

Crown Proceedings Act 1988 No 70

[1988-70]



New South Wales

Status Information

Currency of version

Current version for 3 December 1999 to date (accessed 19 May 2025 at 14:30)

Legislation on this site is usually updated within 3 working days after a change to the legislation.

Provisions in force

The provisions displayed in this version of the legislation have all commenced.

Responsible Minister

- Attorney General

For full details of Ministerial responsibilities, see the [Administrative Arrangements \(Minns Ministry—Administration of Acts\) Order 2023](#).

Authorisation

This version of the legislation is compiled and maintained in a database of legislation by the Parliamentary Counsel's Office and published on the NSW legislation website, and is certified as the form of that legislation that is correct under section 45C of the [Interpretation Act 1987](#).

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Crown Proceedings Act 1988 No 70



New South Wales

An Act relating to civil proceedings by and against the Crown; to repeal the *Claims against the Government and Crown Suits Act 1912*; and for other purposes.

1 Name of Act

This Act may be cited as the *Crown Proceedings Act 1988*.

2 Commencement

This Act commences on a day or days to be appointed by proclamation.

3 Definitions

In this Act:

civil proceedings includes civil proceedings at law or in equity, and also includes proceedings by way of preliminary discovery, cross-claim, counterclaim, cross-action, set-off, third-party claim and interpleader.

Crown means the Crown in right of New South Wales, and includes:

- (a) the Government of New South Wales, and
- (b) a Minister of the Crown in right of New South Wales, and
- (c) a statutory corporation, or other body, representing the Crown in right of New South Wales.

judgment includes every species of relief which a court can grant, whether interlocutory or final, and whether by way of order that anything be done or not done or otherwise, and also includes a declaration.

4 Crown may sue

The Crown may bring civil proceedings under the title “State of New South Wales” against any person in any competent court.

5 Crown may be sued

- (1) Any person, having or deeming himself, herself or itself to have any just claim or demand whatever against the Crown (not being a claim or demand against a statutory corporation representing the Crown) may bring civil proceedings against the Crown under the title "State of New South Wales" in any competent court.
- (2) Civil proceedings against the Crown shall be commenced in the same way, and the proceedings and rights of the parties in the case shall as nearly as possible be the same, and judgment and costs shall follow or may be awarded on either side, and shall bear interest, as in an ordinary case between subject and subject.

6 Service of documents on the Crown

- (1) In connection with civil proceedings by or against the Crown under the title "State of New South Wales" a document required to be served on the Crown shall be served (subject to any other Act or law) on the Crown Solicitor.
- (2) Rules of court may be made with respect to the mode of service of documents on the Crown Solicitor for the purposes of this section, including rules that personal service may be duly effected by leaving a document at the office of the Crown Solicitor.

7 Satisfaction of judgment

- (1) The Treasurer shall pay (out of any money legally available) all money payable by the Crown under any judgment, including any interest, except to the extent that the money is paid by some person other than the Treasurer.
- (2) Execution, attachment or similar process shall not be issued out of any court against the Crown or any property of the Crown.

8 Demise of the Crown

- (1) No proceedings (whether civil or criminal) involving the Crown shall abate or be affected by the demise of the Crown.
- (2) For the purposes of this section, **demise** includes a demise by or on abdication.

9 Certain matters not affected

- (1) This Act (except for section 10) does not affect any law, custom or procedure under which civil proceedings may be brought by or against the Crown under any title.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), this Act does not affect any law, custom or procedure under which the Attorney General is entitled or liable to sue, or be sued, or to intervene in any proceedings on behalf of the Crown, on the relation of, or on behalf of, any other person or in any other capacity or for any other purpose whatever.

10 Repeal of *Claims against the Government and Crown Suits Act 1912 No 27*

- (1) The *Claims against the Government and Crown Suits Act 1912* is repealed.
- (2) Nothing in this Act affects proceedings commenced before the commencement of this section, and the repealed Act continues to apply in relation to any such proceedings as if this Act had not been enacted.

11 (Repealed)

Schedule 1 (Repealed)