AUSTRALIAN LEGAL SECTOR A L L I A N C E

PROMOTING SUSTAINABILITY

Australian Legal Sector Alliance Sustainability Insight 2017

Swaab

Firm Entry and Benchmarking Summary



Report created on 22 August 2023

Our Firm

Swaab

Swaab

About Our Firm

Swaab Attorneys is a multi-award winning, mid-sized commercial law firm offering legal services across a number of core practice areas and industry groups. With 14 partners we have been helping our clients' businesses grow for over 30 years. We have strong capabilities in the areas of commercial and corporate law and our large private client practice provides family law, estate planning and other high net worths personal services. In recent years, we have been recognised for both our excellent client service and our exceptional work environment. We also have a number of international clients for whom we act as attorneys and agents to assist them with their introduction to Australia's business landscape and the development of their business in Australia.

Firm Details

Question	2016 Response	2017 Response	2017 Benchmark	
Firm Name	Swaab Attorneys	Swaab Attorneys		
Number of Employees	70	82	Lowest:	39
			Highest:	1,751
			Average:	574
Offices Floor Area	2,261	2,261	Lowest:	661
			Highest:	47,172
			Average:	13,920
Number of Offices	1	1		
Supporting files uploaded	Nil			

Person responsible for reporting

Name: Paul Barbour

Title: IT & Operations Manager

Email: pxb@swaab.com.au

User comments and notes

Nil

Our People

About People Programs

We place a high value on the well-being of our people. Our Managing Partner is on the board of the Tristan Jepson Memorial Foundation and our firm is a regular supporter by monthly donation. We have partnered with Optum to provide an employee assistance program with 24 hours seven days a week access for our people and their families. We have a range of learning and development initiatives that focus on mental health and well-being. We are a signatory to the Law Council's Diversity and Equality Charter. 43% of our partners are females and we demonstrate a disproportionately high female leadership team. This is something that our firm is extremely proud of because this has happened organically, without any set targets for diversity . We have a high number of part-time employees, both female and male and we have embraced flexible working across all levels of the firm.

Question	2016 Response	2017 Response	2017 Benchmark

User comments and notes

Nil

Gender Equality

Question	2016 Response	2017 Response	2017 Benchmark	
Gender equality - Policy?	Yes	Yes	Yes	91%
			No	6%
			Currently in development	3%
			Not reported	0%
Gender equality policy -	N/A	No	Yes	58%
Published			No	39%
			In development	0%
			Not reported	3%
Gender equality - Managed	Yes	Yes	Yes	97%
			No	3%
			Not reported	0%
Gender equality - Managed	Partner	Partner	Partner	54%
by	Director or Manager	Director or Manager	Director or Manager	54%
	Committee	Committee	Committee	54%
Gender Equality - Programs	Law Council Diveristy and Equality Charter	International Women's Day	International Women's Day	83%
			Employer of Choice for Gender Equality	49%

	Pay Equity Ambassador	51	1%
	Male Champion of Change	17	7%
	Board Links Champion	(0%
	LCA Diversity and Inclusion Charter	(0%
	Equitable briefing pledge (e.g. CommBar/LCA)	(0%
	Host or lead externa programs and/or forums	(0%
	Female advancement mentoring and coaching	nt, (0%
	Training - Gender awareness unconscious bias	(0%
	Gender sensitive promotion and recruitment	(0%
	Internal D&I network or committees	is (0%
	LSNSW Charter - Advancement of Women	(0%
	Equal pay controls	(0%
	DCA major sponsor	(0%
	Showcasing gender diversity experiences		0%
	Women on Boards	(0%
	UN Womens' Empowerment Signatory	(0%
	Other programs not included above (please only include programs that are no covered in the broad categories above - max 20 words	or	4%
No	Yes		5%
	No		3%
	Not reported	ç	9%
57% Male	Lowest:	0% Ma	ale
	Highest:	92% Ma	ale
	Average:	68% Ma	ale
43% Male	Lowest:	0% Ma	ale

Highest:

Gender Equality - Targets

Gender profile - Partners

Gender profile - Legal staff

No

71% Male

34% Male

52% Male

Swaab

			Average:	40% Male
Gender profile - Non legal	10% Male	12% Male	Lowest:	0% Male
staff			Highest:	49% Male
			Average:	22% Male

