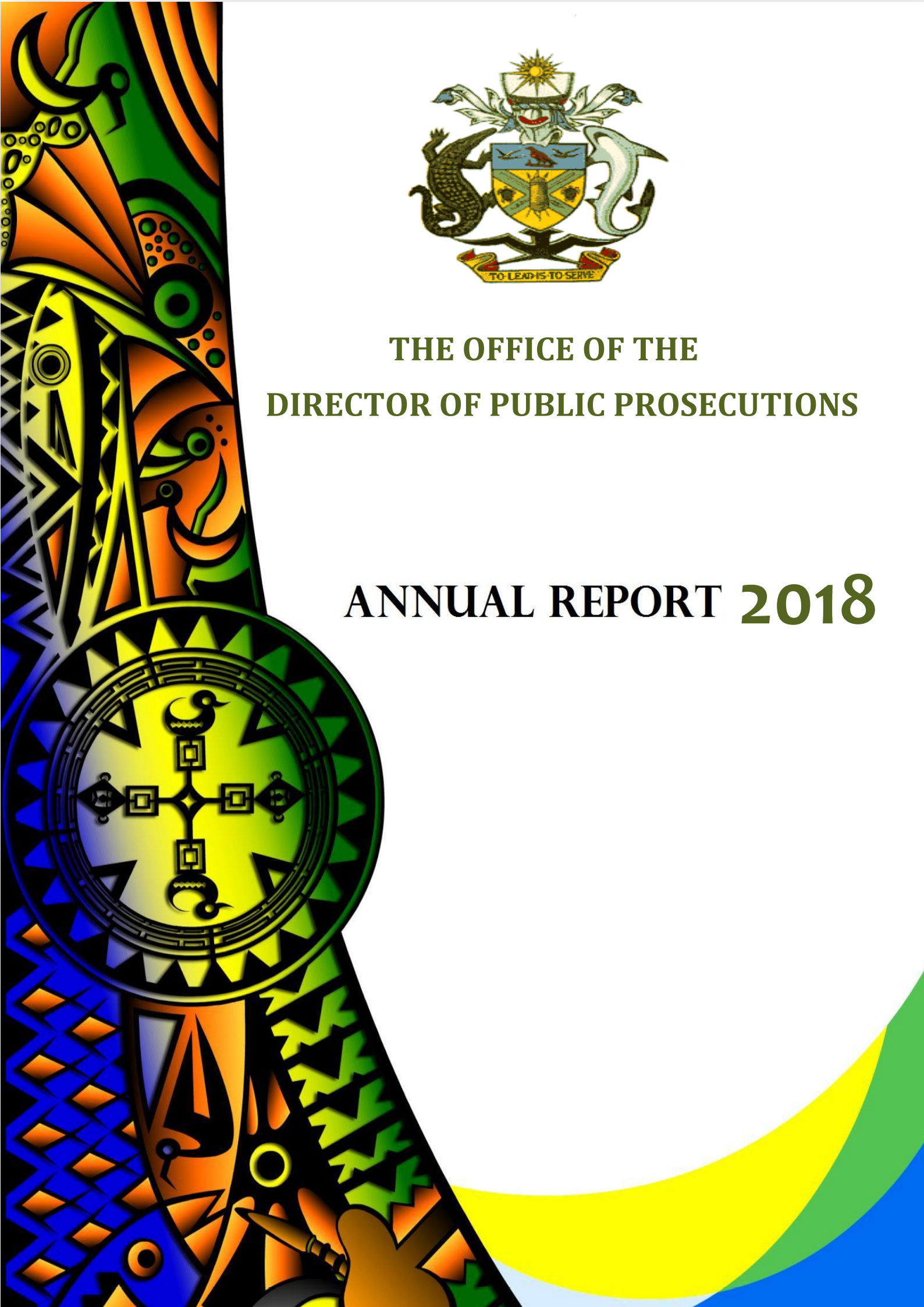


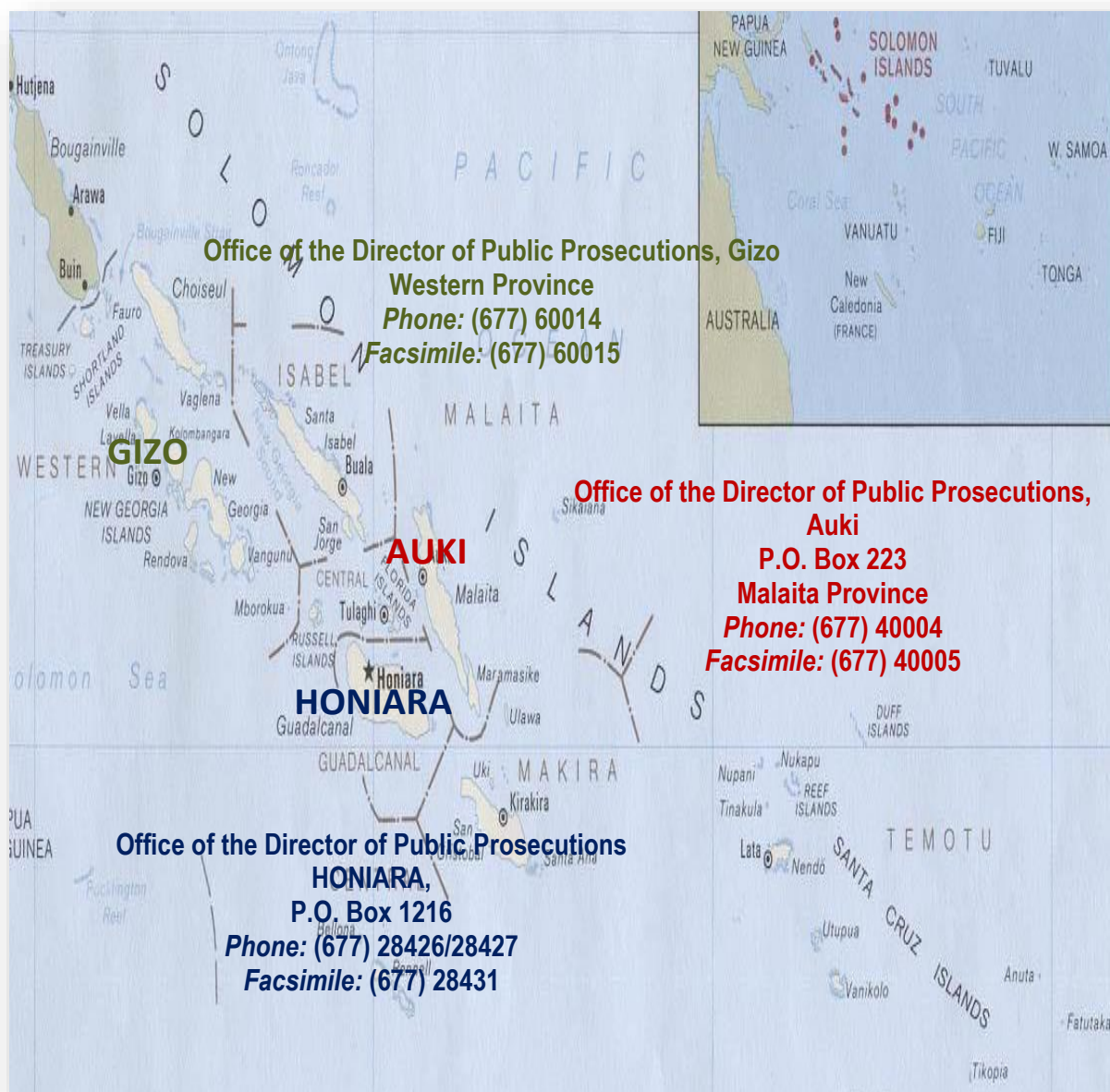


THE OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS

ANNUAL REPORT **2018**



ODPP OFFICES AND LOCATIONS



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ACRONYMS

ACA	Anti-Corruption Act
APG ML/TFFATF	Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Financial Action Taskforce
ACMLPCU	Anti-Corruption, Money Laundering and Proceeds of Crime
AMLTEG	Anti-Corruption, Money Laundering and Terrorist Evaluation Group
AVI	Australian Volunteers International
CLE	Continue Legal Education
CMC	Central Magistrates Court
COA	Court of Appeal
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
DPP	Director of Public Prosecutions
ET	Ethnic Tension
FASO	Family and Sexual Offence Unit
FTA	Fixed Term Appointment
IAP	International Association of Prosecutors
IPAM	Institute of Public Administration and Management
IT	Information Technology
JIMS	Justice Information Management System
LFPI	Long Form Preliminary Inquiry
LLM	Legum Magister
MoFT	Ministry of Finance and Treasury
No.	Number
NT	Northern Territory
ODPP	Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions
PILON	Pacific Islands Law Officers Network
PR	Public Relations
PSII	Professional Standard and Internal Investigation
PSO	Public Solicitors Office
R	<i>Regina</i>
RAMSI	Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands
RSIPF	Royal Solomon Islands Police Force
SFPI	Short Form Preliminary
SIJP	Solomon Islands Justice Program
SIICAC	Solomon Islands Independent Commission Against Corruption
SIG	Solomon Islands Government
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
v	versus
WOA	Warrants of Arrest



FOREWORD



As we bid farewell to Year 2018, let us pause for a moment and ask, "what has been achieved over the 12 months in 2018?" This brings the ODPP and the entire Justice Sector to the fore. It is no secret that 'the maintenance of law and order,' is a prerequisite to economic prosperity. Without law and order in our country, there will be no sense of security, which will result in loss of confidence in all aspects of governance including business confidence.

The role of the DPP is so crucial in this aspect, i.e. dispensation of criminal justice. The DPP continues to prosecute cases and ensure that the wheels of justice continue to turn. I find Year 2018 as challenging and equally rewarding. Challenging as the office lost one of its senior lawyers who has the potential of taking up the highest post in the office, in the not too distant future. This is premised on the basis that I am closing in on the eve of my retirement, i.e. 55 years as the mandatory age of retirement. Though I might be seeking an extension beyond retirement, two local senior officers that have previously been identified as potentials left the office for greener pastures. This comes as a great challenge to the future development and sustenance of our office human resources.

I say rewarding, as we find pride in the office ongoing training of our legal and administration staff; prosecution of cases; reviewing and monitoring of our office systems and processes, to name a few.

As you take the time to read the Report, you will see our story of 2018 unfolding. It is a story of our determination to deliver to the people of Solomon Islands. We are an office, a team, a family that pride ourselves in our zeal to endure the challenges that confront us daily.

We never give up, we never give in!!! The Constitution is our guide and the word of God that we read every morning before tackling the activities of the day, is the light that illuminates our way!!!

Happy reading.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Bei Talasasa Jr.'.

