



Patron, The Honourable Chief Justice Susan M Kiefel AC

AUSTRALIAN WOMEN LAWYERS MEDIA RELEASE

Equitable Briefing Report– More Briefs, Less Pay for Women at the Bar

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Supporting and promoting the Law Council of Australia’s Equitable Briefing Policy is a key action in Australian Women Lawyer’s 2019-2024 Strategic Plan.

AWL applauds the organisations and individuals who have formally endorsed or adopted the Equitable Briefing Policy since its launch in 2016 and encourages the myriad other organisations and briefing entities throughout Australia to join them. It is a great sign that in the second year of reporting the interim target of 30% junior briefs to female junior barristers was met – change is possible.

It is extremely disappointing however that despite a commitment to equitable briefing and an increase in the number of reported briefs going to women, the value of briefs going to women barristers has fallen as a proportion of the total indicating an increase in the profession’s already dismal gender pay gap. AWL would like to see adopters of the Equitable Briefing Policy also commit to closing this pay gap by providing briefs of equal value to women Barristers.

The latest report on the Equitable Briefing Policy highlights the importance of the value of briefs when moving towards an equitable bar.

AWL is calling on its members and supporters to formally endorse the Equitable Briefing Policy as individuals or on an organisational level. Is your organisation on the LCA’s list? If not, what can you as an individual do about that?

END OF MESSAGE*****

Australian Women Lawyers is the peak body for women lawyers associations throughout Australia.

For further information, contact AWL President Adrienne Morton at austwomenlawyers@gmail.com

Australian Women Lawyers represents:

