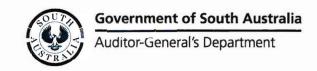
Legal Services Commission

Financial report for the year ended 30 June 2021

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT



Level 9 State Administration Centre 200 Victoria Square Adelaide SA 5000

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To the Chairperson Legal Services Commission

Opinion

I have audited the financial report of Legal Services Commission for the financial year ended 30 June 2021.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report has been prepared in accordance with the Treasurer's Instructions issued under the provisions of the *Public Finance and Audit Act* 1987, Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commissions Act 2012, and Australian Accounting Standards including:

- a) giving a fair and true view of the financial position of the Legal Services omission as at 30 June 2020, its financial performance and its cash flows for the year ended, and
- b) complying with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulations 2013.

The financial report comprises:

- a Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2021
- a Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2021
- a Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30 June 2021
- a Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 30 June 2021
- notes, comprising significant accounting policies and other explanatory information
- a Certificate from the from the Chairperson, Director and Manager, Finance.

Basis for opinion

I conducted the audit in accordance with the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report' section of my report. I am independent of Legal Services Commission. The *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* establishes the independence of the Auditor-General. In conducting the audit, the relevant ethical requirements of APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* have been met.

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

Responsibilities of the Director and members of the Commission for the financial report

The Director is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with relevant Treasurer's Instructions issued under the provisions of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and the Australian Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Director is responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the assessment indicates that it is not appropriate.

The members of the Commission are responsible for overseeing the entity's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

As required by section 31(1)(b) of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and section 25 of the *Legal Services Commission Act 1977*, I have audited the financial report of the Legal Services Commission for the financial year ended 30 June 2021.

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is 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 this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether
due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and
obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my
opinion. 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

- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit
 procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of
 expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Legal Services Commission internal
 control
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Director
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Director's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the opinion. My conclusion is based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of the auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause an entity to cease to continue as a going concern
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including
 the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions
 and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

My report refers only to the financial report described above and does not provide assurance over the integrity of electronic publication by the entity on any website nor does it provide an opinion on other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the report.

I communicate with the Director and members of the Commission about, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during the audit.

Andrew Richardson

Auditor-General

30 September 2021



Our ref: A21/111

30 September 2021

Level 9 State Administration Centre 200 Victoria Square Adelaide SA 5000

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Mr J Karas Chairperson Legal Services Commission GPO Box 1818 ADELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Mr Karas

Independence declaration

I am responsible for the audit of Legal Services Commission for the year ended 30 June 2021, and I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year there have been

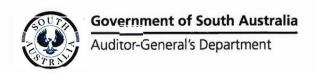
i. no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

This declaration is in respect of Legal Services Commission and the entities it controlled during the period.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Richardson

Auditor-General



Our ref: A21/111

30 September 2021

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Mr J Karas Chairperson Legal Services Commission GPO Box 1818 ADELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Mr Karas

Auditor's independence declaration

As you are aware the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (section 60-40) requires a registered entity to obtain a written declaration each year from its auditor stating that either:

- there have been no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit
- or in the case that there have been contraventions, specific details of those contraventions need to be provided.

The Public Finance and Audit Act 1987 establishes the independence of the Auditor-General. The applicable codes of professional conduct are APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards) and Code of Ethics for the South Australian Public Sector.

A declaration of independence for the audit of Legal Services Commission for the year ended 30 June 2021 is attached.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Richardson

Auditor-General



Legal Services Commission of South Australia

Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2021

Certification of the Financial Statements

We certify that the:

- Financial statements of the Legal Services Commission of South Australia:
 - are in accordance with the accounts and records of the authority;
 - comply with relevant Treasurer's Instructions;
 - comply with relevant accounting standards;
 - comply with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulations 2013; and
 - present a true and fair view of the financial position of the Commission at the end of the financial year and the result of its operations and cash flows for the financial year.
- Internal controls employed by the Legal Services Commission of South Australia for the financial year over its financial reporting and its preparation of the financial statements have been effective.

Chinh Dinh-Pham Manager, Finance

29 September 2021

Gabrielle Canny

Director

29 September 2021

Jason Karas Chairperson

29 September 2021

Legal Services Commission of South Australia

Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2021

	Note	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Income			
Commonwealth-sourced grants and funding	2.1	22 801	20 697
SA Government grant, subsidies and transfers	2.2	27 697	1 670
Legal Practitioners Act 1981 revenues	2.3	148	1 666
Statutory charges		1 285	1 017
Interest	2.4	18	295
Costs recovered and contributions	2.5	218	246
Other income	2.6	1 098	440
Total income		53 265	26 031
<u>Expenses</u>			
Employee benefits expenses	3.3	19 260	19 058
Private Practitioner services	4.5	21 894	18 416
Supplies and services	4.1	8 024	7 817
Depreciation and amortisation	4.2	933	646
Borrowing costs	4.3	7	12
Other expenses	4.4	97	349
Total expenses	-	50 215	46 298
Net result	_	3 050	(20 267)
Total comprehensive result		3 050	(20 267)

