

# HIGH COURT OF AUSTRALIA

## Section 1: Entity overview and resources

### **1.1 STRATEGIC DIRECTION STATEMENT**

The High Court of Australia (High Court) is the highest court in the Australian judicial system. It was established in 1901 by section 71 of the Constitution.

The Constitution confers both an appellate and an original jurisdiction upon the High Court. Appeals from the supreme courts of the states and territories, from the Federal Court of Australia and from the Family Court of Australia are heard pursuant to special leave granted. The High Court is also the final arbiter upon constitutional questions. These may come on appeal from a lower court or be initiated by an application to the High Court itself.

### **1.2 ENTITY RESOURCE STATEMENT**

Table 1.1 shows the total funding from all sources available to the High Court for its operations.

Table 1.1 is presented on a resourcing (appropriations and cash available) basis, while the budgeted expenses for Outcome 1 table in section 2 and the financial statements in section 3 are presented on an accrual basis.

**Table 1.1: Entity resource statement – Budget estimates for 2019-20 as at Budget April 2019**

	2018-19 (a) Estimated actual \$'000	2019-20 Estimate \$'000
<b>Opening balance/cash reserves at 1 July</b>	<b>3,558</b>	<b>4,592</b>
<b>FUNDS FROM GOVERNMENT</b>		
Annual appropriations – ordinary annual services (b)		
Departmental appropriation	15,515	15,609
Departmental capital budget	2,644	2,671
Annual appropriations – other services (c)		
Equity injection	3,499	2,630
Total annual appropriations	21,658	20,910
<b>Total funds from government</b>	<b>21,658</b>	<b>20,910</b>
<b>FUNDS FROM OTHER SOURCES</b>		
Interest	145	165
Sale of goods and services	280	290
Other	130	130
<b>Total funds from other sources</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>585</b>
<b>Total net resourcing for entity</b>	<b>25,771</b>	<b>26,087</b>
	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-20</b>
<b>Average staffing level (number)</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>76</b>

Prepared on a resourcing (appropriations available) basis.

Note: All figures shown above are GST exclusive and may not match figures in the cash flow statement.

Note: The High Court is not a prescribed entity under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*. Consequently, tables for the High Court may differ from the standard tables for entities.

(a) Annual appropriation amounts appearing for 2018-19 do not include the Appropriation Bill (No. 3) 2018-2019 as they had not been enacted at the time of publication.

(b) Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 2019-20.

(c) Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2019-20.

### 1.3 BUDGET MEASURES

The High Court has no budget measures in the 2019-20 Budget.

## Section 2: Outcomes and planned performance

The High Court is not subject to the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* and is therefore not subject to the requirements under the Commonwealth performance framework.

The functions of the High Court are to:

- interpret and apply the law of Australia;
- decide cases of special federal significance, including challenges to the constitutional validity of laws;
- hear appeals, by special leave, from federal, state and territory courts.

The High Court's outcome is described in part 2.1.

## 2.1 BUDGETED EXPENSES AND PERFORMANCE FOR OUTCOME 1

**Outcome 1: To interpret and uphold the Australian Constitution and perform the functions of the ultimate appellate Court in Australia.**

### Budgeted expenses for Outcome 1

Table 2.1.1 shows how much the High Court intends to spend (on an accrual basis) on achieving Outcome 1. The budgeted expenditure for Outcome 1 does not include judicial salaries and allowances. The salaries and allowances paid to the Chief Justice and other Justices of the Court are paid by the Attorney General's Department from a special appropriation held by the Australian Public Service Commission.

**Table 2.1.1: Budgeted expenses for Outcome 1**

	2018-19 Estimated actual \$'000	2019-20 Budget \$'000	2020-21 Forward estimate \$'000	2021-22 Forward estimate \$'000	2022-23 Forward estimate \$'000
<b>Program 1.1: High Court Business</b>					
Revenue from government					
Ordinary annual services – Appropriation Bill (No. 1)	15,533	15,609	15,734	15,875	16,033
Expenses not requiring appropriation in the budget year (a)	10,221	10,308	10,457	10,609	11,219
Revenue from other independent sources	555	585	600	600	600
<b>Total expenses for Program 1.1</b>	<b>26,309</b>	<b>26,502</b>	<b>26,791</b>	<b>27,084</b>	<b>27,852</b>
	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-20</b>			
<b>Average staffing level (number)</b>	75	76			

Note: Departmental appropriation splits and totals are indicative estimates and may change in the course of the budget year as government priorities change.

