



Queensland  
Law Reform Commission

## **Annual Report**

2015-16

August 2016

Postal address: PO Box 13312, George Street Post Shop, Qld 4003  
Telephone: (07) 3247 4544  
Facsimile: (07) 3247 9045  
Email: lawreform.commission@justice.qld.gov.au  
Website: www.qlrc.qld.gov.au

Copies of this annual report can be obtained by contacting the Commission.



The Commission is committed to providing accessible services to Queenslanders from all culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. If you have difficulty in understanding the annual report, you can contact us on (07) 3247 4544 and we will arrange an interpreter to effectively communicate the report to you.

© State of Queensland (Queensland Law Reform Commission) August 2016

**Licence:**

This annual report is licensed by the State of Queensland (Queensland Law Reform Commission) under a Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) 4.0 Australia licence.



**CC BY Licence Summary Statement:**

In essence, you are free to copy, communicate and adapt this annual report, as long as you attribute the work to the State of Queensland (Queensland Law Reform Commission).

To view a copy of this licence, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>.

**Attribution:**

Content from this annual report should be attributed as:

The State of Queensland (Queensland Law Reform Commission) Annual Report 2015–2016.

ISSN 1327-6603 (print)  
ISSN 2201-1889 (online)

# **Queensland Law Reform Commission**

**Annual Report  
2015–16**

August 2016



## **Commission members<sup>1</sup>**

Chairperson: **The Hon Justice David Jackson**

Part-time members: **Mr Peter Hastie QC  
Prof Peter McDermott RFD  
Mrs Samantha Traves  
The Hon Margaret Wilson QC**

## **Secretariat**

Director: **Mr David Groth**

Assistant Director: **Mrs Cathy Green**

Commission Secretary: **Mrs Jenny Manthey**

A/Senior Legal Officers: **Ms Anita Galeazzi  
Ms Elise Ho  
Ms Paula Rogers**

Administrative Officer: **Ms Kahren Giles**

---

<sup>1</sup> All Commission members were appointed on 1 August 2014.



16 August 2016



The Honourable Yvette D'Ath MP  
Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and  
Minister for Training and Skills  
Level 18, State Law Building  
50 Ann Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

ABN: 13 846 673 994  
Address: PO Box 13312  
George Street Post Shop  
Brisbane QLD 4003  
Phone: (07) 3247 4544  
Fax: (07) 3247 9045  
Email: [lawreform.commission@justice.qld.gov.au](mailto:lawreform.commission@justice.qld.gov.au)  
Website: [www.qlrc.qld.gov.au](http://www qlrc.qld.gov.au)

Dear Attorney

I am pleased to submit for tabling in the Parliament the Commission's 2015-16 Annual Report.

This is the second annual report of the Commission as currently constituted.

During the reporting period, the Commission has finalised two reviews and is close to finalising its third review.

The Commission's final report on its Review of the *Neighbourhood Disputes (Dividing Fences and Trees) Act 2011* (December 2015) was tabled in Parliament on 11 May 2016.

The Commission's final report on its Review of child protection mandatory reporting laws for the early childhood education and care (ECEC) sector (December 2015) was tabled in Parliament on 25 February 2016.

On 13 January 2016 the Commission received terms of reference for its Review of expunging criminal convictions for historic gay sex offences. The Commission anticipates submitting its final report on the review by the reporting date of 31 August 2016.

The Commission members and I look forward to continuing the Commission's reputation for producing carefully researched and rigorous reports of intellectual quality and practical utility.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Jackson", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

David Jackson  
Chair





# Table of contents

<b>Overview of the Commission .....</b>	<b>1</b>
Constitution of the Commission .....	1
Function of the Commission.....	1
Statutory duties of the Commission.....	1
Organisational objectives .....	2
Commission members and staff of the Secretariat.....	2
Commission members .....	2
Commission Secretariat.....	2
Organisational chart .....	3
Meetings of the Commission.....	4
Remuneration of Commission members.....	4
<i>Right to Information Act 2009</i> (Qld).....	4
<i>Public Sector Ethics Act 1994</i> (Qld).....	4
Commission Secretariat.....	4
Commission Code of Conduct .....	4
<b>The work of the Commission .....</b>	<b>5</b>
Law reform reviews referred to the Commission by the Attorney-General .....	5
Review of the <i>Neighbourhood Disputes (Dividing Fences and Trees) Act 2011</i> .....	5
Review of child protection mandatory reporting laws for the early childhood education and care sector.....	7
Review of expunging criminal convictions for historical gay sex offences.....	9
Proposed program of law reform.....	10
Recent publications of the Commission .....	10
Australasian Law Reform Agencies Conference .....	11
<b>Who's who at the Commission .....</b>	<b>11</b>
Commission members.....	11
Commission Secretariat.....	13