Legal Services Commission of South Australia Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2021

as at 30 June 2021	Note	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	6.1	11 434	7 779
Receivables	6.2	1 739	3 092
Other financial assets	6.3	8 308	7 806
Total current assets		21 481	18 677
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	5.1	3 364	4 471
Intangible assets	5.4	1 550	1 470
Statutory charge debtors	6.4	9 420	8 967
Total non-current assets		14 334	14 908
Total assets		35 815	33 585
Current liabilities			
Legal payables		969	824
Payables	7.1	476	421
Financial liabilities	7.2	4	133
Employee benefits	3.4	1 556	1 451
Other current liabilities	7.3	233	233
Total current liabilities		3 238	3 062
Non-current liabilities			
Payables	7.1	165	207
Financial liabilities	7.2	-	594
Employee benefits	3.4	3 701	3 828
Other non-current liabilities	7.3	1401	1 634
Total non-current liabilities		5 267	6 263
Total liabilities		8 505	9 325
Net assets		27 310	24 260
Equity		07.045	0.4.0
Retained earnings		27 261	24 211
Asset revaluation surplus		49	49
Total equity		27 310	24 260

Legal Services Commission of South Australia Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30 June 2021

Tot the year ended 50 Jule 2021	Note	Asset revaluation surplus \$'000	Retained earnings \$'000	Total Equity \$'000
Balance at 30 June 2019		49	44 478	44 527
Net result for 2019-20		-	(20 267)	(20 267)
Total comprehensive result for 2019-20		-	(20 267)	(20 267)
Balance at 30 June 2020	_	49	24 211	24 260
Net result for 2020-21	***	-	(3 050)	(3 050)
Total comprehensive result for 2020-21		_	3 050	3 050
Balance at 30 June 2021		49	27 261	27 310

Legal Services Commission of South Australia Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2021

Tot the year ended 30 Julie 2021	Note	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash inflows			
Receipts from State Government funding		27 697	1 670
Receipts from Commonwealth-sourced grants and funding		22 801	20 697
Legal Practitioners Act 1981 receipts		336	2 190
Costs recovered and contributions		290	233
Statutory charge receipts		949	429
Interest received		21	318
GST recovered from the ATO		2 509	2 605
Other receipts		2 107	1 980
Cash generated from operations		56 710	30 122
Cash outflows			
Employee benefits payments		(19 359)	(19 251)
Payments for supplies and services		(9 100)	(9 845)
Private Practitioner services		(23 922)	(20 283)
Cash used in operations		(52 381)	(49 379)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	_	4 329	(19 257)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Cash outflows			
Purchase of property, plant & equipment and intangibles		(544)	(1 887)
Purchase of financial assets		-	(8 000)
Net cash used in investing activities		(544)	(9 887)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Cash outflows			
Repayment of principal portion of lease liabilities		(130)	(128)
Net cash used in financing activities		(130)	(128)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		3 655	(29 272)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		7 779	37 051
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	6.1	11 434	7 779

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1. About the Legal Services Commission of South Australia

The Legal Services Commission of South Australia (the Commission) is a body corporate. It is capable of acquiring or incurring any rights or liabilities that may properly attach to a body corporate. It has the powers, functions and duties prescribed or imposed upon it by or under the Legal Services Commission Act 1977 (the Act).

The Commission was established under the Act to provide or arrange for the provision of legal assistance in accordance with the Act. Under section 6(3) of the Act, the Commission is not an instrumentality of the Crown and is independent of the Government.

The financial statements and accompanying notes include all activities of the Commission.

The Commission does not control any other entity and has no interests in unconsolidated structured entities. The financial statements and accompanying notes include all the controlled activities of the Commission.

The Commission is endorsed by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) as an income tax exempt charity and as a Public Benevolent Institution.

1.1. Basis of preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements prepared in compliance with:

- section 23 of the Public Finance and Audit Act 1987 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit commission Act 2012;
- Treasurer's Instructions and Accounting Policy Statements issued by the Treasurer under the Public Finance and Audit Act 1987; and
- · relevant Australian Accounting Standards with reduced disclosure requirements.

For the purposes of preparing the financial statements, the Commission is a not-for-profit entity. The financial statements are prepared based on a 12 month reporting period and presented in Australian currency. The historical cost convention is used unless a different measurement basis is specifically disclosed in the note associated with the item measured.

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST except:

- when the GST incurred on a purchase of goods or services is not recoverable from the ATO, in which case the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense item applicable; and
- receivables and payables, which are stated with the amount of GST included.

Assets and liabilities that are to be sold, consumed or realised as part of the normal operating cycle have been classified as current assets or current liabilities. All other assets and liabilities are classified as non-current.

1.2. Objectives

The objective of the Commission is to provide or arrange for the provision of legal assistance in accordance with the Act. The functions and principals of the Commission are set out in section 10 and 11 of the Act.

