# **EXTERNAL EXAMINER CHECKLIST 2025**



PRACTITIO	ONER DETAILS					
Law Practic	e Name and Practice ID:					
Completion	date:		Completed I	oy:		
Legal Profession Uniform Law (NSW) (Uniform Law)- Legal Profession Uniform General Rules 2015 (Uniform Rules)						
Index	Content					
Section 1	Trust Money		Yes	No	N/A	
Section 2	General Trust Account		Yes	No	N/A	
Section 3	Controlled Money		Yes	No	N/A	
Section 4	Transit Money		Yes	No	N/A	
Section 5	Trust Money Subject to a Specific Power		Yes	No	N/A	
Section 6	Register of Powers and Estates		Yes	No	N/A	
Section 7	Written Direction Money		Yes	No	N/A	
Section 8	Investment of Trust Money		Yes	No	N/A	
Section 9	Matter Flies and Registers		Yes	No	N/A	

### **RECORDS FOR REVIEW**

The following is a list of records we recommend reviewing during the external examination. This list is not exhaustive, and additional records may need to be reviewed. The External Examiner must assess all relevant trust records to ensure a thorough examination before completing and submitting the external examination report.

Record Type	No. of records sampled	
Bank reconciliation statement (all months)		□ N/A
Bankstatements		□ N/A
Trial Balance Statements		□ N/A
Outstanding deposits		□ N/A
Deposit Records		□ N/A
Files and/or records relating to trust transactions (Receipts)		□ N/A
Files and/or records relating to trust transactions (Payments)		□ N/A
Records of authorities to withdraw by electronic funds transfer (EFT)		□ N/A
Bills of costs		□ N/A
Cheques		□ N/A
Journal transfers		□ N/A
Ledger Accounts		□ N/A
Receipts cash book		□ N/A
Payments cash book		N/A

#### INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the External Examiner Checklist (Checklist) is to:

- Guide the law practice and the external examiner through the examination of the various forms of trust records maintained by the law practice during the trust year 1 April to 31 March; and
- Assist in the assessment of compliance with the Legal Profession Uniform Law (NSW) (Uniform Law) and the Legal Profession Uniform General Rules 2015 (Uniform Rules)<sup>1</sup>.

#### The objective of the Checklist is to assist the examiner to form an opinion, amongst other things, as to whether:

- · any information recorded in the law practice's Law Practice Confirmation and Statement of Trust Money is not true;
- · any overdrawing of trust money was restored, and appropriate action promptly taken;
- the trust records for the various types of trust money have been properly kept in accordance with the provisions of Uniform Law and Uniform Rules;
- all necessary trust records were produced to the examiner as requested for the purpose of the examination and that the records were kept in a way that enables the records to be conveniently and properly externally examined; and
- the trust records have been kept in a way that at all times discloses the true position in relation to trust money received by the law practice.

#### The External Examiner's Report is required to be completed by a person who is registered as a designated person with the designated local regulatory authority.

- Confirm that the information submitted in the law practice's Confirmation and Statement of Trust Money (commonly known as Part A and Part B) is correct.
- Confirm whether the trust records for all types of trust money have been properly maintained in accordance with the provisions of the Uniform Law and the Legal Profession Uniform General Rules 2015 (Uniform General Rules)
- Detail any observed breaches of the Uniform law and Uniform General Rules.

The examiner should apply professional judgement together with the various standards prescribed by the professional bodies which cover the individual circumstances of each examination. It is necessary to conduct appropriate examination, sampling techniques and enquiries to form an opinion as to whether the accounting records have been maintained in accordance with the Uniform Law and the Uniform Rules. For any breaches you are unable to identify in the Trust Lodgement Portal (TLP), use the text box to provide the particulars of the breach observed.

The use of the Checklist is not mandatory, however if used it is recommended that the examiner retains a copy along with relevant supporting documentation.

For further information, you can contact the Chief Trust Account Investigator or the Trust Accounts Department at trust@lawsociety.com.au or (02) 9926 0333.

### **SECTION 1: TRUST MONEY**

### 1.1 KEEPING OF TRUST RECORDS

Objective is to ensure the law practice has maintained records in accordance with the requirements of the Legal Profession Uniform Law (NSW) (Uniform Law) and the Legal Profession Uniform General Rules 2015 (Uniform Rules) during the period covered by the examination

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
S147(2)(b)	Do trust accounting records at all times disclose the true position in relation to trust money received on behalf of any person?	Yes	○No	O N/A	
S147(2)(b)	Are trust records kept in a way that enables them to be conveniently and properly investigated or externally examined?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
S147(2)(d)	Are trust records retained for seven years?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	

### 1.2 COMPUTERISED ACCOUNTING SYSTEMS

Objective is to ensure that the law practice's computerised accounting system complies with the requirements of the Rules.

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
38(1)	Are trust records maintained by means of a computerised accounting system? If "No", please go to next section – "Trust Account Statements -Trust Money"	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	Has the software been certified by the Law Society? If "Yes", please go to next section - "Trust Account Statements-Trust Money"	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
38(2)	Does the software used by the law practice maintain and keep, in printed form or in readable and printable form, the following copies of trust records:				
(a)	a copy of the trust account receipts and payments cash books as at the end of each named month?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(b)	a copy of the reconciliation statements as at the end of each named month?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(C)	a copy of lists of trust account ledgers and their balances (i.e. trial balance statements) as at the end of each named month?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(d)	a copy of lists of controlled money accounts and their balances (i.e. controlled money listings) as at the end of each named month?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
38(3)	Does the law practice:				
(a)	print a paper copy of trust ledger accounts, the register of controlled money and the trust account transfer journal before they are deleted from the system?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
(b)	Are the copies of trust records as at the end of each named month referred to under Subrule 38(2) prepared within 15 working days after the named month?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(C)	Does the law practice ensure that copies of trust records prepared under Subrule 38(2) cannot be modified afterwards (except as provided by Rule 40 - refer to Rule 40 in this Section of the Checklist)?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
39	Does the computerised accounting system maintain all changes (by creation, amendment or deletion) to:				
(2)(a)	client name?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
(2)(b)	client address?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
(2)(c)	matter reference?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(2)(d)	matter description?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(2)(e)	ledger account number or other descriptor (if different from matter reference)?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
39(2)	Are the record of changes (to Rule 39(2)(a) to (e)) kept by the law practice?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
40(2)(a)	Does the system record a transaction which results in an overdrawn ledger whilst producing an overdrawn ledger report of all such transactions in chronological order? If not, does the system refuse to accept a transaction that will result in an overdrawn ledger?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
40(2)(b)	Is the system not capable of deleting a trust ledger account unless:				
(i)-1	the balance on the trust ledger is zero? and	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
(i)-2	all outstanding cheques (that relate to the trust ledger) have been presented?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(ii)	Are copies of deleted ledgers retained in permanent form?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
40(2)(c)	Do the entries in records produced in a permanent form appear in chronological sequence?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
40(2)	Is each page of each printed or printable record:				
(d)-1	numbered sequentially? or	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
(d)-2	printed or printable in such a way that no page can be extracted?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
40(2)(e)	Is the system not capable of amending the particulars of a transaction already recorded otherwise than by a transaction separately recorded that makes the amendment?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
40(2)(f)	Are fields requiring input compulsory?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
41(2)(a)	Is a back-up copy of all computerised records made at least once each month?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
41(2)(b)	Is each back-up copy kept by the law practice?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
41(2)(c)	Is a complete set of back-up copies kept in a separate location so that any incident that may adversely affect the records would not also affect the back-up copy?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	

