

# **PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW**



# ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

## Minister and portfolio responsibilities

The Attorney-General's Department supports the Attorney-General, the Hon Christian Porter MP, as First Law Officer.

The department's Outcome Statement has been amended to reflect changes under the Administrative Arrangements Order (AAO) of 20 December 2017 and consequential transfers of appropriation under section 75 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.

The government has indicated its intention to implement further Machinery of Government changes in the near future. However, these changes are contingent on the passage of legislation. Subject to that legislation being passed, these changes will be reflected in the next budget statement.

The portfolio comprises the Attorney-General's Department and 12 other bodies.

The portfolio's responsibilities are diverse. They encompass national security, legal services, courts and tribunals, regulation and reform, protecting and promoting human rights, government records management, and support for Royal Commissions.

Figure 1 sets out the structure of the portfolio and the outcome statements for each entity.

For information on resourcing across the portfolio, see Part 1: Agency Financial Resourcing in Budget Paper No. 4: Agency Resourcing.

**Figure 1: Attorney-General's portfolio structure and outcomes**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Attorney-General:</b> Senator the Hon Christian Porter MP</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Attorney-General's Department</b> Secretary: Mr Chris Moraitis PSM</p> <p><b>Outcome 1:</b> A just and secure society through the maintenance and improvement of Australia's law, justice, security and integrity frameworks</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Administrative Appeals Tribunal</b> Registrar: Ms Sian Leathem</p> <p><b>Outcome 1:</b> Provide correct or preferable decisions through a mechanism of independent review of administrative decisions that is accessible, fair, just, economical, informal, quick and proportionate</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity</b> Integrity Commissioner: Mr Michael Griffin AM</p> <p><b>Outcome 1:</b> Independent assurance to the Australian Government that Commonwealth law enforcement agencies and their staff act with integrity by detecting, investigating and preventing corruption</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Australian Financial Security Authority</b> Chief Executive and Inspector-General in Bankruptcy: Mr Hamish McCormick</p> <p><b>Outcome 1:</b> Maintain confidence in Australia's personal insolvency and personal property securities systems through delivering fair, efficient and effective trustee and registry services, and risk-based regulation</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Australian Human Rights Commission</b> President and Chief Executive Officer: Emeritus Professor Rosalind Croucher AM</p> <p><b>Outcome 1:</b> An Australian society in which human rights are respected, protected and promoted through independent investigation and resolution of complaints, education and research to promote and eliminate discrimination, and monitoring and reporting on human rights</p>

**Australian Law Reform Commission**

President and Chief Executive Officer: The Hon Justice S C Derrington

**Outcome 1:** Informed government decisions about the development, reform and harmonisation of Australian laws and related processes through research, analysis, reports and community consultation and education

**Australian Security Intelligence Organisation**

Director-General of Security: Mr Duncan Lewis AO DSC CSC

**Outcome 1:** To protect Australia, its people and its interests from threats to security through intelligence collection, assessment and advice to government

**Federal Court of Australia**

Chief Executive Officer and Principal Registrar: Mr Warwick Soden OAM

**Outcome 1:** Apply and uphold the rule of law for litigants in the Federal Court of Australia and parties in the National Native Title Tribunal through the resolution of matters according to law and through the effective management of the administrative affairs of the Court and Tribunal

**Outcome 2:** Apply and uphold the rule of law for litigants in the Family Court of Australia through the resolution of family law matters according to law, particularly for more complex family law matters and through the effective management of the administrative affairs of the Court

**Outcome 3:** Apply and uphold the rule of law for litigants in the Federal Circuit Court of Australia through more informal and streamlined resolution of family law and general federal law matters according to law, through the encouragement of appropriate dispute resolution processes and through the effective management of the administrative affairs of the Court

**Outcome 4:** Improved administration and support of the resolution of matters according to law for litigants in the Federal Court of Australia, the Family Court of Australia and the Federal Circuit Court of Australia and parties in the National Native Title Tribunal through efficient and effective provision of shared corporate services

*Portfolio overview*

**High Court of Australia**

Chief Executive and Principal Registrar: Ms Philippa Lynch PSM

**Outcome 1:** To interpret and uphold the Australian Constitution and perform the functions of the ultimate appellate Court in Australia

**National Archives of Australia**

Director-General: Mr David Fricker

**Outcome 1:** To promote the creation, management and preservation of authentic, reliable and usable Commonwealth records and to facilitate Australians' access to the archival resources of the Commonwealth

**Office of the Australian Information Commissioner**

Acting Australian Information Commissioner and Acting Privacy Commissioner:  
Ms Angelene Falk

**Outcome 1:** Provision of public access to Commonwealth Government information, protection of individuals' personal information, and performance of information commissioner, freedom of information and privacy functions

**Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions**

Director: Ms Sarah McNaughton SC

**Outcome 1:** Contribute to a fair, safe and just society by delivering an effective, independent prosecution service in accordance with the *Prosecution Policy of the Commonwealth*

**Office of Parliamentary Counsel**

First Parliamentary Counsel: Mr Peter Quiggin PSM

**Outcome 1:** A body of Commonwealth laws and instruments that give effect to intended policy, and that are coherent, readable and readily accessible, through the drafting and publication of those laws and instruments