expense	22,217	21,601	1,376	349	3	9	761	583	48	38	1	1
Finance costs	14,220	13,582	503	1	-	-	2	-	3	1	15,382	11,590
National Redress Scheme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	53,148	31,568
Grants and subsidies	89,639	83,858	109	145	10	14	32	37	49	57	283	24
Accommodation expenses	33,680	33,708	770	2,552	353	-	1,794	1,768	1,446	1,426	30	29
Prisoner gratuities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of Sales	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other expenditure	27,966	25,319	1,040	1,197	53	95	291	271	291	319	11	11
Total cost of services	518,744	494,230	31,034	29,159	3,355	3,212	9,762	9,191	14,466	13,767	70,063	44,575
Income												
User charges and fees	88,864	86,264	20,267	26,871	99	58	9,264	8,963	-	-	-	-
Sales	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Commonwealth grants	22,840	21,351	-	-	4	45	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other income	3,627	2,479	10,716	2,318	3	2	64	8	-	5	-	-
Total income	115,331	110,094	30,983	29,189	106	105	9,328	8,971	14,466	13,762	70,063	44,575
Net Cost of Services	403,413	384,136	51	(30)	3,249	3,107	434	220	14,466	13,762	70,063	44,575
Income from State Government												
Service appropriations	376,942	350,277	633	548	3,507	3,394	745	572	17,793	14,769	-	-
Income from other public sector entities	5,819	3,782	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46,780	50,916
Services received	9,287	27,750	-	-	151	152	-	-	169	-	-	-
Royalties for Regions Fund	773	1,625	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total income from State Government	392,821	383,434	633	548	3,658	3,546	745	572	17,962	14,769	46,780	50,916
Surplus/(Deficit) for the period	(10,592)	(702)	582	578	409	439	311	352	3,496	1,007	(23,283)	6,341

The Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

2.2 Schedule of income and expenses by service (cont)
 For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Legal Assistance		Services to Government		Adult Corrective Services		Youth Justice Services		Total	
	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Cost of Services										
Expenses										
Employee benefits expense	1,502	893	22,766	17,010	576,708	572,441	91,599	79,092	943,232	902,839
Supplies and services	19,856	17,371	9,372	5,509	329,602	286,859	37,798	24,990	527,884	485,307
Depreciation and amortisation expense	-	-	300	260	65,886	58,014	2,380	2,209	92,972	83,064
Finance costs	-	-	30	21	19,352	19,431	187	123	49,679	44,749
National Redress Scheme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	53,148	31,568
Grants and subsidies	135,036	124,863	3,011	1,292	2,946	4,247	434	435	231,549	214,972
Accommodation expenses	386	381	2,451	2,411	11,248	10,917	3,805	3,626	55,963	56,818
Prisoner gratuities	-	-	-	-	15,599	13,448	148	146	15,747	13,594
Cost of Sales	-	-	-	-	18,780	15,603	58	55	18,838	15,658
Other expenditure	14	32	1,023	715	118,739	111,694	17,925	16,979	167,353	156,632
Total cost of services	156,794	143,540	38,953	27,218	1,158,860	1,092,654	154,334	127,655	2,156,365	1,985,201
Income										
User charges and fees	-	-	-	-	87	-	25	-	118,606	122,156
Sales	-	-	-	-	19,817	16,967	59	54	19,876	17,021
Commonwealth grants	64,918	61,316	100	-	676	1,463	33	67	88,571	84,242
Other income	4	-	661	636	9,430	9,221	991	449	25,496	15,118
Total Income	64,922	61,316	761	636	30,010	27,651	1,108	570	252,549	238,537
Net Cost of Services	91,872	82,224	38,192	26,582	1,128,850	1,065,003	153,226	127,085	1,903,816	1,746,664
Income from State Government										
Service appropriations	88,975	81,347	37,256	26,347	1,070,311	1,013,944	153,185	112,608	1,749,347	1,603,806
Income from other public sector entities	3,243	-	-	(5)	369	-	47	-	56,258	54,693
Services received	-	-	1,181	-	20,454	1,762	-	-	31,242	29,664
Royalties for Regions Fund	-	-	1,539	2,265	3,194	182	6,170	6,383	11,676	10,455
Total income from State Government	92,218	81,347	39,976	28,607	1,094,328	1,015,888	159,402	118,991	1,848,523	1,698,618
Surplus/(Deficit) for the period	346	(877)	1,784	2,025	(34,522)	(49,115)	6,176	(8,094)	(55,293)	(48,046)

Notes to the financial statements

2.3 Schedule of assets and liabilities by service
 As at 30 June 2024

	Court and Tribunal Services		Trustee Services		Equal Opportunity Commission Services		Births, Deaths and Marriages		Advocacy, Guardianship and Administration Services	
	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Assets										
Current assets	23,960	55,110	1,217	1,544	6	18	110	138	8	109
Non-current assets	849,797	1,084,788	10,631	1,507	184	46	2,123	2,621	23	28
Total assets	873,757	1,139,898	11,848	3,051	190	64	2,233	2,759	31	137
Liabilities										
Current liabilities	112,075	104,540	6,207	4,789	705	569	1,009	966	2,403	2,334
Non-current liabilities	155,356	167,889	9,201	669	80	84	102	140	293	305
Total liabilities	267,431	272,429	15,408	5,458	785	653	1,111	1,106	2,696	2,639
NET ASSETS	606,326	867,469	(3,560)	(2,407)	(595)	(589)	1,122	1,653	(2,665)	(2,502)

The Schedule of Assets and Liabilities by Service should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

2.3 Schedule of assets and liabilities by service (cont)

	Services to Government		Adult Corrective Services		Youth Justice Services		National Redress Scheme		TOTAL	
	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Assets										
Current assets	-	-	36,325	23,926	4,593	2,654	-	-	66,219	83,499
Non-current assets	20	32	2,506,233	2,112,563	292,419	251,148	-	-	3,661,430	3,452,733
Total assets	20	32	2,542,558	2,136,489	297,012	253,802	-	-	3,727,649	3,536,232
Liabilities										
Current liabilities	1,764	1,590	174,039	179,183	35,265	33,730	109,000	75,200	442,467	402,901
Non-current liabilities	237	280	182,693	187,590	22,794	23,541	379,000	390,800	749,756	771,298
Total liabilities	2,001	1,870	356,732	366,773	58,059	57,271	488,000	466,000	1,192,223	1,174,199
NET ASSETS	(1,981)	(1,838)	2,185,826	1,769,716	238,953	196,531	(488,000)	(466,000)	2,535,426	2,362,033

The service for Legal Assistance does not have asset and liabilities.

The Schedule of Assets and Liabilities by Service should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

3. Use of our funding

Expenses incurred in the delivery of services

This section provides additional information about how the Department'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 Department in achieving its objectives and the relevant notes are:

	Notes
Employee benefits expenses	3.1(a)
Employee related provisions	3.1(b)
National Redress Scheme (NRS)	3.2(a)
Grants and subsidies	3.2(b)
Supplies and services	3.3
Accommodation expenses	3.4
Prisoner gratuities	3.5
Other expenditure	3.6
Sale of goods and Inventories	4.3

3.1(a) Employee benefits expenses

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Employee benefits	855,726	822,544
Termination benefits	356	373
Superannuation - defined contribution plans	87,150	79,922
Total employee benefits expenses	943,232	902,839
Add: AASB 16 Non-monetary benefits (not included in employee benefits expenses)	21,090	18,725
Less: Employee Contributions (per the statement of comprehensive income)	1,987	2,273
Net employee benefits	962,335	919,291

Employee benefits include wages, salaries, and social contributions, accrued and paid leave entitlements and paid sick leave, and non-monetary benefits recognised under Australian Accounting Standards other than AASB 16 (such as medical care, housing, cars, and free or subsidised goods or services) for employees.

Termination benefits are payable when employment is terminated before normal retirement date or when an employee accepts an offer of benefits in exchange for the termination of employment. Termination benefits are recognised when the Department is demonstrably committed to terminating the employment of current employees according to a detailed formal plan without possibility of withdrawal or providing termination benefits as a result of an offer made to encourage voluntary redundancy. Benefits falling due more than 12 months after the end of the reporting period are discounted to present value.

Superannuation is the amount recognised in profit or loss of the Statement of comprehensive income comprises employer contributions paid to the GSS (concurrent contributions), the WSS, other GESB schemes, or other superannuation funds.

AASB 16 non-monetary benefits are non-monetary employee benefits predominantly relating to the provision of vehicle and housing benefits that are recognised under AASB 16 which are excluded from the employee benefits expense.

Employee Contributions are contributions made to the Department by employees towards employee benefits that have been provided by the Department. This includes both AASB 16 and non-AASB 16 employee contributions.

3.1(b) Employee related provisions

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Current		
<u>Employee benefits provisions</u>		
Annual Leave	73,401	66,817
Long service leave	104,337	100,871
Deferred Salary Scheme	2,015	1,953
	179,753	169,641
<u>Other provisions</u>		
Employment on-costs	11,227	12,646
Total current employee related provisions	190,980	182,287
Non-current		
<u>Employee benefits provisions</u>		
Long service leave	27,448	30,744
<u>Other provisions</u>		
Employment on-costs	1,486	2,284
Total non-current employee related provisions	28,934	33,028
Total employee related provisions	219,914	215,315

Provision is made for benefits accruing to employees in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave, and long service leave for services rendered up to the reporting date and recorded as an expense during the period the services are delivered.

Annual leave liabilities are classified as current, as there is no right at the end of the reporting period to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the reporting period. Assessments indicate that actual settlement of the liabilities is expected to occur as follows:

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period	48,883	43,382
More than 12 months after the end of the reporting period	24,518	23,435
	73,401	66,817

The provision for annual leave is calculated at the present value of expected payments to be made in relation to services provided by employees up to the reporting date.

Long service leave liabilities are unconditional long service leave provisions that are classified as current liabilities as the Department does not have the right at the end of the reporting period to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period.

Pre-conditional and conditional long service leave provisions are classified as non-current liabilities because the Department has the right to defer the settlement of the liability until the employee has completed the requisite years of service. Assessments indicate that actual settlement of the liabilities is expected to occur as follows:

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period	36,315	34,139
More than 12 months after the end of the reporting period	95,470	97,476
	131,785	131,615

The provision for long service leave is calculated at present value as the Department does not expect to wholly settle the amounts within 12 months. The present value is measured taking into account the present value of expected future payments to be made in relation to services provided by employees up to the reporting date. These payments are estimated using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement and discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

Under the *Long Service Leave Act 1958* (LSL Act), casual employees who have been employed for more than 10 years and meet continuous service requirements may be entitled to long service leave. The Department has included this liability in the above provisions.

Deferred salary scheme liabilities are classified as current where there is no right at the end of the reporting period to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the reporting period. Actual settlement of the liabilities is expected to occur as follows:

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period	667	1,072
More than 12 months after the end of the reporting period	1,348	881
	2,015	1,953

The provision for deferred leave relates to employees who have entered into an agreement to self-fund an additional twelve months of leave in the fifth year of the agreement. The provision recognises the value of salary set aside for employees to be used in the fifth year. This liability is measured on the same basis as annual leave. Deferred leave is reported as a current provision, as employees can leave the scheme at their discretion at any time.

Employment on-costs involve settlements of annual and long service leave liabilities, giving rise to the payment of employment on-costs including workers' compensation insurance. The provision is the present value of expected future payments.

Employment on-costs, including workers' compensation insurance premiums, are not employee benefits and are recognised separately as liabilities and expenses when the employment to which they relate has occurred. Employment on-costs are included as part of 'Other expenditure, note 3.6 (apart from the unwinding of the discount (finance cost))' and are not included as part of the Department's 'employee benefits expense'. The related liability is included in the 'Employment on-costs provision'.

Employment on-costs provision	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Carrying amount at start of period	14,930	14,389
Additional provisions recognised	(2,217)	541
Carrying amount at end of period	12,713	14,930

Key sources of estimation uncertainty – long service leave

Key estimates and assumptions concerning the future are based on historical experience and various other factors that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

Several estimates and assumptions are used in calculating the Department's long service leave provision. These include:

- Expected future salary rates;
- Discount rates;
- Employee retention rates; and
- Expected future payments.

Changes in these estimations and assumptions may impact the carrying amount of the long service leave provision. Any gain or loss following revaluation of the present value of long service leave liabilities is recognised as employee benefits expense.

3.2(a) National Redress Scheme (NRS)

The Department of Justice is responsible for managing the National Redress Scheme (The Scheme) operation on behalf of WA Government agencies. The Scheme was established in response to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (Royal Commission). The Scheme commenced on 1 July 2018 and will run for 10 years, with the WA Government participating in the Scheme from 1 January 2019.

The Scheme offers the following elements of redress for victims of institutional child sexual abuse:

- A redress payment of up to \$150,000;
- Access to counselling and psychological care services and;
- A direct personal response from the responsible institution.

The payments made during the financial year and adjustments to provisions made for future claims are below:

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
National Redress Scheme – payments during the year ^(a)	46,530	49,758
National Redress Scheme – adjustments to the provision ^(b)	53,148	31,568

(a) The National Redress Scheme (NRS) payments are in response to the Royal Commission. See note 6.6.1 'Movement in Provisions'.

(b) The provision has been recorded in accordance with AASB 137 Provisions, Contingent Liabilities, and Contingent Assets. The provision takes into consideration the WA claims experience, the number of applications notified, and discounted using risk-free discount rates as at 30 June 2024. See note 6.6.1 'Movement in Provisions'.

3.2(b) Grants and subsidies

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Recurrent		
Legal Assistance ^(a)	136,140	124,851
Criminal Injuries Compensation payments ^(b)	80,534	75,683
Accused Costs payments ^(c)	8,370	6,962
Act of Grace payments ^(d)	-	1
Other grants and subsidies (includes WAIS) ^(e)	6,505	7,475
Total grants and subsidies	231,549	214,972

Transactions in which the Department provides goods, services, assets (or extinguishes a liability) or labour to another party without receiving approximately equal value in return are categorised as 'Grant or subsidy expenses'. These payments or transfers are recognised at fair value at the time of the transaction and are recognised as an expense in the reporting period in which they are paid. They include transactions such as: grants, subsidies, personal benefit payments made in cash to individuals, other transfer payments made to public sector agencies, local government, non-government schools, and community groups.

Grants can be paid as general-purpose grants, which refer to grants that are not subject to conditions regarding their use. Alternatively, they may be paid as specific purpose grants, which are paid for a particular purpose or have conditions attached regarding their use.

Grants and other transfers to third parties (other than contributions to owners) are recognised as an expense in the reporting period in which they are paid or payable.

- (a) Legal assistance payments made to the Legal Aid Commission of Western Australia and various Community Legal Centres for the provision of legal advice, duty lawyer services, and community legal education to gain access to fair solutions for legal problems at the earliest opportunity. See note 9.6 'Affiliated bodies.'
- (b) The *Criminal Injuries Compensation Act 2003* (WA) provides for victims of crime to be compensated for injuries they have suffered as a consequence of the commission of an offence.
- (c) Accused Costs Payments represent payments of costs ordered under the *Official Prosecutions (Accused's Costs) Act 1973*.
- (d) The Department, from time-to-time processes act of grace payments under section 80 of the *Financial Management Act 2006* on behalf of the Government. The Treasurer must be satisfied that it is appropriate to make an act of grace payment to a person because of special circumstances, even though the payment would not otherwise be authorised by law or required to meet a legal liability. Act of grace payments made during the year is nil (2023 \$1,000). In contrast with the act of grace payments that are authorised by section 80 of the Act, ex gratia payments are authorised under non-statutory executive power (i.e., without specific legislative authority) with the prior approval of the Governor in the Executive Council and Cabinet (if necessary). Ex-gratia payments made during the year is nil (2023 nil).
- (e) The Western Australian Government has established a scheme to provide acknowledgement payments to eligible former WAIS Women Artistic Gymnastics (WAG) participants.

Under the Scheme, the Department of Justice will make an acknowledgement payment of \$15,000 to former WAG who experienced physical or emotional harm while competing or training to represent WAIS at a national championship level. The application for the acknowledgment Payments closes on 31 August 2024. A provision of \$2,250,000 has been recognised as at 30 June 2024 in accordance with AASB 137 Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets. Refer to note 6.6 'Other Provisions'.

Notes to the financial statements

3.3 Supplies and services

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Supplies and services		
Communication expenses	6,648	6,367
Electricity gas and water	21,051	18,481
Municipal rates and charges	4,791	3,913
Goods and supplies purchased	69,726	56,047
Livestock purchases	7,832	8,050
Plant equipment and vehicle operating expenses	419	236
Computer services and licences	42,265	40,486
Private prison service & maintenance	88,439	84,563
Court security and custodial service	77,125	67,267
Service purchased from NFP	70,586	59,346
Other services and contracts ^(a)	139,002	120,551
Total supplies and services expenses	527,884	465,307

Supplies and services expenses are recognised as an expense in the reporting period in which they are incurred. The carrying amounts of any materials held for distribution are expensed when the materials are distributed.

(a) Other services and contracts are mainly made up of the following services cleaning, consultant fees, services received free of charge (as per note 4.1), recording and transcribing, toxicology, forensic pathology, maintenance services arrangements fees and other professional services.

3.4 Accommodation expenses

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Accommodation expenses		
Office rental	55,963	56,818
Total accommodation expenses	55,963	56,818

Office rental is expensed as incurred as Memorandum of Understanding Agreements between the Department and the Department of Finance for the leasing of office accommodation contain significant substitution rights.

3.5 Prisoner gratuities

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Prisoner gratuities		
Payments to prisoners	15,747	13,594
Total payment to prisoners	15,747	13,594

Prisoner gratuities - Section 110 of the *Prisons Act 1981* allows the Governor to make regulations that prescribe gratuities and the conditions upon which gratuities may be credited to prisoners. Section 45 (2) of the Prisons Regulations 1982 provides for the rates of gratuities to be credited to be varied each year according to the variation in the previous year of the Consumer Price Index (all groups) Perth as issued by the Australian Bureau of Statistics under the authority of the *Census and Statistics Act 1905* of the Commonwealth.

Notes to the financial statements

3.6 Other expenditure

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Other expenses		
Insurance	86,294	73,977
Building repairs and maintenance ^(a)	36,028	33,243
Travel and accommodation	11,389	10,450
Staff accommodation	9,100	6,839
Plant equipment and vehicle repairs and maintenance	5,062	13,048
Freight and couriers	3,144	2,832
Vehicle hire fuel registration and management fees	3,570	3,579
Staff clothing and uniforms	2,179	1,899
Jurors' expense	2,515	2,280
Printing	1,597	1,403
Staff training	2,544	1,853
Miscellaneous staff costs	1,204	1,020
Employment on-costs ^(c)	439	541
Expected credit losses expense ^(b)	277	105
Other expenses ^(d)	179	3,368
Loss on disposal of non-current assets ^(e)	1,832	195
Total other expenses	167,353	156,632

(a) Building and infrastructure maintenance and equipment repairs and maintenance costs are recognised as expenses as incurred, except where they relate to the replacement of a significant component of an asset. In that case, the costs are capitalised and depreciated.

(b) Expected credit losses is recognised for movement in allowance for impairment of trade receivables. Refer to note 6.1.1 'Movement in the allowance for impairment of trade receivables'.

(c) Employment on-costs include workers' compensation insurance and other employment on-costs. The on-costs liability associated with the recognition of annual and long service leave liabilities is included at note 3.1(b) 'Employee related provisions'. Superannuation contributions accrued as part of the provision for leave are employee benefits and are not included in employment on-costs.

(d) Other expenses generally represent the day-to-day running costs incurred in normal operations.

(e) Losses on the disposal of non-current assets are presented by deducting from the proceeds on disposal the asset's carrying amount and related selling expenses. Gains and losses are recognised in profit or loss in the statement of comprehensive income.

