



2024

ANNUAL MANAGEMENT REPORT

“For A Safe, Secure & Peaceful Society”



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2024

Annual Management Report

Waigani
January, 2026

FOREWORD BY THE MINISTER FOR JUSTICE



Hon. Pila Niningi, LLB, CMG, MP

It is with great honor that I present the 2024 Annual Management Report of the Department of Justice and Attorney General (DJAG). This year has been one of significant progress, consolidation, and reform for Papua New Guinea's Law and Justice Sector, achieved under the leadership of the Marape-Rosso Government and through the unwavering commitment of our State legal institutions, partners and communities across the country.

Throughout 2024, we continued to strengthen the Judiciary and the legal system to ensure timely, fair and accessible justice. The Judicial and Legal Services Commission re-appointed and extended the terms of several Supreme and National Court judges and importantly, appointed fourteen foreign judges to support the reduction of case backlogs and improve access to justice nationwide. These appointments reflect our commitment to reinforcing confidence in the justice system and expanding judicial services to provinces that need them most.

Improving the terms, conditions and welfare of our State lawyers remain a personal priority of mine. In 2024, we secured land at Portion 86, now registered under the Office of Public Trustee, for future staff housing, a critical investment in the wellbeing of lawyers and support staff who serve the State and our people.

This was also a year of major institutional reform. I was proud to launch the Department's Corporate Plan 2024–2028, a strategic document aligned with Vision 2050, the MTDP IV and the long-term justice aspirations of our nation. The Corporate Plan provides a clear roadmap for modernizing legal services, expanding community-based justice, strengthening governance and accelerating sector reforms.

In policy development, the Department advanced the 10-year Law and Justice Policy set to replace the 2007 White Paper which will reshape our national justice agenda for the next decade, including the establishment of an Appeals Court and revitalized Village Courts. We also progressed the Human Rights National Action Plan and continued working towards establishing PNG's National Human Rights Institution, supported by our valued partners from the European Union.

Our focus on access to justice remained unwavering. This year saw the opening of the Bogia Community Justice Service Centre in Madang, and the rollout of new Village Court facilities in Bootless Bay, Wampar, and Markham. These investments bring justice closer to the people and reinforce community-level dispute resolution as a foundation of peace and order.

The Department also strengthened its role in crime prevention and community safety. We commissioned a landmark Post Trauma Stress Disorder (PTSD) and mental-health study for security forces, recognized the urgent challenge of sorcery accusation-related violence through a formal partnership with Oxfam, and expanded policy reforms for the recruitment and professionalization of Grade 12 Peace Officers and Clerks.

In 2024, Papua New Guinea demonstrated strong regional and international leadership. We prepared to host the 44th Pacific Island Law Officers' Network (PILON) Conference in 2025.

PNG delivered its oral submissions on climate change obligations before the International Court of Justice an historic moment for our country on the world stage.

I am equally proud of the Department's growing workforce. More than 50 officers completed the Public Service Induction Training, and new officers commenced roles across our 22 branches, strengthening our capacity to serve. I commend all officers who dedicated themselves to ethical conduct, anti-corruption principles and professionalism throughout the year.

As Minister, I acknowledge and thank the dedicated staff of the Department, and the leaders and officers of the Law and Justice Sector, and all sector partners for their tireless commitment to the people of Papua New Guinea. Our collective efforts in 2024 have laid a strong foundation for strengthened rule of law, safer communities, and a more peaceful and prosperous nation.

Let us continue this momentum as we move into 2025, standing firm in our shared mission to uphold justice, safeguard the *Constitution* and build a secure future for all our citizens.



Hon. Pila Niningi, LLB, CMG, MP

Attorney General and Minister for Justice

REMARKS BY THE SECRETARY



Dr Eric Kwa, PhD
Secretary for Justice

It is my pleasure to present the 2024 Annual Management Report for the Department of Justice and Attorney General. The year 2024 marked a period of significant legal reform, strengthened institutional performance and improved service delivery across the Law and Justice Sector under the leadership of the Marape-Rosso Government and the guidance of our Minister for Justice and Attorney General. Hon. Pila Niningi, LLB, CMG, MP.

Throughout 2024, the Department successfully advanced a substantial legislative agenda, progressing 11 major laws through Parliament, including a Constitutional (Amendment), *Court Restructure Act 2024*, which formally establishes a three-tier court system and positions the Judiciary for modernized and efficient operations. Constitutional amendments relating to PNG being declared as a Christian country and the clarification of Section 145 (Vote of No Confidence) were tabled and will be advanced in 2025. Important amendments to the *Income Tax Act* and *Public Service Management Act* were also secured to support judicial independence and improve retirement frameworks for constitutional office holders.

A major focus of 2024 was the Government's anti-corruption agenda. With the gazettal of the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) Regulation, and the certification of amendments to the *Proceeds of Crime Act*, and commencement of the ICAC Oversight Committee's establishment, DJAG has laid the institutional groundwork for operationalizing the Independent Commission Against Corruption. Over 300 public officials received training in corruption risk assessment and administrative investigation, complementing the work of the 16 integrity officials who graduated from Griffith University's professional integrity program.

The Department strengthened the AML/CTF framework, completing the Mutual Evaluation and engaging closely with the Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering and FATF as PNG prepares for the grey-listing assessment. A National Strategic Implementation Plan was endorsed, with monthly coordination led jointly by the Bank of PNG Governor and the DJAG.

Significant progress was made in supporting the Judicial and Legal Services Commission, which met five times and oversaw:

- ✓ A total of 21 Judges appointed in 2024 (14 experts and 7 nationals).
- ✓ For newly appointed (9 Experts and 1 national)
- ✓ For reappointed (5 Experts and 6 National)
- ✓ A total of 22 Acting Principal Magistrates recruited,
- ✓ appointment of 31 accredited mediators and
- ✓ reappointment of senior State law officers, including the Public Solicitor, State Solicitor and Secretary of the NJSS; and new appointment of the Chief Commissioner for Land Commission of PNG.

DJAG continued to champion access to justice through its flagship Village Courts and Land Mediation Services (VCLMS). With over 50,000 cases handled each year, the expansion of new Village Court houses and Community Justice Service Centres has strengthened justice visibility at the community level. Recruitment of Grade 12 Peace Officers and Clerks accelerated across several provinces, improving literacy, efficiency and accountability in

frontline justice delivery. Provincial partnerships were deepened through new MoUs with Northern, New Ireland and Eastern Highlands Provinces.

Further policy achievements included the NEC approval of the Law and Justice Sector Policy, Offender Rehabilitation and Reintegration Policy and the National Oceans Policy Implementation Plan. PNG's ocean governance capabilities were significantly strengthened with the approval of the Marine Scientific Research Guidelines, the establishment of the National Oceans Office and National Fusion Centre and enhanced inter-agency coordination.

Through the work of the Solicitor General's Office, the State recorded a major success with K300 million saved in 2024 through dismissals and mitigation of claims. At the same time, challenges such as delayed warrants, recruitment bottlenecks, provincial connectivity, and the rising volume of police-related claims underscored the need for further institutional strengthening.

Internationally, Papua New Guinea made history by participating in oral hearings at the International Court of Justice on climate-change obligations led by the Attorney General and supported by young State lawyers, marking a first for the country.

As we look ahead to 2025, DJAG's priorities include operationalizing the three-tier court structure, advancing the Law and Justice Sector Policy, establishing the ICAC Oversight Committee, progressing the national law reform agenda, strengthening provincial justice services, expanding Village Courts and CJSC infrastructure and hosting the 44th Pacific Islands Law Officers' Network (PILON) Meeting in Port Moresby during PNG's 50th Independence anniversary year.

I thank the Executive Management Team and all DJAG officers, sector agencies, provincial administrations and development partners for their unwavering dedication during 2024. Despite fiscal constraints and operational challenges, your commitment ensured that justice services continued to reach our people and that transformative reforms moved forward.

Together, we will continue building a safe, secure and peaceful Papua New Guinea.

God bless Papua New Guinea



DR. ERIC KWA, PhD
Secretary for Justice

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2024 Annual Management Report presents the Department of Justice and Attorney General's (DJAG) performance across its State Legal and Legal Policy and Justice Administration Service delivery for the period ending 31 December 2024. The report integrates program performance, legislative and policy reform outcomes, institutional achievements and financial execution in line with the *Public Finance (Management) Act* 1995 and DJAG's Corporate Plan 2024–2028 and other higher sectoral and national development plans.

Key Achievements

Despite fiscal and manpower constraints, DJAG delivered significant results:

❑ **Legislative and Policy Reform**

- ✓ Progressed 11 major laws, including the Constitutional Amendment to reform the Higher Courts.
- ✓ Secured three (3) NEC approval for the; Law and Justice Sector Policy 2025-2035, the Offender Rehabilitation and Reintegration Policy, and the National Oceans Policy Implementation Plan.
- ✓ Supported constitutional amendments relating to retirement age reforms for Constitutional Office Holders
- ✓ Gazetted ICAC Regulations and established the Oversight Committee Secretariat.
- ✓ Trained over 300 public officials in anti-corruption and integrity practices
- ✓ Completed PNG's FATF Mutual Evaluation and commenced implementation of the Strategic Action Plan

❑ **Justice Service Delivery**

- ✓ Village Courts processed more than 50,000 cases, supported by new infrastructure across provinces
- ✓ Recruited Grade 12 Peace Officers and Clerks, strengthening frontline community justice.
- ✓ Delivered new Community Justice Service Centres (CJSCs) in priority districts

❑ **Judicial and Legal Services Commission Outcomes**

- ✓ Finalised appointments of 21 Judges in 2024 (14 Experts and 7 Nationals) of which newly appointed (9 Experts and 1 national) and reappointed (5 Experts and 6 National).
- ✓ A total of 22 Acting Principal Magistrates recruited,
- ✓ Appointment of 31 accredited mediators and
- ✓ Reappointment of senior State law officers, including the Public Solicitor, State Solicitor and Secretary of the NJSS; and new appointment of the Chief Commissioner for Land Commission of PNG.

❑ **State Legal Service Delivery**

- ✓ Certificate of Judgements ordered by the Courts against the State is 504 valued at K960 million
- ✓ Number of brief outs to specialized law firms is 29 valued at K43 million.
- ✓ Improvement in lawyers' terms and conditions
- ✓ Achieved K300 million in estimated litigation savings through dismissal of matters and mitigation of damages
- ✓ Represented PNG in International Court of Justice climate-change proceedings in the Hague, Netherlands
- ✓ Advanced preparations to host the 44th Pacific Islands Law Officers' Network (PILON) Meeting in 2025

Main Challenges

- Delayed warrants for goods and services (approximately K10 million);
- Recruitment backlogs delaying onboarding of lawyers and technical staff;
- Weak provincial ICT connectivity affecting case management and remote hearings;
- Rising litigation exposure linked to police-related human rights claims and
- Continued reliance on donor funding for SARV and Human Rights programming.

In alignment with the Corporate Plan 2024–2028 and the national budget framework, DJAG will prioritise:

- Implementation of the three-tier court structure;
- Operationalisation of the ICAC Oversight Committee and Secretariat;
- Roll-out of the Law and Justice Sector Policy 2025–2035;
- Expansion of provincial justice presence and CJSCs;
- Continued recruitment of Grade 12 Peace Officers and Clerks;
- Expansion of Village Court Houses and CJSC construction, supported by the K8 million allocation;
- Strengthened AML/CTF compliance;
- Hosting the PILON 2025 Annual Meeting; and
- Improved procurement planning, warrant timing, and financial controls

Budget Overview

DJAG's Original 2024 Appropriation of K17.34 million was subsequently revised to K37.15 million, reflecting additional allocations for high-priority justice sector functions, particularly State legal services, state litigation and legal brief-outs.

As at 31 December 2024, DJAG had received K26.87 million in warrants, of which K24.32 million (approximately 91%) was expended. This high absorption rate demonstrates strong financial execution capacity, while also highlighting structural expenditure pressures within core legal and justice administration service delivery functions. Despite strong expenditure performance, delayed warrant releases particularly for goods and services constrained implementation during the final quarter of 2024. These constraints affected provincial court circuits, community justice logistics, and ICT connectivity upgrades. Nevertheless, the Department applied targeted prioritisation and operational efficiencies to deliver the majority of planned outputs.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ARoB	Autonomous Region of Bougainville
CBC	Community Based Corrections
CJSC	Community Justice Services Centre
CLE	Client Legal Education
CNSP	Child Nutrition and Social Protection Project
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade - Australia
DJAG	Department of Justice and Attorney General
DNPM	Department of National Planning and Monitoring
DoF	Department of Finance
DoT	Department of Treasury
DPM	Department of Personal Management
EU	European Union
FSVAC	Family and Sexual Violence Action Committee
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
HRM	Human Resources Management
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
JICA	Japan International Cooperation agency
JJ	Juvenile Justice or Juvenile Justice Services
JJO	Juvenile Justice Officer
JLSC	Judicial and Legal Services Commission
JSS4D	Justice Services and Stability for Development
KPI	Key Performance Indicators
KRA	Key Result Areas
LJSS	Law and Justice Sector Secretariat
LPG	Legal Policy and Governance
LTC	Land Titles Commission
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NCCP	National Coordination and Crime Prevention Division
NCC-AML/CTF	National Coordination Committee on Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Terrorist Financing
NCD	National Capital District
NCM	National Coordination Mechanism
NCOBA	National Coordination Office of Bougainville Affairs
NEC	National Executive Council
NLC	National Land Commission
NNB	National Narcotics Bureau
NSP	National Strategic Plan for the NCC-AML/CTF
OPT	Office of Public Trustee
OSG	Office of the Solicitor General
OSS	Office of the State Solicitor
PIP	Public Investment Program
PJJC	Provincial Juvenile Justice Committee
PMNEC	Prime Minister and National Executive Council
PTSD	Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
SARV	Sorcery Accusation Related Violence
SLOS	Social, Law and Order Sector
TFECS	Technical and Financial Evaluation Committees
UNAFEI	United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
VCLMs	Village Court and Land Mediation Secretariat

1 DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

1.1 Core Functions

The Department of Justice and Attorney General (DJAG) is one of the central agencies of the government. It is responsible for the delivery, administration, coordination and oversight of legal and justice services to the State and the People to strengthen and support national stability, rule of law and safe communities. Its work directly enables social and economic development, while safeguarding the rights and freedoms of individuals, communities and the State.

The Department operates under the leadership of the Minister for Justice and Attorney General and serves both Legal and Justice service mandates and supported by a robust sector coordination and corporate support teams. These functions encompass:

1. The State Legal;

- Office of State Solicitor
- Office of Solicitor General
- Office of Public Trustee
- Legal Policy and Governance
- Ocean Affairs Secretariate
- Human Rights Secretariate
- Judicial and Legal Service Commission Secretariate

2. Justice Administration Services;

- Village Courts and Land Mediation Secretariate,
- Probation Services,
- Parole Services,
- Juvenile Justice Services

3. Crime Prevention and Sector Coordination

- Law and Justice Sector Secretariat and the Social Law and Order Sector Secretariat.
- Crime Prevention Coordination
- Data for Justice

4. Corporate Support Services

- Human Resources Management
- Financial Management
- Information Communication and Technology
- Library and Records Management
- Assets Logistics and Securities
- Executive Management
- Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation
- Internal Audits
- Leadership Integrity, and Equity (GEDSI)

1.2 Strategic Intent

The Department seeks to achieve its *Vision of “A Safe, Secure and Peaceful Society.”* This vision is supported by the Department’s mission to deliver excellent legal and justice services to the State and the people of Papua New Guinea, guided by the core values of Discipline, Justice, Equality, Ethics, Honesty and the Rule of Law.

The strategic intent is translated into five Corporate Objectives that focus on the delivery of timely, accessible and quality State Legal and Legal Policy Services and Community Justice Services, strengthened strategic partnerships, improved organisational capability, and innovative leadership and sound corporate governance. Collectively, these objectives provide the strategic direction for DJAG’s programs, activities and performance commitments and guide the Department’s contribution towards an effective, accessible and responsive justice system. Organization Structure (2024-2028 proposed)



Figure 1 Department Vision, Mission Corporate Objectives and Core Values

1.3 Organization Structure (2024-2028)

The diagram presents DJAG's organizational structure, showing the Department's leadership, key divisions, branches and its reporting and coordination relationships across the Law and Justice Sector. It illustrates how DJAG's legal, justice administration, corporate, crime prevention and provincial coordination functions are organized to support effective delivery of justice services throughout Papua New Guinea.

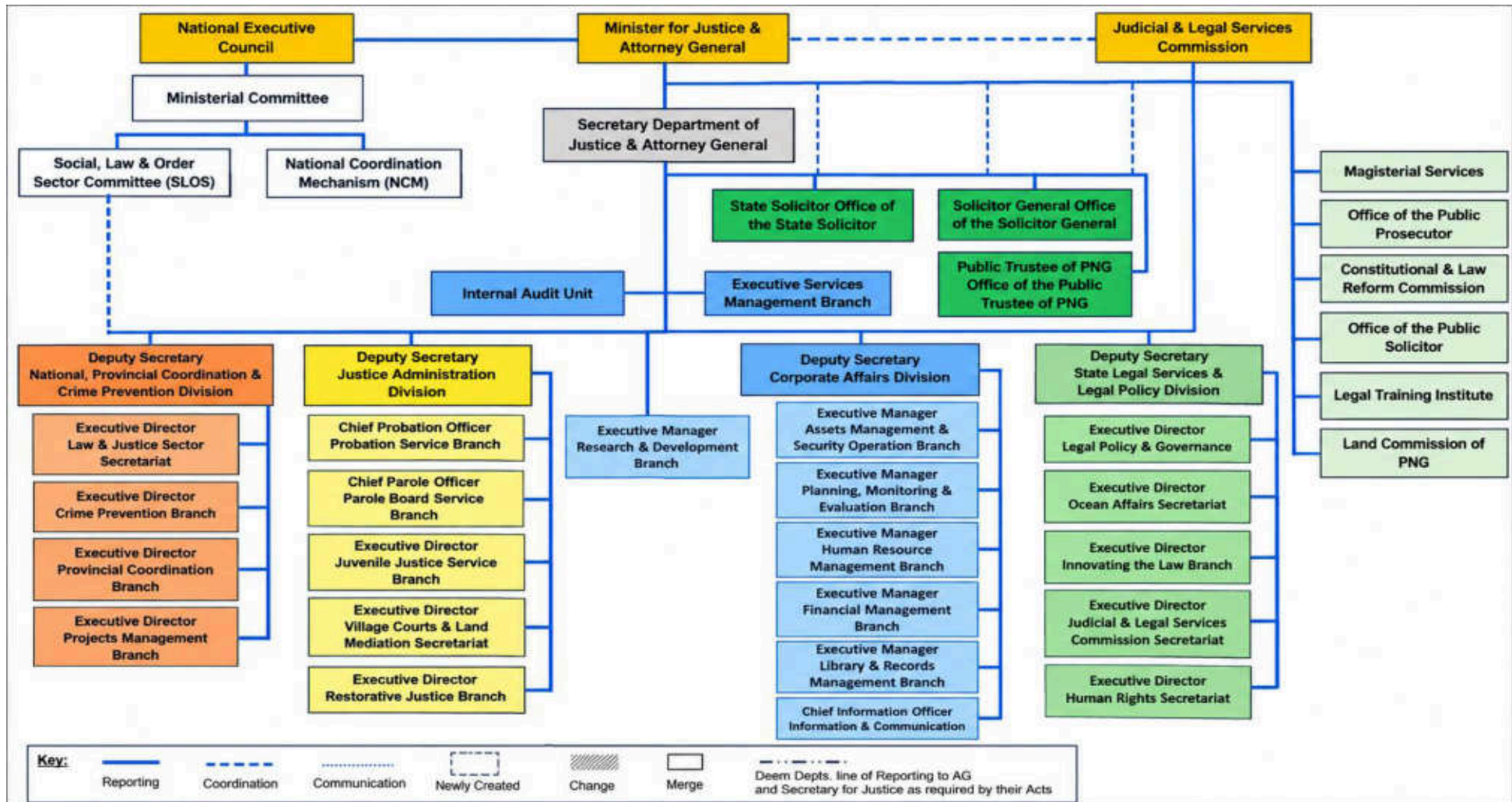


Figure 2. DJAG Organization Structure

2 OUR PERFORMANCE

2.1 Deliver Timely, Accessible and Quality Legal and Legal Policy Services

The Department's Corporate Objective 1 focuses on ensuring that the State delivers high-quality legal representation, sound legal advice, effective legal policy development, and fiduciary services that uphold the rule of law and protect the public interest. This objective supports constitutional governance, institutional integrity, and confidence in the justice system by strengthening legal service delivery across advisory, litigation, policy, trust administration, and international legal obligations. The achievement of this objective depends on coordinated performance across specialised legal and policy entities within the Department, each contributing to timely access to justice, legal certainty, and accountable public administration.

