



AUSTRALIAN PRO BONO CENTRE

National Pro Bono Target Statement of Principles

For In-House Legal Teams

MINDFUL of the professional responsibility of all lawyers to provide pro bono legal services to address the unmet legal needs of the poor and disadvantaged in the communities in which we live, and

RECOGNISING that pro bono is not a substitute for the proper funding by government of Legal Aid agencies, Community Legal Centres and other government funded legal services,

OUR IN-HOUSE LEGAL TEAM is pleased to join with other in-house legal teams across the country in subscribing to the following statement of principles and in pledging our best efforts to achieve the voluntary target described below.

- Our in-house legal team recognises its professional obligation to provide pro bono legal services.
- In furtherance of that obligation, our in-house legal team agrees to encourage and support the provision of pro bono legal services by all its in-house lawyers.
- We agree to use our best efforts to ensure that, by no later than 30 June in each year, our in-house legal team's lawyers will undertake an average of a minimum of 20 hours of [pro bono legal services](#) each year per in-house lawyer.
- In furtherance of these principles, our in-house legal team also agrees:
 - to provide training and supervision as required to enable our in-house lawyers to meet the need for pro bono legal services in the community in matters undertaken by our in-house legal team and;
 - to monitor the in-house legal team's progress towards the targets established in this statement and to report its progress annually to the organisation's senior leadership and to the Australian Pro Bono Centre.
- We acknowledge that when an in-house lawyer provides pro bono legal services, he or she owes the pro bono client the same professional and ethical obligations that are owed to other legal work carried out by the in-house legal team and accordingly the in-house lawyer must give that work the same priority, attention and care as would apply to other legal work carried out by the in-house legal team.
- In support of the promotion of pro bono legal service, we will encourage all law firms with whom we work to subscribe to and use their best efforts to achieve the National Pro Bono Target for law firms.

You can find more information about the **National Pro Bono Aspirational Target**, or sign up, by going to:

probonocentre.org.au/provide-pro-bono/aspirational-target/