

**ADRAC**  
**Annual Report**  
**Year end 30 June 2017**

**Council Membership**

1. As at 30 June 2017 membership of the Council consisted of:
  - a. Dr Andrew Bickerdike
  - b. Alysoun Boyle
  - c. The Hon. Dennis Cowdroy OAM QC
  - d. Adrian D'Amico
  - e. Dr Kathy Douglas
  - f. Jeremy Gormly SC (Chair)
  - g. Debbie Hastings
  - h. Tom Howe PSM QC (Hon. Secretary)
  - i. Margaret Halsmith
  - j. Shirli Kirschner (Hon. Treasurer)
  - k. Craig Pudig
  
2. During the course of the year inquiries were made to find members suitable for ADRAC who could replace members likely to retire during the next year.

**Secretariat**

3. Matthew Varley remained Executive Secretary of ADRAC until 30 May 2017 at which time he retired from the role and Emily Bell became Executive Secretary as from 30 May 2017.

**Council meetings**

4. The full Council met, either face-to-face or via teleconference, on the following dates:
  - a. 10 August 2016
  - b. 24 August 2016
  - c. 31 August 2016
  - d. 7 September 2016
  - e. 13 September 2016
  - f. 30 November 2016
  - g. 16 February 2017
  - h. 23 May 2017
  - i. 30 May 2017

**Finances**

5. ADRAC held \$9500.00 by way of donations and contributions of members at the conclusion of the year. Its expenses were less than \$300.
6. ADRAC closely examined the need for further funds.

### **Website and Twitter**

7. Over the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 the website was further developed, and a Twitter account was opened called ADRAC Chair. The website was used principally to publish papers prepared for the ADR Mapping Project referred to below and to report on the submissions made to various inquiries relevant to ADR topics. The Twitter account was initiated and used sparingly and experimentally.

### **Projects and Submissions**

#### ADR Mapping Project

8. During the course of the year ADRAC developed further the papers on the ADR Mapping project and commenced to extend invitations to authors other than ADRAC council members. Criteria and methods of suitable acknowledgement of the work of senior and respected external authors was developed. A number of external authors provided papers or provided advice on ADRAC papers including;
  - a. Dr Gaye Sculthorpe
  - b. Alan Limbury
  - c. Dr Rosemary Howell
  - d. Associate Professor Dale Bagshaw
  - e. Helen Marks
  - f. David Bryson
  - g. Lynora Brooke
  - h. Professor Tania Sourdin
9. All other mapping papers were the result of the joint work of the ADRAC council members. A total of 35 papers were published on the website. A list of the paper topics published throughout the year appears at **Attachment A**.

#### Submissions to Government

10. The Council also prepared and made submissions as follows;
  - a. The Queensland Dispute Resolution Branch, Department of Justice and Attorney-General, inquiry into Supported Elder Mediation
  - b. The ALRC inquiry into Elder Abuse
  - c. The NSW Law Reform Commission inquiry into Dispute Resolution Legislative Model Provisions (Consultation Paper 18)

#### Conciliation Project

11. The ADRAC Council also committed to and commenced preliminary work on a major project into Conciliation, including the forms it takes, its essential and defining characteristics and the extent of its use in legislation.

## Annexure A

### List of paper topics published through ADR Mapping Project – year ended 30 June 2017

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and ADR	DR clauses in contract
Access to justice and ADR	DR knowledge: getting beyond belief
Accountability of ADR practitioners	DR, older people and Elder Mediation
ADR and religion	e-comms
ADR clusters and hotspots	Enforceability of ADR clauses in contract
ADR Industry Forum	Evidence-based data collection for ADR research
ADR pilot schemes and programs	The evidentiary ‘black hole’ of mediation
Benefits of ADR	Expert Determination
Bio-physiology and DR	Family Dispute Resolution
Children and ADR	Initial Separate Sessions
Conciliation	Legislation and ADR
Confidentiality	The Military and ADR
Conflict coaching	Negotiation and DR
Court-based Dispute Resolution	Online Dispute Resolution and ADR
Criminal justice and ADR	Principles of ADR
Dispute Management Plans and ADR	Restorative justice
Dispute Resolution (DR) or Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)	Social Media and DR
	Sports and ADR