Mr. Ronald Bei Talasasa Jr.
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS

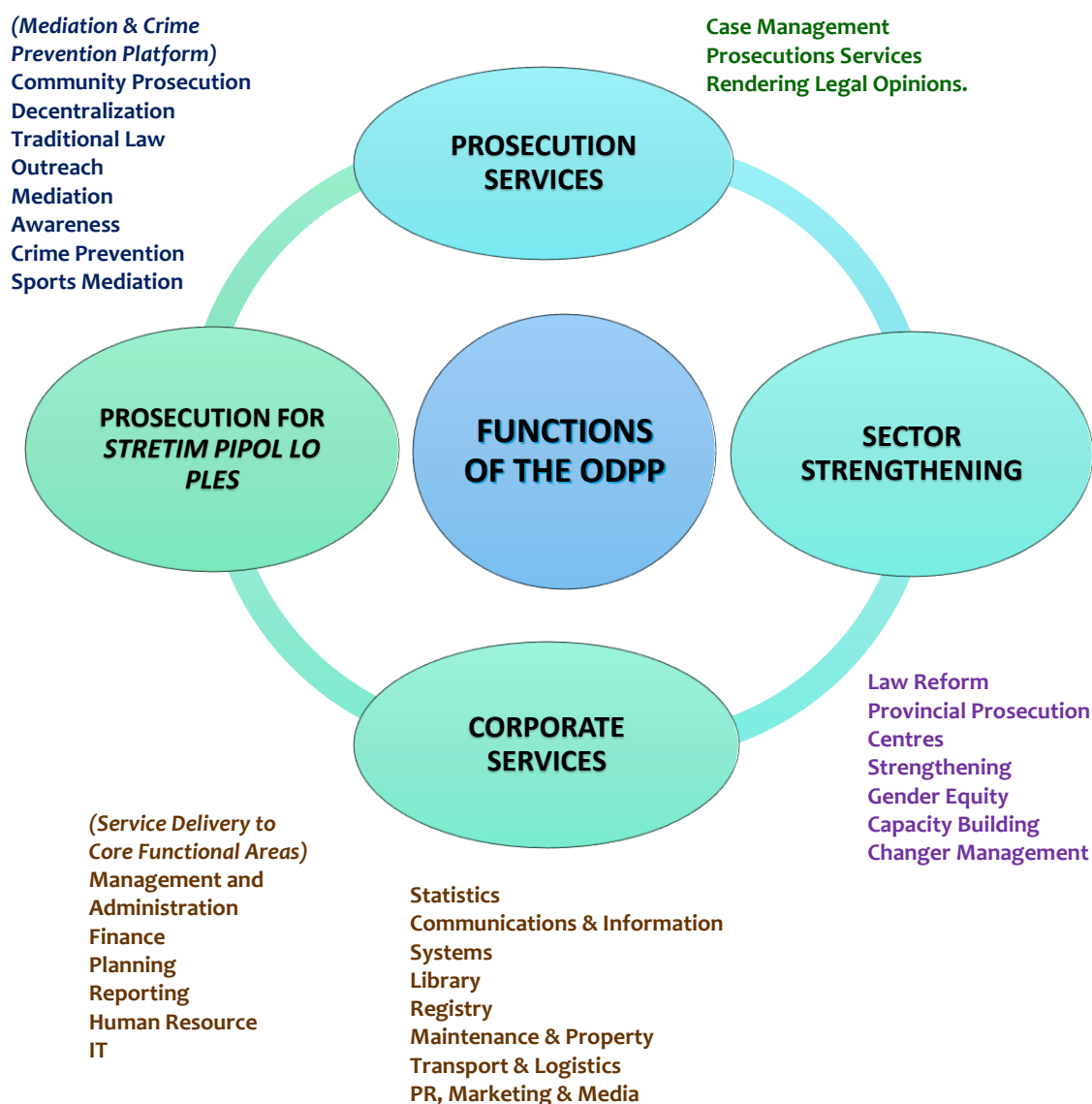


1. FUNCTIONS

The core functions of the Office of the Director of the Director of Public Prosecutions are the functions articulated in section 91 (4) of the Constitution. They comprise the powers given to the Director, and include the power to institute and conduct, to terminate and to take over criminal proceedings.

There are additional ancillary functions that flow from these core responsibilities. They are Prosecution for “*stretim pipol lo ples*”, and sector strengthening and reform. The meaning of the second and third appears to be plain and require little explanation. The first broadly deals with community prosecution, the application of traditional law in a rural communal situation, community outreach and crime prevention. It embraces the broad concept of access to justice.

To manage this wide range of functions, the office is divided into three branches: the executive management, prosecution service and the corporate service.



2. STRATEGIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

ODPP VISION

A safe and just Solomon Islands supported by a constitutionally independent public prosecution services under the rule of law.

VISION:
A safe and just Solomon Islands supported by a constitutionally independent public prosecution service under the rule of law.

MISSION:
Delivering an independent, fair and effective prosecution service.

ODPP MISSION

Delivering an independent, fair and effective prosecution service.

ODPP VALUES

INDEPENDENCE: *We act only according to the law of the Solomon Islands and in the public interest, without regard to inappropriate influences.*

ACCOUNTABILITY: *We are responsible for and report on our nations, decisions and performance.*

RESPECT: *We understand and value our diverse community and strive to meet its needs.*

EFFICIENCY: *We will build, making use of resources, high quality work practices and case management to meet deadlines, preparation and case completion requirements.*

ETHICAL AND WITH INTEGRITY: *We are fair to all, honest in all aspects of our work, always act in the best interest, fair and effective prosecution service.*



3. ODPP ESTABLISHMENT

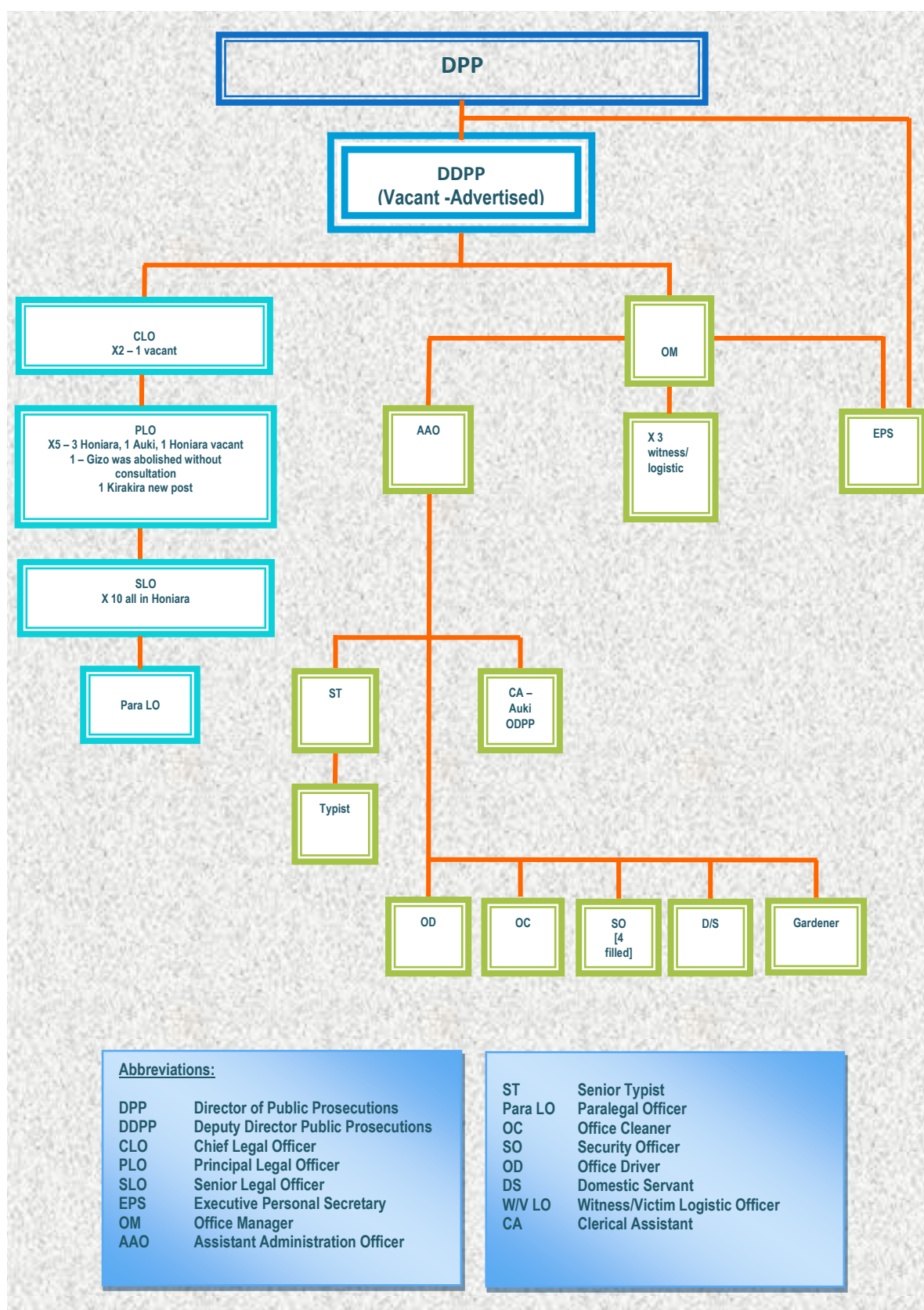


Figure 1 ODPP organisational structure, 2018.



4. ODPP STAFF

The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions had a total of 36 staff. In early 2018 the Legal Establishment comprises of 18 prosecutors: -

- The Director with 17 prosecutors.
- 1 Adviser, Mrs. Rachel Olutimayin, adviser with the Solomon Islands Justice Program (SIJP) funded by Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).
- 3 Australian Volunteers International who were appointed to join the Office in late 2017 and their attachment lapse at the end of 2018.
- Chief Legal Officer/Practice Manager – Ms. Florence Joel who left on 9th May 2018. Mrs. Sirepu Ngava Ramosae replaced her as Practice Manager while carrying out the duties of Principal Legal Officer.
- Chief Legal Officer/Courts – Mr. Andrew Kelesi was given a scholarship and was on study leave for a year – i.e. mid 2018 to June 2019. Mrs. Margaret Adifaka Suifa'asia took up his responsibilities.
- The Senior Legal Officers who continued to hold the helm and continue with their duties are: - Mr. Bradley Dalipanda, Ms. Olivia Ratu, Mr. Ishmael Kekou – he was posted at Gizo, Western Province in July of 2017, Miss Elma Rizzu, Miss Freliz Fakarii, Mr. Rajah Patrick Abe, Mr. John Wesley Zoze. Two additional newly recruited as SLO were Darcy Belapitu and Miss Patricia Kate Tabepuda.
- The position of Deputy Director that was left vacant in 2014 remains vacant still. For this year we also bid for various legal positions for next year. The positions include positions of Senior Legal Officers, Principal Legal Officers, Chief Legal Officer and Deputy for Honiara and provincial office.
- With the departure of the 3 AVIs, Ms. Joel and the absence of Mr. Kelesi we were left with the Director and 13 prosecutors.

4.1 Technical Advisors



The ODPP is again given the support and assistance by Australia with the appointments of Advisor/Prosecutor and Australian Volunteer International x 3 who are mentors to be part of the Agency. The AVI's were are part of our ODPP staff for 1 year from late 2017 to late 2018.

Mrs. Rachel Olutimayin, Adviser with the Solomon Islands Justice Program (SIJP) funded by Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

Mrs. Rachel Olutimayin – Advisor/Prosecutor – SIJP – based in Honiara ODPP, she travels to provincial centres to mentor provincial prosecutors and



also accompany prosecutors on their provincial circuits....she is our overall Advisor who assist DPP in the daily function of the Office with the help of the Management Team.



Mr. John Ekegren
– based in Auki, Malaita Province. October 2017 – Oct. 2018

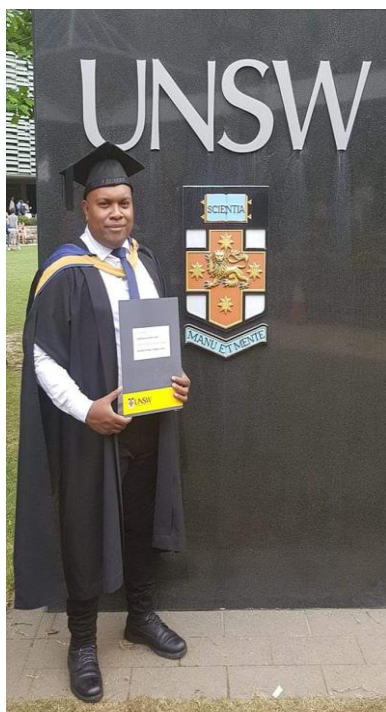


Mr. Mark Brennan
– based in Honiara and assist/advice prosecutors. Jun. 2017 – Jun. 2018



Ms. Molly Elliot
– based in Gizo, Western Province. Oct. 2017 – Oct. 2018

4.2 Professional staffs



Mr. Andrew Kelesi, Chief Legal Officer – Courts On Study Leave in Australia. Pursuing his Master of Laws. Major in Legal Practice. He started on the 25th of February this year and should finish his studies on the 30th of June 2019.



Ms. Florence Joel our Chief Legal Officer. She left the Office on the 9th of May to move into greener pastures. She was appointed as Deputy Secretary to Cabinet at the Prime Minister's Office.

Mr. Jasper Highwood Anisi.
Jasper Anisi, Senior Legal Officer
On Study Leave in Australia. He has completed his Master's Degree in Dispute Resolution at the University of New South Wales in Sydney.
At last, now reap the harvest with a smile....



Miss Dalcly Belapitu, newly recruited as Senior Legal Officer. She also the PSII Unit Coordinator.



Miss Patricia Kate Tabepuda, newly recruited as Senior Legal Officer. She also assisted in the ACMLPC Unit.



