

NSW Budget 2024-25



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Legal Aid services boosted in NSW Budget

The 2024-25 NSW Budget is making critical investments in legal services in regional NSW and in the State's justice system.

As a part of this, this Budget delivers an additional **\$30 million** to support the work of Legal Aid NSW.

As well as using in-house lawyers, Legal Aid NSW is dependent on private lawyers to provide services across the State. This Budget allocates a further **\$125.2 million** to maintain payments to private legal practitioners to provide these services.

This is a vital boost for regional lawyers and helps to ensure their viability in country areas.

Additionally, the Legal Aid Disaster Response Legal Service will receive a **\$2.3 million** boost to continue providing trauma-trained lawyers on the ground within 24 hours after people lose their homes due to natural disasters such as fires or floods.

Meanwhile, this Budget includes **\$40.3 million** for legal officers in the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions to maintain service levels and continue prosecuting criminal offences.

This Budget contains considered and measured funding boosts for critical areas of the justice system, to ensure they can continue their important work efficiently and effectively. This includes:

- **\$2 million** for an additional judge and support in the Land and Environment Court to assist with fast-tracking development approvals and support the Government's housing agenda
- **\$5.5 million** for the extension of the Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service
- **\$3 million** to fund the growth of the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT).

Meanwhile, more than **\$15 million** will be spent over four years to modernise NSW Trustee and Guardian legacy systems.

The Minns Labor Government's second Budget delivers a plan to strengthen our justice system, to build stronger and safer communities.

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