

CROWN LAW OFFICE
BRIEFING FOR THE INCOMING ATTORNEY-GENERAL
DECEMBER 2011

The briefing is intended to form the basis for discussion with the Attorney-General as to how the Attorney wishes the Solicitor-General to assist the Attorney-General to discharge his functions in Government.

The briefing comprises three parts. Part 1 summarises certain key tasks (both legal and policy) being worked on by Crown Law, and details those matters Crown Law is likely to need to put before the Attorney-General in the three months following the election.

Part 2 sets out medium and longer term issues arising for Government out of litigation and advice currently before Crown Law.

Parts 1 and 2 of the paper are confidential and subject to legal privilege.

Part 3 of the paper sets out information on the role of the Attorney-General and Solicitor-General, Law Officers of the Crown and information on the role of Crown Law, including details on senior staff.

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**PART 3: THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL,
SOLICITOR-GENERAL AND CROWN LAW**
DECEMBER 2011

1. This section covers the role and functions of the Law Officers and Crown Law's role in providing support to them.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL

2. The Attorney-General has two roles in Government:
 - 2.1 The first is that of a Minister of the Crown with ministerial responsibility for Crown Law, the Serious Fraud Office and the Parliamentary Counsel Office;
 - 2.2 The second role is that of the senior Law Officer of the Crown with principal responsibility for the Government's administration of the law. This function is exercised in conjunction with the Solicitor-General, who is the junior Law Officer.
3. The fundamental responsibility of the Attorney-General, when acting as Attorney, is to act in the public interest. The management of the inevitable conflicts of interest that arise is facilitated in New Zealand by the fact that the Solicitor-General is available to advise and assist on and, where appropriate, to discharge Law Officer functions.
4. Most of the Attorney-General's functions, duties and powers can be exercised or performed by the Solicitor-General thereby clearly isolating, when that is considered desirable, Law Officer decision-making from the appearance of political influences. This applies only to Law Officer and not to Ministerial functions. The exercise of power is an original exercise, not a delegation by the Attorney-General.
5. When the Attorney-General is overseas, unwell, or temporarily unavailable:
 - 5.1 Another Minister may exercise the Attorney-General's ministerial functions (but not Law Officer functions) under section 7 of the Constitution Act 1986; and
 - 5.2 The Solicitor-General may exercise most of the Attorney-General's Law Officer functions under section 9A of the Constitution Act 1986.

6. In exercising the Law Officer role the Attorney-General seeks to ensure that:
 - 6.1 The operations of Government are conducted lawfully and constitutionally; and
 - 6.2 The Government is not prevented through use of the legal process from lawfully implementing its chosen policies.
7. These constitutional responsibilities, which support New Zealand's commitment to democratic government under law, are reflected in the functions of Crown Law.

Role and Functions

Principal Legal Adviser

8. The Attorney-General is the principal legal adviser to the Government. In that capacity the Attorney has similar responsibilities to those of any legal adviser towards a client. The Attorney-General is also a member of the Government and is usually a member of the Cabinet. In Cabinet and Cabinet Committee meetings, the Attorney-General's role includes giving legal advice and encouraging Ministerial colleagues to seek appropriate legal advice in the course of Government decision-making.
9. In practice it is the Solicitor-General (either directly or through Crown Counsel) who gives legal advice to the Government. But that advice is always subject to the opinion of the Attorney-General, whose opinion prevails in the event of conflict.
10. In addition, the Attorney-General has overall responsibility for the conduct of all legal proceedings involving the Crown, and can be expected to keep his or her fellow Ministers generally informed of the initiation, progress and outcome of such proceedings against or by the Government.
11. The Attorney-General is, in constitutional terms, the client for all legal advice provided to the Crown (from whatever source). It is for the Attorney-General to determine whether to release legal advice that has been provided to the government, or refer to the content of that advice, and waive (or potentially waive) legal privilege. The process for seeking the Attorney-General's consent to release of advice is detailed in Cabinet Office Circular CO(05)5 of 15 April 2005, and the Cabinet Manual 2008 at 4.65 – 4.68.
12. In exercising Law Officer functions neither the Attorney-General nor Solicitor-General is subject to the Official Information Act 1982.

