



## Parliamentary Standing Committee of Public Accounts

### Media Advisory

Thursday, 22 August 2024

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#### Future Works – Parliamentary Budget Office and Auditor-General Independence

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The Parliamentary Standing Committee of Public Accounts (Committee) welcomes the views stated in Saul Eslake's *Independent Review of Tasmania's State Finances* report with respect to the establishment of a Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) and enhancing the independence of the Tasmanian Audit Office.<sup>1</sup>

The Committee resolved in July 2024 to inquire into feasibility of establishing a PBO in the Tasmanian jurisdiction and is currently considering the timing and terms of reference within its plan of work.

In line with the Committee's Statement of Understanding between itself and the Auditor-General, the Committee is in the process of considering how best to approach the issue of the Tasmanian Audit Office's independence. This will include how it may be brought into line with best practice in other jurisdictions and what amendments to the *Audit Act 2008* may be required.

The Members of the Committee are:

**Legislative Council**

Hon Ruth Forrest MLC (Chair)  
Hon Luke Edmunds MLC  
Hon Bec Thomas MLC

**House of Assembly**

Mr Simon Behrakis MP  
Mr Mark Shelton MP  
Mr Josh Willie MP (Deputy Chair)

Information regarding the inquiry will be posted on the [Committee webpage](#).

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**Further information: Hon Ruth Forrest MLC (Chair) – 0419 879 524**

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<sup>1</sup> See *Independent Review of Tasmania's State Finances*, Saul Eslake (19 August 2024), <https://www.sauleslake.info/independent-review-of-tasmanias-state-finances/>, p. 117-18