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Net proceeds from disposal of non-current assets:		
- Plant, equipment and motor vehicles	(3)	(5)
Carrying amount of non-current assets disposed:		
- Plant, equipment and motor vehicles	1,835	200
Net losses on disposal of non-current assets	1,832	195

4. Our funding sources**How we obtain our funding**

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

	Notes
Income from State Government	4.1
User charges and fees	4.2
Sale of goods and inventories	4.3
Commonwealth grants	4.4
Other income	4.5

4.1 Income from State Government

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Appropriation received during the period:		
- Service appropriation ^(a)	1,749,347	1,603,806
Total appropriation received	1,749,347	1,603,806
Income received from other public sector entities during the period ^(b)		
- National Redress Scheme ^(c)	46,780	50,916
- Legal services - State Solicitor's Office	-	(5)
- Recoup of costs - Building Disputes Tribunal ^(d)	3,200	2,199
- Residential tenancies reimbursements ^(e)	1,424	1,583
- Other income received from other public sector entities	4,854	-
Total income from other public sector entities	56,258	54,693
Resources received from other public sector entities during the period - Services received free of charge ^(f)		
- Western Australia Police - Court security and custodial services	22,354	21,536
- Western Australia Police – New Armadale Court	548	-
- Department of Finance - Accommodation	2,664	2,697
- North Metropolitan Health Services - Dental treatment to prisoners	843	1,762
- Western Australian Land Information Authority (Landgate) - Valuation	401	337
- State Solicitor's Office	4,432	3,330
- Department of Education - Road safety and drug prevention education	-	2
Total services received	31,242	29,664
Royalties for Regions Fund:		
- Regional infrastructure and headworks account ^(g)	-	10,455
- Regional Community Funds ^(g)	11,676	-
Total Royalties for Regions Fund	11,676	10,455
Total income from the State Government	1,848,523	1,698,618

- (a) **Service appropriations** are recognised as income at the fair value of consideration received in the period in which the Department gains control of the appropriated funds. The Department gains control of the appropriated funds at the time those funds are deposited in the bank account or credited to the holding account held at Treasury.
- (b) **Income from other public sector entities** is recognised as income when the Department has satisfied its performance obligations under the funding agreement. If there is no performance obligation, income will be recognised when the Department receives the funds.
- (c) **The National Redress Scheme** is in response to the Royal Commission. The Western Australian Government's participation in the National Redress Scheme will recognise and provide support to Western Australians who have experienced child sexual abuse in institutions. Refer to note 3.2(a) 'National Redress Scheme'.
- (d) **Recoup of costs - Building Disputes Tribunal** revenue is in relation to the funding received for the provision of the tribunal services for complaints referred under section 11 of the *Building Services (Complaint Resolution and Administration) Act 2011*. The building disputes are referrals to the State Administrative Tribunal from the Building Commission. Invoices are issued quarterly to the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety.
- (e) **Residential tenancies reimbursements** revenue is recognised on an accrue basis. The Rental Accommodation Account - Schedule 1 Division 1 Clause 3 (3) (b) (i) of the *Residential Tenancies Act 1987* (WA) (the Act) provides for the reimbursement of costs and expenses incurred in the operation and administration of the Magistrates Court of Western Australia attributable to carrying out the Act.
- (f) **Services received free of charge** or for nominal cost are recognised as income (and expenses) equivalent to the fair value of those services that can be reliably determined, and which would have been purchased if not donated.
- (g) **The Regional Infrastructure and Headworks Fund, and Regional Community Services Fund** are sub-funds within the over-arching 'Royalties for Regions Fund'. The recurrent funds are committed to projects and programs in WA regional areas and are recognised as income when the Department receives the funds.

Summary of consolidated account appropriations

	2024 Budget Estimate (\$000)	2024 Section 25 Transfers (\$000)	2024 Additional Funding * (\$000)	2024 Revised Budget (\$000)	2024 Actual (\$000)	2024 Variance (\$000)
Delivery of Services						
Item 62 Net amount appropriated to deliver services	1,421,290	34,540	135,127	1,590,957	1,590,957	-
Amount Authorised by Other Statutes						-
- <i>Criminal Injuries Compensation Act 2003</i>	41,738	-	38,262	80,000	80,000	-
- <i>Salaries and Allowances Act 1975</i>	38,186	-	1,405	39,591	39,591	-
- <i>District Court of Western Australia Act 1969</i>	16,964	-	-	16,964	16,964	-
- <i>Judges' Salaries and Pensions Act 1950</i>	13,619	-	-	13,619	13,619	-
- <i>State Administrative Tribunal Act 2004</i>	7,211	-	-	7,211	7,211	-
- <i>Solicitor General Act 1969</i>	-	-	597	597	597	-
- <i>Children's Court of Western Australia Act 1988</i>	408	-	-	408	408	-
Total appropriations provided to deliver services	1,539,416	34,540	175,391	1,749,347	1,749,347	-
Capital						
Item 135 Capital appropriations	113,989	4,019	(37,236)	80,772	80,772	-
Item 104 Additional Capital Funding ^(a)	17,397	-	(11,697)	5,700	5,700	-
GRAND TOTAL	1,670,802	38,559	126,458	1,835,819	1,835,819	-

* Additional Funding includes supplementary funding and new funding authorised under section 27 of the Act and amendment to standing appropriations.

(a) Reflects funding provisioned by Treasury to address cost pressures relating to justice services.

4.2 User charges and fees

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Court fees ^(a)	88,788	86,177
Public Trustee fees ^(b)	20,265	26,872
Births deaths and marriages fees	9,249	8,952
Miscellaneous fees and charges	304	155
	118,606	122,156

Revenue is recognised at the transaction price when the Department transfers control of the services to customers. Revenue is recognised for the major activities as follows:

- (a) The majority of the Department's court fees comprise of; fines enforcement fee \$48,893,559 (2023: \$49,136,964). The performance obligations for these fees and charges are satisfied when the application is submitted to the court or when the fine is paid.
- (b) The Public Trustee Office offers substantial trust services. The revenue is recognised at a point in time for Public Trustee fees when the revenue has been earned and can be reliably measured. The Department typically satisfies its performance obligations in relation to trust services when the services have been provided and debited to the client's account at the end of each month.

Net Appropriation Determination

Pursuant to section 23 of the *Financial Management Act 2006*, the Department has entered into a net appropriation arrangement with the Treasurer, where the Department retains the proceeds from services. Items covered by the agreement include Commonwealth recoups, court fees, births deaths and marriage registration fees, proceeds from Public Trustee fees, Public Trustee common fund interest revenues, legal services, workers compensation recoups and other miscellaneous revenues.

4.3 Sale of goods and Inventories

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Sales of goods	19,876	17,021
Cost of Sales:		
Opening Inventory	(1,466)	(1,347)
Purchases	(18,983)	(15,777)
	(20,449)	(17,124)
Closing Inventory	1,611	1,466
Cost of Goods Sold	(18,838)	(15,658)
Gross profit	1,038	1,363
Closing Inventory comprises:		
<u>Current Inventories</u>		
Finished goods		
Held for trading	1,611	1,466
Held for consumption	3,790	3,609
Total current inventories	5,401	5,075
Total Inventories	5,401	5,075

Sale of goods

Revenue is recognised at the transaction price when the Department transfers control of the goods to customers. Sales of goods to prisoners include consumables such as food, beverages, office supplies, personal products, footwear, cigarettes and tobacco.

Inventories

Inventories held for trading are stated at cost, adjusted when applicable, for any loss of service potential. A loss of service potential is identified and measured based on the existence of a current replacement cost that is lower than the carrying amount.

Inventories (other than those held for trading) are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost is calculated using the "first in first out" method. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business, less the estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale.

The cost of inventories acquired at no cost or for nominal consideration is the current replacement cost as at the date of acquisition. Current replacement cost is the cost the Department would incur to acquire the asset.

4.4 Commonwealth grants

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
National Legal Assistance Partnership (NLAP)	65,017	61,652
Commonwealth recoup for Family Court and court fees	17,852	16,510
Commonwealth accommodation for Family Court (non-cash contribution)	4,811	4,811
Commonwealth recoup for Christmas and Cocos Island	391	419
Other Commonwealth grants	500	850
Total Commonwealth grants	88,571	84,242

(a) The National Legal Assistance Partnership (NLAP) is a national partnership agreement between the Australian Government and all states and territories for Commonwealth-funded legal assistance. The NLAP was developed in accordance with the principles of the National Strategic Framework for Legal Assistance, which is the overarching policy framework for all Commonwealth and state and territory legal assistance funding. Please see note 3.2 (b) 'Grant and subsidies'.

Christmas and Cocos Island Acquittal (cash basis)

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Opening balance at start of period	155	170
Receipts		
Commonwealth reimbursements	391	531
Total receipts	391	531
Payments		
Operating costs	312	546
Total payments	312	546
Closing balance at end of period	234	155

Operating costs are based on actual plus identified estimated services as agreed in the 'Standard Delivery Service Agreement' signed by the Commonwealth and the State.

4.5 Other income

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Employee contributions ^(a)		
- Staff rental GROH recoups	1,779	2,050
- Vehicle contribution	208	223
	1,987	2,273
Public Trustee - common fund surplus ^(b)	10,671	1,800
Recoup of prisoner telephone expenditure	2,694	2,455
Sale of goods and services	1,972	1,648
Criminal injuries payment recoveries ^(c)	2,190	3,375
Recoup legal and other costs	1,761	1,297
Recoup law library costs	600	600
Recoup of salaries	743	276
Other miscellaneous revenue ^(d)	2,878	1,394
Total other income	25,496	15,118

^(a) **Employee contributions** - Income received by the Department from subleasing of right-of-use assets relates to lease payments received from operating leases. The Department has leased a number of right-of-use assets from the Government Regional Officer Housing (GROH), which it subleases out to employees at a subsidised rate. Information on the Department's leasing arrangements with GROH can be found in note 3.1(a) 'Employee benefit expenses'.

^(b) **Public Trustee** – common fund surplus is revenue pursuant to section 6B (2) (b) of the *Public Trustee Act 1941* and regulation 6(b) of the *Public Trustee Regulations 1942*. Section 10.3 of the Current Agreement sets out the Common Fund surplus amount to be credited to the Consolidated Account. The Current Agreement is a written agreement between the Attorney General and the Public Trustee for a 12-month period. The amount is to be reduced by the excess of the overall revenue over the net operating expenses in line with the Public Trustee's self-funding commitment.

^(c) **Criminal injuries payment recoveries** that are not classified as a debt to the state are recognised at the time payment is received. Criminal injuries recovered from the issue of Compensation Reimbursement Orders (CRO) made under section 49 of the *Criminal Injuries Compensation Act 1985* are classified as debts owed to the state and are accounted for in accordance with AASB15. Refer to note 6.1 'Receivables'.

^(d) **Other miscellaneous revenue** - this represents annual recoups in relation to prior period items and other items.

5. Key assets

This section includes information regarding the key assets the Department utilises to gain economic benefits or provide service potential. The section sets out both the key accounting policies and financial information about the performance of these assets:

	Notes
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	5.1
Intangible assets	5.2
Right-of-use assets	5.3

5.1 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

Year ended 30 June 2024	Land (\$000)	Buildings (\$000)	Leasehold improvements (\$000)	Plant, equipment and vehicles (\$000)	Work in Progress (\$000)	Total (\$000)
1 July 2023						
Gross carrying amount	203,346	2,013,212	75,332	112,096	63,293	2,467,279
Accumulated depreciation	-	-	(65,190)	(73,750)	-	(138,940)
Carrying amount at start of period	203,346	2,013,212	10,142	38,346	63,293	2,328,339
Additions	-	925	162	3,909	54,401	59,397
Transfers	-	54,090	3,396	3,160	(60,645)	-
Disposals ^(a)	(30)	(220)	-	(5,100)	-	(5,350)
Impairment losses ^(b)	-	(2,230)	-	-	-	(2,230)
Revaluation increment ^(b)	17,447	123,693	-	-	-	141,140
Depreciation	-	(47,822)	(3,226)	(7,617)	-	(58,665)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2024	220,763	2,141,648	10,474	32,697	57,049	2,462,631
Gross carrying amount	220,763	2,141,648	78,890	90,622	57,049	2,588,971
Accumulated depreciation	-	-	(68,416)	(57,924)	-	(126,340)

^(a) The Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) is the only Department with the power to sell Crown land. The land is transferred to DPLH for sale and the Department accounts for the transfer as a distribution to the owner.

^(b) Financial year (FY) 2024 resulted in a land revaluation increment of \$17,447,400 compared to 2022-23 of \$17,516,800. Building revaluation resulted in a \$123,693,322 increment compared to 2022-23 \$176,909,848. The damage occurred to the Bunbury Prison site prior to 30 June 2024 is fully covered by insurance and insurance proceeds are adequate to restore building to the condition prior to the storm.

Year ended 30 June 2023	Land \$000	Buildings \$000	Leasehold improvements \$000	Plant, equipment and vehicles \$000	Work in Progress \$000	Total \$000
1 July 2023						
Gross carrying amount	185,829	1,794,376	57,978	106,422	89,620	2,234,225
Accumulated depreciation	-	-	(45,707)	(67,559)	-	(113,266)
Carrying amount at start of period	185,829	1,794,376	12,271	38,863	89,620	2,120,959
Additions	373	5,129	15	4,759	55,346	65,622
Transfers	-	78,383	742	2,548	(81,673)	-
Disposals ^(a)	(373)	-	-	(219)	-	(592)
Revaluation increment/(decrement) ^(b)	17,517	176,910	-	-	-	194,427
Depreciation	-	(41,586)	(2,886)	(7,605)	-	(52,077)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2023	203,346	2,013,212	10,142	38,346	63,293	2,328,339
Gross carrying amount ^(c)	203,346	2,013,212	75,332	112,096	63,293	2,467,279
Accumulated depreciation ^(c)	-	-	(65,190)	(73,750)	-	(138,940)

^(a) The Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) is the only Department with the power to sell Crown land. The land is transferred to DPLH for sale, and the Department accounts for the transfer as a distribution to the owner.

^(b) FY 2023 resulted in land revaluation increment of \$17,516,800 compared to FY 2022 of \$ 19,709,750. FY 2023. Building revaluation resulted in a \$176,909,848 increment compared to FY 2022 \$ 125,325,704. The Valuer General's Office (VGO) considered the damage caused to the buildings as a result Banksia Hill and Acacia fires and loss of control events, and VGO adjusted the fair values as at the balance sheet date accordingly.

^(c) The gross carrying amount and accumulated depreciation as at 30 June 2023 includes an addition of \$19.2 million of fully depreciated leasehold improvements on workcamps, incorporated into the fixed asset register of the Department, following the asset verification process.

Initial recognition

Items of infrastructure property, plant and equipment, costing \$5,000 or more, are measured initially at cost. Where an asset is acquired for no cost or significantly less than fair value, the cost is valued at its fair value at the date of acquisition. Items of infrastructure property, plant and equipment costing less than \$5,000 are immediately expensed direct to the Statement of comprehensive income (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total).

The cost of a leasehold improvement is capitalised and depreciated over the shorter of the remaining term of the lease or the estimated useful life of the leasehold improvement.

Subsequent measurement

Subsequent to initial recognition of an asset, the revaluation model is used for the measurement of:

- land; and
- buildings.

Land is carried at fair value.

Buildings are carried at fair value less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Infrastructure, plant and equipment are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Land and buildings are independently valued annually by Western Australian Land Information Authority (Landgate) and recognised annually to ensure that the carrying amount does not differ materially from the asset's fair value at the end of the reporting period. Land and buildings were revalued as at 1 July 2023 by Landgate. The valuations were performed during the year ended 30 June 2023 and recognised at 30 June 2024. In undertaking the revaluation, fair value was determined by reference to market values for land: \$8,590,000 (2023: \$9,840,300) and buildings: \$760,000 (2023: \$1,140,000). For the remaining balance, fair value of buildings \$2,140,888,401 was determined on the basis of current replacement cost and fair value of land \$212,173,100 was determined on the basis of comparison with market evidence for land with low-level utility (high restricted use land).

Revaluation model:**(a) Fair Value where market-based evidence is available:**

The fair value of land and buildings is determined on the basis of current market values determined by reference to recent market transactions. When buildings are revalued by reference to recent market transactions, the accumulated depreciation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount restated to the revalued amount.

(b) Fair value in the absence of market-based evidence:**Buildings are specialised or where land is restricted:**

Fair value of land and buildings is determined on the basis of existing use.

Existing use buildings:

Fair value is determined by reference to the cost of replacing the remaining future economic benefits embodied in the asset, i.e., the current replacement cost. Where the fair value of buildings is determined on the current replacement cost basis, the gross carrying amount is adjusted in a manner that is consistent with the revaluation of the carrying amount of the asset and the accumulated depreciation is adjusted to equal the difference between the gross carrying amount and the carrying amount of the asset.

Restricted use of land:

Fair value is determined by comparison with market evidence for land with similar approximate utility (high restricted use land) or market value of comparable unrestricted land (low restricted use land).

Significant assumptions and judgements:

The most significant assumptions and judgements in estimating fair value are made in assessing whether to apply the existing use basis to assets and in determining estimated economic life. Professional judgement by the valuer is required where the evidence does not provide a clear distinction between market type assets and existing use assets.

5.1.1 Depreciation and impairment**Charge for the period**

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
<u>Depreciation</u>		
Buildings	47,822	41,586
Plant equipment and vehicles	7,617	7,605
Leasehold improvements	3,226	2,886
Total depreciation for the period	58,665	52,077

As at 30 June 2024, there were no indications of impairment to property, plant and equipment or infrastructure. All surplus assets at 30 June 2024 have either been classified as assets held for sale or have been written-off.

Useful lives

All infrastructure, property, plant and equipment having a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their estimated useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their future economic benefits. The exceptions to this rule include assets held for sale, land and investment properties.

Depreciation is generally calculated on a straight-line basis, at rates that allocate the asset's value, less any estimated residual value, over its estimated useful life. Typical estimated useful lives for the different asset classes for current and prior years are included in the table below:

Asset	Useful life: Years
Buildings	50 years
Leased buildings	50 years or remaining lease term, whichever is lower
Leasehold improvements	10 years or remaining lease term, whichever is lower
Leased motor vehicles	10 years or remaining lease term, whichever is lower
Motor vehicles	4 to 7 years
Office equipment	5 to 10 years
Plant and equipment	2 to 15 years
Water treatment plants	20 to 30 years

The estimated useful lives, residual values and depreciation method are reviewed at the end of each annual reporting period, and adjustments should be made where appropriate.

Land and work of art which are considered to have an indefinite life, are not depreciated. Depreciation is not recognised in respect of these assets because their service potential has not, in any material sense, been consumed during the reporting period.

Impairment

Non-financial assets, including items of infrastructure, plant and equipment, are tested for impairment whenever there is an indication that the asset may be impaired. Where there is an indication of impairment, the recoverable amount is estimated. Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, the asset is considered impaired and is written down to the recoverable amount and an impairment loss is recognised.

Where an asset measured at cost is written down to its recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognised through profit or loss.

Where a previously revalued asset is written down to its recoverable amount, the loss is recognised as a revaluation decrement through other comprehensive income.

As the Department is a not-for-profit entity, the recoverable amount of regularly revalued specialised assets is anticipated to be materially the same as fair value.

If there is an indication that there has been a reversal in impairment, the carrying amount shall be increased to its recoverable amount. However, this reversal should not increase the asset's carrying amount above what would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortisation, if no impairment loss had been recognised in prior years.

The risk of impairment is generally limited to circumstances where an asset's depreciation is materially understated, where the replacement cost is falling, or where there is a significant change in useful life. Each relevant class of assets is reviewed annually to verify that the accumulated depreciation/amortisation reflects the level of consumption or expiration of the asset's future economic benefits and to evaluate any impairment risk from declining replacement costs.

5.2 Intangible assets

Year ended 30 June 2024	Computer Software (\$000)	Software under development (\$000)	Total (\$000)
1 July 2023			
Gross carrying amount	83,409	937	84,346
Accumulated amortisation	(78,036)	-	(78,036)
Carrying amount at start of period	5,373	937	6,310
Additions	-	977	977
Amortisation expense	(1,691)	-	(1,691)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2024	3,682	1,914	5,596
Year ended 30 June 2023			
1 July 2022			
Gross carrying amount	82,823	1,162	83,985
Accumulated amortisation	(76,720)	-	(76,720)
Carrying amount at start of period	6,103	1,162	7,265
Additions	14	1,039	1,053
Transfers	1,264	(1,264)	-
Amortisation expense	(2,008)	-	(2,008)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2023	5,373	937	6,310

Initial recognition

Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost. For assets acquired at no cost or for nominal cost, the cost is their fair value at the date of acquisition.

Acquired and internally generated intangible assets costing \$5,000 or more that comply with the recognition criteria of AASB 138.57 Intangible Assets (as noted above), are capitalised.

Costs incurred below these thresholds are immediately expensed directly to the Statement of comprehensive income.

An internally generated intangible asset arising from development (or from the development phase of an internal project) is recognised if, and only if, all of the following are demonstrated:

- the technical feasibility of completing the intangible asset so that it will be available for use or sale;
- an intention to complete the intangible asset, and use or sell it;
- the ability to use or sell the intangible asset;
- the intangible asset will generate probable future economic benefit;
- the availability of adequate technical, financial, and other resources to complete the development and to use or sell the intangible asset; and
- the ability to measure reliably the expenditure attributable to the intangible asset during its development.

Costs incurred in the research phase of a project are immediately expensed.

Subsequent measurement

The cost model is applied for subsequent measurement of intangible assets, requiring the asset to be carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

5.2.1 Amortisation and impairment

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Charge for the period		
Computer software	1,691	2,008
Total amortisation for the period	1,691	2,008

As at 30 June 2024 there were no indications of impairment to intangible assets.

The Department held no goodwill or intangible assets with an indefinite useful life during the reporting period. At the end of the reporting period, there were no intangible assets not yet available for use.