(a) Expenses not requiring appropriation in the budget year are made up of depreciation expenses, amortisation expenses, and resources received free of charge.

## Section 3: Budgeted financial statements

Section 3 presents budgeted financial statements that provide a comprehensive snapshot of entity finances for the 2019-20 budget year, including the impact of budget measures and resourcing on financial statements.

### **3.1 BUDGETED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

#### **3.1.1 Differences between entity resourcing and financial statements**

There are no material differences between the entity resourcing and financial statements.

#### **3.1.2 Explanatory notes and analysis of budgeted financial statements**

##### **Comprehensive income statement**

The High Court is budgeting for a break-even operating result in 2019-20 after adjusting for unfunded depreciation and amortisation expenses.

Total budgeted income for 2019-20 is estimated to be \$19.242 million, of which \$15.609 million is appropriated for operating expenses.

##### **Balance sheet**

The High Court's net assets (equity) position decreases over the forward estimates as the capital funding provided is less than forecast depreciation expenses over the period.

##### **Capital budget statement**

The capital budget statement shows total capital expenditure of \$6.436 million for 2019-20 funded from equity injections of \$2.888 million (including \$2.008 million to continue to implement the security measures included in the 2018-19 Budget), \$2.671 million funded by the departmental capital budget and \$0.877 million funded from internal resources.

### 3.2 BUDGETED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TABLES

**Table 3.1: Comprehensive income statement (showing net cost of services) for the period ended 30 June**

	2018-19 Estimated actual \$'000	2019-20 Budget \$'000	2020-21 Forward estimate \$'000	2021-22 Forward estimate \$'000	2022-23 Forward estimate \$'000
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
Employee benefits	9,276	9,481	9,598	9,681	9,836
Suppliers	9,713	9,761	9,933	10,148	10,316
Depreciation and amortisation	7,320	7,260	7,260	7,255	7,700
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>26,309</b>	<b>26,502</b>	<b>26,791</b>	<b>27,084</b>	<b>27,852</b>
<b>LESS:</b>					
<b>OWN-SOURCE INCOME</b>					
<b>Own-source revenue</b>					
Sale of goods and rendering of services	280	290	290	290	290
Interest	145	165	180	180	180
Other	130	130	130	130	130
<b>Total own-source revenue</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>600</b>
<b>Gains</b>					
Resource received free of charge	2,901	3,048	3,197	3,354	3,519
<b>Total gains</b>	<b>2,901</b>	<b>3,048</b>	<b>3,197</b>	<b>3,354</b>	<b>3,519</b>
<b>Total own-source income</b>	<b>3,456</b>	<b>3,633</b>	<b>3,797</b>	<b>3,954</b>	<b>4,119</b>
<b>Net (cost of)/contribution by services</b>	<b>(22,853)</b>	<b>(22,869)</b>	<b>(22,994)</b>	<b>(23,130)</b>	<b>(23,733)</b>
Revenue from government	15,533	15,609	15,734	15,875	16,033
<b>Surplus/(deficit) attributable to the Australian Government</b>	<b>(7,320)</b>	<b>(7,260)</b>	<b>(7,260)</b>	<b>(7,255)</b>	<b>(7,700)</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income/(loss) attributable to the Australian Government</b>	<b>(7,320)</b>	<b>(7,260)</b>	<b>(7,260)</b>	<b>(7,255)</b>	<b>(7,700)</b>

Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.

