

Which scheme is right
for you? continued...

Homeless Persons' Legal Clinic (HPLC)

If you are homeless or at risk of homelessness, HPLC can provide you with free civil and administrative legal assistance, including in relation to:

- Debt
- Housing and tenancy
- Fines and infringement notices
- Social security and problems with Centrelink
- Guardianship, administration and problems with State Trustees
- Victims of crime assistance and compensation
- Personal injury
- Discrimination
- Mental health
- Bankruptcy

If you require criminal or family law assistance, HPLC will do its best to refer you to another legal service provider.

HPLC provides legal services at crisis accommodation centres and welfare agencies, including Melbourne Citymission, The Big Issue, St Vincent de Paul Society, the Salvation Army, Anglicare, Urban Seed, Hanover and Argyle Housing Service.

Please contact:

HPLC Coordinator

T 03 9225 6684

F 03 9225 6686

E projects.pilch@vicbar.com.au

P I L C H

Homeless
Persons'
Legal
Clinic

What else does PILCH do?

PILCH also engages in targeted law reform and advocacy work. Drawing on its case work experience and its position as the peak pro bono referral agency in Victoria, PILCH's law reform work includes written and oral submissions, and consultancies to government working groups. PILCH also provides community education and professional training. Please visit our website www.pilch.org.au or contact us on 03 9225 6680 for up-to-date information.

Get Involved...

Lawyers If you are a lawyer and interested in doing pro bono work under any of the pro bono schemes, please contact us on 03 9225 6680.

Students If you are a law student and would like more information about our volunteer, internship or fellowship programs, please contact us on 03 9225 6680.

Non-Legal Opportunities From time to time PILCH requires assistance in non-legal areas, such as administration, IT, finance, photography, web design etc. If you are interested in providing non-legal pro bono services to PILCH, please contact us on 03 9225 6680.

P I L C H

Public Interest Law Clearing House
Victoria

Coordinating
Pro Bono
Legal Services

Level 1, 550 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000
DX 38227 Flagstaff

E pilch@vicbar.com.au **W** www.pilch.org.au

T 03 9225 6680 **F** 03 9225 6686

www.pilch.org.au

How to get legal assistance?

The Public Interest Law Clearing House (PILCH) is a non-profit, independent legal referral service which coordinates the provision of pro bono (without fee) legal assistance.

PILCH provides its services through four pro bono legal assistance schemes, which operate from the PILCH office and form a 'one stop pro bono shop'.

PILCH administers the following Schemes:

- The Public Interest Law Scheme
- The Victorian Bar Legal Assistance Scheme (VB LAS)
- The Law Institute of Victoria Legal Assistance Scheme (LIV LAS)
- The Homeless Persons' Legal Clinic (HPLC)

The Public Interest Law Scheme, VB LAS and LIV LAS receive and assess requests for pro bono legal assistance and then refer successful applicants to the private legal profession, where there are available pro bono resources. HPLC provides legal services at crisis accommodation centres and welfare agencies so as to encourage direct access by clients. Services for HPLC are provided by pro bono lawyers from participating law firms and corporate legal departments.

Which scheme is right for you?

Public Interest Law Scheme

Do you meet all of these criteria?

- Your matter has legal merit
- You are ineligible for legal aid
- You meet a means test
- Your matter is in the 'public interest'

The public interest requirement means:

- The legal matter is for a non-profit organisation with public interest objectives, or
- The legal matter is for an individual, where that matter raises an issue which requires addressing for the public good and:
 - affects a significant number of people (not just the individual),
 - is of broad concern, or
 - impacts on disadvantaged or marginalised groups.

If your matter meets these criteria, PILCH may be able to refer your matter to a solicitor and/or a barrister who will provide legal assistance for free.

Please contact:

PILCH Manager

T 03 9225 6680

F 03 9225 6686

E manager.pilch@vicbar.com.au

Victorian Bar Legal Assistance Scheme (VB LAS)

Do you meet all of these criteria?

- Your matter has legal merit
- You are ineligible for legal aid
- You meet a means test
- The provision of assistance is in the 'interests of the administration of justice'

If your matter meets these criteria, VB LAS may be able to refer your matter to a barrister who will provide legal assistance for free.

Assistance which can be sought from VB LAS includes the provision of legal advice, the drawing up or settling of court documents, representation before a court or tribunal, or any other assistance which a barrister is ethically permitted to provide.

Please contact:

VB LAS Manager

T 03 9225 6687

F 03 9225 6686

E manager.vblas@vicbar.com.au



Law Institute of Victoria Legal Assistance Scheme (LIV LAS)

Do you meet all of these criteria?

- Your matter has legal merit
- You are ineligible for legal aid
- You meet a means test

If your matter meets these criteria, LIV LAS may be able to refer your matter to a solicitor who will provide legal assistance for free.

LIV LAS arranges all aspects of legal assistance provided by solicitors, from advice to representation in courts or tribunals. LIV LAS is happy to consider applications in all areas of law.

Please contact:

LIV LAS Manager

T 03 9225 6675

F 03 9225 6678

E manager.livlas@vicbar.com.au