### 1.3 TRUST ACCOUNT STATEMENTS

Objective is to ensure that trust account statements are given for all trust money (other than transit money and written direction money)

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
52(4)	Are trust account statements given as soon as practicable after:				
(a)	completion of each matter?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(b)	a reasonable request from the person on whose behalf the money is held or controlled?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(c)	Were trust account statements given as soon as practicable after 30 June?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
	If "No" to Rule 52(4)(c) above:				
52(5)	was the balance of each ledger account zero with no transaction since the last statement was issued?	Yes	Yes No	○ N/A	
52(3)	Do trust account statements disclose:				
(a)	the same detail as required by Rule 47 for general trust money, by Rule 55 for power money, or by Rule 64 for controlled money?	Yes	○No	○ N/A	
(b)	the remaining balance (if any) of the money?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
52(7)	Are copies of trust account statements retained by the law practice?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	

### 1.4 WITHDRAWING TRUST MONEY FOR LEGAL COSTS

 $Objective \ is \ to \ ensure \ the \ law \ practice \ is \ complying \ with \ the \ procedures \ regarding \ the \ with \ drawal \ of \ money \ for \ legal \ costs.$ 

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
42	When the law practice withdraws trust money from the general trust account or controlled money account, has it done so in accordance with one of the below methods:				
	given the person a bill for the money referring to the proposed withdrawal, and:				
	(a) 7 business days have passed after the person was given the bill without objection to the amount, or $$				
(3)	(b) if the person objects to the amount within the 7 business day period but has not referred the matter to the Law Society of New South Wales for costs assessment, and 30 days have passed since the later of:	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	(i) the date on which the person was given the bill,				
	(ii) the date on which the person was given an itemised bill following a request under \$187, or				
	(c) if the money otherwise becomes legally payable.				
	(a) withdrawn the trust money in accordance with received authorising instructions, and (b) given the person:				
	(i) a request for payment, referring to the proposed withdrawal, or	Yes			
	(ii) a written notice of withdrawal before effecting the withdrawal.				
	Note: In relation to the instructions (See Rule 42(7)):(a) If the authorisation referred to above only authorises the withdrawal of part of the money:				
(4)	(i) the law practice may withdraw that portion of the money only, and		○ No	○ N/A	
(4)	(ii) if the law practice has given the person a bill relating to the money then it is taken that the person is objecting to the remaining part of the bill and subrule		∪ NU	∪ N/A	
	(3) (b) (i) and (ii) apply				
	(b) instructions authorising withdrawal -				
	(i) if given in writing, must be kept as a permanent record, or				
	(ii) if not given in writing, must be confirmed in writing either before, or not later than 5 working days after, effecting the withdrawal, and a copy must be kept as a permanent record.				
	(a) if the law practice has paid money on behalf of the person and the money is owed to reimburse the law practice, and				
	(b) if the law practice gives the person:				
(5)	(i) a request for payment, referring to the proposed withdrawal, or	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	(ii) a written notice of withdrawal before effecting the withdrawal.				
	Note: Money is taken to have been paid by the law practice on behalf of the person when the relevant account of the law practice has been debited. (See Rule 42(8)).				
	Where the person is a commercial or government client:				
	the law practice has given the person a bill specifying the amount payable and referring to the proposed withdrawal, and		O ::	<u> </u>	
(6)	(a) the money is with drawn in accordance with a costs agreement, and	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	(b) the costs agreement authorising the withdrawal is valid, and				
	(c) the law practice issues the bill before effecting the withdrawal.				

### 1.5 AUTHORISED SIGNATORIES

 $The \,objective \,is\,ensure\,that\,only\,authorised\,persons\,sign\,trust\,cheques, sign\,controlled\,money\,with drawals\,or\,effect\,electronic\,funds\,transfers\,from\,the\,general\,trust\,account\,or\,controlled\,money\,account.$ 

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
	Have the payments from the general trust account and controlled money accounts been effected by an authorised person?				
	Note: Authorised persons pursuant to Rule 43(2) for general trust accounts, and Rule 63(2) for controlled money accounts are:				
	(a) an authorised principal of the law practice, or	<u> </u>	O	O	
43(2)	(b) if such a principal is not available:	Yes	◯ Yes ◯ No	○ N/A	
	(i) an authorised legal practitioner associate; or				
	(ii) an authorised Australian legal practitioner who holds an Australian practicing certificate authorising the receipt of trust money; or				
	(iii) two or more authorised associates jointly.				
43(2)	Have persons other than the principal been authorised as signatories to the general trust account/s or controlled money account/s?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
43(2)	Were the authorised persons as set out in Rule 43(2) for the general trust account?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
63(2)	Were the authorised persons as set out in Rule 63(2) for the controlled money account/s?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	practice listed the authorised signatories to the general trust account on of the fTrust Money (Part B) titled "General Trust Money"?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	

### **SECTION 2: GENERAL TRUST ACCOUNT**

### 2.1 GENERAL TRUST ACCOUNT

Objective is to ensure that a law trust money maintains a general trust account in this jurisdiction, and that the general trust account is established and maintained in accordance with the Rules.

