



News and updates

KELLIE GRAINGER CEO, Law Society NT

It's that time of year again—with key regulatory obligations for legal practitioners in the Northern Territory falling due between April and June.

By now you should have submitted your Annual CPD Certificate, and if you didn't manage to accrue all the points in the required competencies you have until 30 June 2019 to make up any shortfall and submit a Supplementary CPD Certificate.

For all law practices the annual reporting period relating to trust monies has started. If you are unsure about what reporting obligations your law practice might have, check out the information available on the Society's website and keep an eye on *The Practitioner* e-newsletter for alerts and reminders about what is due and when.

The key obligation that affects all legal practitioners in the Northern Territory is the need to take steps to apply to renew your practising certificate for 2019/20. This year's renewal process will be significantly different for practitioners with the changes to the practising certificate application forms, including the introduction of a new renewal form, and the ability to submit your application as a PDF rather than posting or delivering an original form. The Society considers that these changes will bring benefits for practitioners in the long-term but appreciates that during the transition period this year there may be impacts for some practitioners. The Secretariat is keen to work with practitioners to make the change as smooth as possible.



The Society is looking forward to the variety of events organised for this year's Law Week from Sunday 12 May to Sunday 19 May 2019. We thank the other organisations who support Law Week by offering a variety of activities to engage the community and help raise awareness about the law and the important role of legal institutions. Aside from the Society's annual Law Week lunch in Darwin and Law Week dinner in Alice Springs we see the return of the Law Week trivia night—will the Oxford Commas emerge victorious again or can another team claim the title? The Society is also very excited about the Tug of Law making its reappearance on the Law Week calendar of events after a considerable hiatus.

Work is under way to prepare for the impending visit of the Law Council of Australia; directors from across Australia will be travelling to Darwin for their June Directors' meeting. The Society is delighted to welcome them at our Annual Dinner to be held at Pee Wee's at the Point on Friday 21 June 2019.

The Society's committees have been very busy over the past month or two working on submissions to the Legislative Assembly's Scrutiny Committees and to the Department of Attorney-General and Justice. The Society relies heavily on the subject matter expertise of our volunteer committee members to produce the quality and informed submissions that are a key component of the Society's law reform advocacy. We also welcome contributions from the broader membership. So if you see a law reform discussion paper issued or a new Bill referred to a Scrutiny Committee that falls within your area of interest and knowledge and you would like to be involved in developing the Society's position, make contact the Society's Senior Policy Lawyer, Marian Wilson. ■

Contact Kellie

I can be contacted through the Society or via email:
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Law Society NT recent advocacy activities

Submissions

Rehabilitation facilities for the purposes of the *Bail Act*

6 February 2019, Attorney-General

Simple participation agreement

7 February 2019, Law Council of Australia

Development of protocol for police and children in residential care

7 March 2019, Territory Families

Youth justice – approved programs

12 March 2019, Territory Families

Tenancy Advice Funding

13 March 2019, Attorney-General

Youth Justice Amendment Bill

19 March 2019, Chief Minister Northern Territory

Terms of reference for a royal commission into violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation of people with a disability

25 March 2019, Law Council of Australia

Media releases

Government backflip on youth justice reforms stirs Law Society

19 March 2019

Joint Law Society NT and

Law Council of Australia media release:

NT Government's 'unacceptable' Don Dale backflip fails young people and community

26 March 2019

Territory Government needs to move on Pathways to Justice recommendations

28 March 2019

Conferences and forums attended

National Policy Lawyers & Public Relations Forum

28 February – 1 March 2019, Queensland, Queensland
Law Society

7th National Access to Justice & Pro Bono Conference

13–15 March 2019, Canberra, Law Council of Australia

Conference of Law Societies

22 March 2019, Sydney, Law Council of Australia

Law Council of Australia Directors Meeting

23 March 2019, Sydney, Law Council of Australia

Northern Territory Legislation

Introduced

Integrity and Accountability Legislation Amendment Bill 2019	20/03/19
Youth Justice and Related Legislation Amendment Bill 2019	20/03/19
National Disability Insurance Scheme (Authorisations) Bill 2019	20/03/19
Care and Protection of Children Amendment Bill 2019	20/03/19
Water Legislation Miscellaneous Amendments Bill 2019	13/03/19
Teacher Registration (Northern Territory) Legislation Amendment Bill 2019	14/02/19
Water Amendment Bill 2019	13/02/19
Motor Accidents (Compensation) Amendment Bill 2019	13/02/19
Medical Services Amendment Bill 2018	28/11/18
Liquor Amendment (Repeal of Minimum Pricing) Bill 2018	31/10/18

Passed

Criminal Code Further Amendment Bill 2019	21/03/19
Youth Justice Amendment Bill 2019	21/03/19
Public Information Legislation Amendment Bill 2018 *	21/03/19
Petroleum Legislation Amendment Bill 2018 *	19/03/19
Liquor Amendment Bill 2018 *	14/03/19
Justice Legislation Amendment Bill 2018 *	14/02/19
Electoral Legislation Amendment Bill 2018 *	20/03/19
Health Services Amendment Bill 2018	14/03/19
Criminal Code Amendment Bill 2018 *	12/03/19
Licensed Surveyors Amendment Bill 2018	13/03/19
Superannuation Legislation Amendment Bill 2018	12/02/19
Nuclear Waste Transport, Storage and Disposal (Prohibition) Amendment Bill 2018 *	14/02/19
Agents and Land Legislation Amendment Bill 2018 *	13/03/19
Tobacco Control Legislation Amendment Bill 2018 *	13/02/19

* Amendments made.

Sourced from

legislation.nt.gov.au/en/LegislationPortal/Bills/By-Session

22 March 2019, 1:14 pm.