

Local Court of New South Wales Annual Review 2016



Local Court
of New South Wales

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Foreword by Chief Magistrate of New South Wales

In the context of the ongoing challenges confronting the Local Court in recent years, 2016 was no exception. In last year's review, the caseload of the Court was measured at 309,000 cases in round numbers. At the end of 2016 the figure had risen to over 330,000. This outcome occurred at a time when the statistics confirm a drop in the crime rate in a number of significant categories. It is important to understand however that there is a difference between the crime rate and the arrest rate. The former in large part reflects a change in attitude within society. The latter represents success on the part of the police force in prosecuting crime. Viewed from the perspective of society, the successful prosecution of crime is a benefit to the community and arguably feeds into a lowering of the crime rate.

Assessed from the position in which the Court found itself, operating with a palpable reduction in judicial resources compared to those that were available four years earlier, the capacity to maintain both access to justice and timeliness in meeting the standards the Court sets for itself is challenging.

Challenges to the Court are not confined to the jurisdiction it exercises. Towards the end of 2015 and early 2016, it appeared those in the upper echelons of the Department began to comprehend the enormity of the problems facing the District Court. The warning signs which had been evident for a period of years did not resonate earlier. Why that is so is not for the Court to answer.

Operationally, part of the problems in the District Court are the by-product of the rise in caseload in the Local Court and are reflected in the incapacity within the District Court to deal with a surge in trial and sentence caseload with its limited resources, both in terms of judges and courtroom infrastructure.

The operations of the Local Court are inextricably linked to the downstream consequences for the District Court. This is because not only does each court share an overlapping jurisdiction separated only by the legislative limit on sentencing powers, but the Local Court is the gate keeper in relation to committal proceedings. Whether such committals are for trial or for sentence, the ongoing efficiency of the Local Court invariably means matters in which the DPP can elect to proceed to trial and strictly indictable matters are case managed through the Local Court at a rate that far outstrips the capacity of the District Court to hear them.

Against that reality, it is a challenge for government to address the rise and rise in cases in the District Court by appointing more judges and building more trial courtrooms or to take an innovative approach mirroring that adopted in 1991 to such success when a similar crisis existed and was satisfactorily resolved. That solution involved jurisdictional changes that enabled the DPP where appropriate to choose the Local Court as the venue rather than the District Court.

In the meantime, in 2016 the Local Court faced its own challenges to capacity. In New South Wales, 96 percent of all criminal prosecutions are currently dealt with to finality within the Local Court. In the foreword to the 2015 Annual Review I spoke of the correlation between the increase in police numbers and the rise in prosecutions, pointing out the obvious, that "no body of the judiciary can maintain operational effectiveness in an environment of continued cuts to resources and greater demands." Close monitoring of sitting times throughout the State confirmed the significantly reduced court had reached the point where it could no longer accommodate the rise and rise in caseload. As forecast in the 2015 Annual Review, the impact of rising caseloads became unacceptable.

Courts in many country areas were sitting beyond their expected hours of operation, sometimes to as late as 9pm. The impact of regular episodes of extended sittings on the health of court staff, prosecutors, the legal profession and the magistrates is not something to be ignored. In May 2016 my office reviewed the listing arrangements throughout the state. As a result, the sitting arrangements for 34 City and Country circuits had their list and sentence days increased at the expense of a reduction in days given over to the hearing of defended matters.

Early indications as to the consequences of that approach have been favourable. Courts are now sitting for sensible periods, to the benefit of all involved. Any change to the period of delay in allocating hearing dates for defended hearings has been marginal at best. Unlike other jurisdictions, the Local Court is fortunate that constant focus on case management has provided it with a significant buffer between acceptable and unacceptable delays in hearings. Here it is important to state that according to the Productivity Commission the Local Court is again the leader in maintaining its completion of cases against its Time Standards.

The importance of the change to listing arrangements proved to be somewhat prescient given events in the second half of the year. In addition to the cut in eight magistrates, retirements and the absence of another magistrate on long term sick leave meant that by the end of the year the court was actually 12 magistrates down from the position in 2010. Recruitment to replace three known retirements and to facilitate the decision to restore most of the positions cut from the Court was delayed. Appointments consequent upon delay did not commence until the end of January 2017.

Had it not been for the industry and availability of Acting Magistrates (magistrates who have retired from full time duty but have been appointed as acting magistrates to accommodate absences on sick leave, vacancies due to retirement etc.), the Court would have had no choice than to abandon sittings on many occasions.

In the 2015 Annual Review attention was also drawn to the lack of adequate security at many country courts. No one could seriously argue that country people and those who attend Local Courts in country regions are not entitled to the same level of security as is provided in the Metropolitan area, Newcastle and Illawarra regions. The response to constant requests for remedial action on the security front was that there were no funds available.

On the cusp of abandoning sittings at a number of locations in September 2016, the Department advised that recruiting was underway for a larger number of Sheriff's officers. This was welcome news, although qualified by the reality that the recruitment and training requirements would mean that like the replacement of magistrates, it was unlikely any serious inroads would be made on the security issue until 2017. The Local Court has always been the last jurisdiction to be accommodated in the allocation of funds and changes in policy that recognise its important position in the social hierarchy.

It is to the great credit of the magistrates and under resourced court staff at court houses throughout the State that access to justice and the effectiveness of its application is as robust as it is.

Judge Graeme Henson AM
Chief Magistrate

1 An overview of the Local Court

- Jurisdictions and divisions
- The Magistrates
- Chief Magistrate's Executive Office
- The work of the Local Court registries

Jurisdictions and divisions

The Local Court is the first point of contact many people have with the justice system in New South Wales. In order of ascension, the District Court, Supreme Court, Courts of Appeal and Criminal Appeal, and the High Court of Australia follow.

The Court deals with a wide range of matters across several jurisdictions.

Criminal jurisdiction

The Local Court deals with over 90% of all criminal matters in the State, including the finalisation of charges for summary offences and the summary hearing of particular indictable offences nominated under the *Criminal Procedure Act 1986*. The Court also conducts committal proceedings to determine whether or not indictable offences are to be committed to the District and Supreme Courts.

Magistrates are involved in the majority of criminal proceedings from the time a matter first comes before the court, to the time it is either:

- Finalised by a plea of guilty,
- Finalised at a hearing upon a not guilty plea, at which the defendant is found guilty or acquitted;
- Committed for sentence to the Supreme Court or District Court after a plea of guilty;
- Committed for trial in the Supreme Court or District Court where the matter is to be defended; or
- Withdrawn by the prosecuting authority, and therefore dismissed.

Prosecutions in the criminal jurisdiction include matters that are:

- Brought under Federal law by the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions; and
- Brought under State law either by the NSW Director of Public Prosecutions, NSW Police Force, or Local Councils and regulatory bodies.

When the Local Court deals with criminal matters, depending on the type of offence, a wide range of penalties and sentences can be imposed, such as:

- **Non-custodial sentences**, including:
 - A dismissal or good behaviour bond without a conviction being recorded against the offender
 - A conviction without further punishment
 - A fine with conviction
 - A good behaviour bond with conviction
 - A Community Service Order with conviction
- **Custodial sentences**, including:
 - A suspended sentence, in which the offender is sentenced to imprisonment but is placed on a good behaviour bond. The offender does not serve the sentence of imprisonment unless he/she breaches the conditions of the bond and it is revoked by the court.
 - An Intensive Correction Order, in which the offender serves a sentence of imprisonment 'in the community' and is required to comply with requirements such as a curfew, completion of work, and/or completion of rehabilitative or treatment programs.
 - Home Detention, where the offender serves the sentence of imprisonment in his/her home.
 - Full-time imprisonment.

Custodial alternatives to full-time imprisonment often involve the offender being externally assessed as suitable before the sentence is delivered.

The maximum term of full-time imprisonment that can be imposed by the Local Court is a term of 2 years for a single offence where gaol is the maximum penalty, or an accumulation of up to 5 years for multiple offences where the maximum penalty for each offence is a term of imprisonment.

Civil jurisdiction

The Local Court exercises a civil jurisdiction, in which it deals with civil matters where people, companies or business owners may make claims for up to and including \$100,000 for recovery of debts, demands or damages. The civil case load of the Court is split between two Divisions:

- The **Small Claims Division** deals with claims with a monetary value of up to \$10,000. Proceedings in the Small Claims Division are conducted with as little formality and technicality as is needed for the proper consideration of the issues in dispute. The hearing is generally an informal process where the Court considers statements and documents provided by the parties. The parties are also given the opportunity to comment upon the evidence.
- The **General Division** deals with claims between the amounts of \$10,000 and \$100,000 (except in claims relating to personal injury or death, where a jurisdictional limit of \$60,000 applies). Matters where the monetary value of the claim is less than \$10,000 may also be transferred to the General Division if the issues in dispute are complex, difficult, or of such importance that they should more properly be dealt with in the General Division.

Coronial jurisdiction

All magistrates, by virtue of their office, are coroners. A coroner has jurisdiction to conduct an inquest if a person has died a violent unnatural death, a sudden death cause unknown, or under suspicious or unusual circumstances.

A death must be reported to the State Coroner or Deputy State Coroner where a person dies during the course of a police operation or whilst in custody, and an inquest must be conducted into the circumstances of that death. The State Coroner or a Deputy State Coroner also has sole jurisdiction in relation to deaths of children in care or at risk of harm and certain deaths of people with disabilities.

Coroners also have jurisdiction to hold an inquiry into the cause and origin of fires and explosions where property has been damaged or destroyed.

The State Coroner is responsible for overseeing and co-ordinating all coronial services in NSW.

Special jurisdiction

The Local Court exercises a special jurisdiction to determine any proceedings other than criminal or civil proceedings for which power is conferred by an Act of Parliament. These proceedings are regulated by Part 4 of the *Local Court Act 2007*.