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
\$147(1) & (2)	Have all trust records that have been requested been supplied for review?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
35(1)(a)	Is the general trust account established with an authorised ADI in this jurisdiction?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
35(1)(b)	For general trust accounts opened on or after 1 October 2005:				
	• does the name of the account include the name of the law practice or its trading name?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
	<ul> <li>does the name of the account include the expression "law practice trust account" or "practice trust a/c"?</li> </ul>	Yes	○No	O N/A	
50	Has the law practice notified the Law Society of New South Wales within 14 days of the:				
(1)	opening of a general trust account?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(3)	closing of a general trust account?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	

### 2.2 TRUST ACCOUNT RECEIPTS

Objective is to ensure that receipts are issued promptly when trust money is received and that the receipt contains all required information for recording in the cash book and trust ledger account.

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
36(1)	Are trust receipts made out for money that is required to be paid into a general trust account?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
36(1)	Are trust receipts made out as soon as practicable:				
(a)	after trust money is received? or	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(b)	after the law practice is notified of a direct deposit from the authorised ADI?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
36(3)	Are the trust receipts made out in duplicate, unless a computerised accounting system is used?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
36(4)	Are trust receipts given, on request, to the person from whom the trust money was received?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
36(5)	Are the receipts:				
	consecutively numbered?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	issued in consecutive sequence?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
36(2)(h)	Do the original and duplicate receipts include:	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
	the law practice name or the trading name? and	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
	the expression "Trust Account" or "Trust A/c"?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
36(2)	Do the receipts include:	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(a)-1	the date the receipt is made out?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(a)-2	the date of the receipt of the money (if different)?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(b)	the number of the receipt?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(c)	the amount of money received?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(d)	the form in which the money is received?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(e)	the name of the person from whom the money is received?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(f)-1	the name of the client?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(f)-2	the matter description?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(f)-3	the matter reference?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(g)	the reason for which the money was received?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(i)	the name of the person who made out the receipt?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
36(6)	Does the law practice retain the original of any cancelled receipt?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	

### 2.3 DEPOSITS

Objective is to confirm that each deposit record is made out in duplicate, that completed deposit records are securely retained and that trust money received has been promptly deposited

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
\$137	Is trust money deposited to the general trust account as soon as practicable after it is received?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
37(1)	Is a deposit record produced to the authorised ADI at the time of making the deposit? Note: This is not required where money is paid by direct deposit.	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
37(2)	Do deposit records include particulars of the following:				
(a)	the date of the deposit?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(b)	the amount of the deposit?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(c)	whether the deposit consists of cheques or cash (and the amount of each)? for each cheque received:	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(d)(i)	the name of the drawer?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(d)(ii)-1	the name of the ADI? and	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(d)(ii)-2	the branch or BSB number?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(d)(iii)	the amount of the cheque?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
37(3)	Is the deposit record made out in duplicate?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
37(4)	Is the duplicate deposit record retained?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	

### 2.4 TRUST ACCOUNT PAYMENTS

Objective is to ensure that sufficient information has been recorded on the relevant payment document to enable details of payments to be properly recorded in the trust account payments cash book and trust ledger account.

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
S144(1)	Have all funds withdrawn from the general trust account been by way of trust cheque or electronic funds transfer?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	Note: payments made via BPAY or Pay ID are considered electronic funds transfers.				
43(1)	Do trust cheques include:				
(a)	a direction to pay to the order of a specified person or persons and not to bearer or cash?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
(b)	a "not negotiable" crossing?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(c)(i)	the law practice name or the practice trading name?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(c)(ii)	the expression "law practice trust account" or "law practice trust a/c"? (only applicable to accounts opened after 1 October 2005)	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	Is a written record of the payment retained by the law practice?				
43(3)	Note: This does not apply where the particulars are recorded by a computerised accounting system at the time of transaction and kept in a way that allows the accuracy of the particulars to be verified.	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
43(4)	Do the written records for payments by cheque or electronic funds transfer include:	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(a)-1	the date of issue of the cheque or electronic funds transfer?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(a)-2	the number of the cheque or electronic funds transfer?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(e)-1	details clearly identifying the name of the person on whose behalf the payment was made? and	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(e)-2	the matter reference?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(e)-3	in the case of a payment to an ADI, the name or BSB number of the ADI and the name of the person receiving the benefit of the payment?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(f)	details identifying the ledger account to be debited?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(g)	the reason for the payment?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(c)	In the case of a cheque made payable to an ADI:	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
	the name of the ADI or BSB number?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
	the name of the person receiving the benefit of the payment?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(d)	In the case of a payment by electronic funds transfer:	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
	the name of the account to which the amount was transferred?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
	the number and BSB number of the account to which the amount was transferred?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
43(5)	Are written records relating to payments by cheque and electronic funds transfer kept in the order in which the cheques or transfers were issued or effected?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	

### 2.5 TRUST ACCOUNT RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS CASH BOOK

To ensure that the trust account receipts and payments cash books have been properly kept.

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
48(2)-1	Has the trust account receipts cash book been totalled for each month?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
48(2)-2	Has the trust account payments cash book been totalled for each month?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
48(2)-3	Are the additions of the trust account receipts and payments cash books correct?	○ Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
44	Are the following particulars recorded in the trust account receipts cash book for each receipt of trust money:				
(1)(a)-1	the date a receipt was made out for the money? and,	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(1)(a)-2	the date of receipt of the money (if different)?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(1)(b)	the receipt number?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(1)(c)	the amount of money received?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(1)(d)	the form in which the money was received?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(1)(e)	the name of the person from whom the money was received?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(1)(f)-1	the name of the client in respect of whom the money was received?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(1)(f)-2	the matter description?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(1)(f)-3	the matter reference?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(1)(g)	particulars sufficient to identify the reason for the receipt?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(1)(h)	details identifying the ledger account to be credited?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(2)-1	the date of each deposit?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(2)-2	the amount of each deposit?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
44(3)	Are receipts recorded in the trust account receipts cash book:	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	○ N/A	
	• in the order in which they are made out?	Yes	○No	O N/A	
	within 5 working days of the receipt being made out?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
45(1)	Are the following particulars recorded in the trust account payments cash book for each payment of trust money by cheque or electronic funds transfer:	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
(a)	the date of the cheque or electronic funds transfer?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	the number of the cheque or electronic funds transfer?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(b)	the amount ordered to be paid or transferred? in the case of a cheque:	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(c)	the name of the person to whom the payment is to be made? or	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	• in the case of a cheque made payable to an ADI, the name or BSB number of the ADI and the name of the person receiving the benefit of the payment?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	in the case of an electronic funds transfer:	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
(d)(i)	the name and number of the account to which the amount was transferred and the relevant BSB number?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(ii)	the name of the person to whom the payment was made? or	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
(ii)	in the case of a payment to an ADI, the name or BSB number of the ADI and the name of the person receiving the benefit of the payment?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
	in the case of a payment by cheque or electronic funds transfer:	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(e)	the name of the person on whose behalf the payment was made?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(e)	the matter description?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(e)	the appropriate ledger reference?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(f)	particulars sufficient to identify the reason for the payment?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
45(2)(a)	Are payments by cheque or electronic funds transfer recorded in the order in which they are made?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
45(2)(b)	Are particulars of each payment recorded in the trust account payments cash book within 5 working days of the day the payment was made?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	