4.3 ODPP Unit Coordinators

For the past 11 years the Office appoints coordinators for specific areas of responsibilities. The practice allows for effectiveness, efficiency and therefore productivity gains, and perhaps importantly acknowledges managerial qualities possessed by certain officers and gives those officers a sense of recognition. Coordinators are appointed to look after the Magistrates Court, High Court and Court of Appeal, Anti-Corruption, Money Laundering and Proceeds of Crime, Family and Sexual Assault, Warrant and Advice, Tension Matters, General Crimes and Corporate Services/Support Unit. All Unit Coordinators are required to produce monthly activity reports and present them at monthly staff meetings. They may also be required to brief the DPP or Senior Management Team about any or a collection of matters.

4.4 ODPP Administration Staffs

2018 saw the Administration staffs, as we called ourselves support team started off with 16 Admin staff with the inclusion of Ms. Hellen Bennett and Mr. Spyros Koga who were now being appointed and recruited as SIG employees. They were funded by the Australian Aid for the past 3 years. We thank SIJP for that.

In October this year our Office Manager retired and the Director submitted for renewal of her Fixed Term Appointment which was approved by the Public Service Commission in December but awaiting official letter for next year.

- We maintained our 4 office guards, 1 office helper, 1 driver and 2 domestic helper for the Director. By the end of 2018 we were left with a total of 14 admin staff in Honiara.
- As for the Provinces we only have an Admin. Officer in Malaita Province – Mr. Stephen Gu'urau.
 - The admin staff lost a very helpful and dedicated officer, Ms. Trish Waiwori to take up higher posting with the Magistrate Court in Kirakira in mid-July.
 - Mrs. Mary Alasia's Fixed Term Contract lapsed in October, she was not employed since then awaiting her reinstatement as OM on FTA contact.

4.5 From the Practice Manager's Desk

Mrs. Sirepu Ngava Ramosaea



2018, was a year of reorganisation and adjustments in the Office to ensure smooth practice management and operation of the Office. The Office as usual lost 2 senior Prosecutors, one left for a greener pasture while the other left for 18 months study leave.

Despite the exit of the 2 seniors, 12 young vibrant prosecutors successfully carried on and completed the year on a very positive note. They were led by the Director and Prosecutions Adviser and were backed by the most active support staff. As usual against all odds and despite acute shortage of Prosecutors, ODPP managed to keep its doors wide open in Honiara, Malaita and Gizo and kept the wheels of justice turning.



Prosecutors prosecuted cases in the Magistrates Court, the High Court in Honiara and the Provinces and the Court of Appeal. They took on back to back trials and travelled to various parts of the country for court circuits in the Magistrates and High Court.

Statistics from our data base disclose 468 files pending as of 2017. 106 new files received in 2018 from Honiara, and other provinces - Temotu, Central, Makira, Rennell and Bellona and Isabel. This brings the total number of pending cases to 574 matters.

This figure does not include cases from ODPP Offices in Auki and Gizo. The 2 offices look after Malaita, Western and Choiseul Provinces.

Table 1 shows the distribution of the 106 cases received in 2018.

Month	Sexual offences	General Crime	Corruption	Advice	No. of files received
January	8	5	1	1	15
February	3	2	1	1	7
March	2	4		1	7
April	1	3			4
May	5	2			7
June		8	1	2	11
July	3	5			8
August	5	4		1	10
September	4	4	1	2	11
October	4	6		1	11
November	4	7			11
December	2	2			4
Total	41	52	4	9	106

The Office faces several challenges including shortage of Prosecutors, especially experienced ones, inadequate resources and office space. On several occasions in 2018 there were not enough Prosecutors to manage the case load and attend to all court matters. The shortage has become more acute in the light of the increase in the number of Magistrates courts circuits around the country. While the Magistracy was able to increase their staff strength as a result of increased staff establishment and budget, the ODPP did not have the benefit of increased staff establishment and budget.

Despite all odds the staff remains committed to their responsibilities. The year ended on a positive note and we look forward to what 2019 has in store for us.

4.6 Court Expenses and Witness Logistics

ODPP data and statistics show that from the end of January to December 2018 there was an increase in the number of witnesses brought from various locations to testify in trials in the Magistrates courts around the Provinces and Honiara. Many more cases were heard and completed in the Magistrates court in 2018.

On the contrary there was a decrease in the number of witnesses brought to testify in trials in the High Courts around the Provinces. The High Court did not have a full complement of judges as such many cases were vacated.

The RSIPF is a strong and supportive stakeholder of the ODPP. ODPP relies on RSIPF for service of summons to witnesses and defendants across the country. We also rely on them for transportation of witnesses from isolated locations outside of Honiara and across the Provinces. Our requests for



support and our expectations sometimes place additional pressure on RSIPF resources. We appreciate the RSIPF for their continued cooperation and help.

In 2018 ODPP faced several challenges in the area of locating and mobilizing witnesses. The challenges arose from shortage of manpower in some Police Stations and Posts in Honiara, and isolated Police posts outside Honiara. Other things that contributed to the challenges faced are unreliable means of communications, unavailability of case officers, inadequate Police vehicles to locate and serve summons on witnesses and defendants, lack of outboard motor fuel, and lack of office machines- fax, photocopier, scanners, printers etc.

Despite the many challenges, we were able to organize witnesses and transport them to court. Our hard working Witness Support Team worked patiently with the Police to ensure that goals are met and witnesses are organized and transported in a timely manner.

Based on 2018 trial calendars for the Magistrates and High courts and the ever increasing flow of new files into our office, we requested for increased budget for court expenses and travel for lawyers. The request was granted by the Ministry of Finance and our court expenses and lawyers travel budget was increased. We are grateful to the MoFT for their support.

Some trials ran according to court timetable while others did not run for one reason or another. Where possible, reserved trials were mobilized when principal trials could not proceed to trial.

Some trials took more time than was scheduled, in such cases witnesses had to be kept in the location where the court is holding, they have to be catered for until they were released by the court. This was expensive and cost more money than was projected.

The number of cases received in ODPP increases every year, it is therefore desirable that court expenses and travel for lawyers should increase every year so that the office can continue to discharge its mandate.

Toward the middle of the year, the office was given a brand new Hilux by SIG for running its official business. While this is a welcome thing, it must be stated here that the ODPP requires more than one official vehicle to carry out its mandate.

5. ODPP PROVINCIAL OFFICES

5.1 Auki ODPP Office

The Auki Office of the director of Public Prosecution was not busy in 2018. The Resident Principal Magistrate was unwell for most of the time and there were no high court judges to conduct high court circuits.

5.1.1 Auki Team

Mr. John Ekegren of AVI took charge of the office for most part of 2018, due to acute shortage of Prosecutors. He attended to all ODPP cases in the Province. He was supported by Prosecutors and Adviser who took turns to attend and prosecute cases at high court circuits and in the Magistrates court. The legal team was supported by the able Clerical Clerk Stephen Gu'urau.

In July Mr. Ekegren left Auki-ODPP office as scheduled for ODPP Honiara where he served the balance of his 12 months assignment. Prosecutors continued to take turns to attend the office in



Auki to prosecute cases and look after the office. Sometimes no Prosecutors were available to attend the office. Clerical Clerk looked after the office. He attended to administrative duties, sorted out Magistrates court cases with Police, Magistrates court criminal registry, Public Solicitors office and the public.

The Auki office has limited space and resources. It relies heavily on the RSIPF and Prosecutions office in Auki for service of summons, logistics for witnesses attending cases from around Malaita and other places and transportation for visiting Prosecutors.



**Mr. Stephen
Gu'urau**

5.1.2 Magistrates Court

Three (3) Magistrate court circuits took place in 2018. Only one (1) trial took place, it was adjourned till 2019 for continuation. Many matters were to committed to the high court and the files were transferred to the high court for trial. (See table below for results).

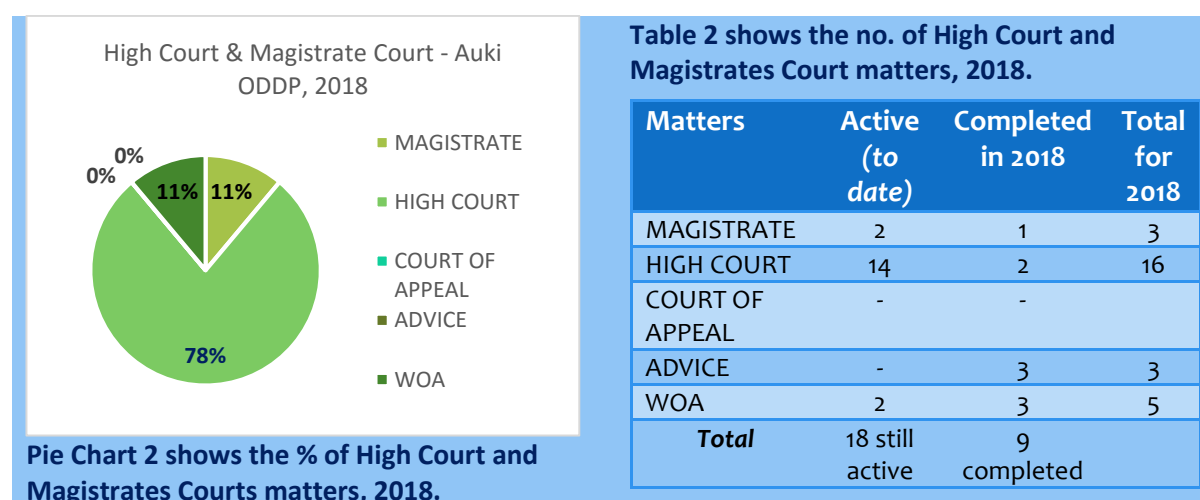


Mr. John Ekegren

5.1.3 High Court

Only two High court circuits were conducted in Auki throughout the year. All other scheduled high court circuits were vacated or cancelled due to unavailability of Judges.

5.1.4 Summary of cases in ODPP Auki 2018



5.1.5 Magistrate and High Court matters

The active files column is the number of active cases in the office as at December 2018. In the Magistrates Court we there are only 2 active cases. One of the cases is part heard for continuation of trial in 2019 and 6 cases were committed to the high court for trial.

There are 14 active cases High Court cases. Most of them are already set for trial in 2019. Only two matters were completed in the High Court in 2018.

Three advice matters were received, completed and sent back to the Auki Police. Three warrants were successfully executed, leaving only two outstanding ones.



5.2 Gizo ODPP Office

Gizo ODPP is serviced by one Resident Prosecutor and one Volunteer (AVI). They conduct trials in the Magistrates and high courts, they perform administrative tasks and work closely with Police Prosecutors, RSIPF, PSO and stakeholders, they also train the Police.

Volunteer Assistance

ODPP Gizo had the able assistance of AVI Molly Elliot for 12 months, working side by side with the Resident Prosecutor. Ms Elliot contributed greatly to the work of ODPP Gizo. Her assistance enabled the office to discharge its mandate. She advised the Resident Prosecutor on legal matters, assisted him in case preparation and research and mentored in management and administration of the office.

It is recommended that the Volunteer program should continue to assist the only resident Legal Officer in that office.

5.2.1 Gizo Team



Mr. Ishmael Kekou (Prosecutor)

Ms. Molly Elliot (AVI)

5.2.2 Cases

Active Cases carried on from 2017 was 39 cases. It is made up High Court and Magistrates courts matters. By the end of 2018 new files which came into the office during the year pushed the number up to 75 files; 10 High Court matters was disposed by way of trial or/and guilty plea, 16 matters were committed to the high Court from the Magistrates Court and 21 magistrate matters were

disposed by way of trial or/and guilty plea.

5.2.3 Police Trainings

Trainings were conducted for Police Prosecutors and Investigators at Seghe, Munda, Taro and Kultinai after court circuits. The trainings covered areas of difficulty encountered in court and identified by Prosecutors. The trainings were timely and useful. It helped the trainees to realize their mistakes and failures and the answers to their shortcomings. It helped them to improve their performance in investigations and in court.

5.2.4 Circuits

ODPP Gizo actively participated in Magistrates courts Circuits in the Western Province. The number of Magistrates court circuits in the Provinces increased in 2018. This is a welcome improvement. Justice is being delivered to more people outside Honiara.

5.2.5 Logistics Officer

There has been a steady increase of files coming into the ODPP from 2017 to 2018. As such, there is a need for additional staff to look after witnesses and other administrative matters. In November





Figure 3 ODPP Prosecutor, Mr. Ishmael Kekou in action against Defence Counsel Mr. Benham Ifuto'o at Gizo Magistrates Court, 2018.

