



Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2023–2024

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Mr Andrew Braddock MLA

Addressed to: Dr John Boersig, Chief Executive Officer, Legal Aid Commission ACT

Reference: Legal Aid Commission ACT

Hearing: 12 February 2025

In relation to: Business Continuity Audit Recommendations

Question received: 19 February 2025

Answer Due: 26 February 2025

In the auditor-general's 2023–24 financial audit report on financial results and audit findings (Report 12/2024; page 94), it notes that the Commission did not resolve a previously-reported audit finding related to the:

- “update and testing of business continuity and disaster recovery plans. The Commission’s Business Continuity Plan has not been updated or tested since August 2018 and the Commission’s ICT Disaster Recovery Plan has not been updated since April 2013 and has not been tested since December 2012. The Commission is less likely to promptly resume operations, without loss of information, in the event of a major disruption where these plans are not updated and tested on a regular basis”

Thinking of what could happen to your clients if your systems went down, how are you planning to address this ongoing audit finding?

[Dr John Boersig]: The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:

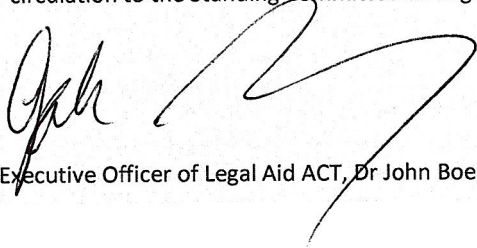
Legal Aid has a disaster recovery plan and a business continuity plan. While these had not been formally tested for some time, they were still valid and useable. This was demonstrated when these plans were successfully used as the basis for business continuity and disaster recovery during the cyber incident in November 2022.

These plans were most recently tested at a desktop exercise in November 2024, with testing to occur more often in the future. The IT Managed Service Provider continuously monitors the stability of the Legal Aid systems to ensure continuity.

OFFICIAL

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Legal Affairs

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Boersig', written over a horizontal line.

Date:

3/3/25

By the Chief Executive Officer of Legal Aid ACT, Dr John Boersig PSM