User comments and notes

Nil

Flexible Working

Question	2016 Response	2017 Response	2017 Benchmark	
Flexible working - Policy	Yes	Yes	Yes	100%
			No	0%
			Not reported	0%
Flexible working policy -	N/A	No	Yes	32%
Published			No	62%
			In development	0%
			Not reported	6%
Flexible working - Programs	Flexible work hours	Flexible work hours	Flexible work hours	94%
and initiatives	Unpaid leave	Time in lieu	Part time options	0%
	Carer's leave	Unpaid leave	Job sharing	89%
		Carer's leave	Remote working tools and systems	0%
			Support for flexible working	0%
			Time in lieu	89%
			Unpaid leave	97%
			Carer's leave	94%
			Study leave	0%
			Volunteering leave	0%
			Religious and ceremonial leave	0%
			Purchased leave	0%
			Career breaks	0%
			Subsidised child care	0%
			Phased retirement	0%
			Adjusted KPIs after absences	0%
			Sabbaticals	0%
			Bonus leave	0%
			Domestic violence leave	0%
			Family and fertility leave	0%

			School Holiday Programs	0%
			Other programs not included above (please only include programs that are nor covered in the broad categories above - max 20 words	46%
Paid parental leave scheme	Yes	Yes	Yes	94%
			No	6%
			Not reported	0%
Parental scheme - Primary	Yes	Yes	Yes	94%
and secondary carers			No	6%
Parental scheme - Aspects	Paid leave for primary care giver	Paid leave for primary care giver	Paid leave for primary care giver	91%
	Paid leave for secondary care giver	Paid leave for secondary care giver	Paid leave for secondary care giver	86%
	Additional leave without pay available	Additional leave without pay available	Additional leave without pay available	91%
Paid parental leave - Primary	NaN	NaN	Lowest:	0
care giver			Highest:	18
			Average:	9
Paid parental leave -	NaN	NaN	Lowest:	0
Secondary care giver			Highest:	4
			Average:	2
Maternity leave returns	100%	100%	Lowest:	0 %
			Highest:	100 %
			Average:	75 %

Nil

Diversity and Inclusion

Question	2016 Response	2017 Response	2017 Benchmark	
Diversity policy	Yes	Yes	Yes	88%
			No	0%
			Partial	12%
			Currently in development	0%
			Not reported	0%

Diversity policy - Published	N/A	No	Yes	47%
			No	53%
			In development	0%
			Not reported	0%
Diversity policy - Managed	Yes	Yes	Yes	97%
			No	3%
			Not reported	0%
Diversity policy - Managed by	/ Partner	Partner	Partner	51%
	Director or Manager	Director or Manager	Director or Manager	69%
	Committee	Committee	Committee	54%
Disability accessibility	Yes	Yes	Yes	62%
standards?			No	9%
			Currently in development	12%
			Not reported	18%

Nil

LGBTQ+ Inclusion

Question	2016 Response	2017 Response	2017 Benchmark	
LGBTI inclusiveness - Policy	Yes	Yes	Yes No Not reported	71% 6% 24%
LGBTI inclusiveness policy - Published	N/A	No	Yes No In development Not reported	54% 46% 0% 0%
LGBTI inclusiveness - Managed	Yes	Yes	Yes No Not reported	71% 15% 15%
LGBTI inclusiveness - Managed by	Partner Director or Manager Committee	Partner Director or Manager Committee	Partner Director or Manager Committee	43% 43% 51%
LGBTI inclusiveness - Activities or programs	Law Council Diversity and Equality Charter	Law Council Diversity and Equality Charter	Membership - Pride in Diversity Training - LGBTQ+ awareness AWEI survey	51% 54% 40%

IDAHOBIT	46%
Wear it Purple Day	0%
World Aids Day	0%
Membership - Out for Australia	0%
Internal LGBTQ + networks or committees	0%
Pro bono support	0%
LCA Diversity and Inclusion Charter	0%
External LGBTQ+ programs hosting	0%
Training - LGBTQ+ awareness	0%
Gender pronouns promotion	0%
Trans Awareness Week	0%
Pride March	0%
Mardi Gras	0%
Midsumma	0%
Gender affirmation policy	0%
InterFirm events	0%
AWEI award	0%
Stonewall top Global Employer	0%
Other programs not included above (please only include programs that are nor covered in the broad categories above - max 20 words	57%

Nil

Physical and Psychological Wellbeing

Question	2016 Response	2017 Response	2017 Benchmark	
Psychological well-being -	Yes	Yes	Yes	91%
Policy or strategy			No	6%
			Not reported	3%
Psychological well-being	N/A	No	Yes	29%
policy or strategy - Published			No	61%
			In development	6%

			Not reported	3%
Psychological well-being - Managed	Yes	Yes	Yes No Not reported	88% 9% 3%
Psychological well-being - Managed by	Partner Director or Manager Committee	Partner Director or Manager Committee	Partner Director or Manager Committee	46% 63% 43%
Psychological wellbeing - Programs or activities	Minds Count -TJMF Guidelines	Minds Count -TJMF Guidelines	Minds Count -TJMF Guidelines	60%
	R U OK? program Psychological support/ EAP	R U OK? program Psychological support/ EAP	Beyond Blue program R U OK? program	31% 89%
	Thrive stress reductuion and meditation program	Mental health first aid training and support	Black Dog Institute program	31%
			Psychological support/ EAP	86%
			Mental health first aid training and support	74%
			Mental Health Awareness Week	0%
			Resilience at Law	0%
			Training - Mental health awareness and management	0%
			Salary continuance	0%
			External mental health programs hosting	0%
			Domestic violence strategy	0%
			Mental health office champion	0%
			Other programs not included above (please only include programs that are nor covered in the broad categories above - max 20 words	51%
Physical and psychological	Yes	Yes	Yes	59%
well-being - Monitoring			No	18% 1.2%
			Currently in development	12%
			Not reported	12%
Physical health and well-	Yes	Yes	Yes	88%
being - Policy or strategy?			No	6%
			Not reported	6%

Physical health and well- being policy or strategy - Published	N/A	No	Yes No In development Not reported	27% 67% 7% 0%
Physical well-being - Managed	Yes	Yes	Yes No Not reported	91% 3% 6%
Physical well-being - Managed by	Partner Director or Manager Committee	Partner Director or Manager Committee	Partner Director or Manager Committee	40% 71% 40%
Physical well-being programs or initiatives	s Ergonomics program Flu vaccinations	Ergonomics program Flu vaccinations Subsidised wellness activities and gym membership	Ergonomics program Proactive health checks Flu vaccinations	94% 71% 91%
			Internal exercise sessions	80%
			Gym memberships Team events	0% 0%
			Massages	0%
			Wellness awareness and promotion	0%
			Subsidised health insurance	0%
			Onsite fruit and healthy catering	0%
			Life & TPD insurance	0%
			Ergonomics program - offsite	0%
			Health EAP	0%
			Other programs not included above (please only include programs that are nor covered in the broad categories above - max 20 words	54%

Nil

Staff Development

Question	2016 Response	2017 Response	2017 Benchmark	
Staff development program	N/A	Yes	Yes	97%
			No	0%

		In development Not reported	0% 3%
Staff development program - N/A	Partners	Partners	91%
Coverage	Lawyers	Lawyers	91%
		Business Support Staff	89%
Staff development program - N/A	Coaching	Coaching	86%
Activities and initiatives	Mentoring	Mentoring	91%
	Professional skills	Professional skills	94%
	Internally delivered training programs	Internally delivered training programs	94%
	Attending external training or seminars	Attending external training or seminars	94%
	Substantive Law	Substantive Law	80%
	Personal development	Personal development	86%
	Technology training	Technology training	91%
	Internal policy training	Internal policy training	89%
		Other (please specify, max 20 words)	6%
Staff development program - N/A	In development	Yes	79%
Resourcing		No	3%
		In development	3%
		Not reported	15%

Nil

Data Validation

Question	2016 Response	2017 Response	2017 Benchmark	
I confirm that data validation has been completed for this section	N/A	Yes	Yes	97%

User comments and notes

Nil

Community

About Community Programs

We have a formal sustainability charter which includes focus on pro bono and community engagement. We have a structured alliance with the Tristan Jepson Memorial Foundation and Lifeline for whom we do pro bono work. We are working towards formalising and better streamlining our sustainability charter across the firm with respect to pro bono and community focused activities so that we have an internal formal strategy and focus. We take on work experience students and a number of our partners have built relationships through University alumni to support law students as they progress through their university journey. We actively encourage involvement in the not for profit sector, providing support and resources when requested by employees around organisations about which they are passionate. We partner with Corporate Citizen for our workplace giving program. We hold a number of fundraising events throughout the year and any money raised during firm activities is matched by Partners.

Question	2016 Response	2017 Response	2017 Benchmark

User comments and notes

Nil

Legal Pro Bono

Question	2016 Response	2017 Response	2017 Benchmark	
Pro bono - Strategy	Yes	Yes	Yes	97%
			No	0%
			In development	3%
			Not reported	0%
Pro bono Strategy -	N/A	In development	Yes	44%
published			No	44%
			In development	6%
			Not reported	6%
Pro bono Managed	Yes	Yes	Yes	91%
			No	6%
			In development	0%
			Not reported	3%
Pro bono coordinator - Managed by	Partner	Partner		
Pro bono coordinator - Full-	N/A	Full-time	Full-time	41%
time or part-time role			Part-time	44%
			No coordinator or manager	6%

			Not reported	9%
Australian Pro Bono Centre	No	No	Yes	76%
Aspirational Target -			No	21%
Signatory			In development	0%
			Not reported	3%
Australian Pro Bono Centre	No date currently set	No date currently set	Target currently met	47%
Aspirational Target - Plan			Goal date has been set	6%
			No date currently set	47%

Nil

Non Legal Volunteering

Question	2016 Response	2017 Response	2017 Benchmark	
Support for board positions of	fYes	Yes	Yes	85%
organisations for social and environmental good			No	0%
environmental good			Not reported	15%
Non legal volunteering -	No	No	Yes	79%
Support			Currently in development	9%
			No	6%
			Not reported	6%
Non-legal volunteering - Activities	NFP Boards	NFP Boards	NFP Boards	74%
			Organised staff volunteering	80%
			Paid volunteer time	51%
			Charity events and appeals	0%
			Blood donations	0%
			Student tutoring and mentoring	0%
			Secondments to NFPs	0%
			Skilled volunteering program	0%
			Community volunteering	0%
			Arts support	0%
			CPD for community sector lawyers	0%
			Other programs not included above (please only include programs that are nor	20%

covered in the broad	
categories above -	
max 20 words	

Does your firm collect	N/A	In development	Yes	21%
data on the levels of staff			No	48%
participation in non-legal volunteering?			In development	30%

Nil

Corporate and Workplace Giving

Question	2016 Response	2017 Response	2017 Benchmark	
Corporate giving - Program?	Yes	Yes	Yes	91%
			No	3%
			Not reported	6%
Corporate giving - Activities	Firm donation program Matched funding for	Firm donation program Matched funding for	Firm donation program	80%
	employee donations	employee donations	Charitable foundation	26%
			Workplace giving	0%
			Matched funding for employee donations	60%
			Internal appeals and collections	0%
			External charity events and appeals	0%
			Other programs not included above (please only include programs that are nor covered in the broad categories above - max 20 words	6%
			Host external charity events	0%
Does your firm collect data	N/A	Yes	Yes	36%
on levels of staff participation			No	48%
in corporate supported giving programs?			In development	15%
Corporate sponsored giving -	N/A	15	Lowest:	NaN %
Employee participation			Highest:	NaN %
			Average:	NaN %

User comments and notes

Nil

Indigenous Reconciliation

Question	2016 Response	2017 Response	2017 Benchmark	
Indigenous reconciliation - Policy?	Currently in development	Currently in development	Yes No Currently in development Not reported	44% 24% 24% 9%
Indigenous reconciliation - Managed	Yes	Yes	Yes No Not reported In development	65% 8% 12% 15%
Indigenous reconciliation - Managed by	Committee	Partner Director or Manager Committee	Partner Director or Manager Committee	31% 26% 40%
Indigenous reconciliation - Activities or programs	Internships and employment	Internships and employment	Reconciliation Action Plan	43%
			Cultural awareness training	46%
			NAIDOC Week	49%
			National Reconciliation Week	40%
			Internships and employment	49%
			Scholarships and student mentoring	0%
			Indigenous employment and internship programs	0%
			Affirmative ATSI procurement	0%
			Pro bono support	0%
			Volunteering and secondments	0%
			Collaboration for reconciliation	0%
			Funding and donations	0%
			Indigenous Business Month	0%
			Indigenous Literacy Day	0%
			Supply Nation Membership	0%
			CareerTrackers participation	0%