# Overview of the Commission

## Constitution of the Commission

The Queensland Law Reform Commission is an independent statutory body, and is constituted under the *Law Reform Commission Act 1968* ('the Law Reform Commission Act').

## Function of the Commission

The function of the Commission, as provided in section 10(1) of the Law Reform Commission Act, is to review the law applicable to Queensland with a view to its systematic development and reform, including, in particular:

- (a) codification of laws;
- (b) elimination of anomalies;
- (c) repeal of obsolete and unnecessary enactments;
- (d) reduction of the number of separate enactments; and
- (e) generally, simplification and modernisation of the law.

## Statutory duties of the Commission

The Commission's key statutory duties, as provided in section 10(3) of the Law Reform Commission Act, include to:

- undertake law reform reviews referred to it from time to time by the Attorney-General;<sup>2</sup>
- prepare and submit to the Attorney-General for review and approval a proposed program of law reform reviews, in order of priority;<sup>3</sup> and
- undertake any approved program of law reform reviews, subject to any variations made by the Attorney-General in terms of the proposed reviews or their order of priority.<sup>4</sup>

---

<sup>2</sup> *Law Reform Commission Act 1968* (Qld) s 10(3)(b) and (e).

<sup>3</sup> *Law Reform Commission Act 1968* (Qld) s 10(3)(c).

<sup>4</sup> *Law Reform Commission Act 1968* (Qld) ss 10(3)(d) and 10(4).

## Organisational objectives

The Commission aims to meet the needs of the Queensland community by reviewing areas of the law in need of reform and by making recommendations for reform. The Commission's recommendations are based on extensive research, public consultation, and the principles of impartiality, equity and social justice. They are published in its final reports, which are presented to the Attorney-General for tabling in Parliament in accordance with the requirements of section 16 of the Law Reform Commission Act.

## Commission members and staff of the Secretariat

### *Commission members*

Members of the Commission are appointed by the Governor in Council on the advice of the Attorney-General. The Law Reform Commission Act provides that the Commission must consist of at least three members, who may be full-time or part-time members.<sup>5</sup>

Each person appointed to be a Commission member must be a person appearing to the Governor in Council to be suitably qualified by the holding of judicial office or by experience as a barrister or as a solicitor or as a teacher of law in a University.<sup>6</sup>

The Commission has five part-time members (including the Chair).

### *Commission Secretariat*

The Secretariat of the Commission is currently comprised of the Director, the Assistant Director, three Acting Senior Legal Officers, a part-time Commission Secretary and a part-time Administrative Officer.

Secretariat staff are employed by the Department of Justice and Attorney-General under the *Public Service Act 2008* (Qld).