Representation in the Courts

13. The Attorney-General is the principal plaintiff or defendant on behalf of the Government in the courts although judicial review proceedings usually name the relevant Minister of the Crown or other decision-maker involved. Generally proceedings involving Ministers and departments will be handled by Crown Law for the Attorney-General and Governmental interests directly affected (although the Solicitor-General will brief particular matters to outside counsel in appropriate circumstances). In addition, the Attorney-General has a separate responsibility to

represent the public interest on behalf of the general community. In doing so, the Attorney-General may intervene in proceedings which affect the public interest.

14. All proceedings brought against the Crown are served on Crown Law, and the Solicitor-General (or allocated Crown Counsel) acts as counsel. The Attorney-General has occasionally appeared personally as counsel for the Crown in the past, including appearances before the Court of Appeal and the Privy Council. There are, however, some risks in doing so, particularly in criminal proceedings. The Attorney-General has also appeared before the International Court of Justice.

Principal Law Officer of the Crown

15. As the Law Officers, the Attorney-General and the Solicitor-General exercise powers, functions and duties related to the proper administration of justice and the public interest. The Attorney-General's functions with respect to the criminal justice system are discussed separately below (at paragraph 31 and following).

Protector of Charities

16. The Attorney-General's responsibilities in relation to charities, outlined in the Charitable Trusts Act 1957, are routinely exercised by the Solicitor-General or by a Deputy Solicitor-General under a delegation. There are two main aspects to these protective responsibilities:
 - 16.1 The notion that charitable purposes need protection by an officer acting in the public interest as there may be no beneficiaries to enforce them;
 - 16.2 The need for charitable bodies to be scrutinised in the public interest.
17. The Solicitor-General, on behalf of the Attorney-General, reports on, or approves schemes to vary, charitable trusts; may appear as a party to charity proceedings and act for the beneficial interest to enforce charitable purposes; monitors and, on request, may advise persons and select committees on legislation involving charitable trusts; and in the public interest investigates the management and administration of charitable trusts.

Litigation Involving the Public Interest

18. The Attorney-General through the Solicitor-General traditionally lends assistance to citizens seeking to enforce the law in circumstances where there is no individual right to initiate proceedings (relator proceedings). The relaxed requirements of legal standing mean relator proceedings are now uncommon. The Attorney-General also has a responsibility to ensure that lawful avenues of redress are not abused by vexatious litigants. Those who are declared to be vexatious litigants are limited in their ability to pursue court actions. In addition, there are various types of proceeding that can be taken only with the Attorney's consent.
19. The Attorney-General can also seek leave to intervene in the public interest in proceedings to which the Attorney-General is not already a party.
20. The Attorney-General can represent the public interest in the administration of justice and, where appropriate, take legal action to see that the law is observed and justice is done in both criminal and civil proceedings. An illustration of this role

with respect to civil proceedings is the case of *Attorney-General v Maori Land Court* [1999] 1 NZLR 689 (CA). An application for judicial review was brought with respect to the jurisdiction of the Maori Land Court to deal with land owned by a local authority.

Miscellaneous Statutory Functions

21. There are many powers, duties and functions conferred or imposed on the Attorney-General under particular statutes. A list of these powers can be provided and elaborated on if you wish.

Representation on Bodies

22. The Attorney-General is a member of various bodies, such as the Rules Committee, which is charged with responsibility for developing the District Courts, High Court and Court of Appeal Rules, and the Council for Law Reporting, which has responsibility for the publishing of the New Zealand Law Reports. In all cases the Solicitor-General is also a member and can undertake the task of representation in the Attorney-General's absence, either personally or by delegation. Ministerial commitments may preclude regular attendance by the Attorney-General at such meetings. However active participation in the deliberations of the Rules Committee could at some stage be desirable on specific issues involving a significant policy content, especially if the Government and judiciary are likely to have different views.