Amortisation of finite life intangible assets is calculated on a straight-line basis at rates that allocate the asset's value over its estimated useful life. All intangible assets controlled by the Department have a finite useful life and zero residual value. Estimated useful lives are reviewed annually.

The estimated useful lives for each class of intangible assets are:

Asset	Useful life: Years
Software (a)	5 years

(a) Software that is not integral to the operation of any related hardware.

Impairment of intangible assets

Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives are tested for impairment annually or when an indication of impairment is identified.

5.3 Right-of-use assets

Year ended 30 June 2024	Buildings (\$000)	Office Accommodation (\$000)	Employee housing (\$000)	Plant and equipment (\$000)	Vehicles (\$000)	Total (\$000)
1 July 2023						
Gross carrying amount	411,001	-	25,266	7,579	19,676	463,522
Accumulated depreciation	(37,249)	-	(12,521)	(5,484)	(10,359)	(65,613)
Carrying amount at start of period	373,752	-	12,745	2,095	9,317	397,909
Additions ^(a)	-	9,900	21,810	3,985	5,477	41,172
Disposals	-	-	(4,368)	2	(155)	(4,521)
Depreciation	(9,597)	(990)	(15,213)	(2,263)	(4,553)	(32,616)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2024	364,155	8,910	14,974	3,819	10,086	401,944
Gross carrying amount	411,002	9,900	29,936	11,353	22,005	484,196
Accumulated depreciation	(46,847)	(990)	(14,962)	(7,534)	(11,919)	(82,252)

(a) The Public Trustee's Office has entered into a 10-year lease agreement with Saville (WA), commencing 1 July 2023 and ending 30 June 2033.

Year ended 30 June 2023	Buildings (\$000)	Office Accommodation (\$000)	Employee housing (\$000)	Plant and equipment (\$000)	Vehicles (\$000)	Total (\$000)
1 July 2022						
Gross carrying amount	410,414	-	22,749	7,474	17,094	457,731
Accumulated depreciation	(27,680)	-	(11,260)	(3,943)	(8,723)	(51,606)
Carrying amount at start of period	382,734	-	11,489	3,531	8,371	406,125
Additions	587	-	19,897	440	5,230	26,155
Disposals	-	-	(5,094)	(260)	(37)	(5,392)
Depreciation	(9,569)	-	(13,547)	(1,616)	(4,247)	(28,979)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2023	373,752	-	12,745	2,095	9,317	397,909
Gross carrying amount	411,001	-	25,266	7,579	19,676	463,522
Accumulated depreciation	(37,249)	-	(12,521)	(5,484)	(10,359)	(65,613)

Initial recognition

At the commencement date of the lease. The Department recognises right-of-use assets are measured at cost comprising of:

- the amount of the initial measurement of lease liability;
- any lease payments made at or before the commencement date, less any lease incentives received;
- any initial direct costs; and
- restoration costs, including dismantling and removing the underlying asset.

This includes all leased assets other than investment property right-of-use assets, which are measured in accordance with AASB 140 Investment Property. The corresponding lease liabilities in relation to these right-of-use assets have been disclosed in note 7.1 'Lease liabilities'. The Department has elected not to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for short-term leases (with a lease term of 12 months or less) and low-value leases (with an underlying value of \$5,000 or less). Lease payments associated with these leases are expensed on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Subsequent Measurement

The cost model is applied for subsequent measurement of right-of-use assets, requiring the asset to be carried at cost less any accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses and adjusted for any re-measurement of the lease liability.

Depreciation and impairment of right-of-use assets

Right-of-use assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the shorter of the lease term and the estimated useful lives of the underlying assets.

If the ownership of the leased asset transfers to the Department at the end of the lease term or the cost reflects the exercise of a purchase option, depreciation is calculated using the estimated useful life of the asset.

Right-of-use assets are tested for impairment when an indication of impairment is identified. The policy in connection with testing for impairment is outlined in note 5.1.1 'Depreciation and impairment'.

The following amounts relating to leases have been recognised in the Statement of comprehensive income:

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Depreciation expense of right-of-use assets	32,616	28,979
Lease interest expense	34,297	33,159
Short-term leases	402	2,027
Low-value leases	49	320
Total amount recognised in the statement of comprehensive income	67,364	64,485

The total cash outflow for leases in 2024 was \$73,652,668 (2023: \$68,307,698). As at 30 June 2024 there were no indications of impairment to right-of-use assets.

The Department's leasing activities and how these are accounted for:

The Department has leases for plant and equipment, vehicles, office, and residential accommodations.

The Department has also entered into a Memorandum of Understanding Agreements (MOU) with the Department of Finance for the leasing of office accommodation. These are not recognised under AASB 16 because of substitution rights held by the Department of Finance and are accounted for as an expense incurred.

The Department recognises leases as right-of-use assets and associated lease liabilities in the Statement of financial position. The corresponding lease liabilities in relation to these right-of-use assets have been disclosed in note 7.1 'Lease liabilities'.

6. Other assets and liabilities

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

	Notes
Receivables	6.1
Amounts receivable for serves (Holding Account)	6.2
Other assets	6.3
Sale of goods and inventories	4.3
Biological assets	6.4
Payables	6.5
Other provisions	6.6

6.1 Receivables

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Current		
Trade receivables	3,534	4,030
Allowance for impairment of receivables	(53)	(82)
Accrued revenue	1,424	2,801
GST receivable	9,423	9,354
	14,328	16,103
Other receivables	12,755	10,311
Allowance for impairment of other receivables	(2,282)	(2,007)
	10,473	8,304
Total current	24,801	24,407
Non-current		
Accrued salaries account ^(a)	19,149	19,149
Total non-current	19,149	19,149
Total receivables	43,950	43,556

Trade receivables are initially recognised at their transaction price or, for those receivables that contain a significant financing component, at fair value. The Department holds the receivables with the objective to collect the contractual cash flows and, therefore, subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less an allowance for impairment.

The Department recognises a loss allowance for expected credit losses (ECLs) on a receivable not held at fair value through profit or loss. The ECLs is 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. Individual receivables are written off when the Department has no reasonable expectations of recovering the contractual cash flows.

For trade receivables, the Department recognises an allowance for ECLs measured at the lifetime expected credit losses at each reporting date. The Department has established a provision matrix that is based on its historical credit loss experience, adjusted for forward-looking factors specific to the debtors and the economic environment. Please refer to note 3.6 'Other expenditure' for the amount of ECLs expensed in this reporting period.

(a) 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. The account has been reclassified from 'Cash and cash equivalents' to 'Receivables' as it is considered that funds in the account are not cash but a right to receive the cash in future. Comparative amounts have also been reclassified.

6.1.1 Movement in the allowance for impairment of trade receivables

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Reconciliation of changes in the allowance for impairment of trade receivables:		
Opening balance	2,089	2,057
Expected credit losses expense	277	105
Amounts written off during the period	(31)	(73)
Allowance for Impairment at end of period	2,335	2,089

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the end of the reporting period for trade receivables is the carrying amount of the asset inclusive of any allowance for impairment as shown in the table at Note 8.1(c) 'Credit risk exposure'.

The Department does not hold any collateral as security or other credit enhancements for trade receivables.

6.2 Amounts receivable for services (Holding Account)

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Current	11,852	11,625
Non-current	772,110	701,026
Total amounts receivable for services at end of period	783,962	712,651

Amounts receivable for services represent the non-cash component of service appropriations. It is restricted in that it can only be used for asset replacement or payment of leave liability.

The amounts receivable for services are financial assets at amortised cost and are not considered impaired (i.e. there is no expected credit loss of the holding accounts).

6.3 Other assets

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Prepayments	9,540	2,683
Total other assets at end of period	9,540	2,683

Prepayments represent payments made in advance for items such as software licences, support and maintenance and subscriptions, or that part of expenditure made in one accounting period covering a term extending beyond that period.

Notes to the financial statements

6.4 Biological assets

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Biological assets	1,958	2,972
Total Biological assets at end of period	1,958	2,972

Reconciliation of the fair value of biological assets at the beginning and end of the reporting period is set out below.

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Carrying amount at start of period	2,972	3,056
Change in valuation of livestock, orchards and plantations	(1,014)	(84)
Carrying amount at end of period	1,958	2,972

Livestock

Livestock are stated at fair value less estimated point-of-sale costs, with any resultant gain or loss recognised in the profit or loss. Point of sale costs include all costs that would be necessary to sell the assets. The fair value of livestock is determined based on market prices of livestock of similar age, breed, and generic merit.

Orchards and plantations

Orchards and plantations are stated at their fair value, which is based on:

- The actual tree quantities provided directly from sites; and
- The estimated average unit wholesale replacement cost from fruit tree nurseries and other online resources.

Biological assets are revalued on an annual basis.

6.5 Payables

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Current		
Trade payables	33,248	25,484
Prisoner gratuities	2,143	1,775
Accrued salaries	27,908	44,563
Accrued expenses	42,090	40,889
Total payables at end of period	105,389	112,711

Payables are recognised as the amounts payable when the Department 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 is generally within 20 days.

Prisoner Gratuities should be read in conjunction with note 3.5 'Prisoner gratuities'.

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

Notes to the financial statements

6.6 Other provisions

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Current		
National Redress Scheme	109,000	75,200
Other provisions	2,413	1,038
Non-current		
National Redress Scheme	379,000	390,800
Total provision at end of period	490,413	467,038

National Redress Scheme

The National Redress Scheme (the Scheme) was created in response to the recommendations of the Royal Commission. The Scheme commenced on 1 July 2018 and will operate for 10 years. The Scheme operates under the *Institutional Child Sexual Abuse Act 2018* (the Act). The Parliament passed the Act in June 2018 following consultation with state and territory governments, institutions, survivors, support groups, and advocates. Under the Act, the Secretary of the Department (Commonwealth) is the Scheme operator.

The provision represents the total monetary payment that is offered to survivors under the Scheme that has not been accepted at the reporting date.

Other provisions**Karnet Prison Farm**

The old tip site has undergone a remediation process in the past; however, a subsequent inspection and site assessment was undertaken by Environmental Site Services (ESS) in November 2021, arranged by the Department. The result indicated that the entire footprint of the cleared area within the site is considered to be asbestos-impacted and requires further remediation. In 2023-24, extensive remediation works were completed, involving the placement of geotextile fabric across the surface of the site. The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) has now classified the site as remediated for restricted use. Provision no longer required.

Albany Prison

The site was classified by DWER as possibly contaminated due to potentially contaminating activities related to its historical use (rifle range, fuel storage, and wastewater disposal). The Department hired Aurora to complete a preliminary site investigation in 2017, which investigated three areas of potential environmental concern. In 2024, an additional sampling and analysis quality plan was conducted. Both investigations did not result in a conclusive outcome. Further investigative work is required to determine if there is a possible contaminated site issue. A provision of \$162,603 has been made as of 30 June 2024.

Western Australian Institute of Sport (WAIS) Acknowledgement Payment Scheme

Includes a provision of \$2,250,000 in 2023-24 for compensation to applicants of the Western Australia Institute of Sport Women Artistic Gymnastics program participants. Refer to note 3.2 (b) 'Grants and subsidies'.

6.6.1 Movement in provisions

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
National Redress Scheme		
Carrying amount at start of period	466,000	472,600
Additional provisions recognised	53,148	31,568
Unwinding of discount (refer to note 7.3)	15,382	11,590
Amounts used during the year	(46,530)	(49,758)
Carrying amount at end of period	488,000	466,000
Other provisions		
Carrying amount at start of period	1,038	703
Contaminated site - Karnet Prison (completed work)	(1,038)	-
Additional provisions recognised	2,413	335
Carrying amount at end of period	2,413	1,038

National Redress Scheme

Of the \$488 million provision, \$109 million relates to current liabilities (where payments are expected to be made over the next 12 months to 30 June 2025), and \$379 million relates to non-current liabilities. This includes both notified eligible applications which have not yet been paid by the WA Government and incurred but not yet reported (IBNR) applications. The incurred but not yet reported applications refer to applications where the abuse has already occurred (prior to 1 July 2018) but has not yet been reported to the NRS. This additional breakdown is shown in the table 1 below.

Table 1 - Provision as at 30 June 2024 (by notified and IBNR applications)

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
IBNR applications	419,000	379,900
Notified but not yet determined applications	-	60,100
Notified, eligible, but offer not yet accepted	62,700	11,000
Offer accepted and paid by the Commonwealth Scheme but not by WA Government	3,100	4,900
Counselling and Psychological Care (CPC) payment	-	500
Internal administration expense	3,200	9,600
Total provision as at 30 June	488,000	466,000

As shown in the table above, the vast majority of the provision relates to IBNR applications that is, applications for which the abuse has occurred prior to 1 July 2018 but has not yet been reported to the NRS.

7. Financing

This section sets out the material balances and disclosures associated with the financing and cash flows of the Department:

	Notes
Lease liabilities	7.1
Assets pledged as security	7.2
Finance costs	7.3
Cash and cash equivalents	7.4
Reconciliation of cash	7.4.1
Reconciliation of operating activities	7.4.2
Capital commitments	7.5

7.1 Lease liabilities

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Current	34,685	31,665
Non-current	341,822	347,470
	376,507	379,135

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Buildings	337,638	354,665
Office Accommodation	9,279	-
Plant & Equipment	3,854	2,170
Vehicles	10,538	9,398
Employee Housing	15,198	12,902
	376,507	379,135

Initial Measurement

At the commencement date of the lease, the Department recognises lease liabilities measured at the present value of lease payments to be made over the lease term. The lease payments are discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease. If that rate cannot be readily determined, the Department uses the incremental borrowing rate provided by Western Australia Treasury Corporation.

Lease payments included by the Department as part of the present value calculation of lease liability include:

- fixed payments (including in-substance fixed payments), less any lease incentives receivable;
- variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate initially measured using the index or rate as at the commencement date;
- amounts expected to be payable by the lessee under residual value guarantees;
- the exercise price of purchase options (where these are reasonably certain to be exercised); and
- payments for penalties for terminating a lease, where the lease term reflects the Department exercising an option to terminate the lease.

The interest on the lease liability is recognised in profit or loss over the lease term so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability for each period. Lease liabilities do not include any future changes in variable lease payments (that depend on an index or rate) until they take effect, in which case the lease liability is reassessed and adjusted against the right-of-use asset.

Periods covered by extension or termination options are only included in the lease term by the Department if the lease is reasonably certain to be extended (or not terminated).

Variable lease payments, not included in the measurement of lease liability, that are dependent on sales are recognised by the Department in profit or loss in the period in which the condition that triggers those payments occurs.

This section should be read in conjunction with note 5.3 'Right-of-use assets'.

Subsequent Measurement

Lease liabilities are measured by increasing the carrying amount to reflect interest on the lease liabilities; reducing the carrying amount to reflect the lease payments made; and remeasuring the carrying amount at amortised cost, subject to adjustments to reflect any reassessment or lease modifications.

The Department has the option to purchase leased assets at their agreed fair value on expiry of the lease. These leasing arrangements do not have escalation clauses other than in the event of payment default. These leasing arrangements impose no restrictions on other financing transactions. Certain leased assets have a contingent rental obligation; however, these are not material when compared to the total lease payments made.

District Court Building

In December 2004, the Department entered into an agreement to finance the development of a new purpose-built District Court Building in Perth. Construction was completed in June 2009. Under this agreement, ownership of the facility will transfer to the Department at the conclusion of the lease term. The lease is expected to conclude in July 2032.

Fremantle Justice Complex

In March 2001, the Department entered into a 25-year lease agreement for the procurement of the Fremantle Justice Centre. Under this agreement, ownership of the facility will transfer to the Department at the conclusion of the lease term. The lease is expected to conclude in November 2025.

Eastern Goldfields Regional Prison Facility

The State Government has partnered with a private consortium to build, finance, and maintain the Eastern Goldfields Regional Prison (EGRP). The prison was constructed and made available to the Department on 7 August 2016. Throughout the life of the agreement, the consortium is to provide ongoing facilities management and maintenance. The lease is expected to conclude in August 2041.

7.2 Assets pledged as security

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Assets pledged as security		
The carrying amounts of non-current assets pledged as security are:		
Right-of-use Asset - Building	364,155	373,752
Total assets pledged as security	364,155	373,752

The Department has secured the right-of-use assets against the related lease liabilities. In the event of default, the rights to the leased assets will revert to the lessor. See note 5.3 'Right-of-use assets'.

7.3 Finance costs

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Finance costs		
Lease interest expense	34,297	33,159
National Redress Scheme - unwinding of the discount (refer to note 6.6.1)	15,382	11,590
Total finance costs expensed	49,679	44,749

Finance costs includes the interest component of lease expenses and the increase in financial liabilities and non-employee provisions due to the unwinding of discounts to reflect the passage of time.

7.4 Cash and cash equivalents**7.4.1 Reconciliation of cash**

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Cash and cash equivalents	9,191	33,268
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	3,476	3,469
Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of period	12,667	36,737

Restricted cash and cash equivalents	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Current		
Unclaimed monies ^(a)	1,495	1,397
Counselling and psychological care - NRS ^(b)	-	463
Royalties for Regions Fund ^(c)	1,981	1,609
Total Current	3,476	3,469

(a) Represents stale and unrepresented cheques; rejected EFT payments and monies held in suspense as the owners/recipients cannot be located.

(b) For counselling and psychological care services granted by the National Redress Scheme, pending the creation of a trust.

(c) Refer note 4.1(g) 'Income from State Government'.

For the purpose of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalent (and restricted 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 an insignificant risk of changes in value.

7.4.2 Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash flows used in operating activities

	Notes	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Net cost of services		(1,903,588)	(1,746,664)
Non-cash items			
Depreciation and amortisation expense	5.1.1, 5.2.1, 5.3	92,744	83,064
Resources received free of charge	4.1, 4.4	36,053	34,474
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	3.6	1,832	195
Canteen Sales	4.3	(19,876)	(17,021)
Telephone recoups	4.5	(2,694)	(2,455)
Prisoner Gratuities	4.3	19,876	17,021
Adjustment for other non-cash items		(2,116)	(2,354)
(Increase)/ decrease in assets			
Receivables ^(a)		(325)	95
Other assets		(6,857)	37
Inventories		(326)	739
Increase/ (decrease) in liabilities			
Payables ^(a)		(5,071)	25,876
Employee related provisions		4,599	9,003
Other provisions	3.2(a), 6.6	21,124	(6,264)
Net GST receipts/(payments) ^(b)		82,023	71,362
Change GST in receivable/payables ^(c)		(82,092)	(71,948)
Net cash used in operating activities		(1,764,694)	(1,604,840)

(a) Note that the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) receivable/payable in respect of GST and the receivable/payable in respect of the sale/purchase of non-current assets are not included in these items as they do not form part of the reconciling items.

(b) This is the net GST paid/received, i.e., cash transactions.

(c) This reverses out the GST in receivables and payables.

7.5 Capital commitments

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Capital expenditure commitments, being contracted capital expenditure additional to the amounts reported in the financial statements, are payable as follows:		
Within 1 year	54,042	17,234
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	77,776	-
	131,818	17,234

8. Risks and contingencies

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

	Notes
Financial risk management	8.1
Contingent assets and liabilities	8.2
Fair value measurement	8.3

8.1 Financial risk management

Financial instruments held by the Department are cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash and cash equivalents, receivables, payables, Western Australian Treasury Corporation (WATC)/bank borrowings, finance leases, and Treasurer's advances. The Department has limited exposure to financial risks. The Department's overall risk management program focuses on managing the risks identified below.

(a) Summary of risks and risk management**Credit risk**

Credit risk arises when there is the possibility of the Department's receivables defaulting on their contractual obligations, resulting in financial loss to the Department.

Credit risk associated with the Department's financial assets is minimal because the main receivable is the amounts receivable for services (holding account). For receivable other than Government, the Department trades only with recognised, creditworthy third parties. The Department has policies in place to ensure that sales of products and services are made to customers with an appropriate credit history. In addition, receivable balances are monitored on an ongoing basis with the result that the Department's exposure to bad debts is minimal. Debt will be written off against the allowance account when it is improbable or uneconomical to recover the debt. At the end of the reporting period, there were no significant concentrations of credit risk.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk arises when the Department is unable to meet its financial obligations as they fall due.

The Department is exposed to liquidity risk through its trading in the normal course of business.

The Department has appropriate procedures to manage cash flows, including drawdowns of appropriations, by monitoring forecast cash flows to ensure that sufficient funds are available to meet its commitments.

Market risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices, such as foreign exchange rates and interest rates, will affect the Department's income or the value of its holdings of financial instruments. The Department does not trade in foreign currency and is not materially exposed to other price risks [for example, equity securities or commodity prices changes]. The Department's exposure to market risk for changes in interest rates relate primarily to the long-term debt obligations.

(b) Categories of 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:

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Financial Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	9,191	33,268
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	3,476	3,469
Financial assets at amortised cost ^(a)	818,489	746,853
Total financial assets	831,156	783,590
Financial liabilities		
Financial liabilities at amortised cost ^(b)	481,896	491,846
Total financial liabilities	481,896	491,846

(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 GST payable to the ATO (statutory payable).

