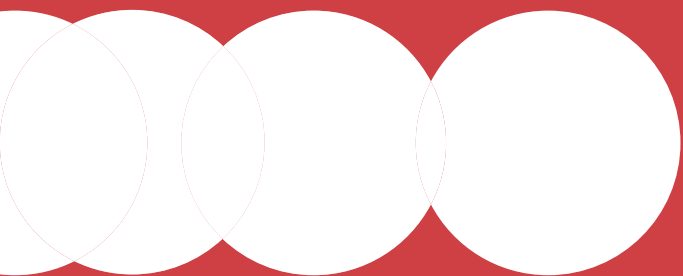




welcome to the prostitution
licensing authority



welcome to the prostitution licensing authority

→ our purpose

To regulate prostitution in Queensland by implementing the Act.

reporting structure and organisation

The PLA employs eight full time and one part time officer 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.

We administer two non-departmental outputs:

1. Brothel licensing and monitoring prostitution through licensed brothels.
2. Advice on and to the sex industry¹.

the PLA

The 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

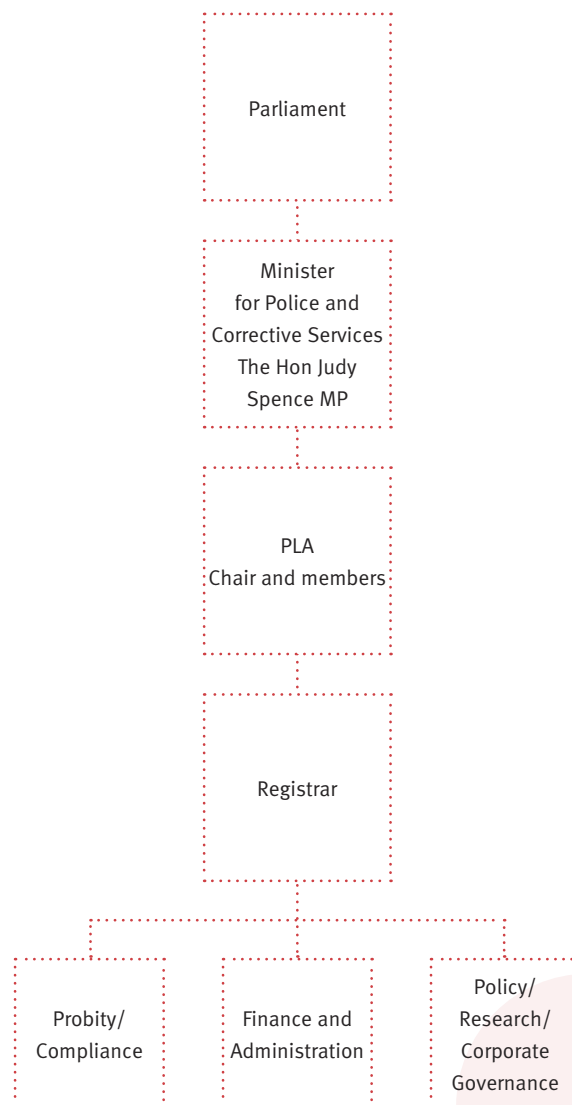


Figure 1: PLA organisational structure

¹ This output will be removed as a result of the December 2003 amendment to the Act which saw the abolition of the PAC.

- 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).

Additional appointments as a result of legislative amendments to the Act which were effected in December 2003 further determined that the PLA be expanded to include two persons who, in the Minister's opinion, are qualified to represent community interests. We welcome Ms Annette Murphy and Ms Lynette Palmen AM as these community representatives.

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 applicants
- conducting disciplinary inquiries in relation to licensees and approved managers
- disciplining licensees and managers

- receiving complaints about prostitution
- liaising with and assisting the QPS
- liaising with local authorities
- collecting fees under the Act
- informing relevant government departments and agencies about possible offences that are detected while carrying out its functions
- advising the Minister about ways of promoting and coordinating programs that –
 - (i) promote sexual health care; or
 - (ii) help prostitutes to leave prostitution; or
 - (iii) divert minors and other vulnerable persons from prostitution; or
 - (iv) raise awareness in prostitutes, judicial officers, police, community workers and the community about issues relating to prostitution
- advising the Minister about the development of codes of practice for licensed brothels
- approving advertising for prostitution
- maintaining a licence and certificate register
- providing support to the independent assessor
- assisting the CMC with its review of the Act.



current membership

The current members² of the PLA were first appointed by Governor-in-Council for varying terms. All original members of the PLA were reappointed in May 2004 for a further 12 months. In addition, the PLA welcomes two additional appointments to the PLA, Ms Annette Murphy and Ms Lynette Palmen AM, who were appointed by the Minister as qualified to represent community interests.