Independence

23. In exercising the powers, functions and duties of the senior Law Officer, the Attorney-General is expected to disregard any political interest or partisan advantage/disadvantage to the Government or opposition parties. The same applies to the Solicitor-General. However the public interest on any given issue cannot be determined in isolation from practical realities, and that may require that political factors be considered along with others. The crucial point is that in advising and making decisions, both Law Officers must not make decisions with the aim of securing any political or similar advantage.

Relationship with the Judiciary

24. The Attorney-General carries the principal responsibility in Government for the relationship of the Executive Government with the judiciary. The Attorney-General also has responsibility for appointment of the judiciary.
25. In addition, by convention in New Zealand, the Attorney-General has a particular responsibility for protecting the judiciary from improper and unfair criticism, for example, by answering attacks on their decisions and by actively discouraging other Ministers from engaging in improper attacks or criticism.
26. It is also important to the effective functioning of the judiciary that people who act in a manner that interferes with the administration of justice in particular cases are made accountable. It is the Law Officers' responsibility (in practice undertaken by the Solicitor-General) to bring proceedings for contempt of court in such cases. The most common instance is pre-trial media publicity of a kind that tends to

prejudice a specific criminal trial before a jury. This is separate from the power of the Police under s 138 of the Criminal Justice Act 1985 to charge any person with an offence who breaches an order forbidding the publication of evidence, submissions or the details of any witness.

Appointments to High Court

27. The Solicitor-General is responsible for advising the Attorney-General on appointments to the higher courts (the High Court, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court).
28. The key features of the processes for the appointment of High Court Judges, Judges of the Court of Appeal and Supreme Court and Associate Judges, are as follows:
 - 28.1 A periodic consultation process with a wide variety of organisations and individuals seeking suggestions of candidates for appointment;
 - 28.2 The periodic publication of advertisements calling for expressions of interest for those interested in appointment to the High Court;
 - 28.3 Requirement that all prospective candidates for appointment complete a formal expression of interest;
 - 28.4 Consultation with the judiciary, represented by the Chief Justice, and the profession, represented by the Presidents of the New Zealand Law Society and the New Zealand Bar Association, concerning the suitability of particular candidates.

The Attorney-General and Parliament

29. The Attorney-General is answerable to Parliament for the actions of the agencies under the Attorney's ministerial control (Crown Law, Serious Fraud Office and Parliamentary Counsel Office), and for the exercise of Law Officer powers (although, by convention, matters such as decisions to prosecute are kept free of political influence).
30. The Attorney-General also has special responsibilities to Parliament in relation to legislation. These underscore the independence with which the duties of the Attorney-General must be exercised.
 - 30.1 In terms of s 7 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, the Attorney-General reports to the House of Representatives any provision in a bill introduced to Parliament that is inconsistent with the Bill of Rights;¹
 - 30.2 The Attorney may also approve the giving of legal advice by Crown Law to Parliamentary select committees if they seek legal assistance. The main

¹ For all bills apart from those for which the Minister of Justice has responsibility, the Attorney is advised by the Ministry of Justice, reflecting the view that in its preliminary stages the Bill of Rights vetting process raises policy matters. To avoid any perception of a conflict of interest, bills promoted by the Minister of Justice are vetted by Crown Law which then advises the Attorney-General. Crown Law will also advise in any case where an adverse report to the Attorney is contemplated.

role of Crown Law is however to advise the Government, and the provision of advice to select committees accordingly should be in limited circumstances.

Attorney-General's Functions in Relation to the Criminal Justice System

Introduction

31. The Attorney-General has responsibility for the government's role in the administration of criminal justice, particularly relating to the prosecution of crime. The supervision of criminal prosecutions is one of the areas in which the Attorney-General (with the Solicitor-General) exercises powers, functions and duties relating to the proper administration of justice in the public interest.
32. The public interest requires the interests of society to be upheld in a principled way. There is a need for the supervision of the exercise of prosecutorial discretion especially since prosecution decision-making is not (other than in extreme cases) subject to judicial review.
33. By tradition, successive Attorneys-General have preferred not to become directly involved in the areas of prosecution or Law Officer decisions by the Solicitor-General in relation to criminal proceedings. The reason for this convention is to prevent the administration of criminal law becoming, or appearing to become, a matter of political decision-making. The Solicitor-General is of course accountable to the Attorney-General for the overall supervision of criminal prosecutions.