(c) Credit risk exposure

The following table details the credit risk exposure on the Department's receivables using a provision matrix.

	Days past due					
	Total (\$000)	Current (\$000)	<30 Days (\$000)	31-60 days (\$000)	61-90 days (\$000)	>91 days (\$000)
30 June 2024						
Expected credit loss rate		21.98%	14.61%	18.67%	19.30%	19.14%
Estimated total gross carrying amount at default	11,015	8,265	142	394	81	2,133
Expected credit losses	(2,335)	(1,817)	(21)	(73)	(16)	(408)
30 June 2023						
Expected credit loss rate		20.85%	15.63%	19.03%	21.73%	18.80%
Estimated total gross carrying amount at default	10,285	7,812	270	155	142	1,906
Expected credit losses	(2,089)	(1,629)	(42)	(29)	(31)	(358)

Notes to the financial statements

(d) Liquidity risk and interest rate exposure

The following table details the Department's interest rate exposure and the contractual maturity analysis of financial assets and financial liabilities. The maturity analysis section includes interest and principal cash flows. The interest rate exposure section analyses only the carrying amounts of each item.

	Weighted average effective interest rate	Interest rate exposure			Nominal amount (\$000)	Maturity dates									
		Carrying amount (\$000)	Fixed interest rate (\$000)	Variable interest rate (\$000)		Non-interest bearing (\$000)	Up to 1 month (\$000)	1-3 months to 1 year (\$000)	3 months to 1 year (\$000)	1-5 years (\$000)	More than 5 years (\$000)				
2024															
Financial Assets															
Cash and cash equivalents		9,191	-	-	9,191	9,191	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		3,476	-	-	3,476	3,476	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Receivables ^(a)		34,527	-	-	34,527	34,527	-	-	19,149	-	-	-	-	-	-
Amounts receivable for services		783,962	-	-	783,962	783,962	-	-	1,824	5,472	4,556	61,288	710,822	-	-
		831,156	-	-	831,156	831,156	-	-	29,869	5,472	4,556	80,437	710,822	-	-
Financial Liabilities															
Payables		105,389	-	-	105,389	105,389	-	-	103,833	-	-	-	-	1,556	-
Lease liabilities	8.40%	376,507	376,507	-	-	633,945	12,040	48,609	258,950	307,982	-	-	-	-	-
		481,896	376,507	-	105,389	739,334	12,040	48,609	260,506	307,982	-	-	-	-	-

(a) The amount of receivables excludes the GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable).

(d) Liquidity risk and interest rate exposure (continued)

	Weighted average effective interest rate	Interest rate exposure				Nominal amount (\$000)	Maturity dates								
		Carrying amount (\$000)	Fixed interest rate (\$000)	Variable interest rate (\$000)	Non-interest bearing (\$000)		Up to 1 month (\$000)	1-3 months to 1 year (\$000)	3 months to 1 year (\$000)	1-5 years (\$000)	More than 5 years (\$000)				
2023															
<u>Financial Assets</u>															
Cash and cash equivalents		33,268	-	-	33,268	33,268	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		3,469	-	-	3,469	3,469	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Receivables ^(a)		34,202	-	-	34,202	34,202	-	-	-	19,149	-	-	-	-	-
Amounts receivable for services		712,651	-	-	712,651	712,651	448	2,894	8,283	46,500	654,526	-	-	-	-
		783,590	-	-	783,590	783,590	52,238	2,894	8,283	65,649	654,526	-	-	-	-
<u>Financial Liabilities</u>															
Payables		112,711	-	-	112,711	112,711	108,586	-	-	4,125	-	-	-	-	-
Lease liabilities	8.62%	379,135	379,135	-	-	658,308	5,947	11,216	46,298	200,036	394,811	-	-	-	-
		491,846	379,135	-	112,711	771,019	114,533	11,216	46,298	204,161	394,811	-	-	-	-

(a) The amount of receivables excludes the GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable).

(e) Interest rate sensitivity analysis

The following table represents a summary of the interest rate sensitivity of the Department's financial assets and liabilities at the end of the reporting period on the surplus for the period and equity for a 1% change in interest rates. It is assumed that the change in interest rates is held constant throughout the reporting period.

	Carrying amount (\$000)	-100 basis points		+100 basis points	
		Surplus (\$000)	Equity (\$000)	Surplus (\$000)	Equity (\$000)
2024					
<u>Financial assets</u>					
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	3,476	(35)	(35)	35	35
<u>Financial liabilities</u>					
Lease liabilities	376,507	3,765	3,765	(3,765)	(3,765)
Total increase/(decrease)		3,730	3,730	(3,730)	(3,730)
	Carrying amount (\$000)	-100 basis points		+100 basis points	
	Surplus (\$000)	Equity (\$000)	Surplus (\$000)	Equity (\$000)	
2023					
<u>Financial assets</u>					
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	3,469	(35)	(35)	35	35
<u>Financial liabilities</u>					
Lease liabilities	379,135	3,791	3,791	(3,791)	(3,791)
Total increase/(decrease)		3,756	3,756	(3,756)	(3,756)

8.2 Contingent assets and liabilities

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the statement of financial position but are disclosed and, if quantifiable, are measured at the best estimate.

Contingent assets and liabilities are presented inclusive of GST receivable or payable respectively.

8.2.1 Contingent assets

The following contingent assets are excluded from the assets included in the financial statements:

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Claims against the general public and offenders by the Department of Justice and Attorney General	850	850
	850	850

8.2.2 Contingent liabilities

The following contingent liabilities are excluded from the liabilities included in the financial statements:

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Litigation in progress		
Claims against the Department of Justice and Attorney General by the general public and offenders	1,659	950
Criminal injuries compensation court appeals ^(a)	655	1,850
	2,314	2,800

(a) Criminal injuries compensation

The contingent liability for criminal injuries is in relation to the *Criminal Injuries Compensation Act 2003* (the Act) to compensate applicants for injuries, and some losses suffered as a consequence of an offence. The Act allows an interested person to make an appeal to the District Court against an assessor's decision:

- to make or to refuse to make a compensation award;
- as to the amount of a compensation award.

The District Court decision is final and is not appealable. The Department is unable to accurately provide the value of applications on hand as each application is individually considered before a final value is determined. The number of applications on hand for the financial year ended 30 June 2024 is 11,105 (2023: 6,786). A more comprehensive annual report on the Office of Criminal Injuries Compensation operations is provided each year to the Attorney General for State Parliament by the Chief Assessor under section 62 of the Act.

Contaminated sites

Under the *Contaminated Sites Act 2003*, the Department is required to report known and suspected contaminated sites to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER). In accordance with the *Contaminated Sites Act 2003*, DWER classifies these sites based on the risk to human health, the environment and environmental values. Where sites are classified as 'contaminated – remediation required' or 'possibly contaminated – investigation required', the Department may be liable for investigation or remediation expenses.

Acacia Prison Wastewater

Previously, there was a potential hydrocarbon discharge into the wastewater due to an old spill. A monitoring instrument was installed to monitor the area for five years during which no hydrocarbons were detected. Elevated nitrogen and phosphorus levels in the bores suggest possible contamination at the Acacia wastewater treatment plant and irrigation system. There has been no further evidence of increasing nitrogen and phosphorus. Further investigation is required to determine if contamination is still present.

Albany Regional Prison

The site was classified by DWER as possibly contaminated due to potentially contaminating activities related to its historical use (rifle range, fuel storage, and wastewater disposal). The Department hired Aurora to complete a preliminary site investigation in 2017, which investigated three areas of potential environmental concern. In 2024, an additional sampling and analysis quality plan was conducted. Both investigations did not result in a conclusive outcome. Further investigative work is required to determine if there is a possible contaminated site issue.

Other contingent liabilities**National Redress Scheme**

Under the initial design of the Scheme, where an institution named on an application is defunct, but a government institution is jointly responsible for the abuse with the defunct institution, the government institution may agree to act as a funder of last resort (FoLR) and pay the defunct institution's share of redress. As a result of recommendations from the Second Anniversary Review, an expanded FoLR arrangement has been implemented in December 2021, whereby government institutions with no shared responsibility with a defunct institution may agree to take on the defunct institution's redress payments.

The provision recognised by the Department (\$488 million) excludes the expanded FoLR provisions that is likely to involve the WA Government paying redress for:

- Community Sporting Groups and other community Organisations; and
- workers aged under 18 who were sexually abused while working. This could arise from small business and business franchise licences.

At present, there is insufficient data and information to reliably estimate the impact from the expanded provisions hence this is disclosed as a contingent liability.

Legal Claims

The Department is defending a class action brought by Levitt Robinson in the Federal Court of Australia which is a representative in relation to the *Fines, Penalties, and Infringement Notices Enforcement Act 1994* (FPINE) alleging racial discrimination, on behalf of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders who were imprisoned under the FPINE Act, or their dependents. The State Solicitor's Office and Norton Rose Fulbright (NRF) have been engaged to represent the State of Western Australia. The Insurance Commission of WA (ICWA) is responsible for the defence legal fees but will recoup from the Department the portion of NRF's fees that is in excess of ICWA's agreed rates. This claim is ongoing and other implications to the Financial Statements and a time for resolution could not be estimated.

The Department is defending a class action brought by Levitt Robinson in the Federal Court of Australia relating to detention centres. The State Solicitor's Office and Norton Rose Fulbright have been engaged to represent the State of Western Australia. The Department is responsible for the defence legal fees and is expecting to recoup a portion of the costs under insurance. This claim is ongoing and the potential impact on the Department's operations and the Financial Statements is unknown.

The Department is defending a class action brought by Levitt Robinson in the Federal Court of Australia relating to the detention of young offenders in the Unit 18 Youth Detention Centre. The State Solicitor's Office and Norton Rose Fulbright have been engaged to represent the Department. The Department is responsible for the defence legal fees and is expecting to recoup a portion of the costs under insurance. This claim is ongoing and the potential impact on the Department's operations and the Financial Statements is unknown.

The Department is defending two Federal Court actions relating to the management of young people in detention centres. The claim was brought by the National Justice Project. The State Solicitor's Office and Norton Rose Fulbright have been engaged to represent the Department. These claims are ongoing and the potential impact on the Department's operations and the Financial Statements is unknown.

The Department is defending a number of historical child sexual abuse claims for damages. Some of these claims are uninsured as the alleged abuse occurred when State Government Departments were self-insured, while some claims are insured. ICWA manages all claims and charges the Department an administration fee for those claims that are uninsured. For claims that are uninsured, the Department is also required to reimburse ICWA the settlement costs, court costs, fees and disbursements. These claims are ongoing and the potential impact on the Department's operations and the Financial Statements is unknown.

8.3 Fair value measurement

Assets measured at fair value: 2024	Level 1 (\$000)	Level 2 (\$000)	Level 3 (\$000)	Fair value at end of period (\$000)
Land (Note 5.1)	-	8,590	212,173	220,763
Buildings (Note 5.1)	-	760	2,140,888	2,141,648
	-	9,350	2,353,061	2,362,411

Assets measured at fair value: 2023	Level 1 (\$000)	Level 2 (\$000)	Level 3 (\$000)	Fair value at end of period (\$000)
Land (Note 5.1)	-	9,840	193,506	203,346
Buildings (Note 5.1)	-	1,140	2,012,072	2,013,212
	-	10,980	2,205,578	2,216,558

The Warminda Hostel and Mount Magnet lands, with a combined valuation of \$1,801,500, have been reclassified from Level 2 to Level 3. Warminda buildings \$330,000 were reclassified from level 2 to level 3.

Valuation techniques to derive Level 2 fair values

Level 2 fair values of non-current assets held for sale, land and buildings (office accommodation) are derived using the market approach. Market evidence of sales prices of comparable land and buildings (office accommodation) in close proximity is used to determine price per square metre.

Fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (level 3)	Land (\$000)	Buildings (\$000)
2024		
Fair Value at the start of the period	193,506	2,012,072
Additions	-	872
Revaluation increments/(decrements) recognised in Other Comprehensive Income	16,866	123,554
Transfers from Level 2	1,801	330
Transfers from WIP	-	54,090
Impairment losses	-	(2,230)
Depreciation expense	-	(47,800)
Fair Value at end of period	212,173	2,140,888
Total gains or losses for the period included in profit or loss	-	-

	Land (\$000)	Buildings (\$000)
2023		
Fair Value at the start of the period	176,014	1,793,258
Additions	1,131	5,128
Revaluation increments/(decrements) recognised in Other Comprehensive Income	16,361	176,864
Transfers from WIP	-	78,383
Depreciation expense	-	(41,561)
Fair Value at end of period	193,506	2,012,072
Total gains or losses for the period included in profit or loss	-	-

Valuation processes

There were no changes in valuation techniques during the period.

Transfers in and out of a fair value level are recognised on the date of the event or change in circumstances that caused the transfer. Transfers are generally limited to assets newly classified as non-current assets held for sale as the Treasurer's instructions require valuations of land, buildings and infrastructure to be categorised within Level 3, where the valuations will utilise significant Level 3 inputs on a recurring basis.

Land (Level 3 fair values)

Fair value for restricted use land is based on comparison with market evidence for land with low level utility (high restricted use land). The relevant comparators of land with low-level utility are selected by Landgate and represent the application of a significant Level 3 input in this valuation methodology. The fair value measurement is sensitive to values of comparator land, with higher values of comparator land correlating with higher estimated fair values of land.

Buildings (Level 3 fair values)

Fair value for existing use specialised building assets is determined by reference to the cost of replacing the remaining future economic benefits embodied in the asset, i.e., the current replacement cost. Current replacement cost is generally determined by reference to the market observable replacement cost of a substitute asset of comparable utility and the gross project size specifications, adjusted for obsolescence. Obsolescence encompasses physical deterioration, functional (technological) obsolescence, and economic (external) obsolescence.

Valuation using current replacement cost utilises the significant Level 3 input, consumed economic benefit/obsolescence of asset which is estimated by Landgate. The fair value measurement is sensitive to the estimate of consumption/obsolescence, with higher values of the estimate correlating with lower estimated fair values of buildings.

Basis of Valuation

In the absence of market-based evidence, due to the specialised nature of some non-financial assets, these assets are valued at Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy on an existing use basis, which recognises that restrictions or limitations have been placed on their use and disposal when not determined to be surplus to requirements. These restrictions are imposed by virtue of the assets being held to deliver a specific community service.

9. Other disclosures

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

	Notes
Events occurring after the end of the reporting period	9.1
Future impact of Australian Accounting Standards not yet operative	9.2
Key management personnel	9.3
Related party transactions	9.4
Related bodies	9.5
Affiliated bodies	9.6
Special purpose accounts	9.7
Remuneration of auditors	9.8
Services provided free of charge	9.9
Equity	9.10
Supplementary financial information	9.11

9.1 Events occurring after the end of the reporting period

There were no events occurring after the end of the reporting period.

9.2 Future impact of Australian Accounting Standards not yet operative

The Agency cannot early adopt an Australian Accounting Standard unless specifically permitted by TI 1101 *Application of Australian Accounting Standards and Other Pronouncements* or by an exemption from TI 1101. Where applicable, the Department plans to apply the following Australian Accounting Standards from their application date.

Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after

Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after 1 Jan 2024

<i>AASB 2020-1</i>	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current</i> This Standard amends AASB 101 to clarify requirements for the presentation of liabilities in the statement of financial position as current or non-current. There is no financial impact.	1 Jan 2024
<i>AASB 2022-5</i>	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback</i> This Standard amends AASB 16 to add measurement requirements for sale and leaseback transactions that satisfy the requirements in AASB 15 to be accounted for as a sale. There is no financial impact.	1 Jan 2024
<i>AASB 2022-6</i>	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Non-current Liabilities with Covenants</i> This Standard amends AASB 101 to improve the information an entity provides in its financial statements about liabilities arising from loan arrangements for which the entity's right to defer settlement of those liabilities for at least twelve months after the reporting period is subject to the entity complying with conditions specified in the loan arrangement. The Standard also amends an example in Practice Statement 2 regarding assessing whether information about covenants is material for disclosure. There is no financial impact.	1 Jan 2024
<i>AASB 2022-10</i>	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Fair Value Measurement of Non-Financial Assets of Not-for-Profit Public Sector Entities.</i> This Standard amends AASB 13 for fair value measurements of non-financial assets of not-for-profit public sector entities not held primarily for their ability to generate net cash inflows. Specifically, it provides guidance on how the cost approach is to be applied to measure the asset's fair value, including guidance on the nature of costs to include in the replacement cost of a reference asset. As such, for non-financial assets measured by the cost approach, professional and management fees are to be included in the replacement cost of a reference asset (that are currently excluded by the valuer). This is likely to increase the fair value of those assets (and a corresponding increase in other comprehensive income accumulated in revaluation surplus).	1 Jan 2024
<i>AASB 2023-1</i>	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Supplier Finance Arrangements</i> This Standard amends: (a) AASB 107; and (b) AASB 7 as a consequence of the issuance of International Financial Reporting Standard Supplier Finance Arrangements (Amendments to IAS 7 and IFRS 7) by the International Accounting Standards Board in May 2023. There is no financial impact.	1 Jan 2024

Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after 1 Jan 2026

<i>AASB 2022-9</i>	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Insurance Contracts in the Public Sector</i> This Standard amends AASB 17 and AASB 1050 to include modifications with respect to the application of AASB 17 by public sector entities. This Standard also amends the following Standards to remove the temporary consequential amendments set out in AASB 2022-8 since AASB 4 and AASB 1023 do not apply to public sector entities for periods beginning on or after 1 July 2026: (a) AASB 1; (b) AASB 3; (c) AASB 5; (d) AASB 7; (e) AASB 9;(f) AASB 15;(g) AASB 119; (h) AASB 132; (i) AASB 136; (j) AASB 137; (k) AASB 138; (l) AASB 1057; and (m) AASB 1058 There is no financial impact.	1 Jul 2026
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9.3 Key management personnel

The Department has determined key management personnel to include cabinet ministers and senior officers of the Department. The Department 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 Department for the reporting period are presented within the following bands:

Compensation band (\$)	2024	2023
50,001-100,000	1	-
100,001-150,000	1	-
150,000-200,000	2	1
200,000-250,000	3	4
250,000-300,000	3	2
300,001-350,000	2	2
350,001-400,000	2	1
500,001-550,000	-	1
550,001-600,000	2	1
	2024	2023
	(\$000)	(\$000)
Shortterm employee benefits	3,785	3,299
Postemployment benefits	401	348
Other longterm benefits	89	69
Termination benefits	356	-
Total compensation of senior officers	4,631	3,716

Total compensation includes the superannuation expense incurred by the Department in respect of senior officers.

9.4 Related party transactions

The Department is a wholly owned public sector entity that is controlled by the State of Western Australia. Related parties of the Department 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 departments 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
- the Government Employees Superannuation Board (GESB).

Significant transactions with Government related entities

In conducting its activities, the Department is required to transact with the State and entities related to the State. These transactions are generally based on the standard terms and conditions that apply to all Departments. Such transactions include:

- income from State Government (note 4.1);
- equity contributions (note 9.10);
- superannuation payments to GESB (note 3.1 (a));
- lease rentals payments to the Department of Finance (note 3.4) (Government Office Accommodation and State Fleet) and the Housing Authority (Government Regional Officer Housing) and related outstanding balances (note 6.5);
- insurance payments to the Insurance Commission of WA and Riskcover fund (note 3.6)
- Legal Assistance (note 3.2);
- income from Public Trustee (note 4.2 and 4.5);
- services provided free of charge to other agencies (note 9.9); and
- remuneration for services provided by the Auditor General (note 9.8).

Material transactions with related parties

Outside of normal citizen-type transactions with the Department, 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.

9.5 Related bodies

A related body is a body that receives more than half of its funding and resources from a Department and is subject to operational control by that Department. The Department had no related bodies during the financial year.

9.6 Affiliated bodies

An affiliated body is a body that receives more than half its funding and resources from a Department but is not subject to operational control by that Department. The following bodies receive more than half their funding and resources from the Department but are not subject to operational control by it and are therefore considered to be an affiliated body under the *Financial Management Act 2006*.

