Submission No 3

REVIEW OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS

Organisation:

Name: The Hon. Matthew Mason-Cox MLC

Position: Chair, Legislative Council Privileges Committee

Date Received: 19 November 2015



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PRIVILEGES COMMITTEE

19 November 2015

Mr Mark Coure MP Chair Legislative Assembly Committee on Parliamentary Privilege and Ethics NSW Parliament Macquarie St SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Coure

Thank you for your invitation to contribute to the Parliamentary Privilege and Ethics Committee's review of the Members' Code of Conduct.

I refer you to the 2014 Legislative Council Privileges Committee report entitled 'Recommendations of the ICAC regarding aspects of the Code of Conduct for Members, the interest disclosure regime and a parliamentary investigator.'

This report made eight recommendations, and in summary these encompassed:

- The adoption of a new clause in the Code of Conduct for Members dealing comprehensively with improper influence by members;
- Amendment of the interest disclosure regime to move away from the current system of six monthly disclosure returns to a system of exception reporting, whereby members report changes in their interests as and when they occur;
- Amendment of the interest disclosure regime to require disclosure by members of the interests of their spouses/partners and dependent children;
- The adoption of a Commissioner for Standards in New South Wales, based on the model adopted in the UK Parliament.

I trust that this is of assistance and I look forward to discussing these issues with you.

Yours sincerely

Hon Matthew Mason-Cox Chair