Table 3.2: Budgeted departmental balance sheet (as at 30 June)

	2018-19 Estimated actual \$'000	2019-20 Budget \$'000	2020-21 Forward estimate \$'000	2021-22 Forward estimate \$'000	2022-23 Forward estimate \$'000
<b>ASSETS</b>					
<b>Financial assets</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	1,553	1,553	1,699	2,122	2,225
Trade and other receivables	112	112	112	112	112
Other investments	3,039	1,904	1,904	1,904	2,404
<b>Total financial assets</b>	<b>4,704</b>	<b>3,569</b>	<b>3,715</b>	<b>4,138</b>	<b>4,741</b>
<b>Non-financial assets</b>					
Land and buildings	208,270	207,302	205,396	201,881	197,881
Property, plant and equipment	16,861	16,830	16,640	16,740	16,700
Intangibles	424	599	479	389	329
Heritage and cultural assets	4,742	4,742	4,742	4,742	4,742
Other non-financial assets	147	147	147	147	147
<b>Total non-financial assets</b>	<b>230,444</b>	<b>229,620</b>	<b>227,404</b>	<b>223,899</b>	<b>219,799</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>235,148</b>	<b>233,189</b>	<b>231,119</b>	<b>228,037</b>	<b>224,540</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>					
<b>Payables</b>					
Suppliers	456	456	456	456	456
Other payables	104	104	104	104	104
<b>Total payables</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>560</b>
<b>Provisions</b>					
Employee provisions	2,734	2,734	2,734	2,734	2,734
<b>Total provisions</b>	<b>2,734</b>	<b>2,734</b>	<b>2,734</b>	<b>2,734</b>	<b>2,734</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>3,294</b>	<b>3,294</b>	<b>3,294</b>	<b>3,294</b>	<b>3,294</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>231,854</b>	<b>229,895</b>	<b>227,825</b>	<b>224,743</b>	<b>221,246</b>
<b>EQUITY (a)</b>					
<b>Parent entity interest</b>					
Contributed equity	101,958	107,259	112,449	116,622	120,825
Reserves	187,475	187,475	187,475	187,475	187,475
Retained surplus (accumulated deficit)	(57,579)	(64,839)	(72,099)	(79,354)	(87,054)
<b>Total parent entity interest</b>	<b>231,854</b>	<b>229,895</b>	<b>227,825</b>	<b>224,743</b>	<b>221,246</b>
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>231,854</b>	<b>229,895</b>	<b>227,825</b>	<b>224,743</b>	<b>221,246</b>

Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.

(a) Equity is the residual interest in assets after deduction of liabilities.

**Table 3.3: Departmental statement of changes in equity – summary of movement (2019-20 budget year)**

	Retained earnings \$'000	Asset revaluation reserve \$'000	Contributed equity/ capital \$'000	Total equity \$'000
<b>Opening balance as at 1 July 2019</b>				
Balance carried forward from previous period	(57,579)	187,475	101,958	231,854
<b>Adjusted opening balance</b>	<b>(57,579)</b>	<b>187,475</b>	<b>101,958</b>	<b>231,854</b>
<b>Comprehensive income</b>				
Surplus/(deficit) for the period	(7,260)	–	–	(7,260)
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	<b>(7,260)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>(7,260)</b>
Of which:				
Attributable to the Australian Government	7,260	–	–	7,260
<b>Transactions with owners</b>				
Contributions by owners				
Equity injection – appropriation	–	–	2,630	2,630
Departmental capital budget	–	–	2,671	2,671
<b>Sub-total transactions with owners</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>5,301</b>	<b>5,301</b>
<b>Estimated closing balance as at 30 June 2020</b>	<b>(64,839)</b>	<b>187,475</b>	<b>107,259</b>	<b>229,895</b>
<b>Closing balance attributable to the Australian Government</b>	<b>(64,839)</b>	<b>187,475</b>	<b>107,259</b>	<b>229,895</b>

Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.