2.1.1 Office of the State Solicitor

The Office of the State Solicitor (OSS) serves as the principal legal advocate and adviser to the State in constitutional and other significant appellate matters. Under Corporate Objective 1, its Key Result Area -Sound State Legal Advising Services contributes to safeguarding constitutional order and ensuring authoritative legal interpretation on matters of national importance.

The OSS is established under the *Attorney General's Act* 1989. It has seven (7) Divisions which are:

- i. State Solicitor;
- ii. Commercial Law;
- iii. Procurement Law;
- iv. General Advising/Common Law;
- v. International Law;
- vi. Mining & Petroleum; and
- vii. Practice Management.

The primary functions of the State Solicitor under Section 13B of the *Attorney General's Act* are:

- To provide legal advice and opinions to the State;
- To be the legal representative of the State in all matters affecting the State including negotiations entered into by the State;
- To provide legal clearance on all matters in which the State is a party, in so far as they relate to contracts of employment for appointments made by the Head of State, consultancy agreements, commercial agreements, international treaties, conventions and agreements which are bilateral or multilateral in nature, or any other public international instruments, lease agreements, MOAs, MOUs, and any other documents that seek to legally bind the State;
- To consider and provide legal clearance on the necessity of proposed legislation, proposed amendments to existing regulations, proposed regulations, and proposed amendments to existing pieces of legislation, before submission to NEC for its approval;

- To make appearance on behalf of the State before tribunals outside of the National Judicial System; and
- To perform any other functions consistent with its advisory functions.

ACHIEVEMENTS

❑ State Negotiations and Major Economic Projects

Lawyers from the State Solicitor Division continued to provide legal guidance to the State Negotiation Team on three major economic projects, namely:

1. P'nyang Gas Project;
2. Papua LNG Project; and
3. PASCA Offshore Gas Development Project.

In addition, legal support was provided on the following reform initiatives:

1. Court Restructuring (National Court, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court);
2. Constitutional Regulation for the Bougainville Post-Referendum Process; and
3. National Gold Corporation Bill.

❑ Procurement Law Division

Significant Projects of the Procurement Division;

1. Non-Tax Revenue Administration Secretariat -Involved in the ongoing consultation for the implementation of the NTRA Act 2022 with the Department of Finance and Department of Treasury as part of the NTRA Secretariat
2. Department of Finance's Data Centre Hosting Agreement - Work on the review and drafting of the Data Centre Hosting Agreement with Digiect ICT Limited. Ongoing.
3. Department of Finance's Dayforce Agreement - Work on the review, negotiations and drafting of the Dayforce Master Services Agreement to pave the way for the upgrade of the Government of PNG Payroll System with Dayforce
4. Department of Finance IFMS Contract - Work on the review, negotiations and drafting of the IFMS Contract to pave the way for the migration to cloud infrastructure with Technology One.
5. Fees & Charges - Consultation on the review of fees and charges
6. Training - Ongoing Procurement Training for the Procurement Officers within OSS External Training- OSS Procurement Division was requested to and conducted Procurement Training to Bogia DDA in Madang.

❑ Ten (10) Committees the Procurement Division are involved in are:

1. National Procurement Commission Board (NPC Board)
2. NHC and Department of Health Special Procurement Committees for contract awards

3. Technical & Financial Evaluation Committees (TFECs) (various)
4. Arrears Verification Committee (AVC)
5. State Audit Recovery Taskforce Committee
6. Public Private Partnership (PPP) Taskforce
7. Project Steering Committees (PSC)
8. DJAG Project Monitoring & Implementation Committee (PMIC)
9. DJAG PMIC Technical Working Committee (TWC)
10. NTRA Secretariate

- ❑ Procurement Law Division provided Legal Clearance on Contracts for Q3 of 2024 with the total Contract value of K237,232,412.92 compared to Q2 2024 (total contract value of K207,616,694.76); Q3 2024 has seen an increase by 12% in contract clearance value compared to Q2 2024 of a total clearance value of K207, 616, 694.76.

General Advising / Common Law Division

The General Advising and Common Law Division provided legal assistance and guidance across the following eight (8) projects:

1. Development of a process chart for State (Government Departments and Statutory Authorities) conveyancing processes;
2. Development of Sale and Purchase Agreement templates for State entities;
3. Contributions to the Attorney General's Law Journal;
4. National Land Development Program – Phase 2 legislative reform;
5. Whole-of-Government Housing Project;
6. Department of Health review of legislation under the Ministerial portfolio;
7. Department of Health *Infant and Young Children Food Supply (Control) Act 2023*; and
8. Review of proposed constitutional amendments relating to the Office of the Registry of Political Parties, the Organic Law on the Integrity of Political Parties and Candidates (OLIPPAC).

Commercial Law Section

The Commercial Law Division continued to provide legal advice, clearance services, and technical support in progressing seventeen (17) legislative and policy projects, including:

1. Government loans for budget support and specific supply;
2. Review of the *Forestry Act 1991*;
3. National Palm Oil Policy and *Palm Oil Industry Authority Act 2022* and *Oil Palm Development (Management) Act 2022*;
4. Development of Waste Management Policy and legislation;
5. Review of the Micro, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise Development Authority Bill;
6. Air Services Agreements (ASA);
7. Review and drafting of the *Boards (Fees and Allowances) Act (Ch. No. 299)*;
8. Review of drafting instructions for the proposed Endowment Fund Bill;
9. Review and drafting of the *Tourism Promotion Authority Act 1993*;

10. *Bio-Security Bill 2023*;
11. Review and drafting of the *Capital Markets Act 2015*;
12. *Financial Consumer Protection Bill* and *Enhanced Dispute Resolution Regulation*;
13. Review and drafting of the *Insurance Act 1995*;
14. Review and drafting of the proposed *Climate Change (Management) (Carbon Markets) Regulation*;
15. Review of drafting instructions for the proposed *Kumul Fisheries Bill*;
16. Review of proposed amendments to the *Securities Commission Act 2015*; and
17. Review of proposed amendments to the *Professional Engineers Registration Act 1986*.

OPERATIONAL DATA

The OSS operational data reflects the Office's workload and performance in delivering State legal advice and clearance services during Q3 2024. It measures matters opened and pending, turnaround times and performance against KPI targets, showing continued high demand for OSS services but mixed results in meeting required service timelines.

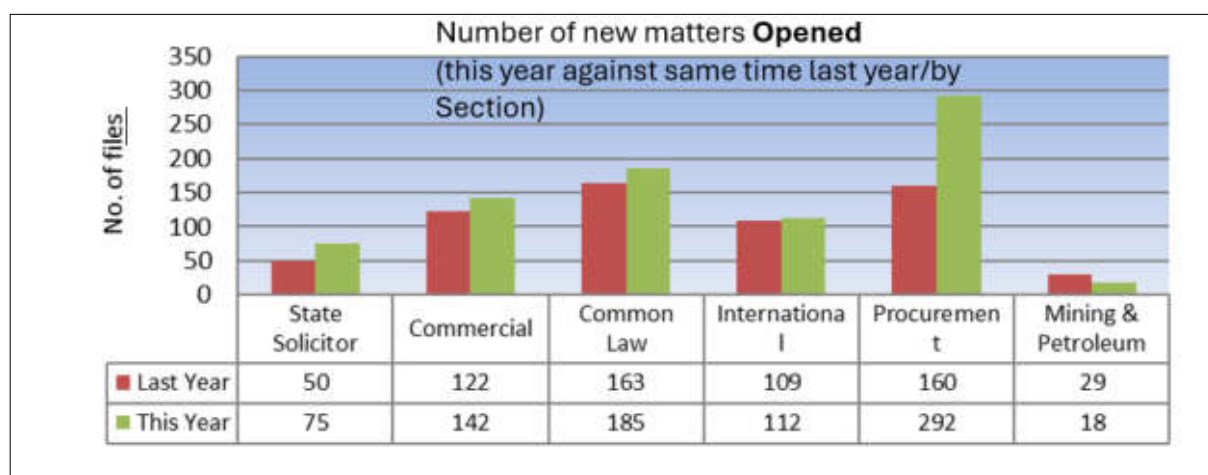


Figure 3 The Graph shows the number of matters opened by Divisions. Procurement Law Division received the bulk of matters for the Office. Mining & Petroleum Law Division saw a significant decrease in the number of matters opened. State Solicitor, Commercial Law, and Common Law Divisions had slight increase while International Law Division received relatively the same amount of work in Q3 2024.

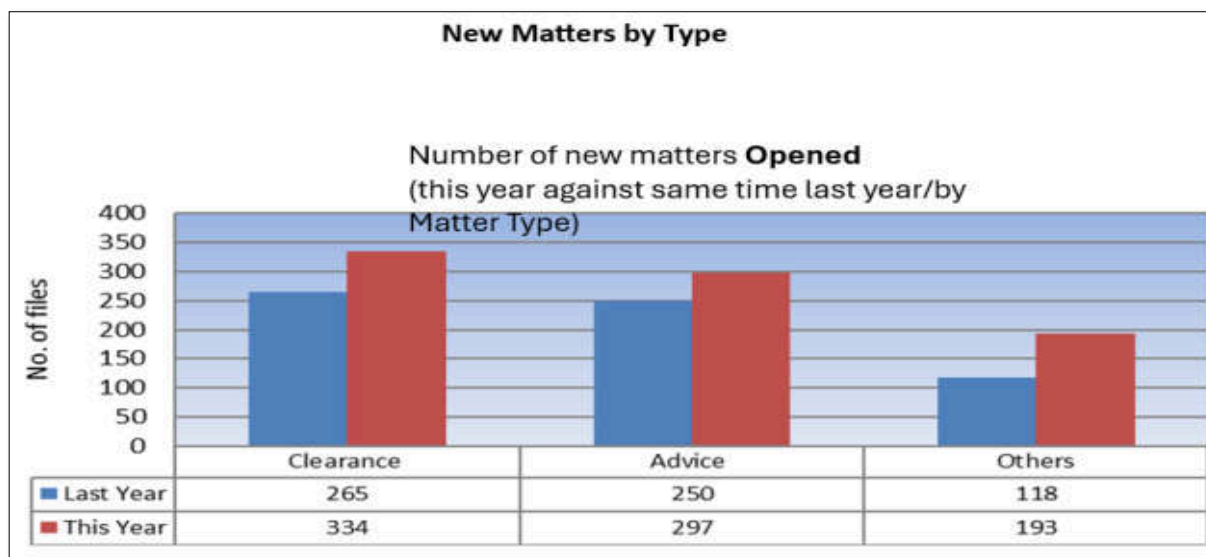


Figure 4 The Graph shows the number of new matters open by Matter type. Compared to the end of Q3 2024 the graph shows an increase in Clearance, Advice and Other matter type.

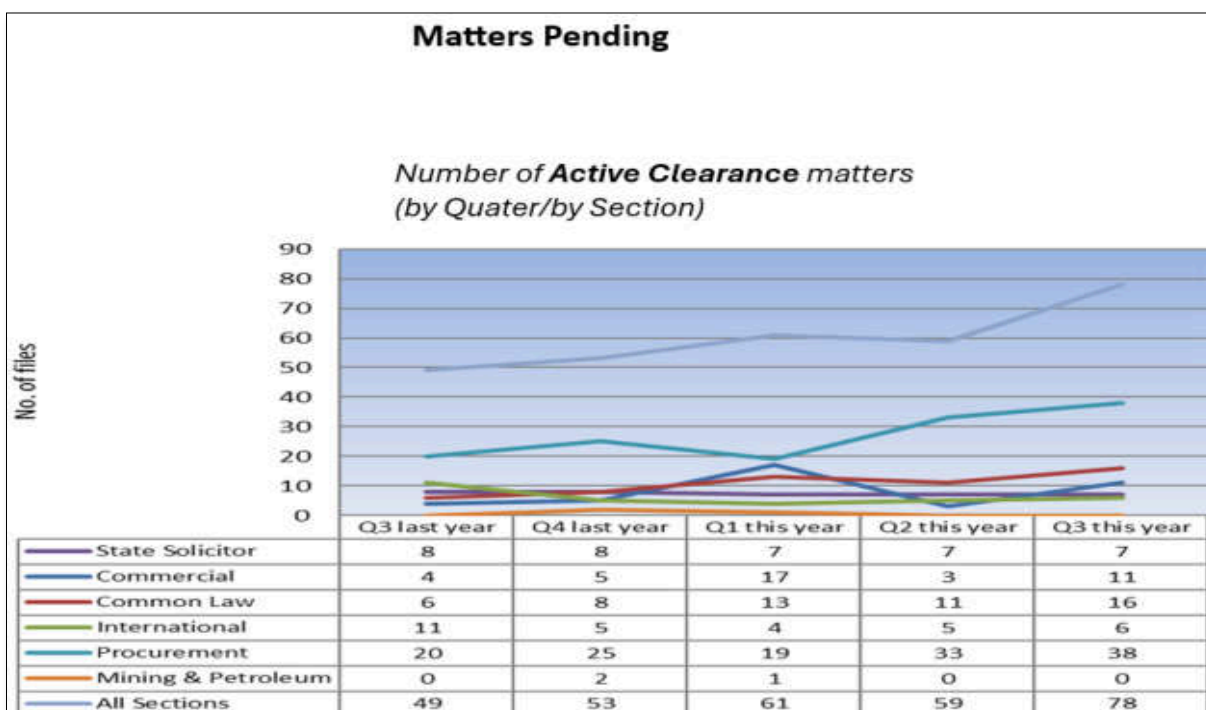


Figure 5. The Graph shows the number of Active Clearance matters pending in Q3/2024 by Divisions. State Solicitor and International Law Division achieved the 10 days turnaround times while Commercial Law and Common Law has seen an upward slope with matters pending higher than that at the end of Q3 2023. Procurement Law Division has seen an increasing number of matters pending. Overall, the Office have recorded an increase in Active Clearance matters pending by the end of Q3/2024.

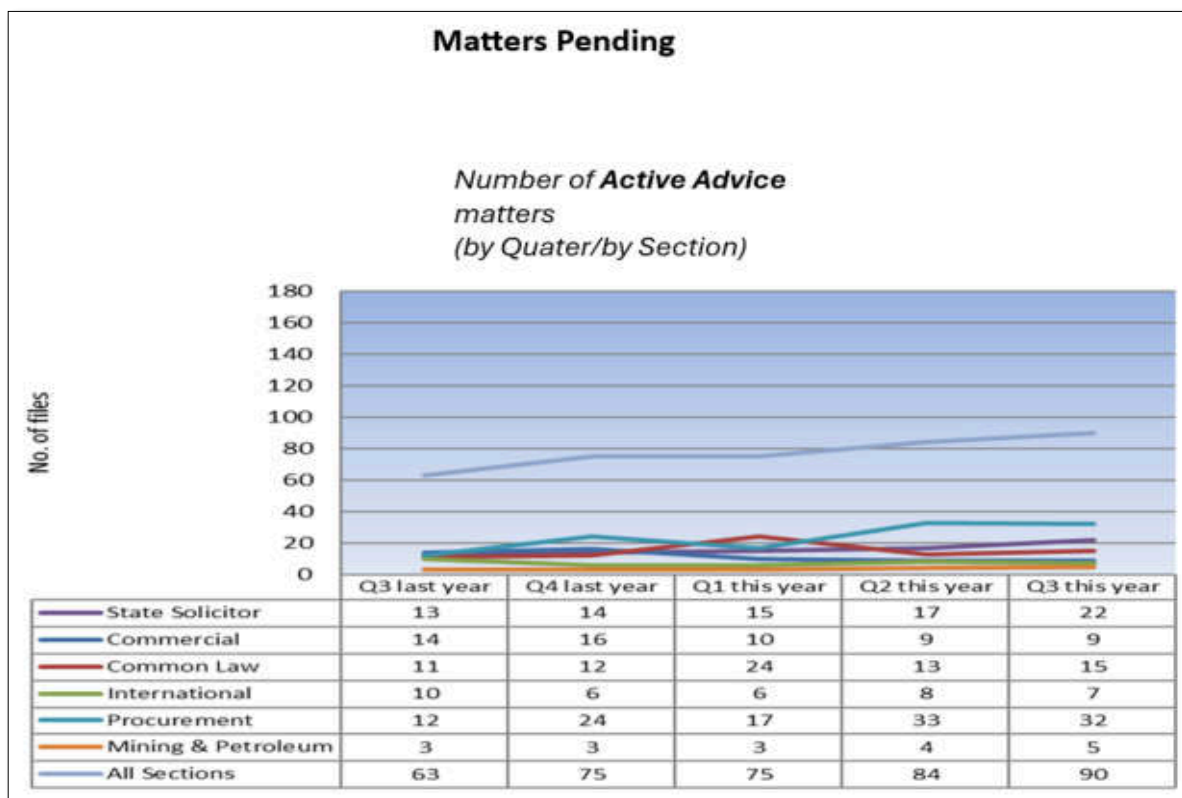


Figure 6. The Graph shows the number of Active Advice matters pending in Q3/ 2023 compared to Q3/2024 by Divisions. Overall, the Office has seen an increase in Active Advice matters since Q2 2024.