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
The Legal Aid Commission of Western Australia (Note 3.2(b))	106,890	98,217
Aboriginal Legal Service of Western Australia	19,967	20,756
The Legal Costs Committee	248	149
The Law Reform Commission of Western Australia	826	888

9.7 Special purpose accounts

During the reporting period the Department maintained the following special purpose accounts:

Account name	2023-2024			Closing Balance (\$000)
	Opening Balance (\$000)	Receipts (\$000)	Payments (\$000)	
1 Courts Trust Account	16,333	55,431	(55,972)	15,792
2 Sheriff's and District Court Bailiff's Trust Account	169	2,171	(2,177)	163
3 Prisoners Private Cash Trust Account	427	12,169	(12,127)	469
4 Juveniles' Private Cash Trust Account	-	35	(30)	5
5 Counselling and Psychological Care (CPC) Fund-National Redress Scheme	-	2,448	(31)	2,417

Account name	2022-2023			Closing Balance (\$000)
	Opening Balance (\$000)	Receipts (\$000)	Payments (\$000)	
1 Courts Trust Account	13,539	41,676	(38,882)	16,333
2 Sheriff's and District Court Bailiff's Trust Account	138	781	(750)	169
3 Prisoners Private Cash Trust Account	381	12,382	(12,336)	427
4 Juveniles' Private Cash Trust Account	-	5	(5)	-

The following table summarises the purpose of the special purpose accounts maintained by the Department:

Account name	Purpose of the Special Purpose Account
1 Courts Trust Account	To hold monies paid into the Supreme, District, Family, Children's and Magistrates Courts in civil and criminal actions, as ordered by those Courts; to hold monies paid into the Sheriff's Office for service and enforcement action; and to hold monies collected in the course of Court activities for disbursement to other parties.
2 Sheriff's and District Court Bailiff's Trust Account	To hold monies collected from the Execution by the Sheriff, Supreme Court or Bailiff District Courts of Western Australia.
3 Prisoners Private Cash Trust Account	To hold funds in trust for prisoner's private use.
4 Juveniles' Private Cash Trust Account	To hold funds in trust for Juvenile offenders under the Juvenile Justice Program.
5 Counselling and Psychological Care Fund-National Redress Scheme	To hold monies in trust on behalf of the National Redress Scheme for survivors of institutional child sexual abuse and make payments to CPC providers (as determined by the Scheme) when CPC services are delivered to eligible applicants.

The above accounts have been established under section 16.1(c) of the *Financial Management Act of 2006*.

9.8 Remuneration of auditors

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

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Auditing the accounts, financial statements, controls, and key performance indicators	705	584

9.9 Services provided free of charge

During the reporting period the following services were provided to other agencies free of charge for functions outside the normal operations of the Department.

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Provision of Corporate Services:		
State Solicitors Office	1,979	2,572
Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions	55	38
Law Reform Commission	224	242
Professional Standards Council	91	97
Parliamentary Inspector of the Corruption and Crime Commission	107	96
Commissioner for Children and Young People	112	98
Legal Costs Committee	74	74
	2,642	3,217

9.10 Equity

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Contributed equity		
Balance at start of period	2,620,199	2,515,131
Capital appropriation	80,772	95,036
Digital capability fund	2,298	2,936
Other contributions by owners	6,706	4,726
Royalties for Regions Fund – regional infrastructure and headworks account	-	2,370
Total contributions by owners	89,776	105,068
Balance at end of period	2,709,975	2,620,199
Revaluation reserves		
Balance at start of period	325,848	131,422
Net revaluation increments		
Land and Buildings	138,910	194,426
Total asset revaluation surplus at end of period	464,758	325,848
Accumulated surplus/(deficit)		
Balance at start of period	(584,014)	(535,968)
Result for the period	(55,293)	(48,046)
Balance at the end of period	(639,307)	(584,014)
Total Equity at end of period	2,535,426	2,362,033

9.11 Supplementary financial information**(a) Write-offs**

During the financial year, assets, revenue and outstanding debts owed to the state were written off the Department's registers under the authority of:

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
The Accountable Authority	32	75
	32	75
Criminal Injuries Compensation		
The Accountable Authority	534	496
	534	496
Administered (Fines Enforcement Registry)		
The Accountable Authority	26,137	29,107
	26,137	29,107

(b) Losses through theft, defaults and other causes

	2024 (\$000)	2023 (\$000)
Losses of public money and public and other property through theft or default	106	14
	106	14

(c) Gifts of public property

Seven gifts, valued at a total of \$447 have been recorded. These gifts included small items such as tapping sticks and framed hand hued artwork given to the Minister and delegation members; flowers sent to a former Aboriginal Justice Advisory committee member due to a health issue; a cox tie presented for 37 years of service: framed hand-penned poem, framed hand hued indigenous carved fish and blessing stick given to delegates attending the international administrators conference.

Some of the gifts given have been manufactured within the prison estate and have been donated to support community projects.

10. Explanatory statement

This section explains variations in the financial performance of the Department.

	Notes
Explanatory statement for controlled operations	10.1
Explanatory statement for administered items	10.2

10.1 Explanatory statement for controlled operations

This explanatory section explains variations in the financial performance of the Department undertaking transactions under its own control, as represented by the primary financial statements.

All variances between annual estimates (original budget) and actual results for 2024, and between the actual results for 2024 and 2023 are shown below. Narratives are provided for major variances which are more than 10% of their comparative and which are also more than 1% of the following (as appropriate):

1. Estimate and actual results for the current year:

- Total Cost of Services of the annual estimates for the Statements of comprehensive income and Statement of cash flows (i.e. 1% of \$1.890b), and
- Total Assets of the annual estimate for the Statement of financial position (i.e. 1% of \$3.467b).

2. Actual results between the current year and the previous year:

- Total Cost of Services for the previous year for the Statements of comprehensive income and Statement of cash flows (i.e. 1% of \$1.985b), and
- Total assets for the previous year for the Statement of financial position (i.e. 1% of \$3.536b).

10.1.1 Statement of comprehensive income variances

	Variance	Estimate 2024 ¹	Actual 2024	Actual 2023	Variance Between Estimate and Actual	Variance Between Actual results for 2024 and 2023
Expenses	Note	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)
Employee benefits expense		900,687	943,232	902,839	42,545	40,393
Supplies and services	1 A	419,492	527,884	465,307	108,392	62,577
Depreciation and amortisation expense		84,275	92,972	83,064	8,697	9,908
Finance costs		32,724	49,679	44,749	16,955	4,930
National Redress Scheme	B	40,000	53,148	31,568	13,148	21,580
Grants and subsidies	2	187,040	231,549	214,972	44,509	16,577
Accommodation expenses		50,666	55,963	56,818	5,297	(855)
Prisoner gratuities		15,409	15,747	13,594	338	2,153
Cost of sales		15,415	18,838	15,658	3,423	3,180
Other expenses	3	144,422	167,353	156,632	22,931	10,721
Total cost of services		1,890,130	2,156,365	1,985,201	266,235	171,164
Income						
User charges and fees		117,646	118,606	122,156	960	(3,550)
Sales		17,151	19,876	17,021	2,725	2,855
Commonwealth grants and contributions		84,087	88,571	84,242	4,484	4,329
Other revenue		26,117	25,496	15,118	(621)	10,378
Total income		245,001	252,549	238,537	7,548	14,012
Total income		245,001	252,549	238,537	7,548	14,012
Net cost of service		1,645,129	1,903,816	1,746,664	258,687	157,152
Income from State Government						
Service appropriation	4	1,555,505	1,749,347	1,603,806	193,842	145,541
Income from other public sector entities		49,240	56,258	54,693	7,018	1,565
Services received		22,867	31,242	29,664	8,375	1,578
Royalties for Regions Fund		13,788	11,676	10,455	(2,112)	1,221
Total income from State Government		1,641,400	1,848,523	1,698,618	207,123	149,905
Surplus/(deficit) for the period		(3,729)	(55,293)	(48,046)	(51,564)	(7,247)
Other comprehensive income						
Items not reclassified subsequently to profit or loss						
Changes in asset revaluation surplus		131,425	138,910	194,426	7,485	(55,516)
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the period		127,696	83,617	146,380	(44,079)	(62,763)

1. These estimates are published in the State Budget 2023-24. Budget Papers No 2 'Budget Statements'.

10.1.2 Statement of financial position variances

	Variance	Estimate 2024 ¹	Actual 2024	Actual 2023	Variance Between Estimate and Actual	Variance Between Actual results for 2024 and 2023
	Note	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)
ASSETS						
Current Assets						
Cash and cash equivalents		2,972	9,191	33,268	6,219	(24,077)
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		2,806	3,476	3,469	670	7
Inventories		5,815	5,401	5,075	(414)	326
Receivables		23,916	24,801	24,407	885	394
Amounts receivable for services		13,925	11,852	11,625	(2,073)	227
Other current assets		2,719	9,540	2,683	6,821	6,857
Biological assets		3,056	1,958	2,972	(1,098)	(1,014)
Total Current Assets		55,209	66,219	83,499	11,010	(17,280)
Non-Current Assets						
Accrued salaries account		15,539	19,149	19,149	3,610	-
Amount receivable for services		769,356	772,110	701,026	2,754	71,084
Property plant and equipment	5	2,235,800	2,462,631	2,328,339	226,831	134,292
Intangible assets		4,353	5,596	6,310	1,243	(714)
Right-of-use assets		386,468	401,944	397,909	15,476	4,035
Total Non-Current Assets		3,411,516	3,661,430	3,452,733	249,914	208,697
Total Assets		3,466,725	3,727,649	3,536,232	260,924	191,417
LIABILITIES						
Current Liabilities						
Payables		64,542	105,389	112,711	40,847	(7,322)
Lease liabilities		33,119	34,685	31,665	1,566	3,020
Employee related provisions		188,916	190,980	182,287	2,064	8,693
National Redress Scheme	6 C	44,100	109,000	75,200	64,900	33,800
Remediation provision		703	2,413	1,038	1,710	1,375
Total Current Liabilities		331,380	442,467	402,901	111,087	39,566
Non-Current Liabilities						
Lease liabilities		328,798	341,822	347,470	13,024	(5,648)
Employee related provisions		34,141	28,934	33,028	(5,207)	(4,094)
National Redress Scheme	7	428,500	379,000	390,800	(49,500)	(11,800)
Total Non-Current Liabilities		791,439	749,756	771,298	(41,683)	(21,542)
Total Liabilities		1,122,819	1,192,223	1,174,199	69,404	18,024
Net Assets		2,343,906	2,535,426	2,362,033	191,520	173,393
Equity						
Contributed equity		2,754,227	2,709,975	2,620,199	(44,252)	89,776
Reserves		131,425	464,758	325,848	333,333	138,910
Accumulated deficit		(541,746)	(639,307)	(584,014)	(97,561)	(55,293)
Total Equity		2,343,906	2,535,426	2,362,033	191,520	173,393

1. These estimates are published in the State Budget 2023-24. Budget Papers No 2 'Budget Statements'.

10.1.3 Statement of cash flows variances

	Variance	Estimate 2024 ¹	Actual 2024	Actual 2023	Variance Between Estimate and Actual	Variance between Actual result for 2024 and 2023
	Note	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)
Cash flows from State Government						
Service appropriation	8 D	1,457,161	1,666,638	1,524,500	209,477	142,138
Funds from other public entries		65,329	56,258	54,693	(9,071)	1,565
Capital appropriations	9	134,743	88,770	97,972	(45,973)	(10,202)
Holding account drawdown		11,625	11,398	11,625	(227)	(227)
Royalties for Regions fund		17,600	11,676	12,825	(5,924)	(1,149)
Net cash provided by State Government		1,686,458	1,834,740	1,701,615	148,282	133,125
Cash flow from operating activities						
Payments						
Employee benefits	E	(873,443)	(952,990)	(867,976)	(79,547)	(85,014)
Supplies and services	10 F	(420,347)	(513,729)	(451,101)	(93,382)	(62,628)
Finance costs		(30,114)	(34,296)	(33,159)	(4,182)	(1,137)
Accommodation		(56,838)	(51,152)	(52,008)	5,686	856
National Redress Scheme		(40,000)	(46,530)	(49,757)	(6,530)	3,227
Grants and subsidies	11	(185,143)	(229,299)	(214,973)	(44,156)	(14,326)
GST payments on purchases	12	(61,378)	(86,149)	(76,130)	(24,771)	(10,019)
GST payments to taxation authority		-	(1,278)	(3,769)	(1,278)	2,491
Other payments		(158,028)	(168,338)	(155,453)	(10,310)	(12,885)
Receipts						
Sales of goods and services	13	32,395	1,972	1,660	(30,423)	312
User charges and fees	14	90,384	118,658	121,348	28,274	(2,690)
Commonwealth grants and contributions		79,184	83,761	79,431	4,577	4,330
GST receipts on sales		-	4,057	4,182	4,057	(125)
GST receipts from taxation authority	15	61,378	83,301	75,131	21,923	8,170
Other receipts		23,425	27,318	17,734	3,893	9,584
Net cash provided by/ (used in) operating activities		(1,538,525)	(1,764,694)	(1,604,840)	(226,169)	(159,854)
Cash flows from investing activities						
Payments						
Purchase of non-current physical assets	16	(137,513)	(54,854)	(55,310)	82,659	456
Receipts						
Proceeds from sale of non-current physical assets		-	3	5	3	(2)
Net cash provided by/ (used in) investing activities		(137,513)	(54,851)	(55,305)	82,662	454
Cash flows from financing activities						
Payments						
Principal elements of lease payments		(35,852)	(39,265)	(35,480)	(3,413)	(3,785)
Payment of accrued salaries account		-	-	(3,252)	-	3,252
Net cash provided by / (used in) financing activities		(35,852)	(39,265)	(38,732)	(3,413)	(533)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(25,432)	(24,070)	2,738	1,362	(26,808)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		46,749	36,737	33,999	(10,012)	2,738
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period		21,317	12,667	36,737	(8,650)	(24,070)

1. These estimates are published in the State Budget 2023-24. Budget Papers No 2 'Budget Statements'.

Major Variance Narratives (Controlled Operations)**Variances between estimate and actual for 2024**

1. Supplies and services were \$108 million higher than estimate mainly for general cost pressures largely associated with growth in the prison population (\$61.6 million), further spending on programs for youth in detention (\$11.4 million) and additional resources received free of charge from WA Police for Court Security and Custodial Services (\$7 million).
2. Grants and subsidies increased by \$45 million (24%) mainly due to higher Criminal Injuries compensation expenditure (\$38 million) incurred during the year.
3. Other expenses increased by \$23 million (16%), mainly due to an adjustment to the Department's RiskCover property insurance premium (\$4.7 million). Additionally, there were further cost incurred for repairs and maintenance in prisons, detention centres, and courthouses (\$12.4 million).
4. The service appropriation increased by \$194 million (12%), mainly due to additional funding provided for criminal injuries compensation payments (\$38 million), staffing and support at Banksia Hill Detention Centre (\$21 million), new public sector wages policy for prison officers, nurses, and youth custodial officers (\$34 million), and unavoidable cost pressures driven by the growth in the prison population (\$80 million).
5. Property, plant and equipment increased by \$227 million, mainly due to an increase in asset valuations provided by Landgate (\$41 million), and the completion of various capital projects during the year (\$55 million, of which \$41 million relates to the Casuarina Expansion and Security project).
6. The National Redress Scheme actuarial valuation increased by \$22 million, mainly due to the number of estimated total participants increasing from 9,162 to 9,682.
7. Non-current provisions decreased, mainly due to an increase in participants resulting in a higher allocation to the current provisions (refer to explanation 6).
8. The service appropriation increased by \$209 million (14%), mainly due to the factors described in explanation 4.
9. The capital appropriation was not fully drawn due to delays in infrastructure projects, including the Casuarina Prison Expansion Stage 2 project.
10. Supplies and services increased by \$93 million (22%), mainly due to an increase in payment for support services at Banksia Hill Detention Centre (\$7 million), and cost demand pressures payments (\$80 million).
11. Grants and subsidies increased by \$44 million (24%), mainly due to an increase in grant expenditure for criminal injuries (\$38 million), and legal aid assistance (\$2 million).
12. GST Payments to the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) increased, mainly due to increased cash receipts (i.e. Court and Public Trustee fees). The amount included in the budget papers did not reflect this change in the 2023-24 budget papers.
13. Sales of goods and services decreased by \$30 million, mainly due to inaccurate budget allocation.
14. User charges and fees increased by \$28 million, mainly due to inaccurate budget allocation.
15. GST receipts from the ATO increased by \$22 million, mainly due to the increase in taxable supplies that attract input tax credits during the year ended 2024. This increase was not reflected in the 2023-24 budget papers.
16. Non-current physical assets decreased by \$83 million (60%), mainly due to delays in capital project spending, namely the Casuarina prison (\$50 million), Roebourne Regional prison (\$14 million), and Banksia Hill Detention Centre projects (\$12 million). As there were delays in these projects, the capital budgets have been reflowed to the 2024-25 budget year and out of the 2025-26 budget year.

Variances between actual results for 2024 and 2023

- A. Supplies and services increased by \$63 million, mainly due to higher contractual costs relating to Corrective Services for Court Security and Custodial services (\$14 million), utilities bills and municipal rates (\$4 million), goods and supplies purchased (\$14 million) and legal assistance spending (\$11 million).
- B. The National Redress Scheme increased by \$22 million, mainly due to the increase in total participants from 9,162 to 9,682.
- C. The current provision for the National Redress Scheme has increased by \$34 million, mainly due to a rise in participants.
- D. Service appropriation increased by \$142 million, mainly due to additional staffing and support at Banksia Hill Detention Centre (\$21 million). Further to this the additional service appropriation for the new public sector wages policy for prison officers, nurses, and youth custodial officers (\$34 million). In addition, \$80 million was received for unavoidable cost pressures driven by growth in the prison population.
- E. Employee benefits increased by \$85 million (10%), mainly due to an increase in employee salaries from the public sector wage agreement, the increase in superannuation of 0.5%, and an increase in additional staff hired during the year.
- F. As explained per (A) above, payments for supplies and services increased by \$63 million.

10.2 Explanatory statement for administered items

This explanatory section explains variations in the financial performance of the Department undertaking transactions that it does not control but has responsibility to the government for, as detailed in the administered schedules.

All variances between annual estimates and actual results for 2024, and between the actual results for 2024 and 2023 are shown below.

Narratives are provided for major variances which are more than 10% of the comparative and which are more than 1% of the following (as appropriate):

1. Estimate and actual results for the current year:
- Total estimate administered income for the Statement of administered items (i.e. 1% of 86.578m).
2. Actual results for the current year and the prior year actual:
- Total administered income for the previous year for the Statement of administered items (i.e. 1% of \$94.386 million).

	Variance	Estimate 2024 ¹	Actual 2024	Actual 2023	Variance Between Estimate and Actual	Variance Between Actual results for 2024 and 2023
	Note	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)
Income from administered items						
Income						
Judicial fines and penalties		38,206	35,441	36,474	(2,765)	(1,033)
Infringement penalties	1 A	9,898	7,206	8,324	(2,692)	(1,118)
Revenue for transfer - other Government agencies		22,728	21,403	20,184	(1,325)	1,219
Criminal property confiscations	2 B	15,000	19,690	28,488	4,690	(8,798)
Law Library Fund		600	600	600	-	-
Other		146	148	316	2	(168)
Total administered Income		86,578	84,488	94,386	(2,090)	(9,898)
Expenses						
Payments to the Consolidated Account	3	48,114	42,641	44,798	(5,473)	(2,157)
Criminal property confiscations – grant payments	4	14,400	19,878	18,559	5,478	1,319
Law Library Fund payments		600	600	600	-	-
Payment to Road Trauma Trust Account		22,728	21,403	20,184	(1,325)	1,219
Allowance for impairment of receivables - Fines	5 C	-	39,713	11,185	39,713	28,258
Other		136	129	284	(7)	(155)
Total administered expenses		85,978	124,364	95,610	38,386	28,754

1. These estimates are published in the State Budget 2023-24. Budget Papers No 2 'Budget Statements'.

Major Variance Narratives (Administered Items)

Variances between estimate and actual for 2024

1. Infringement penalties decreased by \$3 million (27%), mainly due to lower than expected traffic infringement fines issued by Police officers and collected on behalf of the Department of Transport.
2. Criminal property confiscations increased by \$5 million (31%), mainly due to an increase in criminal monies confiscated by the Western Australia Police Force (WA Police), the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) and the Corruption and Crime Commission during the period.
3. Fee collections continue to be adversely impacted by legislative changes which allows individuals to reduce or satisfy their unpaid fines by applying for a Fine Expiation Order or a Work and Development Permit Scheme for those with court fines experiencing financial hardship.
4. Criminal property confiscations grants increased by \$5 million (38%), mainly due to an increase in monies from WA Police, ODPP and community grants.
5. The allowance for impairment of receivables - Fines Enforcement Registry (FER) increased by \$40 million, mainly due to no budget being set for allowance for impairment of receivables - FER which is used to provide a provision for uncollectable fines on behalf of other government agencies.

Variances between actual results for 2024 and 2023

- A. Infringement penalties decreased by \$1 million (13 %), mainly due to lower traffic infringement fines issued by Police officers and collected on behalf of the Department of Transport.
- B. Criminal property confiscations were \$9 million (31%) lower than the actual 2023 due to a decrease in collection of criminal monies.
- C. Allowance for impairment of receivables - FER increase by \$29 million (255%) than previous year due to FER write-offs (\$26 million) incurred during the year.

