



PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA
MEDIA RELEASE

Statement by the Parliament of Victoria

This morning the President of the Legislative Council and the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly were notified of allegations that have been made against the Auditor-General by a member of the staff of the Auditor-General's Office.

The Presiding Officers referred the matter to the Public Accounts and Estimates Committee, which met early this afternoon to consider how to proceed in relation to the matter.

The Public Accounts and Estimates Committee resolved unanimously to ask the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council to refer to the Committee the following terms of reference:

The Public Accounts and Estimates Committee is to inquire into and report to Parliament on allegations made against the Auditor-General, Mr John Doyle, in a formal grievance dated 12 August 2015, by a member of his staff; and whether, in light of any findings that the Committee may make in relation to the allegations, the Parliament should give consideration to the removal of the Auditor-General from office.

The Committee is requested to conduct this inquiry having regard to the need to afford procedural fairness to all parties, and to protect the privacy of individuals.

The Committee is requested to report its findings to the Parliament on or before 20 October 2015.

To ensure the Committee's inquiry is able to be conducted as expeditiously as possible and with absolute regard to the need to afford procedural fairness to affected individuals, the Committee will seek authority from the Parliament to commission recently retired High Court of Australia Justice, Kenneth Hayne AC QC, to investigate the matters referred to in the grievance and to report to the Committee on these matters.

Mr Hayne will conduct his inquiry in such manner and pursuant to such procedures as he considers appropriate.

Hon Telmo Languiller MP
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

Hon Bruce Atkinson MLC
President of the Legislative Council

Danny Pearson MP
Chair

David Morris MP
Deputy Chair

Date: 17 August 2015