**Table 3.4: Budgeted departmental statement of cash flows (for the period ended 30 June)**

	2018-19 Estimated actual \$'000	2019-20 Budget \$'000	2020-21 Forward estimate \$'000	2021-22 Forward estimate \$'000	2022-23 Forward estimate \$'000
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>					
<b>Cash received</b>					
Appropriations	15,533	15,609	15,734	15,875	16,033
Sale of goods and rendering of services	280	290	290	290	290
Interest	145	165	180	180	180
Other	130	130	130	130	130
<b>Total cash received</b>	<b>16,088</b>	<b>16,194</b>	<b>16,334</b>	<b>16,475</b>	<b>16,633</b>
<b>Cash used</b>					
Employees	9,388	9,681	9,598	9,681	9,836
Suppliers	6,812	6,513	6,736	6,794	6,797
<b>Total cash used</b>	<b>16,200</b>	<b>16,194</b>	<b>16,334</b>	<b>16,475</b>	<b>16,633</b>
<b>Net cash from/(used by) operating activities</b>	<b>(112)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>					
<b>Cash received</b>					
Investments	-	1,135	-	-	-
<b>Total cash received</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,135</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Cash used</b>					
Purchase of property, plant and equipment and intangibles	4,997	6,436	5,044	3,750	3,600
Purchase of financial instruments					
Investments	1,539	-	-	-	500
<b>Total cash used</b>	<b>6,536</b>	<b>6,436</b>	<b>5,044</b>	<b>3,750</b>	<b>4,100</b>
<b>Net cash from/(used by) investing activities</b>	<b>(6,536)</b>	<b>(5,301)</b>	<b>(5,044)</b>	<b>(3,750)</b>	<b>(4,100)</b>
<b>FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>					
<b>Cash received</b>					
Contributed equity	6,143	5,301	5,190	4,173	4,203
<b>Total cash received</b>	<b>6,143</b>	<b>5,301</b>	<b>5,190</b>	<b>4,173</b>	<b>4,203</b>
<b>Net cash from/(used by) financing activities</b>	<b>6,143</b>	<b>5,301</b>	<b>5,190</b>	<b>4,173</b>	<b>4,203</b>
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash held</b>	<b>(505)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>103</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	2,058	1,553	1,553	1,699	2,122
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>	<b>1,553</b>	<b>1,553</b>	<b>1,699</b>	<b>2,122</b>	<b>2,225</b>

Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.

**Table 3.5: Departmental capital budget statement (for the period ended 30 June)**

	2018-19 Estimated actual \$'000	2019-20 Budget \$'000	2020-21 Forward estimate \$'000	2021-22 Forward estimate \$'000	2022-23 Forward estimate \$'000
<b>NEW CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS</b>					
Capital budget – Bill (No.1) – DCB	2,644	2,671	2,696	2,723	2,753
Equity injections – Bill (No. 2)	3,499	2,630	2,494	1,450	1,450
<b>Total new capital appropriations</b>	<b>6,143</b>	<b>5,301</b>	<b>5,190</b>	<b>4,173</b>	<b>4,203</b>
<b>Provided for:</b>					
Purchase of non-financial assets	6,143	5,301	5,190	4,173	4,203
<b>Total items</b>	<b>6,143</b>	<b>5,301</b>	<b>5,190</b>	<b>4,173</b>	<b>4,203</b>
<b>PURCHASE OF NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>					
Funded by capital appropriations (a)	2,319	2,888	1,944	900	900
Funded by capital appropriation – DCB (b)	2,644	2,671	2,696	2,723	2,700
Funded internally from departmental resources (c)	34	877	404	127	–
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,997</b>	<b>6,436</b>	<b>5,044</b>	<b>3,750</b>	<b>3,600</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF CASH USED TO ACQUIRE ASSETS TO ASSET MOVEMENT TABLE</b>					
Total purchases	4,997	6,436	5,044	3,750	3,600
<b>Total cash used to acquire assets</b>	<b>4,997</b>	<b>6,436</b>	<b>5,044</b>	<b>3,750</b>	<b>3,600</b>

Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.

(a) Includes current Bill (No. 2) and prior Acts (No. 2, 4 and 6) appropriations.

(b) Includes purchases from current and previous years' departmental capital budgets (DCBs).

(c) Includes the following sources of funding: current Bill (No.1) and prior year Acts (No. 1, 3 and 5) appropriations (excluding amounts from the DCB).