01 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 (1996–97), Operation Trident (1992–93) and Townsville Psychiatric Unit (Ward 10b) (1990–91). Mr Carter was first appointed in May 2001, chaired for a further two years and recently reappointed until May 2005.

02 assistant commissioner john mcdonnell

Mr McDonnell is the current and inaugural head of the Ethical Standards Command in the QPS, and has served with the service since he joined in the early 1960's. 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 and reappointed for a further 12 months until May 2005.

03 mr john callanan

Mr Callanan is the Assistant Commissioner, Crime, of the CMC. He has 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 20 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 and reappointed for a further 12 months until May 2005.

04 cr ann bennison

Councillor Bennison is the Brisbane City Council member for Enoggera Ward and an Executive Member and Treasurer of the Local Government Association of Queensland (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 Act, and her appointment was for two years and five months and was reappointed for a further 12 months until May 2005.

² Three members of the PLA are women, representing 37.5 per cent of the membership.



05

05 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 and was reappointed for a further 12 months until May 2005.



06

06 ms annette murphy

Ms Annette Murphy is a past recipient of the Queensland Child Protection Award – Professional Category – in recognition of her contribution to child protection in Queensland – 1998. Ms Murphy was also awarded the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust Fellowship 2002 to examine the role of registered nurses in child protection in the USA, UK, Sweden and Denmark. She is the coordinator of the Mater Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect Team as well as the coordinator of the Child Protection Unit at the Mater Children’s Hospital.



07

07 mr lance pollard

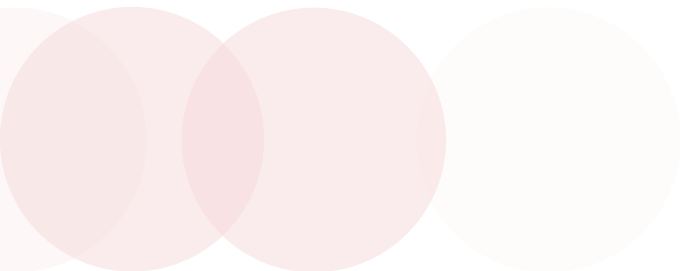
Mr Pollard is a solicitor in private practice and is currently a partner with Bennett and Philp. He has had extensive experience in the areas of commercial litigation, corporate and personal insolvency, debt recovery, administrative law, trade practices law and company law. He is appointed to the PLA 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 required by the Act. Mr Pollard was appointed for four years and reappointed for a further 12 months until May 2005.



08

08 ms lynette palmen AM

Ms Lynette Palmen AM is the founder and Managing Director of Women’s Network Australia. Established in 1991, the organisation now boasts a membership exceeding 1200, with over 35,000 women benefiting from its existence annually. Ms Palmen AM is also a board member of the Ministerial Taskforce on Work and Family, the Deputy Chair of the Premier’s Council for Women, Chair of the Lord Mayor’s Business and Domestic Violence “Crossing the Boundaries” Strategy and board member on the Advisory Committee for the Centre for Movement Education and Research, Griffith University. Ms Palmen AM was most recently recognised by the appointment of Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in the Queen’s Birthday Honours List for her service to the community, particularly through promoting public awareness of the existing and emerging issues affecting women and in providing expertise to charitable and not-for-profit organisations.



meetings and special meetings

The PLA held 10 ordinary meetings over the financial year 2003–04.

Name	Number attended (n=10)
L Pollard	9
W Carter (Chair)	10
J McDonnell	9
J Callanan	9
I Wilkey	9
A Bennison	9
L Palmen	1 ³
A Murphy	1 ³

Table 1: Attendance at meetings of the PLA

There were also seven special meetings of the PLA held as follows:

- met several times to consider specific applications
- met with the CMC to discuss the CMC's forthcoming evaluation of the Act
- met to consider brothel licence conditions
- met to consider proposed amendments to the Act
- held a special meeting to consider the budget.

