

OUR REF: MM20/0235

YOUR REF:

22 December 2022

The Hon Meg Webb MLC

By email: meg.webb@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Ms Webb

Reforming Tasmania's lobbying oversight system

As you are aware, the Integrity Commission has been undertaking a project to examine ways to reform Tasmania's lobbying oversight system. This project has focused on the principles of transparency and accountability, and culminated in the development of a draft lobbying framework, as set out in the attached paper.

Thank you for providing a submission in response to the consultation paper.

More than 18 months of preparatory work has gone into examining the existing model, undertaking interjurisdictional research, and considering <u>submissions from interested stakeholders</u>. We have produced a <u>research report</u>, a <u>consultation report</u>, an <u>overview of submissions</u>, and finally, a draft framework report setting out 14 recommendations.

Some of the key proposals in the draft framework report include to:

- extend the definition of those who are lobbied beyond the current list of 'Government representatives' to include all Members of Parliament, Ministerial advisers, Secretaries and Deputy Secretaries of State departments, and Chief Executive Officers and Board members of State-owned companies and government business enterprises.
- focus on 'lobbying activities' rather than only registered lobbyists
- expand the list of registered lobbyists to include in-house lobbyists, and
- place the onus on those who are lobbied to enter relevant details of any lobbying activity on to a disclosure log, to be administered by the Integrity Commission.

On behalf of the Board of the Commission, I am writing to you as a potentially affected party to seek your views on the draft framework, in particular the above proposals. The Board is also seeking the views of the Joint Standing Committee on Integrity, all Government and non-Government Members of Parliament, and the Head of the State Service. The Board will consider the responses provided and determine the next steps.

I would be grateful if you could consider the draft framework report and provide your written feedback by no later than Friday 10 February 2023 to contact@integrity.tas.gov.au.

If you have any questions, you may contact Julia Hickey, Director Education and Engagement at <u>julia.hickey@integrity.tas.gov.au</u>, or at 6165 6874.

Yours sincerely

Michael Easton

Chief Executive Officer