2. Income

2.1. Commonwealth-sourced grants and funding

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
National Legal Assistance Partnership Agreement funding	17 445	16 326
COVID-19 Relief funding	1 137	1 206
Online Dispute Resolution System	578	-
Family Advocacy and Support Service funding	847	835
Expensive Cases reimbursement	287	588
Women's Domestic Violence Unit	559	551
Family Violence and Cross-Examination of Parties Scheme	603	395
Disability and Carer Support Program	418	329
Legally Assisted Financial Dispute Resolution - Small Property Claims	642	316
National Legal Advisory Service for the Disability Royal Commission	138	77
Bushfire Relief funding	147	74
Total Commonwealth-sourced grants and funding	22 801	20 697

Commonwealth-sourced grants and funding are recognised as income on receipt.

A National Legal Assistance Partnership agreement on Legal Assistance Services between the Commonwealth of Australia and States and Territories is effective from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2025.

Obligations under Commonwealth-sourced grants and funding are required to be met by the State of South Australia for \$20.42m (2020: \$19.59m) of the above grants. For accounting purposes, the obligations under the funding arrangements do not sit with the Commission. The Commonwealth has provided funding to the State for legal assistance services and were originally received by the State and then paid from Department of Treasury and Finance Administered Items. Amounts from the Commowealth are received via the Attorney-General's Department.

In addition, the Commission received \$2.38m (2020: \$1.11m) of income recognised upon receipt directly from the Commonwealth for legal assistance services.

2.2. SA Government grants, subsidies and transfers

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$ '000
SA Government grant	23 953	250
Refund of payroll tax from the Department of Treasury and Finance	2 669	-
Women's Domestic Violence Court Assistance Service funding	479	476
Expensive Cases - reimbursement	437	469
Drug Court funding	159	155
Community Legal Service Eligibility, Triage and Referral Services	-	320
Total SA Government grants, subsidies and transfers	27 697	1 670

SA Government grants, subsidies and transfers are recognised as income on receipt.

In 2021 the State Government contributed funding of \$23.95m (2020: \$0.25m) and is deposited with SAFA. Most of the State Government funding for 2019-20 was received in the preceding year.

During 2021, Revenue SA granted the Commission exemption from the requirement to pay payroll tax based on the exemption provisions in the *Payroll Tax Act 2009*. The Commission was entitled to be refunded for payroll tax already paid in the previous five years.

The Commission is separately funded by the State Government for matters that exceed the Commission's prescribed funding cap. The matters are funded pursuant to the *Criminal Law (Legal*

Representation) Act 2001. The Commission enters into an approved Case Management Agreement with the State Government for these matters.

The State Government provided \$0.44m (2020: \$0.47m) for approved expensive cases that exceeded the Commission funding cap of \$50 000 in the case of one party being aided and \$100 000 in the case of more than one party, irrespective of the number being aided. These matters are separately funded by the State Government.

2.3. Legal Practitioners Act 1981 revenues

In accordance with the *Legal Practitioners Act 1981*, the Commission is entitled to revenue from funds administered by the Law Society of South Australia.

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Statutory Interest account	63	640
Interest on Legal Practitioners Trust Account	85	1 026
Total Legal Practitioners Act 1981 Revenue	148	1 666

2.4. Interest revenues

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Short-term deposits with SAFA	17	294
Cash and cash equivalents	1	1
Total interest revenues	18	295

Reduction in interest received from funds held with SAFA is attributable to the decline in interest rates.

2.5. Costs recovered and contributions

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Costs recovered	79	79
Contributions *	139	167
Total costs recovered and contributions	218	246

^{*} In addition, contributions of \$0.91m (2020: \$0.98m) in relation to referred cases were paid or are payable directly to private practitioners by clients.

2.6. Other income

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Unrealised investment gain *	502	-
Return to Work SA funding	117	106
Safe Families funding	85	-
Other	394	334
Total other income	1 098	440

^{*} Unrealised investment gain in portfolio managed by Funds SA measured at fair value through profit or loss.

3. Board, committees and employees

3.1. Key management personnel

Key management personnel of the Commission in 2020-21 include the Director, Commissioners, Chief Operating Officer, Legal Practice Manager, Access Services Manager and Human Resources Manager. In 2019-20, it included the Director, Commissioners, the Chief Operating Officer and the Legal Practice Manager.

Total compensation for key management personnel was \$1.29m in 2020-21 and \$0.89m in 2019-20.

Transactions with key management personnel and other related parties

In the ordinary course of business the Commission enters into transactions with legal firms, some of which may be associated with members of the Commission. Payments made to these firms are in accordance with the Commission's scale of fees and are payments that apply to practitioners generally. Accordingly, unless otherwise disclosed, transactions between members are on conditions no more favourable than those that it is reasonable to expect the entity would have adopted if dealing with the related party at arm's length in the same circumstances. These transactions amounted to \$0.17m (2020: \$0.15m).

