

Report from Independent Complaints Officer of the NSW Parliament to Legislative Council Privileges Committee and Legislative Assembly Parliamentary Privileges and Ethics Committee

Period: 1 March 2023 to 31 May 2023

Matters concluded during the period

	Complaints carried over from previous quarter	Outcome
6	Complaint alleging bullying, harassment or inappropriate conduct	Investigation commenced, draft findings made. Investigation suspended in January 2023 as claim of parliamentary privilege made in respect of the conduct. As ICO had no basis not to accept privilege claim, and has had no further contact from parties, the ICO has completed this matter.
7	Complaint alleging misuse of allowances or entitlements. Complaint was made simultaneously to ICO and ICAC	Had been agreed ICAC would assess first. ICAC and ICO liaised further in early March. General discussion about reporting of allowances. ICO indicated to ICAC that as the alleged conduct occurred before December 2021 this specific matter was unlikely to fall within ICO jurisdiction. No formal advice from ICAC as to whether they are pursuing but am treating matter as concluded from ICO perspective.
8	Complaint alleging bullying, harassment or inappropriate conduct.	Commenced liaison with both parties with a view to resolving by mediation. Due to election commitments unable to find a suitable date for meeting prior to 23 March. After election the complainant was no longer a member of the Parliamentary community and did not reply to question as to whether they wished to continue the complaint. Matter was formally closed in early April.

Complaints received during period and ongoing

No complaints were received in the period from 1 March to 31 May 2023.

Other

The ICO participated in induction sessions for new Members of Parliament in April 2023.