One example is the review of dependency certificates under the *Drug and Alcohol Treatment Act 2007*, which authorise the involuntary detention and treatment of persons with severe substance dependence. Magistrates are regularly scheduled to attend the hospitals where the Involuntary Drug and Alcohol Treatment (IDAT) program operates (currently, Royal North Shore Hospital, St Leonards and Bloomfield Hospital, Orange) to conduct review hearings to determine whether the ongoing detention of a person under a dependency certificate is warranted. Hearings are held on a regular day of the week as required, and are conducted with as little technicality and formality as possible.

Industrial jurisdiction

Since 2013, all magistrates have been appointed as industrial magistrates. The industrial jurisdiction deals with matters including:

- Recovery of money owing under industrial instruments, such as Awards, Enterprise Agreements and statutory entitlements;
- Prosecutions for breach of industrial instruments;
- Appeals from various administrative decisions; and
- Prosecutions for statutory breaches.

The Magistrates

The judicial officers of the Court are the magistrates. The Governor of New South Wales appoints magistrates pursuant to section 13 of the *Local Court Act 2007* on the advice of the Executive Council.

The *Local Court Act* also provides that the Governor may appoint a Chief Magistrate and Deputy Chief Magistrates.

As at 31 December 2016, there were 128 magistrates (120 full-time magistrates and 8 part-time) who presided in the Local and Children's Courts at approximately 150 sitting locations throughout New South Wales.

In 2016, the magistrates were as follows:

Chief Magistrate

His Honour Judge Graeme Leslie Henson

Deputy Chief Magistrates

Her Honour Magistrate Jane Ellen Mottley

His Honour Magistrate Christopher Gerard O'Brien

His Honour Magistrate Michael Barnes
(State Coroner)

Magistrates

His Honour Magistrate Michael Gerard Allen

His Honour Magistrate John Andrews

His Honour Magistrate Michael David Antrum

Her Honour Magistrate Jennifer Atkinson

Her Honour Magistrate Joan Margaret Baptie

His Honour Magistrate Michael Andrew Barko

His Honour Magistrate Peter J Barnett SC

Her Honour Magistrate Helen Gay Barry,
Deputy State Coroner

His Honour Magistrate Glenn James Bartley

Her Honour Magistrate Geraldine Beattie,
Deputy State Coroner

His Honour Magistrate Graham Thomas Blewitt
AM

His Honour Magistrate Geoff Edward Bradd

His Honour Magistrate Dr Roger Alasdair Brown

His Honour Magistrate Peter Ignatius Bugden

Her Honour Magistrate Dominique Burns

Her Honour Magistrate Jayeanne Carney

His Honour Magistrate Ian Malcolm Cheetham

His Honour Magistrate John Michael Chicken

His Honour Magistrate Roger James Clisdell

His Honour Magistrate Michael John Connell

His Honour Magistrate Stephen Corry

Her Honour Magistrate Sharron Maree Crews

His Honour Magistrate Michael William Crompton

His Honour Magistrate Graeme Bryan Curran

His Honour Magistrate Michael Gary Dakin

His Honour Magistrate Peter Sampson Dare SC

His Honour Magistrate David Day

His Honour Magistrate David Patrick Degnan

Her Honour Magistrate Robyn Eva Denes

His Honour Magistrate Douglas Raymond Dick

His Honour Magistrate Hugh Christopher Bryant
Dillon, Deputy State Coroner

His Honour Magistrate Mark Antony Douglass

Her Honour Magistrate Susan Mary Duncombe

His Honour Magistrate Geoffrey James Dunlevy

His Honour Magistrate Andrew Ronald Eckhold

Her Honour Magistrate Elizabeth Anne Ellis

Her Honour Magistrate Clare Joanne Farnan

His Honour Magistrate Peter Gordon Feather

Her Honour Magistrate Dr Gabriel Catherine
Fleming

Her Honour Magistrate Carmel Ann Forbes

His Honour Magistrate Caleb Mark Franklin

Her Honour Magistrate Sharon Claire Freund

Her Honour Magistrate Jennifer Anne Giles

Her Honour Magistrate Claire Giroto

Her Honour Magistrate Michelle Norma Goodwin

Her Honour Magistrate Harriet Winifred Grahame,
Deputy State Coroner

Her Honour Magistrate Megan Jeanette
Greenwood

His Honour Magistrate Gregory John Grogan

His Honour Magistrate Ian James Guy

Her Honour Magistrate Christine Mary Haskett

Her Honour Magistrate Estelle Ann Hawdon

His Honour Magistrate Paul Hayes

His Honour Magistrate David Michael Heilpern

Her Honour Magistrate Nancy Louise Hennessy,
Deputy President, Administrative Decisions
Tribunal

His Honour Magistrate Geoffrey Graeme Hiatt
His Honour Magistrate Jeffrey Raymond Hogg
Her Honour Magistrate Sharon Lee Holdsworth
His Honour Magistrate Michael North Holmes
Her Honour Magistrate Julie Anne Huber
His Honour Magistrate Ross Hudson
Her Honour Magistrate Carolyn M Huntsman
His Honour Magistrate Timothy Bernard Keady
Her Honour Magistrate Erin Camille Kennedy
Her Honour Magistrate Joanne Mary Keogh
Her Honour Magistrate Georgia Knight
His Honour Magistrate Derek Jonathan Lee,
Deputy State Coroner
His Honour Magistrate Jeffrey Alan Linden
His Honour Magistrate Christopher Longley
His Honour Magistrate Terence Timothy Lucas
His Honour Magistrate Leslie William Mabbutt
His Honour Magistrate Paul Anthony MacMahon
His Honour Magistrate Ronald John Maiden
His Honour Magistrate Shane McAnulty
His Honour Magistrate Shaughan McCosker
(until 30 September 2016)
Her Honour Magistrate Margaret Mary McGlynn
Her Honour Magistrate Susan McGowan
Her Honour Magistrate Susan Clare McIntyre
Her Honour Magistrate Louise M McManus
His Honour Magistrate Alexander Mijovich
Her Honour Magistrate Jacqueline Mary Milledge
His Honour Magistrate Richard Peter Miszalski
His Honour Magistrate Terence Anthony Murphy
His Honour Magistrate Anthony Kevin Murray
His Honour Magistrate (Bernard) Michael O'Brien
Her Honour Magistrate Teresa Margaret
O'Sullivan, Deputy State Coroner
His Honour Magistrate Darryl John Pearce
His Honour Magistrate William Grenville Pierce
Her Honour Magistrate Dorelle Pinch
(until 14 October 2016)
His Honour Magistrate Roger David Prowse
Her Honour Magistrate Margaret Christine Quinn
PSM

His Honour Magistrate Robert Scott Rabbidge
His Honour Magistrate Allan Wilson Railton
His Honour Magistrate Daniel Reiss
His Honour Magistrate Mark Richardson
Her Honour Magistrate Karen Robinson
Her Honour Magistrate Paula Mary Russell
Her Honour Magistrate Elizabeth Jane Ryan
Her Honour Magistrate Mary Ryan
His Honour Magistrate Albert John Sbrizzi
Her Honour Magistrate Beverley Anne Schurr
Her Honour Magistrate Suzanne Gaye Seagrave
Her Honour Magistrate Tracy Sheedy
Her Honour Magistrate Ellen Skinner
Her Honour Magistrate Karen Elizabeth Stafford
Her Honour Magistrate Lisa Veronica Stapleton
Her Honour Magistrate Janet Christina Ruth
Stevenson (until 8 January 2016)
His Honour Magistrate Phillip Douglas Stewart
His Honour Magistrate Gary James Still
His Honour Magistrate Michael Martin Stoddart
His Honour Magistrate Robert George Stone,
Deputy State Coroner
Her Honour Magistrate Margot Gai Stubbs
Her Honour Magistrate Vivien Margaret Swain
Her Honour Magistrate Katherine E Thompson
Her Honour Magistrate Fiona Gladys Toose
Her Honour Magistrate Jacqueline Maree Trad
Her Honour Magistrate Elaine Maree Truscott
His Honour Magistrate Theo Tsavdaridis
His Honour Magistrate Brian John van Zuylen
Her Honour Magistrate Alison Mary Viney
Her Honour Magistrate Janet Wahlquist
His Honour Magistrate Robert Allen Walker
His Honour Magistrate Glenn Kevin Walsh
His Honour Magistrate Bruce Haldane Williams
His Honour Magistrate David I Williams
His Honour Magistrate Robert Hilary Williams
His Honour Magistrate Gary Wilson
Her Honour Magistrate Eve Wynhausen

Judicial retirements during 2016

His Honour Magistrate Shaughan McCosker
(retired 30 September 2016)

Her Honour Magistrate Dorelle Pinch
(retired 14 October 2016)

Her Honour Magistrate Janet Christina Ruth
Stevenson (retired 8 January 2016)

Acting Magistrates in 2016

The Court could not continue to achieve the outstanding service to the administration of justice that makes it a leader within the Commonwealth without the energy and assistance of acting magistrates. Recently retired magistrates may be commissioned as acting magistrates under s 16 of the *Local Court Act 2007* for a limited tenure.

Acting magistrates are used to preside at weekend bail courts. They may also be used to cover absences on sick leave and extended leave.