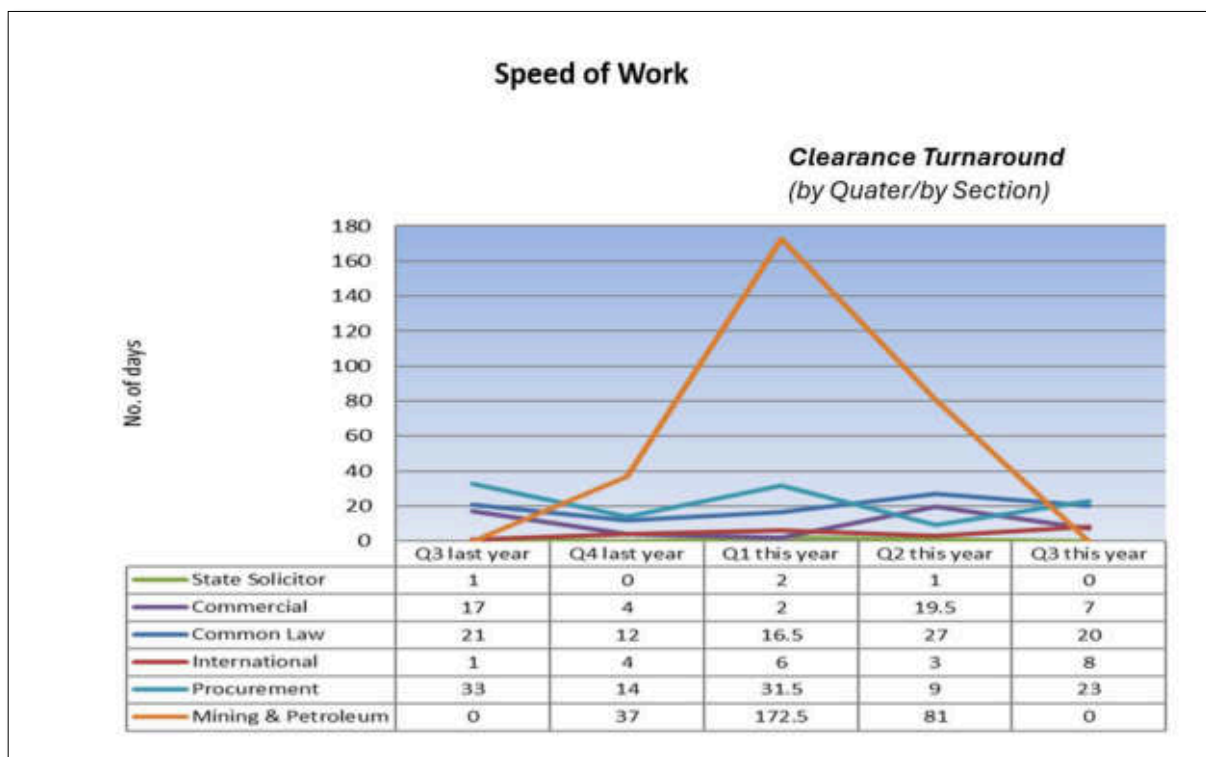


Figure 7. The Graph shows the 10 days Clearance turnaround times by Divisions for this Quarter 3 2024. Overall, all Divisions show they have reduced their Clearance Turnaround since Q2 2024. Two (2) Divisions achieved Clearance Turnaround times within 10 days target

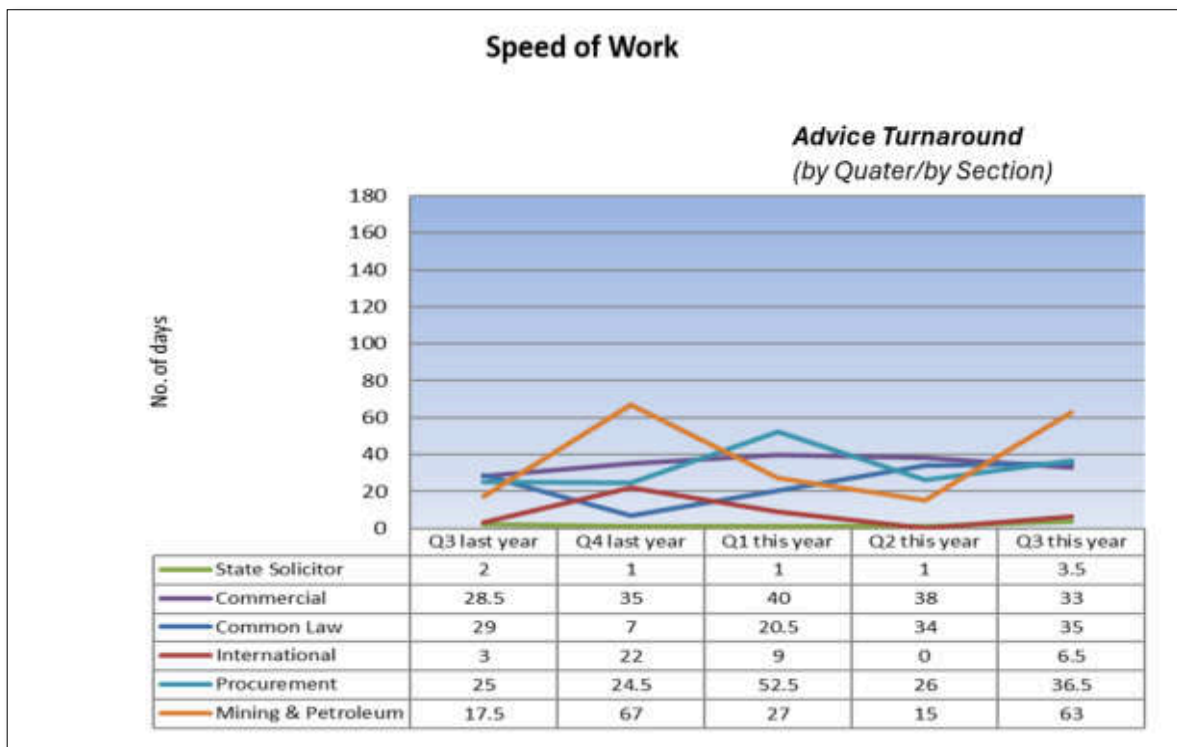


Figure 8. The Graph above shows the 28 days Advice turnaround time. Mining & Petroleum Law recorded a higher increase in Advice turnaround times. All other Divisions also recorded an increase except for two (2) Divisions that have achieved turnaround time in Q3 2024.

KPI PERFORMANCE FOR Q3 FOR 2024 BY DIVISIONS (75% within turnaround time)

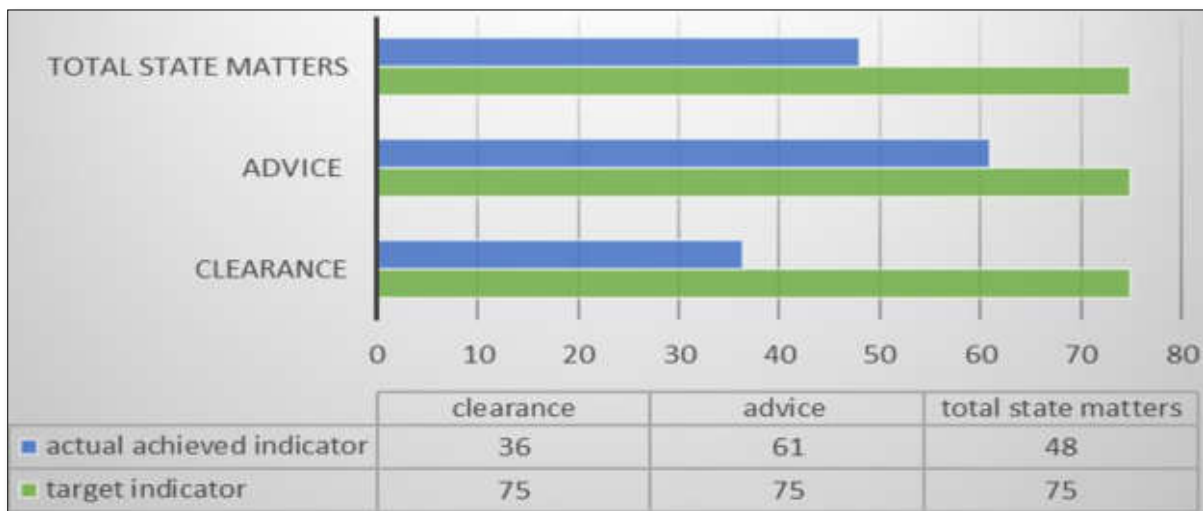


Figure 9. The Graph shows the KPI for the Office Performance for this Q3 2024. The KPI target for Advice and Clearance is 75%. This Q3 2024 shows following below: Clearance KPI of 75% - the OSS performance recorded 36% and Advice KPI of 75% - the OSS performance recorded 61%. Overall, the OSS performance recorded 48%.

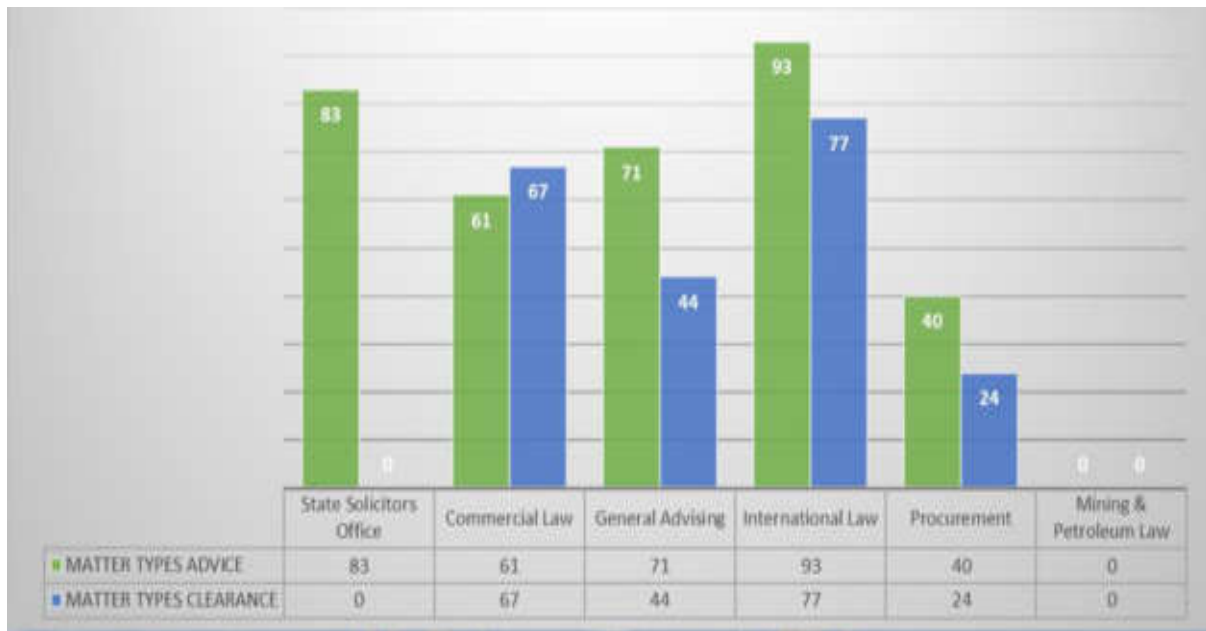


Figure 10. The Graph shows the KPI for the Divisional performance in Q3 2024. Compared to the end of Q3 2024, the Advice and Clearance KPI recorded as follows; State Solicitor – Advice - 83%, Commercial Law – Advice - 61%, Clearance – 67%, General Advising – Advice - 71%, Clearance – 44%, International Law – Advice - 93%, Clearance – 77%, Procurement Law – Advice - 40%, Clearance – 24% and Mining & Petroleum Law – 0% for Advice and Clearance.

2.1.2 Office of the Solicitor General

The Office of the Solicitor General (OSG) plays a central role in representing the State in civil litigation and providing legal advice to government agencies. Under the Department's Corporate Objective 1, the Office Key Result Area- *Effective State Civil Litigation and Cost Recovery* ensures that the legal interests of the State are protected through timely, professional, and competent legal representation.

The effectiveness of the OSG impacts has a direct impact on government's risk exposure, financial accountability and the credibility of public administration. By delivering high-quality litigation services, defending State interests before the courts, and issuing authoritative legal opinions, the Office supports lawful decision-making and strengthens confidence in the State's legal posture.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- The total number of Certificate of Judgements (COJ) ordered by the Courts and issued by the Registrar against the State is 405 with a total value of K960 million.
- This demonstrates the scale of State financial exposure and burden arising from litigation or judgments against the State and the need for State to reduce its liabilities by budgeting for and prioritizing settlement of judgments debts.



Figure 11. The Office conducted its Client Outreach in Port Moresby to its major clients after the last one was conducted in 2014

- It also exposes, monetary terms, the gravity of corruption, negligence, lack of professionalism and lack of compliance with processes in the public service machinery and in the performance and conduct of public service functions.

➤ **Brief Outs (BO) and Value**

- The total number of BO by the Department to specialist law firms is 29 with a total value of K43 million.
- An increase in the number of BO from 138 in 2023 to 154 in 2024 suggests either that there is lack of control in briefing out matters by the BO authority or that there is heavy reliance on external services to manage workload pressures and the need for specialized legal services.
- K300 million saved by Solicitor General through Dismissed Cases by the end of 2024
 - The total number of cases dismissed, closed or successfully completed by lawyers with the Solicitor General's office in 2024 was remarkable.
 - Our State Lawyers have done quite well in dismissing or mitigating damages against the State. Their hard work, dedication and commitment saw 67 cases either dismissed or damages mitigated saving the State K30 million in the 3rd quarter of 2024 and 101 cases either dismissed or damages mitigated saving the State K270 million in the 4th quarter of 2024.
 - The total number of cases for 3rd and 4th quarter of 2024 is 168 with a value totaling K300 million saved for the State.

OPERATIONAL DATA

The graph shows the number of matters briefed out to private legal firms in 2023 and 2024. Brief-outs increased from approximately 137 matters in 2023 to 153 matters in 2024, indicating a higher reliance on external legal representation during 2024.

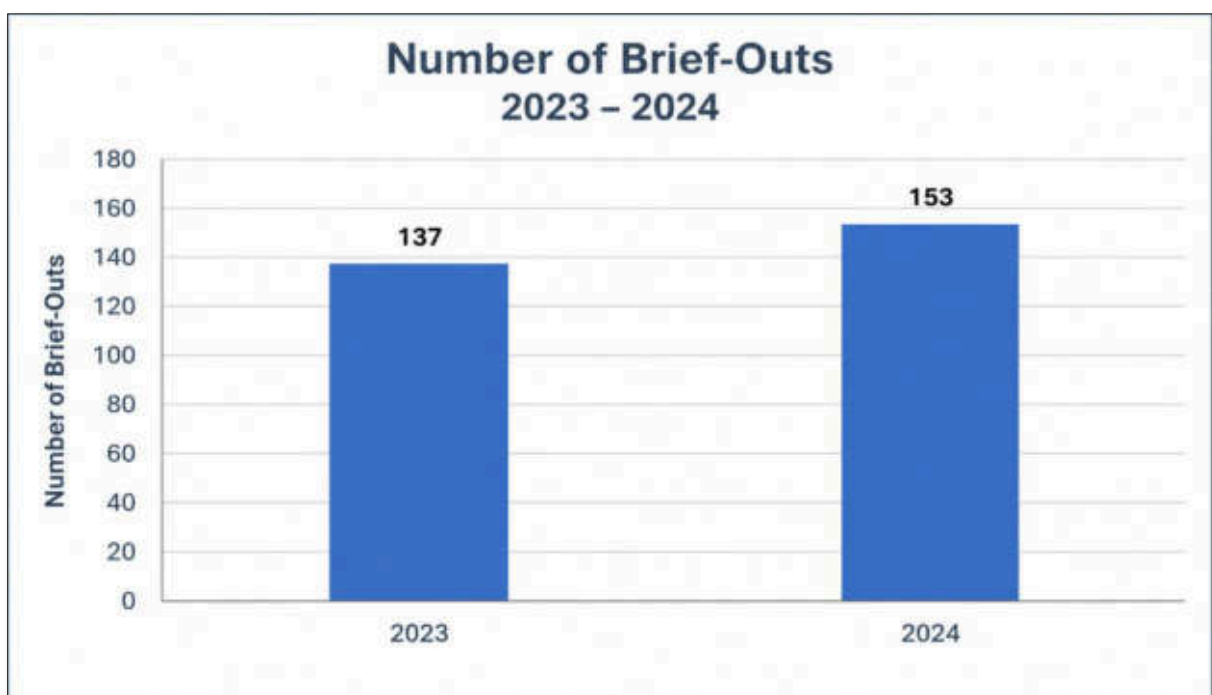


Figure 12. Number of matters briefed out in 2024 compared to last year

SG Files opened quarterly

- The high number of Tort or Negligent claims suggests a mixture of negligence claims against Police and CS.
- The consistently high number of Commercial/Contracts matters per quarter means that there is an increase in the number of cases involving Oil & Gas and Mining Industry, especially to do with landowner issues, royalty and equity benefits and landowner company disputes.
- This is apart from breach of contract and procurement matters against the State which is also a real problem for the Government.
- The increase in Human Rights matters per quarter suggest the following people are using simplified Human Rights process to pursue their rights to seek mandamus orders, damages and compensation, for instance unlawful termination of employment and abuse of rights by State or police instead conventional Writ of Summons claim which is cumbersome, lengthy and costly.
- The increase in Judicial Review matters indicates that abuse of executive authority and non-compliance with procedures in the exercise of executive powers is quite rampant. It says a lot about the legality or illegality of executive decisions this suggest that corruption is rampant in the decision-making processes. This is quite concerning and has detrimental effect to the national budget when court orders costs and damages against the State in the millions.
- In general, more and more people are becoming aware of their rights. We are becoming a litigious society;



Figure 13. Regional CMS Awareness Workshop, Lae International Hotel – 4th April 2024

Court Appearance

- A total of 318 court appearances were undertaken;
- 34 cases were dismissed;
- 109 court files were closed;
- 163 court documents (including motions, defences, submissions, and notices) were filed; and
- 15 judgments were successfully defended in favour of the State.
- A dismissal of 34 cases and 15 judgments handed down in favor of that State as mentioned above means that the State was saved from expending millions of kina in damages and in costs for lawsuits against the State. This outcome was achieved regardless of the lack of manpower (i.e. with only 23 lawyers in Port Moresby alone) and the lack of resources.

Cost Recovery and Financial Oversight

- Successfully vetted 20 legal bills;
- Cleared three (3) Certificates of Taxation (COTs) for payment; and
- Received five (5) Certificates of Taxation during the reporting period.

This another aspect of costs recovery or savings by State Lawyers where Costs ordered against the State where the plaintiffs are successful, is greatly reduced because of quality vetting by the Cost recovery team in cutting down on unreasonable and exorbitant claims for costs.

Client Engagement and Internal Coordination

- Issued 93 official correspondences; and
- Conducted 13 special and team coordination meetings.

ACTIVITIES	TEAM 1	TEAM 2	TEAM 3	TEAM 4	TOTAL
Court Attendances	82	91	145		318
Cases Dismissed	7	8	19- (Leave opposed)		34
Court Files Closed	40	8	61		109
Total Court Docs Filed (Motions, Defense, Submission, NOIDS)		76	71	16 (Objections Filed)	163
LETTERS SENT OUT	40	53			93
Team Meetings	4	6	3		13
Judgement For State			15		15
Certificate of Taxation By State				5	5
Bills Vetted				20	20
COT Cleared for Payment				3	3

Table 1 The operational outputs of the Office of the Solicitor-General at Waigani during the first half of the year, reflecting collective performance across four litigation teams. These figures capture key activity highlights, including court attendances, case management outcomes, documentation, and cost recovery actions.

		<i>Lawyers</i>	<i>Support Staff</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>No, Cases</i>	<i>of No. Cases/Lawyer</i>	<i>of</i>
WAIGANI Office		23	16	37	4641	202	
Team 1	<i>Torts/Negligence</i>	7	2	9	1885	269	
Team 2	<i>Police/HR</i>	5	2	7	960	192	
Team 3	<i>Judicial Rev/Com</i>	8	2	10	1394	174	
Team 4	<i>Costs Rec/Tax</i>	3	2	5	402	134	
	<i>Payments</i>		3	3			
	<i>CMS</i>		3	3			
	<i>Para Legals</i>						
	<i>Drivers</i>		2				
REGIONAL Office		11	11	21	3531	321	
	<i>Lae</i>	2	4	6	863	432	
	<i>Hagen</i>	3	3	6	859	286	
	<i>Kokopo</i>	1	1	2	304	304	
	<i>Kimbe</i>	2		2	333	167	
	<i>Madang</i>	2	1	3	708	354	
	<i>Wewak</i>		1	1			
	<i>Goroka</i>	1	1	1	464	464	
TOTAL		33	4	2	8172	248	

Table 2 presents a snapshot of the high amount of workload managed by OSG lawyers in each team of 2 and 7 lawyers, between Waigani and regional offices.

2.1.3 Legal Policy and Governance (LPG)

The Branch is responsible for the development, review, coordination and oversight of legal and legislative policy across government. In support of Corporate Objective 1, this Key Result Area *Sound Legal Policy Advice and Reform* ensures that laws, policies, and regulatory frameworks are coherent, evidence-based and aligned with national priorities and constitutional principles.

The Branch provides legal policy advice on justice related matters and facilitates legislative reforms and legal policy processes relating to legislation within the mandate of the Ministry of Justice. Through its work, Legal Policy and Governance strengthens legal governance by promoting consistency, transparency and accountability in law-making and policy reform processes. Effective performance under this KRA underpins a responsive and modern legal system capable of addressing emerging social, economic, and governance challenges.

ACHIEVEMENTS

❑ Legislative Reform and Policy Development

LPG continued to implement its Legislative Reform Workplan, which captured 42 law reform projects during the reporting period. In addition, the Branch facilitated the progression of 55 legal policy documents and concept notes, as well as 11 National Executive Council (NEC) submissions.

Supported the development of a new 10-year Law and Justice Sector Policy, replacing the 2007 White Paper and aligning sector reform with national development priorities.

The Branch enforced high professional standards for entry into the legal profession through the Fit and Proper Assessment process, refusing certification to unsuitable candidates and safeguarding professional integrity.

❑ Progress on Legislative Reform Workplan

Implementation of the Legislative Reform Workplan resulted in 13 legislative projects being progressed, as follows:

- 2 projects tabled in Parliament;
- 7 projects submitted for State Law Office / Standing High-Level Management Committee (SLOSHMC) deliberation;
- 2 projects progressed to the Office of the First Legislative Counsel (OFLC) and
- 2 projects commenced at the initial development stage.

❑ Legal Policy Documentation

Of the 55 legal policy documents processed during the period:

- 27 remain in draft form;

- 8 were finalised and submitted for endorsement; and
- 20 were endorsed and submitted to the responsible agencies for appropriate action.

