



OUR REF:

17 December 2025

The Hon Rosemary Armitage MLC  
Committee Chair  
Joint Standing Committee on Integrity

By email: [integrity@parliament.tas.gov.au](mailto:integrity@parliament.tas.gov.au)

Dear Chair,

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – PUBLIC HEARING OF THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INTEGRITY  
INQUIRY INTO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PARLIAMENTARY PRIVILEGE PROTOCOL BETWEEN  
THE PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA AND THE INTEGRITY COMMISSION TASMANIA**

I refer to your letter of 20 November 2025.

In response to the Joint Standing Committee on Integrity's questions on notice, I provide the following information:

1. It is the view of the Integrity Commission ("Commission") that there would not be any impact on the transfer of information to Presiding Officers provided for in "2.1 Procedure for giving Notices" (paragraph 10) and "3.1 Procedure prior to executing a search" (paragraph 21) if the definition of "Privilege Determinator" were amended to remove "Presiding Officers";
2. The Commission would prefer that the Presiding Officer not be a member of a political party because that would reduce the potential for claims that the Presiding Officer had acted in a partisan manner. The Commission supports the appointment of an independent person to determine disputed claims of parliamentary privilege in Tasmania. This would align Tasmania with the practice in other jurisdictions where an independent person fulfils that role; and
3. The Commission considers that it would be appropriate to include a provision in any final parliamentary privilege protocol which provides that the Chair of the Joint Standing Committee on Integrity be notified of a covert warrant.

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Should the Committee require any further information, I am available to be contacted at  
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Yours sincerely,

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**Ellen McKenzie**  
Chief Executive Officer