

NLAF Working Group on Collaborative Service Planning

Revised Catchments for Service Planning – July 2019

Background

In February 2019, the NLAF Working Group published a [discussion paper](#) which sought the views of legal assistance service providers on proposed catchments for collaborative service planning across all areas of NSW. In particular, feedback was sought on whether the proposed catchments make sense from a local perspective.

In total, 32 responses were received including from a large number of CLCs, CLSD coordinators, the ALS and Legal Aid NSW. Further consultation was then undertaken with legal assistance service providers to resolve outstanding issues.

Proposed new catchments for endorsement

The feedback we received has been instrumental in reshaping the proposed catchments to better reflect the way legal services are delivered across NSW. We now seek your endorsement of the proposed catchments, as shown on the attached map and in the attached suburb and town list for catchments and sub-catchments.

The benefit to formalising particular catchment areas means that services can be better planned across locations. It also enables an analysis of legal need for current or future target client groups based on standardised geographical boundaries.

The collaborative service planning process will focus on better service planning between legal assistance services and will use data to inform appropriate allocation of resources. It is not intended to be directly linked with the allocation of financial resources within the legal assistance sector.

We are not proposing these boundaries would limit or restrict services that are currently being provided, and acknowledge that the catchments may need to be refined over time.

Timeframe for response

Please provide your response to the NLAF Working Group via the Planning and Review Unit at Legal Aid NSW (c/- chelly.milliken@legalaid.nsw.gov.au; Tel: 9219 5144) by **Friday, 2 August 2019**.

Attachments

1. Map of the catchments and sub-catchments for regional NSW.
2. Excel spread sheet that details the towns and suburbs located in each catchment and sub-catchment. If a catchment includes sub-catchments, they appear as a separate tab.

