

Dear Attorney-General's department,

Whilst it would seem heartening to hear Christian Porter's announcement of a Federal anti-corruption watch dog, the nature of this proposed body is terribly insufficient.

The Federal watchdog must be based on the NSW model with strong powers and publicly held hearings. All findings of this proposed Federal body must be made public, as it is us, the general public to whom you are accountable!

There is a serious crisis in public confidence in our political system and in our politicians. I have been an active participant in our democracy since I began voting 31 years ago. Even if I didn't like the outcome of elections or parliamentary decisions, I had confidence in the system that governs us. I am now very quickly losing confidence, I see opaque decision making and smell the stink of powerful vested interests behind the scenes.

I am the least likely person to lose trust, I am educated, middle class, and middle aged, and I deeply fear the outcome of widespread disillusionment in our democratic process.

Recently, however I have become deeply cynical, and feel that the proposal for a Federal anti-corruption watchdog in its present form is another attempt to mollify the public and continue to hide unethical behaviour from our view.

A real anti-corruption watchdog based on the form of the NSW ICAC, will be painful for all Australians, heads will roll, politicians of all stripes will be impacted, but it is the only way to begin to restore trust and to prevent the chaos that accompanies the rise of extreme populist politics.

Please use this email as a submission to the Attorney-General's department. Please reply to inform me of your receipt of this email and its acceptance as a submission as part of the public consultation process.

Kind regards,

Sally Dare

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