

# Justices of the Peace Branch

## February 2021 Update

[JP Shop](#) | [Update your details](#) | [Professional development for JPs and Cdecs](#)

Dear colleagues,

2021 is shaping up to be another busy year for Queensland Justices of the Peace (JPs) and Commissioners for Declarations (Cdecs).

We here at the Justices of the Peace Branch (JP Branch) now have over 200 JPs in the Community sites currently running across Queensland and are nearly back operating at pre-Covid levels of service throughout the volunteer program.

Despite having to suspend the JPs in the Community Program for nearly three months in 2020, the JPs in the Community volunteers and sites still managed to witness nearly 1.49 million documents for over 494,000 clients across nearly 100,000 hours of volunteering.

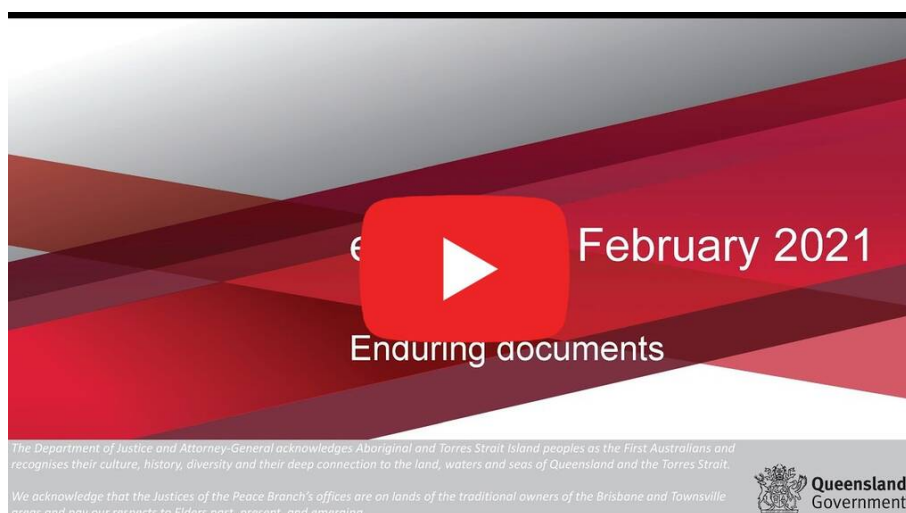
For comparison, the volunteer program in 2019 volunteers witnessed nearly 2 million documents for 650,000 clients across 136,000 volunteers hours.

These comparison stats also underline the import role those of those that are not in the JPs in the Community program played during the suspension.

During the Program's suspension, the [After-hours JP Search](#) function on the Department of Justice and Attorney-General's website was being accessed over 15,000 times per week. People continued making themselves available at their work, home or arranging to meet clients to ensure the valuable service we offer the community continued. I think everyone receiving this email deserves thanks and recognition for this feat.

In the spirit of the changes last year brought to our lives and the versatility it forced all of us to exhibit, JP Branch is trialling a new format for our bulletin.

You can view the new eBulletin below and I hope you enjoy.



## Supporting resources

- [Justices of the Peace \(Qualified\) Handbook](#)
- [Commissioner for Declarations Handbook](#)
- [Certifying copies of enduring power of attorney and advance health directive forms \(PDF, 341KB\)](#)
- [Advance Health Directive and 'Less Restrictive Way' \(PDF, 1.33MB\)](#)
- [Power of attorney and making decisions for others](#)
- [Power of attorney and advance health directive forms](#)

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your role as a witnessing officer in Queensland, please don't hesitate contacting the JP Branch on [1300 301 147](tel:1300301147) or [jp@justice.qld.gov.au](mailto:jp@justice.qld.gov.au).

Warm regards,

Damien Mealey  
**Registrar and Manager**  
**Justices of the Peace Branch**



As a Justice of the Peace (JP) or Commissioner for Declarations (Cdec) you play a vital part in the administration of justice for the community. From time to time, there are changes made to the laws and functions that relate to your duties. As an active JP or Cdec, it is important you are made aware of this information to ensure you are exercising your duties correctly and lawfully.

**If you believe you should not be receiving this email entirely, contact the Justices of the Peace Branch on [jp@justice.qld.gov.au](mailto:jp@justice.qld.gov.au) or phone [1300 301 147](tel:1300301147) during business hours.**