### 2.6 RECONCILIATION OF GENERAL TRUST ACCOUNT

 $To ensure that the \, records \, of \, each \, general \, trust \, account \, are \, reconciled \, within \, 15 \, working \, days \, of \, the \, end \, of \, each \, month \, and \, that \, errors \, and \, deficiencies \, are \, identified.$ 

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments					
	Trust Authorised ADI (AADI) Reconciliation Statements									
48(2)(a)	Have AADI reconciliation statements been prepared for each general trust account as at the end of each named month?	Yes	○ No	O N/A						
48(2)(a)(i)	Do the reconciliation statements reconcile with the balance of the practice's trust cash book as at the end of each month?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A						
48(2)(a)(ii)	Does each statement have a preparation date?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A						
48(2)	Do the reconciliation statements show the relevant month end?	○ Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A						
48(3)	Are the reconciliation statements prepared within 15 working days after the end of each month?	Yes	○ No	O N/A						
48(4)-1	Are the reconciliation statements retained?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A						
48(4)-2	Does the AADI statement balance as at the end of each named month agree with the AADI statement balance shown on the reconciliation statement?	Yes	○ No	O N/A						
48(4)-3	Are the additions of the reconciliation statements correct?	○ Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	○ N/A						
48(4)-4	Have all outstanding deposits been reviewed?	Yes	○ No	O N/A						
48(4)-5	Have all outstanding deposits been promptly deposited?	○ Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A						
48(4)-6	Have all debit and credit adjusting items been reviewed?	Yes	○ No	O N/A						
48(4)-7	Does the reconciliation statement reconcile with the balance of the practice's trust cash book?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A						
48(4)-9	Have all reconciling items, including outstanding deposits and any adjustments, been reviewed?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A						
48(4)-8	Are there any stale cheques (over 15 months old) recorded in the 31 March unpresented cheques listing?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A						
48(4)-10	Has the AADI balance as at 31 March been confirmed with the AADI?	Yes	○ No	O N/A						
	Was the general trust account closed prior to 31 March?	Yes	○ No	O N/A						
48(4)-11	Has the date of closure been confirmed with the AADI?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A						

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
	<b>Trust Trial Balance Statements</b> Note: The Law Society of New South Wales advises that trust ledger acco end of the relevant month do not have to be included in the trust				
48(2)(b) (ii)-1	Have trust trial balance statements been prepared as at the end of each named month?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
48(2)	Do the trust trial balance statements disclose:				
(b)	the relevant month?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(b)(iii)	the date of preparation?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(b)(ii)-2	the ledger account name?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(b)(ii)-3	the reference number or identification?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(b)(ii)-4	the balance of each trust ledger account at month end?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(b)(ii)-5	a short description of the matter?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(b)(i)-1	the total of all trust ledger account balances at month end?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(b)(i)-2	the comparison between the total of the trial balance statement and the reconciled cash book balance as at the same date?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
48(3)	Is the date of preparation within 15 working days of the end of the relevant month?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
48(4)	For manual records, are the additions on the trial balance statement correct?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
48(5)	Are trial balance statements retained?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
48(2)(b)(i)	For manual records, have any variances between the total of the trial balance statement and the trust cash book balance been satisfactorily noted, explained and subsequently adjusted?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
48(4)-7	Does the recorded Statutory Deposit ledger balance as at 31 March agree with documents provided by the authorised ADI record and/or has the Statutory Deposit balance been confirmed with the authorised ADI?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	Have satisfactory explanations been provided for any dormant balances listed?				
S147(2)	Note: If not, please provide details in the Breaches section of the External Examiner Report titled "Breaches".	○ Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
S148-1	Are there any overdrawn ledgers listed?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	If so, have those overdraws as at 31 March since been cleared?				
S148-2	Were any overdraws or deficiencies identified from a review of the month end trust trial balance statements over the applicable period?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	If "No", please go to the next section: Trust Journal If "Yes", please continue below:				
S148-3	Did the law practice answer "Yes" to the question "Did you have any overdrawn ledgers?" in the "General Trust Money"" section of the Statement of Trust Money	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
0140 0	(Part B): Did you submit a notification under S.154 of the Uniform Law of a trust account irregularity or suspected irregularity?	0 100	<u> </u>	U NIJI	
0140.4	Were all overdraws or deficiencies rectified as soon as practicable after the time when the issue should have become apparent?	Ov	( ) N	→ 81.74	
S148-4	If not, please provide details in the Breaches section of the External Examiner Report titled "Breaches".	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
S148-5	Did the law practice take the appropriate action to rectify the overdraws or deficiencies? If not, please provide details in the "Breaches" section of the External Examiner Report.	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
S154(1)	Did the law practice report each overdraw or deficiency to the Law Society's Trust Accounts Department in writing as soon as practicable after it became aware of the irregularity? If so, please review the correspondence, including the written response from the Trust Accounts Department.	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	

### 2.7 TRUST JOURNAL

 $Objective \ is\ to\ ensure\ that\ there\ are\ no\ transfers\ without\ the\ use\ of\ the\ trust\ journal\ and\ the\ required\ details\ are\ recorded\ for\ each\ trust\ journal\ transfer.$ 

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
46(2)	Has the law practice completed any transfers to another trust ledger account by journal entry?  If "No", please skip to the next section: Trust Ledger Accounts  If "Yes", please continue below:	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
46(1)(a)	Have the journal transfers been authorised in writing by an authorised principal of the law practice?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
46(1)	If the authorised principal was not available, was the journal transfer authorised by:				
(a)(i)	an authorised legal practitioner associate of the law practice? or	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(a)(ii)	an authorised Australian legal practitioner who holds an Australian practising certificate authorising the receipt of trust money? or	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
(a)(iii)	two or more authorised associates jointly? or	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
46(1)(b)	in writing by an external intervener for the law practice?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	○ N/A	
46(3)	Are the following particulars recorded in the trust account transfer journal for each journal transfer:				
(a)	the date of the transfer?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(b)	the trust ledger account from which the money is transferred? including:				
	the appropriate ledger reference? and	Yes	○No	O N/A	
	the name of the person on whose behalf the transfer was made? and	Yes	○No	O N/A	
	the matter description?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(c)	the trust ledger account to which the money is transferred? including:				
	the appropriate ledger reference? and	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	the name of the person on whose behalf the transfer was made? and	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	the matter description?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(d)	the amount transferred?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(e)	the reason for the transfer?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
46(4)	Are journal pages or entries consecutively numbered?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
46(5)	Are the particulars of the authorisation for each transfer kept?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	

### 2.8 TRUST LEDGER ACCOUNTS

Objective is to ensure that the trust ledger accounts have been properly kept and details of money received, disbursed and transferred are recorded in a trust ledger account kept for each matter.