2018, a Typist was employed to work with the ODPP Gizo. She is expected to resume duties early in 2019.

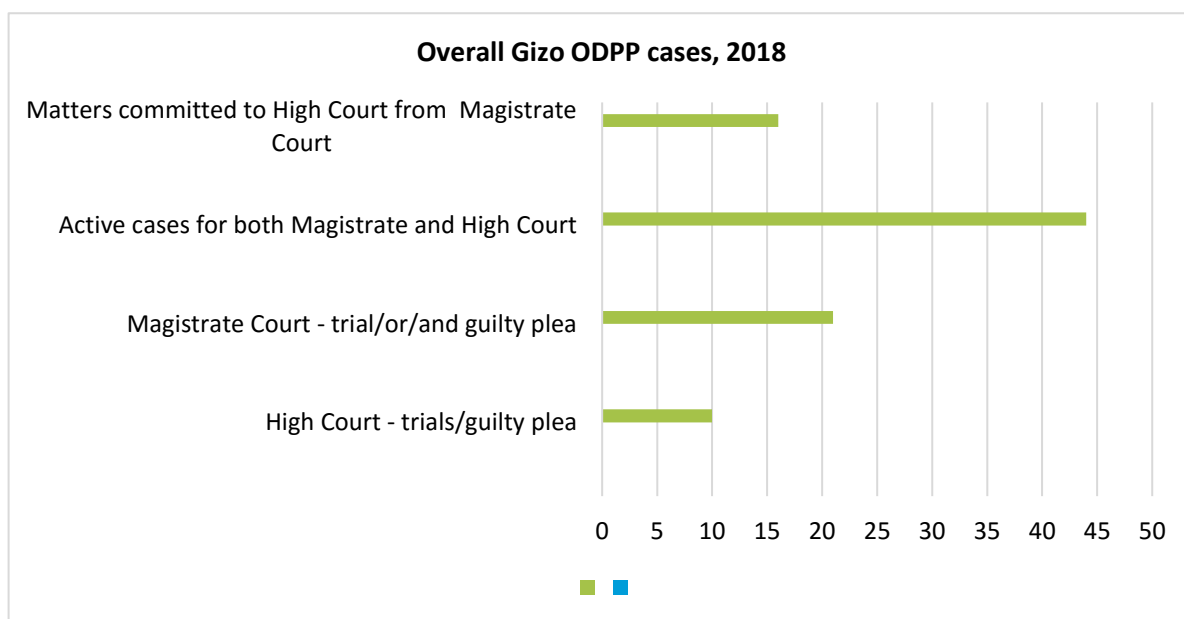
5.2.6 Magistrate Court Stakeholders' meeting

A meeting of Stakeholders was introduced early in the year. Stakeholders were invited to discuss matters affecting them and proffer suggestions and solutions to resolve the issues. The main problem discussed in the stakeholders meeting is the delay in the execution of WOA and service of summons. The Police expressed the difficulties they encounter in doing that role. It is the fluid system of accommodation and housing in the

country, the movement of people from place to place within the islands and unstable weather conditions. Sea movements are largely reduced during the rains

ODPP Gizo plays a vital role in the administration of justice and crime prevention in Western Province of Solomon Islands. Although there are challenges here and there, ODPP Gizo continues to play an increasingly better role to keep the wheels of justice rolling.

The number of cases completed in 2018 is much higher than the number completed in 2017.



Bar Chart 4 shows the no. of overall cases in GIZO ODPP, 2018.



6. REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

6.1 Court of Appeal

The Court of Appeal, the highest court of the Solomon Islands sits twice a year. First sitting is usually in April and the second sitting in September. At every session of the Court of appeals all pending civil and criminal appeals are heard and judgments are delivered.

The Director of Public prosecutions is always a party in criminal appeals.

It is to be noted that there are not many appeals by the Crown. This is due to a combination of factors, the heavy workload in the ODPP which leaves little or no time for Prosecutors to carefully analyse court decisions to determine if an appeal is required, the inadequate number of senior and experienced Prosecutors and the limited appellate advocacy skills of local Prosecutors.

Since 2017 when Advisers stopped appearing in court, all appeals are prosecuted by 4 local prosecutors and the DPP, with the assistance of Prosecutions Advisor in preparation of written submissions and preparations for oral submissions.

In 2018 only 5 criminal appeals were filed and completed. One of those appeals was by the Crown while the other four were by the convicted person. There could have been more Crown appeals if Prosecutors had time and skills to analyse court judgments and prepare appeal papers.

6.1.1 April 2018

Table 3 shows the appeal cases at the Court of Appeal in April 2018.

Appeal type	Type	Outcome
1 Regina v D O	The respondent was acquitted by the high court of one count of manslaughter contrary to section 119 and the alternative charge of Rash or negligent act contrary to section 119 of the Penal Code. The Crown appealed the decision of the high court Judge on the grounds that the respondent should have been convicted of the lesser charge.	The appeal was successful. The Respondent was convicted of lesser charge of Rash and negligent act contrary to section 119 of the Penal Code.
2 M C v Reginam	The appellant was charged with 4 counts of perjury. After trial at the Central Magistrates Court she was acquitted. The Crown appeal against the acquittal to the High Court. The acquittal was over turned and the matter was sent back to the Magistrates Court for retrial. The appellant appealed the decision of the High Court to the Court of Appeal.	The appeal was successful. The order of the High Court was set aside and the appellant was acquitted of all 4 counts of perjury.
3 B B v Reginam	The appellant was charged with theft and money laundering, he pleaded guilty to both charges. The charge of theft was dealt with at the Magistrate Court and he was sentenced to 12 months imprisonment. The Money laundering charge was committed to the High Court and dealt with at the High Court, he was sentenced to 2 years imprisonment. He appealed against the sentence of 2 years imprisonment.	The appeal was successful appeal The sentence of imprisonment for two years for money laundering was quashed, because he had spent time in prison no separate penalty was imposed.



6.1.2 September 2018

Table 4 shows the no. of cases at the Court of Appeal, 2018.

	Appeal type	Type	Outcome
1	VS v Regina	The respondent was charged with unlawful sexual intercourse with a child under the age of 13 years. He was convicted and sentenced to 9 years imprisonment. He appealed against the conviction.	The appeal was dismissed. The conviction was upheld and the sentence was confirmed.
2	WS v Regina	Appellant charged and convicted of sexual intercourse with a girl under age. He was convicted and sentenced to 2 years imprisonment. He appealed against conviction	The appeal was successful. The conviction and subsequent sentence were quashed.

6.2 High Court and High Court Circuits

On 16 January 2018 the High Court of Solomon Islands opened its doors to the people of Solomon Islands again after the opening ceremony of the 2018 legal year. The Court had been on vacation from the second week of December 2017.

Three (3) High Court Criminal Courts were opened in January 2018 and three judges were assigned to preside in those courts.

In November 2017, the criminal court trial calendar for January to July 2018 was decided and published by the Case listing committee. The Committee met again in August 2018 to list matters for the rest of the year 2018 (August to December).

The Case Listing Committee continues to follow the High Court policy of listing a principal and reserved trial for every week or sometimes for 2 or 3 weeks. If the principal trial is not able to proceed for any reason, the reserved trial is expected to proceed. The Policy is to ensure that court time is well spent and that there is no wastage of court time. Trials that don't proceed are considered to be vacated. Vacated matters are sent back to the Case listing committee to reset trial dates. In listing matters the Case listing committee takes several factors into account and gives priority is given to long outstanding matters, homicide cases and Sexual offences.

From January to June 2018, forty nine (49) cases were listed for trials at the High Court. Eighteen (18) out of the forty nine (49) cases commenced to trial. The other thirty one (31) cases were vacated for various reasons. The most common reason was unavailability of trial lawyers due to the shortage of lawyers in the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) and the Public Solicitor's Office (PSO). Other reasons were inability of the Police to locate defendants who are on bail or Crown witnesses and non-availability of Judges due to sick leave, overseas conferences and other related reasons.

Forty four trials (44) were listed for July to December. Only eight (8) of those cases went to trial. The rest were vacated and sent back to the case listing committee for new trial dates. The matters were vacated for the same reasons as in the first half of the year. Some of the cases vacated, (including part heard matters) in the first half of the year were relisted for the second half of the year.

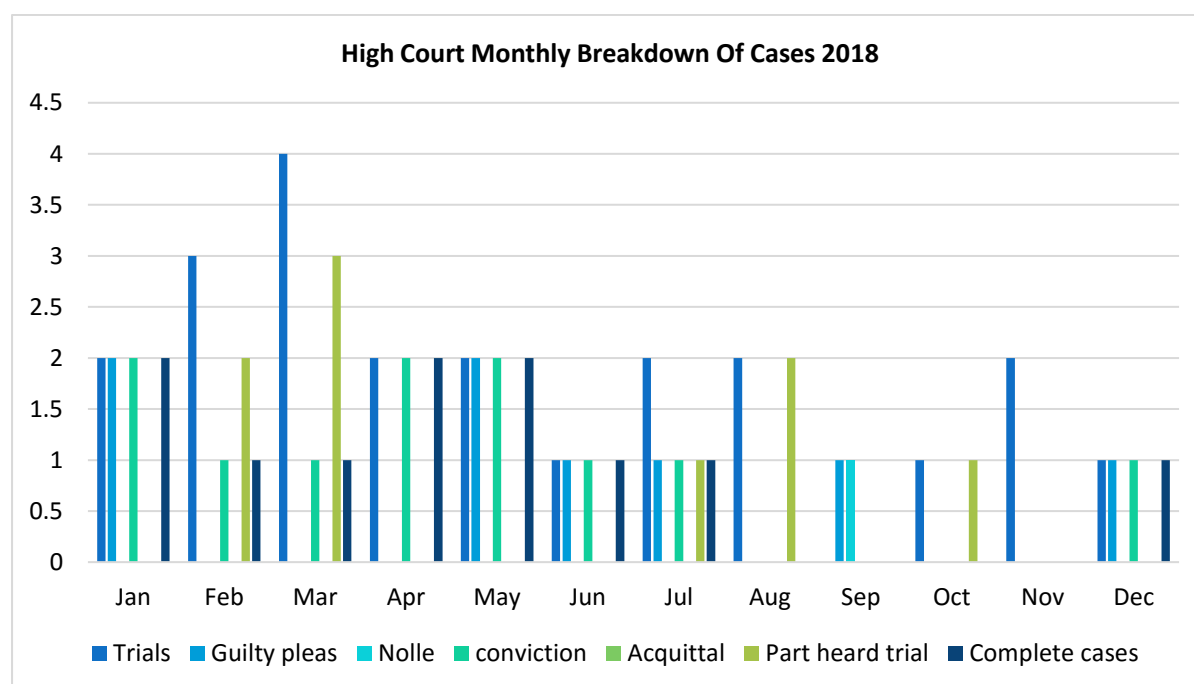


6.2.1 High Court Appeal Matters

There are forty (40) pending High Court Appeal matters reflected in the JIMS. In 2018, Four (4) appeal matters were completed. Judgement was delivered in three of the appeals while judgment is pending in one matter. One (1) appeal matter was discontinued. The outstanding matters will be carried forward into 2019.

Table 5 shows the monthly breakdown of cases, 2018.

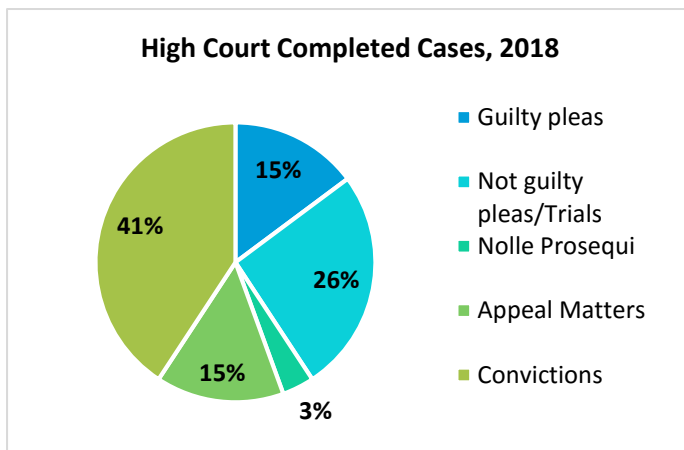
Month	No. of trials	No. of Guilty Pleas	Nolle or Offer of no further evidence	Conviction	Acquittal	Part Heard Trial	Total no. of case completed
Jan	2	2		2			2
Feb	3			1		2	1
Mar	4			1		3	1
April	2			2			2
May	2	2		2			2
Jun	1	1		1			1
Jul	2	1		1		1	1
Aug	2					2	
Sep			1				
Oct	1					1	
Nov							
Dec	1	1		1			1



Bar Chart 5 shows the High Court monthly breakdown of cases, 2018.