❑ **NEC Submissions and Parliamentary Support**

The Branch facilitated 11 NEC submissions, including the preparation of six (6) Ministerial Speeches and Statements for presentation in Parliament.

❑ **Partnerships and Stakeholder Engagement**

LPG provided legal and policy support to 18 internal and 16 external partnerships and working arrangements, supporting whole-of-government coordination on justice and legal reform initiatives.

❑ **International Commitments**

In support of Papua New Guinea's international legal obligations, LPG:

- i) Prepared an NEC submission on Papua New Guinea's accession to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime; and
- ii) ii) Prepared and presented Papua New Guinea's Mutual Evaluation (ME) Report and Key Issues Document (KID) at the Asia-Pacific Group Plenary held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.
- Coordinated Papua New Guinea's first-ever registration and preparation of an oral submission to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on Climate Change obligations, marking a historic milestone in international legal advocacy for PNG.
- Strengthened international legal capacity through participation in regional ICJ advisory proceedings training, enhancing readiness for complex international litigation and advisory processes.
- Secured NEC approval of three major national policies:
 - Law and Justice Sector Policy;
 - Offender Rehabilitation and Re-integration Policy; and
 - National Oceans Policy Implementation Plan.
- Progressed 11 major legislative reforms to Parliament, including constitutional amendments and Acts of Parliament.
- Successfully enacted the *Constitution (Amendment) (Court) Restructure Act 2024*, establishing a three-tier court system and creating the Appeals Court.
- Advanced constitutional reform agenda, including proposed amendments relating to Vote of No Confidence provisions and PNG's Christian identity, with further progression planned.
- Led national coordination on Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Terrorist Financing (AML/CTF) reforms, including completion and adoption of PNG's Mutual Evaluation Report (MER) at the Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering.

OPERATIONAL DATA

Progress on Legislative Reform Projects

In 2024, a total of 46 law reforms were worked and progressed to various stages as follows:

- 2% have reached Stage 5;
- 13% are at Stage 4;
- 7% are at Stage 3;
- 28% are at Stage 2 and
- 50% remain at Stage 1 (initial or development stage).

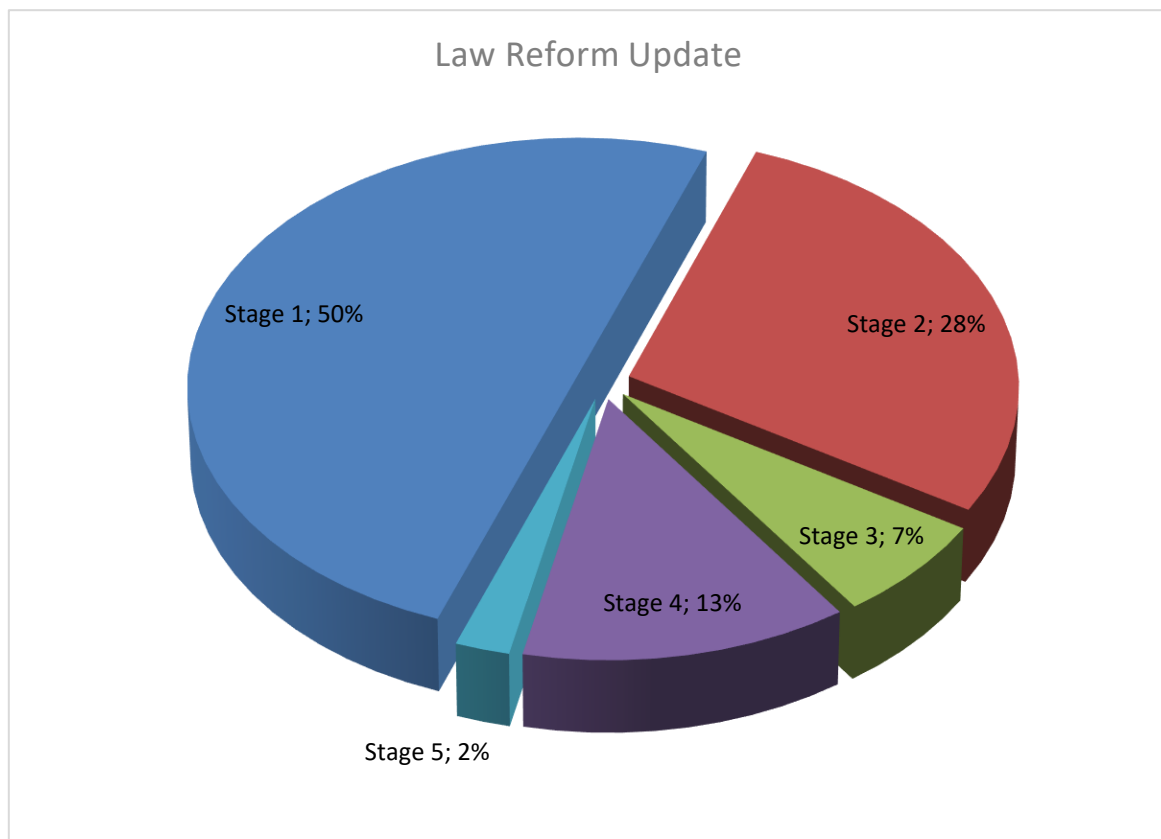


Figure 14. The distribution highlights the breakup of the 46 legislative reforms worked on in 2024

2.1.4 Judicial and Legal Services Commission

The Judicial and Legal Services Commission (JLSC) contributes to Corporate Objective 1 by supporting the integrity, independence, and effectiveness of judicial and legal appointments and administration. Through its mandate, the Commission plays a key role in upholding professional standards within the judiciary and legal services.

Its Key Result Area of Effective Secretariat Support to the Judicial and Legal Services Commission ensures that appointment, discipline, and administrative processes are conducted fairly, transparently, and in accordance with legal requirements. The effective functioning of the Commission is fundamental to maintaining public confidence in the justice system and upholding the rule of law.

The JLSC Secretariat provides administrative and technical support to the Commission, including facilitating appointments and disciplinary processes involving Judicial Officers (Judges and Magistrates), Law Office Holders (State Solicitor and Solicitor General), certain Constitutional Office Holders (Chief Magistrate, Public Solicitor and Public Prosecutor), and senior administrative staff of the Judiciary, including the Registrar and the Secretary of the National Judicial Support Services (NJSS).

The Commission is a constitutional office set up under Section 183 of the *Constitution*. Its functions include the:

1. Review of the jurisdiction, practice and procedure of all courts, except the Supreme and National Courts; and
2. Make recommendation to the Constitutional and Law Reform Commission for legislative changes to jurisdiction, practice and procedures; as well as ensuring adequate staffing for the courts.

The Commission composition is:

1. Minister for Justice and Attorney as the Chairman
2. The Chief Justice
3. The Deputy Chief Justice
4. The Chief Magistrate
5. The Chief Ombudsman
6. Parliamentary Representative

ACHIEVEMENTS

Governance and Institutional Strengthening

- The completion of the JLSC 2022 and 2023 Annual Reports;
- The completion of a proposed JLSC Organisational Structure submitted to the Human Resource Branch for review; and
- The Judges and Magistrates Complaint Checklist was endorsed by the Commission, strengthening complaint handling and disciplinary processes.

Commission Meetings and Appointments

During the year, the JLSC convened three (3) Regular Meetings and one (1) Special Meeting, resulting in key appointments and disciplinary outcomes as follows:

- Appointments of 21 Judges in 2024 (14 Foreign and 7 Nationals) of which newly appointed (9 Foreign and 1 national) and reappointed (5 Foreign and 6 National).
- A total of 22 Acting Principal Magistrates recruited,
- Appointment of 31 accredited mediators and
- Reappointment of senior State law officers, including the Public Solicitor, State Solicitor and Secretary of the NJSS; and new appointment of the Chief Commissioner for Land Commission of PNG.

Members of the Commission



Hon. Pila Niningi, MP, LLB Minister
for Justice and AG



Hon. Chief Justice Gibbs Salika



Hon. Deputy Chief Justice
Ambeng Kadakasi



Hon. Philip Undialu Governor for
Hela



Mr. Richard Pagen
Ombudsman Commissioner



Mr. Mark Pupaka
Chief Magistrate

Figure 15. Member of the JLSC in 2024

2.1.5 Office of the Public Trustee

The Office of Public Trustee provides its services with the goal to deliver effective and transparent administration and management of all deceased estates, property of minors, insane persons, insolvent persons, and missing persons to ensure justice and fairness.

The Office of the Public Trustee was formerly known as the Office of the Public Curator. In 2020, an amendment to the *Public Curator Act* 1951 under the *Public Curator (Amendment) Act* 2020 resulted in the Public Curator being renamed as the Public Trustee.

All functions and powers of the Public Trustee continue unaffected. The amendments added further clarity on the functions and responsibilities of the Public Trusties..

The highlight would be the establishment of the Public Trustee Investment Advisory Board to provide advice on investment in relation to deceased estates or especially minors' property.

The Public Trustee is also regarded as a State Law Office that provides legal services under the Wills, Probate and Administration jurisdiction.

ARCHIEVEMENTS

- 75 Letter of Administration (LA) Granted for Deceased Properties under the project, Kimbe Oil Palm Blocks.
- More than 80 employees of Customs PNG have signed their Wills. This was the outcome of the Wills Awareness Program (2018-19) and the contacts established during that period.
- Recruitment of 4 new officers to OPT (2x Southern Region) Senior Finance Officers and 2x Legal Officers

OPERATIONAL DATA

The operational data reflects the volume and status of estate administration and related legal matters managed by the Office of Public Trustee during the second quarter of 2024. The data shows continuing high caseloads in deceased estate and court matters, with significant numbers of active and pending files, while also recording activity in property conveyancing, Letters of Administration, wills, probate and other estate management functions across the regional offices.

PART A: DATA / STATISTICS											
Activity No.	Activity	PCOT Location									
		PCOT HQ					PCOT Highlands	PCOT Momase	PCOT Islands	PCOT Southern	OPT Expatriate
		PCH	PCM	PCI	PCE	TOTAL					
A1:	ESTATE , MINOR, PROPERTY & LEGAL										
A1 -1	DECEASED ESTATE										
	Record of Deceased Estate File;										
	a. Active Files C/Fwd from Jan - Mar 2024	1154	393	649	24	2220		236	993	1,186	
	b. New Files Opened in April - June 2024	37	17	8	1	61		59	28	54	
	c. Total Active Files in April - June 2024	1192	410	657	51	2284		275	1016	1,240	
	d. Files Closed in April - June 2024	11	0	1	0	12		3	5	8	
	e. Total Pending Active Files in April - June 2024	1181	410	656	25	2272		272	1016	1,232	
	<i>NB; Active Files carried forward from last year 2023 only includes Deceased Estate cases that have been Active as of January 2024</i>										
		<i>MOMASE Regional Office's 1st reporting since 2023</i>									
A1 -2	MINORS & INSOLVENCY										
	Record of Minors & Insolvency File;										
	a. Active Files C/Fwd from Jan - Mar 2024	309									
	b. New Files Opened in Jan - Mar 2024	0									
	c. Total Active Files as at April - June 2024	309									
	d. Files Closed in April - June 2024	4									
	e. Total Pending Active Files April - June 2024	305									

A1 -3	ESTATE PROPERTY								
	Record of Property File;	PTH	PTM	PTI	PTS	PTE	TOTAL		
	a. Title In Possession– C/Fwd Jan - Mar 2024	13	12	58	81	1	165		
	b. Title Received in April - June 2024	1	Nil	5	Nil	Nil	6		
	c. Title Transferred April - June 2024	Nil	Nil	1	2	Nil	3		
	d. Current Title in Possession April - June 2024	14	12	62	79	1	168		
	e. Pending Title in Conveyancing								
	1. Transmission & Transfer Title / Title Replacement / Stamp Duty Exemption	13	5	11	78	1	108		
	f. Property Managed / Sold / Valuation / Inspection & Reporting								
	1. Property Managed (Currently under lease)	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	1		
	2. Property Sold	Nil	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	3		
	3. Inspection & Property	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	2		
	4. Valuation Assessment conducted April – June 2024	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	1		
A1 -4	ESTATE LEGAL								
	Record of Letter of Administration & Court Matter;								
	1. LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION (LA)								
	a. LA Application – C/Fwd from Jan - Mar 2024	132					Refer to HQ Legal		
	b. New LA Application in April - June 2024	18							
	c. LA Granted in April - June 2024	26							
	d. Pending LA Applications April - June 2024	16							
	e. Total LA Pending from 1 st quarter to 2 nd quarter	122							
	2. COURT MATTERS								

	a. Court Matters C/Fwd from Jan - Mar 2024	330	Refer to HQ Legal
	b. New Court Matters in April - June 2024	5	Refer to HQ Legal Refer to HQ Legal
	c. Court Matters in Abeyance in April - June 2024	10	
	d. Court Matters Active in April - June 2024	335	
	e. Court Matters for Trial in April - June 2024	1	
	f. Court Matters for Decision in April - June 2024		
	g. Court Matters “Briefed Out” April - June 2024		
	h. Court Matters completed in April - June 2024		
	i. Outstanding Court Matters in April - June 2024	335	
	3. LEGAL WILL & TESTAMENT		
	a. LWT carried forward from Jan - Mar 2024	44	
	b. New LWT Application Filed in April - June 2024	5	
	c. LWT Signed/Completed in April - June 2024		
	d. LWT Pending Forms in April - June 2024	49	
	4.WILLS AND PROBATE ADMINISTRATION		
	a. Probate C/Fwd from Jan - Mar 2024	4	
	b. New Probate Application Granted April - June 2024	1	
	c. Probate Granted in April - June 2024		
	d. Probate Pending in April - June 2024	5	

Table 3 A1. ESTATE, MINORS, PROPERTY & LEGA - Reporting Period: 2nd Quarter 2024

2.1.6 Oceans Affairs Secretariat

The Oceans Affairs Secretariat supports Corporate Objective 1 by providing legal and policy coordination on maritime affairs, ocean governance, and international law of the sea matters. Its Key Result Area *Strengthened Ocean and Maritime Governance* focuses on advising Government on ocean-related legal obligations, treaty commitments, and policy positions to protect national interests and maritime rights.

The Secretariat provides legal, scientific, and technical advice on matters relating to the seas and maritime boundaries of Papua New Guinea, guided by national legislation, international conventions including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) 1982 and relevant scientific research and technology. Through legal analysis and inter-agency coordination, the Secretariat strengthens compliance with international obligations while supporting sustainable and strategic ocean governance.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- The NEC approval of the National Ocean Policy Implementation Plan (NOP-IP) 2024–2028, establishing the national framework for coordinated ocean governance and implementation of the National Ocean Policy. This is outcome of the National Oceans Committee (NOC), which the Oceans Branch facilitates as the Secretariat.
- The NEC approval of the Revised Maritime Scientific Research (MSR) Guidelines 2024, strengthening regulatory oversight of foreign and domestic marine scientific research in Papua New Guinea’s waters and increasing MSR application fees to reflect true regulatory costs. This is also an outcome of the NOC.
- The strengthening of the national oversight of marine scientific research through the assessment and processing of 10 MSR applications, with 5 applications approved, ensuring compliance with PNG laws, policies, and international obligations. Resulting in the generation of the first MSR application fees totalling K9,900.00, contributing to cost recovery for ocean governance functions.
- Facilitated 4 National Oceans Committee (NOC) meeting NOC endorsed the creation of the Technical Steering Committees for the Ontong Java Plateau (OJP) and Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) processes.
- Led national coordination on extended continental shelf (ECS) submissions, including technical workshops and joint submissions for the Eauripik Rise and Mussau Ridge to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS), strengthening PNG’s sovereign claims.
- Achieved international recognition of Papua New Guinea’s Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), officially published by the United Nations Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (UNCLCS) on 10 September 2024, supporting PNG’s claims over its extended continental shelf.

- Coordinated PNG's engagement on BBNJ treaty implementation, including establishment and endorsement of a national steering committee and preparation of terms of reference to guide treaty domestication.
- Strengthened maritime security cooperation by coordinating the Ship rider Agreement Standard Operating Procedures, in partnership with the United States Coast Guard and PNG Defence Force.
- Secured capacity-building opportunities for 10 officers from 10 national agencies to attend a five-week maritime security training program in Hawaii, enhancing inter-agency maritime enforcement capability.
- Facilitated fusion centre exposure visits to the Philippines and Singapore, strengthening PNG's maritime domain awareness and inter-agency coordination models.
- Expanded institutional capacity through the recruitment of four specialised officers (lawyer, scientist, diver, and GIS officer), strengthening legal, scientific, and technical capability within the Office.
- Strengthened stakeholder coordination across government, development partners, and civil society through structured consultations, integrated ocean management forums, and national stakeholder engagements.
- Enhanced operational capacity through the donation of a bus by the National Fisheries Authority (NFA), improving logistics and field operations.
- Completed comprehensive stakeholder mapping and engagement to support integrated ocean governance and coordinated implementation of national ocean priorities.

2.1.7 Human Rights Secretariat

The Human Rights Secretariat provides professional, reliable, and coordinated secretariat services in support of national human rights programs and initiatives. Its Key Result Area of Effective Secretariat Support for the Establishment of the National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) focuses on coordination, stakeholder engagement, policy development, and reporting to support Papua New Guinea's commitment to human rights protection and promotion.

Through its secretariat function, the Human Rights Secretariat supports the development of foundational policy and institutional frameworks necessary for the establishment of a National Human Rights Institution, while strengthening coordination across government, civil society, and development partners.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Co-hosted the first National Human Rights Forum in Port Moresby in September, providing a national platform for dialogue on human rights priorities and institutional development.
- Continued baseline information gathering on human rights issues and sector-specific challenges through engagement with internal stakeholders, key non-government organisations, civil society, government agencies, and church representatives.
- Field-based consultations were conducted in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville (AROB) and Morobe Province, with findings to inform the development of guiding documents, including the National Human Rights Policy.
- Conducted regional stakeholder consultations on the development of the National Human Rights Policy Framework in the MOMASE and New Guinea Islands (NGI) regions, held in Lae and Kokopo, respectively.
- Completed a scheduled study tour on the establishment of National Human Rights Institutions in Australia and New Zealand, following earlier learning exchanges with the Philippines and Malaysia.
- The study tour focused on institutional establishment processes, mandates, governance structures, and historical development of human rights institutions.
- The Secretariat was well supported by two EU-funded Project Officers, who provided secretariat support services and contributed to capacity building through one on one on the job learning.
- One officer attended a professional and leadership development training in Suva, Fiji, in the last week of September 2024, while another participated in an HR induction program.
- The Human Rights Activism Campaign, initiated in 2023, was successfully concluded in February with the training of 22 Village Court Officials on the *Family*

Protection Act 2013, strengthening community-level awareness and enforcement of human rights protections.



Figure 16 National Human Rights Policy stakeholder consultation visit to Bougainville



Figure 17 National Human Rights Policy Consultation in Kokopo.

2.2 Deliver Timely, Accessible and Quality Community Justice Service

Corporate Objective 2 focuses on strengthening community-based justice services to ensure timely, accessible, and quality justice outcomes at the local level. The objective recognizes that effective community justice mechanisms are essential to reducing reoffending, resolving disputes, protecting vulnerable groups, and promoting social cohesion. Through non-custodial sentencing options, community courts, parole and probation supervision, juvenile justice interventions, and restorative justice approaches, the Department supports safer communities while easing pressure on formal court and custodial systems.

Achievement of this objective relies on coordinated delivery across Probation and Restorative Justice, Parole, Village Courts and Land Mediation and Juvenile Justice Services. Together, these services promote rehabilitation, reintegration, accountability, and access to justice, particularly for rural and remote communities.

2.2.1 Probation and Restorative Justice Services

Probation Services supports Corporate Objective 2 by delivering non-custodial sentencing services that facilitate the rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders into the community, in accordance with the *Probation Act* (Chapter 381). Under the Key Result Area of Enhanced Probation Service Delivery for Improved Offender Rehabilitation and Reintegration, the service is responsible for the preparation of pre-sentence reports for the courts, supervision and case management of offenders placed on probation, monitoring compliance with probation orders, and enforcing breaches where required.