3.2. Commission members

The members of the Commission are appointed by the Governor in accordance with the provisions of the Act and include sole practitioners.

Chair

Ex Officio

Members of the Commission during the 2021 financial year were:

Jason Karas
Gabrielle Canny *
Catherine Nelson
Debra Contala
Lucinda Byers *

*In accordance with the Premier and Cabinet Circular No. 016, government employees did not receive any remuneration for board/committee duties during the financial year.

Remuneration of Commissioners

The number of members whose remuneration received or receivable falls	2021	2020
within the following bands:	No.	No.
\$0 - \$19 999	4	7
\$20 000 - \$39 999	1	-
Total number of members	5	7

The total remuneration received or receivable by members was \$47 000 (2020: \$48 000). Remuneration of members includes sitting fees, superannuation contributions, salary sacrifice benefits, fringe benefits and related fringe benefits tax.

3.3. Employee benefits expenses

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Salaries and wages	15 348	15 033
Targeted voluntary separation packages	-	56
Long service leave	246	289
Annual leave	1 521	1 444
Skills and experience retention leave	104	93
Employment on-costs - superannuation	1 624	1 614
Employment on-costs - other	294	405
Commission members' fees	43	44
Workers' compensation	80	80
Total employee benefits expenses	19 260	19 058

Employment on-costs - superannuation

The superannuation employment on-cost charge represents the Commission's contributions to superannuation plans in respect of current services of current employees.

Executive remuneration

	2021	2020
	No.	No.
The number of employees whose remuneration received or receivable		
falls within the following bands:		
\$154 001 to \$174 000	4	5
\$174 001 to \$194 000	1	-
\$194 001 to \$214 000	2	2
\$214 001 to \$234 000	1	-
\$234 001 to \$254 000	2	2
\$254 001 to \$274 000	1	1
\$294 001 to \$314 000	-	1
\$314 001 to \$334 000	1	1
Total	12	12

The total remuneration received by these employees for the year was \$2.54m (2020: \$2.62m).

The table includes all employees whose normal remuneration was equal to or greater than the base executive remuneration level during the year. Remuneration of employees reflects all costs of employment including salaries and wages, payments in lieu of leave, superannuation contributions, salary sacrifice benefits and fringe benefits and any fringe benefits tax paid or payable in respect of those benefits as well as any termination benefits for employees who have left the Commission.

Targeted voluntary separation packages

The number of employees who received a TVSP during the reporting period was nil (2020: one).

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Amount paid to separated employees:	***************************************	
Targeted voluntary separation packages	-	56
Leave paid to separated employees	-	21
Net cost to the Commission		77

3.4. Employee benefits liability

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Current	\$ 000	\$ 000
	1.105	1 100
Annual leave	1 185	1 100
Long service leave	266	256
Skills and experience retention leave	105	95
Total current employee benefits	1 556	1 451
Non-current		
Long service leave	3 701	3 828
Total non-current employee benefits	3 701	3 828
Total employee benefits	5 257	5 279

Employee benefits accrue as a result of services provided up to the reporting date that remain unpaid. Long-term employee benefits are measured at present value and short-term employee benefits are measured at nominal amounts.

Salaries and wages, annual leave, skills and experience retention leave (SERL) and sick leave

The liability for salary and wages is measured as the amount unpaid at the reporting date at remuneration rates current at the reporting date.

The annual leave liability and the SERL liability in full is expected to be payable within 12 months and is measured at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid.

No provision has been made for sick leave as all sick leave is non-vesting and the average sick leave taken in future years by employees is estimated to be less than the annual entitlement for sick leave.

Long service leave

The liability for long service leave is measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of the reporting period using the projected unit credit method. Details about the measurement of long service leave liability is provided at note 10.1.

4. Expenses

4.1. Supplies and services

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Accommodation	3 197	2 952
Information technology expenses	2 235	2 547
Periodicals and subscriptions	295	273
Legal fees and disbursements	275	176
Consultancy fees	258	8
Telecommunications	248	570
External service providers	188	87
Office supplies and consumables	133	116
Interpreter fees	131	1 <i>77</i>
Practising certificates and membership	123	136
Internal audit and governance	112	69
Audit fees - Auditor-General's Department	80	79
Travel	70	124
Other	679	503
Total supplies and services	8 024	7 817

Accommodation

The Commission's accommodation is provided by the Department for Infrastructure and Transport under Memoranda of Administrative Arrangement (MoAA) issued in accordance with Government-wide accommodation policies. These arrangements do not meet the definition of lease set out in AASB16. Information about accommodation incentives relating this arrangement is shown at note 7.3.