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
47(1)	Is a separate ledger account opened for each matter for which trust money has been received by the law practice?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
47(2)	Does each ledger account include in the title:				
(a)	the name of the person for or on behalf of whom the trust money was paid?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(b)	the person's address?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(c)	matter description?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
47(3)	Are the following particulars recorded in the trust ledger account for all transactions:				
(a)	the date of the transaction (i.e. the receipt, payment or journal transfer)?	○ Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(b)	the appropriate reference number and transaction type?	○ Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(c)	the reason for the transaction?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(d)	the amount of money?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(e)(i)	Are the following particulars recorded in the trust ledger account if the transaction is a receipt:	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	• the provider of the money?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	the date of the receipt and the date the funds were received (if different)?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
47(3)(e)(ii)	Are the following particulars recorded in the trust ledger account if the transaction is a payment by cheque:	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	the payee? or	○ Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
	• in the case of a cheque made payable to an ADI: the name of the person receiving the benefit of the payment?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
47(3)(e)(iii)	Are the following particulars recorded in the trust ledger account if the transaction is a payment by electronic funds transfer:	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	the appropriate ledger reference? and	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	the name of the person on whose behalf the transfer was made? and	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	the matter description?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
47(4)	Are transactions recorded in the trust ledger account:				
(a)	in the order in which the transactions occur?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
(b)	within 5 working days of the day the receipt was made out, the payment was made, or the transfer was effected?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
47(5)	Is a ledger balance shown after each receipt, payment or transfer of trust money?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	In respect of any debit balances or deficiencies identified from the review of the trust ledger accounts: If none were identified, please skip to the question on dormant balances: \$147(2)(a)				
\$148-1	Have all overdrawn ledgers or deficiencies been rectified as soon as practicable after the time when the issue should have become apparent? If not, please provide details in the "Breaches" section of the External Examiner Report .	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
S148-2	Did the law practice take the appropriate action in rectifying the deficiencies? If not, please provide details in the "Breaches" section of the External Examiner Report.	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
S154(1)	Did the law practice report each occurrence to the Law Society's Trust Account  Department in writing as soon as practicable after it became aware of the irregularity?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	If so, please review the correspondence, including the written response from the Trust Accounts Department.				

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
\$147(2)(a)	Have satisfactory explanations been provided for any dormant balances? If not, please provide details in the "Breaches" section of the External Examiner Report.	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
S147(2)	Has the accuracy of records in the cash books and the ledgers been confirmed by comparison with source records?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
\$138(1) & (2)	Were payments from trust ledger accounts in accordance with the direction of the person on whose behalf the money was held? If not, were the payments subject to a court order or authorised by law?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
\$148-1	Was the authorised ADI account balance overdrawn during the applicable period without reasonable excuse? If so:	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
S154-1	Was it reported in writing to the Law Society's Trust Accounts Department?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	Trust Ledger Account in Name of Law Practice or Legal Pr	actitioner A	Associate		
49(1)	Does the law practice maintain a trust ledger account in the name of:				
1	the law practice, or	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
2	an associate of the law practice?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
49(2)	Is the use of the trust ledger account restricted to:				
(a)	use as a clearing account i.e. an account in the law practice's name for the purpose of collecting money due for legal costs from other ledgers in the trust account?	Yes	○No	O N/A	
(b)	an account in a legal practitioner associate's name where the associate has a personal and beneficial interest as a vendor, purchaser, lessor, lessee or in another similar capacity?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
49(3)	If a "clearing account" is used, have the funds been withdrawn within 1 month of being transferred to the trust ledger account?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
49(4)	If there is an account where a legal practitioner associate had a personal and beneficial interest, have the funds been withdrawn from the trust account if the matter has concluded?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
49(2)(a)	Were there any other trust ledger accounts noted that need further review, such as ledger accounts headed suspense, miscellaneous or in the name of the law practice?	Vac	○ Na	○ N/A	
& (b)	Were satisfactory explanations for such accounts received? If not, please review the trust ledger account and the transactions.	Yes	○ No	₩/A	

### 2.9 STATUTORY DEPOSIT

To ensure the calculation for the statutory deposit has been completed by the law practice for each quarter and deposited the required statutory deposit amount in the Statutory Deposit Account, either as calculated by the law practice or determined on request by the Law Society of NSW Trust Accounts Department.

Note: Legislation reference is the Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Act 2014 ("AA") and the Legal Profession Uniform Law Application 2015 ("AR").

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
\$137	Does the law practice currently maintain a general trust account?	Yes	○No	O N/A	
AA - S46 AR - C19, C110(1) & (2)	Did the law practice conduct the statutory deposit calculation on time for each quarter?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
AR - CI11(1)	Did the law practice deposit the required amount in the Statutory Deposit Account on time for each quarter?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	If the law practice had a statutory deposit, have you confirmed this amount with the authorised ADI?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	

## SECTION 3 CONTROLLED MONEY 3.1 CONTROLLED MONEY

Objective is to ensure a law practice that receives controlled money deposits the money in a controlled money account as directed. "Controlled money" means money received or held by a law practice in respect of which the law practice has a written direction to deposit the money in an account (other than a general trust account) over which the practice has or will have exclusive control. (\$128(1) of the Uniform Law). "Controlled money account" means an account maintained by a law practice with an ADI for the holding of controlled money received by the law practice. (\$128(1) of the Uniform Law)