Acting magistrates in 2016 were:

His Honour Acting Magistrate Robert Joseph
Abood

His Honour Acting Magistrate Peter Frederick
Ashton

His Honour Acting Magistrate John Anthony
Bailey

His Honour Acting Magistrate Leslie Brennan

His Honour Acting Magistrate James Coombs

His Honour Acting Magistrate John Ormonde
Crawford

His Honour Acting Magistrate Colin Alan Elliott

His Honour Acting Magistrate John Daniel
Favretto (from 13 January 2016)

His Honour Acting Magistrate Andrew John
Benson George

Her Honour Acting Magistrate Lee Anne Gilmour

His Honour Acting Magistrate Stephen Vaughan
Jackson

Her Honour Acting Magistrate Mary Stella Jerram

His Honour Acting Magistrate Bernard Joseph
Kennedy

Her Honour Acting Magistrate Daphne Anne Kok

His Honour Acting Magistrate Brian Anthony
Lulham

His Honour Acting Magistrate Paul Lyon

His Honour Acting Magistrate Malcolm
MacPherson

His Honour Acting Magistrate Shaughan
McCosker (from 30 September 2016)

His Honour Acting Magistrate John McIntosh

His Honour Acting Magistrate Ian Duncan McRae

His Honour Acting Magistrate Christopher
McRobert

His Honour Acting Magistrate Carl Milovanovich

His Honour Acting Magistrate Allan Darroll Moore

His Honour Acting Magistrate Michael Morahan

His Honour Acting Magistrate Paul Mulroney

His Honour Acting Magistrate David Patrick
O'Connor

His Honour Acting Magistrate Michael Kevin
Price

His Honour Acting Magistrate Mark Robert
Shepherd

Her Honour Acting Magistrate Annette Christine
Sinclair

Her Honour Acting Magistrate Janet Christina
Ruth Stevenson (from 5 February 2016)

His Honour Acting Magistrate Anthony Alfred
Spence

His Honour Acting Magistrate George
Zdenkowski

Small Claims assessors

Small Claims assessors sit at various Local Court locations in the Sydney metropolitan area, Newcastle, the Central Coast and Wollongong in the Small Claims Division, which deals with civil claims of less than \$10,000. In other locations Small Claims matters are dealt with by the magistrate.

Small Claims assessors in 2016 were:

Ms Danae Harvey

Ms Janice Connelly

Mr Stephen Olischlager

Chief Magistrate's Executive Office

In 2016, the Executive Office consisted of six staff:

Executive Officer

Jacinta Haywood

Policy Officer

Alison Passé-de Silva

Listing and Rostering Co-ordinator

Helena Potter (until 1 July 2016); Phillip Suitor (from 4 July 2016)

Courts Co-ordinator

Phillip Suitor (until 1 July 2016);
Alison Mulqueoney (from 4 October 2016)

Executive Assistant to the Chief Magistrate

Theresa Parkinson

Judicial Support Officer

Linda McRae

The New South Wales Local Court has the largest number of Judicial Officers in a summary jurisdiction in Australia. Under the direction of the Chief Magistrate, the staff of the Chief Magistrate's Executive Office provide state-wide administrative support to magistrates and acting magistrates.

One of the primary functions of the Chief Magistrate's Executive Office is to assist the Chief Magistrate in organising and managing the sittings of the Local Court at approximately 150 locations throughout the State. The Executive Office is responsible for the publication of sittings schedules, rosters, Chief Magistrate's circulars, Local Court Practice Notes, listing of cases and collation of statistical information. The Executive Office co-ordinates magistrates' travel across the State to ensure requirements for sittings are met and co-ordinates magistrates' attendance at various conferences throughout the year. The Executive Office also assists the Chief Magistrate in discharging ceremonial functions such as the swearing in of newly appointed magistrates.

Under the supervision of the Chief Magistrate and Deputy Chief Magistrates, the Executive Office is responsible for the day to day listing management and co-ordination of the Downing Centre and Central Local Courts, the largest Local Court complex in the State.

The Executive Office also facilitates strategic and effective working relationships with clients and stakeholders. In particular, members of the Executive Office provide advice to and represent the Chief Magistrate on committees and working groups regarding matters that affect the Court, and assist the Chief Magistrate by providing research and project support relating to changes in legislation and policy.

Further information about the NSW Local Court can be found on the Local Court website at: <http://www.localcourt.justice.nsw.gov.au>

The work of the Local Court registries

The Local Court would be unable to operate effectively without the valued assistance and expertise of the many registry staff throughout the State. Each registry provides administrative and clerical support to the Local Court. The Local Court is responsible for dealing with a complex range of matters from different jurisdictions and registry staff are required to have a sound operational knowledge.

Staff at each registry are responsible for checking and accepting various documents filed at the Court, securing and maintaining court records, issuing court process and providing assistance to a variety of court users. A large number of Local Court users are not legally represented and it therefore falls upon registry staff to explain the various court processes in a manner that is easily understood.

Registrars

Registrars are appointed to the Local Court by the Governor pursuant to section 18 of the *Local Court Act 2007*. Registrars have a number of quasi-judicial functions conferred upon them by legislation.

The work of the registrar includes:

- Conduct of call-overs in both the civil and criminal jurisdiction;
- Conduct of pre-trial reviews in civil claims and small claims hearings;
- Issuing of search warrants;
- Determining various applications and motions in all jurisdictions;
- Management and supervision of the court registry;
- Swearing in of Justices of the Peace; and
- Limited responsibilities in relation to births, deaths and marriages.

2 Court operations during 2016

- Criminal jurisdiction
- Civil jurisdiction
- Coronial jurisdiction

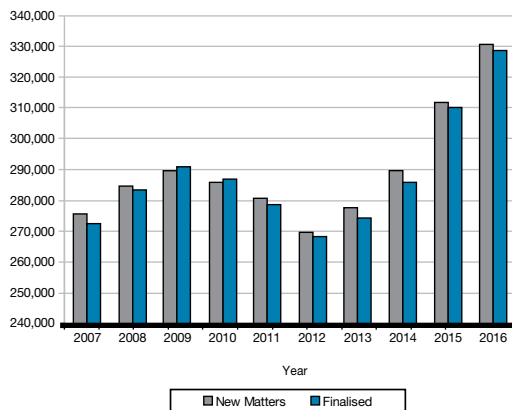
Criminal jurisdiction

Criminal matters in 2016

Between 1 January 2016 and 31 December 2016:

- 330,480 criminal matters were commenced in the Local Court, representing an increase of 6.1% from 2015 (further compounding the 9.1% increase in new matters experienced from 2014 to 2015).
- 328,810 criminal matters were finalised, giving a clearance ratio for the period of 99.5%.

Criminal matters commenced and finalised



Note: Due to source differences, no direct comparison can be made between figures for 2009 onwards and previous years.

Timeliness

In accordance with published time standards, the Court aims to finalise 100% of summary criminal trials and indictable matters discharged or committed for trial or sentence to the Supreme or District Court within 12 months of commencement.

In 2016:

- 95.7% of matters were completed within 6 months of commencement.
- 99.4% of matters were completed within 12 months of commencement.

Developments in 2016

Growth in criminal caseload

The Local Court continued to see significant growth in the number of new criminal matters commenced in 2016, with an increase in filings of almost 19,000 from 2015 levels. This continues an upward trend experienced since 2012.

Bail Act 2013 changes

Amendments to the *Bail Act 2013* made by the *Bail Amendment Act 2015* commenced on 6 December 2016. The changes included:

- Provision that bail must be refused unless satisfied that exceptional circumstances exist, for accused persons charged with certain terrorism-related offences;
- Expansion of the list of factors that must be considered when assessing whether an accused person may present an unacceptable risk if released from custody;
- Expansion of the categories of offences for which an accused person must 'show cause' why bail ought to be granted; and
- Provision for an accommodation requirement to be imposed where this would allow an accused person to be admitted to a residential rehabilitation facility for treatment upon release on bail.

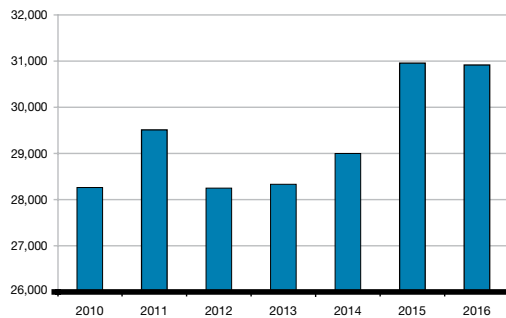
Domestic and personal violence

Final domestic violence orders remained steady, with 26,400 made in 2015 (compared to 26,009 in 2015). There was a decrease in final personal violence orders, from 4,954 in 2015 to 4,508 in 2016.

Apprehended Violence Statistics 2016

Domestic Violence	2015	2016
<i>Lodgements</i>	31,857	31,773
<i>Finalisations</i>		
Final Orders made	26,009	26,400
Complaints withdrawn/ dismissed	9,202	6,912
Complaints dismissed after hearing	336	405
Application not served	285	258
Orders varied/revoked	3,372	3,685
Application to vary/revoke withdrawn/dismisssed	757	845
Total finalisations	39,961	38,505
Personal Violence		
<i>Lodgements</i>	7,260	7,200
<i>Finalisations</i>		
Final Orders made by Court	4,954	4,508
Complaints withdrawn/ dismissed	3,247	2,567
Complaints dismissed after hearing	113	115
Application not served	95	103
Orders varied/revoked	202	162
Application to vary/revoke withdrawn/dismisssed	77	79
Total finalisations	8,688	7,534

Final domestic and personal violence orders



The Local Court acknowledges the important work of, and the assistance received in 2016 from:

- The Women's Domestic Violence Court Assistance Program that provides support and assistance for protected persons in AVO proceedings. Designated rooms and other support services are provided at most courts.
- Police Domestic Violence liaison officers, who provide assistance on list days.
- Community Justice Centres in facilitating mediation of complaints between private parties in personal violence order proceedings.

Domestic Violence Intervention Court Model

The Domestic Violence Intervention Court Model (DVICM) continued to operate in the Local Court during 2015 at Wagga Wagga and Campbelltown.

The DVICM aims to apply good practice in the criminal justice process for domestic violence matters and improve the coordination of services to complainants and defendants. By agreement with magistrates, the complainant is only required to attend court on the first mention. There are regular, although not specialist, police prosecutors at both locations. Police are being encouraged and supported to submit high quality briefs to the court at the earliest stage possible, preferably on the first mention.