Consultants

The number of consultancies and the dollar amount paid/payable (included in supplies and services expense) to consultants fell within the following bands:

	No.	2021 \$'000	No.	2020 \$'00 0
Below \$10 000	1	6	2	8
\$10 000 or above	5	252	_	-
Total	6	258	2	8

4.2. Depreciation and amortisation

	2021 \$ '000	2020 \$'000
Plant and equipment	305	219
Accommodation and leasehold improvements	225	225
Right-of-use accommodation	74	134
Right-of-use vehicles	7	8
Intangible assets	322	60
Total depreciation and amortisation	933	646

All non-current assets with a limited useful life are systematically depreciated/amortised over their useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their service potential.

Useful life

Depreciation and amortisation are calculated on a straight-line basis. Property, plant and equipment and intangible assets depreciation and amortisation are calculated over the estimated useful life as follows:

Class of asset	Useful life (years)
Accommodation and leasehold improvements	5-15
Right-of-use vehicles	Lease term
Right-of-use accommodation	Lease term
Plant and equipment	
Computers	3-5
Office equipment	5-13
Furniture and fittings	5-13
Intangibles	3-8

The library collections are anticipated to have very long and indeterminate useful lives. No amount for depreciation has been recognised as their service potential has not, in any material sense, been consumed during the reporting period.

Review of accounting estimates

Assets' residual values, useful lives and amortisation methods are reviewed and adjusted, if appropriate, on an annual basis. Changes in the expected life or the expected pattern of consumption of future economic benefits embodied in the asset are accounted for prospectively by changing the time period or method, as appropriate.

4.3. Borrowing costs

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Interest expense on lease liabilities	. 7	12
Total borrowing costs	7	12

The Commission does not capitalise borrowing costs.

4.4. Other expenses

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$ '000
Statutory charge bad debts and impairment loss on receivables	85	109
Bad debts	12	1 <i>7</i>
Loss on Funds SA investment	-	194
Loss on revaluation of assets	-	29
Total other expenses	97	349

4.5. Private Practitioners services

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$ '000
Private Practitioners services	21 894	18 416
Total Private Practitioners services	21 894	18 416

5. Non-financial assets

5.1. Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment comprises tangible assets owned and right-of-use (leased) assets. The assets presented below do not meet the definition of investment property.

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Accommodation and leasehold improvements		
Accommodation and leasehold improvements	3 589	4 170
Accumulated depreciation	(1 973)	(2 328)
Total accommodation and leasehold improvements	1 616	1 842
Plant and equipment		
Plant and equipment	4 240	5 032
Accumulated depreciation	(2 849)	(3 483)
Total plant and equipment	1 391	1 549
Right-of-use office accommodation		
Right-of-use office accommodation	-	831
Accumulated depreciation		(134)
Total right-of use office accommodation		697
Right-of-use vehicles		
Right-of-use vehicles	19	19
Accumulated depreciation	(15)	(8)
Total right-of use vehicles	4	11
Library		
Library	261	261
Total library	261	261
Work in progress		
Work in progress	92	111
Total work in progress	92	111
Total property, plant and equipment	3 364	4 471

5.2. Property, plant and equipment owned by the Commission

Property, plant and equipment owned by the Commission with a value equal to or in excess of \$5 000 is capitalised, otherwise it is expensed. Property, plant and equipment owned by the Commission is recorded at fair value. Details about the Commission's approach to fair value are set out in note 10.2.

Impairment

Property, plant and equipment owned by the Commission have not been assessed for impairment as they are non-cash generating assets that are specialised in nature and held for continual use of their service capacity.

Reconciliation 2020-21

	Accommodation and Leasehold improvements	Plant and equipment	Library	Work in Progress	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Carrying amount at the beginning of the period	1 842	1 549	261	111	3 763
Acquisitions	-	50	-	92	142
Depreciation	(225)	(305)	-	-	(530)
Transfer between asset classes	-	111	-	(111)	-
Disposals	(1)	(14)	-	-	(15)
Carrying amount at the end of the period	1 616	1 391	261	92	3 360

5.3. Property, plant and equipment leased by the Commission

Right-of-use assets for property, plant and equipment leased by the Commission as lessee are measured at cost.

Short-term leases of 12 months or less and low-value leases, where the underlying asset value is less than \$15 000, are not recognised as right-of-use assets. The associated lease payments are recognised as an expense and are disclosed in note 4.1.

The Commission has a limited number of leases:

Two motor vehicle leases with the South Australian Government Financing Authority (SAFA).
 Motor vehicle leases are non-cancellable, with rental payments monthly in arrears. Motor
 vehicle lease terms can range from 3 years (60,000km) up to 5 years (100,000km). No variable
 lease payments are provided for in the lease agreements and no option exist to renew the
 leases at the end of their term.

The lease liabilities related to the right-of-use assets are disclosed in note 7.2. The Commission's maturity analysis of its lease liabilities is disclosed in note 10.3. Expenses related to leases, including depreciation and interest expenses, are disclosed in note 4. Cash out flows related to leases are disclosed in note 8.2.

