



→ WELCOME
TO THE PLA +
HIGHLIGHTS
OF THE YEAR

WELCOME TO THE PROSTITUTION LICENSING AUTHORITY //

OUR PURPOSE

→ To regulate prostitution in Queensland by implementing the Prostitution Act.

REPORTING STRUCTURE AND ORGANISATION

→ The PLA employs eight officers under the *Public Service Act 1996* to support the work of the PLA. Staff of the PLA are managed by the registrar, who in turn reports to the PLA. The PLA reports to the Minister for Police and the parliament.

Figure 1: PLA organisational structure



We administer two non-departmental outputs:

1. Brothel licensing and monitoring prostitution through licensed brothels.
2. Advice on and to the sex industry.

THE PLA

The Prostitution Act establishes the PLA and prescribes its membership, which must include:

- The chair – an independent, respected member of the community nominated by the Premier
- The commissioner of police, or a police officer of at least the rank of superintendent nominated by the commissioner
- The chairperson, or the assistant commissioner, crime, of the CMC
- A doctor who has at least five years' experience in community health
- A lawyer who has been admitted for at least five years and has knowledge of or experience in administrative law, company law or criminal law
- A senior representative of the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ).

Role of the PLA

The PLA decides applications for brothel licences and managers' certificates. In addition, the PLA is responsible for:

- Monitoring the provision of prostitution through licensed brothels
- Conducting probity investigations into licence and certificate applications
- Conducting disciplinary inquiries in relation to licensees and approved managers
- Disciplining licensees and managers

- Receiving complaints about prostitution
- Liaising with and assisting the police service
- Liaising with local authorities
- Collecting fees under the Prostitution Act
- Informing relevant government departments and agencies about possible offences that are detected while carrying out its functions
- Informing the Prostitution Advisory Council (PAC) about issues and trends relevant to its functions
- Approving advertising for prostitution
- Maintaining a licence and certificate register
- Providing support to the independent assessor
- Assisting the CMC with its review of the Prostitution Act.

Current membership

→ The current members² of the PLA were appointed by Governor-in-Council for varying terms. All members of the PLA will conclude their term of appointment in May 2004.

Mr Bill Carter QC, Chair

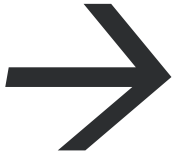
→ Mr Carter graduated as a lawyer from the University of Queensland in 1959, was appointed to the District Court of Queensland in 1980 and to the Supreme Court in 1983. Since leaving the Supreme Court, Mr Carter has served in several high-profile public positions, including serving as the chair of the Commissions of Inquiry into Police and Drugs (1996–1997), Operation Trident (1992–1993) and Townsville Psychiatric Unit (Ward 10b) (1990–1991). Mr Carter was reappointed as the chair of the PLA for two years.

Assistant Commissioner John McDonnell

→ Mr McDonnell is the current and inaugural head of the Ethical Standards Command in the Queensland Police Service (QPS), and has served with the service since he joined in the early 1960s. Among his many appointments within the QPS, Mr McDonnell has served with the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus, the Fitzgerald Implementation Unit and was the Director of Operations, Criminal Justice Commission. He was awarded the Australian Police Medal in January 1994. Mr McDonnell is an officer of at least the rank of superintendent, and has been nominated by the Police Commissioner as his representative. Mr McDonnell was appointed for four years.

² One member of the PLA is a woman, representing 17 per cent of the membership





Mr John Callanan

→ Mr Callanan is the Assistant Commissioner, Crime, of the CMC. He is involved in a wide range of responsibilities and functions at the senior executive level of the CMC and the management and coordination of investigations into criminal paedophilia, major crime and organised crime. Prior to his appointment as Assistant Crime Commissioner of the Queensland Crime Commission, and later Assistant Commissioner, Mr Callanan had over twenty years' experience in the criminal justice system as a Crown prosecutor, as a barrister in private practice on the Prosecutions Task Force and for the Office of Special Prosecutor. He was also counsel for the Fitzgerald Inquiry. Mr Callanan was appointed for two years.

Mr Lance Pollard

→ Mr Pollard is a solicitor in private practice and is currently a partner with Bennett and Philp. He has had extensive experience in the areas of commercial litigation, corporate and personal insolvency, debt recovery, administrative law, trade practices law and company law. He is appointed to the PLA as a lawyer who has been admitted for at least five years, and who has knowledge and experience in administrative law, company law or criminal law as per legislation. Mr Pollard was appointed for four years.

Dr Ian Wilkey

→ Dr Wilkey was the Medical Superintendent of Royal Brisbane Hospital and has previously held medical officer positions within the Queensland and Papua New Guinea health systems, including as a Director of the Laboratory of Microbiology and Pathology and the Director-General of Health and Medical Services. He is a member of the Medical Board of Queensland. Dr Wilkey is appointed as a medical practitioner who has at least five years' experience in community health as per legislation, and his appointment was for four years.

Cr Ann Bennison

→ Cr Bennison is the Brisbane City Council member for Enoggera Ward and an Executive Member and Treasurer for the LGAQ. Cr Bennison has represented Enoggera Ward since 1994, before which she was a trade union official with the Australian Bank Employees Union and the Queensland Teachers' Union. Cr Bennison was appointed as a senior representative of the LGAQ as required by the legislation, and her appointment was for two years and five months.



Meetings and special meetings

→ The PLA held 14 ordinary meetings over the financial year 2002–03.

Table 1: Attendance at meetings of the PLA, 2002–03

Name	Number attended (n=14)
L. Pollard	14
W. Carter (Chair)	13
J. McDonnell	13
J. Callanan	12
I. Wilkey	12
A. Bennison	10

→ There were also four special meetings of the PLA held, as follows:

- The PLA met twice to consider specific applications
- The Code of Practice Sub-committee was convened once to finalise the document *Health and Safety Guidelines for Brothels*
- The PLA held a special meeting in January 2003 to consider the budget.

Remuneration

→ The chair and members of the PLA were paid \$50,508 during the financial year 2002–03, as determined by the Governor-in-Council.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR //

Month	Event
August	The prostitution monitoring program commences (see page 29).
September	Conducted an information forum for licence and certificate applicants.
October	<i>Health and Safety Guidelines for Brothels</i> document approved and issued to all licensees.
November	Compliance unit established. Recruitment of compliance officers commences.
December	First PLA newsletter <i>In Touch</i> distributed to licensees, managers, brothel workers and other key stakeholders. First Sunshine Coast brothel commences operation.
January	Training survey sent to all licensees, approved managers and other brothel workers. Two compliance officers appointed to the PLA and the compliance program established.
February	Second Sunshine Coast brothel commences operation. PLA establish an information booth at SEXPO.
March	Probity Investigation Manual approved by the PLA.
April	Complaint handling and investigation policy approved by the PLA. Formal communication strategy for key stakeholders established.
May	Advertising policies reviewed and reissued to licensees and print publications. Brothel licence conditions reviewed and reissued to all licensees.
June	Fourth Brisbane brothel commences operation. Advertising surveillance strategy approved and implemented.