Through effective supervision and structured case management, Probation Services reduces the risk of reoffending, promotes positive behavioural change, and enhances community safety. Its role is critical in balancing rehabilitation objectives with accountability, while providing courts with credible and effective alternatives to custodial sentencing as provided for under the *Probation Act* 1979.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- The approval of the Offender Rehabilitation and Reintegration Policy 2025–2029 by the National Executive Council (NEC) with K1.5 million in implementation funding;
- The GOAC-approved provincial offices at Kerema and Lae were inspected;
- The Probation Annual Report (2014–2020) were completed and progressed with submission;
- The East Sepik Provincial Government recruited a Probation/Parole Officer under its provincial structure, currently understudying and working at CBC Wewak;
- Kavieng District Development Authority donated community work tools to CBC Kavieng in August 2024;
- Three laptops were procured for the Officers-in-Charge and Senior Probation Officers in East Sepik, West Sepik, and AROB;
- Three case file inspections were undertaken at CBC Mendi, Jiwaka, and Simbu, delegated to CBC Hagen Senior Probation Officer, with inspection reports submitted;

- One officer attended a two-day training on Building and Leading High Performing Teams facilitated by the Australian Public Service Commission;
- Two officers commenced Master's studies overseas; and
- Three officers (two field officers and one HQ officer) were inducted.



Figure 18 Restorative Justice Community Outreach Programs with CSO and FBOs to support women and children.



Figure 19 and Figure 20. National Women's Day visit to Bomana Correctional facility

OPERATIONAL DATA

The field operations data highlights practical probation work undertaken at the provincial level, including offender supervision, dispute facilitation, rehabilitation and reintegration. The examples from Vanimo and Mt Hagen demonstrate how probation officers support both offenders and affected parties, while also showing the longer-term outcomes of successful rehabilitation and reintegration into the community.

FIELD OPERATION - Vanimo Office -Success Stories



Figures 21 and 22. Various non-probation case facilitated by probation officer between an offender and claimant

FIELD OPERATION – Hagen Office -Success Stories

The journey of Terence Mana reflects the true purpose of probation—supporting positive change and successful reintegration into society. Now serving as a police officer with the Special Services Division, Highlands Region Command, Mr. Mana has remained committed to giving back by providing transport and logistical support to CBC Mt. Hagen during official operations, demonstrating the lasting impact of rehabilitation and community partnership



Figures 23 and 24 Successful reintegration of probationer.

2.2.2 Village Courts and Land Mediation Secretariat

The Village Courts and Land Mediation Secretariat, operating in accordance with the *Village Courts Act 1989* and the *Land Dispute Settlement Act 1975*, plays a central role in administering and supporting community justice systems at the district and village level. Under Corporate Objective 2, the Key Result Area -*Revitalised Village Court and Land Mediation System for Quality Service Delivery* strengthen access to justice by supporting the effective operation of Village Courts and Land Mediation Services in partnership with provincial and district administrations and local communities.

Village Courts and Land Mediation provide culturally appropriate, accessible, and timely dispute resolution mechanisms that promote peace, social harmony, and local accountability. Through the revitalisation of these systems, the Secretariat ensures greater consistency, improved service quality, and increased public confidence in community justice institutions.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Opening of the Bootless Bay Village Court House;
- Conducted Village Court Officials Training in Central Province in May, with participation of 15 Magistrates, 9 Clerks, and 11 Peace Officers;
- Conducted Village Court Officials Training in East New Britain in June, involving 16 Magistrates, 13 Clerks, and 24 Peace Officers;
- Annual Reports (2015–2022) were printed and are pending Ministerial signature for NEC submission;
- Revoked 75 Land Mediators and appointed 55 new Land Mediators;
- Conducted a Village Court Inspectors Workshop in Central Province;
- Undertook 15 Village Court inspections in Central Province; and
- Under the Revitalisation Program:
 - Conducted review of the *Village Courts Act* and Regulations for the MOMASE Region (7–13 April);
 - Commenced recruitment of Grade 12 graduates into Village Court roles, with 81 Grade 12's appointed as Clerks (50) and Peace Officers (31) by NCD, Central, and Manus Provinces.
- Expanded Village Court and Land Mediation services nationwide, with Village Courts handling approximately 50,000 cases annually, significantly reducing escalation of community disputes.
- Advanced construction and rollout of Village Court Houses and Community Justice Service Centres, supported by a government allocation of K8 million.
- Initiated recruitment of approximately 7,000 Grade 12 Peace Officers and Clerks to strengthen capacity, literacy, and productivity in the Village Court system.
- Secured MoUs with multiple provinces following the Law and Justice Sector–Provincial Administrators Dialogue to implement the Village Courts Policy and Crime Prevention Strategy. In some cases; the instability at the Provincial & District Administrations affected the progress of MoUs as well as the delay in funding of the programs at the National and Subnational levels.



Figure 25 Bootless Bay Village Court House Commissioning Snapshots



Figure 26 Village Courts Act for Momase Region snapshots



Figure 27 Village Courts Officials Training in Central Snapshots



Figure 28 Village Court Officials Training in East New Britain Snapshots

OPERATIONAL DATA

The operational data reflects the Village Courts and Land Mediation Secretariat's core field and administrative functions in supporting the operation of Village Courts and land mediation services. It captures Village Court audits, appointments and revocations of Village Court Officials and Land Mediators, payroll administration, capacity-building activities and the receipt of Quarterly Returns from provinces.

Activity	Summary
Village Court Audit	54 VC Areas were audited and 463 VC Officials were interviewed in Milne Bay Province
Appointment of Land Mediators	262 Permanent Land Mediators appointed
Revocation of Land Mediators	97 Permanent Land Mediators revoked
Appointment of VC Officials	581 VC Officials Appointed.
Revocation of VC Officials	590 VC Officials Revoked. Facilitated the revocations in 2024 larger component is from the VC review exercise conducted in Manus and Central Provinces.
Payroll	1, 132 Land Mediators on Payroll 11, 733 VC Officials on Payroll from the 16, 412 funded positions
7x Trainings done	2 x VCOs Training conducted in Central, East New Britain and Manus Provinces 3x Interim Protection Order (IPO) Training conducted under the Family Protection Act, in NCD, Central, East New Britain and Eastern Highlands Provinces 2x Case Management System Training conducted with village court officials in Central and East Britain Provinces.
Quarterly Returns	162 VCQRs received from 6 Provinces

Table 4 Summary of Village Courts Activities



Figure 29. Gama/Zu Village Court House in Morobe Province, is one of the selected Village Court Areas to see the first ever VC House constructed and built at Mutzing Station. It was completed and commissioned on March 29th 2024.



Figure 30. Village Court Houses in use in 4 Village Court Areas named

2.2.3 Parole Services

Parole Services contributes to Corporate Objective 2 by supporting the conditional release and supervised reintegration of eligible offenders into the community, in accordance with the *Parole Act* 1991. Under the Key Result Area *Enhanced Parole Service Delivery*, the service provides secretariat support to the Parole Board and oversees the supervision and management of parole orders.

Effective parole administration promotes public safety while supporting offender rehabilitation and reintegration. Through structured supervision, risk assessment, compliance monitoring, and enforcement where required, Parole Services reduces recidivism and facilitates successful reintegration.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- The first Parole Board Meeting deliberated on 17 cases, resulting in 11 grants, 1 refusal, and 5 deferrals;
- Total parole caseload stood at 252, comprising 227 males and 25 females;
- Conducted Parole Board public awareness through NBC FM 100 Radio Talkback Show, featuring the Secretary, Dr Eric Kwa;
- Completed the Parole Strategic Plan 2024–2027, pending Branch review;
- Progressed the Parole Database and Video Conferencing System Project, with:
 - ✓ MOU signed,
 - ✓ Certificate of Compliance issued by DICT,
 - ✓ Building construction 80% complete,
 - ✓ Database software development at 89%, and
 - ✓ Equipment procurement at 75% completion;
- DICT created and allocated a dedicated server under the subdomain parole.slos.gov.pg;
- Completed Parole Annual Reports for 2022 and 2023, pending submission for review;
- Printed the Parole Annual Reports (2017–2021), ready for tabling in Parliament; and
- Completed drafts of the *Parole Act* Review and Parole Policy, and finalised key business process documents, including:
 - i) Parole Guidelines;
 - ii) Parole Regulations;
 - iii) Release on Licence (ROL) Handbook/Guidelines; and
 - iv) Power of Mercy Guidelines.

OPERATIONAL DATA

The operational data reflects the active parole caseload managed by Parole Services across provincial offices, showing the distribution of male and female parolees under supervision. A total of 261 active parole cases were recorded, comprising 234 males and 27 females, with the highest caseloads recorded in NCD (70), Central (34), Kimbe (34) and Kundiawa (22).

Office	Male	Female	Total
Kundiawa	18	4	22
Goroka	9	2	11
Buka	1	0	1
NCD	62	8	70
Central	31	3	34
Lae	0	0	0
Mt Hagen	4	5	9
Mendi	5	0	5
Kainantu	13	3	16
Popondetta	7	0	7
Maprik	0	0	0
Wewak	8	0	8
Kerema	2	0	2
Daru	0	0	0
Madang	10	0	10
Manus	2	0	2
Jiwaka	0	1	1
Kiunga	0	0	0
Kavieng	1	0	1
Alotau	12	0	12
Bulolo	0	0	0
Vanimo	12	0	12
Kimbe	33	1	34
Kokopo	4	0	4
TOTAL ACTIVE CASELOAD	234	27	261

Table 5 Parole Active Caseload in 2024



Figure 31. Parole, ROL, POM Process Awareness at Beon CI

2.2.4 Juvenile Justice Services

Juvenile Justice Service (JJS) supports Corporate Objective 2 by ensuring the protection, rehabilitation, and reintegration of children in conflict with the law in accordance with the *Juvenile Justice Act 2014*. Under the Key Result Area *Better Protection, Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Juveniles*, the service prioritises child-centred and rights-based approaches that emphasise rehabilitation, diversion, and reintegration over punitive responses.

The service delivers institutional and community-based interventions, oversees juvenile rehabilitation facilities, and supports compliance and reintegration programs. Through its secretariat role to the National Juvenile Justice Committee, JJS also strengthens sector coordination, policy oversight, and alignment with national and international juvenile justice standards.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Visit by the Minister Counsellor of the Australian High Commission, Ms Penny Morton, to Erap Boys Town, engaging with 15 juveniles;
- Commenced Erap Boys Town Cocoa Nursery Project, with over 4,000 seedlings established and an additional 10,000 seedlings ordered from the ENB Cocoa Board;
- Medical examinations conducted at Erap Boys Town by Morobe Catholic Church Health Services;
- Resumption of maintenance and rehabilitation works at Wewak Boys Town, following procurement of K330,000 worth of materials;
- Mabiri Juvenile Rehabilitation Centre housed six juveniles;
- Developed a proposal for the Bihute Juvenile Remand Centre, commencing with K80,000 refurbishment, with counter-funding negotiations underway between DJAG and Eastern Highlands Provincial Administration;
- Conducted four compliance inspections at:
 - ✓ Kavieng CS Juvenile Wing,
 - ✓ Erap Boys Town,
 - ✓ Bomana Correctional Institution, and
 - ✓ Mabiri Juvenile Rehabilitation Centre;
- NEC endorsed the Juvenile Justice Regulation 2024 under NEC Decision No. 111/2024, with gazettal in progress through OFLC;
- Strengthened partnerships through:
 - ✓ DJAG–Scouts PNG MoU review meeting;
 - ✓ Crime prevention intervention report on the Ravat Youth Rehabilitation Project (Kokopo);
 - ✓ Receipt of nine awareness reports from the Salvation Army in Central Province schools;
 - ✓ Development of an M&E Matrix for the Mabiri Juvenile Rehabilitation Centre MoU;

- ✓ Engagement with Morobe Catholic Church Health Services on a proposed MoU; and
 - ✓ Drafting of three partnerships MoUs for Central, Manus, and New Ireland Provinces;
- Juvenile rehabilitation programs delivered, including:
 - ✓ Arts and novel writing training for six juveniles at Beon CS (facilitated by DWU);
 - ✓ Upholstery training for 11 juvenile, probationers and parolees; and
 - ✓ Provision of musical instruments and painting materials to Erap Boys Town; and
 - Strengthened volunteer programs through two refresher trainings in New Ireland and Manus Provinces, with 19 Volunteer Juvenile Justice Officers trained, and induction sessions conducted with new Salvation Army cadets.

OPERATIONAL DATA

The operational data highlights the field-based awareness and outreach activities undertaken by Village Juvenile Justice Officers (VJJOs) as part of juvenile justice service delivery. The programs focused on engaging schools and communities to raise awareness of juvenile justice, child protection, offending prevention and the role of rehabilitation and community support

VJJO Programs



Awareness at Barakau Primary by Salvos VJJOs



Awareness at Tubuserea Primary by Salvos VJJOs



Awareness at Manugoro Primary School by Salvos VJJOs



Awareness at Lealea community by Salvos VJJOs



Awareness at Pogi Community by Salvos VJJOs



Figure 32. Volunteer Juvenile Justice Officers (VJJOs) in action

2.3 Enhanced Strategic Partnerships for Effective Coordination of National, Sub-National and Sectoral functions

Corporate Objective 3 focuses on strengthening strategic partnerships and coordination mechanisms across the law and justice sector to ensure coherent, effective, and results-driven delivery of sectoral functions at national and sub-national levels. The objective recognises that improved coordination, collaboration, and information-sharing among sector institutions and partners is critical to achieving sustainable justice, security, and crime prevention outcomes.

Through strengthened sector governance, coordinated planning and monitoring, and multi-stakeholder partnerships, this objective supports integrated service delivery, reduces duplication, and enhances alignment between national priorities and provincial and community-level implementation.

2.3.1 Law and Justice Sector Secretariat

The Law and Justice Sector Secretariat, operating within the broader Law and Justice Sector/Social, Law and Order Sector (LJS/SLOS) framework, supports Corporate Objective 3 by coordinating sector-wide programs, policies, and activities at both national and sub-national levels.

Under the Key Result Area *Improved Sector Coordination at National and Sub-National Levels*, the Secretariat is responsible for sector planning, coordination, monitoring, and evaluation of law and justice programs and initiatives. Through its convening and coordination role, the Secretariat strengthens sector coherence, facilitates inter-agency collaboration, and supports alignment between sector strategies, partner investments, and implementation at provincial and district levels.

Effective performance under this KRA enhances accountability, improves information flow, and supports evidence-based decision-making across the law and justice sector.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- The successful review of the Social, Law and Order Sector (SLOS) Strategic Framework through strong inter-agency collaboration.
- The strengthening of coordination across 16 law and justice agencies under the National Coordinating Mechanism (NCM) and
- The continued collaboration and strategic partnerships with EU, World Bank, UNICEF, UNDP, UNODC, APLJ, and other development partners across justice, governance, anti-corruption, GEDSI, and crime prevention as well as facilitation of the first-ever Law and Justice Sector–Provincial Administrators Consultative Dialogue, strengthening national–provincial coordination across all 22 provinces to accelerate access to justice



Figure 33. Gun Surrender Program – Binandere, Tamata LLG, Sohe District, Northern (Oro) Province

2.3.2 Crime Prevention Branch

The Crime Prevention Branch contributes to Corporate Objective 3 by leading and coordinating crime prevention efforts through strategic guidance, partnerships, and multi-sectoral collaboration. The Branch plays a central role in preventing, managing, and reducing crime by supporting targeted interventions that address the underlying drivers of criminal behaviour.

Under the Key Result Area *Improved Coordination of Crime Prevention Interventions and Partnerships*, the Branch works with government agencies, civil society organisations, communities, and development partners to design, monitor, and support crime prevention initiatives at national and sub-national levels. Through strengthened partnerships and coordinated approaches, the Branch promotes prevention-focused responses that complement enforcement and justice system interventions.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- The official opening & Commissioning of Bogia CJSC
- Wau Waria counter fund the Construction of CJSC following successful signing of a MoU between the Department of Justice and the Wau Waria District Development Authority
- Second Consultation Conducted with LDS. Under the MoU between LDS and the department a total of 4 crime prevention projects with LDS supported are:
 1. Cocoa

2. Coffee
 3. Balsa
 4. Water projects
- Community Justice Service Centre (CJSC) Operations
 - ✓ Angoram CJSC registered and referred cases to Police, Village Courts.
 - ✓ The Centre been utilized by National Court Circuit Data from Angoram CJSC

Reporting Agency	Number of Cases Reported	Percentage of Total
Village Courts	540	41.9%
Angoram Police	428	33.2%
Community Justice Services Centre (CJSC)	321	24.9%
Total Reports Received	1,289	100.0%

Table 6. Summary of Crime Reports by Reporting Agency, Angoram District, 2024

- Crime Prevention IEC Material

A total of 670 IEC materials have been distributed to the following:

 - ✓ 120 IEC materials distributed at the DJAG-Provincial Administration consultative workshop at Gateway Hotel, NCD.
 - ✓ 80 IEC material were given to DJAG Library for display.
 - ✓ 250 IEC materials give to Femili PNG in Lae by CP team.
 - ✓ 220 IEC materials distributed in the awareness drive organised by UPNG students in Aroma, Central Province.
 - ✓ Also 20 cartons of school reading books have been given to Maopa Primary School in Aroma, Central Province.



Figure 34 Opening and commissioning of Bogia CJSC by the Minister for Justice and Attorney General, Hon. Pila Niningi in the company of Dr. Eric Kwa Secretary for Justice, Mr. Leslie Mamau Public Solicitor, Mr. Andrew Oaeka Secretary for Treasury, Bogia DDAs and other invited guests. Senior DJAG Officials, Village Court Officials and Bogia Community witnessed this opening.



Figure 35 Minister for Justice and Attorney General, Hon. Pila Niningi officially opened the Bogia Community Justice Centre



Figure 36 Mrs. Josephine Pitmur, Deputy Secretary JA represented DJAG, signed the MOU with Hon. Marsh Narewec, MP for Wau Waria Electorate and Chairman of Wau Waria DDA. Secondly, Wau Waria DDA paid counterpart funding of K400,000 for the construction of Wau Waria District CJSC on the same occasion.



Figure 37 Presentation of cheque to LDS and group picture with team CP and LDS Officials



Figure 38. CE & CJSC team joined other CBC branch teams attended awareness organized by UPNG students, conducted in Maopa Village, Aroma Coast, Central Province. Books and IEC materials were distributed.



Figure 39 Branch was also involved in activities organized by partners. One of this was awareness organized by the UPNG students of Rigo district, Central Province. The CPCB team was invited by CBC to take part so together with branches conducted awareness in Maopa Village, Aroma Cost, Central Province and presented 20 cartons of reading books.

2.4 Improved Governance and Accessibility and Organizational Capabilities

Corporate Division Objective 4 focuses on strengthening internal governance systems, organisational capabilities, and enabling services that support the effective delivery of law and justice functions. The objective recognises that strong institutional foundations including information management, digital systems, infrastructure, human resources, planning, and financial management are critical to ensuring accessible, accountable, and high-quality justice services.

Through improved governance, modernised systems, and strengthened organisational capacity, this objective supports a professional, well-resourced, and performance-driven Department capable of delivering its mandate efficiently at national and sub-national levels.

The Corporate support Branches supporting delivery of this objective are Library and Records Management, Information Communication Technology, Assets, Logistics and Securities Management, Human Resource Management, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation, and Finance Management Branch.

2.4.1 Library and Records Management

The Library and Records Management Branch support Corporate Objective 4 by providing efficient, secure, and accessible information and records management services across the Department. Under the Key Result Area *Improved Organisation of Information and Records Management for Users' Accessibility*, the Branch strengthens business systems, institutional memory, and decision-making through the effective management of legal records, documents, and information assets.

By improving records organisation, digitisation, and accessibility, the Branch enhances information security, transparency, and service delivery, supports compliance with record-keeping standards, and enables staff to access accurate and timely information to support operational and policy functions.

ACHIEVEMENTS

In providing information and records management services, the Library and Records Management Branch recorded the following achievements:

- Attended to a total of 15,631 clients seeking legal library and records services;
- Strengthened the centralised Library and Records Management System through continued use of the KOHA database system;
- Continued digitisation and indexing of records, including the creation of e-folders and filing index structures for eight branches;
- Completed file disposal activities at the 4-Mile Office;
- Ongoing auditing and data entry of records by officers; and
- Procured five (5) new computer sets at a total cost of K41,230.00.

