



Inquiry into the reappointment of the Chief Ombudsman

Report of the Officers of Parliament Committee

April 2020

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Rt Hon Trevor Mallard
Chairperson

Inquiry into the reappointment of the Chief Ombudsman

Recommendation

The Officers of Parliament Committee recommends that the House recommend to the Governor-General that Peter Francis Boshier be reappointed as an Ombudsman and as Chief Ombudsman pursuant to sections 3(1), 3(4), and 5(1) of the Ombudsmen Act 1975.

Overview

Peter Francis Boshier is the current Chief Ombudsman. He was appointed in 2015 to a term of 5 years. His current term will expire on 10 December 2020.

Committee procedure and consultation

The committee considered Mr Boshier's reappointment at its meetings in March 2020.

Section 5(1) of the Ombudsmen Act 1975 (the Act) states that every Ombudsman shall hold office for a term of 5 years. Section 5(3) of the Act states that an Ombudsman will resign their office upon attaining the age of 72.

The Chief Ombudsman has indicated that another term of 3 years, until around April 2023, is his preference and that he would want to discuss and engage with the committee about future plans at that time.

The chairperson sought and obtained the support of political parties represented in the House for Mr Boshier's reappointment. In the light of this support, the committee resolved to recommend Peter Francis Boshier for reappointment as an Ombudsman and as Chief Ombudsman.

Appendix

Committee procedure

We met on 12 and 19 March 2020 to consider this inquiry.

Committee members

Rt Hon Trevor Mallard (Chairperson)

Barbara Kuriger

Clayton Mitchell

Chlöe Swarbrick

Hon Anne Tolley

Michael Wood