



Magistrates' Court
Victoria

Practice Direction

No. 4 of 2007

**SEXUAL OFFENCES LIST
– SUBURBAN MAGISTRATES' COURTS
– CHILD COMPLAINANTS**

PRACTICE DIRECTION ISSUED PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 4R(4) and 16A
OF THE MAGISTRATES COURT ACT 1989

Preamble

Practice Direction 1 of 2006 established the pilot Sexual Offences Management List at the Melbourne Magistrates' Court ("MMC"). This list commenced operation on 7 April 2006.

Section 4R of the *Magistrates Court Act 1989*, which commenced operation on 1 December 2006, provided for the establishment of the Sexual Offences List ("SOL").

Practice Direction 1 of 2006 has been repealed and Practice Direction 1 of 2007 now applies to the SOL at MMC.

This practice direction applies only to Suburban Magistrates' Courts other than Melbourne Magistrates' Court.

For the purpose of the SOL:

'**Sexual offence**' includes any offence involving a sexual act or an attempt to commit a sexual act or an act alleged to have been committed for the purpose of committing a sexual act.

Summary stream matters only

The following criminal prosecutions, which are ready to be listed for final contested hearing after contest mention, shall be transferred for hearing at the Melbourne Magistrates' Court in consultation with the SOL co-ordinator:

1. where charges have been filed on or after 1 December 2006; and
2. the matter has not, as at 1 July 2007, been listed for a final contested hearing; and
3. the charges include one or more sexual offence; and
4. the complainant is a child.

This Practice Direction commences on 1 July 2007

IAN L GRAY
Chief Magistrate
29 June 2007