Civil jurisdiction

Crimes (Domestic and Personal Violence) Act 2007 reforms

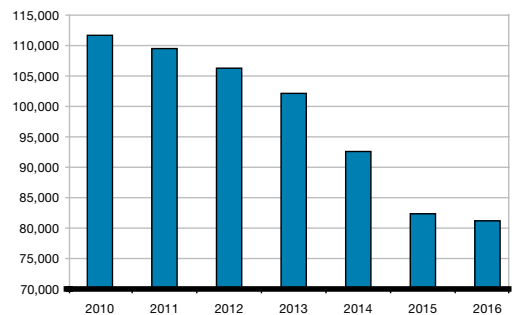
Amendments to the *Crimes (Domestic and Personal Violence) Act 2007* made by the *Crimes (Domestic and Personal Violence) Amendment (Review) Act 2016* commenced on 3 December 2016. Some of the changes included:

- Amendment of the circumstances in which an application to make or vary an order that protects a child can be made.
- Rewording of the mandatory prohibitions taken to be included in every AVO (known as the “mandatory orders”), including to specifically prohibit damage to the protected person’s property. In addition, existing AVO forms and orders have been replaced with new plain English documents that aim to simplify and personalise the content of forms and orders.
- Provision for a court to make an AVO in the terms of the mandatory orders without having to be satisfied that a person in need of protection is in fact fearful of the defendant.
- Legislative enactment of an existing Local Court procedure requiring any cross-examination of a child giving evidence in ADVO proceedings to be conducted through a suitable person appointed by the court where the defendant is unrepresented.
- Introduction of a power for the court to hear and determine proceedings in the absence of one or more parties, in circumstances where notice of the proceedings was given and it is otherwise in the interests of justice to do so.
- Amendment of the circumstances in which an application for variation or revocation of an AVO may be made, including the removal of the power of the court to revoke an expired order.

Civil matters in 2016

In the period 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2016, 80,976 civil actions were commenced (decreasing from 82,304 in 2015), of which 64,483 matters were filed in the Small Claims Division and 12,649 were filed in the General Division. A further 3,844 lodgments (primarily for the registration of certificates of orders made by other courts or tribunals for the purpose of enforcement) were received. Overall, 79,470 civil actions were finalised.

Civil actions commenced



Timeliness

The Local Court’s published Time Standards provide for the finalisation of:

- 90% of civil cases — within 6 months of the initiation of the proceedings in the Court
- 100% of civil cases — within 12 months of the initiation of proceedings in the Court.

In 2016:

- In the Small Claims Division – 97% of matters were finalised within 12 months; and
- In the General Division – 93% of matters were finalised within 12 months.

Coronial jurisdiction

Developments in 2016

Online court

2016 saw the continuation and expansion of a pilot program for the use of an online court in eligible civil matters listed at John Maddison Tower, Sydney. The lists in which the online court is used were expanded in September 2016 to include:

- Defence callovers in the General Division,
- Pre-trial review of motor vehicle accident matters in the Small Claims Division, and
- Interlocutory orders in defended matters in the Small Claims Division

The online court operates to enable interlocutory or procedural matters that may arise in the course of proceedings to be dealt with online. The pilot program is facilitated by Local Court Practice Note 1 of 2015, *Local Court Civil General Division – Online Court Protocol*.

His Honour Magistrate Michael Barnes is the NSW State Coroner.

In 2016, the Deputy State Coroners were:

- Magistrate Hugh Dillon
- Magistrate Teresa O’Sullivan
- Magistrate Derek Lee
- Magistrate Helen Barry (shared position with Magistrate Grahame)
- Magistrate Harriet Grahame (shared position with Magistrate Barry)
- Magistrate Robert Stone (Newcastle)
- Magistrate Geraldine Beattie (Wollongong)

It is the responsibility of the NSW State Coroner to oversee the work of all coroners within the state. In particular the State Coroner must ensure that all examinable deaths, fires and explosions are properly investigated and that Inquests and Inquiries are held where it is considered appropriate to do so.

Developments in 2016

Reduction of delays in coronial jurisdiction

The Report on Government Services (ROGS) for 2015/16 showed that the NSW coronial jurisdiction continued to maintain a high case clearance rate. In addition, there was a very significant reduction in the number of long term cases, this due in part to the ongoing efforts by the Department of Forensic Medicine (DOFM) to reduce the delays in the finalisation of post mortem reports. The DOFM now employs a full complement of forensic pathologists.

Coronial Case Management Unit

The preparations for the implementation of the Coronial Case Management Unit (CCMU) was a main focus in 2016. The CCMU, to be based at Sydney, is set to commence operations in late May 2017 and will be a multi-disciplined unit comprising of staff from Justice, Police and NSW Health. The unit will streamline and provide consistency for the processes leading up to the reporting of a death to the Coroner and will importantly improve communication with families and loved ones. The DOFM has undertaken renovations within the Glebe facilities for the co-location of the unit.

New Lidcombe Facility for the Coroners Court and Forensic Medicine

The detailed plans for the combined Coroners Court and Forensic Facility to be constructed at Lidcombe were finalised in 2016. Preliminary ground works in preparation of the main construction have commenced in 2017. The facility will be a state of the art complex for both the Coroners Court and the DOFM. It is forecast for completion in 2019. A substantial amount of work has gone into the planning of the new modern facility, which has also focused on shared facilities and IT systems.

Review of the Coroners Act 2009

The statutory review of the *Coroners Act 2009* continued. It is expected that the review will be completed in 2017.

Regional magistrate training

In 2016, State Coroner Barnes and Deputy State Coroner Dillon held a three day course for newly appointed magistrates about to embark on their country service. This training provides those new magistrates with an insight and understanding of the coronial jurisdiction. Evaluations received were highly favourable and supportive of further similar initiatives. This course followed on a pilot course presented online by SC Barnes and DSC Dillon through the National Judicial College of Australia in 2013. Both courses were skills-orientated and problem-based with practical materials being provided for participants to take away.

Lecture, talks and conferences

During 2016 the State Coroner and Deputy State Coroners presented numerous lectures and papers to various stakeholders and groups including:

- NSW Bar Association
- NSW Law Society
- NSW Police Academy
- Forensic Odontologists Course
- NSW Fire Services
- NSW Nurses
- NSW Health
- State and Territory Coroners Meeting
- Thought Leadership Series
- RPA Anaesthetic Seminar
- Australasian Association of Fire Investigators
- DOFM Leadership Initiative
- College of Law

Asia Pacific Coroners Conference

In November 2016 the Office of the State Coroner of Western Australia hosted the Annual Asia Pacific Coroners Conference held in Perth. New South Wales was represented at the conference by State Coroner Barnes, Deputy State Coroner O'Sullivan, and Ann Lambino, Registrar. As always this conference represents the only opportunity for coroners and those associated with the coronial jurisdiction to meet and discuss relevant topics.

Judicial retirement

His Honour Magistrate Dillon entered long service leave in June 2016 prior to retirement as a magistrate, which takes effect in early 2017. Magistrate Dillon was given a ceremonial bench farewell at the NSW State Coroners Court presided over by the Chief Magistrate, Judge Henson to mark his term as a magistrate.

Deaths in custody and deaths during or as a result of a police operation

Section 23 of the *Coroners Act 2009* stipulates that if a person dies during the course of a police operation or whilst in custody, that death must be reported to the State Coroner or Deputy State Coroner and an inquest must be conducted into the circumstances of the death. A summary of all section 23 deaths is provided to the Attorney General for each twelve-month period.

In 2016, 37 deaths were reported from a death in custody or as a result of a police operation and 23 deaths in custody inquests were held.

Children in care or disability deaths

Section 24 of the *Coroners Act 2009* requires the mandatory report to the State Coroner or Deputy State Coroner of the deaths of:

- Children in care;
- Children who have been at risk of harm in the past three years;
- Siblings of children who have been at risk of harm in the past three years;
- Children whose deaths are, or may be, due to abuse, neglect or occurring in suspicious circumstances;
- Persons living in or temporarily absent from residential care provided by a service provider and authorised or funded under the *Disability Services Act 1993* or a residential care centre for handicapped persons; and
- Persons who are in a target group within the meaning of the *Disability Services Act 1993* and receive assistance from a service provider to enable independent living in the community.

In 2016, 164 such deaths were reported to the State Coroner. While section 24 ensures mandatory reporting, unlike deaths reported pursuant to section 23, there is no mandatory requirement to conduct an inquest. However, should an inquest be necessary, only the State Coroner or Deputy State Coroner may conduct it.

Fires

Section 30 of the *Coroners Act 2009* gives the coroner jurisdiction to hold an inquiry into the cause and origin of fires and explosions where property has been damaged or destroyed. Generally, fires account for less than 10% of matters reported to a coroner and very few result in an inquiry.

Domestic Homicide Death Review Team

The NSW Domestic Violence Death Review Team was established in July 2010 to systematically review deaths occurring in a context of domestic violence. The scope of review includes both individual case analyses and the maintenance of a comprehensive database from which research data is derived. The Team is convened by the NSW State Coroner and is constituted by representatives from key government and non-government stakeholders and sector experts. The work of the Team is supported by a two person executive, the manager and the research analyst.

To date the Team has published four reports, setting out 65 case reviews and 52 recommendations targeting a range of government and non-government agencies and service providers. The Team monitors implementation of its recommendations in each subsequent report.

The work of the Team has continued to progress throughout 2016, including completing 3 full-day domestic violence homicide case review workshops and the commencement of a world first whole population study examining reported and unreported histories of domestic violence in the lives of individuals who have completed suicide. As contributing members of the Australian Domestic and Family Violence Death Review Network, the Team's executive has continued to work closely with review mechanisms in other jurisdictions and in 2016 developed protocols for standardised national data collection in relation to intimate partner (domestic violence context) homicides.

The Team's executive remains committed to sharing the learnings of the Team and in 2016 presented at various conferences and education forums, including:

- Akolade, *Breaking the Cycle for Domestic and Family Violence – Interagency response and intervention*
- University of Western Sydney, *Older Women and Violence* symposium
- NSW Health Education Centre Against Violence forum, *Women, DV and Justice – Good Practice for Interpreters and Bi-lingual Community Educators*
- Northern Beaches Domestic Violence Network, White Ribbon Breakfast.