Key Performance Indicators

Certification of Key Performance Indicators for the Year Ended 30 June 2024

I hereby certify that the key performance indicators are based on proper records, are relevant and appropriate for assisting users to assess the Department of Justice's performance, and fairly represent the performance of the Department for the financial year ended 30 June 2024.



Ms Joanne Stampalia
A/Director General
Department of Justice
12 September 2024

Key Performance Indicators

Our Purpose

To provide a fair, just and safe community for all Western Australians.

Relationships to Government goals

Broad, high-level government goals are supported at agency level by more specific agency level desired outcomes. Agencies deliver services to achieve these desired outcomes that ultimately contribute to meeting the higher level government goals.

The following table illustrates the relationship between the Department of Justice's agency level desired outcomes, services delivered by the Department and the Government's goals.

Government Goal	Department of Justice - Desired Outcomes	Services
Safe, Strong and Fair Communities: Supporting our local and regional communities to thrive	1. An efficient, accessible court and tribunal system	1. Court and Tribunal Services
	2. Trustee, Guardianship and Administration services are accessible to all Western Australians	2. Advocacy, Guardianship and Administration Services 3. Trustee Services 4. National Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse
	3. Western Australian birth, death, marriage and change of name certificates are accurate and accessible	5. Births, Deaths and Marriages
	4. Government receives quality and timely legislative drafting and publication services	6. Services to Government
	5. People who experience discrimination and harassment have efficient and accessible avenues of redress	7. Equal Opportunity Commission Services
	6. Equitable access to legal services and information*	8. Legal Assistance*
	7. A safe, secure and decent corrective services which contributes to community safety and reduces offenders' involvement in the justice system	9. Adult Corrective Services 10. Youth Justice Services

* This outcome and service is delivered by legal assistance agencies that support the delivery of legal services to Western Australians. Grant funding is provided through the Department of Justice to the Legal Aid Commission of Western Australia, Aboriginal Legal Service of Western Australia Limited and Community Legal Centres. The Legal Aid Commission of Western Australia prepares a separate annual report, including reporting against key performance indicators for this desired outcome and service.

Changes to the Department's Outcome Based Management structure

There were no changes to the Department's Outcome Based Management framework for the 2023/24 reporting year.

Key Performance Indicators

The Department of Justice is required under Section 61 of the *Financial Management Act 2006* and Treasurer's Instruction TI 904 to disclose key performance indicators in agency annual reports.

The Department has developed key performance indicators of effectiveness and efficiency to assist senior management and stakeholders to assess and monitor the extent to which agency level government desired outcomes have been achieved and the efficiency of service delivery. The key performance indicators are monitored on a regular basis by the Department's Corporate Executive Committee.

Key effectiveness indicators provide information on the extent to which agency level outcomes have been achieved, or contributed to, through the delivery of services. Key efficiency indicators relate services to the level of resource inputs required to deliver them and show the average cost per output to deliver the service. Service costs are calculated based on the Department's internal cost allocation model to reflect the total cost of the service.

The following performance indicators should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes to the key performance indicators. Explanations are provided where the 2023/24 Actual results varied significantly from the 2023/24 Target and 2022/23 Actual results ($\pm 10\%$ or more).

Outcome 1: An efficient, accessible court and tribunal system

The Department aims to provide a court system that is responsive to community needs for access to justice. This supports the Government's strategic goal of safe, strong and fair communities: supporting our local and regional communities to thrive.

To be accessible, the court system must be available to resolve disputes in a timely manner. Accessibility is diminished if there are lengthy delays in bringing matters to trial or finalising matters brought before the courts. The time taken to achieve an outcome in the courts is considered a primary indicator of the accessibility of the court system and therefore the extent to which the agency level outcome is achieved. The timely resolution of matters brought before the courts is also a measure of the efficiency of the courts system.

Effectiveness indicators are measured separately for key jurisdictions and the Fines Enforcement Registry. The jurisdictions measured are considered key indicators because, combined, they represent the majority of the workload and/or expenditure for the courts.

The key effectiveness indicators comprise measures of time to trial, time to finalise matters and time to finalise non-trial matters. The measure used is dependent on the type of matter and the jurisdiction. In criminal jurisdictions, the majority of matters may go to trial, therefore time to trial is an appropriate measure, whereas in civil jurisdictions most matters may be finalised without going to trial and time to finalise non-trial matters is used.

Key Effectiveness Indicators

Supreme Court – Criminal – Time to trial

What does this indicator measure?

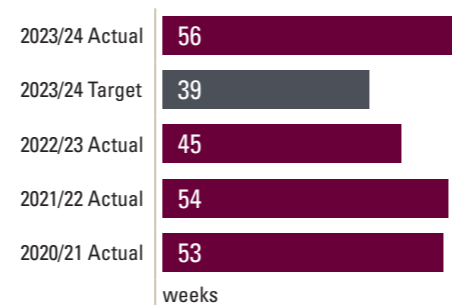
This indicator measures the median time taken from a specified initial date (i.e. committal date, which is the date the matter is sent to the Supreme Court from a lower court) to the first listed trial date. The proportion of matters needing a trial, and the time required for the court and associated services to satisfy complex pre-trial issues, increases with the seriousness and complexity of the matter.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by taking the median time from the specified initial date to first listed trial date, for matters with a first listed trial date during 2023/24. Information for this indicator is derived from the Integrated Courts Management System (ICMS).

How does the indicator result compare to target?

The 2023/24 actual result is 44% higher than target and 24% higher than the 2022/23 actual result of 45 weeks. The higher than target result is due to the complexity of cases and the limited availability of accused counsel for trials.



Supreme Court – Civil – Time to finalise non-trial matters

What does this indicator measure?

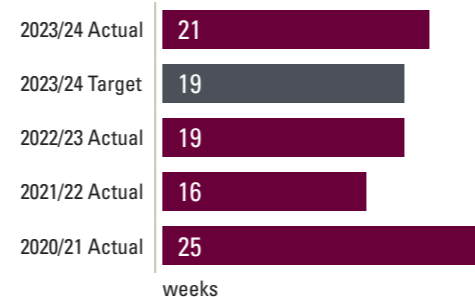
This indicator measures the median time to finalise cases that are heard by a Registrar or Judge at conferences or hearings, before proceeding to trial, and is an indicator of the capacity of the court to resolve matters by methods other than formal trial.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by taking the median time from date of lodgment to first date of finalisation, for matters finalised during 2023/24, excluding matters finalised by trial and matters finalised administratively. Information for this indicator is derived from the Integrated Courts Management System (ICMS).

How does the indicator result compare to target?

The 2023/24 actual result is 11% higher than target and 11% higher than the 2022/23 actual result of 19 weeks. This was due to the high number of finalisations of stale writs. Writs that become stale are finalised after 12 months of inactivity and have influenced the overall median time to finalise.



District Court – Criminal – Time to trial

What does this indicator measure?

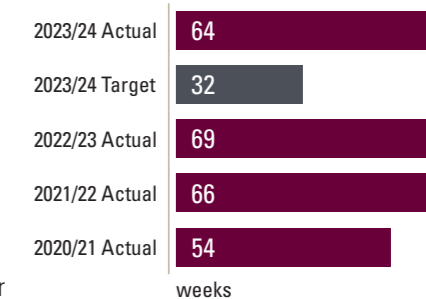
This indicator measures the median time taken from a specified initial date (i.e. committal date, which is the date the matter is sent to the District Court from a lower court) to the first listed trial date. The proportion of matters needing a trial, and the time required for the court and associated services to satisfy complex pre-trial issues, increases with the seriousness and complexity of the matter.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by taking the median time from the specified initial date to the first listed trial date, for matters with a first listed trial date during 2023/24. Information for this indicator is derived from the Integrated Courts Management System (ICMS).

How does the indicator result compare to target?

The 2023/24 actual result is 100% (32 weeks) higher than target due to the number of criminal matters already listed for trial, the complexity of cases requiring a greater number of pre-trial hearings and the limited availability of accused counsel for trials.



State Administrative Tribunal – Time to finalise

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the median time to finalise a matter from the date of lodgment to when a judgement is made.

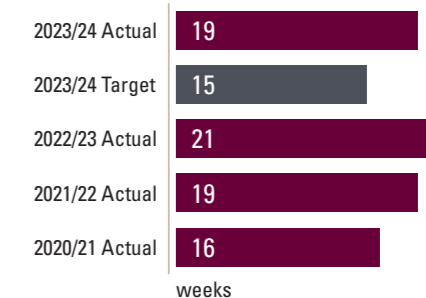
How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by taking the median time to finalise a matter from date of lodgment to first date of finalisation, for matters finalised during 2023/24 (excludes *Commercial Tenancy (Retail Shops) Agreements Act 1985* s13(7), 13(7b) and 14A(3) benchmark category and *Guardianship and Administration Act 1990* matters and matters finalised administratively). Information for this indicator is derived from the Integrated Courts Management System (ICMS).

How does the indicator result compare to target?

The 2023/24 actual result is 27% higher than target due to an increase in workload associated with *Building Services (Complaint Resolution and Administration) Act 2011* matters. Although the timeliness of building matters improved in 2023/24, the increased volume of these matters impacted the finalisation timeliness. *Planning and Development Act 2005* matters also impacted the result.

The 2023/24 actual result is 10% lower than the 2022/23 actual result of 21 weeks. The Tribunal finalised 232 more matters compared to the previous financial year and was able to improve the time to finalise matters during 2023/24.



Family Court of Western Australia – Time to finalise non-trial matters

What does this indicator measure?

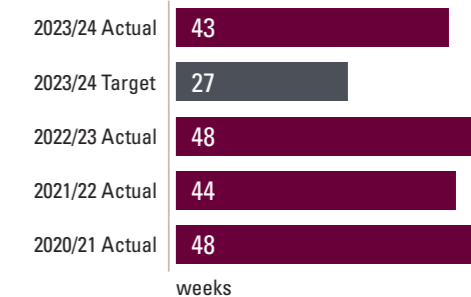
This indicator measures the median time to finalise final order applications by court order, before proceeding to trial. This is an indicator of the capacity of the court to resolve matters by methods other than formal trial.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by taking the median time to finalise a matter from the date of lodgment to the first date of finalisation, for matters finalised during 2023/24, excluding matters finalised by trial and matters finalised administratively. Information for this indicator is derived from the Integrated Courts Management System (ICMS).

How does the indicator result compare to target?

The 2023/24 actual result is 59% higher than target due to long-term growth in the complexity and volume of final order parenting applications lodged, and growth in the finalisation of these applications by court order or direction. The median weeks to finalise non-trial matters has decreased by 10% from 2022/23 (5 weeks).



Magistrates Court – Criminal and Civil – Time to trial

What does this indicator measure?

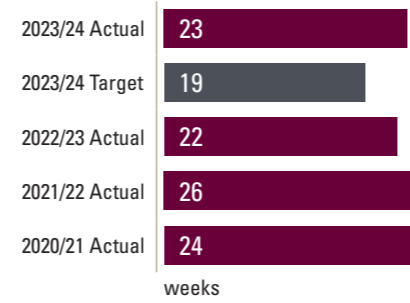
This indicator measures the median time taken from a specified initial date (i.e. lodgment for civil matters, first actual hearing date for criminal matters) to the first listed trial date. The proportion of matters needing a trial, and the time required for the court and associated services to satisfy complex pre-trial issues, increases with the seriousness and complexity of the matter.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by taking the median time from a specified initial date to the first listed trial date, for matters with a first listed trial date during 2023/24. Information for this indicator is derived from the Integrated Courts Management System (ICMS).

How does the indicator result compare to target?

The 2023/24 actual result is 21% higher than target due to an increase in demand for criminal trials and an increase in the proportion of criminal trials for offences of a higher seriousness.



Coroner's Court – Time to trial

What does this indicator measure?

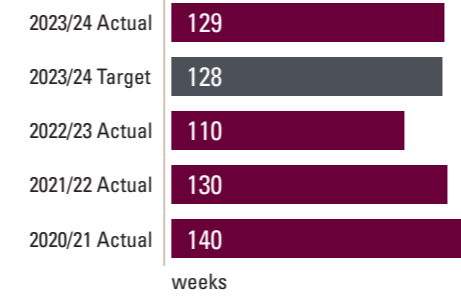
This indicator measures the median time taken from the date of notification of death (lodgment) to the first inquest hearing. The proportion of matters needing a trial, and the time required for the court and associated services to satisfy complex pre-trial issues, increases with the seriousness and complexity of the matter.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by taking the median time from the date of lodgment of death to the first inquest hearing, for cases with an inquest held during 2023/24. In the Coroner's Court, a trial is defined as an inquest. Information for this indicator is derived from the Integrated Courts Management System (ICMS).

How does the indicator result compare to target?

There is no significant variation between the 2023/24 actual result and target. The 2023/24 actual result is 17% higher than the 2022/23 actual result of 110 weeks due to an increased proportion of complex inquests requiring higher levels of investigation.



Fines Enforcement Registry - Percentage of fines satisfied within 12 months:

What do these indicators measure?

The Fines Enforcement Registry effectiveness indicators demonstrate to the community that the appropriate systems, procedures and resources are in place to enforce fines, costs and infringement penalties in a timely manner. It also demonstrates to the community that a court fine is a viable sentencing option.

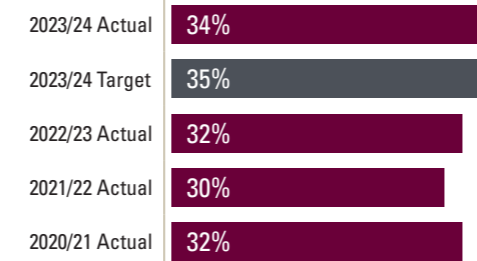
• Fines and Costs

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator measures the number of court fines satisfied within 12 months of referral to the Fines Enforcement Registry (FER). It is calculated by dividing the number of fines satisfied within 12 months of referral by the total number of fines referred to FER in the reporting period, with the result expressed as a percentage. Indicator results are based on court fines with an enforcement date during the 2022/23 financial year to allow 12 months to satisfy fines. Information for this indicator is derived from the Integrated Courts Management System (ICMS).

How does the indicator result compare to target?

No significant variation.



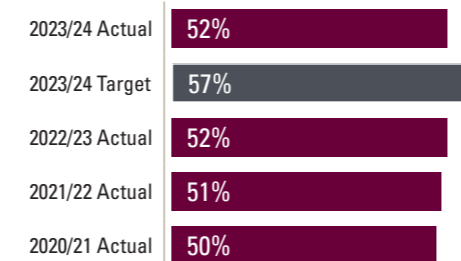
• Infringements

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator measures the number of infringements satisfied within 12 months of referral to the Fines Enforcement Registry (FER). It is calculated by dividing the number of infringements satisfied within 12 months of referral by the total number of infringements referred to FER in the reporting period, with the result expressed as a percentage. Indicator results are based on infringements with an enforcement date during the 2022/23 financial year to allow 12 months to satisfy fines. Information for this indicator is derived from the Integrated Courts Management System (ICMS).

How does the indicator result compare to target?

No significant variation.



Service 1: Court and Tribunal Services

This service is delivered by Court and Tribunal Services.

Two distinct groups administer courts in Western Australia: the independent judicial officers, who preside over the various courts, and the Department of Justice that provides court facilities, administrative support and judicial support staff to enable the determination of cases brought before a court or tribunal. Part of this function also involves the delivery of court counselling services and a range of civil and criminal enforcement services.

Key Efficiency Indicators

What do these indicators measure?

The following indicators measure the average cost per case for all matters finalised within each jurisdiction (including matters finalised without trial and those finalised administratively), and the cost per enforcement action to finalise outstanding fines and infringements.

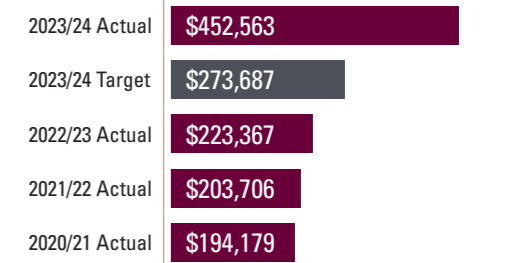
How are these cost per case indicators calculated?

The average cost per case indicators are calculated by dividing the total cost of processing cases by the total number of finalisations during 2023/24. Total costs used to calculate the efficiency measure are extracted from the Department's jurisdiction based cost management system, Planning and Budgeting Cloud Services (PBCS). The number of finalisations is obtained from various in house case management and tracking systems maintained by the jurisdictions.

Supreme Court – Criminal – Cost per case

How does the indicator result compare to target?

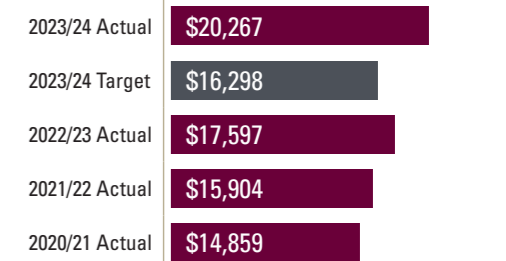
The 2023/24 actual result is 65% higher than target and 103% higher than the 2022/23 actual result of \$223,367. This is primarily due to an increase in complex multiple-accused trials and limited availability of accused counsel resulting in a lower than anticipated number of finalisations combined with an increase in operating and salary costs. Due to low criminal case numbers, any fluctuation in matters finalised will result in a significant variance.



Supreme Court – Civil – Cost per case

How does the indicator result compare to target?

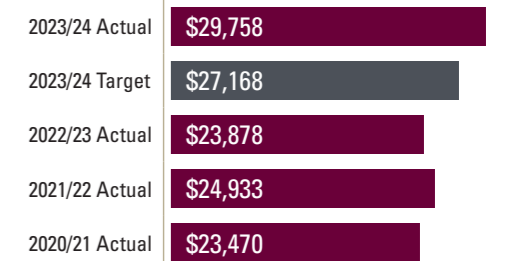
The 2023/24 actual result is 24% higher than target and 15% higher than the 2022/23 actual result of \$17,597. This is due to an increase in operating and salary costs and a slightly lower than anticipated number of finalisations.



Court of Appeal – Cost per case

How does the indicator result compare to target?

The 2023/24 actual result is 10% higher than target and 25% higher than the 2022/23 actual result of \$23,878. This is due to less finalisations as a result of a lower than anticipated number of appeal lodgments.



District Court – Criminal – Cost per case**How does the indicator result compare to target?**

No significant variation.

2023/24 Actual	\$27,449
2023/24 Target	\$25,932
2022/23 Actual	\$29,906
2021/22 Actual	\$24,714
2020/21 Actual	\$23,014

District Court – Civil – Cost per case**How does the indicator result compare to target?**

No significant variation.

2023/24 Actual	\$2,328
2023/24 Target	\$2,436
2022/23 Actual	\$2,310
2021/22 Actual	\$2,655
2020/21 Actual	\$2,584

State Administrative Tribunal – Cost per case**How does the indicator result compare to target?**

The 2023/24 actual result is 12% higher than target and 12% higher than the 2022/23 actual result of \$4,017. This is primarily due to an increase in operating costs combined with a slightly lower than anticipated number of finalisations due to complexity of matters.

2023/24 Actual	\$4,509
2023/24 Target	\$4,039
2022/23 Actual	\$4,017
2021/22 Actual	\$3,751
2020/21 Actual	\$3,747

Family Court – Cost per case**How does the indicator result compare to target?**

The 2023/24 actual result is 16% lower than target due to a higher than anticipated number of finalisations. The 2023/24 actual result is 12% higher than the 2022/23 actual result of \$2,503 primarily due to fit-out costs for an additional courtroom.

2023/24 Actual	\$2,791
2023/24 Target	\$3,303
2022/23 Actual	\$2,503
2021/22 Actual	\$2,420
2020/21 Actual	\$1,951

Magistrates Court – Criminal – Cost per case**How does the indicator result compare to target?**

No significant variation.

2023/24 Actual	\$1,229
2023/24 Target	\$1,263
2022/23 Actual	\$1,262
2021/22 Actual	\$1,169
2020/21 Actual	\$950

Magistrates Court – Civil – Cost per case**How does the indicator result compare to target?**

The 2023/24 actual result is 12% lower than target primarily due to a change in the Magistrates Court Criminal and Civil apportionments following a review under the Outcome Based Management framework.

2023/24 Actual	\$918
2023/24 Target	\$1,038
2022/23 Actual	\$986
2021/22 Actual	\$874
2020/21 Actual	\$846

Coroner's Court – Cost per case**How does the indicator result compare to target?**

There is no significant variation between the 2023/24 actual result and target. The 2023/24 actual result is 15% higher than the 2022/23 actual result of \$4,948 due to an increase in forensic pathology and body removals service costs.

2023/24 Actual	\$5,672
2023/24 Target	\$5,959
2022/23 Actual	\$4,948
2021/22 Actual	\$6,254
2020/21 Actual	\$7,001

Children's Court – Criminal – Cost per case**How does the indicator result compare to target?**

The 2023/24 actual result is 17% higher than target due to a change in the Children's Court Criminal and Civil apportionments following a review under the Outcome Based Management framework. The 2023/24 actual result is 11% lower than the 2022/23 actual result of \$1,251 primarily due to a reduction in WA Police Force court security costs as Resources Received Free of Charge.

