



Taree Forster CLSD Action Plan

2023 – 2025

FINES AND DEBT		
<p>Fines and fine debt are relatively high in the region. We would like to reduce the burden of fine debt on people experiencing economic and social disadvantage, particularly those aged under 25 (\$245,000 of overdue fine debt is over 2 years old in Taree), by working creatively and collaboratively.</p>		
Actions	What we need (resources)	Monitoring and notes
Investigate the WDO Mentoring program for people under the age of 25 years, and how to increase this activity in the region.	Regional coordinator funding for extra day/week Key partners – Legal Aid, GLAMYHS, Homebase, MVNS, Headspace, TIDE Further information on the mentoring activity from Revenue and DCJ.	Work with services already working with WDO program. Explore possible mentoring activities run by other services.
HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS		
<p>We would like to improve support for those at risk of or facing homelessness and housing stress.</p>		
Actions	What we need (resources)	Monitoring and notes
Training for community workers on tenancy laws including for tenants experiencing family and domestic violence.	TAAS	
Share information about how the law regulates real estate agents' use of apps to apply for rentals and for rent payments and use of bonds/holding fees.	TAAS	



Provision of legal services on Fridays at Wesley/homelessness hub at Taree Uniting Church.		
CLSD coordinator to attend Mid Coast Homelessness interagency.	CLSD coordinator	Bi-monthly
REFERRALS, ACCESS TO LEGAL SERVICES AND SHARING INFORMATION		
We want to enhance early referrals and access to legal services for priority client groups.		
Actions	What we need (resources)	Monitoring and notes
Prepare and share flyer of free legal assistance outreach clinics in Taree/Forster	Legal Aid NSW Port Macquarie MNCLC	Emma (Legal Aid) following up publication of flyer with Legal Aid Comms team
Maintain Guide to Free Legal Services	CLSD coordinator	
Birth registrations and certificates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sharing information on BDM fee-waiver policies Information sharing at hospitals re: birth registration. 	CLSD coordinator to build relationship. BDM – information on areas of lowest registration.	
COMMUNITY LEGAL EDUCATION		
Community Legal Education / Training for community workers, particularly people working in family and domestic violence		
Actions	What we need (resources)	Monitoring and notes
Family-law related: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLE with case studies and panel with Legal Aid, WDVCS, Police 	Case studies / panel with Legal Aid NSW, WDVCS, Police	Forster
Young people leaving care:		Taree – Wesley has the STEP and SIL programs and have a room that could be used for CLE.



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLE for workers who support young people leaving care, who need support to access entitlements and understand civil law issues. 		
Domestic and Family violence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLE for workers on Coercive Control and AVO's 	MNCLC to present on coercive control. NSW Police to present on AVOs.	Held 28/8/2023 in Port Macquarie, 42 attendees
COMMUNITY DAYS AND EVENTS Events – including provision of birth certificates.		
Actions	What we need (resources)	Monitoring and Notes
Hold events with relevant services at court list days and community events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free legal help day at court list days Naidoc Community Days 		
Birth certificate and fines day: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taree 26th October 2023 FSC Forster - TBC 	2024 - new venue at Forster	