

## Background

The Victorian Government thanks the Integrity and Oversight Committee for its report and acknowledges the valuable work undertaken by the Committee in monitoring and reviewing the performance and functions of the Independent Broad-based Anti-Corruption Commission, the Office of the Victorian Information Commissioner, the Victorian Inspectorate and the Victorian Ombudsman. In particular, the Government recognises the important role played by the Committee in ensuring the effective operation and accountability of these agencies on behalf of Parliament and the community.

## Response

Two of the Committee's eight recommendations were directed to government. The Government's response to those recommendations is set out below. The Government notes that recommendations were also made to the Independent Broad-based Anti-Corruption Commission, Victorian Inspectorate and the Office of the Victorian Information Commissioner.

Committee recommendation	Government response
That the Victorian Government fund an ongoing communications and publishing officer position at the Victorian Inspectorate (Recommendation 6)	<p>The Government <b>supports in principle</b> the recommendation.</p> <p>The Victorian Inspectorate received funding in the 2020-21 Budget to employ a dedicated communications resource. Funding for this position has initially been provided on a fixed term basis, however it will be reviewed as part of future Budget processes if required.</p>
That the Victorian Government support the designation of, and adequately resources, the Victorian Ombudsman as Victoria's National Preventative Mechanism (Recommendation 7)	<p>The recommendation is <b>under review</b>.</p> <p>The Government is currently considering options regarding the implementation of OPCAT in Victoria.</p>