

**CROWN LAW**

CW301

**LEGAL PRACTITIONERS ACT 1893  
LEGAL COSTS COMMITTEE****Determination**

On 7 and 14 December 1991 the Legal Costs Committee advertised notice of its intention to make a determination with respect to the fees charged by legal practitioners in Western Australia for non-contentious business and for contentious business in the following jurisdictions:

Supreme Court of Western Australia  
District Court of Western Australia  
Workers' Compensation and Assistance Board of W.A.  
Local Court of Western Australia  
The Court of Petty Sessions in Western Australia

As required, the Law Society of Western Australia Inc., (the "Law Society") and the various tribunals were notified of the Committee's intention to make a determination. In all, fourteen submissions were received and considered by the Committee. In addition, the Committee received oral submissions from the Law Society, the Legal Aid Commission of Western Australia and the State Government Insurance Commission.

The submissions received by the Committee from individuals and organisations generally opposed any across the board increase in the current costs scales at this time. It is noted also that none of the submissions sought a decrease in the current costs scales.

The Committee, having considered the submissions received and having reviewed other information available to the Committee, including relevant consumer price index figures from the Australian Bureau of Statistics and recent increases in the Federal Court Costs Scales, the Committee is of the opinion that it should determine not to alter the general level of the current costs scales at this time.

In accordance with section 58W of the Legal Practitioners' Act 1893, the Committee hereby determines that there shall be no change to the following scales for the time being:

Supreme Court Costs Scale 1991  
Non-contentious Probate Costs Scale 1991  
Solicitors' Remuneration Scale 1991 (formerly called the Solicitors' Remuneration Order 1991)  
Local Court Costs Scale 1991  
Costs Scale 1991 under the Official Prosecutions (Defendants Costs) Act 1973  
Workers' Compensation Scale

The Committee is conscious that a number of anomalies exist in the current scales, both as regards the structure of scales and individual items within scales. The Committee is presently in the process of addressing each scale separately and will in due course publish new determinations in respect of each scale.

Dated 31 March 1992.

MICHAEL O'CONNOR, Chairman.  
JOHN SYMINTON, Member.  
RON BARRETT, Member.  
MICHAEL MEGAW, Member.  
CLIVE BROWN, Member.  
CHRIS PULLIN, Member.