



Greg Smith SC MP

Attorney General
Minister for Justice

MEDIA RELEASE

EMBARGO 11 APRIL 2014

SUPER TRIBUNAL TO SIT IN PARRAMATTA

Parramatta is set to host regular sittings of the state's new super tribunal, NCAT, Attorney General Greg Smith SC announced today.

"From 30 June, the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT) will sit at Parramatta three days a week after securing a hearing room in the Commonwealth Law Courts building," Mr Smith said.

"This is great news for Western Sydney and consolidates Parramatta's position as the state's largest legal hub outside of Sydney's CBD."

"It follows confirmation that the Court of Criminal Appeal will sit in Parramatta for two weeks in July and August, with the Chief Justice of NSW Tom Bathurst to be among the judges presiding over the hearings."

"Chief Justice Bathurst has also agreed to examine the possibility of regular Supreme Court sittings in Parramatta and is awaiting a formal proposal from the local legal profession."

NCAT began operating on January 2 and has conducted more than 28,000 hearings in its first 100 days.

It is a one stop shop for specialist tribunal services in NSW, dealing with a diverse range of matters including tenancy disputes, consumer complaints, professional disciplinary hearings and applications for guardianship.

"While the old Consumer, Trader and Tenancy Tribunal sat in Parramatta until early 2012, many of the tribunals that have joined NCAT have never conducted regular hearings in Sydney's west," Mr Smith said.

"NCAT will provide the people of Western Sydney with quick and cost effective access to justice."

"Tribunal proceedings are typically less formal than a traditional court hearing and often achieve earlier resolutions."

It is anticipated that up to 40 matters could be listed on each hearing day in Parramatta.

Media Contact: Geesche Jacobsen 0467 737 920