2.4.2 Information Communication Technology (ICT)

The Information Communication Technology Branch supports Corporate Objective 4 by providing reliable, secure, and efficient ICT services that enable departmental operations, connectivity, and information management. Under the Key Result Area *Enhanced Information Communication Technology Systems*, the Branch is responsible for maintaining, upgrading, and securing digital systems, networks, and platforms that underpin service delivery and internal business processes.

Through strengthened ICT infrastructure, cybersecurity measures, and staff capability, the Branch enhances communication, data management, and system integration, enabling the Department to operate effectively, securely, and efficiently in an increasingly digital service environment.

ACHIEVEMENTS

While delivering ICT services, the ICT Branch achieved the following outcomes:

- Successfully onboarded the Department to DICT Cloud Services;
- Upgraded the Storage Area Network (SAN) and renewed the Virtual Local Area Network (VLAN) to support VDI users;
- Increased DJAG website bandwidth from 20GB to 50GB;
- Established connectivity for OSG Kokopo Office through installation of Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS);
- Commenced printing of DJAG staff ID cards from July;
- Renewed the two-year Veeam Backup and Replication Licence;
- Initiated preparations to replace all remote IPVPN servers with Network-Attached Storage (NAS) technology; and
- Strengthened staff capacity through training initiatives, including:
 - Four ICT officers completing a 13-week certificate program at CIET, UPNG Campus;
 - Two officers commencing Diploma studies at Datec Learning Center in July; and
 - Two officers undertook cybersecurity training in Fiji in September.

2.4.3 Assets, Logistics and Securities Management

The Assets, Logistics and Securities Management Branch supports Corporate Objective 4 by ensuring accessible, safe, and functional physical infrastructure for the delivery of law and justice services. Under the Key Result Area *Strengthened Accessibility to Law and Justice Services*, the Branch is responsible for the planning, construction, maintenance, and management of office infrastructure, staff housing, fleet, and community service facilities.

By providing secure and well-maintained facilities and transport assets, the Branch enhances service accessibility, staff safety, and operational continuity, particularly at provincial and district levels.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Five CJSC facilities in Ambunti, Yambi, Bogia, Wasu, Ijivitari, and Imbonggu were completed in 2022 but are yet to be commissioned and opened; some maintenance is now required due to prolonged non-occupation;
- CJSC Kandep (Wabag) and CJSC Obura Wanenara (EHP) received building kits; however, construction was delayed due to political and land-related issues.
- Bogia CJSC completed, commissioned and opened.
- Construction recommenced at the Bomana Parole Board Conferencing Centre and
- Refurbishment works continued at Wewak Boys Town.
- Building kits (H90 steel frames) for two district staff houses were delivered to Wasu and Palmalmal, with construction expected to commence;
- Minor repair works are yet to commence on the Madang Duplex following a recent earthquake; and
- Routine institutional housing maintenance continued for NCD institutional houses at a slow pace.
- Delivered nine new vehicles to HQ;
- Serviced eight vehicles and progressed the trade-in of two vehicles through Boroko Motors;
- Installed tracking devices in all HQ vehicles;
- Conducted Fleet Board of Survey inspections in NCD and three (3) other provinces;
- Issued safety stickers to all DJAG vehicles in HQ and provinces vehicles; and
- Completed MVIL registration, for all vehicles in NCD and provinces.

2.4.4 Human Resource Management

The Human Resource Management Branch supports Corporate Objective 4 by building a professional, capable, and productive workforce to deliver the Department's mandate. Under the Key Result Area *Improved Organisational Capabilities for Effective Service Delivery*, the Branch is responsible for workforce planning, recruitment, performance management, staff development, and employee relations.

Through effective human resource policies, systems, and practices, the Branch strengthens organisational capability, promotes accountability and professionalism, and ensures that staff are equipped with the skills, capacity, and support required to deliver quality law and justice services.

ACHIEVEMENTS

The Human Resource Management Branch planned to implement 38 programs in 2024. Of these, 36 programs were progressed and 15 completed in the first half of the year. Key achievements include:

- Completion of the proposed DJAG organisational structure;
- Updating workforce capacity data and production of the Manpower and Unattached Officers Report;
- Updating of the DJAG exit register;
- Preparation of a Retirement Comparison Report;

- Facilitation of performance appraisal processes;
- Completion of the External Recruitment and Selection Report (Batch 1 – 2022);
- Management of employee relations matters;
- Review of job descriptions;
- Completion of 2022 recruitment processes;
- Administration of employment contracts;
- Implementation of learning and development initiatives;
- Facilitation of the National Public Service Induction for 56 probationary officers;
- Support to staff on salaries and allowances; and
- Strengthening of external and strategic partnerships.
- Implemented a temporary suspension of personal loan processing to protect staff financial wellbeing, address over-indebtedness, and prepare for forthcoming payroll reforms.
- Strengthened workforce capability through Australian Government (AusAID) Scholarships, with six officers awarded for postgraduate study commencing in 2025.

2.4.5 Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (PME)

The PME Branch supports Corporate Objective 4 by strengthening strategic planning, performance measurement, and reporting systems across the Department. Under the Key Result Area *Improved Organisational Performance Measures*, the Branch ensures alignment between corporate priorities, resource allocation, and implementation through structured planning, monitoring, and evaluation processes.

By promoting evidence-based decision-making, accountability, and results-focused reporting, PME enhances organisational performance, supports continuous improvement, and strengthens oversight of departmental service delivery.

ACHIEVEMENTS

The PME Branch recorded the following:

- Launched the DJAG Corporate Plan 2024–2028, providing a clear strategic framework aligned to Vision 2050, MTDP IV and whole-of-sector reform priorities.
- DJAG Annual Plan 2024 printed;
- DJAG Year Planner 2024 printed and distributed;
- Support 2025 Planning and successful Budget submission;
- Successfully conducted 4 quarterly review workshops;
- Ongoing preparation of the 2025 PIP and Development Budget submissions;
- Submission of the 2023 Annual Management Report to the Secretary's Office for review; and
- Continued management of fortnightly reporting registers and processes.

2.4.6 Finance Management Branch

The Finance Management Branch supports Corporate Objective 4 by providing effective and efficient financial management, accounting, and resource control services in

accordance with Government of Papua New Guinea requirements. Under the Key Result Area *Improved Operational Efficiency for Effective Service Delivery*, the Branch manages financial planning, budgeting, expenditure control, and financial reporting to support the Department's operational and strategic objectives.

Through sound financial governance and responsible stewardship of public resources, the Branch strengthens fiscal discipline, transparency, and value-for-money, enabling the Department to deliver law and justice services sustainably and efficiently.

ACHIEVEMENTS

In delivering effective and compliant financial management services, the Finance Management Branch recorded the following outcomes during the year:

- Receipt of warrants for the period February–May;
- Receipt of both Goods and Services (GS) and Development Budget (DB) warrants as follows:
 - ✓ Infrastructure and Capital Works warrant of K1 million;
 - ✓ Audit Recovery of State Funds warrant of K400,000;
 - ✓ National Land Tenure Conversion Establishment warrant of K300,000;
 - ✓ CNSP warrant of K1 million. Establishment of CNSP Donor Trust Accounts at BSP Bank, with an initial deposit of K798,711.96 now available for use and
 - ✓ Solicitor General Cash Management warrant of K300,000.

2.5 Innovative Leadership and Sound Corporate Governance for Improved Systems Administration

Corporate Objective 5 focuses on strengthening leadership, governance, accountability, and innovation to support effective systems administration across the Department. The objective recognises that strong executive leadership, evidence-driven decision-making, robust internal controls, inclusive leadership practices, and transparent procurement and communication systems are essential to sustaining institutional integrity and organisational performance.

Through improved corporate governance frameworks, data-informed management, assurance mechanisms, and ethical leadership practices, this objective supports a responsive, accountable, and forward-looking organisation capable of adapting to change while maintaining public trust.

The Corporate Branches that supports the delivery of this objective are the Executive Management Branch, Data for Justice Branch, Internal Audit Branch, Equity and Leadership Branch, Procurement and Public Relations.

2.5.1 The Executive Management Branch (EMB)

The EMB support Corporate Objective 5 by providing strategic leadership at all levels of the organisation through a values-based corporate governance system. Under the Key Result Area *Executive Leadership and Total Quality Management*, the Branch provides executive direction, oversight, and coordination to ensure alignment between organisational values, strategic priorities, and systems administration.

Through strong executive leadership and the application of total quality management principles, EMB promotes accountability, continuous improvement, and organisational excellence, enabling the Department to operate effectively, consistently, and in accordance with sound corporate governance practices.

Achievements

- Launched the DJAG Corporate Plan 2024–2028, providing a clear strategic framework aligned to Vision 2050, MTDP IV and whole-of-sector reform priorities.
- Led the first-ever Law and Justice Sector–Provincial Administrators Consultative Dialogue, strengthening national–provincial coordination across all 22 provinces to accelerate access to justice.
- Secured Government approval and funding for Papua New Guinea to host the 44th Pacific Islands Law Officers’ Network (PILON) Conference in 2025, reinforcing PNG’s leadership role in regional legal cooperation.
- Coordinated high-level sector engagement to advance justice reform priorities, including law reform, institutional strengthening, and international legal cooperation.
- Successfully launched Volume 3 of the Attorney-General’s Law Journal, strengthening legal scholarship, policy dialogue, and professional integrity within the justice sector.
- Leadership support expanded participation of senior legal professionals and academics in the Law Journal’s editorial process, reinforcing quality assurance and institutional knowledge-sharing.
- Provide leadership support to strengthen investigative capacity through workplace investigation training delivered in partnership with UNDP and supported by the European Union under the PNG Anti-Corruption Project.
- Provided leadership support to enhance national and regional enforcement capability through participation in wildlife trafficking and cybercrime investigation training, improving responses to emerging transnational crimes.
- Provided whole-of-department leadership to deliver the Department’s 2024 Performance Report, aligned with the Chief Secretary’s circular instructions on KRAs and whole-of-government reporting.
- Successfully coordinated sector-wide governance and reform initiatives, including decentralisation of justice functions and strengthening of national–provincial service delivery arrangements.
- Led the successful transfer of Village Court functions, powers, and funding to the Autonomous Region of Bougainville (AROB), marking a major milestone in decentralisation of justice services.

- Oversaw the establishment and operation of 10 governance committees across DJAG, strengthening integrity, transparency, accountability, and leadership development.
- Achieved gazettal of the ICAC Regulation and certification of amendments to the *Proceeds of Crime Act*, completing key elements of the ICAC enabling framework.
- Supported the graduation of 16 integrity officials from Griffith University under the Foundational Professional Integrity Course.
- Delivered anti-corruption capacity-building to over 300 public officials across Port Moresby, Goroka, Kavieng and Alotau in administrative investigations, corruption risk assessments, and internal anti-corruption policy development.
- Established the ICAC Oversight Committee framework and Independent Secretariat, with K1 million appropriated in the 2025 Budget toward its operationalisation.
- Led Papua New Guinea's historic participation in International Court of Justice (ICJ) proceedings on Climate Change, with PNG lawyers appearing before the world's highest court for the first time.
- Strengthened national legal capacity by exposing young PNG lawyers to high-level international litigation and advisory proceedings.

2.5.2 Data for Justice Branch

The Data for Justice Branch supports Corporate Objective 5 by providing and strengthening the use of quality, authentic, and reliable research to inform sound policy development and evidence-based decision-making across the Department. The Branch plays a foundational role in establishing research systems, data capabilities, and analytical frameworks that support effective governance and improved systems administration.

As an emerging function, the Branch is focused on building institutional research capacity, forming strategic research partnerships, and developing a centralised justice data and research hub to support policy formulation, planning, and innovation.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Completed Job Descriptions (JDs) for all R&D positions;
- Engaged four researchers on Short-Term Contract (STC) arrangements, representing approximately 50% of R&D manpower capacity.
- Achieved approximately 60% provision of computers and office equipment for R&D operations;
- Progressed the Draft Research Policy, with more than 50% completed.
- Progressed DJAG–UPNG research partnership negotiations on *Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) in Papua New Guinea*, currently at 45% completion;
- Advanced establishment of the Data Hub, now 95% completed;
- Provided research support to four officers undertaking Master's studies at Divine Word University (DWU), including assistance with major research projects.
- Conducted nine consultative meetings with DJAG Branch Heads and Directors;
- Facilitated one stakeholder forum;
- Delivered one presentation on the role and mandate of the R&D function;

- Attended two research seminars at the National Research Institute (NRI), delivered by the United States Institute of Peace, focusing on peace promotion at national and regional levels; and
- Completed resubmission of a doctoral thesis.

2.5.3 Internal Audit Unit

The Internal Audit Unit (IAU) supports Corporate Objective 5 by providing independent assurance on the effectiveness of corporate governance, risk management, and internal control processes across the Department. The Unit plays a critical role in strengthening accountability, compliance, and integrity by assessing whether systems, processes, and controls are operating effectively and in accordance with public sector standards.

Through objective audit and review functions, the Internal Audit Unit supports management in identifying risks, improving controls, and enhancing organisational performance, thereby strengthening sound corporate governance and systems administration.

ACHIEVEMENTS

In fulfilling its core function of ensuring effective risk management and sound financial controls, the Internal Audit Unit undertook the following activities during the reporting period:

- Conducted three Regional Centres Asset Verification Audits / Boards of Survey (BOS) in Lae, Rabaul, and Mt. Hagen, with reports submitted to the Secretary's Office for endorsement; one report has already been endorsed;
- Completed vetting of Office of the Public Trustee (OPT) – HQ Bank Reconciliation Statements (BRS) for Minor Trust Accounts (TAs), with additional coverage to include three Deceased Estate Accounts and one Minor TA and one Corporate TA;
- Completed a desktop audit for the CJSI Imbonggu District Building Project, with similar audits planned for other completed CJSI facilities; and
- Conducted a Village Courts Provincial Pilot Project Inspection in Huhu LLG, Alotau, in collaboration with the Department of Treasury (DoT).

2.5.4 Leadership, Equity and Integrity (formerly GEDSI) Branch

The Leadership, Integrity and Equity Unit supports Corporate Objective 5 by promoting values-based ethical leadership and strengthening good governance practices across the organisation. The Branch plays a key role in embedding equity, integrity, and ethical standards into institutional processes, leadership practices, and organisational culture.

Through leadership development, equity initiatives, and governance support, the Branch contributes to strengthened business processes, inclusive leadership, and improved organisational resilience, reinforcing public trust and accountability in systems administration.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Coordinated the first-ever Mental Health and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (PSEAH) Focal Point Training across government agencies, positioning DJAG as a leader in safeguarding and workforce wellbeing.
- Strengthened institutional capacity to address mental health, psychosocial support, and workplace safeguarding through EU-supported initiatives.

3 DEPARTMENT'S MAIN ISSUES AND CONSTRAINTS

Through out the 2024 fiscal year, the implementation of key programs and projects across the Department of Justice and Attorney General (DJAG) was affected by a range of systemic, financial, and operational challenges. While the Department continued to deliver core legal and justice services, these constraints impacted the pace, coverage, and consistency of program and project implementation, particularly at provincial and community levels.

Human Resource Constraints -Throughout 2024, persistent manpower shortages and delayed recruitment processes constrained the Department's capacity to fully implement planned programs and projects. Extended vacancies in technical, administrative, and operational roles increased workloads on existing staff and slowed implementation across legal, policy, and community justice functions.

Delays in Payroll Processing for Contract Staff - During the year, new employees were engaged on Short-Term Contract (STC) to support program and project delivery and paid from the operational funds, due to experienced delays in being placed on payroll due to the processing timelines within the Department of Personnel Management. These delays in the on-boarding at DPM affected staff morale, continuity of work, and the timely delivery of program outputs, particularly in time-bound and donor-supported activities.

Late Release of Warrants and Funding Delays - The late release of financial warrants during 2024 affected the timely commencement and continuation of planned activities. Funding delays disrupted procurement, training, travel, and infrastructure works, resulting in the rescheduling or scaling back of several program and project activities.

Inconsistent Funding of Public Investment Program (PIP) Projects - PIP-funded justice projects continued to experience inconsistent funding flows throughout 2024. This resulted in stalled or delayed infrastructure projects, including justice and community court facilities, limiting service expansion and affecting access to justice in affected locations.

Limited Management Feedback and Decision-Making Delays - In some instances delays in management feedback and decision-making affected program responsiveness

and corrective action. This constrained implementation momentum and reduced the ability of operational teams to address emerging issues in a timely manner.

Staff Fatigue and Burnout - Sustained workload pressures, staffing gaps, and funding uncertainties contributed to staff fatigue and burnout during the year. These pressures affected productivity, attendance, and overall program effectiveness, with flow-on impacts for service delivery.

Collectively, these implementation challenges affected the Department's ability to deliver legal and justice services in a consistent, timely, and scalable manner. Impacts were most evident in delays to community justice initiatives, court support services, training and capacity-building programs, and justice infrastructure delivery. Provincial and district-level service users experienced slower roll-out of services and reduced operational efficiency in some areas.

4 DEPARTMENT'S MAJOR RISKS

The Internal Audit Unit (IAU) ensures that the Department applies a structured risk management approach to identify, assess, and mitigate key organisational risks. The table below summarises the major risks, assessed impacts and likelihoods, and the corresponding control measures currently in place.

Risk Category	Risk Description	Potential Impact	Likelihood	Key Controls / Mitigation Measures
Financial Risk	Non-compliance with the <i>Public Finances (Management) Act</i> (PFMA), Treasury Instructions, and internal financial controls	• Financial loss or misuse of public funds • Adverse audit findings • Reputational damage • Delays in funding releases	Medium	• Mandatory compliance with PFMA and Treasury Instructions • Budget controls and warrant-based expenditure • Regular financial reporting and acquittals • Establishment of Budget Steering Management Committee that screens all requisitions prior to Section 32's approval • Oversight by Finance Branch and Internal

				Audit Unit (IAU) • Management review of expenditure and commitments
Operational Risk	Weaknesses in internal processes, systems, human capacity, and human error affecting service delivery	• Reduced efficiency and service delays • Inaccurate or inconsistent data • Increased workload pressures • Reduced accountability	Medium-High	• Development and implementation of documented business processes and SOPs • Clear role delineation and supervision • Capacity-building and staff coaching • Management oversight and corrective actions • IAU reviews of internal controls and operational compliance
Strategic Risk	Misalignment between branch activities and DJAG's Corporate Plan and long-term strategic objectives	• Failure to achieve corporate outcomes • Inefficient use of resources • Weak performance reporting • Reduced confidence from stakeholders and partners	Medium	• Alignment of branch work plans to the DJAG Corporate Plan • Performance monitoring through KPIs and KRAs • Regular management and executive reporting • Strategic oversight by senior management • IAU assurance on governance and performance frameworks

Table 6 Risk Management Matrix

Risk management is embedded within the broader corporate governance, accountability, and performance management framework. The Internal Audit Unit (IAU) provides independent assurance to management on the adequacy and effectiveness of risk management, internal controls, and governance processes.

Management remains responsible for identifying and managing risks within their respective offices and branches, while the IAU supports continuous improvement through reviews, advisory services, and compliance assessments. Ongoing monitoring and periodic reporting ensure that risks are proactively managed and aligned with the Department's strategic priorities.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

5 DEPARTMENTS ANNUAL FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE (Appropriation vs Warrants)

PROGRAM EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

Corporate Affairs (Revised Budget: K5.26 million)

Corporate Affairs expended K1.64 million against warrants totaling K2.79 million, supporting executive services, governance, ICT operations, human resource management, internal audit, and assets and facilities management. While organizational performance improved, delays in ICT and HR recruitment limited full delivery of planned reforms.

Justice Administration (Revised Budget: K3.02 million)

Justice Administration programs expended K1.06 million, supporting probation, parole, juvenile justice, community courts, and research and development initiatives. Priority investments, including the Village Court Official (VCO) Pilot Monitoring and Evaluation Project, were fully implemented. However, delayed warrants restricted provincial travel, oversight visits, and community-level coordination.

Ministerial Support Services (Revised Budget: K434,000)

Ministerial Support Services expended K168,629, ensuring continuity of ministerial operations, sector coordination, and public engagement activities.