**Table 3.6: Statement of asset movements (2019-20 budget year)**

	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Other property, plant and equipment \$'000	Heritage and cultural \$'000	Computer software and intangibles \$'000	Total \$'000
<b>As at 1 July 2019</b>						
Gross book value	8,500	205,416	20,567	4,742	1,487	240,712
Accumulated depreciation/ amortisation and impairment	–	(5,646)	(3,706)	–	(1,063)	(10,415)
<b>Opening net book balance</b>	<b>8,500</b>	<b>199,770</b>	<b>16,861</b>	<b>4,742</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>230,297</b>
<b>CAPITAL ASSET ADDITIONS</b>						
<b>Estimated expenditure on new or replacement assets</b>						
By purchase – appropriation equity (a)	–	2,008	880	–	–	2,888
By purchase – appropriation ordinary annual services (b)	–	1,652	689	–	330	2,671
By purchase – other	–	877	–	–	–	877
<b>Total additions</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>4,537</b>	<b>1,569</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>6,436</b>
<b>Other movements</b>						
Depreciation/amortisation expense	–	(5,505)	(1,600)	–	(155)	(7,260)
<b>Total other movements</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>(5,505)</b>	<b>(1,600)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>(155)</b>	<b>(7,260)</b>
<b>As at 30 June 2020</b>						
Gross book value	8,500	209,953	22,136	4,742	1,817	247,148
Accumulated depreciation/ amortisation and impairment	–	(11,151)	(5,306)	–	(1,218)	(17,675)
<b>Closing net book balance</b>	<b>8,500</b>	<b>198,802</b>	<b>16,830</b>	<b>4,742</b>	<b>599</b>	<b>229,473</b>

Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.

- (a) 'Appropriation equity' refers to equity injections appropriations provided through Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2019-20.
- (b) 'Appropriation ordinary annual services' refers to funding provided through Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2019-20 for depreciation and amortisation expenses, departmental capital budgets or other operational expenses.

**Table 3.7: Schedule of budgeted income and expenses administered on behalf of government (for the period ended 30 June)**

	2018-19 Estimated actual \$'000	2019-20 Budget \$'000	2020-21 Forward estimate \$'000	2021-22 Forward estimate \$'000	2022-23 Forward estimate \$'000
Total expenses administered on behalf of government	-	-	-	-	-
<b>LESS:</b>					
<b>OWN-SOURCE INCOME</b>					
Own-source revenue					
Non-taxation revenue					
Sale of goods and rendering of services	2,275	2,326	2,350	2,375	2,400
<b>Total non-taxation revenue</b>	<b>2,275</b>	<b>2,326</b>	<b>2,350</b>	<b>2,375</b>	<b>2,400</b>
<b>Total own-sourced revenue administered on behalf of government</b>	<b>2,275</b>	<b>2,326</b>	<b>2,350</b>	<b>2,375</b>	<b>2,400</b>
<b>Net (cost of)/contribution by services</b>	<b>2,275</b>	<b>2,326</b>	<b>2,350</b>	<b>2,375</b>	<b>2,400</b>
<b>Surplus/(deficit) before income tax</b>	<b>2,275</b>	<b>2,326</b>	<b>2,350</b>	<b>2,375</b>	<b>2,400</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income/(loss)</b>	<b>2,275</b>	<b>2,326</b>	<b>2,350</b>	<b>2,375</b>	<b>2,400</b>

Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.

**Table 3.8: Schedule of budgeted assets and liabilities administered on behalf of government (as at 30 June)**

The High Court has no assets or liabilities administered on behalf of government.

**Table 3.9: Schedule of budgeted administered cash flows (for the period ended 30 June)**

	2018-19 Estimated actual \$'000	2019-20 Budget \$'000	2020-21 Forward estimate \$'000	2021-22 Forward estimate \$'000	2022-23 Forward estimate \$'000
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>					
<b>Cash received</b>					
Sales of goods and rendering of services	2,275	2,326	2,350	2,375	2,400
<b>Total cash received</b>	<b>2,275</b>	<b>2,326</b>	<b>2,350</b>	<b>2,375</b>	<b>2,400</b>
<b>Net cash from/(used by) operating activities</b>	<b>2,275</b>	<b>2,326</b>	<b>2,350</b>	<b>2,375</b>	<b>2,400</b>
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash held</b>	<b>2,275</b>	<b>2,326</b>	<b>2,350</b>	<b>2,375</b>	<b>2,400</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of reporting period	5	-	-	-	-
Cash to Official Public Account for:					
Other	(2,280)	(2,326)	(2,350)	(2,375)	(2,400)
<b>Total cash to Official Public Account</b>	<b>(2,280)</b>	<b>(2,326)</b>	<b>(2,350)</b>	<b>(2,375)</b>	<b>(2,400)</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of reporting period</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.