

**Submission
No 2**

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSAL FOR A COMPLIANCE
OFFICER FOR THE NSW PARLIAMENT**

Name: Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards (UK)

Date Received: 29 January 2021

The Hon. Peter Primose MLC
Chair, Privileges Committee
By email to privilege@parliament.nsw.gov.au only

28 January 2021

Dear Mr Primose,

Thank you for your letter dated 14 December 2020. I apologise that it has taken me some time to respond but note that the deadline for submissions is 3 February 2021, so am hopeful that this has not led to any unnecessary delay. I have reviewed your Terms of Reference and the Background to the inquiry that you helpfully linked.

I would like to highlight that the system we have is different to your proposal. There is an intermediate stage between the Commissioner and the House in the form of the Standards Committee or Independent Expert Panel. This allows for an additional independent element in the process, especially in relation to sanctioning, as well as some opportunity for appeal.

I would also draw your attention to the following information included in the links listed below. These provide further guidance and information on my role and the Code of Conduct for members. I have also attached the Commissioner's information note, which gives helpful guidance on how I conduct investigations.

[The Code of Conduct and Guide to the Rules](#) (revised in October 2019)

[The Parliamentary Behaviour Code](#), together with the procedure for investigating complaints made under the Independent Complaints and Grievance Scheme.

The rules on All-Party Parliamentary Groups (APPGs) in the [Guide to the Rules on APPGs](#).

I hope you find this information useful, should you have any further questions please feel free to contact me. I would also be happy to meet (virtually) if you feel it would be helpful.

Kind regards

Kathryn Stone OBE
Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards

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