Pursuant to recommendations made in the statutory review of the Team's establishing legislation (published October 2015), 2016 has also seen the Team's executive commence its enhanced role, working with coroners to provide review and research assistance as requested on particular open coronial cases. The statutory review also recommended that the Team move to biennial reporting, with the next report scheduled to be tabled in October 2017.

Statistics

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Deaths reported						
Glebe:	3,128	2,864	2,807	2,901	2,989	3,109
Other State-wide:	2,566	2,505	2,533	2,709	2,777	2,851
Total:	5,694	5,369	5,340	5,610	5,766	5,960
Investigations finalised						
Glebe:	3,805	2,185	2,305	3,169	2,950	3,031
Other State-wide:	2,134	1,989	2,209	2,185	3,426	2,700
Total:	5,939	4,174	4,514	5,354	6,376	5,731
Inquests-Inquiries*						
Glebe:	215	111	98	103	87	92
Other State-wide:	75	37	44	37	63	28
Total:	290	148	142	140	150	120

* This figure represents the number of inquests (not inquest days) conducted by the State or Deputy State Coroners only, in Sydney and regional NSW throughout the year.

3 Diversionary programs and other aspects of the Court's work

- Diversionary programs
- Technology in the Local Court

Diversiory programs

Community Corrections

In 2016, Community Corrections (part of Corrective Services NSW) was responsible for several court based diversionary programs: Magistrates Early Referral Into Treatment (MERIT), Court Referral of Eligible Defendants Into Treatment (CREDIT) and Life on Track (LOT).

Magistrates Early Referral Into Treatment Program

The Magistrates Early Referral Into Treatment Program (MERIT) is a pre-plea three-month drug treatment and rehabilitation program based in the Local Court that provides adult defendants an opportunity to break the drug crime related cycle.

MERIT is a Commonwealth and State initiative, with funding primarily administered by the NSW Ministry of Health. The Local Court works in partnership with the NSW Department of Justice, the NSW Police Force, NSW Health, the Legal Aid Commission and a network of drug and alcohol agencies in the delivery, expansion and development of MERIT.

The program is designed to allow defendants to focus on treating drug problems independently from their legal matters. Treatment commences prior to any pleas being entered, with the adjournment of court matters until the completion of the program. Defendants are case-managed by the MERIT team throughout the program and the magistrate receives regular reports on the participant. The final hearing and/or sentence proceedings generally coincide with the completion of the MERIT program. Magistrates are then able to consider the defendant's progress in treatment as part of final sentencing.

Magistrates are an integral part of the MERIT process. Undertaking an increased level of judicial supervision is a core element of the program. This may involve additional

court appearances for mention to establish how a defendant is progressing and to offer encouragement or admonishment as appropriate. MERIT also relies on many staff at NSW Health and the Local Court remains committed to this partnership.

During 2016:

- 4,589 defendants were referred to MERIT;
- 2,614 defendants were accepted on to the program;
- 1,637 defendants successfully completed the program; and
- Of those who had completed the program in 2015, 69% did not re-offend in the following 12 months (compared to 52% of those who did not complete the program).

The program was available in 62 Local Court locations, within all of the State's Local Health Districts.

Alcohol MERIT

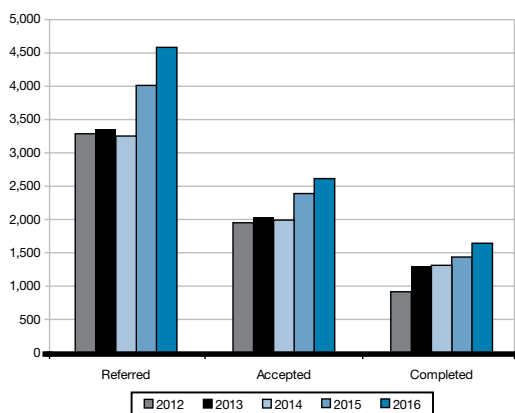
The Alcohol MERIT model is identical to MERIT in terms of eligibility and suitability criteria, referral pathways and court reporting. However, the clinical treatment provided is tailored to the specific needs of defendants with alcohol problems.

Alcohol MERIT is currently available in the following Local Court locations:

- Bathurst
- Broken Hill
- Coffs Harbour
- Dubbo
- Orange
- Wellington
- Wilcannia

The referral, entry and completion figures above and below include Alcohol MERIT participants.

MERIT and Alcohol MERIT Program Statistics



Note: the annual number of program completions is not proportional to the annual number of program referrals. As the MERIT program is of three months duration, some persons referred to the program after September 2016 will still be on the program at 31 December 2016, and therefore not accounted for in the completion figures. Similarly, the completion figures include persons who commenced MERIT from September to December 2015 and completed their contact with the program in 2016.

Court Referral of Eligible Defendants Into Treatment

The Court Referral of Eligible Defendants Into Treatment (CREDIT) program commenced as a trial in 2009. It operated in Burwood and Tamworth Local Courts until its closure in May 2017.

CREDIT aimed to provide Local Court defendants with access to a wide range of treatment options and services to assist them to reduce their likelihood of re-offending, including assistance in areas such as accommodation, financial counselling, mental health assessment or drug and alcohol treatment. The program operated as a pre-plea program, with defendants being referred prior to entering a plea.

CREDIT Program Statistics

In 2016:

- 289 defendants were referred to the program;
- 176 defendants met CREDIT's eligibility criteria and entered the program; and
- 91 participants successfully completed the program.

The CREDIT program was 2-6 months in duration. Some defendants referred to the program after June 2016 may still have been on the program at 31 December 2016, and therefore not accounted for in the completion figures. Similarly, the completion figures may include defendants who commenced CREDIT from July to December 2015 and completed their contact with the program in 2016.

Life on Track

In August 2013 Life on Track (LoT), a new case management service, commenced in two start-up sites in Bankstown and Lismore, servicing the Local Court at Bankstown, Sutherland, Kogarah, Lismore, Ballina, Casino and Kyogle.

LoT offered person-centred support and case management to eligible and suitable Local Court defendants. The service provided assistance to identify and address the issues that contribute to a defendant's likelihood of re-offending, including by linking defendants with available services and programs in their local area.

LoT aimed to target participants at the highest risk of re-offending with the highest service level at the earliest possible stage. It offered case management for longer timeframes (of up to nine months) for defendants with high support needs or a high risk of reoffending and could be continued beyond the duration of a defendant's court matter.

Misson Australia initially delivered the service at both sites. Following low referral numbers, in 2015 the Bankstown site closed and management of the Lismore site was transferred to Community Corrections. On 31 December 2016, the Lismore site closed. No new participants entered into the program in the three months prior to closure.

Life on Track Program Statistics

In 2016:

- Group Risk Assessment Method (GRAM) screening: 1,333 defendants were identified as potential participants through early screening;
- Contacted: attempts were made to contact 1,075 defendants prior to their first court date;
- Entry: 115 defendants signed case management plans and entered the service; and
- Completion: 117 participants successfully completed the service.
- Completion figures may include defendants who commenced Life on Track from April to December 2015 and completed their contact with the program in 2016.

Forum Sentencing

Offender Management and Programs (part of Corrective Services NSW), manages the Forum Sentencing program. Forum Sentencing is available to eligible adult offenders who have committed offences that expose them to the likely prospect of being required to serve a sentence of imprisonment, perform community service, or enter into a good behaviour bond. Certain offences, including serious violence and domestic violence offences and some regulatory driving offences, are excluded.

Forum Sentencing brings an offender and victim together with a facilitator, police officer, support people and others affected by an offence. The group discusses what occurred and the harm caused by the offence, and prepares an intervention plan that focuses on the offender repairing the harm caused to the affected parties.

The program is available post-plea and provides magistrates with another sentencing option. An intervention plan may be taken into account by the sentencing court. Completion of the plan may form part of the offender's sentence and include the making of an apology, cash payments, or other reparation to the victim; participation in an appropriate rehabilitative program; and other measures aimed at repairing the harm caused and helping offenders address their offending behaviour.

Forum Sentencing currently operates at:

- Ballina
- Bankstown
- Bellingen
- Belmont
- Burwood
- Byron Bay
- Campbelltown
- Camden
- Casino
- Central
- Cessnock
- Coffs Harbour
- Dungog
- Fairfield
- Foster
- Gloucester
- Gosford
- Grafton
- Kempsey
- Kurri Kurri
- Kyogle
- Lismore
- Liverpool
- Macksville
- Maclean
- Maitland
- Moss Vale
- Mullumbimby
- Murwillumbah
- Muswellbrook
- Newcastle
- Newtown
- Parramatta
- Picton
- Port Macquarie
- Scone
- Singleton
- Sutherland
- Sydney Downing Centre
- Taree
- Toronto
- Tweed Heads
- Wauchope
- Waverley
- Woy Woy
- Wyong

In 2016, 198 eligible offenders were referred to the program and 80 conferences took place.

A review of the efficacy of the Forum Sentencing program model is underway, due to concerns it is not meeting its intended purposes of reducing reoffending and diverting offenders away from custody, and to identify the needs of victims. In 2016, there was a low level of victim interest in the program, with approximately 60% of victims contacted choosing not to participate.

Circle Sentencing

Circle Sentencing is an alternative sentencing court for adult Aboriginal offenders who plead guilty or are found guilty in the Local Court. The Circle Sentencing program allows for input from the victim and offender, and directly involves Aboriginal people in the sentencing process, with the goal of empowering Aboriginal communities through their involvement.

As an alternative sentencing tool for magistrates, Circle Sentencing promotes the sharing of responsibility between the community and the criminal justice system. It attempts to address the causes of criminal behaviour and to develop solutions to issues raised, and also actively involves the community in solving its problems.

