

press clip



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CUT STRAIGHT TO YOUR NEWS

Legal centres tackle Brandis on funds

THE nation's community legal centres are in limbo over \$38 million in cuts, despite getting a "hearing" with the Attorney-General in Canberra this week.

Representatives of the sector met with ministers and MPs on Tuesday in a bid to get the \$38 million funding restored and urge the government to act on a Productivity Commission recommendation to boost the CLC funds by \$200 million.

While Labor has promised \$40 million to reverse the cuts and provide a small boost, it will not reach the commission's recommended level.

Queensland Association of Independent Legal Services head James Farrell said



CUTTING: Attorney-General George Brandis.

despite getting a "hearing" from George Brandis, the Attorney-General had made no promises.

Mr Farrell said the cuts would take effect from June next year, adding the Queensland service had to turn away 80,000 people seeking legal advice last year.

Senator Brandis's office did not respond to requests for comment.