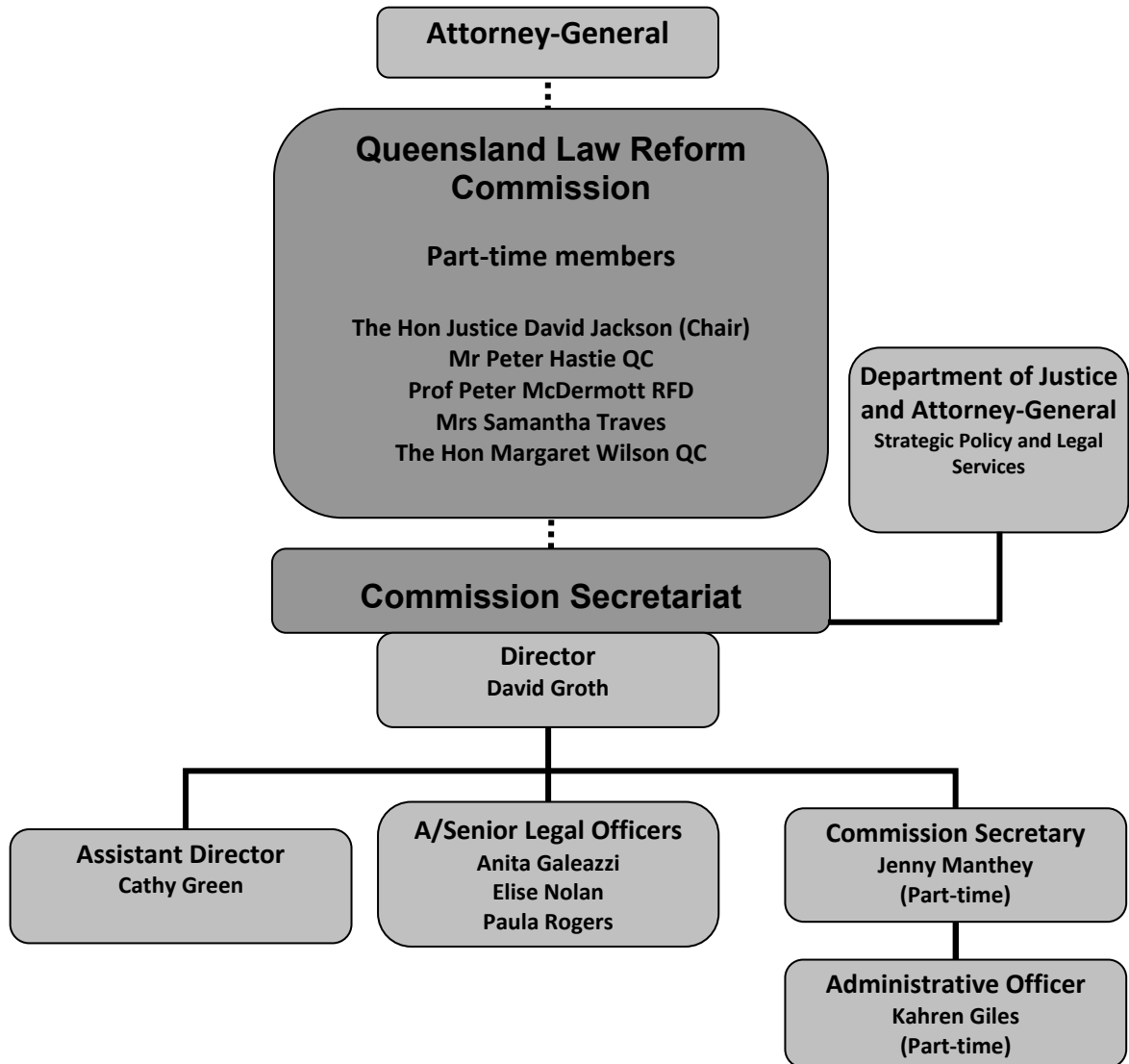
The staff of the Secretariat have the day-to-day responsibility for the carriage of the Commission's reviews. The Secretariat also provides the Commission with administrative and secretarial support. This includes the management of corporate governance, human resources and financial matters relating to the Commission and the staff of the Secretariat.

---

<sup>5</sup> *Law Reform Commission Act 1968* (Qld) s 3(2).

<sup>6</sup> *Law Reform Commission Act 1968* (Qld) s 4(1)(a).

### Organisational chart



## Meetings of the Commission

During the reporting period, the Commission held 14 Commission meetings.

## Remuneration of Commission members

Part-time members of the Commission are remunerated in accordance with the Queensland Government policy, *Remuneration procedures for Part-time Chairs and Members of Queensland Government Bodies*.<sup>7</sup>

The total remuneration paid to part-time members in 2015-16 was \$41,700.

## *Right to Information Act 2009 (Qld)*

In accordance with the requirements of the *Right to Information Act 2009 (Qld)*, the Commission's website includes a Publication Scheme. That scheme describes and categorises the information that is routinely available from the Commission and the terms on which it will make the information available.

## *Public Sector Ethics Act 1994 (Qld)*

### *Commission Secretariat*

The staff of the Commission Secretariat as employees of the Department of Justice and Attorney-General are covered by the Queensland Government public sector code of conduct.