The aims of Circle Sentencing, set out in clause 10 of the Criminal Procedure Regulation 2010, are to:

- Include members of Aboriginal communities in the sentencing process;
- Increase the confidence of Aboriginal communities in the sentencing process;
- Reduce barriers between Aboriginal communities and the courts;
- Provide more appropriate sentencing options for Aboriginal offenders;
- Provide effective support to victims of offences by Aboriginal offenders;
- Provide for the greater participation of Aboriginal offenders and their victims in the sentencing process;
- Increase the awareness of Aboriginal offenders of the consequences of their offences on their victims and the Aboriginal communities to which they belong; and
- Reduce recidivism in Aboriginal communities.

Data on the operation of Circle Sentencing in 2016 was not available at the time of publication.

Statewide Community & Court Liaison Service

The Statewide Community & Court Liaison Service assists the Local Court to appropriately manage people with psychiatric illnesses by providing full time mental health nurses at a number of Local Court locations, which enables early diagnosis of defendants and facilitates treatment in conjunction with progress through the criminal justice system.

SCCLS operated in 22 Local Court locations in 2016:

- Bankstown
- Blacktown
- Burwood
- Campbelltown
- Central Sydney
- Coffs Harbour
- Dubbo
- Gosford
- Kempsey
- Lismore
- Liverpool
- Milton
- Nowra
- Parramatta
- Penrith
- Port Macquarie Sutherland
- Sydney Downing Centre
- Tamworth
- Wagga Wagga
- Wollongong
- Wyong

In the 2015-16 financial year, 14,312 people were screened for mental health problems in court cells. Of this number, 3,512 received a comprehensive mental health assessment, of which 3,000 were found to have a mental illness and 2,427 were diverted from the criminal justice system¹.

¹ Figures obtained from Justice Health & Forensic Mental Health Network

Technology in the Local Court

Traffic Offender Intervention Program

The Traffic Offender Intervention Program (TOIP) is targeted at defendants who have pleaded guilty to, or been found guilty of, a traffic offence. A magistrate is able to refer a defendant to an approved traffic course provider on application by the defendant or their legal representative, or on the Court's own motion. A referral is made prior to sentencing, with the proceedings adjourned to allow sufficient time for the nominated course to be completed.

Although traffic offender programs were historically the product of ad hoc local arrangements, the regulations made under the *Criminal Procedure Act 1986* now provide for the referral of offenders to a TOIP. There are currently seven traffic course providers operating in 79 locations across the State to whom referrals may be made.

In 2016:

- 16,355 individuals participated in, and 14,694 individuals (89.8%) completed, a TOIP.
- Driving with a prescribed concentration of alcohol (i.e. drink driving) represented the most frequent offence type (43% of offences).
- Other categories included speeding (23%), licence infringement offences (14%) and regulatory offences (14%).
- The majority of participants (78%) were male, with the most frequent age group being those aged 20-24 years (24%).

Audio Visual Link Technology (AVL)

Video conferencing involves the delivery of images and sounds to and from a remote location. The Court's audio visual link is two-way, which enables real time conversations to take place. The benefits provided include a reduction in transportation of prisoners to and from courthouses, especially in regional locations, and increased security. It improves the management of custodial matters within the Local Court and produces significant reductions in recurrent expenditure for Government.

In 2015/16, AVL was used to conduct over 48,000 appearances in the Local and Children's Courts. This included over 46,000 appearances of persons in custody and over 2,000 witnesses appearing via AVL from a remote witness room in the court building or from a remote location. 5,113 appearances were conducted via AVL at weekend and public holiday bail courts.

AVL facilities are available in the following 61 Local Court locations (as well as four Children's Court locations and the State Coroner's Court, Glebe):

- Albury
- Armidale
- Ballina
- Bankstown
- Bateman's Bay
- Bathurst
- Bega
- Blacktown
- Bourke
- Broken Hill
- Burwood
- Campbelltown
- Central (Sydney)
- Cessnock
- Coffs Harbour
- Deniliquin
- Dubbo
- Fairfield
- Gosford
- Goulburn
- Grafton
- Griffith
- Gunnedah
- Hornsby
- Inverell
- Katoomba
- Kempsey
- Lismore
- Lithgow
- Liverpool
- Maitland
- Manly
- Moree
- Mt DrUITT
- Newcastle
- Newtown
- Nowra
- Orange
- Parkes
- Parramatta

- Penrith
- Port Kembla
- Port Macquarie
- Queanbeyan
- Raymond Terrace
- Sutherland
- Sydney Downing Centre
- Sydney John Maddison Tower
- Tamworth
- Taree
- Toronto
- Tweed Heads
- Wagga Wagga
- Walgett
- Waverley
- Wellington
- Wentworth
- Wollongong
- Woy Woy
- Wyong
- Young

In 2016, six of the above locations (Ballina, Gunnedah, Inverell, Kempsey, Lithgow and Young) received new AVL facilities, and technology upgrades were performed at Bourke, Broken Hill, Burwood, Campbelltown, Grafton and Griffith.

Remote Witnesses

Remote witness facilities are available at 88 court locations, connecting to 224 courtrooms. Every Local Court circuit has at least one court location with a remote witness room.

Remote witness rooms enable vulnerable witnesses in sensitive matters (such as sexual assaults) to give evidence via AVL or closed circuit television (CCTV) from a remote location. This facility is highly utilised and provides some measure of comfort and security to victims of crime.

The Court acknowledges the important work of Victims & Witnesses of Crime Court Support in 2016 in providing assistance to vulnerable witnesses at several court locations across the State.

Data on the use of remote witness facilities in 2016 was not available at the time of publication.

Court lists online

The provision of online access to daily court lists for Local Court locations across New South Wales enhances public accessibility to the Court. Court users are able to access the online facility through the Local Court website or the Online Registry site: <https://onlineregistry.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/content/>

Electronic lodgement

Civil claims

Electronic lodgement of civil claims allows court users to lodge initiating process and file for default judgment. Electronic lodgement results in increased timeliness in court practices and procedures.

Criminal processes

NSW Police are able to interface and upload new cases from Police Charge Management System (COPS) to the Court's case management system, JusticeLink. Electronic lodgement facilities also provide an interface between the Court and NSW Police to enable the updating of an offender's criminal antecedents following a court hearing. This process continues to provide significant benefits to the Court and court users.

Apprehended violence orders (AVOs)

NSW Police are able to file applications for AVOs electronically into JusticeLink, overcoming the need for manual processing by court registry staff. Information about court orders is also electronically submitted to police.

Local Court website

The Local Court website provides access information including Local Court Practice Notes, as well as forms and fees. The website can be found at <http://www.localcourt.justice.nsw.gov.au/>

Due to the large number of cases magistrates deal with, the majority of judgments in the Local Court are delivered orally. Selected written judgments continue to be published on the Caselaw NSW website. These decisions can be found at <https://www.caselaw.nsw.gov.au/>

4 Judicial education and community involvement

- Judicial education and professional development

Judicial education and professional development

The Local Court, in partnership with the Judicial Commission of New South Wales, provides a relevant and practical continuing judicial education program for all magistrates. The program aims to inform judicial officers about changes to the law, community values, court practice and procedure in order to maintain and improve judicial performance.

The Local Court offers each magistrate a minimum five days of judicial education each year with an emphasis on practical and interactive sessions which relate directly to the daily work of magistrates. The program is delivered through:

- An annual conference with an emphasis on sentencing, important legal developments, improving knowledge in difficult areas of legal practice and procedure, and the development of judicial skills.
- Specialised interactive workshops which encourage peer-based learning through discussion and problem-solving.
- Pre-bench and orientation programs to assist recently-appointed magistrates with their transition to judicial office, with a focus on knowledge and fundamental judicial skills about court craft, decision-making, sentencing, judicial administration and judicial conduct.
- Experiential learning through field trips and site visits.

The Local Court Education Committee, composed of magistrates and the Judicial Commission's Director of Education, develops each education program based on the identified needs of magistrates. Magistrates are involved in the development and delivery of the education program to ensure its relevance to the judicial role. The Committee's Chair is also a member of the Judicial Commission's Standing Advisory Committee on Judicial Education.

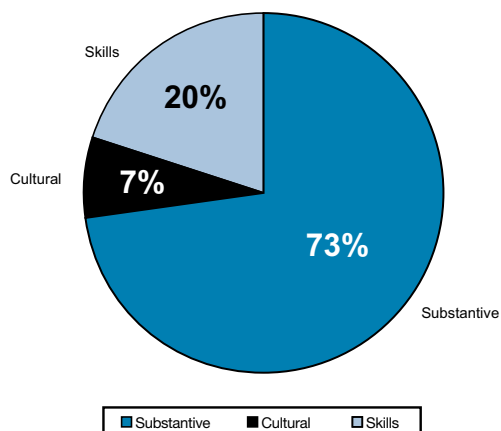
Participants are asked to rate the practical value of each education event to their role as a magistrate. The overall ratings in 2016 (from an average response rate of 92%) indicated that magistrates find the Local Court's education program relevant and well designed. Almost 94% of participants found the education program extremely useful and the content to be valuable.

Conferences and Seminars

During 2016, magistrates continued to receive specialised training tailored to meet their educational needs:

- Permanent magistrates attended 617 days of face-to-face judicial education, an average of 4.7 days per magistrate (just shy of the national standard for judicial professional development which recommends judicial officers attend 5 days of professional development activities each year).
- The Local Court Annual Conference was held over three days in June 2016 for all New South Wales magistrates. Topics included civil and criminal law updates, a framework for mental illness and recovery in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population, the impacts of the use of ice, stress and wellbeing and exploring traumatic brain injury and impulsivity in violent offending. The Annual Conference received an overall satisfaction rating at the target level of 85%.
- Smaller, interactive metropolitan and regional seminars were attended by all magistrates. These interactive sessions, structured around discussion and peer-based learning, facilitate the development of judicial knowledge and skills. Topics included issues and challenges in coronial cases, recent developments in the Children's Court, costs in civil cases, unfavourable witnesses, situational awareness and hostile surveillance, common directions, contracts, and torts proceedings in the Local Court. These programs overall received a 98% satisfaction rating from participants which is exceptionally high.
- Magistrates continued to participate in the Judicial Commission's Ngara Yura Program which aims to increase awareness among judicial officers about contemporary Aboriginal society, customs and traditions, and their effect on Aboriginal people in the justice system. Magistrates were well represented in the visits organised by the Judicial Commission to Kamay, Botany Bay and Muru Mittigar, Penrith. Seminars on the topics of speaking for country, intergenerational trauma, foetal alcohol spectrum disorder, and the Clean Slate Without Prejudice program were also well attended by magistrates.