Impairment

Property, plant and equipment leased by the Commission has been assessed for impairment. There was no indication of impairment. No impairment loss or reversal of impairment loss was recognised.

5.4. Intangible assets

	2021 \$'000	2020
	\$ 000	\$'000
<u>Computer software</u>		
Computer software	3 535	3 133
Accumulated amortisation	(1 985)	(1 663)
Total computer software	1 550	1 470

Intangible assets are initially measured at cost and are tested for indications of impairment at each reporting date. Following initial recognition, intangible assets are carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses.

The acquisition of or internal development of software is capitalised only when the expenditure meets the definition and recognition criteria and when the amount of expenditure is greater than or equal to \$5 000.

Configuration or Customisation Costs in a Cloud Computing Arrangement

In April 2021, the IFRS Interpretations Committee (IFRIC) published an agenda decision for configuration and customisation costs incurred related to implementing Software as a Service (SaaS) arrangements.

The Commission is currently assessing the impact of the agenda decision on its current accounting policy, which may result in previously capitalised costs needing to be recognised as an expense. The process to quantify the impact of the decision is ongoing. The process is ongoing due to the complexity in interpreting the decision and ensuring the interpretation is consistent for all of the Commission's intangible assets.

At the date of this report, the impact of the IFRIC agenda decision on the Commission cannot be estimated with reasonable certainty. The impact of adopting the accounting policy clarification will be quantified ahead of 30 June 2022 financial report.

Reconciliation 2020-21

	Computer software \$1000	Total \$1000
Carrying amount at the beginning of the period	1 470	1 470
Acquisitions	402	402
Amortisation	(322)	(322)
Carrying amount at the end of the period	1 550	1 550

6. Financial assets

6.1. Cash and cash equivalents

	2021	2020
	\$'000	\$'000
Short-term deposits with SAFA	9 811	7 838
Cash on hand	1 623	(59)
Total cash and cash equivalents	11 434	7 779

6.2. Receivables

	2021	2020
	\$'000	\$'000
Current		
Trade receivables		
From government entities	215	281
From non-government entities	-	1
Legal Practitioners Act 1981 debtors	19	207
Client debtors	119	165
Impairment loss on receivables	(20)	(30)
Total trade receivables	333	624
Statutory receivables	25	_
GST input tax recoverable	454	368
Total statutory receivables	454	368
Prepayments	952	890
Accrued revenues	-	1 210
Total current receivables	1 739	3 092

Trade receivables arise in the normal course of selling goods and services to other government agencies and to the public. Trade receivables are normally settled within 30 days after the issue of an invoice or the goods/services have been provided under a contractual arrangement.

Statutory receivables do not arise from contracts with customers. They are recognised and measured similarly to contractual receivables (except impairment) but are not classified as financial instruments for disclosure purposes.

The net amount of GST recoverable from the ATO is included as part of receivables.

Receivables, prepayments and accrued revenues are non-interest bearing. Receivables are held with the objective of collecting the contractual cash flows and they are measured at amortised cost.

6.3. Other financial assets

2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
7 000	_ 4 000
8 308	7 806
8 308	7 806
8 308	7 806
	\$ 308 8 308

For further information on risk management refer to note 10.3.

6.4. Statutory charge debtors

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Statutory charge debtors	9 600	9 157
Impairment loss on Statutory charge receivables	(180)	(190)
Total statutory charge debtors	9 420	8 967

Statutory charge debtors are raised as a result of the Commission registering charges over property owned by some recipients of legal aid to secure legal costs owed on cases undertaken and are reported at amounts due. Debts are recovered when the property is refinanced or sold.

7. Liabilities

Employee benefits liabilities are disclosed in note 3.4.

7.1. Payables

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Current	4,000	7 000
Trade payables	251	159
Accrued expenses	77	79
Statutory payables		
Employment on-costs	148	183
Total statutory payables	148	183
Total current payables	476	421
Non-current		
Statutory payables		
Employment on-costs	165	207
Total non-current payables	165	207
Total payables	641	628

Payables and accruals are raised for all amounts owing but unpaid. Trade payables are normally settled within 30 days from the date the invoice is first received. All payables are non-interest bearing. The carrying amount of payables represents fair value due to their short-term nature.

Statutory payables do not arise from contracts.

The net amount of GST recoverable from the ATO is included as part of receivables. However, if a net GST payable arises then this amount would be disclosed in this Payables note.

Employment on-costs

Employment on-costs include Return to WorkSA levies and superannuation contributions and are settled when the respective employee benefits that they relate to is discharged.

The Commission contributes to several State Government and externally managed superannuation schemes. These contributions are treated as an expense when they occur. There is no liability for payments to beneficiaries as they have been assumed by the respective superannuation schemes. The only liability outstanding at reporting date relates to any contributions due but not yet paid to the South Australian Superannuation Board.