During the reporting period, four officers of the Secretariat undertook yearly 'Workplace Ethics' refresher training.

### *Commission Code of Conduct*

As a public sector entity, the Commission is required to have a Code of Conduct that applies to the members of the Commission.

Section 10(1) of the *Public Sector Ethics Act 1994* ('the Public Sector Ethics Act'), provides generally that, in recognition of the ethics principles and values for public service agencies, public sector entities and public officials, codes of conduct are to apply to those agencies, entities and officials in performing their official functions.

---

<sup>7</sup>

By virtue of section 13 of the Law Reform Commission Act, the Chair of the Commission, as a judicial member, does not receive any salary for performing the duties of a member of the Commission.

Section 10(2) of the Public Sector Ethics Act provides that the purpose of a code of conduct is to provide standards of conduct for public service agencies, public sector entities and public officials consistent with the ethics principles and values.

The Commission's Code of Conduct was approved on 2 September 2015 by the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, and Minister for Training and Skills.

## The work of the Commission

### Law reform reviews referred to the Commission by the Attorney-General

During the reporting period, the Commission undertook work on the following law reform reviews referred to it by the Attorney-General under section 10(3) of the Law Reform Commission Act:

- Review of the *Neighbourhood Disputes (Dividing Fences and Trees) Act 2011*;
- Review of Child Protection Mandatory Reporting Laws for the Early Childhood Education and Care Sector; and
- Review of expunging criminal convictions for historical gay sex offences.

#### **Review of the *Neighbourhood Disputes (Dividing Fences and Trees) Act 2011***

Section 97 of the *Neighbourhood Disputes (Dividing Fences and Trees) Act 2011* ('the Neighbourhood Disputes Act') requires the Attorney-General to begin a review of its operation and effectiveness within 3 years of its commencement (i.e. by 1 November 2014).

On 27 October 2014, the Commission received terms of reference to undertake a statutory review of the Neighbourhood Disputes Act.

The main purpose of the review was to consider whether the objects of the Neighbourhood Disputes Act remain valid and whether the Neighbourhood Disputes Act is meeting its objects.

The Commission was required to examine a number of specific issues that the Attorney-General included in the terms of reference, namely:

- whether the allocation of responsibilities, liabilities and rights under the Neighbourhood Disputes Act promotes resolution by neighbours of issues relating to dividing fences and trees;
- whether dispute resolution processes under the Neighbourhood Disputes Act are fair, just and effective;

- the simplicity and ease of use of the Neighbourhood Disputes Act for members of the community;
- whether the Neighbourhood Disputes Act provides QCAT with sufficient powers to resolve issues;
- the remedies and penalties in the Neighbourhood Disputes Act;
- the operation of the Neighbourhood Disputes Act in relation to other Acts or laws;
- QCAT's power to make orders to protect the severe obstruction of a view;
- the provisions enabling a neighbour to serve a notice on a tree owner to prune certain overhanging branches; and
- whether the scope of the Neighbourhood Disputes Act should be expanded to cover retaining walls built on neighbouring properties' boundaries.

The Commission completed a discussion paper in June 2015, and consulted extensively with the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT), the legal profession, relevant industry bodies, community legal centres, relevant government departments, local governments and the community.

The Commission received 64 submissions from a wide range of stakeholders.

The final report on the review was submitted to the Attorney-General on 18 December 2015.

The Commission concluded that overall, the Neighbourhood Disputes Act provides clear rules about neighbours' responsibilities for dividing fences and trees to help them to avoid disputes, and provides effective and accessible mechanisms to help neighbours resolve dividing fences and tree disputes.

However, the Commission's report also makes 45 recommendations to improve the Neighbourhood Disputes Act, including its simplicity and ease of use.

Recommended amendments relating to trees include:

- more clearly outlining the rights and responsibilities of neighbours and tree keepers and the remedies available to affected neighbours;
- giving neighbours affected by a tree on land more than four hectares the right to apply to QCAT for an order about the tree;
- increasing the current maximum amount (from \$300 to \$500) that neighbours can recover from tree-keepers for the removal of overhanging branches (when a tree-keeper is served with a notice under section 57 of the Neighbourhood Disputes Act);



- expanding the matters that QCAT must consider when making orders about trees, including whether the tree detracts from the amenity of the land affected by a tree; and
- limiting the scope of QCAT's powers to make orders about severe obstruction of sunlight and severe obstruction of views by a tree.