A summary of the nature of education sessions provided in 2016 is set out below.



Faculty participation

A key aspect of the education program is the development of faculty to deliver the content. Magistrates are encouraged to research and present on suitable topics, supported by the Committee and the Judicial Commission staff. Not only does this approach aim to ensure that the particular needs of the learner cohort are met, it also expands the knowledge and skillset of the presenter.

Magistrates who attended the Ngarra Yura visit to Kamay Botany Bay National Park

- His Honour Magistrate Michael Barnes, State Coroner, Coroner's Court of NSW
- His Honour Magistrate Graham Blewitt AM
- His Honour Magistrate Geoffrey Bradd
- Her Honour Magistrate Jayeann Carney
- Her Honour Magistrate Georgia Knight
- Her Honour Magistrate Paula Russell
- Her Honour Magistrate Elizabeth Ryan
- Her Honour Magistrate Jacqueline Trad
- Her Honour Magistrate Daphne Kok

Magistrates who attended the Ngarra Yura seminar: Who Speaks for Country in NSW?

- Her Honour Magistrate Megan Greenwood

Magistrates who attended the Ngarra Yura seminar: Understanding Intergenerational Trauma

- Her Honour Magistrate Susan Duncombe
- His Honour Magistrate Peter Miszalski
- Her Honour Magistrate Teresa O'Sullivan
- Her Honour Magistrate Elizabeth Ryan
- Her Honour Magistrate Beverley Schurr
- Her Honour Magistrate Eve Wynhausen

Magistrates who attended Ngarra Yura seminar: Aboriginal Trauma, Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder and the Juvenile Justice System: a Volatile Cocktail

- Her Honour Magistrate Jennifer Atkinson
- Her Honour Magistrate Susan Duncombe
- Her Honour Magistrate Christine Haskett
- Her Honour Magistrate Erin Kennedy
- Her Honour Magistrate Joanne Keogh
- Her Honour Magistrate Teresa O'Sullivan
- Her Honour Magistrate Elizabeth Ryan
- His Honour Magistrate Paul Mulroney

Magistrates who attended the Ngarra Yura seminar: Clean Slate Without Prejudice

- Her Honour Magistrate Susan Duncombe
- Her Honour Magistrate Elizabeth Ryan

Magistrates who attended the Ngarra Yura visit to Muru Mittigar Penrith

- Her Honour Magistrate Susan Duncombe
- Her Honour Magistrate Vivien Swain
- His Honour Magistrate Paul Mulroney

Legal education in the community and participation in external bodies

In 2016, magistrates continued to be involved in legal education, with a number of magistrates regularly volunteering their time to preside over College of Law practice hearings and pleas of mitigation.

Magistrates' activities in 2016 are summarised below:

His Honour Judge Graeme Henson, Chief Magistrate

Membership of organisations:

Member, Judicial Commission of NSW

Member, Uniform Rules Committee

Member, Judicial Conference of Australia Executive Committee

Member, University of Wollongong Faculty of Law Advisory Committee

Member, Australian Catholic University Faculty of Law Advisory Committee

Member, Courts Consultation Committee

Speaking engagements and other activities:

Mar Address to St George Sutherland Law Society, Andrew Hartcher Memorial Lecture

May, Sep Address to Bar Readers, 'The Local Court'

Conferences and events:

Apr, Aug Council of Chief Magistrates

Mar District Court of NSW Annual Conference

Her Honour Deputy Chief Magistrate Jane Mottley

Membership of organisations:

Member, Corrective Services NSW Women's Advisory Council

Member, Corrective Services NSW Women's Advisory Council Miranda Project advisory group

Member, Ngara Yura Committee

Chair, Marine Appeals Tribunal

Speaking engagements and other activities:

May Presentation to NSW Police Prosecutors, domestic violence course

Nov Presentation to NSW Health Education Centre Against Violence, Women, DV and Justice forum, 'Interpreters in court'

His Honour Deputy Chief Magistrate Christopher O'Brien

Membership of organisations:

Judicial Commission of NSW Civil Trials Bench Book Committee

Law Society of NSW Criminal Law Committee

Standing Advisory Committee on Judicial Education

Uniform Civil Procedure Rules Committee

Speaking engagements and other activities:

Jan Participant, Wingara Mura - Bunga Barrabugu Summer Program conducted by the University of Sydney Law School

Feb Presentation to Australian Catholic University students, 'The Local Court'

Apr Presentation to the Rule of Law Institute, 'The Local Court'

Apr Host, visit of Assistant Judge Taku Okada, Osaka District Court

May Speaker, St George Sutherland Law Society dinner

His Honour Magistrate Michael Antrum

Membership of organisations:

Reserve – Australian Army Legal Corps

Speaking engagements and other activities:

Apr Presenter, Queanbeyan Community Corrections Program Graduation

Oct Presenter, 'Ice and its impacts on regional communities', Law Society Rural Issues Committee

Conferences and events:

Mar Attendee, International Women's Day Breakfast, Jerrabomberra Community Centre

Jun Mock trial, Queanbeyan High School

Jun Attendee, Karabar High School NAIDOC Day celebration

Nov Participant, The Snowy Ride, The Steven Walter Foundation

Her Honour Magistrate Jennifer Atkinson

Membership of organisations:

Board member, Rainbow Lodge, Glebe

Attendee, Uniform Rules Committee

His Honour Magistrate Glenn Bartley

Speaking engagements and other activities:

Coach, Law Society Mock Trial Competition

Supervisor, UNSW Local Court internship program

His Honour Magistrate Graham Blewitt AM

Speaking engagements and other activities:

Mentor, Sydney University Law School Mentoring Program

Mar – Dec Interviewee/participant, various media & documentary items regarding international criminal law, the work of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and the conflicts in the former Yugoslavia in the 1990s

Aug Address to University of Wollongong masters of law students regarding the work of the ICTY

Sep Panel member, discussion of war crimes and ending impunity, Sydney Jewish Museum

Oct Panel member, discussion of sexual assault crimes dealt with by the ICTY and the International Criminal Court, University of NSW

His Magistrate David Degnan

Speaking engagements and other activities:

Apr Lecturer, 'Issues in the Criminal Justice System', University of Western Sydney (Macarthur campus) law students

Nov – Dec Supervisor, University of Wollongong legal internship program

Conferences and events:

Aug Attendee, Australian Institute of Judicial Administration, Indigenous Justice conference (Alice Springs, Northern Territory)

Her Honour Magistrate Jennifer Giles

Membership of organisations:

Management, Collective Coalition for Gun Control

Speaking engagements and other activities:

Feb – Jul Volunteer guide, 'Miss Fisher Murder Mysteries' costume exhibition (Old Government House, Parramatta)

Nov – Volunteer, Marriage Equality for Same Sex Marriage shop (Oxford St, Darlinghurst)

Conferences and events:

May Attendee, International Association of Women Judges' Conference (Washington DC, USA)

His Honour Magistrate Michael Holmes

Membership of organisations:

University of New England (UNE) Law School Advisory Board

Australasian Institute of Judicial Administration

Judicial Conference of Australia

Speaking engagements and other activities:

Apr Occasional address, UNE Law and Business graduation

Apr Guest speaker, NSW JP State Annual Conference

Jun Guest speaker, UNE Law Students Law Society

Jun Host to law students from Chiang Mai University in association with UNE

Her Honour Magistrate Susan McGowan

Conferences and events:

May Australian Embassy reception, Australian attendees of the International Association of Women Judges' conference

May Attendee, International Association of Women Judges' Conference (Washington DC, USA)

His Honour Magistrate Michael O'Brien

Membership of organisations:

Director, Board and Chair, Finance Committee of Oakhill College, Sydney

Section 154 Defence Force Discipline Act reporting officer, holding the rank of Group Captain with the Office of the Judge Advocate General within the Department of Defence

Director, Board and Chair, Finance Committee of Oakhill College, Sydney

Mentor, RAAF Specialist Reserve mentor scheme for new legal officers

Member, Moree book club

Member, Inverell Golf Club

Her Honour Magistrate Beverly Schurr

Membership of organisations:

Committee member, Australian Association of Women Judges

Conferences and events:

May Attendee, International Association of Women Judges' Conference (Washington DC, USA)

Her Honour Magistrate Karen Stafford

Membership of organisations:

Director, Board of Backtrack: an organisation for Youth at Risk

His Honour Magistrate Philip Stewart

Speaking engagements and other activities:

Feb	Guest speaker, 'Sentencing: the role of the Local and Children's Courts', Wellington Rotary Club
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Her Honour Magistrate Fiona Toose

Membership of organisations:

Member, NSW Law Society Indigenous Issues Committee

Captain, Penrith Rowing Club

Director, RowingNSW (Jul 2015 – May 2016)

Accredited level 2 boat race official and level 1 rowing coach, RowingNSW

His Honour Magistrate Theo Tsavdaridis

Speaking engagements and other activities:

Mar	Chair, Toongabbie Legal Centre Continuing Legal Education seminar, 'Bail Reform – A Retrospective Analysis'
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Oct	Attendee, Judicial Conference of Australia Colloquium (Canberra, ACT)
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Oct	Attendee, Toongabbie Legal Centre Annual Dinner
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Oct	Attendee, Law Society of NSW Annual Members' Dinner
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Appendices

- The Court's time standards
- The Court's committees
- 2016 Court by Court statistics

The Court's time standards

The Court aims to finalise its case load in accordance with the following Time Standards:

Local Court Criminal Time Standards

- 95% of summary criminal trials – within 6 months.
- 100% of summary criminal trials – within 12 months
- 95% of criminal cases where the defendant enters a plea of guilty – within 3 months.
- 100% of criminal cases where the defendant enters a plea of guilty – within 6 months.
- 90% of indictable matters discharged or committed for trial or sentence to the Supreme or District Court – within 6 months.
- 100% of indictable matters discharged or committed for trial or sentence to the Supreme or District Court – within 12 months.
- 95% of complaint summonses – within 3 months.
- 100% of complaint summonses – within 6 months.