As a result of an actuarial assessment performed by the Department of Treasury and Finance, the proportion of long service leave taken as leave remains unchanged at a rate of 42% and the average factor for the calculation of employer superannuation cost on-costs has changed from the 2020 rate of 9.8% to 10.1%. These rates are used in the employment on-cost calculation. The net financial effect of the changes in the current financial year is immaterial.

7.2. Financial liabilities

		2021 \$'000	2020 \$'00 0
Current			
Lease liabilities	5.3	4	133
Total current financial liabilities		4	133
Non-current			
Lease liabilities	5.3		594
Total non-current financial liabilities	_	=	594
Total financial liabilities		4	727

The Commission measures financial liabilities at amortised cost. In prior years, The Commission held leases for Regional Legal aid offices. These leases are no longer held by the Commission. All accommodation lease arrangements are held by the Department of Infrastructre and Transport. Expenditure related to these leases is recognised in Note 4.1.

7.3. Other liabilities

	2021	2020
	\$'000	\$'000
Current		
Accommodation incentive	233	233
Total current other liabilities	233	233
Non-current		
Accommodation incentive	1401	1 634
Total non-current other liabilities	1 401	1 634
Total other liabilities	1 634	1 867

Accommodation incentive liabilities relate to arrangements with the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) for office accommodation. These arrangements do not comprise leases and the accommodation incentives do not comprise financial liabilities. DIT has provided a range of fit-out free of charge. The benefit of this incentive is spread over the accommodation term so that each year reported accommodation expenses reflect the economic susbstance of the office accommodation arrangements and related benefits provided.

8. Other disclosures

8.1. Equity

The asset revaluation surplus is used to record increments and decrements in the fair value of property, plant and equipment to the extent that they offset one another. Relevant amounts are transferred to retained earnings when an asset is derecognised.

8.2. Cash flow

Cash flows are included in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities, which is recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is classified as part of operating cash flows.

The total cash outflows for leases was \$130 000 (2020: \$128 000).

9. Outlook

9.1. Unrecognised commitments

Commitments include operating, capital and outsourcing arrangements arising from contractual sources and are disclosed at their nominal value.

Legal expense commitments

	2021	2020
	\$'000	\$'000
Within one year	23 125	19 <i>74</i> 6
Total expenditure commitments	23 125	19 746

When a private practitioner is allocated a case, they are issued with a commitment certificate indicating the amount the private practitioner is able to claim in relation to the case. Once the private practitioner has provided the service, they sign and submit the commitment certificate, so they can be paid. 'Legal Expense Commitments' relate to commitment certificates that have been issued by the Commission but not yet returned.

Expenditure commitments

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Within one year	2 948	2 779
Later than one year but not longer than five years	12 213	11 746
Later than five years	6 495	9 627
Total expenditure commitments	21 656	24 152
Representing:		
Accommodation	21 548	23 971
Electronic Document and Record Management System (EDRMS)	108	181
Total expenditure commitments	21 656	24 152

The Commission's expenditure commitments are for agreements for:

- Memoranda of Administrative Arrangements with the Department for Infrastructure and Transport for accommodation.
- the Electronic Document and Record Management System (EDRMS).

9.2. Contingent assets and liabilities

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Statement of Financial Position, but are disclosed by way of a note and, if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value.

The Commission is not aware of any contingent assets or contingent liabilities.

9.3. Events after the reporting period

At balance date and as at the date of financial statement certification, there were no known events after the reporting period.

10. Measurement and risk

10.1. Long service leave liability - measurement

AASB 119 Employee Benefits contains the calculation methodology for long service leave liability.

The actuarial assessment performed by the Department of Treasury and Finance has provided a basis for the measurement of long service leave and is based on actuarial assumptions on expected future salary and wage levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. These assumptions are based on employee data over SA Government entities.

AASB 119 Employee Benefits requires the use of the yield on long-term Commonwealth Government bonds as the discount rate in the measurement of the long service leave liability. The yield on long-term Commonwealth Government bonds has increased from 2020 (0.75%) to 2021 (1.25%).

This increase in the bond yield, which is used as the rate to discount future long service leave cash flows, results in a decrease in the reported long service leave liability.

The net financial effect of the changes to actuarial assumptions in the current financial year is a decrease in the long service leave liability of \$445 000 and employee benefits expense of \$445 000. The impact on future periods is impracticable to estimate as the long service leave liability is calculated using a number of demographical and financial assumptions - including the long-term discount rate.

The actuarial assessment performed by the Department of Treasury and Finance left the salary inflation rate at 2.5% for long service leave liability. As a result, there is no net financial effect resulting from changes in the salary inflation rate.

The Commission's estimate of expected future payments for the current portion of long service leave is based on an average over a three year period on long service leave taken.

10.2. Fair value

AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants, in the principal or most advantageous market, at the measurement date.

Initial recognition

Non-current tangible assets are initially recorded at cost or at the value of any liabilities assumed, plus any incidental cost involved with the acquisition.

Revaluation

Property, plant and equipment, other than right-of-use assets, are subsequently measured at fair value after allowing for accumulated depreciation.