Recommended amendments relating to dividing fences include:

- removing doubt about the types of land to which the Neighbourhood Disputes Act applies; and
- enhancing the power of QCAT to make orders in urgent circumstances to prevent an adjoining owner from constructing or demolishing an unauthorised dividing fence.

Recommended amendments relating to the dispute resolution processes, remedies and penalties under the Neighbourhood Disputes Act include:

- providing a stronger focus on informal resolution by neighbours before approaching QCAT;
- ensuring greater procedural consistency between tree disputes and dividing fence disputes before QCAT;
- improving the accessibility of QCAT proceedings; and
- shifting the focus away from punishment and toward a practical approach to non-compliance with QCAT orders about dividing fences and trees, including allowing applications to QCAT for further orders in the event of non-compliance.

The Commission did not consider that the Neighbourhood Disputes Act should be expanded to cover disputes about retaining walls built on neighbouring properties' boundaries beyond QCAT's limited jurisdiction to order work for a retaining wall as part of an order made in a dividing fence dispute.

The report also makes a number of suggestions to enhance public education and awareness about the Neighbourhood Disputes Act.

The Commission's report was tabled in Parliament on 11 May 2016.

### **Review of child protection mandatory reporting laws for the early childhood education and care sector**

On 6 November 2014, the Commission received terms of reference to undertake a review of the legislative mandatory reporting requirements under the *Child Protection Act 1999* (the Child Protection Act').

The Review required the Commission to:

- consider whether the mandatory reporting requirements under the Child Protection Act should be expanded to cover the early childhood and education (ECEC) sector, including long day care and family day care services and kindergartens;
- if it determines that the mandatory reporting requirements should be expanded to the ECEC sector, make recommendations as to which professionals, office holders or workers within that sector should be included in the mandatory reporting scheme; and
- when considering those issues, take into account the policy environment, including the Queensland Government's implementation of the recommendations of the Queensland Child Protection Commission of Inquiry.

The Commission released a discussion paper in July 2015 seeking submissions from key stakeholders and the community. That consultation included extensive consultation with ECEC groups and organisations, legal research academics and relevant government departments.

The Commission received 29 submissions from a wide range of stakeholders. The overwhelming majority of submissions supported extending the mandatory reporting obligation under the Child Protection Act to the ECEC sector (and ECEC professionals).

The final report on the Review was provided to the Attorney-General on 21 December 2015.

The Commission's principal recommendation is that the mandatory reporting provisions in Chapter 2, Part 1AA, Division 2 of the Child Protection Act should be expanded to apply to the ECEC sector (Recommendation 8-1).

In developing this recommendation, the Commission was guided by numerous considerations, including:

- the paramount principle of protecting children from harm or risk of harm;
- the threshold level of harm required for a 'reportable suspicion' under the mandatory reporting obligation under section 13E of the Child Protection Act;
- that mandatory reporting aligns with existing child protection obligations of the ECEC sector; and
- due to their regular and direct contact with children and their families, ECEC professionals are well-placed to observe and report child safety concerns.

The Commission considered that concerns about any potential adverse consequences of extending the mandatory reporting obligation to the ECEC sector can be addressed through appropriate education and training.

The Commission further recommended that, within the ECEC sector, the mandatory reporting obligation should apply to:

- approved education and care services under the *Education and Care Services National Law (Queensland) 2011* and the *Education and Care Services Act 2013* (Recommendation 9-1); and
- the following individuals:
  - o an approved provider, nominated supervisor or family day care coordinator of an approved ECEC service; and
  - o a person employed by an approved ECEC service who holds at least an approved certificate III level education and care qualification or higher approved professional qualification, as provided under the *Education and Care Services National Law (Queensland) 2011* or the *Education and Care Services Act 2013* (Recommendation 9-2).

These recommendations do not extend to volunteers or staff in an approved ECEC service who do not meet the minimum professional qualification requirements.

The Commission's final report was tabled in Parliament on 25 February 2016.

The Government, in its response to the Commission's report (dated May 2016), has accepted all three of the Commission's recommendations — two in full (Recommendation 8-1 and 9-1) and one in principle (Recommendation 9-2).