2023/24 Actual	\$1,116
2023/24 Target	\$954
2022/23 Actual	\$1,251
2021/22 Actual	\$1,029
2020/21 Actual	\$1,035

Children's Court – Civil – Cost per case**How does the indicator result compare to target?**

The 2023/24 actual result is 23% lower than target and 20% lower than the 2022/23 actual result of \$1,713. This is primarily due to an increase in finalisations of protection and care applications combined with a change in the Children's Court Criminal and Civil apportionments following a review under the Outcome Based Management framework.

2023/24 Actual	\$1,364
2023/24 Target	\$1,765
2022/23 Actual	\$1,713
2021/22 Actual	\$2,016
2020/21 Actual	\$1,832

Fines Enforcement Registry – Cost per enforcement**How is the cost per enforcement indicator calculated?**

The indicator is calculated by dividing the total cost of processing fines and infringements by the total number of lodgments, where a lodgment represents an individual enforcement registered with the Fines Enforcement Registry for enforcement during 2023/24.

How does the indicator result compare to target?

The 2023/24 actual result is 36% lower than target and 21% lower than the 2022/23 actual result of \$34. This is primarily due to a reduction in cost allocations to the Fines Enforcement Registry following a review under the Outcome Based Management framework and an increase in lodgments by the WA Police Force and other prosecuting authorities.

2023/24 Actual	\$27
2023/24 Target	\$42
2022/23 Actual	\$34
2021/22 Actual	\$32
2020/21 Actual	\$44

Outcome 2: Trustee, Guardianship and Administration services are accessible to all Western Australians

The Department, through the operations of the Public Advocate, safeguards the rights of adults with decision-making disabilities, and reduces the incidence of risk, neglect and exploitation, while the Public Trustee ensures equitable access to trustee services for all Western Australians. Through the Office of the Commissioner for Victims of Crime and the Redress Coordination Unit, the Department is responsible for leading Western Australia's participation in the National Redress Scheme for survivors of institutional child sexual abuse, on behalf of all WA Government agencies. This supports the Government's strategic goal of safe, strong and fair communities: supporting our local and regional communities to thrive.

The following indicators show the extent to which the Department has achieved this outcome. The indicators measure the accessibility of trustee, guardianship and administration services to all Western Australians.

Key Effectiveness Indicators

Percentage of guardians of last resort allocated in one day

What does this indicator measure?

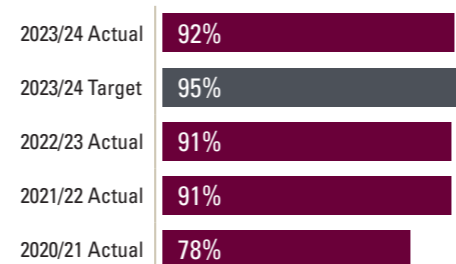
This indicator measures the timeliness of the Public Advocate in allocating a guardian to a represented person in order to make decisions on their behalf and protect them from neglect, abuse or exploitation. The Public Advocate is appointed as guardian of last resort only when considered necessary and when there is no one else suitable, available or willing to take on the role.

How is this indicator calculated?

The indicator is based on the Public Advocate's best practice to ensure the needs of the represented person are met immediately. It is calculated by dividing the total number of new appointments of guardians of last resort made by the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT) at the hearing and allocated by the Public Advocate's delegate within one working day of receipt of the guardianship order by the total number of new guardianship appointments made by the SAT appointing the Public Advocate during 2023/24. Information for this indicator is extracted from the Public Advocate Case Management (PACMAN) system.

How does the indicator result compare to target?

No significant variation.



Percentage of Western Australian deceased estates administered by the Public Trustee

What does this indicator measure?

The Public Trustee offers a secure value for money alternative for administration of deceased estates in Western Australia. This ensures that trustee services are accessible to people in the state. The percentage of deceased estates administered by the Public Trustee indicates the extent of usage of this service and therefore the overall accessibility of trustee services to Western Australians.

The Public Trustee operates in a commercial environment offering services that can be provided by numerous professional service providers.

The Public Trustee administers deceased estates where it has been appointed as executor. Some estates may not require formal administration but still require work to be undertaken in order for assets to be registered in the survivor or beneficiaries' name.

How is this indicator calculated?

The indicator is calculated by dividing the total number of new deceased estate files by the total number of adult deaths registered in Western Australia during 2023/24, with the result expressed as a percentage.

Data for this indicator is sourced from the Public Trustee's Management Accounting and Trust Environment (MATE) system.

How does the indicator result compare to target?

The 2023/24 actual result is 33% higher than target and 29% higher than the 2022/23 actual result of 4.1% due to an increase in the number of deceased estates administered by the Public Trustee during the 2023/24 financial year.

Percentage of clients who have services provided by the Public Trustee under an operating subsidy

What does this indicator measure?

In addition to providing affordable services, thereby making trustee services more accessible, the Public Trustee provides services free of charge, or at a reduced cost, to clients who cannot afford them. This further increases the accessibility of trustee services by ensuring that all Western Australians have access to trustee services.

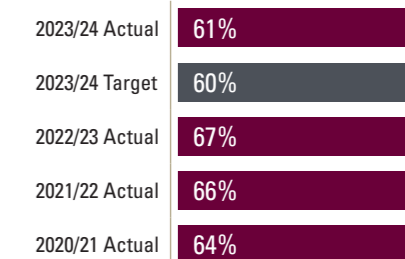
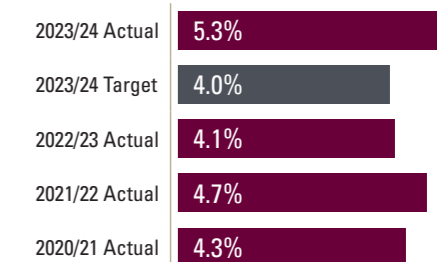
The indicator represents the proportion of services provided free of charge or at a reduced cost under the Public Trustee's community service.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator measures the proportion of clients provided with services by the Public Trustee under an operating subsidy during 2023/24. The fees raised are rebated back to the clients who meet the minimum requirements under the operating subsidy. The indicator is calculated by dividing the number of operating subsidy clients by the total number of trust clients administered, with the result expressed as a percentage.

How does the indicator result compare to target?

No significant variation.



Percentage of requests for information under the National Redress Scheme responded to within eight weeks

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the extent to which Requests for Information (RFIs) received from the National Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse (the Scheme) are responded to by the Redress Coordination Unit (RCU) within the eight week timeframe set by the Scheme Operator.

An application to the Scheme can result in multiple RFIs from the Scheme. The RCU allocates each RFI to the appropriate Western Australian Government Department for response. Once a response has been provided, the RCU lodges the information with the Scheme.

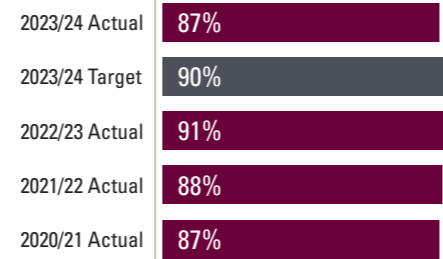
How is this indicator calculated?

The indicator is calculated by dividing the total number of RFIs responded to within eight weeks by the total number of RFIs responded to during 2023/24, with the result expressed as a percentage.

The eight-week timeframe begins when the Scheme notifies the RCU of an RFI, and ends when the RCU lodges a response back to the Scheme.

How does the indicator result compare to target?

No significant variation.



Service 2: Advocacy, Guardianship and Administration services

This service is delivered by the Office of the Public Advocate.

Advocacy, guardianship and administration services protect and promote the financial interests and welfare of people with decision-making disabilities by providing:

- access to investigation and advocacy services;
- appropriate appointment of guardians and administrators and appropriate interventions in relation to Enduring Powers of Attorney and Enduring Powers of Guardianship;
- guardianship and administration community education services; and
- guardianship and administration services provided by the Office of the Public Advocate.

The following efficiency indicator measures the average cost of delivering the service.

Key Efficiency Indicator

Average cost of providing advocacy and guardianship services

What does this indicator measure?

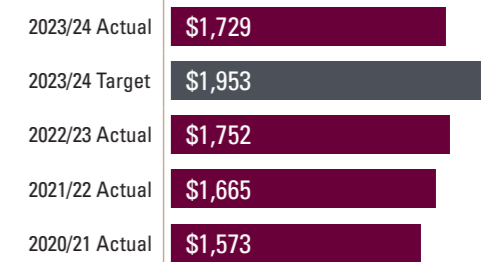
This indicator measures the average cost per case of providing advocacy and guardianship services on behalf of people with decision-making disabilities.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by dividing the total cost of providing advocacy, guardianship and administration services by the total number of advocacy, guardianship and administration services provided during 2023/24. The information for this indicator is extracted from Department’s activity based cost management system, Planning and Budgeting Cloud Services (PBCS), and the Public Advocate Case Management (PACMAN) system.

How does the indicator result compare to target?

The 2023/24 actual result is lower than the target by 11%, primarily due to a lower than budgeted total cost of service during 2023/24. This variance is attributable to staffing vacancies and delays in projects associated with the Office of the Public Advocate case management system.



Service 3: Trustee Services

This service is delivered by the Public Trustee.

The Public Trustee is a statutory authority within the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006*. It provides a funds management and investment service and acts as trustee or financial administrator pursuant to the orders of courts or tribunals. It also administers the estates of people who die with or without a will, in accordance with the terms of the will or the relevant law and under the authority of the Supreme Court. The Public Trustee offers high quality, personalised trustee services to meet the needs of all sectors of the Western Australian community.

The following efficiency indicators measure the average cost of delivering the service.

Key Efficiency Indicators

Average cost per deceased estate administered

What does this indicator measure?

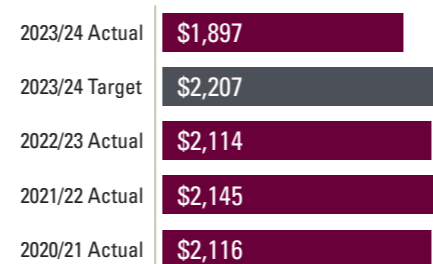
This indicator measures the average cost per deceased estate administered.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by dividing the total cost of estate administration services by the total number of deceased estates administered during 2023/24. The total number of deceased estates administered is sourced from the Public Trustee's Management Accounting & Trust Environment (MATE) system and the total cost of administration services is extracted from the Department's activity based cost management system, Planning and Budgeting Cloud Services (PBCS).

How does the indicator result compare to target?

The 2023/24 actual result is 14% lower than target and 10% lower than the 2022/23 actual result of \$2,114 due to a higher number of deceased estates administered during 2023/24.



Average cost per trust managed

What does this indicator measure?

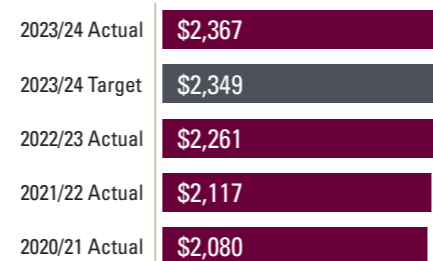
This indicator measures the average cost of managing a trust.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by dividing the total cost to manage trusts by the total number of trusts under management during 2023/24. The number of trusts under management is sourced from the Public Trustee's Management Accounting & Trust Environment (MATE) system and the total cost of providing trust management services is extracted from the Department's activity based cost management system, PBCS.

How does the indicator result compare to target?

No significant variation.



Average cost per will prepared

What does this indicator measure?

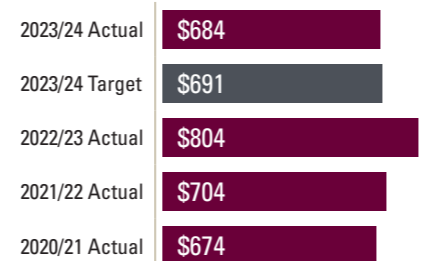
This indicator measures the average cost per will prepared.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by dividing the total cost of preparing wills by the total number of wills prepared during 2023/24. The total number of wills prepared is sourced from the Public Trustee's Management Accounting & Trust Environment (MATE) system and the total cost of preparing wills is extracted from the Department's activity based cost management system, PBCS.

How does the indicator result compare to target?

There is no significant variation between the 2023/24 actual result and target. The 2023/24 actual result is 15% below the 2022/23 actual result of \$804 due to the strategic reallocation of legal resources to meet increased workload and staff shortages in other legal areas.



Service 4: National Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse

This service is delivered by the Office of the Commissioner for Victims of Crime.

The National Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse (the Scheme) provides redress to survivors of institutional child sexual abuse. The Scheme:

- acknowledges that many children were sexually abused in Australian institutions;
- holds institutions accountable for this abuse; and
- helps people who have experienced institutional child sexual abuse gain access to counselling and psychological services, a direct personal response, and a monetary payment.

This service relates to the administration of Western Australia's participation in the Scheme through the Redress Coordination Unit (RCU). The RCU is responsible for the coordination of Requests for Information between the Commonwealth Redress Scheme Operator and the responsible state government agencies and local governments, the facilitation of direct personal responses for all state and local government agencies and Western Australia's Scheme payments to the Commonwealth.

The following efficiency indicator measures the average cost of delivering the service.

Key Efficiency Indicator

Average cost per claim

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the average cost per claim made under the National Redress Scheme, including the cost of administering the scheme for the Western Australian Government and payments made under the scheme.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by dividing the total cost of the National Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse service, which includes the cost of administering the Scheme and WA's Scheme payments, by the total number of finalised claims reimbursed during 2023/24.

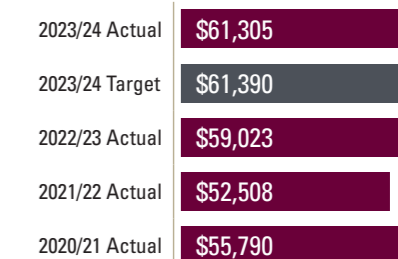
The Scheme provides quarterly invoices to the RCU, which requests reimbursement for payments made to applicants, as well as an administrative and legal payment towards the running of the Scheme. The number of finalised claims is sourced from this invoice, and is derived from a count of all listed payments reimbursed to the Scheme during the reporting year. An applicant may receive more than one payment. An application is considered finalised when an applicant has accepted an offer of redress and receives their redress payment directly from the Scheme.

The Scheme appoints Independent Decision Makers to assess applications and determine the amount to be provided in redress for both counselling and a redress payment.

Assessments are based on severity of abuse. The RCU does not have control over the number of claims paid, the amounts determined or the applicant history.

How does the indicator result compare to target?

No significant variation.



Outcome 3: Western Australian birth, death, marriage and change of name certificates are accurate and accessible

The Department seeks to ensure eligible people are able to obtain accurate documentary proof of key life events and approved organisations can obtain accurate information for research, statistical and planning purposes in a timely manner. This supports the Government's strategic goal of safe, strong and fair communities: supporting our local and regional communities to thrive.

The following effectiveness indicators show the extent to which the Department, through the activities of the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages, has achieved this outcome. The indicators measure the accuracy and accessibility of certificates of birth, death, marriage and change of name to all Western Australians.

Key Effectiveness Indicators

Percentage of certified certificates issued within two days

What does this indicator measure?

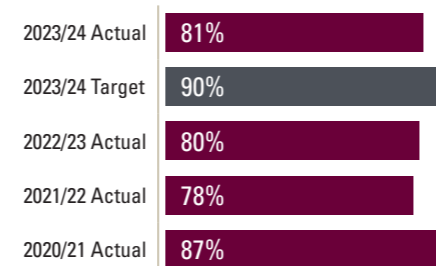
The growing need for people to access certificates for identification in a timely manner means that time taken to obtain a certificate of birth, death, marriage or change of name is a major determinant of accessibility. This indicator measures the extent to which requests for certified certificates are satisfied in a timely manner. This directly measures the extent to which the agency level outcome has been achieved.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by dividing the total number of certified birth, death, marriage and change of name certificates issued within two working days by the total number of certified certificates in the 2023/24 period, with the result expressed as a percentage. Information for this indicator is sourced from the Western Australian Registration System (WARS). WARS keeps track of the date customers request certificates and the date the certificates are issued. For the purposes of this indicator, 'issued' means printed and 'certified certificate' refers to a service request item (SRI). An SRI is a request to print and issue a certified certificate for a birth, death, marriage or change of name registration, however an SRI may include a request for more than one printed copy of a certified certificate. This indicator is calculated based on the number of SRIs, regardless of the number of printed copies issued.

How does the indicator result compare to target?

The 2023/24 actual result is 10% lower than target due to higher workload brought about by an ongoing increase in demand for issue of certified certificates.



Extent to which registration source information is recorded error-free

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percentage of new registrations accurately recorded by the Registry, excluding incorrect source information provided by customers.

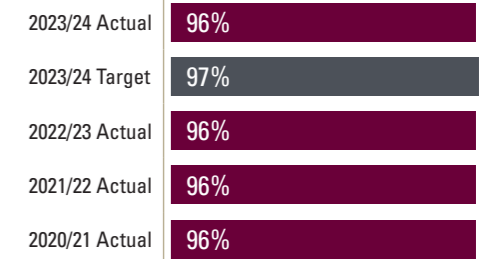
This indicator is a Key Performance Indicator because the Registry is the creator and custodian of vital records and the public must have confidence that records are accurate and reliable.

How is this indicator calculated?

The indicator is calculated by dividing the total number of birth, death, marriage, change of name, adoption and surrogate birth registrations accurately recorded by the total number of birth, death, marriage, change of name, adoption and surrogate birth registrations recorded during 2023/24, with the result expressed as a percentage. Information for this indicator is sourced from the Western Australian Registration System (WARS).

How does the indicator result compare to target?

No significant variation.



Service 5: Births, Deaths and Marriages

This service is delivered by the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages.

The purpose of the Registry is to create and preserve records of Western Australian births, deaths, marriages and changes of name, in accordance with the *Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 1998*, to enable the public to obtain documentary proof of key life events for legal, personal and historical purposes and also to enable approved organisations to obtain information for research, statistical and planning purposes.

The following efficiency indicator measures the average cost of delivering the service.

Key Efficiency Indicator

Average cost of registration services

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the average cost of creating, amending and issuing information and storing records perpetually.

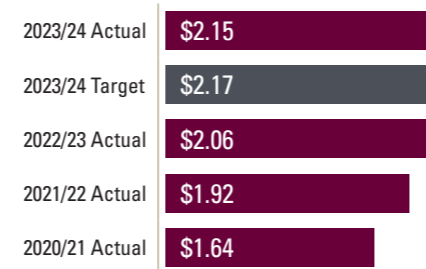
How is this indicator calculated?

The Registry has maintained a database of birth, death, marriage and change of name records since it was established in 1841. These are either in paper registers, on microfilm or computer.

This indicator is calculated by dividing the total cost of registration services by the total number of new registration services added to records held in storage during 2023/24. The total cost of registration services is extracted from the Department's activity based cost management system, PBCS. The data for registration services is sourced from the Western Australian Registration System (WARS).

How does the indicator result compare to target?

No significant variation.



Outcome 4: Government receives quality and timely legislative drafting and publication services

The Department delivers services to Government to support justice outcomes and activities of other Government agencies. This supports the Government's strategic goal of safe, strong and fair communities: supporting our local and regional communities to thrive.

The following effectiveness indicator shows the extent to which the Department, through the activities of the Parliamentary Counsel's Office, has achieved this outcome. The indicator measures the timeliness of drafting legislation.

Key Effectiveness Indicator

Extent to which legislation is drafted in a timely manner to effect the Government's legislative program

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures whether the legislative program has been met by determining the extent to which the drafting of legislation that Cabinet has authorised to be prepared has been completed according to the priorities set by Cabinet.

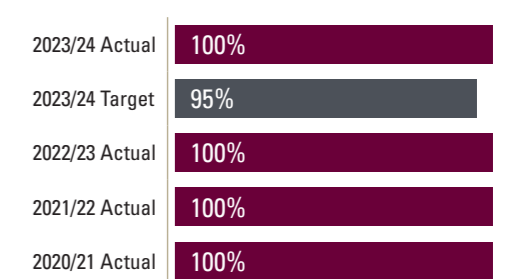
How is this indicator calculated?

The indicator is calculated by dividing the total number of Cabinet authorities of various priorities, for which legislation was completed by the relevant cut-off dates in a Parliamentary year, by the total number of Cabinet authorities to which the legislative program relates, with the result expressed as a percentage. Indicator results are based on the 2023 calendar year to directly align performance to the Parliamentary year. Information is recorded in databases located within the Parliamentary Counsel's Office.

This calculation excludes matters which were not completed on time due to circumstances beyond the control of the Parliamentary Counsel's Office, such as lack of action on the part of the instructing agency to progress a Bill; or deferral of a Bill by the instructing agency.

