



NEW SOUTH WALES
BAR ASSOCIATION

THE NEW SOUTH WALES BAR ASSOCIATION
BAR COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Thursday 26 March 2015
in the Boardroom of the New South Wales Bar Association
at 5.00pm

PRESENT: Needham SC; Hutley SC; Moses SC (by phone); Bennett AC
QC; Menzies QC; Sullivan QC; Phillips SC; Game SC;
Cunneen SC; Walker; Toomey; Wood; Stitt; Hyde Page;
Antipas; Sethi

APOLOGIES: Hogan-Doran; Doyle Gray; Traill; Khandhar; Callan

IN ATTENDANCE: Deputy Executive Director; Executive Assistant

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of 12 March 2015 were confirmed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BAR
COUNCIL OF 26 FEBRUARY 2015

Noted.

OUTSTANDING ACTIONS AS AT 19 MARCH 2015

Noted.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Noted. The President spoke to her written report and also advised Bar Council of the Federal Attorney-General's announcement of the reversal of proposed legal assistance funding cuts earlier in the day. The President had issued a statement welcoming that decision to the *Sydney Morning Herald* and to members via this afternoon's *In Brief*.

The President also noted that she had attended the Newcastle and Orange Regional CPD Conferences, and thanked the Senior Vice-President and Treasurer for their attendances at the Parramatta and Ballina Regional CPD Conferences respectively.

FINANCE

Noted.

FOR CONSIDERATION

Memorandum to the Bar Council dated 6 March 2015 from the Practice Development Committee – Draft report by Urbis “NSW Bar Association – 2014 Member Profile Report”

Richard McHugh SC, the Chair of the Practice Development Committee, attended the meeting to answer questions on the 2014 Bar Survey and draft report prepared by Urbis. Bar Council noted that the preamble to the survey indicated to members that “it was intended to obtain data which can be used to develop, support and justify initiatives for its members” and that there had been no indication given to members that the results or subsequent report would be publicly released.

After some discussion, the Bar Council agreed that the draft Urbis Report on the 2014 Bar Survey should not be publicly released. However, it was noted that the survey results and Report constituted an invaluable source of data to inform future work of the Bar Council, its Committees and the Association generally. It was also noted that Association staff have the capacity to undertake cross-correlations of survey data as the need arises.

It was also agreed that a protocol be developed whereby Committees, CPD presenters and other members could gain access to survey data. That protocol should require those seeking access to survey to set out the information sought, the reason for access and the proposed use of the data. The ultimate decision to grant or refuse access should rest with the Executive. Bar Council agreed that Christopher Wood, in consultation with the Senior Vice-President, the Junior Vice-President and the Deputy Executive Director, will prepare a draft protocol for its consideration.

The Bar Council thanked McHugh SC and the Practice Development Committee for their work in relation to the survey design, its results and the draft Report.

FOR INFORMATION

Minutes of the meeting of the Common Law Committee held on 3 March 2015

Noted.

Memorandum to the Bar Council dated 10 March 2015 from Terrie Gibson, Manager, Professional Conduct – Conduct Statistics for the period 1 November 2014 to 28 February 2015

Noted.

Letter to the Executive Director dated 12 March 2015 from Larry King SC – District Court Civil Business Liaison Committee

Noted.

The meeting closed at 6.30pm.

Confirmed as a correct record.

Jane Needham SC
President

Date: