

Justice and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026

Submission No: 016

Submission By: Queensland Integrity Commissioner

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20 March 2026

Mr Martin Hunt
Chair
Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee
Parliament House, George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Email: JICSC@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Hunt,

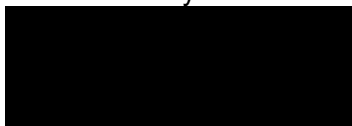
I write in response to the call for submissions made by the Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee in relation to the Justice and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026 (JOLAB). JOLAB, if passed, will amend the *Integrity Act 2009 (Act)* to provide for the delegation of administrative functions and powers and to allow Designated Persons to seek ethics and integrity advice orally (in addition to making a request in writing).

Appropriate delegation of certain functions and powers under the *Financial Accountability Act 2009* and the *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982* is critical for the efficient administration and management of the Office of the Queensland Integrity Commissioner and is consistent with delegation powers ordinarily given to Chief Executives of statutory bodies.

Permitting Designated Persons to seek advice orally will allow expedient provision of ethics and integrity advice on straightforward and low risk matters.¹ The statutory obligation upon a Designated Person to provide all relevant information continues to apply irrespective of how the request is made, and I am required to maintain a written record of each verbal advice provided. Importantly, if I consider an advice request should be made in writing (e.g. it is complex, involves many facts), I can decide to defer considering the request until it is made in writing.

I support both proposed amendments to the Act.

Yours sincerely



Linda Waugh
Queensland Integrity Commissioner

¹ I note that the Act already permits oral advice to be given to Members of Parliament for ethics and integrity issues relevant to the member for, or in, the register of member's interests, or the register of related persons' interests (refer ss 11, 23).