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
61	Does the name of the controlled money account include:				
(a)	the name of the law practice concerned?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(b)	the expression "controlled money account" or the abbreviation "CMA" or "CMA/c"?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(c)	particulars to identify:	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
	the purpose of the account? and	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
	- to distinguish the account from any other account maintained by the law practice?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
62(1)	Are all controlled money receipts maintained in a single system for all accounts?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	Is a controlled money receipt made out as soon as possible?				
62(2)	Note: this does not include interest received into the controlled money account - see Rule 62(8)	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
62(3)	Does the law practice give the person from whom the controlled money was received a copy of the receipt upon request?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	Are the controlled money receipts in duplicate?				
62(4)	Note: The receipt must be made out in duplicate, unless the receipt is recorded by a computerised accounting system.	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
62(4)	Do the receipts include:				
(h)	the name of the law practice, or practice trading name? and	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	the expression "controlled money receipt"?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
62(4)	Do the receipts include all of the following particulars:				
(a)	• the date the receipt is made out?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	• the date of receipt of the money (if different)?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
(b)	the amount of money received?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(c)	the form in which the money was received?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(d)	the name of the person from whom the money was received?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(e)	details clearly identifying the name of the person on whose behalf the money was received?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	the matter description?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
	- the matter reference?	○ Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(f)	particulars sufficient to identify the reason for the receipt?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(g)	the name and other details identifying the controlled money account to be credited?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(i)	the number of the receipt?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
62(5)	If the controlled money account to be credited has not been established by the time the receipt is made out, does the duplicate receipt include the name of, and other details clearly identifying, the account when established?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
62(6)	Are controlled money receipts:				
	consecutively numbered? and	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
	- issued in consecutive sequence?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
62(7)	Is the original of any receipt that is cancelled or not delivered kept by the law practice?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
\$139(1)	Have (external) written directions been obtained to open the controlled money accounts?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	

### 3.2 CONTROLLED MONEY WITHDRAWAL

Objective is to ensure that all withdrawals of controlled money are carried out in accordance with the Rules and that a written record disclosing the required particulars is kept for each withdrawal of controlled money.

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
63(1)	Are all controlled money withdrawals made by either:				
1	cheque? or	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	○ N/A	
2	electronic funds transfer?	O Van	○ N -	○ N/A	
	Note: payments made via BPAY or Pay ID are considered electronic funds transfers.	○ Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
63(2)	Are all controlled money withdrawals effected by, under the direction of or with the authority of:	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
(a)	an authorised principal of the law practice? or	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
(b)	if such a principal is not available:	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(b)(i)	an authorised legal practitioner associate? or	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
(b)(ii)	when an authorised practitioner referred to in subparagraph (i) is not available - an authorised Australian legal practitioner who holds an Australian practising certificate authorising the receipt of trust money? or	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
(b)(iii)	when the authorised practitioners referred to in subparagraph (i) or (ii) are both not available - two or more authorised associates of the law practice jointly?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	Is a written record kept of each withdrawal?				
63(3) & (4)	Note: If particulars are recorded by a computerised accounting system, a written record must be kept to enable the accuracy of the computerised record to be verified.	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
63(5)	Does the written record contain the following particulars:				
(a)	• the date?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	the number of the transaction?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(b)	the amount withdrawn?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(c)	for a withdrawal made by cheque:	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	• the name of the person to whom payment is to be made?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	• or if the cheque is made payable to an ADI:	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
(d)	for a withdrawal made by electronic funds transfer:	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	the receiving account name? and	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	the receiving account number? and	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	the relevant BSB number?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(e)	details clearly identifying:	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	the name of the person on whose behalf the payment was made? and	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	the matter reference?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
(f)	the reason for which the payment was made?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
(g)	the person or persons effecting, directing or authorising the withdrawal?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
63(6)	Are the written records filed in the same order as the withdrawals are made?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	Are the written records recorded separately for each controlled money account?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	

### 3.3 REGISTER OF CONTROLLED MONEY

 $Objective\ is\ to\ ensure\ that\ all\ records\ relating\ to\ controlled\ money\ accounts\ are\ properly\ kept\ in\ the\ controlled\ money\ register$ 

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
64(4)	Do the transactions in the controlled money register disclose:	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(a)	the date the controlled money was received?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(b)	the number of the receipt?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(c)	the date the money was deposited in the controlled money account?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(d)	the name of and other details clearly identifying the controlled money account?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(e)	the amount of controlled money deposited?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(f)	details of the deposit sufficient to identify the deposit?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(g)	interest received?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(h)	details of any payments from the controlled money account, including the particulars required to be recorded under Rule 63(5)?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
64(5)	Are particulars of receipts and payments entered into the register as soon as practicable after the receipt or payment?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
64(6)	Is the interest and other income received in respect of controlled money entered in the register as soon as practicable after the law practice is notified of its receipt?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
64(7)	Does the law practice retain all supporting information (including ADI statements and notifications of interest received) relating to controlled money?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
\$139	Subject to a court order or as authorised by law, did the law practice hold the controlled money and not disburse it except in accordance with:	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(3)(a)	the written direction relating to the controlled money;	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	or				
(3)(b)	a later written direction given by the person on whose behalf the controlled money was held.	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
\$139(1) to (5) & \$147(2)	Has the accuracy of the records in all controlled money accounts been confirmed by comparison with source records (including the statements provided by the ADI)?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	

### 3.4 CONTROLLED MONEY LISTING OF ACCOUNTS

Objective is to ensure that listings of controlled money are prepared within 15 working days of each month end for the period under review.

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
64(8)-1	Have controlled money listings of accounts been prepared for each month?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	○ N/A	
64(8)(b)	Do the controlled money lists show a date of preparation?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
64(8)-2	Have they been prepared within 15 working days of month end?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
64(8)(a)	Do the controlled money listings contain:				
(i)	the name of each controlled money account in the register?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	the number of the controlled money account in the register?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	the balance of each controlled money account in the register?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(ii)	the name of the person on whose behalf each controlled money account is/was held?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(iii)	a short matter description?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	Were there any overdrawn accounts identified from a review of the controlled money records over the applicable period?		$\overline{}$		
S148	If " <b>No</b> ", please skip to the next section: <b>Transit Money</b>	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	If "Yes", please continue below:				
\$148-2	Have all overdrawn controlled money accounts been rectified as soon as practicable after the overdraw should have become apparent? If not, please provide details in External Examiner Report under "Breaches"	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
\$148-3	Did the law practice take the appropriate action in rectifying the controlled money account overdraw? If not, please provide details in External Examiner Report under "Breaches"	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
S154(1)	Did the law practice report each controlled money account overdraw to the Law Society's Trust Account Department in writing as soon as practicable after it became aware of the irregularity? If so, please review the correspondence, including the written response from the Trust Accounts Department.	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	

### **SECTION 4 - TRANSIT MONEY**

### **4.1 TRANSIT MONEY**

Objective is to ascertain if the law practice has received transit money and has retained the appropriate records.

