Lump Sum Costs Agreements
E-Newsletter Issue 7
Dear Colleague

Welcome to our 4th e-newsletter for 2012, and our 7th overall. We have two matters we want to bring to your attention on this occasion.

2011-12 Annual Report
The Attorney-General has tabled our Annual Report for 2011-12 in the Legislative Assembly and we have since published it on our website.

The report describes our purposes and values, and the work we are doing to achieve our purposes consistent with our values. It includes quite detailed quantitative data describing our throughputs in 2011-12, our processes, the outcomes we have achieved, the timeliness with which we’ve achieved them and other data which helps us and we hope will help readers assess our performance.

The report also describes some key trends in the regulation of the provision of legal services both nationally and internationally which inform and shape how we see our role, set our priorities and go about our work. We trust you will find it interesting and informative.

Consultation - Lump Sum Costs Agreements Draft Guide
We are seeking your comments on the fourth proposed Regulatory Guide: Lump Sum Costs Agreements - Consultation Draft.

It is the latest in a series of guides about billing practices we see at the Commission and that cause us concern. The guides target ‘grey areas’ where it is not always clear how a lawyer’s professional obligations apply. They set out for the benefit of practitioners and users of legal services alike the factors we take into account in exercising our regulatory responsibilities in dealing with related complaints.

Details about making submissions are on the Consultations page. Submissions will close 4 February 2013.

In the meantime, all the very best.

Regards,

John Briton
Legal Services Commissioner

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