

Summary of Performance

Key Performance Indicators

Key Effectiveness Indicators

The Ombudsman aims to improve decision making and administrative practices in public authorities as a result of complaints handled by the Office, reviews of certain child deaths and family and domestic violence fatalities and own motion investigations. Improvements may occur through actions identified and implemented by agencies as a result of the Ombudsman's investigations and reviews, or as a result of the Ombudsman making specific recommendations and suggestions that are practical and effective.

Key Effectiveness Indicators are the percentage of these recommendations and suggestions accepted by public authorities and the number of improvements that occur as a result of Ombudsman action.

Key Effectiveness Indicators	2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Target	2021-22 Actual	Variance from Target
Where the Ombudsman made recommendations to improve practices or procedures, the percentage of recommendations accepted by agencies	100%	100%	100%	Nil
Number of improvements to practices or procedures as a result of Ombudsman action	109	100	57	-43

Another important role of the Ombudsman is to enable remedies to be provided to people who make complaints to the Office where service delivery by a public authority may have been inadequate. The remedies may include reconsideration of decisions, more timely decisions or action, financial remedies, better explanations and apologies. In 2021-22, there were 199 remedies provided by public authorities to assist the individual who made a complaint to the Ombudsman.

Comparison of Actual Results and Budget Targets

Public authorities have accepted every recommendation made by the Ombudsman, matching the actual results of the past four years and meeting the 2021-22 target.

In 2007-08, the Office commenced a program to ensure that its work increasingly contributed to improvements to public administration.

The 2021-22 actual number of improvements to practices and procedures of public authorities as a result of Ombudsman action (57) differs from the 2021-22 target (100) and the 2020-21 actual (109) as there are fluctuations in improvements from year to year, related to the number, nature and outcomes of investigations finalised by the Office in any given year.

Key Efficiency Indicators

The Key Efficiency Indicators relate to timeliness of complaint handling, the cost per finalised allegation about public authorities, the cost per finalised notification of child deaths and family and domestic violence fatalities, and the cost of monitoring and inspection functions.

Key Efficiency Indicators	2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Target	2021-22 Actual	Variance from Target
Percentage of allegations finalised within three months	96%	95%	97%	+2%
Percentage of allegations finalised within 12 months	100%	100%	100%	Nil
Percentage of allegations on hand at 30 June less than three months old	87%	90%	96%	+6%
Percentage of allegations on hand at 30 June less than 12 months old	100%	100%	100%	Nil
Average cost per finalised allegation	\$1,885	\$1,890	\$1,749	-\$141
Average cost per finalised notification of death	\$17,565	\$17,500	\$17,097	-\$403
Cost of monitoring and inspection functions	\$407,486	\$415,000	\$516,576	+\$101,576

Comparison of Actual Results and Budget Targets

The 2021-22 actual results for the Key Efficiency Indicators met, or were comparable to, the 2021-22 target. Overall, 2021-22 actual results represent sustained efficiency of complaint resolution over the last five years.

The average cost per finalised allegation in 2021-22 (\$1,749) is comparable with the 2021-22 target (\$1,890) and the 2020-21 actual (\$1,885). Since 2007-08, the efficiency of complaint resolution has improved significantly with the average cost per finalised allegation reduced by a total of 41% from \$2,941 in 2007-08 to \$1,749 in 2021-22.

The average cost per finalised notification of death (\$17,097) is comparable with the 2021-22 target (\$17,500) and the 2020-21 actual (\$17,565).

The cost of monitoring and inspection functions (\$516,578) is greater than the 2021-22 target (\$415,000) and the 2020-21 actual (\$407,486) in line with approved additional funding for a new function under the *Criminal Law (Unlawful Consorting and Prohibited Insignia) Act 2021 (the Act)*, which commenced on 24 December 2021.

Under the Act, the Ombudsman must keep under scrutiny the exercise of powers by the WA Police Force to ascertain the extent of their compliance with the Act.

For further details, see the [Key Performance Indicator section](#).

Summary of Financial Performance

The majority of expenses for the Office (78%) relate to staffing costs. The remainder is primarily for accommodation, communications and office equipment.

Financial Performance	2020-21 Actual ('000s)	2021-22 Target ('000s)	2021-22 Actual ('000s)	Variance from Target ('000s)
Total cost of services (sourced from Statement of Comprehensive Income)	\$11,713	\$11,270	\$11,422	+\$152
Income other than income from State Government (sourced from Statement of Comprehensive Income)	\$2,498	\$2,696	\$2,582	-\$114
Net cost of services (sourced from Statement of Comprehensive Income)	\$9,216	\$8,574	\$8,840	+\$266
Total equity (sourced from Statement of Financial Position)	\$570	\$889	\$368	-\$521
Net increase/decrease in cash held (sourced from Statement of Cash Flows)	-\$567	\$20	-\$58	-\$78

Summary of Performance

Comparison of Actual Results and Budget Targets

The 2021-22 actual results for both the total and net cost of services are comparable to the 2021-22 targets and the 2020-21 actual.

For further details see [Note 9 'Explanatory Statement' in the Financial Statements section](#).