At the end of 2018 eleven (11) cases were complete. Seven (7) of which were guilty pleas and four (4) were full trial matters on Not Guilty Pleas. Eight (8) cases were part heard and a *Nolle Prosequi* was entered in one matter in September. A *Nolle Prosequi* is where the DPP discontinues a case either because the accused, or complainant is dead, there is insufficient evidence to sustain the charge or a vital witness is missing or dead. When the DPP enters a *Nolle Prosequi*, the defendant





Pie Chart 6 shows the High Court completed cases, 2018.

will be discharged, but he may be recharged. For example in cases where witnesses are missing and they are later found, the DPP can recharge the offender. The Director of Public Prosecution has administrative powers to enter a *Nolle Prosequi* pursuant to section 68 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

This Pie Chart reflects Table 5 (above) on completed matters. It excludes the part heard trials which were not completed and will continue into 2019.

6.2.2 A Comparative Analysis of High Court Complete Matters for 2016 to 2018

On the whole the High Court was not as busy in 2018 as it usually is. Bar Chart 5 (above) illustrates that there has been a drastic drop in the number of cases in 2018 compared to 2016 and 2017. Forty one (41) cases were completed in 2016, twenty five (25) cases were completed in 2017 and eleven (11) cases complete in 2018.

6.3 Magistrates Court and Magistrates Court Circuit

The Magistrates Courts deal with matters that are not as complex as those that are dealt with by the High court. There are matters that the Magistrates courts can preside over and there are other matters that they cannot preside over. If a matter cannot be heard by a Magistrate of any class it has to be committed to the High Court.

The Magistrates court unit is one of the units in ODPP. It coordinates all ODPP cases in the Magistrate Courts to ensure efficient and effective disposal of cases.

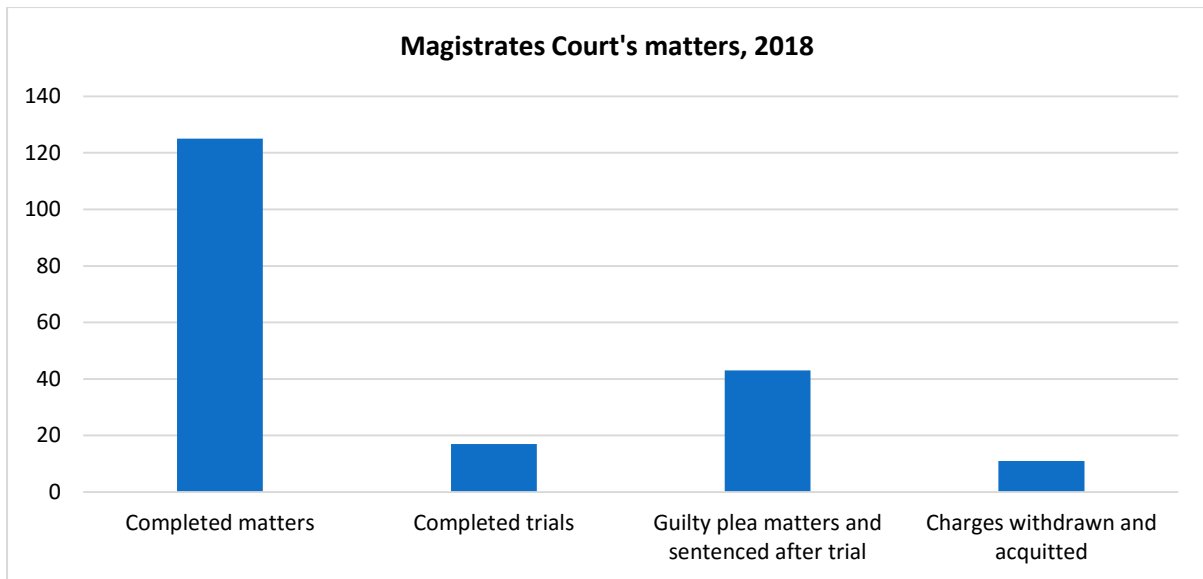
Criminal matters of different levels of seriousness and complexities continue to increase every year. This increase and sophistication of matters require good file management, good skills and adequate resources.

The number of cases disposed of in 2018 increased despite the fact that there was an acute shortage of Prosecutors remains. This was possible because of the hard work and extra efforts put in by individual Prosecutors and the collective efforts of ODPP staff.

The Central Magistrate Court sits every day except on public holidays. The expectations of Magistrates are high, they insist on progressing matters and leave no allowance for adjournments even when there are good reasons for granting adjournments. As a result of the combined efforts of all players-Court, Prosecutors, Defence, accused persons, witnesses and others, the Magistrates court achieved a very high level of case disposal in 2018. It is to be noted though that the number of actual trials was not high by any standard.

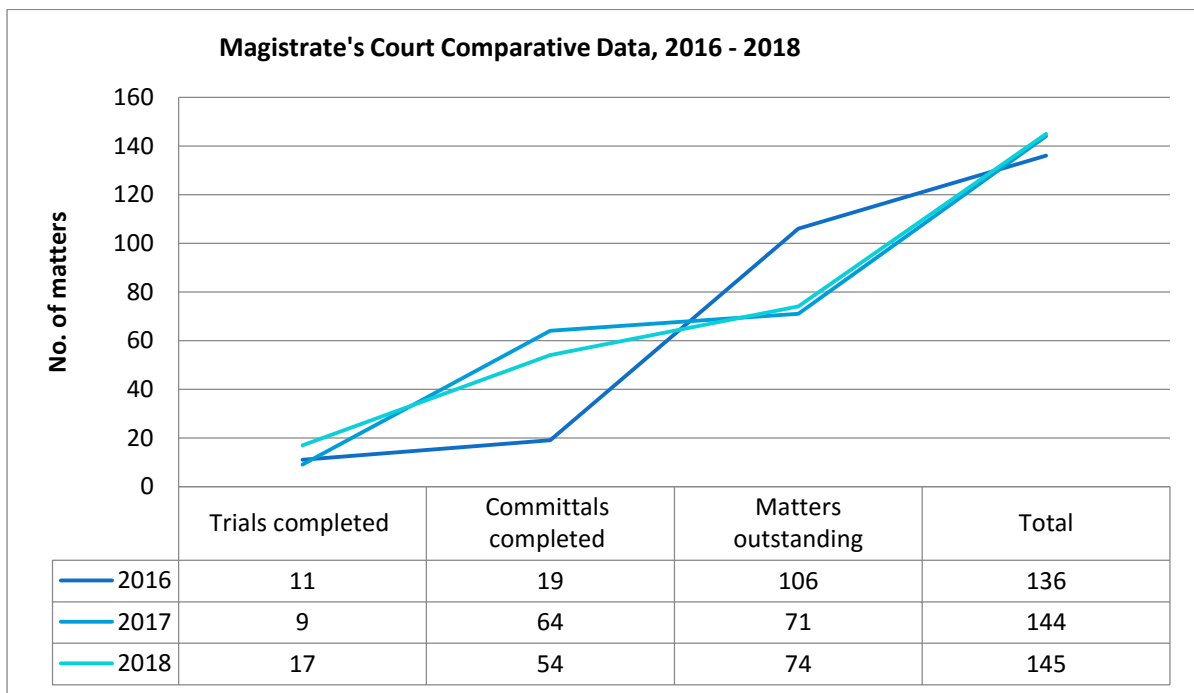
The bar Charts (below) show the rate of case disposal at the Central Magistrate Court in 2018.





Bar Chart 7 shows the no. of cases disposed in 2018.

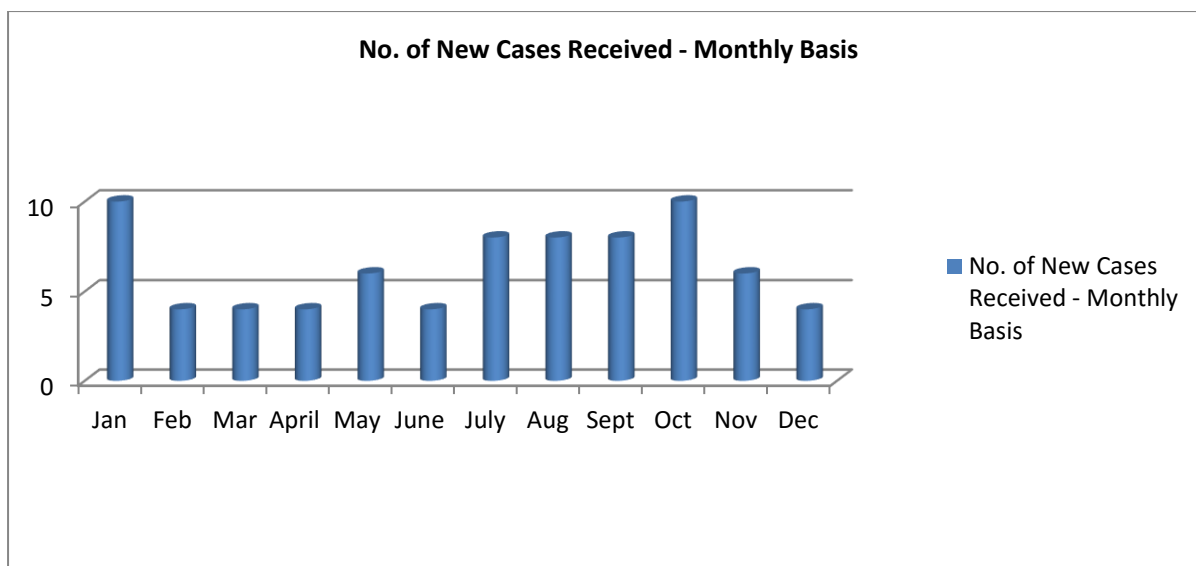
Bar Chart 7 (above) shows the various ways in which cases were disposed at the Central Magistrates Courts. In comparison to previous years there is a slight increase in the number disposed of in 2018.



Bar Chart 8 shows the comparative data analysis, 2016-2018.

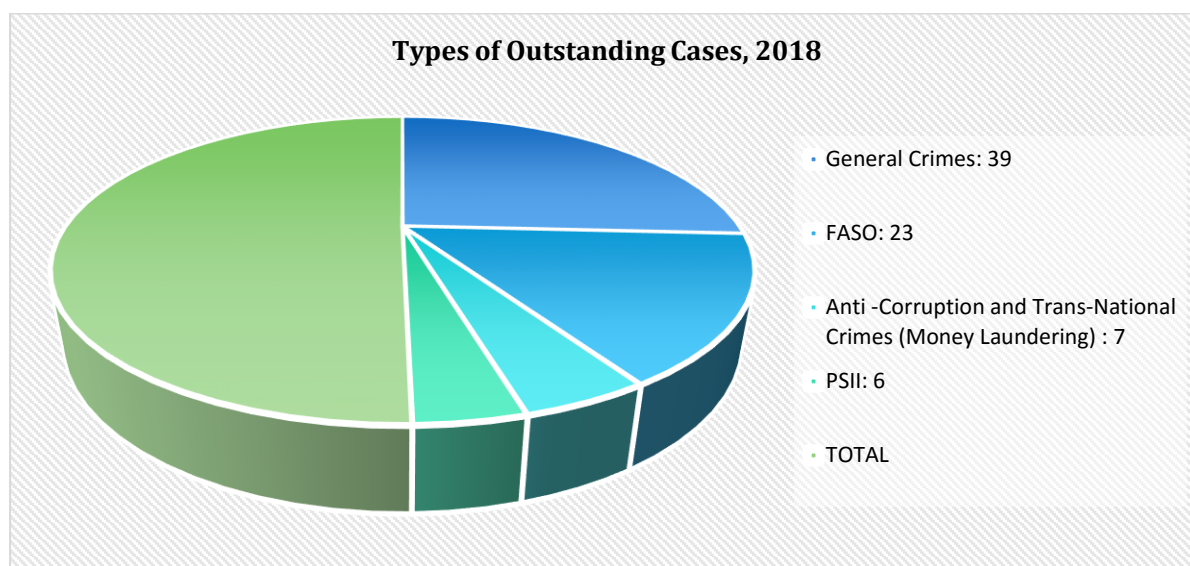
Bar Chart 8 (above) shows the slight increase in the number of cases disposed from 2016 to 2018. The graph also shows that there was a big decrease in the number of outstanding matters between 2016 and 2017 while the decrease in 2017 and 2018 is almost of no significance. The increase in the number of completed matters from 2016 to 2017 is not significant. The outstanding matters include cases received every month.