National Crime Prevention Policy and Program (Revised Budget: K2.44 million)

Programs under Human Rights, Restorative Justice, and the Law and Justice Sector Secretariat (LJSS) expended K460,675. Funding limitations slowed implementation of the National Crime Prevention Strategy and the Sorcery Accusation-Related Violence (SARV) National Action Plan. Donor support particularly from the European Union enabled minimum-level continuation of priority interventions.

State Legal Services and Legal Policy (Revised Budget: K25.99 million)

This program accounted for the largest share of expenditure, totalling K20.99 million. Key components included:

1. Legal Brief-Outs: K20.0 million in warrants; K19.88 million expended
2. Solicitor-General Operations: High-volume constitutional and appellate litigation, resulting in an estimated K300 million in savings through successful dismissed claims in favour of State.
3. Judicial and Legal Services Commission (JLSC) Secretariat: Support to five JLSC meetings and extensive judicial and quasi-judicial appointments
4. Oceans Affairs and Legal Policy: Support to NEC-approved National Oceans Policy and legislative drafting priorities

These expenditures reflect sustained demand for State legal representation arising from legislative reform, constitutional matters, and complex litigation. Despite fiscal and operational constraints, DJAG demonstrated strong delivery across its reform agenda in 2024. High warrant utilisation,

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

major legal and policy achievements, substantial savings to the State, and strengthened community justice services underscore the Department's commitment to building a safe, secure and peaceful society.

The 2024 budget-to-expenditure profile from the bar graph above indicates that DJAG's funding challenges were primarily driven by delayed warrant releases, cash-flow constraints, and expenditure rigidity rather than weak program execution. While State Legal Services and Legal Policy achieved high utilization due to non-discretionary litigation demands, other programs experienced under-execution as a result of restricted funding access and phased releases. These constraints limited operational flexibility, delayed planned reforms, and increased reliance on donor funding to sustain priority justice and crime prevention initiatives

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

5.1 Annexure 1: 2024 Financial Report

**THE SECRETARY FOR JUSTICE AND ATTORNEY GENERAL'S
FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

1. Principal Activities of the Department of Justice and Attorney General

The Principal Activities of the Department is to ensure the efficient, effective and expeditious settlement of disputes through the Justice System. The maintenance of social order according to the rule of law; to promote a social order according to the rule of law, to promote a just and caring society consistent with human rights and dignity and to support economic development.

2. The Approach

The Approach I have taken in the preparation and presentation of these reports and statements is with the specific intention to inject greater accountability and transparency into the Department's financial operation and management under my leadership. Hence, these financial report and financial statements present a full, fair and complete disclosure of all financial transactions for the year ended 31 December 2024. With the intention to account for every kina that was given to the Department for the period, as our budget for our custodian- ship and our expenditure, to achieve our functional roles and responsibilities and ultimately the mission and vision for which we stand – **TO ACHIEVE A JUST, SAFE AND SECURE SOCIETY**.

3. The Results

The operational result of my Department; unlike that of a trading enterprise, measured by a profit and loss statement and statement of assets and liabilities, on the accrual basis of accounting. Whereas, my Department is like any other government department. The result of our operation, our ability and capability to effectively implement and manage our resources and affairs according to our national budget; is measured by the outcome of our budget execution. Our results are reported and presented in the financial reports or accountability statements, as legally required under the provisions of the Public Finance Management Act. The main purpose of preparing and presenting these statements is to promote public accountability. These reports are given hereafter, providing for the basis of measuring the results of our operation for the period.

I therefore, have the pleasure to present the Department of Justice and Attorney General's Financial Report for the year ended 31 December 2024.



DR ERIC KWA, PhD
Secretary for Justice

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

The Appropriation

The departments appropriation covers the initial funds approved for the department by the National Parliament of Papua New Guinea, the revised appropriation funds approved by the Department of Treasury during the year and the approved funds released to the department, by the Department of Finance.

The initial recurrent budget appropriation for 2024 by the National Parliament of PNG was K144,431,149. The final revised recurrent budget appropriation of K169,585,042 was allocated to the department.

The available funds released for the year ended 31st December 2024 by the Department of Finance is K166,259,344 against the department's actual expenditure of K168,369,314. Therefore, there is a variance in the department's actual recurrent budget expenditure totaling K2,001,102.

K77,770,000 was the initial development budget appropriation by the National Parliament of PNG, at the time of writing this report the revised appropriation and warrant released for the period was not available. However, a total of K45,520,164 was expended by the department for its development budget.

The details for the recurrent and development budget program expenditure for the year ended is provided on pages 8 to 12.

The Actual Expenditure

The department for the period expended a total of K213,381,010. This comprised of K168,260,446 for the recurrent expenditure and K45,120,564 for its development budget expenditure.

The department for the year ended 31 December 2023 expended a total of K169,932,646.64. This comprised of K152,938,438 for the recurrent expenditure and K16,994,208 for its development budget expenditure.

The summary of the actual expenditures for year ended 31 December 2024 in comparison to the actual ex-

**RECURRENT BUDGET ACTUAL EXPENDITURE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

Program	Notes	2023 K	2024 K
Administration and Improvement of Laws and the Legal System		27,245,295	27,181,982
Top Management and General Administration		42,485,380	61,183,449
Community Justice		22,458,363	21,605,195
Land Mediators Allowances		3,968,234	3,851,147
Village Court Allowances		56,347,170	54,004,675
Ministerial Services		433,996	433,998
		<u>152,938,438</u>	<u>168,260,446</u>

**DEVELOPMENT (PIP) BUDGET ACTUAL EXPENDITURE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

Program	Notes	2023 K	2024 K
Administration and Improvement of Laws and the Legal System		-	2,719,169
Top Management and General Administration		-	34,378,490
Community Justice		-	3,356,174
Capacity Building		15,996,851	1,899,549
Capital Investment		997,357	2,767,184
		<u>16,994,208</u>	<u>45,120,564</u>

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

The Drawing Account

Because the Account is defined as a drawing account, by definition the cash reimbursement must equal the total value of cheques drawn for a time, therefore in theory, when all cheques drawn are presented, the balance in the bank must be zero.

In practice, it may not be the case, due to the outstanding cash reimbursements, cheques drawn are not presented, direct debits and credits are yet to be cleared in the bank or vice versa in the cash book at end of balance date.

The total net income for the drawing account for the period is K38,429,626 comprising of a opening debit balance of K12,762,713 and total receipts of K51,232,339. The total expenditure for the drawing account for the period is K52,379,282. The net income matched against the net expenditure gives a debit balance of K13,909,656. This deficit represents the accounts 'Unpresented cheques', which are yet to be presented to the bank as at 31st December 2024.

The Reconciliation of the Drawing Account with the Bank Account, shows that the Cash Book balance of K13,909,656 agrees with the Bank Account balance of K13,909,656, indicating good stewardship.

The Drawing Account shows an increase in total receipts by K10,434,525 for the period 31 December 2024 and also, an increase in total expenditure by K4,602,894.

The details to the drawing account are provided for on pages 13 to 21.

Furthermore, the details of the Drawing account for the year ended 31 December 2023 against the Drawing account for the year ended 31 December 2024 are represented below:

	Notes	2023 PGK	2024 PGK
DRAWING ACCOUNT			
Opening balance		(5,784,139)	(12,762,713)
Total Receipts		40,797,814	51,232,339
		35,013,675	38,469,626
Total Payments		(47,776,388)	(52,379,282)
Bank Statement balance as per Cash Book Balance as at 31 December, 2024		(12,762,713)	(13,909,656)

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

Trust Accounts

The Trust Accounts are established as directed by the Minister responsible for Finance or in other cases prescribed by any other law –

- a) to receive moneys held by the State as trustee; or
- b) to receive the proceeds of commercial or trading activities carried on by any arm, agents or instrumentality of the state; or
- c) for such other purpose as may be approved by the Minister.

All monies appropriated, received from dealing with any articles purchased or produced, paid by any person for the purpose of the trust account must be paid to the credit of the Trust Account.

Moneys paid out of the Trust Account are, neither for the purpose of the Trust Account nor as authorized by law and if a sufficient credit is available in the account.

The Department Head of a Department responsible for the Trust Account shall ensure the management and operation of that account.

The Department manages and operates the trust accounts listed below:

- ◆ Library Trust Account,
- ◆ Legal Fees and Brief Out's Trust Account, and
- ◆ The DJAG General Trust Account.

The current status and the operational results of the trust accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024, giving details of income and expenditure are provided for in the report on pages 22 to 31.

The Net Results of the Library Trust Account is a credit balance of K818,278, Legal Fees and Brief Out's Trust Account is a credit balance of K673,935 and the DJAG General Trust Account is a credit balance of K4,759,304.

The details of the Trust accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 against the Drawing account for the year ended 31 December 2024 are represented below:

	Notes	2023 PGK	2024 PGK
LIBRARY TRUST ACCOUNT			
Opening balance		607,274	712,084
Total Receipts		307,307	1,747,808
		914,581	2,459,892
Total Payments		(202,497)	(1,641,614)
Bank Statement balance as per Cash Book as at 31 December, 2024		712,084	818,278

The Library Trust Account shows an increase in total receipts by K1,440,501 for the period 31 December 2024 and also, an increase in total expenditure by K1,439,117.

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Notes	2023 PGK	2024 PGK
LEGAL FEES AND BRIEF OUTS TRUST ACCOUNT			
Opening balance		198,549	624,897
Total Receipts		2,175,974	50,867
		2,374,523	675,764
Total Payments		(1,749,626)	(1,829)
Bank Statement balance as per Cash Book as at 31 December, 2024		624,897	673,935

The Legal Fees and Brief Out's Trust Account shows a decrease in total receipts by K2,125,107 for the period 31 December 2024 and also, a decrease in total expenditure by K1,747,797.

	Notes	2023 PGK	2024 PGK
DJAG TRUST ACCOUNT			
Opening balance		1,408,819	1,034,177
Total Receipts		1,505,271	7,013,639
		2,914,090	8,047,816
Total Payments		(1,879,912)	(3,288,513)
Bank Statement balance as per Cash Book as at 31 December, 2024		1,034,177	4,759,304

The DJAG General Trust Account shows an increase in total receipts by K5,508,368 for the period 31 December 2024 and also, an increase in total expenditure by K1,408,601.

Furthermore, there is a total of K114,594 in unrepresented cheques for the period.

Fixed Assets

The Department Fixed Asset Register to date, has not been updated. A register for 'Office Equipment, Furniture and Fittings', purchased through the recurrent budget expenditure for the year was formulated, at the time of producing this report. A total of K139,733 was expended for 'office equipment, furniture and fittings', for the year ended 31 December, 2024.

The summary of the register, is provided for on page 32.

Other Disclosures

The Department of Justice and Attorney General operates as a function of the National Government and is required to comply with the requirements and other disclosures requirements under Section 3 (3) of the Public Finance Management Act 2006 (as amended).

THE RECURRENT BUDGET

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR PROGRAMS BY VOTE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Code	Appropriation Description	Notes	2024 K
	<i>Administration and Improvement of Laws and the Legal System</i>		
10248000	State Solicitor		9,533,319
10250000	Solicitor General		11,176,047
12002000	Commercial Law		200,890
13223000	Law and Justice Sector Secretariat		1,898,513
17824000	Village Court Officials Pilot M&E		89,996
11308000	Department of Attorney General		<u>4,283,218</u>
			27,181,982
	<i>Top Management and General Administration</i>		
10242000	Top Management		10,666,021
10243000	Policy Planning and Co-ordination		1,464,609
10244000	Financial Management and Planning		2,538,047
10245000	Human Resource Management		3,601,560
10246000	Information Management Systems		3,310,376
10247000	Deceased Estates		5,896,457
11643000	Legal Policy		2,460,811
11644000	Brief Outs		26,422,699
11755000	Internal Audit Services		266,999
11932000	Properties and Security		4,328,876
11933000	Judicial and Legal Services Commission (JLSC) Secretariat		<u>226,995</u>
			61,183,449
	<i>Community Justice</i>		
10253000	Community Based Corrections		5,416,338
10254000	Community Courts		3,333,908
10256000	Land Mediation Division		296,269
11902000	Office of Ocean Affairs		292,866
11935000	Humans Rights Secretariat		237,996
11936000	Parole Board Secretariat		1,129,976
11937000	Juvenile Justice		3,120,856
11938000	Restorative Justice		1,946,547
13058000	National Narcotics Bureau		5,631,773
13447000	Research and Development		<u>198,667</u>
			21,605,195
	<i>Land Mediators Allowances</i>		
10758000	ABG Land Mediators Allowances		438,984
10759000	Central Province Land Mediators Allowances		146,719
10761000	East New Britain Province Land Mediators Allowances		185,844
10762000	Eastern Highlands Province Land Mediators Allowances		276,560
10763000	East Sepik Province Land Mediators Allowances		271,604
10764000	Gulf Province Land Mediators Allowances		122,983
10765000	Hela Province Land Mediators Allowances		179,062
10766000	Jiwaka Province Land Mediators Allowances		78,511
10767000	Madg Province Land Mediators Allowances		229,534
10768000	Manus Province Land Mediators Allowances		153,262
10769000	Milne Bay Province Land Mediators Allowances		155,587
10770000	Morobe Province Land Mediators Allowances		291,699
10771000	New Ireland Province Land Mediators Allowances		113,332
10772000	Northern Province Land Mediators Allowances		109,659
10773000	NCD Land Mediators Allowances		31,952
10774000	Simbu Province Land Mediators Allowances		231,534
10775000	Southern Highlands Province Land Mediators Allowances		239,576
10777000	West New Britain Province Land Mediators		138,198
10778000	Sandaun Province Land Mediation Allowances		181,149
10779000	Western Province Land Mediators Allowances		163,108
13096000	Western Highlands Province Land Mediators Allowances		<u>112,289</u>

THE RECURRENT BUDGET

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR PROGRAMS BY VOTE

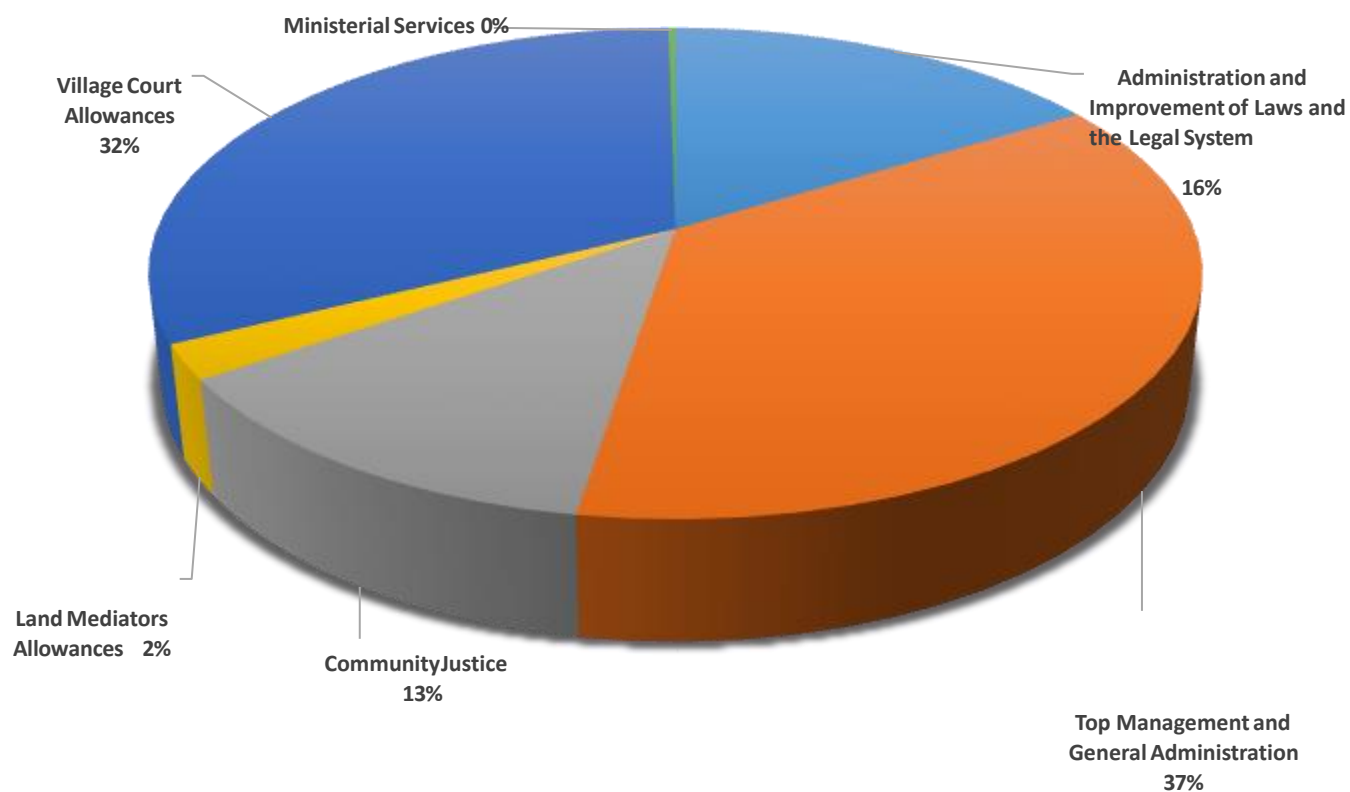
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

3,851,147

Code	Appropriation Description	Notes	2024 K
	<i>Village Court Allowances</i>		
13018000	Bougainville Village Court Allowance		2,285,084
13019000	Central Province Village Court Allowance		2,177,773
13020000	Enga Province Village Court Allowance		6,064,943
13021000	East New Britain Province Village Court Allowance		2,399,425
13022000	Eastern Highlands Province Village Court Allowance		3,320,436
13023000	East Sepik Province Village Court Allowance		3,050,056
13024000	Gulf Province Village Court Allowance		1,902,394
13025000	Hela Province Village Court Allowance		1,720,742
13026000	Jiwaka Province Village Court Allowance		1,740,165
13027000	Madang Province Village Court Allowance		3,396,779
13028000	Manus Province Village Court Allowance		1,296,457
13029000	Milne Bay Province Village Court Allowance		2,355,452
13030000	Morobe Province Village Court Allowance		2,658,179
13031000	New Ireland Province Village Court Allowance		1,407,753
13032000	Northern Province Village Court Allowance		1,496,206
13033000	NCD Village Court Allowance		841,436
13034000	Simbu Province Village Court Allowance		4,024,528
13035000	Southern Highlands Province Village Court Allowance		4,158,681
13036000	West New Britain Province Village Court Allowance		1,713,898
13037000	Western Highlands Province Village Court Allowance		2,984,822
13038000	Sandaun province Village Court Allowance		1,366,353
13039000	Western Province Village Court Allowance		1,643,113
			54,004,675
	<i>Ministerial Services</i>		
10257000	Minister's Admin Support Services		433,998
		3.2	168,260,446

THE RECURRENT BUDGET

PIE GRAPH OF EXPENDITURE BY PROGAM
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024



THE DEVELOPMENT BUDGET (PIP)