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
\$140(1)	Does the name of the controlled money account include:	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
	• as required by the instructions related to the money within the period (if any) specified in the instructions?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	• or else as soon as practicable after it is received?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
\$140(2)	Does the law practice record and keep details of transit money?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
\$140(2)	Do the records include:				
	brief particulars sufficient to identify the relevant transaction?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
	the purpose for which the money was received?	○ Yes	○ No	O N/A	

### **SECTION 5 - TRUST MONEY SUBJECT TO A SPECIFIC POWER**

### **5.1 TRUST MONEY SUBJECT TO SPECIFIC POWER**

Objective is to ascertain if the law practice has been given a power or authority to deal with trust money (whether alone or jointly with another person) and has accounted for the money and kept appropriate records of all dealings (excluding power money pursuant to an electronic lodgement network operator's settlement scheme (such as PEXA).

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
	Has the law practice dealt with the power money only in accordance with that power?				
\$141(1)	Note: If power money is received in cash, under Section 143(1) it must be deposited to the general trust account before being dealt with in accordance with the power.	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
\$141(2)	Does the law practice keep:	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
55(2)(a)	a record of all dealings with the money?	Yes	$\bigcircNo$	O N/A	
55(2)(b)	all supporting information in relation to the dealings?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
S148-1	Were there any deficiencies identified from a review of the records kept for trust money subject to specific power, including any indication that the trust money was not dealt with in accordance with the power?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
S148 -2	Was each deficiency restored promptly?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
S148 -3	Did the law practice provide a satisfactory explanation for each deficiency?	Yes	○No	O N/A	
\$154(1)	Did the law practice report each deficiency to the Law Society's Trust Account Department in writing as soon as practicable after it became aware of the irregularity?		○ N-	○ N/A	
3134(1)	If so, please review the correspondence, including the written response from the Trust Accounts Department.	Yes	○ NO	∪ N/A	

### **SECTION 6 - REGISTER OF POWERS AND ESTATES**

### **6.1 REGISTER OF POWERS AND ESTATES**

Objective is to ascertain if the law practice or an associate of the law practice has maintained the appropriate records, that is a Register of Powers & Estates, because it has acted or is entitled to act, alone or jointly with the law practice or one or more associates of the practice, in relation to trust money.

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
	A law practice must maintain a Register of Powers and Estates if:				
	the law practice or an associate of the law practice				
60(1)	has	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	acted, or been entitled to act alone or jointly with the law practice or one or more associates of the practice, in relation to trust money?				
60(2)	Have all qualifying powers under Rule 60(1) been entered into the Register of Powers and Estates?		○ N -	O NI/A	
00(2)	Note: this is not a requirement where the law practice or an associate is also required to act jointly with one or more persons who are not associates of the law practice.	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
60(3)(a)	Does the register record particulars sufficient to identify each power including:	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
	• the name of the donor? and	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
	• the address of the donor? and	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
	• the date of each power?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
60(3)(b)	Does the register record particulars sufficient to:	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	<ul> <li>identify each estate where the law practice or an associate is the executor or administrator? Including:</li> </ul>	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	the name of the deceased? and	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	• the date of death of the deceased?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	

**Enquiries:** The Law Society of New South Wales, 170 Phillip Street, Sydney NSW 2000

### **SECTION 7 - WRITTEN DIRECTION MONEY**

### 7.1 TRUST MONEY SUBJECT TO WRITTEN DIRECTION

Objective is to ascertain whether or not the law practice has received a written direction to deal with trust money (other than cash) in a particular way.

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
S142(1)	Has the law practice complied with that direction:				
1	within the specified period? or	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	$\bigcirc$ N/A	
2	otherwise, as soon as practicable after it is received?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
S142(2)	Has the law practice kept the written direction?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	

# SECTION 8 - INVESTMENT OF TRUST MONEY 8.1 REGISTER OF INVESTMENTS

Objective is to ascertain if the law practice has received instructions to invest trust money for or on behalf of clients and has maintained the appropriate register of investments of trust money.

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
59(1)	Does the law practice keep a register of investments?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
59(1)	Does the register record:	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(a)	the name in which the investment is held?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(b)	the name of the person on whose behalf the investment is made?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(c)	the person's address?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(d)	particulars sufficient to identify the investment?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(e)	the amount invested?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(f)	the date the investment was made?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(g)	particulars sufficient to identify the source of the investment? including, for example: a reference to the relevant trust ledger account (if applicable)? and a reference to the written authority to make the investment?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
(h)	details of any documents evidencing the investment?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(i)	details of any interest received from the investment or credited directly to the investment?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(j)	details of the repayment of the investment and any interest?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	

# SECTION 9 – MATTER FILES AND REGISTER 9.1 OPENING AND MAINTAINING MATTERS FILES

Objective is to ascertain whether or not the law practice has received a written direction to deal with trust money (other than cash) in a particular way.

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
91E(1)	Does the law practice open a file for each instructed matter?	○ Yes	○ No	O N/A	
91E(2)	Is the file opened as soon as practicable after the law practice receives the instructions?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
91E(3)	Does the file contain or have endorsed on it:	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
93(2)(a)	the full name and address of the person? and	○ Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
93(2)(b)	the date of receipt of the instructions? and	○ Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
93(2)(c)	a short description of the legal services? and	○ Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
93(2)(d)	an identifier? and	○ Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
91E(3)(b)	the client contact details?	○ Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	Register of Files Opened				
93(1)	Does the law practice maintain a register of files opened?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
93(2)	Does the register of files record, for each matter:	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(a)	the full name and address of the person? and	○ Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(b)	the date of receipt of the instructions? and	○ Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(c)	a short description of the legal services which the law practice has agreed to provide? and	○ Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(d)	an identifier? and	○ Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(e)	the location of any regulated property relating to the matter (as defined in Section 6 of the Uniform Law)? being:	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	trust money received, receivable or held by the law practice?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	trust property received, receivable or held by the law practice?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	interest, dividends or other income or anything else derived from or acquired with trust money or property?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	any trust documents or records	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	any computer hardware or software, or other device, that maintains trust records?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
	- client files?	○ Yes	○ No	O N/A	
93(2A)	If, for the purposes of Subrule 93(2)(e), the regulated property is a document that is stored on a server accessible from multiple locations, is the location of the document recorded as the law practice's principal place of business?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
95A(1)	Is the register of files:	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(a)	in the English language? and	○ Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(b)	legible? and	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(c)	kept in a single document or in any other manner that enables a single document to be compiled? and	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(d)	always kept at the premises of the law practice?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	○ N/A	
95A(2)(a)	Is the known information entered as soon as practicable after the file is opened?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
95A(2)(b)	When information becomes known to the law practice after the file is opened - is this updated as soon as practicable?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	

