



Parliamentary Standing Committee of Public Accounts

Media Advisory

Tuesday, 16 June 2026

18th Australasian Council of Public Accounts Committees (ACPAC) Conference

ACPAC Conference Strengthens Public Accountability Across Australasia

The Tasmanian Parliamentary Standing Committee of Public Accounts has today tabled its report on the successful hosting of the 18th Australasian Council of Public Accounts Committees (ACPAC) Conference, held in Hobart in April 2026.

Chair of the Committee, Hon Ruth Forrest MLC, said the Conference highlighted the critical role Public Accounts Committees (PACs) play in ensuring transparency, accountability and good governance across the public sector.

“The Hobart Conference brought together parliamentarians, Auditors-General and officials from across Australasia and the Pacific to share knowledge, strengthen partnerships and examine how best to respond to emerging risks facing governments,” Ms Forrest said.

Held from 20–21 April 2026, the Conference attracted 71 delegates, making it one of the most highly attended ACPAC gatherings in recent years. Participants included PAC members, Audit Offices and regional organisations, demonstrating the continued importance of collaboration in oversight of public finances.

The Conference focused on the evolving role of PACs in holding Executive Government to account, particularly in relation to fiscal pressures, social outcomes and climate-related risks.

Key outcomes included important amendments to the ACPAC Constitution to improve accessibility and inclusivity, including enabling virtual mid-term meetings and broadening membership across the Australasian and Pacific region.

Ms Forrest said the event also strengthened collaboration between ACPAC, PaNPAC (Pacific Network of Public Accounts Committees), the Australasian Council of Auditors-General (ACAG) and the Pacific Association of Supreme Audit Institutions (PASAI).

“This increased cooperation will help build stronger accountability frameworks and support improved public sector performance throughout the region,” she said.

The report acknowledges the significant contribution of delegates, speakers and parliamentary staff in delivering the Conference, and recognises the efforts that ensured its success.

“The Committee considers the Conference to have advanced knowledge, strengthened networks and reinforced the vital role of parliamentary oversight in a complex and changing environment,” Ms Forrest said.

The Committee looks forward to continued engagement through future ACPAC meetings, with the next Conference scheduled to be hosted by New South Wales in 2028.



The Members of the Committee are:

Legislative Council

Hon Ruth Forrest MLC (Chair)

Hon Luke Edmunds MLC

Hon Bec Thomas MLC (Deputy Chair)

House of Assembly

Mr Roger Jaensch MP

Mr Marcus Vermey MP

Mr Dean Winter MP

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

ends

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