Division of Responsibilities

34. It has accordingly been usual for the Solicitor-General rather than the Attorney-General to exercise the following Law Officer functions and powers:
 - 34.1 The Solicitor-General usually exercises the statutory powers in the criminal law process to approve those prosecutions which require the consent of the Attorney-General, to decide whether to stay prosecutions, to grant any witness or other person immunity from prosecution, and to deal with requests from other countries for extradition and mutual criminal assistance;
 - 34.2 The Crown has a right of appeal against inadequate sentences imposed on convicted defendants (s 383(2) of the Crimes Act 1961 and s 115A of the Summary Proceedings Act 1957). This is a function that under the legislation can be exercised only by the Solicitor-General. This maintains consistency and integrity in the process;
 - 34.3 The Solicitor-General must also, under statute, represent the Crown in court when convicted persons appeal against their convictions or sentences. The Solicitor-General appears through Crown Counsel, or on occasion Crown Solicitors.
35. There are some powers which can be exercised only by the Attorney-General, such as powers under the Criminal Procedure (Mentally Impaired Persons) Act 2003,

regarding the classification of special patients.. Equally there are some functions which are specially vested by statute in the Solicitor-General. These include the power to appeal against sentence and powers under the Coroners Act 2006 to authorise an inquest into deaths occurring outside New Zealand and to authorise fresh inquests where there is new evidence.

SOLICITOR-GENERAL

Introduction

36. Holding office under an appointment from the Governor-General (under prerogative rather than statutory power), the Solicitor-General is:
- 36.1 Chief Executive of Crown Law;
 - 36.2 Chief legal adviser to the Government, subject to any views expressed by the Attorney-General;
 - 36.3 The Government's chief advocate in the courts;
 - 36.4 Responsible for the prosecution of indictable crime;
 - 36.5 Responsible for the provision of constitutional advice to the Government and to the Governor-General;
 - 36.6 In addition, the Solicitor-General has a number of statutory duties and functions, in particular in relation to the administration of criminal justice.

Roles and Functions

37. Importantly, the office of the Solicitor-General is a non-political one.

Chief Executive

38. As the head of an office which is a department of Government, the Solicitor-General has the responsibilities of a chief executive under the State Sector Act 1988. The Deputy Chief Executive and Practice Manager assist the Solicitor-General with departmental strategic and management functions. This reflects the reality that the Solicitor-General's responsibilities as the Government's chief legal adviser and advocate take up substantial time. Unlike most other chief executives, the Solicitor-General is not appointed under the State Sector Act 1988. That Act recognises the Solicitor-General's independent status in Government. In terms of s 44, the Solicitor-General (in common with the State Services Commissioner, the Commissioner of Police and the Controller and Auditor-General) is not subject to the formal accountabilities facing other chief executives in the public service.

Chief Legal Adviser and Advocate

39. Subject only to the prior position of the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General is the Government's chief legal adviser and its chief advocate in the courts. The Solicitor-General appears in court as counsel for the Government. Such appearances are in cases considered to be of particular significance and are usually at appellate level. The role also involves the Solicitor-General personally giving

legal advice to Ministers, departments and agencies of Government covering the full spectrum of functions of Government. The Solicitor-General's advice is generally treated as definitive on legal questions coming before the Government. If a court later concludes the Solicitor-General's advice was wrong it is the Solicitor-General rather than the Government who is then open to criticism. The Solicitor-General also exercises a number of specific functions within the Crown's prosecution process as discussed above.

40. The Solicitor-General has a responsibility to give legal and constitutional advice to the Governor-General, a function which emphasises the Solicitor-General's non-political and constitutional role in Government, and ultimate responsibility to the Crown.

