



THE SENATE

LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS REFERENCES COMMITTEE

The operation of Commonwealth Freedom of Information (FOI) laws

**PUBLIC HEARING
Tuesday 29 August 2023**

**Committee Room 2S3
Parliament House, Canberra**

| Time | Witness |
|-----------------|---|
| 9.00 am | Mr Leo Hardiman PSM KC |
| 10.30 am | <i>Morning tea</i> |
| 10.45 am | Law Council of Australia (via videoconference) (Submission 20) Mr Luke Murphy, President Mr Graeme Johnson, Member, Administrative Law Committee Mr John Farrell, Senior Policy Advisor |
| 11.30 am | Professor John McMillan AO (Submission 7) |
| 12.15 pm | <i>Lunch</i> |
| 1.00 pm | Australian Conservation Foundation (via videoconference) (Submission 14) Mr Adam Beeson, General Counsel Ms Annica Schoo, Lead Investigator The Australia Institute (Submission 23) Mr William Browne, Director, Democracy & Accountability Program |
| 2.00 pm | Department of Home Affairs (Submission 1) Ms Clare Sharp, Group Manager, Legal Mr Steve Biddle, Assistant Secretary, FOI and Records Management Ms Emily Brooks, Director, Freedom of Information Australian Financial Security Authority (Submission 2) Ms Elyse Harrald-Woods, National Manager Government Business Mr Matthew Osborne, Principal Legal Officer |
| 3.00 pm | <i>Afternoon tea</i> |
| 3.15 pm | Attorney-General's Department (Submission 21) Mr Simon Newnham, Deputy Secretary, Integrity & International Group Ms Catherine Fitch, Assistant Secretary, Information Law Branch Ms Elizabeth Brayshaw, A/g First Assistant Secretary, Integrity Frameworks Division |
| 4.00 pm | Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (Submission 33) Ms Angelene Falk, Australian Information Commissioner and Privacy Commissioner Ms Toni Pirani, Acting Freedom of Information Commissioner |
| 5.00 pm | <i>Adjournment</i> |

Committee Chair: Senator Paul Scarr

Committee Secretary: Sophie Dunstone

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