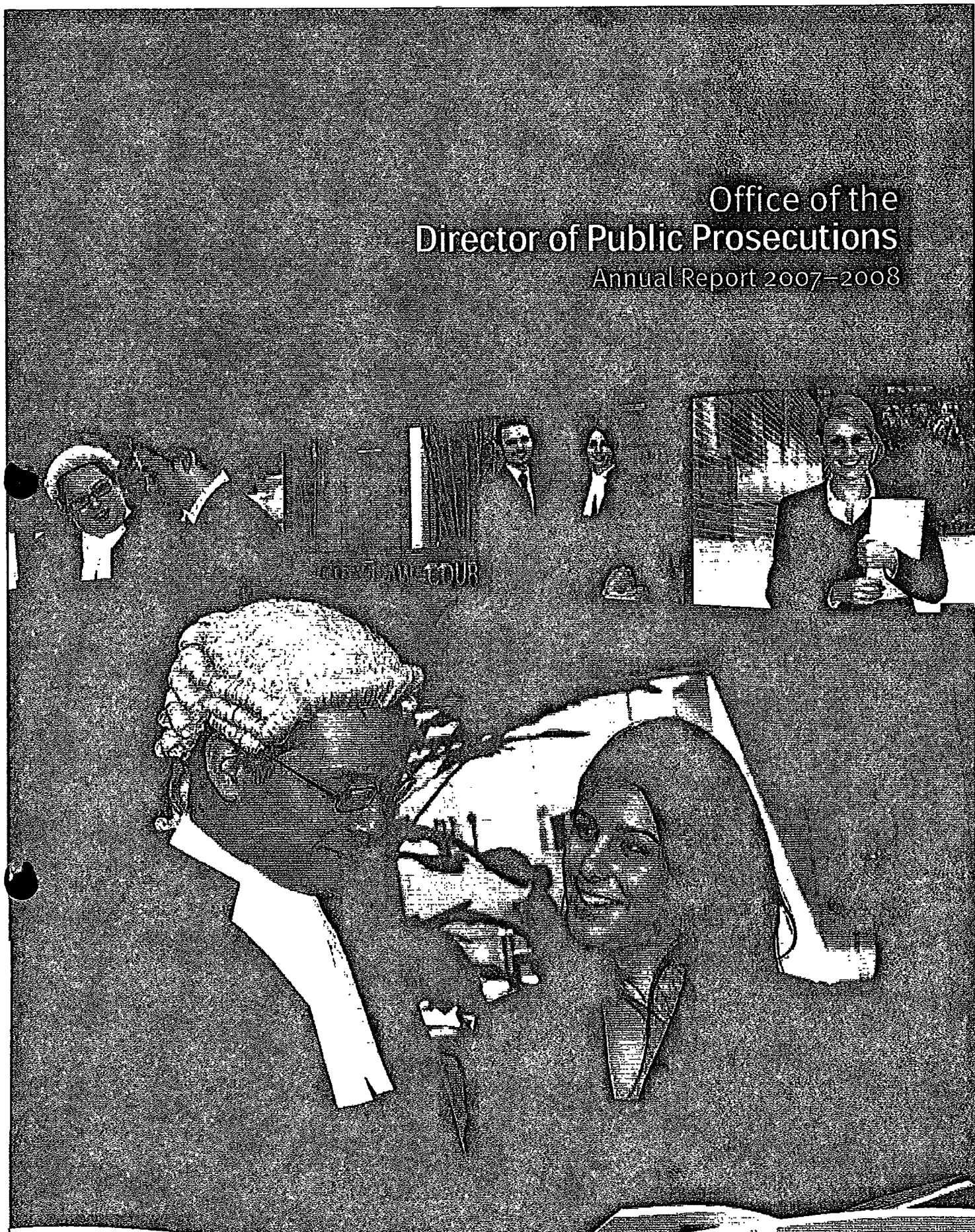


Office of the  
Director of Public Prosecutions  
Annual Report 2007-2008



## Seeking justice

In June 2003, the Crime and Misconduct Commission (CMC) completed an inquiry into the handling of sexual offence cases by the Queensland Police Service and the ODPP. That inquiry resulted in the report *'Seeking Justice: an inquiry into the handling of sexual offences by the criminal justice system'*.

The Seeking Justice report made 23 recommendations for changes to the processes relating to the handling of sexual offences by Queensland Police and the ODPP. Since that time the ODPP has fully implemented the majority of the recommendations pertaining to the ODPP and has continued making full implementations of the few remaining recommendations.

Over recent years, the ODPP has undergone a number of internal and external reviews, the objects of which were to improve the efficiency of the ODPP and the delivery of prosecution services to the community of Queensland. The ODPP has responded to these reviews by implementing a number of structural and operational changes to improve service delivery and enhance the skills and efficiency of staff, including:

- adopting a chambers model throughout all 16 chambers within the State
- stabilising staffing structures
- investing in training and on the job experience for staff.

In March 2008, the CMC published its findings relating to the review of the implementation of the recommendations of the *Seeking Justice* report. The ODPP reviewed the CMC report on the recommendations made in the *Seeking Justice* report and accepted the findings and further recommendations made.

The ODPP is committed to enhancing and improving prosecution services for all Queenslanders, particularly in cases involving sexual offences. Over the 2008–2009 year, the ODPP will use the findings of the recent review to assist in this process and improve services and communication to victims of sexual offences. It will also work to promote continuing and positive cooperation and communication with other stakeholders within the justice system, in particular the Queensland Police Service, Legal Aid Queensland and victim support agencies.

