

**The Cairns Community Legal Centre Inc** (the Centre) is a non-profit government funded community organisation that provides FREE legal services and referral for the benefit of members of the community who are socially or financially disadvantaged.

## Services operated by the Centre

The Centre operates the following services:

- [A Core \(General\) Service](#)

The Core (General) Service offers FREE legal services in the areas of criminal law, traffic matters, family law, civil law (including motor vehicle accident and debt recovery matters), consumer complaints, employment law, discrimination work (other than disability discrimination), neighbourhood disputes, bankruptcy matters and other miscellaneous matters.

The Core (General) Service is available to people who live in Far North Queensland.

- [The Disability Discrimination Legal Service \(DDLS\)](#).

The DDLS offers FREE legal services in relation to disability discrimination matters.

The DDLS is available to people with a disability who live in North Queensland.

- [The Seniors Legal and Support Service \(SLASS\)](#)

The SLASS offers FREE legal and support services for the benefit of seniors affected by or at risk of elder abuse or financial exploitation.

The SLASS is available to people who live within an hours' drive of Cairns. Seniors who live outside of this area may be serviced at the discretion of the

Centre.

- [Family Relationship Centre \(FRC\) Project Service](#)

The FRC Project Service offers FREE legal services to assist separating couples to be better aware of their rights and responsibilities.

The FRC Project Service is available to people who live in Far North Queensland.

- [Consumer Law Service \(CLS\) - Pilot](#)

The CLS offers FREE legal services for consumers in relation to consumer credit matters, consumer product disputes, consumer service disputes, bankruptcy and other consumer law matters.

The CLS is available to people who live in Far North Queensland.

## What sort of legal work does the Centre provide?

The Centre provides:

- [Legal advice, Information and Referrals](#)
- [Community education](#)
- Only limited casework, and
- Some law reform and social policy work.

## How do I access the Centre's Service?

Simply [contact](#) the Centre. Please note legal advice is by appointment only.

## Who can use the Centre's services?

Where appropriate, the Centre may assist people who:

- are socially or financially disadvantaged; and
- have a legal problem which the Centre is able to assist with; and
- live in the geographical area covered by the Centre's relevant Service.

In some cases not for profit organisations (who predominantly service people who are socially and financially disadvantaged), may also access the Centre's Services.

## What if the Centre cannot assist?

Sometimes people contact the Centre for advice or assistance which the Centre is unable to provide. In such cases the Centre will do its best to provide an appropriate [referral](#).

## Who funds the Centre?

The Core (General) service is funded by Commonwealth and State Governments and is one of more than 200 community legal centres nationwide.

The DDLS is funded by the Commonwealth Government and is one of a national network.

The SLASS is funded by the Queensland Department of Communities and is one of a statewide network.

The FRC Project Service is funded by the Commonwealth Attorney General's Department. The FRC Project Service is one of a number of services nationwide.

The CLS Pilot is funded by the Legal Practitioner's Interest on Trust Account Fund. The CLS is one of 2 CLS pilots in Queensland.

## What does it cost to use the Centre's services?

The Centre's Services are generally free. There may however be some occasions when you may be asked to pay a contribution fee or have to pay for out of pockets expenses, outlays or other costs. If applicable this will be discussed with you.

Donations are also always welcome!

***Our sincere thanks goes out to those volunteers who generously give their time to support the Centre and its objectives. Without these people the Centre would not be able to provide many of the services that it does.***

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