Bar Chart 9 shows the no. of cases received every month, 2018.

78 cases were received in 2018. There is a decrease in the number of cases received. The received cases are made up of general crimes, sexual assaults, corruption, money laundering and transnational crimes and PSII cases.



Pie Chart 10 shows the types of outstanding cases in CMC, 2018.

Pie Chart 10 (above) shows that General Crimes Offences are the highest outstanding matters, followed by Sexual Offences, Anti-Corruption and Trans-National Crimes and PSII.

6.3.1 Provincial Court Circuits

Apart from sitting in Honiara the Central Magistrates courts also sit in Provincial court circuits where there are no resident Magistrates, in the Central District and Eastern Districts. Resident Magistrates sit in places other than their station. They sit in Lata, Tulagi, Yandina, Marau, Buala and Renbel.

In 2018 ODPP attended 3 circuits. ODPP cases in Lata were disposed during those 3 circuits.

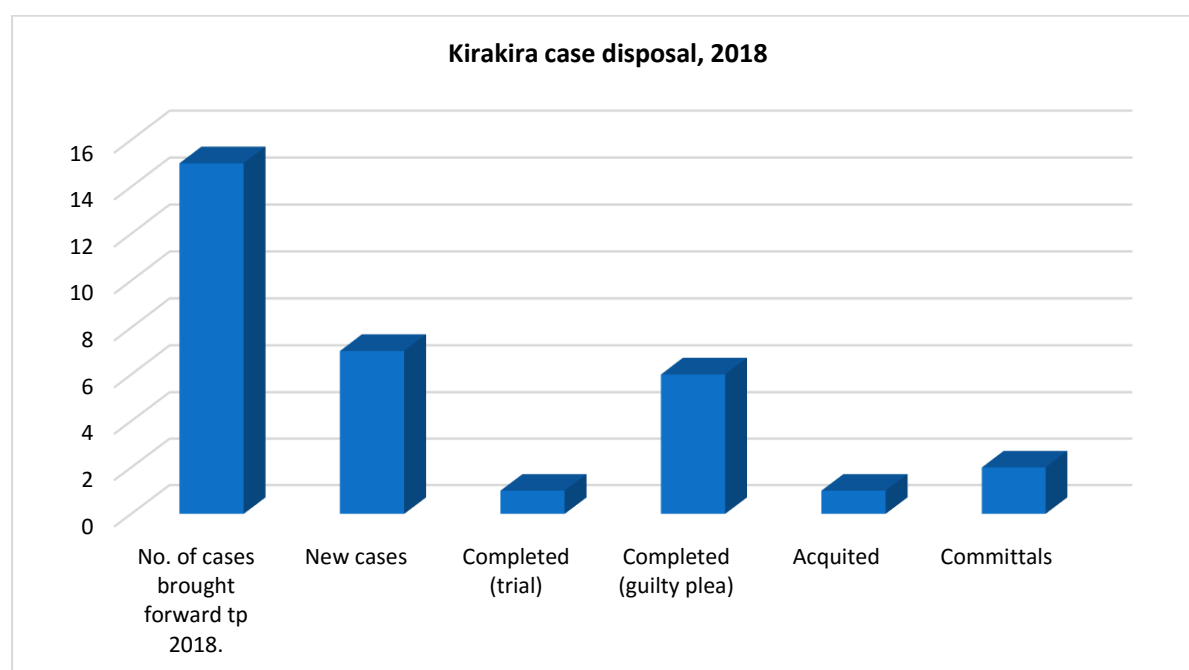


Table 6 shows the Disposal of Provincial Circuit cases, 2018.

Location	No. of cases brought forward to 2018	No. of cases completed	New cases	Outstanding cases
Lata	7	9	9	7
Buala	6	6	0	0
Malu'u	3	3	0	0

6.3.2 Kirakira monthly visit

Apart from circuits to different Provinces, the ODPP does monthly visit to Kirakira Magistrate Court where there is a resident Magistrate and PSO officer. ODPP has no office in Kirakira yet but is working on establishing one in 2019. The monthly visit can be for one or more weeks depending on how many cases are for trial.



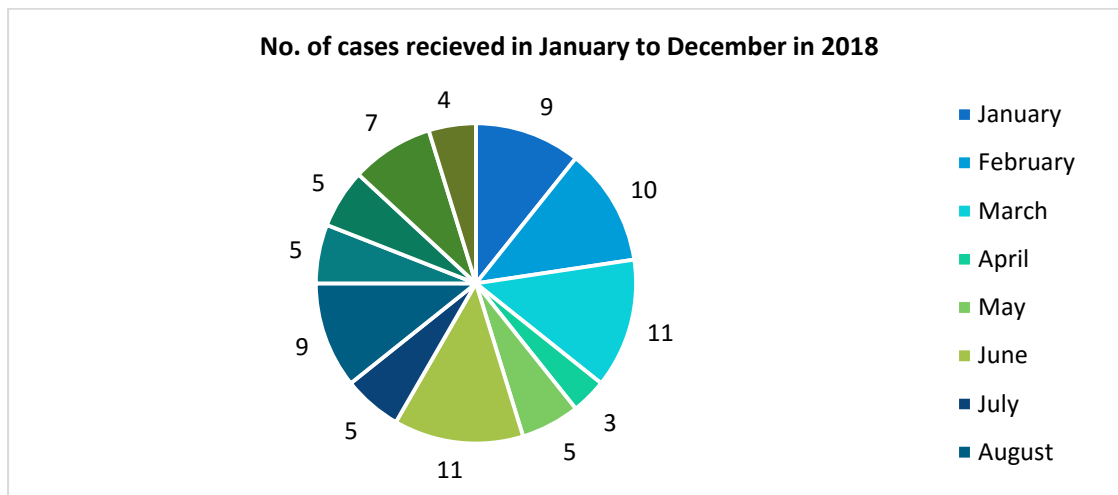
Bar Chart 11 shows the no. of cases disposed at Kirakira, 2018.

There were 15 outstanding cases brought forward to 2018. 7 new cases were added to the list. One case was completed by way of trial and six others were completed by way of guilty plea. Two matters were committed to the HC. One offender was acquitted after trial. 10 matters disposed.



6.4 ODPP Unit Reports

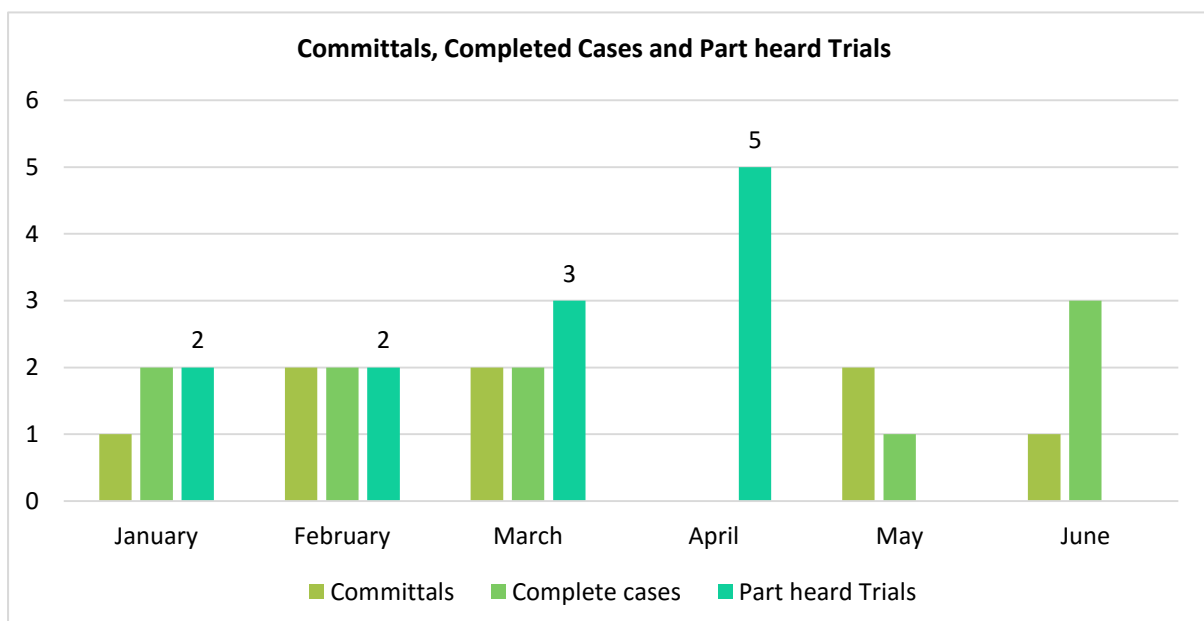
6.4.1 Family and Sexual Offences (FASO) Unit



Pie Chart 12 shows the no. of new cases received: January to December 2018.

The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions received 84 sexual offence cases in 2018. Pie Chart 12 reflects the number of cases received each month over the twelve months. All of the cases have been charged under the Penal Code (Amendment) (Sexual Offences) Act 2016.

6.4.1.1 Report on the first half of the year



Bar Chart 13 shows the no. of committals, completed cases and part heard trials: January – June 2018.



Bar Chart 13 (above), three things are depicted. Firstly, **Committals** of sexual offence cases. These are cases of serious nature which carries between a maximum penalty of 14 years to life imprisonment. These cases are committed from the Magistrate's Court to the High Court for trial. The committal process are in two forms. A Short Form Preliminary (SFPI) Hearing and a Long Form Preliminary (LFPI) Hearing. The former involves the Crown presenting to the Magistrate's Court a deposition made up of all the relevant evidence in the case. The Court will assess the evidence and if it is satisfied that there is a prima facie case – it will commit the matter to the High Court for trial. In contrast, in the Long Form – selected witnesses are called to testify in Court on a disputed issue, if the Court finds that there is a prima facie case, it will commit the matter to the High Court.

In January only one (1) case was committed. Two (2) cases were committed in February, March and May. One (1) committal in June.

Summary cases are heard at the Magistrate's Court. Summary cases are a range of sexual offence cases which the Magistrate has jurisdiction to deal with. These are not committed to the High Court.

Secondly, **Completed cases** reflect matters that have proceeded to hearings and resulted in conviction, or matters that have resolved by guilty pleas.

Guilty pleas are when the accused decide to admit that he/she committed the offence and enters a guilty plea. After a guilty plea, conviction and sentence follows.

In January Two (2) matters were completed by guilty pleas, Two (2) guilty pleas in February, two (2) guilty pleas in March, one (1) guilty plea in May and three (3) guilty pleas in June. No matter was completed in April.

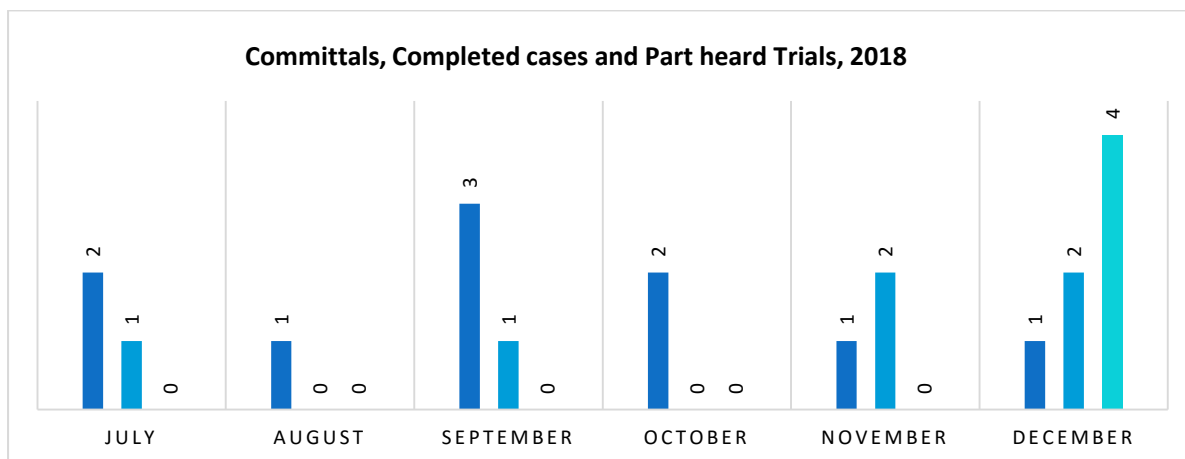
Eight (8) matters were heard in the Magistrate's Court and two (2) matters in the High Court.