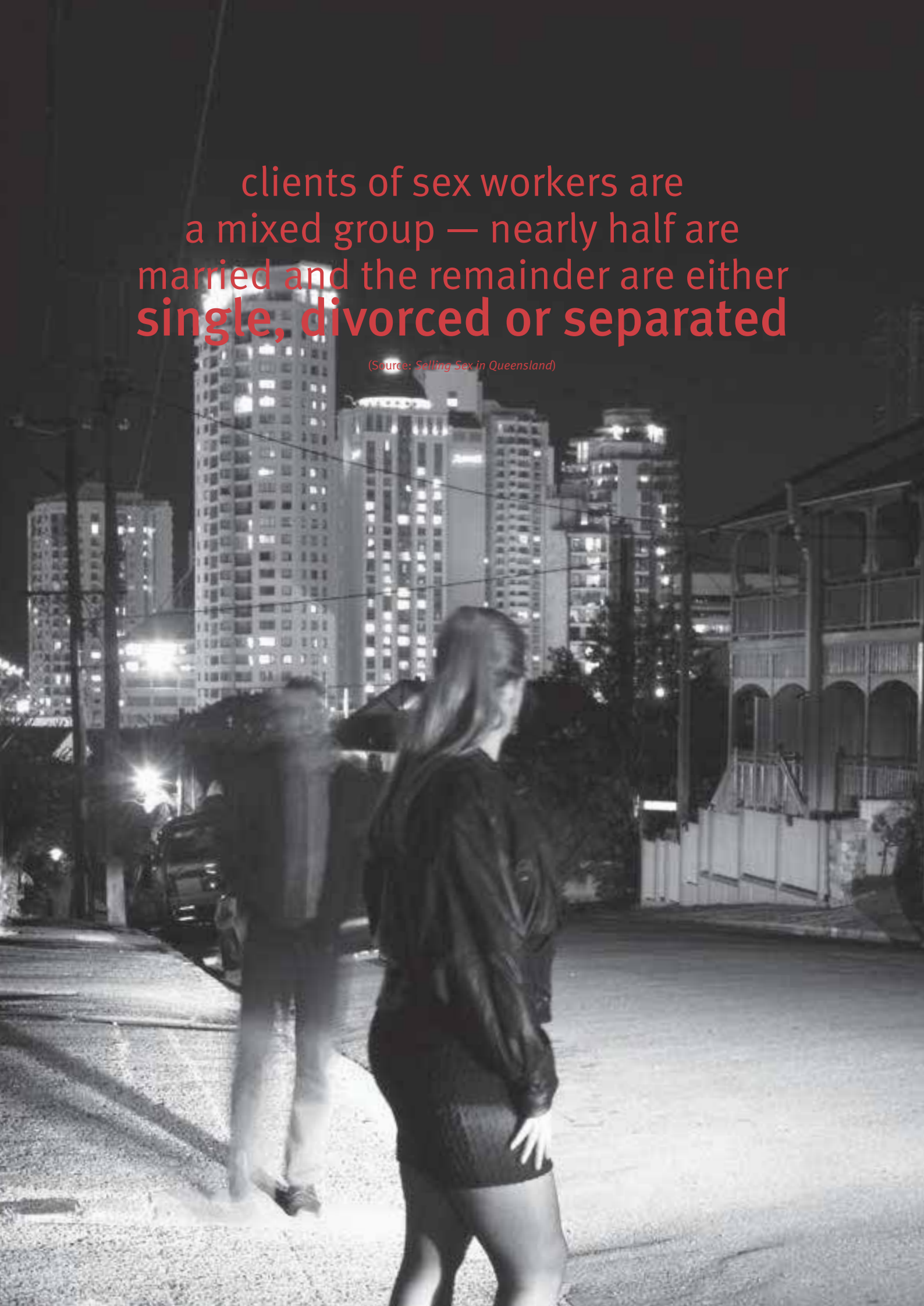
remuneration

The chair and members of the PLA were paid \$50,791 during the financial year 2003–04, as determined by the Governor-in-Council.

³ Appointed May 2004 and eligible to attend one meeting during 2003–04.

clients of sex workers are
a mixed group — nearly half are
married and the remainder are either
single, divorced or separated

(Source: Selling Sex in Queensland)





sole operators and sex workers within
licensed brothels in Queensland are
mainly Australian born and one in four
has a university degree

(Source: Selling Sex in Queensland)