### **9.2 REGISTER OF SAFE CUSTODY DOCUMENTS**

 $Objective\ is\ to\ ensure\ that\ the\ law\ practice\ is\ opening\ and\ maintaining\ appropriate\ registers.$ 

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
94(1)	Does the law practice maintain a register of safe custody documents?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
94(2)	Does the register of safe custody documents disclose:	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(a)	the full name and address of the person who gave the instructions?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(b)	a short description of the item?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(c)	the date of receipt of the item by the law practice?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(d)	the identifier of the safe custody packet in which the item is held by the law practice?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
95A(1)	Is the register of safe custody documents:				
(a)	in the English language?	○ Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(b)	legible?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(c)	kept in a single document or in a way that a single document can be compiled?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(d)	kept at the premises of the law practice at all times?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
95A(2)(a)	Is all known information entered as soon as practicable after the file is opened?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
95A(2)(b)	When information becomes known to the law practice after the file is opened - is this updated as soon as practicable?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	

### 9.3 REGISTER OF FINANCIAL INTERESTS

 $Objective\ is\ to\ ensure\ that\ the\ law\ practice\ is\ opening\ and\ maintaining\ appropriate\ registers.$ 

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
	Has a legal practitioner associate had a financial interest in any company, partnership, or other entity that deals with trust money received by the associate or the law practice?				
	If "No", please skip to the next section: Mortgage Money	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	If "Yes", please continue below:	163	∪ NU	∪ N/A	
	Note: this rule does not apply if the company is listed on the Australian Stock Exchange or is a shelf company.				
95(1)	Does the law practice maintain a register of financial interests?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
95(2)	Does the register of financial interests, in respect of each legal practitioner associate of the law practice, record the following	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(a)	the full name and address of the associate? and	○ Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(b)	the name and other identifying particulars of any company, partnership, or other entity, in which the associate has a financial interest?	Yes	○No	○ N/A	
95A(1)	Is the register of financial interests:				
(a)	in the English language?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(b)	legible?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(c)	kept in a single document or in a way that a single document can be compiled?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
(d)	kept at the premises of the law practice at all times?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
95A(2)(a)	Is all known information entered as soon as practicable after the file is opened?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
95A(2)(b)	When information becomes known to the law practice after the file is opened - is this updated as soon as practicable?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	

### 9.4 MORTGAGE MONEY

Objective is to ensure that the law practice is not negotiating the making of or variation of a mortgage.

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
129(2)(b)	Note: Section 129(2)(b) of the Uniform Law provides that money entrusted to or held by a law practice for or in connection with — a managed investment scheme; or mortgage financing; undertaken by the law practice is not trust money	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
258(4)	Note: Section 258(4) of the Uniform Law provides that the law practice is not prohibited from negotiating the making of or acting in respect of a mortgage: under which the lender is a financial institution, or under which the lender or contributors nominate the borrower, but only if the borrower is not a person introduced to the lender or contributors by the law practice who acts for the lender or contributors, or by an associate of the law practice, or an agent of the law practice, or a person engaged by the law practice for the purpose of introducing the borrower to the lender or contributors	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
\$258(4)	Is there evidence of the law practice negotiating the making of or acting in respect of a mortgage (including a variation of a mortgage)? If so:	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(a)	Is the lender a financial institution?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
(b)	Is the borrower a person introduced to the lender or contributors by:	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
	the law practice who acts for the lender or contributors? or	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
	an associate of the law practice? or	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
	an agent of the law practice? or	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
	a person engaged by the law practice for the purpose of introducing the borrower to the lender or contributor	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	

### 9.5 BORROWING FROM CLIENTS OR FORMER CLIENTS

 $The \ Objective \ is \ to \ ensure \ that \ no \ solicitor \ or \ associate \ of \ the \ law \ practice \ has \ borrowed \ money \ from \ a \ client, \ or, \ in \ certain \ circumstances, \ from \ a \ former \ client.$ See Rule 12.3 of the Legal Profession Uniform Law Australian Solicitors Conduct Rules 2015 for more detail on the circumstances where borrowing may be allowed.

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
12.3	Is there any evidence of a solicitor or an associate borrowing money from a client, or from a former client who continues to rely on the advice of the law practice in relation to investment of money?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	

### 9.6 GENERAL OVERVIEW OF MATTER FILES AND TRUST RECORDS

The Objective is to provide an overview of the examination in respect of matter files and trust records.

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
	Are the matter files selected, a representative sample of both open files and those matter files closed during the relevant period?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
S147(2)	Has the accuracy of records in the cash books and the ledgers been confirmed by comparison with source records?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
\$138(1) & (2)	Were payments from the trust ledger accounts authorised by the client, court order or law?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
S147(2)-2	Has the accuracy of controlled money records been confirmed by comparison with source records?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
\$139(1)	Have (external) written directions been obtained to open any controlled money accounts?	Yes	$\bigcirc$ No	O N/A	
\$139(3)	Were withdrawals from any controlled money accounts made in accordance with (external) written directions?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
0147/2) 2	Has the accuracy of power money records been confirmed by comparison with source records?	Vac	○ No	O NI/A	
S147(2)-3	Note: power money pursuant to an electronic lodgement network operator's settlement scheme (such as PEXA) is not relevant for this section.	Yes	○ NO	∪ N/A	

Legislation	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
\$141(1)	Was there any indication that power money was not dealt in accordance with that power?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
\$147(2)-4	Has the accuracy of investment money records been confirmed by comparison with source records?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
\$137, \$139 & \$147(2)	Is there any evidence that trust money has been received and not dealt with through the appropriate records?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
S146	Is there any evidence of intermixing trust money?	Yes	○ No	O N/A	
\$147(2)-5	Does the volume of breaches identified warrant an adverse opinion of the records in respect of one or more of the types of trust money or one or more of the registers reviewed?	Yes	○No	○ N/A	
	If so, please answer "No" to the relevant question in the External Examiner's Report asking if the records have been maintained in accordance with the Uniform Law and Rules and explain your reasons for the adverse opinion in the External Examiner Report under "Breaches".				
S147(2)-6	Did you encounter issues or delays in completing your examination due to the conduct of the law practice?	Yes	○ No	○ N/A	
	If so, please provide further details in TLP on the Breaches page or, alternatively, on the Declaration page if you prefer not to share them with the law practice.				