

RMG Review – Draft Proposed Revisions to the Mandatory Standards

Summary of the proposed Mandatory Standards

Legal Practice Management	Related Legal Practice
Draft Proposed Mandatory Standards	Draft Proposed Mandatory Standards
 Compliance with Legal Profession Regulations Appointment and Role of Responsible Person Written Guidelines for Centre Work Duty to Avoid Conflict of Interest Intake Procedures/File Records Client Instructions Legal Advice and other Discrete Services Ongoing Assistance Services Letter of Engagement/Retainers Supervision File Management Legal Professional Privilege Duty of Confidentiality Client Information Security/Privacy Trust and Other Monies Specialised Auspice Services Community Legal Education, Law/Policy Reform Work, Media and Communications File Closure and Centre Changes Professional Indemnity Insurance (PII) & PII Networks Annual Cross-Check Participation 	 A. Duties in relation to Migration Agents B. Duties in relation to Social Workers and Community Support Workers C. Duties in relation to Tenant's Advocates and other Advocates D. Duties in relation to Financial Counsellors E. General Duties, Decision Making & Dispute Resolution

Detailed List of the proposed Mandatory Standards

Legal Practice Management - Draft Proposed Mandatory Standards

1. Compliance with Legal Profession Regulations

- 1.1 Compliance with Legal Profession Regulation in jurisdiction
- 1.2 Copies of all practising certificates to be held

2. Appointment and Role of Responsible Person

- 2.1 Role and Appointment of Responsible Person
- 2.2 Responsible Person to hold Unrestricted Practising Certificate
- 2.3 Responsible Person to be responsible for certain aspects of the Centre
- 2.4 Delegation to a Nominated Person
- 2.5 Experience and Qualifications of Nominated Persons

3. Written Guidelines for Centre Work

- 3.1 Written Guidelines for work undertaken
- 3.2 Written Guidelines to be applied in determining intake
- 3.3 Documented procedures for assessing and making referrals

4. Duty to Avoid Conflict of Interest

- 4.1 Written Conflict of Interest Policy
- 4.2 Adherence to Conflict of Interest Policy
- 4.3 Performance of conflict checks for clients
- 4.4 Role of Responsible or Nominated Person in determining conflicts

5. Intake Procedures/File Records

- 5.1 Written file opening and maintenance policy
- 5.2 File numbers and file records
- 5.3 Record limitation dates and critical dates on file
- 5.4 "Front of File Information" (hard copy or electronic)

6. Client Instructions

6.1 Written / electronic record of all instructions received from clients

7. Legal Advice and Other Discrete Services

- 7.1 Requirements for advice sheets for one off advice
- 7.2 Role of Responsible or Nominated Person in reviewing advices

8. Ongoing Assistance Services

- 8.1 Client charter for ongoing services
- 8.2 Retain records of advice provided

9. Letter of Engagement/Retainers

- 9.1 Letter of Engagement (where required by jurisdiction)
- 9.2 Cost disclosures (if applicable where centre charges fees)

10. Supervision

- 10.1 Comply with legal practice requirements for supervision for the jurisdiction
- 10.2 Written policy on supervision for all staff and volunteers (legal and related practice)
- 10.3 Undertake regular file reviews
- 10.4 Undertake regular assessment of workloads
- 10.5 Policy on Volunteer Management

11. File Management

- 11.1 Electronic Communication Policy
- 11.2 File notes
- 11.3 File movement register and compliance (hard copy & electronic)
- 11.4 Recording of incoming or outgoing calls
- 11.5 Requirements for Correspondence, Court Documents and Evidence

12. Legal Professional Privilege (LPP)

12.1 Comply with LPP requirements in each jurisdiction

13. Duty of Confidentiality

13.1 Comply with duty of confidentiality

14. Client Information Security/Privacy

14.1 Ensure client information is kept private and secure

15. Trust and Other Monies

- 15.1 Trust Money
- 15.2 Controlled Money
- 15.3 Transit Money

16. Specialised Auspice Services

- 16.1 Compliance with RMG
- 16.2 Role of Responsible or Nominated Person for Auspice Service/s

17. Community Legal Education, Law/Policy Reform Work, Media and Communications

- 17.1 Responsible or Nominated Person to check community legal education
- 17.2 Responsible or Nominated Person to check law reform
- 17.3 Responsible or Nominated Person to check media, communications and publications

18. File Closure and Centre Changes

- 18.1 Duty to undertake proper file closure
- 18.2 Duty to undertake proper file destruction
- 18.3 Archiving (hard copy and electronic)
- 18.4 Centre mergers and amalgamations
- 18.5 Centre closures

19. Professional Indemnity Insurance (PII) & PII Network

- 19.1 Duty to have Professional Indemnity insurance
- 19.2 Duty to have adequate PII coverage
- 19.3 Duty to Notify Insurer
- 19.4 Duty to contact PII Representative
- 19.5 Duty to Not admit liability

20. Annual Cross-Check Participation

- 20.1 Participation in Cross-Check
- 20.2 Confidentiality of Cross-Check

Related Legal Practice – Draft Proposed Mandatory Standards

A. Duties in relation to Migration Agents

A.1 Comply with Migration Agent requirements under law and compliance with RMG

B. Duties in relation to Social Workers and Community Support Workers

- B.1 Comply with Social Work requirements under law and compliance with RMG
- B.2 Community Support Workers compliance with RMG

C. Duties in relation to Tenant's Advocates and other Advocates

- C.1 Tenant's Advocates compliance with RMG
- C.2 Other Advocates compliance with RMG

D. Duties in relation to Financial Counsellors

D.1 Comply with Financial Counsellor requirements under law and compliance with RMG

E. General Duties, Decision Making and Dispute Resolution

E.1 Support staff and volunteers to comply with RMG