29%

Other programs not included above (please only include programs that are nor covered in the broad categories above max 20 words

User comments and notes

Nil

Data Validation

Question	2016 Response	2017 Response	2017 Benchmark	
I confirm that data validation has been completed for this section	N/A	Yes	Yes	97%

User comments and notes

Nil

Environment

Environmental Management

We are committed to our green initiatives, both simple and complex, which include stationary recycling drives, waste recycling, reducing power usage through such initiatives as lighting reductions and introduced utilities such as follow me print to avoid unnecessary printing. We are currently developing a paper-lite program to encourage everyone to reduce paper use.

Question	2016 Response	2017 Response	2017 Benchmark	
Environment -Policy?	Yes	Yes	Yes No Currently in development Not reported	94% 0% 6% 0%
Environment policy - Published	N/A	No	Yes No In development Not reported	38% 47% 9% 6%
Environment Policy - Include supply chain impacts	_S N/A	Yes	Yes No In development Not reported	50% 13% 19% 19%
Environment - Managed	Yes	Yes	Yes No Not reported	82% 12% 6%
Environment - Managed by	Committee	Partner Director or Manager Committee	Partner Director or Manager Committee	43% 46% 49%
Green office - Activities or programs	N/A	Earth Hour	World Environment Day Office green teams Sustainability Advantage (NSW) CitySwitch Green Office Other programs not included above (please only include programs that are nor covered in the broad	34% 0% 6% 34% 20%

categories above -
max 20 words

No	No	Yes	71%
		No	15%
		Not reported	15%
No	No	Yes	32%
		No	41%
		Currently in development	9%
		Not reported	18%
			No No No No No Yes No No Currently in development

Nil

Climate Change Action

Nil

Question	2016 Response	2017 Response	2017 Benchma	rk
Renewable electricity	0	0	Lowest:	0
generated onsite			Highest:	0
			Average:	0
Renewable electricity	kWh	kWh	kWh	100%
generated onsite unit			MJ	0%
			GJ	0%
Carbon offset credits	0	0	Lowest:	0
purchased			Highest:	16,000
			Average:	861

User comments and notes

Nil



Carbon emission sources

Scope 1	Tonnes CO2e	Per employee	Per floor area
On-Site Combustion	0.00	0.0000	0.0000
Company Vehicles	0.00	0.0000	0.0000
Refrigerants	1.37	0.0168	0.0006

Scope 2	Tonnes CO2e	Per employee	Per floor area
Purchased Electricity	158.14	1.9285	0.0699

Scope 3	Tonnes CO2e	Per employee	Per floor area
Flights	15.67	0.1911	0.0069
Taxis	2.84	0.0347	0.0013
Hire Cars	0.00	0.0000	0.0000
Personal Vehicles	0.00	0.0000	0.0000

Electricity

Electricity Type	State	Consumption (kWh)
Purchased electricity (General)	NSW	171,890

Natural Gas

Gas Type	State	Consumption (MJ)

No data available.

Domestic Air Travel

Seat Class	Distance (km)	Number of Flights
Economy	N/A	42
Business	0	N/A

International Air Travel

Seat Class	Distance (km)	Number of Flights
Economy	N/A	2
Business	N/A	2
First Class	0	N/A

Car Travel

Vehicle Type	Number of journeys	Distance (km)	Spend (AUD)
Тахі	N/A	N/A	35,559
Hire Cars	N/A	N/A	411
Company Cars	N/A	0	N/A
Personal Cars	N/A	0	N/A

Refrigerant Loss

Fridge Type	Number of Units
Bar Fridges/freezers	1
Standard Fridges/freezers	6
Commercial Fridges/freezers	0
Standalone Air Conditioning Units	5

Inhouse Paper Consumption

Paper size	Paper weight (gsm)	Paper purchased (reams)	Green label	% recycled content
A4	80	3,400	NCOS Certified Carbon Neutral	20
A3	80	49	NCOS Certified Carbon Neutral	20
A4	120	4	Other Certifications	100