Thirdly, the chart shows **Part heard trials**. These are matters where the trial has not been completed.

In the first six months, twelve cases commenced trials but were not completed within or by the allocated time. Trials are usually set to run for a week or two depending on the number of witnesses and evidence involved. Part heard trials are inevitable for various reasons such as limited number of lawyers, available judges, limited budget and logistics. Different situations cause hiccups in the flow of a trial. Consequently, a trial may stop at some point and adjourn to continue on another date. For instance, a Counsel or the presiding Magistrate may have commitments that arise in the course of a trial. The presiding Magistrate or Judge may fall ill or have taken a leave on medical grounds. A witness for the Crown may not be immediately available hence the matter will be deferred to allow time to locate a witness or arrange logistics to bring him/her to trial. These are some of the reasons cases are partly heard in the Courts. It is the responsibility of the Counsel, agencies and the Courts to communicate to ensure these matters progress to completion.



6.4.1.2 Report on the second half of the year



Bar Chart 14 shows the no. of committals, completed cases and part heard trials: July – December 2018.

Graph number 3 highlights the progress of sexual offence cases in the second half of the year. In particular to matters that were committed to the High Court; complete cases and part heard trials.

6.4.1.3 Committals

In July two (2) cases were committed to the High Court for trial. One (1) in August, three (3) in September, two (2) in October and one (1) in November and December respectively.

Six (6) cases were completed. Five (5) cases were completed by way of pleas. One (1) at the Magistrate's Court and four (4) at the High Court. One (1) case was complete by a trial at the Magistrate's Court.

By December there were four (4) part heard trials. They were all deferred to 2019. All four cases are High Court matters.

The number of sexual offence cases received in 2018 is not unusual. Sexual offence cases make up almost three quarter of the cases we receive each year. This includes cases in Honiara and in the provinces. The graphs above do not accurately reflect all cases received in 2018. The statistics does not include cases received in the provinces.

There is need for improved and better system of collating and recording data, so that the FASO unit report can reflect accurate figures of all sexual offence cases from around Solomon Islands. The challenge lies in the manner of record keeping by each prosecutor and updating the Justice Information Management System.

However, the graphs show that the pace at which the cases are being dealt with at the Magistrate's Court and the High Court is slow but sturdy. The real challenge in progressing the cases depend on human resources, budgets, and logistics not only for the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, but the same applies to other agencies such as the Police, the Courts, and other stalk holders. We hope for better management of sexual offences cases in 2019.



6.4.2 Professional Standard and Internal Investigations (PSII) Unit

6.4.2.1 Files Received and completed at the Magistrates Court

The Professional Standard & Internal Investigations Unit (PSII) is a department within the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF). It is a unit responsible for the investigation of major discipline matters brought to their attention related to internal affairs. The PSII Unit within the ODPP was established in 2018 on the initiative of the Director of Public Prosecutions who had a vision to better monitor PSII Matters received by the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Table 7 shows the no. of cases received, 2018.

Month	No. of cases received
January	0
February	1
March	2
April	0
May	1
June	2
July	1
August	1
September	1
October	0
November	1
December	0
Total	10

The role of PSII Unit is to keep a record of the progress of all PSII matters and collate data for monthly and quarterly report.

In 2018, the unit received **9 new matters**. As displayed in Figure 1.1, more cases were received in the first half of the year than in the latter half of the year.

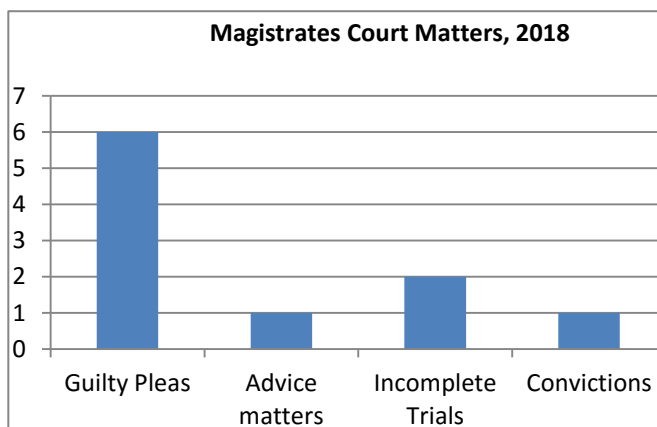
Apart from those **9 new matters** received in 2018, there are **8 matters** that were carried forward from 2017. All these 8 matters were already dealt with by way of guilty plea, and are awaiting to be closed by prosecutor in carriage of the matters.

6.4.2.2 No. of Offences committed within the year 2018 in the Magistrates Court

Offences committed	No. of cases
General Offences	8
Domestic Violence	2

Table 8 shows the no. of offences committed at CMC, 2018.

6.4.2.3 PSII Matters completed in the Magistrates Court



In respect of Magistrates Court matters in 2018, 6 matters were dealt with by way of guilty pleas, 1 matter went through trial and accused was convicted afterwards. And 1 matter was carried forward for continuation of trial.

In 2018, there are no matters committed to the High Court, except matters that carried forward from the previous years.



Overall 2018 was a very good and productive year for the unit in the Central Magistrates Court.

Bar Chart 15 shows the no. of different matters in Magistrates Court, 2018.

6.4.3 General Crimes Unit

The General Crimes Unit coordinates and monitors all criminal matters except for sexual offences, corruption offences, economic, transnational crime and tension matters.

The Unit is responsible for monitoring the files received, the matters disposed and reports directly to the DPP in relations to monthly reports.

The unit is coordinated by the Practice Manager and supported by a Senior Legal officer.

In relations to new matters that are received by the Office, matters when received are forwarded to the Practice Manager by the corporate service who then allocate the matters to the prosecutors subjected to experience of the prosecutors.

6.4.3.1 Reflections

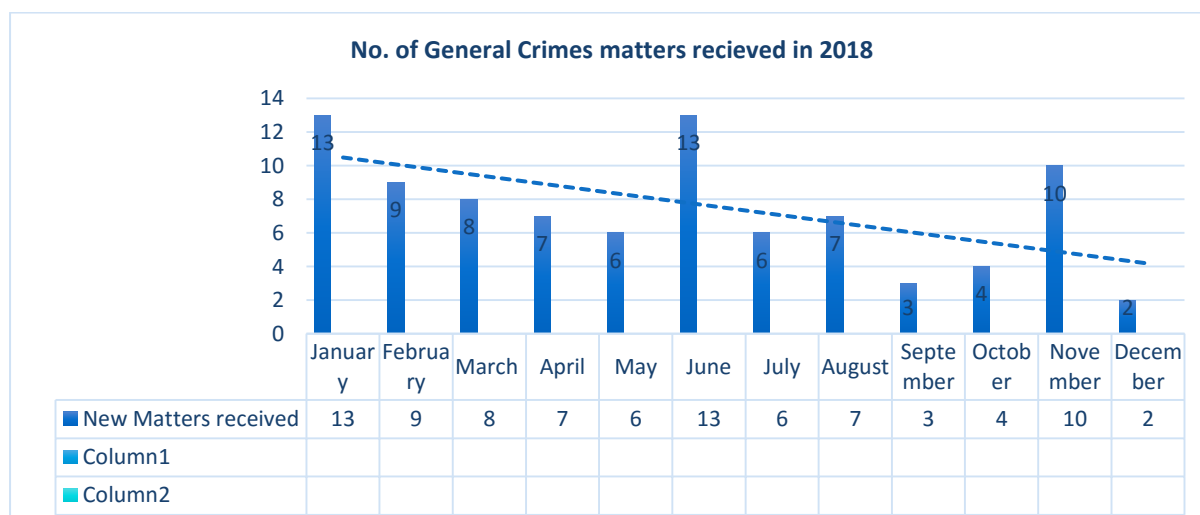
Year 2018 had been a challenging year for the office, having regards that some of our senior legal officers left to new offices whilst some senior lawyers had to pursue further studies, leaving few lawyers in the office to deal with the burden off managing the office files and to ensure that matters are progressed. However, we could not leave out the assistance of the volunteers who had sacrificed their time and efforts to work and assist the lawyers in the office.

Nevertheless, it is indeed an exciting year for the junior lawyers who were pushed to their limits, being exposed and hence gaining more experience.

Further to that, year 2018 had brought new insights in how to efficiently and effectively deal with office matters and also enable office and the Ministry to vie for more new posts in the officer in seeing the great need to employer further number of new lawyers.

6.4.3.2 Matters received in 2018

In 2018 a total of 88 new files were received. This is similar trend as compared to the previous years. It is evident that of all the General Crimes matters, there is an increase in the trend of Arson cases mostly in the rural areas and also increase in the young offenders or Juveniles.



Bar Chart 16 shows the no. of General Crimes matters disposed at the CMC, 2018.

6.4.3.3 Matters disposed

In 2018 the Office have a number of matters that were disposed at the Central Magistrates Courts.

About more than 22 matters were disposed making it the average rate of disposal of matter at a minimum of 2-3 matters per month. Of the total number of matters disposed, 59 % were disposed by way of guilty plea and 41 % of the matters completed came through after trial. Few matters that had been set for trial in 2018 and should have been dealt with where vacated due to defendants absconding and failing to attend court.

6.4.3.4 New Developments

We applaud the development of the new Juveniles Court. The Juveniles court is appropriate avenue to deal with quick disposal of matters relating juvenile offenders rather than having to be dealt with at the High Court.

6.4.4 The Anti-Corruption, Money Laundering and Proceeds of Crime (ACMPLC) Unit

ODPP continues to combat corruption and fraud in the Solomon Islands through its prosecutions services and relationship/coordination with stakeholders. The Unit collects and collates data throughout the year on Crimes of Corruption and Fraud. Our professional network is maintained with the Corruption, Fraud and JANUS Taskforce team throughout the year. The unit maintains the ODPP's relationship with the AMLTEG through the quarterly meetings usually attended by the DPP and the Unit team.

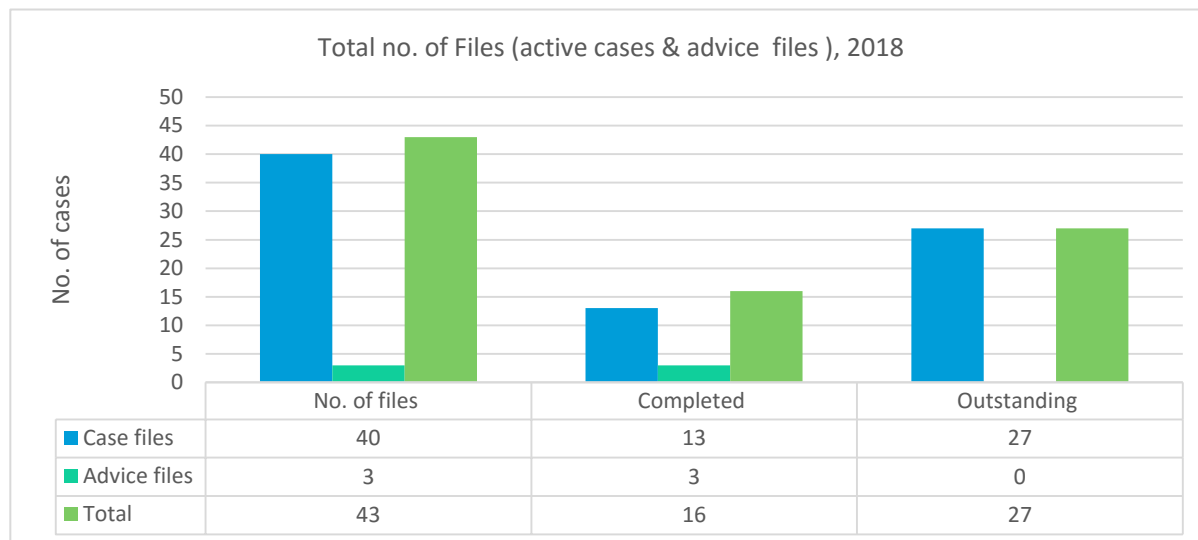
This year we have seen the enactment of the Anti-Corruption Act 2018 and Whistle Blowers Act 2018. This is one of the two major achievement of the Unit in 2018 as ODPP has been active in contributing to the early stages of both Legislation through consultations and presentation before the Bills and Legislation Committee. We celebrate this achievement with other stakeholders who have worked tirelessly to ensure the Act is passed and gazetted. The challenge now is the prosecutions of offences under the ACA 2018 in the absence of the Solomon Islands Independent Commission Against Corruption (SIICAC) established under the Act.

