

REVIEW OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS

Organisation:

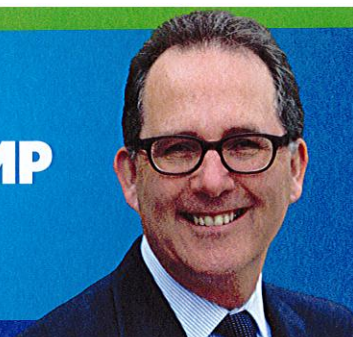
Name: Mr Alister Henskens MP

Position: Member for Ku-ring-gai

Date Received: 4 August 2016

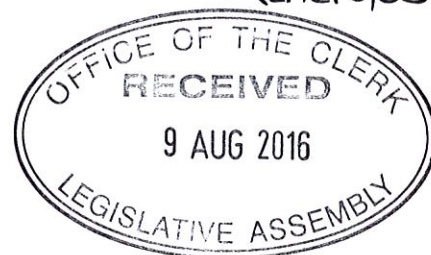
Alister Henskens sc MP

Member for Ku-ring-gai



4 August 2016

DIG/25181
(LACIS/OSA)



Mr Mark Coure MP
Chair of the Parliamentary Committee on Privilege and Ethics
Level 7
NSW Parliament House
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Mark

Dear Mr ~~Coure~~,

Thank you for your letter dated 20 June 2016 and I apologise for not replying earlier.

I respond to the matters raised in your letter as follows:

1. I do not believe that clause 7 should cover the last two years, irrespective of when the member is sworn in. Any change to this position would require personal employment matters prior to a Member's entry into Parliament to be disclosed which are not currently required to be disclosed. Two years prior to running for parliament, I had no idea that I would do so. It is only after a person has run for parliament that they consent to the possibility that their private affairs become of a limited public interest and not before that time. The purpose of disclosures is to ensure that secondary employment is not conflicting with probity in public life. The notion of secondary employment prior to entering parliament is, with respect, misconceived. It cannot be secondary to parliamentary duties prior to entering parliament.

Contact
Alister

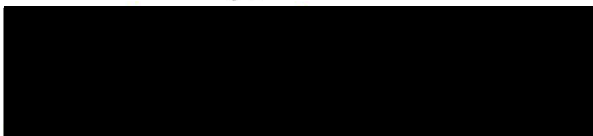
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2. The Constitution (Disclosures by Members) Regulation 1983 is a document of about 40 pages. To say that it "lacks clarity and explanation" is a rather sweeping generalisation. If there are any particular matters that you wish to draw attention to then I would be happy to respond. I think that both Members and the public understand that the Parliamentary Remuneration Tribunal is an independent form of assessment which is probably a sufficient level of understanding.

I hope that I have been of assistance to your Committee and please do not hesitate to contact me if there are any further matters that you wish to raise.

Yours sincerely,

A large black rectangular box redacting the signature of the sender.

Alister Henskens SC MP
Member for Ku-ring-gai