Paper size	Paper weight (gsm)	Paper purchased (reams)	Green label	% recycled content
A4	250	1	Other Certifications	0
A3	120	2	Other Certifications	0
A4	120	6	Other Certifications	0

Outsourced Paper Consumption

No of impressions (sheets)	% of impressions that are printed double sided
212,849	50

Total Paper Consumption

Туре	Paper Consumption (kg)
Ream consumption	8,784.75
Outsourced Printing	796.52
Total paper consumption	9,581.27

18.37 % recycled paper purchased	116.84 Total paper consumption per employee	4.24 Total paper consumption per floor area
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Waste

Waste type	Facilities available	Percentage of sites where available
Paper & cardboard recycling	Available	100
Comingles recycling	Available	100
Organic waste treatment/recycling	Not Available	
e-Waste reuse or recycling	Available	100

Carbon mitigation activities

Emissions Avoided from Green Tariff Electricity

Tonnes CO2e

0.00

Voluntary carbon offsetting

Activity

0.00

178.03 Net total emissions CO2e

2.17 Net total emissions per employee CO2e



Governance

About Governance Programs

Swaab Attorneys has introduced a formal policy on sustainability. The five pillars of the firm's sustainability initiative are people, community, environmental, pro bono and supply chain. At Swaab, sustainability is regarded as an integral part of our business management practice. We have a sustainability committee comprised of partners and staff who take responsibility for each pillar of the sustainability initiative. The sustainability committee have been successful this year in establishing a firm-wide response to sustainability. Projects include indigenous internship program, increased community engagement through corporate citizen, developing a paper lite-program, moving to carbon neutral paper, engaging with suppliers regarding CSR as part of our procurement process, recycling drives, setting a formal pro bono budget and strengthening our relationship with Lifeline and TJMF. We are a signatory to the Law Council's Diversity and Equity Charter. The sustainability committee has been successful in keeping sustainability on the partnership and management's agenda on a regular basis.

Question	2016 Response	2017 Response	2017 Benchmark

User comments and notes

Nil

Sustainable Supply Chain Management

Question	2016 Response	2017 Response	2017 Benchmark	
Sustainable Supply Chain	Yes	Yes	In development	0%
Management - Program?			Yes	41%
			No	44%
			Not reported	15%
Sustainable Supply Chain Management - Application	To both existing and new suppliers and products	To both existing and new suppliers and products	To new suppliers and products	0%
			To both existing and new suppliers and products	100%
Sustainable Supply Chain	Environmental impacts	Environmental impacts	Human rights	31%
Management Coverage			Environmental impacts	40%
			Fair labour practices	14%
			Fair consumer and competition practices	0%
			Community development	23%
			Indigenous inclusion	20%
			Gender equality	29%

Sustainable development goals	0%
Modern Slavery	0%
Diversity and Inclusion	0%
Fraud bribery & corruption	0%
UN Global compact and SDGs	0%
Other (please specify, max 20 words)	3%

Nil

Code of Conduct

Question	2016 Response	2017 Response	2017 Benchmark	
Code of conduct in place	Yes	Yes	Yes	100%
			No	0%
			Currently in development	0%
			Not reported	0%
Code of conduct - Training?	Yes	Yes	Yes	88%
			No	9%
			Currently in development	3%
			Not reported	0%
Documented complaints and	Yes	Yes	Yes	100%
grievance mechanism			No	0%
			Not reported	0%

User comments and notes

Nil

Risk Management

Question	2016 Response	2017 Response	2017 Benchmark	
Risk management plan	Yes	Yes	Yes	97%
			No	0%
			Not reported	3%

Business Continuity Plan (BCP) or Emergency Response Plan (ERP)	Yes	Yes	Yes	97%
			No	0%
			Not reported	3%
			Currently in development	0%

Nil

Sustainability Reporting

Question	2016 Response	2017 Response	2017 Benchmark	
Sustainability Reporting -	N/A	No	Yes	32%
Published			No	47%
			In development	12%
			Not reported	9%
Firms' AusLSA reporting - Promotion	N/A	Yes	Yes	26%
			No	47%
			In development	15%
			Not reported	12%

User comments and notes

Nil

Data Validation

Question	2016 Response	2017 Response	2017 Benchmark	
I confirm that data validation has been completed for this section	N/A	Yes	Yes	94%

User comments and notes

Nil