Non-current tangible assets are valued at fair value and revaluation of non-current assets or a group of assets is only performed when the fair value at the time of acquisition is greater than \$1.5 million and estimated useful life is greater than three years.

Revaluation is undertaken on a regular cycle. If at any time management considers that the carrying amount of an asset materially differs from its fair value, then the asset will be revalued regardless of when the last valuation took place.

Any accumulated depreciation as at the revaluation date is eliminated against the gross carrying amounts of the assets and the net amounts are restated to the revalued amounts of the asset.

Revaluation of the library collection was performed by Valcorp Australia Pty Ltd as at 30 June 2014. The independent valuer arrived at fair value based on the written down replacement cost of the collections.

Revaluation of leasehold improvements and fixtures and fittings was performed by Liquid Pacific Holdings Pty Ltd during 2019-20 financial year. The independent valuer arrived at fair value based on the actual cost of the assets.

Plant and equipment

All items of plant and equipment that had a fair value at the time of acquisition less than \$1.5 million or had an estimated useful life of less than three years have has not been revalued. The carrying value of these items are deemed to approximate fair value.

10.3. Financial instruments

Financial risk management

Risk management is managed by the Commission's corporate services section. Commission risk management policies are in accordance with the SA Government Risk Management Guide and the principles established in the Australian Standard Risk Management Principles and Guidelines.

The Commission's exposure to financial risk (liquidity risk, credit risk and market risk) is low due to the nature of the financial instruments held.

Impairment of financial assets

Loss allowances for statutory charge and client debtors are measured at an amount equal to lifetime expected credit loss using the simplified approach in AASB 9. The Commission uses an allowance matrix to measure the expected credit loss of receivables from non-government debtors which comprise a large number of small balances.

To measure the expected credit losses, client debtors are grouped based on the days past due. When estimating expected credit loss, the Commission considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis, based on the Commission's historical experience and informed credit assessment, including forward-looking information.

The expected credit loss of government debtors is considered to be nil based on the external credit ratings and nature of the counterparties.

Loss rates are calculated based on the probability of a statutory charge and client debtors progressing through stages to write off based on the common risk characteristics of the transaction and debtor.

Loss rates are based on actual history of credit loss. These rates have been adjusted to reflect differences between previous economic conditions, current conditions and the Commission's view of the forecast economic conditions over the expected life of the statutory charge and client debtors.

Impairment losses are presented as net impairment losses within net result, subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against the same line item.

The allowance was recognised when there was objective evidence that a client debtor was impaired. The allowance for impairment is recognised in other expenses for specific client debtors and debtors assessed on a collective basis for which such evidence existed.

Statutory charge debtors are written off or waived when there is a shortfall of sale proceeds from real estate sold on behalf of the clients. In addition, a decision may be made by the Commission to waive the debt based on the client's negative equity or through a court order.

The Commission has placed its investments in a portfolio managed by Funds SA. Listed shares and equities included within these investments are traded in an organised financial market by the fund managers. The Commission values these investments at current market value.

The Commission considers that its cash and cash equivalents have low credit risk based on the external credit ratings of the counterparties and therefore the expected credit loss is nil.

Categorisation of financial instruments

Details of the significant accounting policies and methods adopted including the criteria for recognition, the basis of measurement, and the basis on which income and expenses are recognised with respect to each class of financial asset, financial liability and equity instrument are disclosed in the respective financial asset/financial liability note.

Classification of Financial Instruments

Category of financial assets and financial liabilities	Note	2021 Carrying amount (\$'000)	2020 Carrying amount (\$'000)
<u>Financial assets</u>			
Cash and equivalent			
Cash and cash equivalent	6.1	11 434	7 779
Fair value through profit and loss			
Investments	6.3	8 308	7 806
Financial assets at amortised cost			
Receivables *	6.2	333	1 834
Statutory charge debtors	6.4	9 420	8 967
Total financial assets		29 495	26 386
<u>Financial liabilities</u>			
Financial liabilities at amortised cost			
Payables *	<i>7</i> .1	251	159
Lease liabilities	7.2	4	727
Legal payables		969	824
Total financial liabilities		1 224	1 710

^{*} Total amounts disclosed here exclude statutory amounts. Receivables do not include prepayments as these are not financial instruments. Prepayments are presented in note 6.2.

Statutory receivables and payables

The receivable and payable amounts disclosed here exclude amounts relating to statutory receivables and payables. This includes Commonwealth, State and Local Government taxes and equivalents, fees and charges, and Auditor-General's Department audit fees. This is in addition to employee related payables, such as Fringe Benefits Tax, Pay As You Go Withholding and ReturnToWorkSA levies. In government, certain rights to receive or pay cash may not be contractual but have their source in legislation and therefore, in these situations, the disclosure requirements of AASB 7 will not apply. The standard defines contract as enforceable by law. All amounts recorded are carried at cost.