

NSW ODPP EVOLVES TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY

Wednesday 11 September 2025: The NSW Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions today announced an additional 65 full time equivalent positions have been approved for the 2025/2026 financial year.

Sally Dowling SC, Director of Public Prosecutions, said this expansion reflects the office's ongoing commitment to supporting staff wellbeing. "The increase in solicitors will reduce workload and improve operational efficiency, whilst strengthening prosecution services in NSW," she said.

Ms Dowling said today's announcement marks the largest single-year increase in resources in the ODPP's history. "The 65 new positions are in addition to the 63 full time equivalent positions added last financial year. This will bring the overall staff working at the ODPP to more than 1100," she said.

The new roles cover all areas of practice and span legal, administrative, corporate, and management functions.

They include:

- Twenty-two solicitors in response to workload data.
- Nine Witness Assistance Officers to enhance our capability following the expansion of the Child Sexual Offence Evidence Program (CSOEP).
- Thirteen Managing Solicitors to support smaller solicitor groups in response to significant growth in team sizes and role responsibilities since the Early Appropriate Guilty Plea restructure.
- Legal support officers and paralegals following the great success of the Paralegal Program this year.
- Additional resourcing for Crown Chambers
- An additional Professional Development Lawyer dedicating more resources for the implementation of the Role Mapped Training Project which will enhance training and mentoring opportunities for solicitors and legal support officers.
- Increased staffing for Corporate Services.

Recruitment is currently underway with more than 50 new staff expected to commence in the next few months.

The NSW Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) plays a vital role in serving the people of New South Wales by ensuring that serious criminal matters are prosecuted fairly, independently, and in the public interest.

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About the NSW ODPP: The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) is the independent prosecuting authority of New South Wales (NSW). It is headed by the Director of Public Prosecutions, who acts independently and impartially. The principal functions of the ODPP are to conduct prosecutions for indictable offences in the Local, District and Supreme Courts, and to conduct appeals arising from those prosecutions in any court. The ODPP advises in, institutes and conducts proceedings in accordance with the Prosecution Guidelines, which were developed in consultation with stakeholders in the NSW criminal justice system. Decisions about criminal prosecutions are made free of inappropriate influence of political, individual or other sectional interests. The ODPP does not investigate crime, that is the role of investigative agencies such as the NSW Police Force.



Media contact: Sally Killoran 0491 458 086 - media@odpp.nsw.gov.au

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