Decision making

41. Sometimes questions arise as to who should exercise responsibilities which generally might fall to the Solicitor-General but which due to the special circumstances of the particular case might more appropriately be referred to the Attorney-General. For some years the practice has been for the Solicitor-General to exercise all Attorney-General functions unless there is a matter of public importance raising broader considerations beyond the administration of justice. Such matters are referred to the Attorney-General for consideration of whether the Attorney wishes to act personally.
42. The termination of prosecutions in the Rainbow Warrior case in November 1991 (following a decision not to seek extradition from Switzerland of a person to face charges in New Zealand) is an example of exercise of power to terminate prosecutions by the Attorney-General. That course was followed as the reasons for the decision involved questions of international politics and trade rather than criminal law administration.
43. In any case of difference as to who should exercise powers, the view of the Attorney-General prevails as the senior Law Officer. On many issues the two Law Officers of the Crown will work together and the Attorney-General always has available to him or her the advice of the Solicitor-General and Crown Law. Even when acting independently it is the Solicitor-General's duty to keep the Attorney-General informed of significant decisions.

CROWN LAW

Role and Functions

44. Crown Law is a department of the public service with specialist responsibilities for providing legal advice and representation to the Government (in particular, departments and Ministers) in matters affecting the Crown.
45. In common with many other departments there is no statutory basis for the establishment of Crown Law. Although categorised as a department under the State Sector Act 1988, it has no general responsibility for policy formulation or legislation. Crown Law will provide advice to Ministers and departments on the legal implications of legislative policy proposals. For this reason the

Solicitor-General is a member of the Legislation Advisory Committee and the Legislation Design Committee.

46. Broadly, it is the function of Crown Law to support the Attorney-General and the Solicitor-General in performing their roles. In particular, Crown Law is responsible for:
- 46.1 The provision of legal advice and representation services to Ministers of the Crown, Government departments and agencies;
 - 46.2 Supporting and assisting the Attorney-General and the Solicitor-General in the performance of their statutory and other functions as Law Officers of the Crown;
 - 46.3 Assisting the Solicitor-General with the conduct of criminal appeals;
 - 46.4 Administering the Crown Solicitors Regulations 1994; and
 - 46.5 Assisting the Solicitor-General in the supervision, direction and performance of Crown prosecutions.
47. In essence, Crown Law is the Government's law firm, although it does not provide the full range of legal services (ie it focuses on advice and litigation work rather than transactional work).

Cabinet Directions

48. Crown Law's relationships with Ministers and Government departments are the subject of the Cabinet Directions for the Conduct of Crown Legal Business approved by Cabinet in May 1993. The essential features of the Cabinet Directions are retention of the overall responsibility for, and control by, the Attorney-General and Solicitor-General of legal representation of, and legal advice to, Ministers and the Executive Government. Within that framework of underlying control, chief executives of departments are given flexibility for choice of legal services in particular areas.
49. Broadly the scheme is as set out below:
- 49.1 The legal services required by Government are divided into two categories. Category 1 comprises legal services that relate to core functions of Government, for example, constitutional law and legal issues relating to the protection of the revenue. Category 2 comprises other legal services which are not special to Government, but rather are similar to those required by any large industrial or commercial concern, for example, conveyancing and most employment advice;
 - 49.2 In the case of Category 1 legal services, departments must discharge their duty to obtain competent legal advice either from sources within the department or by referring matters to the Solicitor-General. The Solicitor-General briefs out cases to private sector lawyers where specialist expertise or particular skills not immediately available in Crown Law are required;

- 49.3 In the case of work falling into Category 2, departments may engage the services of Crown Law or those of private sector lawyers. Where departments choose to engage private sector lawyers, the chief executive is under a duty to ensure that the lawyers engaged have an appropriate level of expertise for the work, have no conflicts of interest and are adequately supervised by the department.

