

Your ref:
Our ref: 10491
K Cossart, 3149 6128

Sub. 06

28 January 2016

IN-CONFIDENCE

Mr N Laurie
Clerk of the Parliament
Committee of the Legislative Assembly
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

Submission—Review of the parliamentary committee system

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission to the Committee of the Legislative Assembly as part of their review of the parliamentary committee system.

Parliamentary committees are a long standing mechanism for achieving greater transparency and accountability of the government of the day to the Parliament. Proposals that seek to entrench their existence and their roles are to be welcomed from this perspective alone.

In my view the role of those committees with responsibility for the oversight of independent officers of the Parliament, including myself, also warrants consideration in any debate about their efficacy.

In this respect, as I have set out in my submissions to the Finance and Administration Committee's *Inquiry into the legislative arrangements assuring the Queensland Auditor-General's independence*, the relationship between that committee and my Office would be further strengthened by also entrenching in its role:

- selecting and appointing the Auditor-General
- establishing my annual budget
- monitoring and assessing the performance of the Auditor-General and my Office through annual external audits and five-yearly strategic reviews.

These proposals are consistent with the principles espoused by the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI) for achieving independence from the government and greater accountability to the Parliament.

If you would like to discuss this further please contact me or have your research director contact Ms. Kaylene Cossart on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely



Andrew Greaves
Auditor-General