How does the indicator result compare to target?

No significant variation.



Service 6: Services to Government

This service is delivered by the Parliamentary Counsel's Office.

The Parliamentary Counsel's Office provides comprehensive legislation drafting services and access to up-to-date Western Australian legislation.

The following efficiency indicator measures the timeliness of publishing legislation to the WA legislation website.

Key Efficiency Indicator

Percentage of new and amended legislation titles published within two days

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the number of new and amended legislation titles published within two working days. The Parliamentary Counsel's Office is responsible for the publication and maintenance of the WA legislation website, which enables the law of WA to be accessed freely by Government, judiciary, the legal profession and the general public in a timely manner.

How is this indicator calculated?

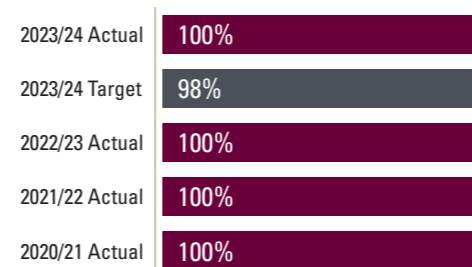
The indicator is calculated by dividing the total number of new and amended legislation titles published on the Western Australian legislation website within two working days by the total number of legislation titles published during 2023/24, with the result expressed as a percentage.

Legislation titles published within two days include:

- Acts as passed – published within two working days of Royal Assent;
- Subsidiary legislation as made – published within two working days of publication in the *Gazette* (relevant only where publication requirements for subsidiary legislation are not met by publication on the WA legislation website); and
- Consolidation of amendments into existing legislation – published within two working days of the amendments commencing.

How does the indicator result compare to target?

No significant variation.



Outcome 5: People who experience discrimination and harassment have efficient and accessible avenues of redress

The Equal Opportunity Commission (EOC) provides accessible avenues of redress for unlawful discrimination under relevant Western Australian legislation. This supports the Government's strategic goal of safe, strong and fair communities: supporting our local and regional communities to thrive.

The following effectiveness indicator shows the extent to which this outcome has been achieved. The indicator measures timeliness for investigating allegations of unlawful discrimination.

Key Effectiveness Indicator

Percentage of complaints finalised within 12 months

What does this indicator measure?

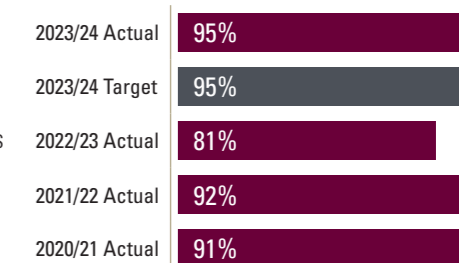
The EOC investigates and endeavours to conciliate complaints alleging unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation that fall within the jurisdiction of the *Equal Opportunity Act 1984* and other legislation administered by the EOC. This indicator measures the percentage of complaints finalised within twelve months of receipt by the EOC.

How is this indicator calculated?

The indicator is calculated by dividing the number of complaints finalised within twelve months by the total number of complaints finalised during 2023/24, with the result expressed as a percentage. Information for this indicator is derived from the Integrated Courts Management System (ICMS).

How does the indicator result compare to target?

The 2023/24 actual result met the target of 95% and exceeded the 2022/23 actual result by 17%. The uncharacteristically low percentage of complaints finalised within 12 months during 2022/23 related to clearance of a backlog of complaints that built up during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Service 7: Equal Opportunity Commission Services

This service is delivered by the Equal Opportunity Commission.

The Equal Opportunity Commission provides an avenue of redress for unlawful discrimination where there has been adverse treatment by investigating and attempting to conciliate complaints that fall within the jurisdiction of the *Equal Opportunity Act 1984* and other legislation administered by the Commissioner and providing assistance to complainants referred to the State Administrative Tribunal.

The following efficiency indicator measures the average cost of delivering the service.

Key Efficiency Indicator

Average cost per complaint finalised

What does this indicator measure?

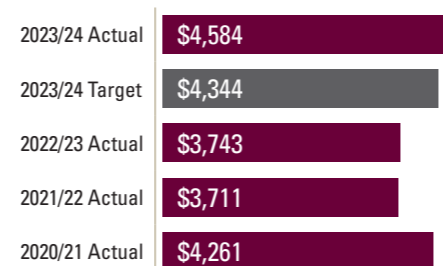
The Equal Opportunity Commission (EOC) investigates and endeavours to conciliate complaints alleging unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation that fall within the jurisdiction of the *Equal Opportunity Act 1984* and other legislation administered by the EOC. This indicator measures the costs involved in investigating and endeavouring to conciliate allegations of unlawful discrimination lodged by members of the community.

How is this indicator calculated?

The indicator is calculated by dividing the total cost of complaint management by the total number of complaints finalised during 2023/24. The total cost of complaint management is extracted from the Department's activity based cost management system, PBCS. Complaints data is derived from Integrated Courts Management System (ICMS).

How does the indicator result compare to target?

There is no significant variation between the 2023/24 result and target. The 2023/24 actual result is 22% higher than the 2022/23 actual result of \$3,743 primarily due to a reduction in the number of complaints registered with and finalised by the EOC in 2023/24 (454 complaints). During 2022/23, the number of finalisations was higher (518 complaints) due to clearance of a backlog of complaints.



Outcome 7: A safe, secure and decent Corrective Services which contributes to community safety and reduces offenders' involvement in the justice system

The Department contributes to the Government's strategic goal of safe, strong and fair communities: supporting our local and regional communities to thrive through the administration of adult and youth correctional sentences in a manner that is safe, secure and decent.

The following effectiveness indicators show the extent to which the Department, through the activities of Corrective Services, has achieved this outcome. The indicators measure the Department's contribution to community safety through the safe, secure and decent management of people in custody, as well as the Department's objectives of ensuring court sanctions are completed and reducing the rate of reoffending and imprisonment.

Key Effectiveness Indicators

ADULT

Number of escapes – Adult (by security rating)

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the number of escapes by prisoners in the custody of the Department by the prisoner's personal security rating.

How is this indicator calculated?

The number of escapes includes a count of all escapes that have occurred from both private and publicly operated facilities and during the escorted movement of prisoners between facilities and to other locations such as hospital or court during 2023/24.

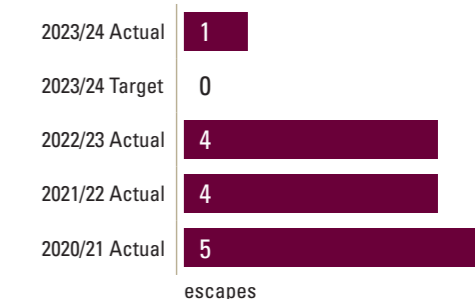
An escape occurs when a prisoner breaches physical security; flees from an authorised escort; or flees from or leaves any facility, hospital or location whereby they are lawfully meant to be.

A breakdown of the number of escapes by security rating for each year is provided in the accompanying table.

How does the indicator result compare to target?

The 2023/24 actual result is higher than target by one escape. This result is based on one minimum security escape from Pardelup Prison Farm in October 2023. This compares with four escapes across all security ratings during 2022/23. Each escape is investigated by the Department to identify factors that preceded or contributed to the escape so that the risk of further escapes can be minimised.

	2020/21 Actual	2021/22 Actual	2022/23 Actual	2023/24 Target	2023/24 Actual
Maximum	2	1	0	0	0
Medium	0	0	0	0	0
Minimum	3	3	4	0	1
Total	5	4	4	0	1



escapes

Rate of return – offender programs – Adult

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the rate at which sentenced adult prisoners return to corrective services within two years of their release from custody, where the person had completed at least one offender program prior to release. This is an indicator of how effectively the Department is providing program interventions to reduce the rate of reoffending and imprisonment.

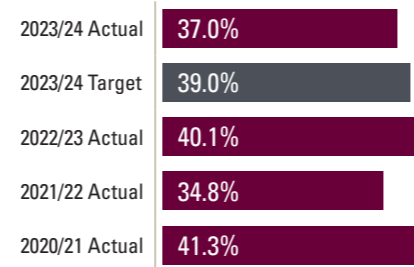
How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by dividing the number of offenders who return to either community corrections or custody under sentence within two years of their release from custody, by the number of sentenced offenders released from custody, where the offenders completed at least one offender treatment program prior to release. The result is expressed as a percentage. Indicator results are based on exits during 2021/22 to allow two years from date of release.

The rate includes offenders who returned to custody due to cancellation of an early release order (parole) by the court for either reoffending or non-compliance with the terms and conditions of release. The rate excludes offenders exited to jurisdictions outside of Western Australia or to a mental health placement, offenders who were in custody on sentences that relate only to default of a court imposed fine and offenders who return to custody due to the suspension of an early release order (parole). This indicator refers to clinical intervention programs only and does not include programs relating to education and vocational training or life skills.

How does the indicator result compare to target?

No significant variation.



Average out of cell hours – Adult

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator provides the annual average number of hours that prisoners are not confined to their cells or units.

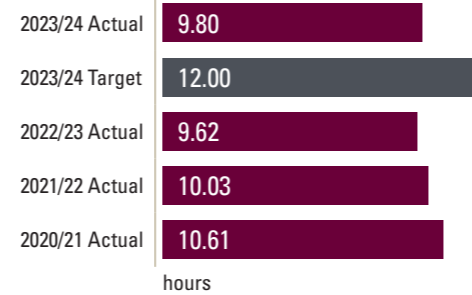
Providing a secure, safe and decent custodial environment includes managing prisoners in a way that minimises the risks they pose to the community while enabling them to achieve an acceptable quality of life. Time spent out of cells provides a greater opportunity for prisoners to participate in activities such as work, education, well-being, recreation, treatment programs, visits, and interacting with other prisoners and staff.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is measured in accordance with national standards and is calculated by dividing the total out of cell hours for 2023/24 by the number of days in the year and the average daily population. The average out of cell hours result is based on the default out of cell hours for all prisons, which excludes nightly prisoner lock downs, as well as reported lock downs during normal hours. The number of out of cell hours each day will vary due to lock downs during normal hours for reasons such as staff meetings, staff training and security requirements.

How does the indicator result compare to target?

The 2023/24 actual result is lower than target by 18% due to the combined impact of restrictions and practices in place as part of the Department's COVID-19 response and implementation of adaptive regimes to account for operational pressures at adult prison facilities.



Rate of serious assault per 100 prisoners – Adult

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the rate of serious assaults per 100 prisoners and is an indicator of the Department's objective of providing a safe, secure and decent custodial environment. This includes providing a prison environment in which there is a low level of violence, whether perpetrated by prisoners against other prisoners or against staff.

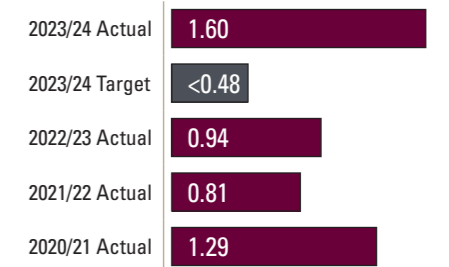
How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is measured in accordance with national standards and is calculated by dividing the number of victims of serious assault by prisoners against prisoners and prisoners against staff during 2023/24, by the average daily population for the year, with the result expressed as a rate per 100 prisoners.

Serious assaults are defined as acts of physical violence resulting in injuries that require treatment involving overnight hospitalisation in a medical facility or ongoing medical treatment, as well as all sexual assaults.

How does the indicator result compare to target?

The 2023/24 actual result is higher than target by 233% and 70% higher than the 2022/23 actual result of 0.94 serious assaults per 100 adult prisoners. The 2023/24 actual result of 1.60 is based on 114 serious assault incidents against prisoners and staff, comprising 31 serious assaults where the victim was a staff member and 83 serious assaults where the victim was a prisoner. The 2022/23 serious assault rate was based on 10 serious assaults where the victim was a staff member and 50 serious assaults where the victim was a prisoner. An increase to the prisoner population, in particular an increase to the remand cohort of prisoners, has contributed toward an increase in the rate of assault.



Successful completion of community corrections orders – Adult

What does this indicator measure?

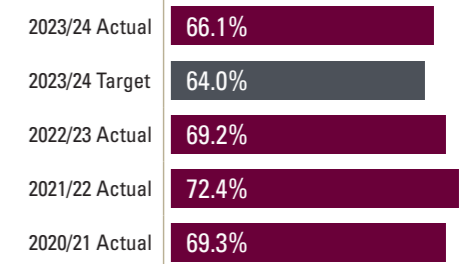
This indicator measures the percentage of community orders completed during the period that were not terminated for a breach of order for failure to meet the order requirements or because further offences were committed. This is an indicator of the Department's objective of ensuring court sanctions are completed.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by dividing the number of orders successfully completed by the total number of orders validly terminated, completed, or expired during 2023/24, with the result expressed as a percentage. Orders are considered successfully completed if they run their full course without breach action that is finalised or pending. Terminated orders exclude those terminated due to the death of an offender.

How does the indicator result compare to target?

No significant variation.



YOUTH

Number of escapes – Youth

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the number of escapes by young people in the custody of the Department.

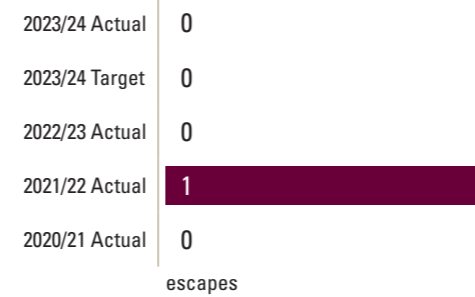
How is this indicator calculated?

The number of escapes includes a count of all escapes that have occurred from detention and during the escorted movement of young people between facilities and to other locations such as hospital or court during 2023/24.

An escape occurs when a young person in custody of the Department breaches physical security; flees from an authorised escort; or flees from or leaves any facility, hospital or location whereby they are lawfully meant to be.

How does the indicator result compare to target?

There were no escapes from youth detention during 2023/24.



Rate of return to detention – Youth

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the rate at which young people return to sentenced detention within two years of their release from detention. This is an indicator of the Department's goal of reducing the rate of reoffending and detention.

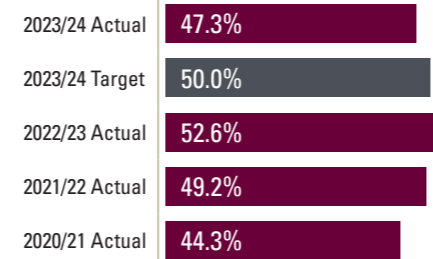
How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by dividing the number of young people who return to detention under sentence within two years of their release from detention, by the number of sentenced young people released from detention during the exit year, with the result expressed as a percentage. Indicator results are based on exits during 2021/22 to allow two years from date of release.

The rate includes young people who re-enter detention because of a new sentence and those who return to detention because their supervised release order is cancelled or suspended. A young person is counted once, even if they leave and re-enter detention multiple times within the year, or return more than once within two years of release.

How does the indicator result compare to target?

There is no significant variation between the 2023/24 actual result and target. The 2023/24 actual result of 47.3%, based on 61 returns to detention within two years of release from a period of sentenced detention, of 129 exits, is 10% lower than the 2022/23 actual result of 52.6%, which is based on 61 returns to detention within two years of 116 exits.



Successful completion of community-based orders – Youth

What does this indicator measure?

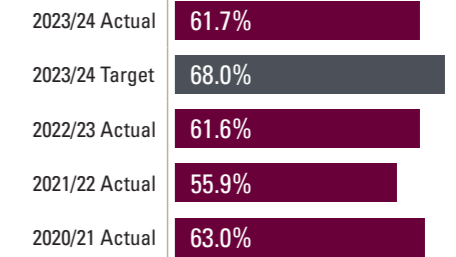
This indicator measures the percentage of sentenced community corrections orders during the period where all attendance, community work and/or supervision conditions of the order have been fulfilled. This is an indicator of the Department's objective to rehabilitate young people by diverting young people from offending, providing timely intervention and resolution of justice issues, ensuring that statutory requirements are met, and reducing the rates of reoffending and detention.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by dividing the number of orders completed during the period that were not terminated for a breach of order for failure to meet the order requirements, or because further offences were committed, by the total number of orders validly terminated during 2023/24, with the result expressed as a percentage. Terminated orders exclude those terminated due to the death of an offender.

How does the indicator result compare to target?

No significant variation.



Service 9: Adult Corrective Services

This service is delivered by Corrective Services.

The Department strives towards an adult corrective services system that contributes to community confidence, provides timely offender services, ensures court sanctions are completed and contributes to reducing the rate of reoffending and imprisonment.

Services are provided to adults in prison custody and through a range of community corrections orders and programs (for example, parole, intensive supervision). Both public and privately operated facilities are included, however, the scope does not extend to youth justice which is reported under Service 10.

The following efficiency indicators measure the average cost of delivering the service.

Key Efficiency Indicators

Cost per day of keeping an offender in custody – Adult

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the average cost per day of keeping an adult prisoner in custody.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by dividing the total cost of managing adult prisoners in custody by the average daily number of adult prisoners during 2023/24 and the number of days in the period.

How does the indicator result compare to target?

No significant variation.

2023/24 Actual	\$384
2023/24 Target	\$366
2022/23 Actual	\$408
2021/22 Actual	\$371
2020/21 Actual	\$354

Cost per day of managing an offender through community supervision – Adult

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the average cost per day of managing adult offenders through supervision of community orders.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by dividing the total cost of managing adult offenders through community supervision by the average daily number of adult offenders supervised during 2023/24 and the number of days in the period.

How does the indicator result compare to target?

No significant variation.

2023/24 Actual	\$38
2023/24 Target	\$36
2022/23 Actual	\$39
2021/22 Actual	\$37
2020/21 Actual	\$36

Service 10: Youth Justice Services

This service is delivered by Corrective Services.

The Department is responsible for the safety, security and rehabilitation of young people in custody and those engaged with Youth Justice Services in the community. The Department is focussed on:

- security and safety of young people at every stage of the youth justice system;
- safety of our people, and
- rehabilitation of young people.

The Department's core objective is to reduce reoffending among young people through:

- programs and services to divert young people away from the criminal justice system;
- programs and services for young people on orders in the community; and
- programs and services in custody.

Youth Justice Services is responsible for administering justice to young people who have committed or allegedly committed an offence while considered by law to be a juvenile (aged 10-17 years).

Youth Justice Services balances the care of young people with the responsibility to ensure community safety and will always:

- prioritise the safety of the young person and the community;
- consider what is in the best interests of the young person and their family;
- deliver services to young people that recognise vulnerability, developmental levels, gender, and cultural and religious beliefs and practices;
- be informed by evidenced based practice;
- deliver a comprehensive 'through-care' model of practice that is informed by:
 - the needs of each young person and is age, gender, culturally and linguistically appropriate;
 - a recognition and understanding that many young people in the justice system have experienced multiple traumas and that rehabilitation and care will need to address the trauma's causes and symptoms;
 - the identification of protective and risk factors;
- communicate clearly and in a timely manner with all key stakeholders;
- partner with other agencies and organisations to address complex issues contributing to youth offending in the planning and delivery of services; and
- engage with Aboriginal people to seek, promote and support culturally competent and Aboriginal-designed and led initiatives that reduce reoffending.

The following efficiency indicators measure the average cost of delivering the service.

Key Efficiency Indicators

Cost per day of keeping a young person in detention

What does this indicator measure?

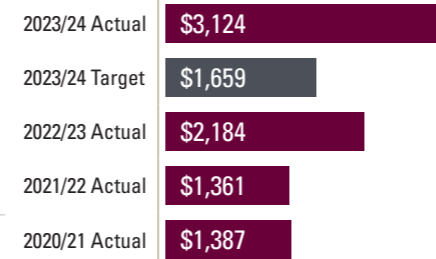
This indicator measures the average cost per day of keeping a young person in detention.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by dividing the total cost of managing young people in detention by the average daily number of young people in detention during 2023/24 and the number of days in the period.

How does the indicator result compare to target?

The 2023/24 actual result is higher than target by 88% and 43% higher than the 2022/23 actual result of \$2,184. This variance is due to the combined impact of a higher than budgeted total cost of service during 2023/24, and a reduced average daily number of young persons managed in detention, compared to the budgeted number of young persons managed. The increased cost of keeping young people in detention relates to additional costs associated with the commissioning of a second youth detention facility during 2022/23, and the generally higher overall costs of managing young people in detention.



Cost per day of managing a young person through community supervision

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the average cost per day of managing young offenders through supervision of community orders.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by dividing the total cost of managing young offenders through community supervision by the average daily number of young offenders supervised during 2023/24 and the number of days in the period.

How does the indicator result compare to target?

The 2023/24 actual result is higher than target by 40% and 21% higher than the 2022/23 actual result of \$130. This variance is due to the combined impact of a higher than budgeted total cost of service during 2023/24, and a reduced average daily number of young persons managed in the community (542 young persons), compared to the budgeted number of young persons managed (645 young persons).