The second achievement this year is seen in the Unit's participation by responding to the Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Financial Action Task Force (APG ML/TF FATF) Mutual Evaluation as a member country. The Assessors made a pre on-site visit prior to the actual on-site assessment. The Assessors are from Australia, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Japan, New Zealand and the APG Secretariat. The Unit participated fully in researches on the current laws and cases related to Corruption and Fraud (Money laundering, Proceeds of Crime, Conversion, False Pretence, Forgery and Uttering, Falsifying Documents etc.). The Unit worked determinedly to ensure that all the questions relevant to the ODPP are addressed in timely manner to ensure that an introspective feedback is shown in the report. The Unit Coordinators went before the APG Assessors on their first pre onsite visit at the Central Bank of Solomon Islands. The actual onsite assessment visit was in October 2018 and attended by the DPP, Unit Coordinator, Attorney Generals Chamber's representative and 3 ODPP Prosecutors.



In 2018, the office recorded 6 new active files for prosecutions and maintains its record of active case and advice files that have been brought forward from 2017 and still active in court.

The Bar Chart 17 (below) shows active and advice files in the office in 2018. It also shows matters that were completed either by way of trial or guilty plea in the courts and matters in which legal advice were rendered to the Police and other investigators.



Bar Chart 17 shows the no. of corruption files (cases), 2018.

6.4.4.1 International Anti-Corruption Day 2018

The International Anti-Corruption Day is usually celebrated on the 9th of December each year. ODPP Staff both Legal and Corporate participated during the International Anti-Corruption Day march from Honiara City Council to the National Museum Auditorium on 10th December 2018. The march was organised by the Transparency Solomon Islands. A booth was set up at the Auditorium grounds, with pamphlets being shared to public who have shown keen interest to know about the functions and roles of the ODPP and what the Unit does in fighting corruption and other fraud-related matters. The team was fortunate to have seen the Prime Minister Hon. Rick Houenipwela launched the Anti-Corruption Act 2018 and the Whistle-Blowers Act 2018 during the celebration.

6.4.4.2 23rd Global Programme on Anti-Corruption, Finance Crime and Asset Recovery

The Global Programme on Anti-Corruption, Financial Crime and Asset Recovery was held in Jakarta, Indonesia from 10-14 December 2018. This training was organised by the INTERPOL and funded by the United States Department of Justice. ODPP was fortunate to be given a space and the DPP nominated the Unit Coordinator, Ms. Rizzu to attend on behalf of the office and Solomon Islands. Investigators and Prosecutors were the target audience for this training. Simulation exercises was part of the training which gave a more practical view to how best Corruption and Financial Crimes as well as Asset Recovery can be done effectively and efficiently. Investigating and Prosecuting such offences is complex because of the technicalities, this training has expanded the knowledge of how best ODPP can improve and apply skills learned from simulation exercises.

The photo (re page 32) is Courtesy of INTERPOL: Participants from all over Asia and Pacific, Secretariat from INTERPOL and Speakers who are experts in Anti-Corruption, Financial Crimes and Asset



Recovery in Jakarta, Indonesia, 10-14 December 2018. Ms. Elma Veenah Rizzu at the centre (sitting 7th from left and right) attended on behalf of ODPP as the Unit Coordinator.



6.4.5 Ethnic Tension (ET) Unit

Our record show that as at December 2017, five Ethnic Tension (ET) cases are outstanding and awaiting hearing dates from the High court of Solomon Islands. From these outstanding cases, in two of the matters Warrants of arrests previously issued against accused are still outstanding. One matter was committed to the High Court for trial in 2018 and was completed in the same year. By end of 2018, there are 4 outstanding matters before the High Court awaiting trial dates.

The ODPP continues to strive to improve procedures and case management systems within the office to enable us keep track of cases and ensure that they are listed for hearing as quickly as possible. However a number of difficulties appear on the way to that ideal:

One of the major problems faced in the timely disposal of cases is the inadequacy of judicial officers, defense counsel and Prosecutors. In 2018, only one ET matter was completed after trial.

In the time of RAMSI, Donors generously assisted Solomon Islands in the timely disposal of tension cases through the provision of assistance-technical and logistical. For this we are grateful. As a result of that help we were able to complete most of the tension cases that were investigated.

Since RAMSI's exit in 2017 it has not been easy to execute outstanding warrants of arrest and complete outstanding investigations that require resources that RSIPF does not have. It has also been difficult to mobilize witnesses from around the country. The offences were committed over 16 years ago, a good number of witnesses have changed addresses and cannot be found again while some witnesses have died. A number of tension cases were delisted because witnesses cannot be located. In one of the cases the Accused has made an application for Permanent stay of criminal proceedings due to inordinate delay in prosecuting the charges. ¹ This hearing of that application is pending in the High Court.

¹ *R v Carradine Pitakaka* CRC 556 of 2004.



It has also been difficult to mobilize witnesses for tension trials due to lack of communication with Police in remote places, where there are no communication equipment, proper roads and transportation to bring witnesses to court. In the remote Police Posts, Police officers find it difficult to mobilize witnesses for trial. They need long notices of trial dates so that they can arrange transport to mobilize witnesses. Sometimes they have to walk hours to get to witnesses' locations only to find out that the witness/es are no longer living there.

A continuing challenge for the office in prosecuting Tension cases is the lack of experienced local prosecutors to prosecute such cases. Those who were trained in the past have left the office for better employments.

Efforts are being made by all stakeholders to ensure that some Tension cases are listed for trial and heard in 2019. However, unless the underlying issues highlighted above are adequately addressed, the trend will continue.

The few tension cases that are outstanding have been pending for a long time. There is a need to dispose of them as quickly as possible without any further delay.

6.4.6 Learning and Development Unit

6.4.6.1 Overview of trainings, workshops, conferences and meetings

Training is crucial for organizational development and success. Trainings are opportunities to expand the knowledge and skills of staff. Capacity development of staff is an important aspect in any work force.

Every year ODPP lawyers and corporate services team receive invitations to attend trainings, conferences or workshops in-country and internationally. Those trainings and workshops help to build the capacity of staff and improve the needed skills for the jobs they do. In particular International trainings provide opportunities for staff to learn best practice procedures from around the globe, build a network of collaborators and save some money. Staff aspire for international trainings and workshops because of the benefits they get from them.

In recent years due to financial constraints SIG budget for staff trainings has been reduced by a huge percentage. In 2018, the office could not take advantage of trainings and workshops that were not funded by external donors because there was no budget to do so.

In 2018 ODPP staff attended a number of international trainings, workshops, conferences and meetings sponsored by various donors and SIG.

The DPP attended the most number of trainings, conferences workshops and meetings. Most of them were for heads of Prosecuting agencies and were sponsored by the organizers of the trainings, conferences workshops and meetings. SIG contributed some funding.

The Twining Program with ODPP Northern Territory, Darwin, Australia, continued this year and 2 senior legal officers had the benefit of attachment to the host office in Darwin for 6 weeks. It was the third time this program was sponsored by DFAT through SIJP.

The placement program exposed them to the workings of a developed jurisdiction, where they observed and learnt how the ODPP in the Northern Territory of Australia operates professionally and administratively. They had the opportunity to observe court proceedings and advocacy in practice in a more developed jurisdiction.



An Intensive Skills Workshops was conducted for ODPP and PSO lawyers by the Victorian Bar from 22-26 June 2018 at the Heritage Park Hotel. The 5 days training helped prosecutors and defense counsel to refresh and improve their advocacy skills. Participants were presented with certificates at the end of the course. It was funded by DFAT, through SIJP.

ODPP prosecutors and corporate services staff attended local training and workshops in 2018. APTC and IPAM provided some of the trainings. Two senior Prosecutors and 2 Corporate service staff went through APTC training on Leadership and Management. The trainings provided them with new skills in leadership, management, training and assessment.

It is expected that staff that have benefitted from these trainings, workshops, conferences and meetings will use what they learnt from the opportunities provided them for the office and that they will remain in the ODPP to justify the investment made in them and their careers.

6.4.6.2 International Trainings, workshops and Conferences

The International Trainings, Workshops and Conferences attended by ODPP staffs in 2018 are displayed in Table 9 (below).

Table 9 shows the International Trainings, Workshops and Conferences, 2018

No.	Course Title & Core program Objectives	Training Organizer	Venue, Date & Duration	Sponsor/Officer attended
1	Australian Attorney General's Department's Pacific Legal Policy Champions Training Program 2018	Australian Attorney-General's Department.	13 – 23 rd March 2018 – Canberra, Australia	Bradley Dalipanda
2	Annual PILON Cybercrime Workshop, "Combatting Online Child Abuse in the Pacific"	PILON Secretariat	12 – 15 th June, 2018 Nuku'alofa, Tonga.	Sirepu Ngava Ramosaea and John Wesley Zoze.
3	NT ODPP Darwin Twining Program	SIJP	Darwin, NT, Australia 6 weeks -	Olivia Ratu and Bradley Dalipanda
4	PILON Environmental Crime and Corruption Working Group Workshop – Whistle-blower Protection and Responsibilities.	PILON Secretariat	27 - 29 th August 2018 - Nadi, Fiji	Ronald Bei Talasasa
5	United Nations Office on Drugs & Crime (UNODC) – Introduction to Cybercrime and UNODC – Pacific Cybercrime Roundtable discussion	UNODC	1 – 8 th September 2018 – Nadi, Fiji	Freliz Fakarii
6	Advanced PILON Litigation Workshop	PILON Secretariat	5 – 9 th September 2018, New Zealand	Sirepu Ngava Ramosaea
7	International Association of Prosecutors (IAP) Annual Conference and General Meeting	IAP - Johannesburg	9 – 13 th September 2018 – Johannesburg, South Africa	Ronald Bei Talasasa
8	37 th Annual Meeting of Pacific Islands Law Officers' Network	PILON Secretariat	9 – 11 th October 2018 – Rarotonga, Cook Islands	Ronald Bei Talasasa
9	23 rd Interpol Global Programed on Anti-Corruption, Financial Crimes and Asset Recovery	INTERPOL	10 – 14 th December, 2018 – Jakarta, Indonesia	Elma V. Rizzu.



6.4.6.3 National Trainings, Workshops and Conferences

There was only one local Training attended by ODPP staffs in 2018 as displayed in Table 10 (below).

Table 10 shows the Trainings, Workshops and Conferences attended in Solomon Islands

No.	Course Title & Core program Objectives	Training Provider	Venue, Date & Duration	Sponsor/Officer attended
1	Justice Supervision Training	IPAM	Iron Bottom Sound, 2018	SIJP/DFAT



Figure 18 The Justice Supervision Training attended by Sirepu Ngava and Bradley Dalipanda, 2018.

7. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ODPP is an Agency under the Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs and as usual made annual budget bids for the subsequent financial year. The Office's overall Budget (payrol and Other Charges) was \$3,690,991.00.

ODPP total Recurrent Budget Estimate for 2018; Payroll was 2,287,994 and actual spending as at the end of the year was 109%. The 2018 total Recurrent Budget Estimate (Other Charges) was \$1,402,997.00. As a performing Office of the Crown, ODPP spends 95% of its Recurrent Budget (Other Charges) throughout the year to carry out its functions effectively.

The Office was successful in its 2017 Recurrent Budget bid to obtain a vehicle in 2018 for Office use in Honiara. However, there was 104% overall Recurrent budget spending for both Payroll and Other Charges in 2018. There are areas that the Office requires funding support to meet the increasing demand for prosecutorial services, capacity buliding of staffs and staff welfare. Virements were also done within the Budget to support other areas of work in relation to court costs and witnesses. The annual increase in Budget has been proven not to meet the increasing work commitment of the Office.

It is anticipated that Recurrent budget (Other Charges) for 2019 would alleviate some of the financial issues that the Office is facing.

Even so, with the small Budget, the Office continues to provide best practice in carrying out its functions in an efficient manner and meeting its strategic goals and objectives.