Crown Solicitors

Role and Relationship

50. Crown Solicitors are legal practitioners in private practice whose main responsibility is to prosecute jury trials in the High and District Courts for the Crown. Their focus in this work is presenting the case in court on the basis of the evidence that the Police have gathered for the committal process. They do not act for defendants or accused in criminal matters, nor can they act against the Crown (unless the Solicitor-General agrees in a particular case or class of case). Crown Solicitors have expertise in the criminal law and experience in interpreting the particular professional and ethical obligations of fairness required of prosecutors. The role also involves providing independent advice to the Police on matters associated with prosecutions and may involve advice and legal representation in prosecutions by Government departments. Crown Solicitors typically have partners and employees who assist in the conduct of prosecutions.
51. The Police initiate most criminal proceedings. The Police also prosecute summary offences and act independently in deciding to conduct both investigations and prosecutions. If a matter in the summary jurisdiction is complex or difficult, a Crown Solicitor may be instructed.
52. Although the Police initiate indictable matters and take responsibility for them until committal for trial, Crown Solicitors take over prosecutions after that point. The Crown Solicitors' independence from the Police in the discharge of their prosecutorial functions is one of the protections of the citizen.
53. Criminal appeals are conducted by Crown Law by counsel with particular expertise in appellate advocacy. This arrangement ensures objectivity in the appellate argument as a result of not having personally prosecuted at trial. Where the complexity of a matter warrants it, prosecuting counsel will be briefed for the appeal. However counsel within Crown Law who regularly conduct these appeals develop a depth of understanding of the principles of criminal law, evidence and criminal procedure, which is of invaluable assistance to the court.
54. There are currently 16 Crown Solicitor warrants for different centres in New Zealand issued by the Governor-General. The Solicitor-General makes recommendations for the appointment for Crown Solicitors and, wherever necessary, termination of their warrants. In essence, the Crown Solicitors operate under a delegated authority from the Law Officers.
55. Crown Solicitors report to the Solicitor-General on the conduct of the criminal prosecutions they undertake for the Crown. The Solicitor-General has issued Prosecution Guidelines for the conduct of prosecutions which the Crown

Solicitors, and the Police, must follow. The guidelines are also followed by other state prosecuting agencies.

56. The day-to-day supervision and management of Crown Solicitor prosecutions is carried out through the Deputy Solicitor-General (Criminal Process) on behalf of the Solicitor-General as set out below.
 - 56.1 As noted, Crown Solicitors are required to follow the Solicitor-General's Prosecution Guidelines in the conduct of their prosecutions. On some specific matters, e.g. the acceptance of a guilty plea to manslaughter during the course of a murder trial, Crown Solicitors are obliged to refer the question to Crown Law for decision;
 - 56.2 Crown Solicitors are obliged to refer, to Crown Law, Law Officer matters arising in any of their prosecutions, such as stays of prosecutions and requests for immunity from prosecution. Some legislation also requires the Crown Solicitors to approach the Solicitor-General on other matters relating to their prosecutions;
 - 56.3 The Solicitor-General requires all Crown Solicitors to operate a Crown prosecution panel consisting of one or more local practitioners outside the Crown Solicitor's firm. Panel members are periodically briefed to conduct indictable prosecutions on behalf of the Crown Solicitor;
 - 56.4 Crown Law administers the payment of Crown Solicitors' fees under the Crown Solicitor Regulations 1994. Crown Law has devised protocols for Crown Solicitors for charging and approvals required under those Regulations. As well, Crown Law has developed financial management guidelines for the payment to Crown Solicitors for their prosecutions.
 - 56.5 Crown Law conducts a process of rolling review of all Crown Solicitors. This performance review process is carried out on a consultative basis with both the Crown Solicitor involved and other participants in the criminal justice system (judges, defence lawyers, Police etc.). The review is carried out by the Deputy Solicitor-General (Criminal Process) and an independent reviewer from the private sector.
57. Government departments can use in-house legal resource to conduct prosecutions in the summary jurisdiction. Such prosecutions arise out of legislation which regulates fisheries, customs, indecent publications, and the like. In complex cases Crown Solicitors may be instructed to conduct such prosecutions. If such a prosecution involves the committal of a person for trial by jury, the trial is conducted by or on the instructions of a Crown Solicitor.
58. Crown Law administers the Supervision and Conduct of Crown Prosecutions appropriation which is used to fund the provision of the national Crown Solicitor's prosecution service that undertakes criminal trials on indictment and appeal to the High Court. Crown Law's main cost pressure is associated with the administration of this appropriation.