Local Court Civil Time Standards

- 90% of civil cases – within 6 months of the initiation of the proceedings in the Court.
- 100% of cases – within 12 months of the initiation of proceedings in the Court.

Children's Court Criminal Time Standards

- 80% of all summary criminal trials – within 6 months and 100% – within 12 months.
- 90% of all sentence matters following a plea of guilty – within 3 months of commencement and 100% – within 6 months.
- 90% of committals for trial – within 9 months and 100% – within 12 months.
- 95% of applications – within 6 months and 100% – within 9 months.

Children's Court Care Time Standards

- 90% of Care matters – within 9 months.
- 100% of Care matters – within 12 months.

Coroner's Time Standards

- 95% of deaths by natural causes, (no brief of evidence ordered), – within 3 months.
- 100% of deaths by natural causes, (no brief of evidence ordered), – within 6 months.
- 95% of deaths dispensed with (a brief of evidence ordered) – within 6 months.
- 100% of deaths dispensed with (a brief of evidence ordered) – within 9 months.
- 95% of deaths proceeding to inquest – within 12 months.
- 100% of deaths proceeding to inquest – within 18 months.

The Court's committees

In 2016, committee members were:

Local Court Rule Committee

His Honour Judge Graeme Henson,
Chief Magistrate
Her Honour Deputy Chief Magistrate Jane
Mottley
His Honour Deputy Chief Magistrate
Christopher O'Brien
Ms Leanne Robinson, Legal Aid Commission
Mr Warwick Hunt (until 5 August 2016);
Ms Lisa-Claire Hutchinson
(from 19 August 2016), Bar Association
Mr Michael McTegg, Local Court Registrar
Mr Stephen Olischlager, Local Court of NSW
Ms Paula McNamara, Office of the Director of
Public Prosecutions
Mr Stephen Bray, Justice Policy
Commander Tony Trichter, NSW Police
Ms Pauline Wright, Law Society

Local Court Education Committee

Chair: His Honour Deputy Chief Magistrate
Christopher O'Brien
Secretary: Una Doyle, Education Director,
Judicial Commission of NSW
Her Honour Deputy Chief Magistrate
Jane Mottley
His Honour Magistrate Michael Barnes,
State Coroner
His Honour Magistrate Michael Allen
His Honour Magistrate Michael Antrum
His Honour Magistrate Gregory Grogin
His Honour Magistrate Ian Guy
His Honour Magistrate David Heilpern
Her Honour Magistrate Carolyn Huntsman
Her Honour Magistrate Joanne Keogh
Her Honour Magistrate Susan McIntyre
Her Honour Magistrate Vivien Swain
Her Honour Magistrate Fiona Toose
Her Honour Magistrate Alison Viney
Ms Alison Passé-de Silva, Policy Officer

Statute Law Revision and Procedures Committee

Chair: Her Honour Deputy Chief Magistrate
Jane Mottley
His Honour Deputy Chief Magistrate
Christopher O'Brien
Ms Alison Passé-de Silva, Policy Officer

Terms and Conditions of Service Committee

Chair: His Honour Judge Graeme Henson,
Chief Magistrate
Secretary: Ms Jacinta Haywood,
Executive Officer
Members: Her Honour Deputy Chief Magistrate
Jane Mottley
His Honour Deputy Chief Magistrate
Christopher O'Brien
Ms Alison Passé-de Silva, Policy Officer

Ethics Committee (*ad hoc*)

Chair: His Honour Judge Graeme Henson,
Chief Magistrate
Her Honour Deputy Chief Magistrate
Jane Mottley
His Honour Deputy Chief Magistrate
Christopher O'Brien

Local Court Bench Book Committee

Chair: His Honour Deputy Chief Magistrate
Christopher O'Brien
Her Honour Deputy Chief Magistrate
Jane Mottley
Ms Alison Passé-de Silva, Policy Officer
Ms Roslyn Cook, Judicial Commission of NSW
Ms Pierette Mizzi, Judicial Commission of NSW

Court Security Committee

Chair: His Honour Judge Graeme Henson,
Chief Magistrate
Her Honour Deputy Chief Magistrate
Jane Mottley
His Honour Deputy Chief Magistrate
Christopher O'Brien
His Honour Magistrate Michael Barnes,
State Coroner
His Honour Magistrate Michael Antrum
His Honour Magistrate Jeff Linden
His Honour Magistrate Leslie Mabbutt
Her Honour Magistrate Susan McIntyre

2016 Court by Court statistics

	New General Criminal Matters	Finalised General Criminal Matters
Albion Park	553	601
Albury	3,849	3,882
Armidale	1,391	1,433
Ballina	1,567	1,557
Balmain	193	176
Balranald	–	29
Bankstown	8,287	8,253
Batemans Bay	1,120	1,117
Bathurst	2,303	2,339
Bega	803	833
Bellingen	290	285
Belmont	2,756	2,673
Bidura CC	1	1
Blacktown	8,027	8,106
Blayney	87	97
Boggabilla	326	341
Bombala	58	55
Bourke	975	996
Brewarrina	197	195
Broadmeadow CC	12	8
Broken Hill	1,556	1,574
Burwood	13,925	13,396
Byron Bay	1,513	1,497
Camden	662	616
Campbelltown	11,521	11,178
Casino	1,298	1,379
Central	7,971	7,475
Cessnock	2,294	2,305
Cobar	252	247

	New General Criminal Matters	Finalised General Criminal Matters
Coffs Harbour	4,512	4,674
Condobolin	257	228
Cooma	617	583
Coonabarabran	398	434
Coonamble	487	508
Cootamundra	463	452
Corowa	270	277
Cowra	676	713
Crookwell	24	26
Deniliquin	790	778
Dubbo	4,239	4,399
Dunedoo	36	42
Dungog	115	102
East Maitland	50	40
Eden	172	168
Fairfield	6,940	7,259
Finley	357	349
Forbes	625	603
Forster	1,488	1,476
Gilgandra	208	222
Glen Innes	411	436
Gloucester	87	81
Gosford	5,567	5,528
Goulburn	3,433	3,317
Grafton	1,850	1,800
Grenfell	5	15
Griffith	2,687	2,653
Gulgong	46	51
Gundagai	274	269

	New General Criminal Matters	Finalised General Criminal Matters
Gunnedah	511	499
Hay	509	495
Hillston	19	25
Holbrook	162	166
Hornsby	4,078	4,113
Inverell	867	886
Junee	157	149
Katoomba	1,083	1,081
Kempsey	2,151	2,064
Kiama	227	295
Kogarah	240	265
Kurri Kurri	1,038	1,050
Kyogle	265	268
Lake Cargelligo	150	142
Leeton	672	677
Lightning Ridge	313	320
Lismore	4,671	4,747
Lithgow	1,299	1,222
Liverpool	12,175	12,081
Macksville	853	864
Maclean	756	723
Maitland	4,817	4,752
Manly	4,083	4,149
Milton	462	420
Moama	197	190
Moree	1,874	2,010
Moruya	314	321
Moss Vale	2,411	2,261

	New General Criminal Matters	Finalised General Criminal Matters
Mt Druitt	7,367	7,304
Mudgee	1,018	1,034
Mullumbimby	256	245
Mungindi	64	65
Murwillumbah	562	508
Muswellbrook	1,550	1,522
Narooma	311	300
Narrabri	636	672
Narrandera	412	446
Narromine	306	314
Newcastle	10,210	10,234
Newtown	4,271	4,254
North Sydney	151	172
Nowra	3,366	3,470
Nyngan	259	280
Oberon	100	99
Orange	2,968	3,006
Parkes	1,198	1,206
Parramatta	19,244	19,489
Peak Hill	94	106
Penrith	9,970	9,780
Picton	662	973
Port Kembla	3,573	4,396
Port Macquarie	3,141	2,970
Queanbeyan	2,598	2,729
Quirindi	386	359
Raymond Terrace	3,302	3,333
Ryde	269	276

	New General Criminal Matters	Finalised General Criminal Matters
Rylstone	103	80
Scone	477	443
Singleton	1,362	1,395
Sutherland	12,248	11,854
Sydney Downing Centre	27,417	26,994
Tamworth	3,728	3,614
Taree	2,892	2,731
Temora	219	222
Tenterfield	220	206
Toronto	3,560	3,638
Tumbarumba	48	60
Tumut	590	581
Tweed Heads	3,427	3,502
Wagga Wagga	4,994	5,311
Walcha	85	86
Walgett	753	737
Warialda	119	107
Warren	206	231
Wauchope	133	165
Waverley	9,195	9,104
Wee Waa	199	216
Wellington	689	694
Wentworth	685	733
West Wyalong	291	300
Wilcannia	258	257
Windsor	2,060	2,071
Wollongong	8,984	7,483

	New General Criminal Matters	Finalised General Criminal Matters
Woy Woy	1,295	1,361
Wyong	7,392	7,339
Yass	511	522
Young	870	868
TOTAL	330,480	328,810

Office of the Chief Magistrate

Level 5, Downing Centre
143-147 Liverpool Street
SYDNEY 2000

Phone: 9287 7615

Fax: 9264 1617

cmo@agd.nsw.gov.au

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