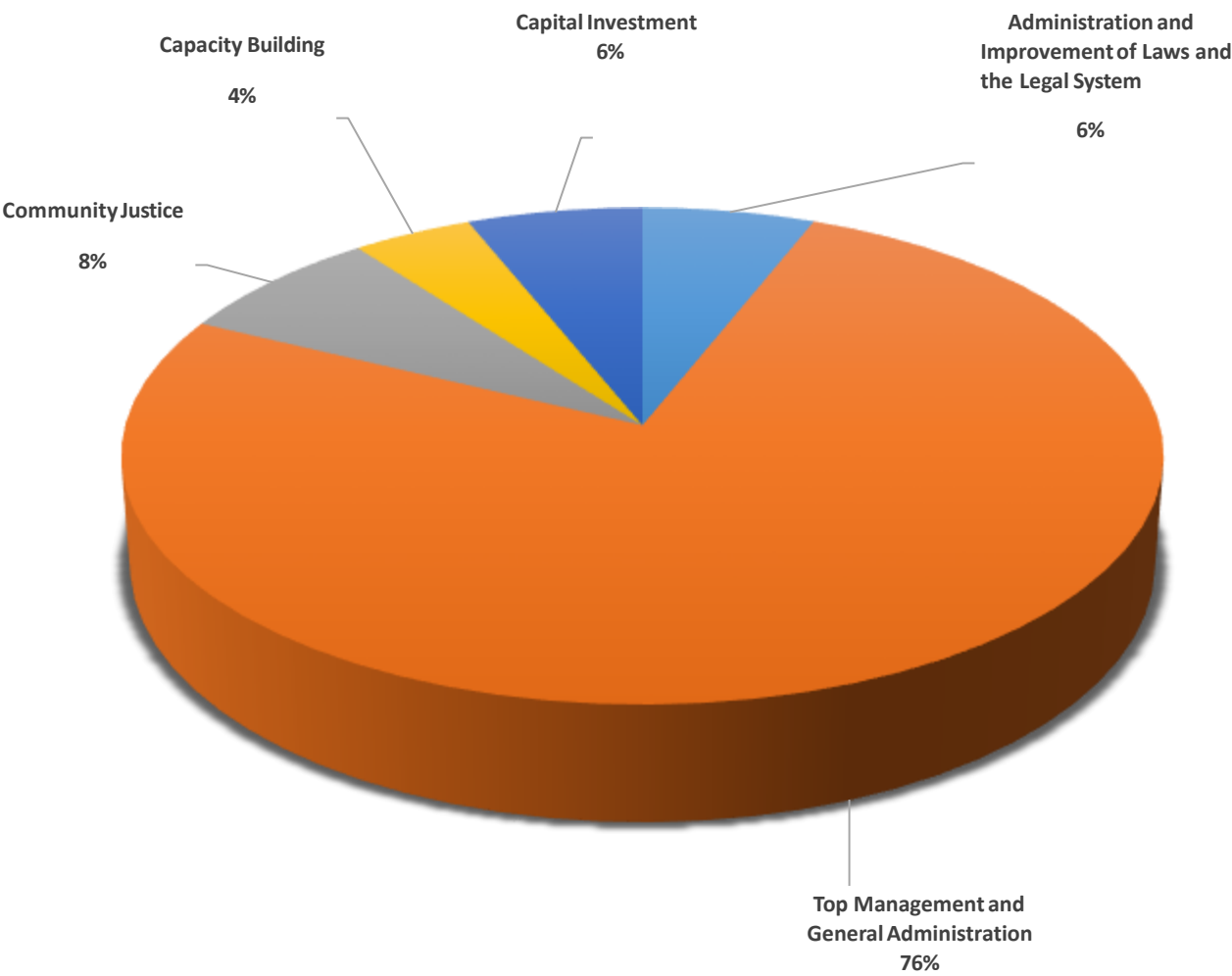
STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR PROGRAMS BY VOTE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Code	Appropriation Description	Notes	2024 K
<i>Administration and Improvement of Laws and the Legal System</i>			
10248	State Solicitor		750,857
10250	Solicitor General		903,033
12002	Commercial Law		190,058
13223	Law and Justice Sector Secretariat		776,649
17824	Village Court Officials Pilot M&E		98,571
			<u>2,719,169</u>
<i>Top Management and General Administration</i>			
10242	Top Management		5,359,982
10243	Policy Planning and Co-ordination		560,027
10244	Financial Management and Planning		462,673
10245	Human Resource Management		1,663,387
10246	Information Management Systems		419,490
10247	Deceased Estates		704,678
11643	Legal Policy		271,459
11644	Brief Outs		24,063,875
11755	Internal Audit Services		172,658
11932	Properties and Security		486,202
11933	Judicial and Legal Services Commission (JLSC) Secretariat		214,059
			<u>34,378,490</u>
<i>Community Justice</i>			
10253	Community Based Corrections		814,643
10254	Community Courts		251,877
10256	Land Mediation Division		223,692
11902	Office of Ocean Affairs		239,878
11935	Humans Rights Secretariat		214,004
11936	Parole Board Secretariat		278,596
11937	Juvenile Justice		841,785
11938	Restorative Justice		377,214
13447	Research and Development		114,484
			<u>3,356,174</u>
<i>Capacity Building</i>			
24182	Child Nutrition and Social Protection Project (06194)		<u>1,899,549</u>
<i>Capital Investment</i>			
21761	Infrastructure and Capital Works (03971)		1,020,159
23923	Land Tenure Conversion and Quasi-Judicial Establishment (05879)		300,000
10257	Minister's Administration Support Services		486,482
24228	Solicitor General Case Management System (06216)		960,543
			<u>2,767,184</u>
		3.2	<u>45,120,564</u>

THE DEVELOPMENT BUDGET (PIP)

PIE GRAPH OF EXPENDITURE BY PROGAM
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024



THE DRAWING ACCOUNT

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2023 K	2023 K	2024 Notes K	2024 K
Opening balance as at 1 January 2024		(5,784,139)	3.3	(12,762,713)
RECEIPTS				
Reimbursements	36,873,993		42,326,715	
Cancelled Cheques	3,923,821		6,913,023	
Other	-	40,797,814	1,992,602	3.3 51,232,339
		35,013,675		3.3 38,469,626
PAYMENTS				
January	23,363		-	
February	930,407		305,574	
March	1,281,622		1,276,746	
April	10,183,248		1,133,212	
May	3,669,098		19,930,145	
June	2,447,225		952,406	
July	4,422,651		1,510,157	
August	2,369,463		2,376,580	
September	2,452,995		1,478,754	
October	(690,839)		2,544,688	
November	1,456,668		9,472,140	
December	19,230,486	47,776,388	11,398,880	3.3 52,379,282
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)		(12,762,713)	3.3	(13,909,656)

THE DRAWING ACCOUNT

STATEMENT OF BANK RECONCILIATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2023 K	2023 K	2024 K	Notes	2024 K
CASH BOOK					
Opening balance as at 1 January 2024		(5,784,139)		3.3	(12,762,713)
RECEIPTS					
Reimbursements	36,873,993		42,326,715		
Cancelled Cheques	3,923,821		6,913,023		
Other	-	40,797,814	1,992,602	3.3	51,232,339
		35,013,675		3.2	38,469,626
PAYMENTS					
January	23,363		-		
February	930,407		305,574		
March	1,281,622		1,276,746		
April	10,183,248		1,133,212		
May	3,669,098		19,930,145		
June	2,447,225		952,406		
July	4,422,651		1,510,157		
August	2,369,463		2,376,580		
September	2,452,995		1,478,754		
October	(690,839)		2,544,688		
November	1,456,668		9,472,140		
December	19,230,486	47,776,388	11,398,880	3.3	52,379,282
Cash Book Balance		(12,762,713)		3.3	(13,909,656)
BANK ACCOUNT					
Bank Statement balance as at 31 December 2024		-			-
Bank Fees and Charges		-			-
		-			-
Unpresented Cheques		12,762,713			13,909,656
Bank Statement Balance as per Cash Book		(12,762,713)		3.2	(13,909,656)

THE LIBRARY TRUST ACCOUNT

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2023 K	2023 K	2024 K	Notes	2024 K
Opening balance as at 1 January 2024		607,274		3.4	712,084
RECEIPTS					
Cancelled Cheques	60,107		33,641		
Institutional Housing Rental	217,200		235,620		
Reimbursements	25,066		36,878		
Other	<u>4,935</u>	<u>307,307</u>			
		914,581	<u>1,441,669</u>	3.4	<u>1,747,808</u>
					<u>2,459,892</u>
PAYMENTS					
January	-		1,439,190		
February	14,969		26		
March	117,487		29		
April	27		29		
May	10,040		93,801		
June	7,862		30		
July	45		29		
August	46		30		
September	47		50,070		
October	38		24,680		
November	27		33,670		
December	<u>51,910</u>	<u>202,497</u>	<u>31</u>	3.4	<u>1,641,614</u>
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)		<u>712,084</u>		3.4	<u>818,278</u>

THE LIBRARY TRUST ACCOUNT

STATEMENT OF BANK RECONCILIATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2023 K	2023 K	2024 Notes K	2024 K
CASH BOOK		607,274	3.4	712,084
Opening balance as at 1 January 2024				
RECEIPTS				
Cancelled Cheques	60,107		33,641	
Institutional Housing Rental	217,200		235,620	
Reimbursements	25,066		36,878	
Other	<u>4,935</u>	<u>307,307</u>	<u>1,441,669</u>	<u>1,747,808</u>
		914,581	3.4	2,459,892
PAYMENTS				
January	-		1,439,190	
February	14,969		26	
March	117,487		29	
April	27		29	
May	10,040		93,801	
June	7,862		30	
July	45		29	
August	46		30	
September	47		50,070	
October	38		24,680	
November	27		33,670	
December	<u>51,910</u>	<u>202,497</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>1,641,614</u>
Cash Book Balance		<u>712,084</u>	3.4	<u>818,278</u>
BANK ACCOUNT				
Bank Statement balance as at 31 December 2024		712,084		818,278
Debits in bank not in Cash Book	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
		712,084		818,278
<i>Less</i>				
Credits in bank not in cash book	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Bank Statement Balance as per Cash Book		<u>712,084</u>	3.4	<u>818,278</u>

THE LEGAL FEES TRUST ACCOUNT

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2023 K	2023 K	2024 K	Notes	2024 K
Opening balance as at 1 January 2024		198,549		3.4	624,897
RECEIPTS					
Cancelled cheques	63,222		-		
Reimbursements	1,800		23,653		
Legal Fees	2,000,000		22,044		
Other	110,953	2,175,974	5,170	3.4	50,867
		<u>2,374,523</u>		3.4	<u>675,764</u>
PAYMENTS					
January	-		24		
February	-		22		
March	100,848		24		
April	4,574		1,552		
May	1,507,843		25		
June	363		25		
July	49		28		
August	51		26		
September	47		27		
October	119,266		26		
November	16,561		25		
December	24	1,749,626	26	3.4	1,829
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)		<u>624,897</u>		3.4	<u>673,935</u>

THE LEGAL FEES TRUST ACCOUNT

STATEMENT OF BANK RECONCILIATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2023 K	2023 K	2024 K	Notes	2024 K
Opening balance as at 1 January 2024		198,549		3.4	624,897
RECEIPTS					
Cancelled cheques	63,222		-		
Reimbursements	1,800		23,653		
Legal Fees	2,000,000		22,044		
Other	110,953	2,175,974	5,170	3.4	50,867
		2,374,523		3.4	675,764
PAYMENTS					
January	-		24		
February	-		22		
March	100,848		24		
April	4,574		1,552		
May	1,507,843		25		
June	363		25		
July	49		28		
August	51		26		
September	47		27		
October	119,266		26		
November	16,561		25		
December	24	1,749,626	26	3.4	1,829
Cash Book Balance		624,897		3.4	673,935
BANK ACCOUNT					
Bank Statement balance as at 31 December 2024		624,897			673,935
Debits in Bank not in Cash Book	-	-	-		-
		624,897			673,935
<i>Less</i>					
Credits in Bank not in Cash Book	-	-	-		-
Bank Statement Balance as per Cash Book		624,897		3.4	673,935

THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND ATTORNEY GENERAL (DJAG) TRUST ACCOUNT

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2023 K	2023 K	2024 K	Notes	2024 K
Opening balance as at 1 January 2024		1,408,819		3.4	1,034,177
RECEIPTS					
Cancelled Cheques	91,508		15,789		
Reimbursements	498,081		6,554,770		
Other	<u>915,682</u>	<u>1,505,271</u>	<u>443,080</u>	3.4	<u>7,013,639</u>
		2,914,090		3.4	8,047,816
PAYMENTS					
January	172		229,496		
February	563,541		60,754		
March	63,282		126,715		
April	82,803		110,039		
May	750,708		25,639		
June	44,612		348,070		
July	2,315		34,693		
August	2,554		72,270		
September	51		122,017		
October	55,552		324,066		
November	149,419		851,730		
December	<u>164,901</u>	<u>1,879,912</u>	<u>983,024</u>	3.4	<u>3,288,513</u>
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)		<u>1,034,177</u>		3.4	<u>4,759,304</u>

THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND ATTORNEY GENERAL (DJAG) TRUST ACCOUNT

STATEMENT OF BANK RECONCILIATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2023 K	2023 K	2024 K	Notes	2024 K
CASH BOOK					
Opening balance as at 1 January 2023		1,408,819		3.4	1,034,177
RECEIPTS					
Cancelled Cheques	91,508		15,789		
Reimbursements	498,081		6,554,770		
Other	915,682	1,505,271	443,080	3.4	7,013,639
		2,914,090		3.4	8,047,816
PAYMENTS					
January	172		229,496		
February	563,541		60,754		
March	63,282		126,715		
April	82,803		110,039		
May	750,708		25,639		
June	44,612		348,070		
July	2,315		34,693		
August	2,554		72,270		
September	51		122,017		
October	55,552		324,066		
November	149,419		851,730		
December	164,901	1,879,912	983,024	3.4	3,288,513
Cash Book Balance		1,034,177		3.4	4,759,304
BANK ACCOUNT					
Bank Statement balance as at 31 December 2024		1,041,299			4,873,897
Debits in bank not in Cash book	-	-	-		-
		1,041,299			4,873,897
<i>Less</i>					
Credits in bank not in cash book	-				
Unpresented Cheques	7,122	7,122	114,594		114,594
Bank Statement Balance as per Cash Book		1,034,177		3.4	4,759,304

OFFICE EQUIPMENTS, FURNITURES AND FITTINGS EXPENDITURE (IFMS ITEM 271)

STATEMENT OF RECURRENT BUDGET EXPENDITURE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Vote Code	Vote	Notes	2024 K
10242000	Total Top Management		3,767
10243000	Policy Planning and Co-ordination		25,000
10244000	Financial Management and Planning		102
10245000	Human Resource Management		13,000
10246000	Information Management Systems		71
10247000	Deceased Estates		18,324
10248000	State Solicitor		8,615
10250000	Solicitor General		15,850
10253000	Community Based Corrections		2,647
10254000	Community Courts		17,370
10256000	Land Mediation Division		6,796
10257000	Minister's Admin Support Services		-
11643000	Legal Policy		12,283
11755000	Internal Audit Services		-
11902000	Office of Ocean Affairs		-
11932000	Properties and Security		-
11933000	Judicial and Legal Services Commission (JLSC) Secretariat		-
11936000	Parole Board Secretariat		3,412
11937000	Juvenile Justice		6,008
11938000	Restorative Justice		6,489
13058000	National Narcotics Bureau		-
		3.5	139,733

6 Supplementary Information

6.1 Annexure 2: Statutory Responsibilities of the Minister for Justice and Attorney General

The Minister for Justice and Attorney General is responsible for the following 100 Acts of Parliament:

1. *Admiralty Act* 1987
2. *Adultery and Enticement Act* 1988
3. *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Terrorist Financing Act* 2015
4. *Arbitration Act* (Chapter 46)
5. *Arrest Act* (Chapter 339)
6. *Attorney General Act* 1989
7. *Bail Act* (Chapter 34)
8. *Bodies Corporate (Joint Tenancy) Act* (Chapter 143)
9. *Civil Aviation (Crimes) Act* (Chapter 266)
10. *Claims By and Against the State Act* 1996
11. *Compensation (Prohibition of Foreign Legal Proceedings) Act* 1995
12. *Constitutional and Law Reform Commission Act* 2004 (all provisions except Part IV)
13. *Constitutional Documents (Manner of Proof) Act* (Chapter 5)
14. *Constitutional Office Holders Retirement Benefit Act* 1986
15. *Control Substance Act* 2021
16. *Coroners Act* (Chapter 32)
17. *Creditors Remedies (Papua) Act* (Chapter 47)
18. *Criminal Code Act* (Chapter 262)
19. *Criminal Code (Costs) Act* 1986
20. *Criminal Code (Sexual Offenses and Crime Against Children) Act* 2002
21. *Criminal Justice (Sentences) Act* 1986
22. *Criminal Law (Bail) Act* 1986
23. *Criminal Law (Compensation) Act* 1991
24. *Criminal Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act* (Chapter 263)
25. *Customs Recognition Act* (Chapter 19)
26. *Cybercrime Code Act* 2016
27. *Defamation Act* (Chapter 293)
28. *Defence (Visiting Forces) Act* (Chapter 77) (ss. 13, 16 (4) (b) and 27 only)
29. *Discriminatory Practices Act* (Chapter 269)
30. *District Courts Act* (Chapter 40)
31. *Enclosed Land Protection Act* (Chapter 294)
32. *Evidence Act* (Chapter 48)
33. *Extradition Act* 2005
34. *Fairness of Transaction Act* 1993
35. *Frauds and Limitations Act* 1988
36. *Goods Act* (Chapter 251)
37. *Hire-Purchase Act* (Chapter 252)
38. *Insolvency Act* (Chapter 253)
39. *Instruments Act* (Chapter 254)
40. *Inter-Group Fighting Act* (Chapter 344)

41. *Judges' Pension Act* 1997
42. *Judgment Enforcement (Reciprocal Arrangements) Act* 1976
43. *Judicial Proceedings (Regulation of Reports) Act* (Chapter 51)
44. *Juvenile Justice Act* 2014
45. *Land (Corrected Titles) Act* 1986 (s.5 only)
46. *Land Disputes Settlement Act* (Chapter 45)
47. *Land (Tenure Conversion) Act* 1963
48. *Land Titles Commission Act* 1962
49. *Law of Property (Execution of Powers) Act* (Chapter 45)
50. *Lawyers Act* 1986
51. *Leadership Code (Alternative Penalties) Act* (Chapter 1A)
52. *Magisterial Service Act* (Chapter 43)
53. *Maintenance Orders Enforcement Act* (Chapter 279)
54. *Marketable Securities Act* (Chapter 259)
55. *Married Women's Property Act* (Chapter 281)
56. *Matrimonial Causes Act* (Chapter 282)
57. *Mercantile Act* (Chapter 260)
58. *Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act* 2005
59. *National Court Act* (Chapter 38)
60. *National Court Assessors (T.N.G) Act* (Chapter 42)
61. *National Court (Number of Judges) Act* (Chapter 404)
62. *National Judicial Service Act* 1987
63. *National Land Registration Act* (Chapter 357)
64. *National Narcotics Control Board Act* 1992
65. *Native Regulation (Papua) Act* (Chapter 316)
66. *Oaths, Affirmations and Statutory Declarations Act* (Chapter 317)
67. *Offences (Overseas) Act* 1984
68. *Organic Law on Certain Constitutional Office-Holders (Parts II and III only)*
69. *Organic Law on the Advisory Committee on the Power of Mercy*
70. *Organic Law on Certain Constitutional Office-Holders (Parts II and III only)*
71. *Organic Law on the Internment Tribunal*
72. *Organic Law on the Judicial and Legal Services Commission*
73. *Organic Law on the Terms and Conditions of Employment of Judges*
74. *Parole Act* 1991
75. *Partnership Act* (Chapter 148)
76. *Pawnbrokers Act* (Chapter 93)
77. *Peace and Goods Order Act* 1991
78. *Post-Graduate Legal Training Act* (Chapter 168) (except s.10)
79. *Probation Act* (Chapter 381)
80. *Proceeds of Crime Act* 2005
81. *Property Dealings (Validation) Act* (Chapter 356)
82. *Public Curator Act* (Chapter 81)
83. *Public Prosecutor (Office and Functions) Act* (Chapter 338)
84. *Public Solicitor (Changes) Act* (Chapter 337)
85. *Reciprocal Enforcement of Custody Orders Act* (Chapter 336)
86. *Sale of Stolen Cattle Prevention Act* (Chapter 223)
87. *Search Act* (Chapter 341)
88. *Sheriff Act* (Chapter 55)
89. *Simultaneous Deaths Act* (Chapter 332)

- 90. *Sorcery Act* (Chapter 274)
- 91. *Summary Ejectment Act* (Chapter 202)
- 92. *Summary Offences Act* 1977
- 93. *Supreme Court Act* (Chapter 37)
- 94. *Trust Accounts Act* (Chapter 287)
- 95. *Trustee Companies Act* (Chapter 288)
- 96. *Trustees and Executors Act* (Chapter 289)
- 97. *Unclaimed Goods Act* (Chapter 325)
- 98. *Underlying Law Act* 2000
- 99. *United Nations Financial Sanctions Act* 2015
- 100. *Vagrancy Act* (Chapter 268)
- 101. *Village Courts Act* 1989
- 102. *Wills, Probate and Administration Act* (Chapter 291)
- 103. *Wrongs (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act* (Chapter 297)
- 104. *Y2K Fairness in Litigation Act* 1999