59. Changes in Police practice, legislative reform and demographic factors have in the last year led to a marked decrease in volumes going through the criminal justice system.
60. Justice sector Chief Executives have committed to a cross-agency programme of work to ensure that the sector can live within its means. Crown Law's major contribution to this work is developing and implementing a plan to ensure expenditure for Crown Solicitors returns to 2008/9 levels, a reduction of approximately \$12 million.

Serious Fraud Office Prosecutions

61. Under the Serious Fraud Office Act 1990 the Serious Fraud Office was set up to detect, investigate and prosecute cases of serious and complex fraud. In deciding to investigate and prosecute, the Director acts and operates independently. When the Director has determined that a prosecution should commence, the actual prosecution is carried out by a senior barrister in private practice. This is a legislative requirement.
62. The Solicitor-General, in consultation with the Director of the Serious Fraud Office, appoints these barristers to the prosecution panel. The Director determines which member of the panel should prosecute any particular case. The panel members are independent of the Serious Fraud Office and the intention is that they bring an objective approach to the prosecution. Indictments are laid in the name of the Solicitor-General, although the prosecution continues to be managed by the Serious Fraud Office. Serious Fraud Office prosecutions on indictment are supervised by Crown Law in much the same way as those of the Crown Solicitors.
63. In conducting a Serious Fraud Office prosecution on indictment these panel members are required to follow Crown Law protocols in their conduct of the prosecution. This involves regular reporting to the Deputy Solicitor-General (Criminal Process).
64. The prosecutions are billed to Crown Law pursuant to the Crown Solicitor Regulations 1994. There is an exception operating for these prosecutions relating to preparation time allowed because of their complexity and nature.

Management and Administration of Crown Law

65. Crown Law is currently structured into three professional groups, each headed by a Deputy Solicitor-General. There is a total of seven client servicing legal teams in the groups. Each team is headed by a team leader. In addition, there is a corporate services group headed by the Practice Manager.

Senior Management Group

66. The Senior Management Group of Crown Law comprises:

David Collins QC	Solicitor-General
Andrew Hampton	Deputy Chief Executive
Matthew Palmer	Deputy Solicitor-General, Public Law

Cheryl Gwyn
Cameron Mander
Diana Pryde

Deputy Solicitor-General, Constitutional
Deputy Solicitor-General, Criminal Process
Practice Manager

Organisation Structure

Legal Team Leaders

67. The legal Team Leaders are:

Constitutional

Law Officer	Peter Gunn
Treaty Issues and International Law	Virginia Hardy
Natural Resources	Bronwyn Arthur

Public Law

Social Services and Employment	Una Jagose
Taxation and Commercial	Maria Deligiannis

Criminal and Human Rights

Criminal Process	Madeleine Laracy
Human Rights	Austin Powell

Corporate Services Group

68. The Corporate Services group provides the support services infrastructure, enabling the provision of legal services. It is structured into the following teams:

Practice Management	Diana Pryde, Practice Manager
Finance	Chris Walker, Chief Financial Officer
Human Resources	Bruce Wall, Manager
Knowledge Services	Steve O'Hagan, Manager
Information Technology	Nud Davidson, Manager
Facilities Management	Donna Cassidy, Manager
Research and Library Services	Amelia de Lorenzo, Manager
Litigation Services	Daphne Rowland, Manager

69. The number of employees permanently employed at the end of June 2011 was as follows:

	30 June 2011
Solicitor-General, Deputy Solicitors-General and Practice Manager	5
Counsel (including Legal Advisors)	103
Legal Support	22
Secretarial and Word Processing	32
Corporate Services Group	41
Total Number of Employees	203

(Part-time arrangements are included in these numbers)