



## INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE AND INFORMATION SHEET – PROFESSIONALS

Dear Professional,

The Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS) has been commissioned to undertake an evaluation of the Small Claims Property Pilot. The Pilot, which is also referred to as the Priority Property Pools under \$500,000 (PPP500), is a new court-based model for small value property matters (up to \$500,000 including superannuation).

As part of this evaluation, we are conducting interviews with professionals involved in the Pilot and I would like to invite you to participate in a telephone interview with a member of the research team. This is an important opportunity for professionals to contribute to the evaluation and we hope that you will be able to take part.

The interview will seek your views on how the Pilot is currently operating in your location.

Interviews will be conducted at the conclusion of matters throughout 2020 and 2021.

An information sheet about this study is attached.

Please contact the research team if you would like to take part in this important study, or if you would like more information.

**Phone: 1800 720 142**

**Email: [familylawevaluation@aifs.gov.au](mailto:familylawevaluation@aifs.gov.au)**

Thank you for your support of the evaluation.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Rae Kaspiew  
Team Leader



## Evaluation of the Priority Property Pools under \$500,000 (PPP 500) (Small Claims Property Pilot)

### Information sheet for interviews with professionals

#### An overview of the Evaluation project

The Australian Institute of Family Studies has been commissioned by the Australian Attorney General's Department to undertake an evaluation of the Small Claims Property Pilot. The Pilot, which is also referred to as the Priority Property Pools under \$500,000 (PPP500), is, a new court-based model for small value property matters (up to \$500,000 including superannuation).

The Evaluation involves multiple studies, including studies based on information collected from both professionals and parties involved in the Pilot. The Evaluation will assess how the Pilot is being implemented and the extent to which it meets the needs of parties.

The Evaluation will be implemented progressively throughout 2020-2021. This interview is one of a series that we are conducting with professionals involved with the program.

#### Aims of the interview

The purpose of the interviews is to gain information about the operation of the Pilot from the perspective of people who have used these services. Participation in an interview will involve responding to a range of open-ended questions, including on such topics as your experiences providing services for the Pilot.

Interviews will take approximately 45-60 minutes and will be conducted by telephone. With participants' consent, they will be recorded and transcribed. The identity of participants or the services they represent will not be made known to anyone other than the researchers directly involved in the study. Consent to participate in the study may be withdrawn at any time.

#### Your privacy and safety

We take your privacy and personal security very seriously, and safeguards are in place to protect it.

Participation in this research is confidential and completely voluntary. Participants are free to stop the interview at any time, to not answer any questions, and you can request that we not use any information we have collected from the interview up to one week after the interview, after which the data will be de-identified. Your interview data will be de-identified by removing any details identifying you from the transcript of interview.

Data collected in this research will be held securely in accordance with the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth). You may access our privacy policy at <https://aifs.gov.au/aifs-privacy-policy>

With your consent, interviews will be audio-recorded and all recordings, transcripts, and written responses will be kept in a secure place. Only authorised members of the research team will have access to them. At the conclusion of the project, de-identified transcripts will be retained and managed at AIFS.



Our project report will only include de-identified interview data and any information that you provide will be treated confidentially within the limits of the law.

It is important that you know there is a limit to confidentiality. For example, if you tell us about any unreported current illegal activity, unreported abuse, or disclose something that makes us concerned for your safety or the safety of another person, then we may be obliged to pass this information onto the relevant authorities.

## Contacts

*Please contact the research team to arrange an interview if you are interested to help with this important study on 1800 720 142 or by email to: [familylawevaluation@aifs.gov.au](mailto:familylawevaluation@aifs.gov.au).*

If you would like any more information please visit our project website at [www.aifs.gov.au/projects/evaluation-small-claims-property-pilot](http://www.aifs.gov.au/projects/evaluation-small-claims-property-pilot).

The AIFS Ethics Committee has reviewed this research. Concerns relating to the project ethics may be directed to the AIFS Ethics Committee Secretariat via [ethics-secretariat@aifs.gov.au](mailto:ethics-secretariat@aifs.gov.au) or (03) 9214 7888.

## About the Australian Institute of Family Studies

The Australian Institute of Family Studies is based in Melbourne. It is an independent statutory agency, established by the Commonwealth Government in 1980 and aims to help in the development of better policies for the future of Australian families.

More detailed information about the Institute can be obtained from our website: [www.aifs.gov.au](http://www.aifs.gov.au).