



Speech By  
**Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk**


**MEMBER FOR INALA**

---

Record of Proceedings, 14 October 2022

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Integrity in Government**

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Olympics) (9.34 am): As soon as Professor Peter Coaldrake handed down his public sector review, we went into action. I accepted his recommendations lock, stock and barrel. I set up a task force to implement the Coaldrake recommendations and today I will introduce the first tranche of integrity reform legislation.

The Integrity and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022 and the Public Sector Bill 2022 deliver on my commitment to implement the recommendations from the Coaldrake review of culture and accountability in the Queensland public sector, Peter Bridgman's report *A fair and responsive public service for all*, as well as Kevin Yearbury's strategic review of the Integrity Commissioner's functions. We commissioned them to enhance the best public sector in Australia. We are implementing them for the same reason.

The Integrity and Other Legislation Amendment Bill is the first legislation in our reform plan to further strengthen the independence and authority of the Auditor-General and the Integrity Commissioner. Queensland's new Integrity Commissioner is Ms Linda Waugh. Ms Waugh is currently the Merit Protection Commissioner for the Australian Public Service. She has prior experience as the Victorian Assistant Ombudsman and the New South Wales Deputy Ombudsman.

There will be more legislation as we go on, including the most revolutionary change in Australia to release cabinet documents after 30 days and not 30 years. The Public Sector Bill supports a workforce renewal that was envisaged by the Coaldrake report in terms of employment security, respect and inclusion. It implements the Bridgman recommendations for a new modern Public Sector Act so that Queensland has the most responsive, consistent and reliable Public Service possible—a Public Service that is fair, an employer of choice and a leader in public administration.

These two bills will help ensure we continue to have a great Public Service that gives fearless and frank advice. As I said when Professor Coaldrake handed down his report, we embrace it, we are going to implement it and we have hit the ground running.