### **Review of expunging criminal convictions for historical gay sex offences**

On 13 January 2016, the Commission received terms of reference to undertake a review of expunging criminal convictions for historical gay sex offences.

The review requires the Commission to recommend how Queensland can expunge criminal convictions for historical gay sex offences from a person's criminal history and consider various matters, including what the features of an expungement scheme should be.

The Commission is required to report by 31 August 2016.

The Commission has undertaken an extensive public consultation process. The Commission released a consultation paper in February 2016, raising questions and options for reform.

The Commission has also undertaken roundtable meetings with legal stakeholders, lesbian, gay, transgender, bisexual, and intersex community and groups, human rights organisations and relevant State and interstate government departments and agencies.

The Commission anticipates providing its final report to the Attorney-General by 31 August 2016.

## Proposed program of law reform

Section 10(3)(c) of the *Law Reform Commission Act 1968* ('the Law Reform Commission Act') requires the Commission to prepare and submit a proposed program of law reform to the Attorney-General for approval.

A proposed program was developed by the Commission in accordance with its *Protocol for the development of proposed programs*.<sup>8</sup> This Protocol outlines a framework of the steps to be taken and matters to be considered by the Commission in preparing and submitting a proposed program of law reform for the Attorney-General's consideration.

As required by section 10(3) of the Law Reform Commission Act, the Commission submitted the proposed program of law reform matters to the Attorney-General for review and approval. The proposed program is subject to variation by the Attorney-General, before or after its approval, under section 10(4) of the Law Reform Commission Act.

## Recent publications of the Commission

During the reporting period, the Commission produced the following:

- *Review of the Neighbourhood Disputes (Dividing fences and Trees) Act 2011*, Report No 72, (December 2015);
- *Review of child protection mandatory reporting laws for the early childhood education and care sector*, Report No 73, (December 2015); and
- *Review of expunging of criminal convictions for historical gay sex offences, Consultation Paper, Working Paper No 74*, (February 2016).

The Commission also produced its *Queensland Law Reform Commission – Annual Report 2014 – 15*, (September 2015).

A list of all of the Commission's Reports, Working Papers and Miscellaneous Papers is available on its website at <<http://www qlrc.qld.gov.au/publications>>. Copies of the Commission's recent publications, and most of its older publications, are also available on its website. The Commission's website also details legislative action taken on Commission reports. A list of former holders of office under the *Law Reform Commission Act 1968* can also be found on the Commission's website.

---

<sup>8</sup> This Protocol is available from the Commission's website at: <[http://www qlrc.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0008/371978/QLRC\\_Protocol\\_for\\_the\\_development\\_of\\_proposed\\_Program.PDF](http://www qlrc.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0008/371978/QLRC_Protocol_for_the_development_of_proposed_Program.PDF)>.

## **Australasian Law Reform Agencies Conference**

The Australasian Law Reform Agencies Conference (ALRAC) has been held biennially since the 1970s and attracts representatives from law reform agencies across Australia, the Asia Pacific region and beyond.

The 2016 biennial ALRAC was hosted by the Victorian Law Reform Commission, and held at the Melbourne Law School from 2 – 4 March 2016.

The conference was attended by representatives from all but one Australian jurisdiction, and from New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, Hong Kong, Kenya and Mauritius.

The Commission was represented at the 2016 ALRAC by Part-time Commission member, Peter Hastie QC, and the Director and Assistant Director of the Commission Secretariat. Mr Hastie QC delivered a paper at the conference titled 'Potential means by which agencies can respond to political imperatives to get things done'.

The conference considered the important role of law reform agencies in modernising the law, and discussed different models of, and approaches to, law reform and to agency structures.

## **Who's who at the Commission**

### **Commission members**

#### **The Hon Justice D S Jackson — Chair**

1 August 2014 – Current

Justice Jackson was appointed a Judge of the Trial Division of the Supreme Court of Queensland on 8 October 2012 and is a Commercial List Judge. He was admitted to the Queensland Bar in 1977 and was appointed as Queen's Counsel for the State of Queensland in 1990. He was a member of the Council of the Bar Association of Queensland and the Supreme Court Library Committee.

His Honour was appointed Chair of the Commission on 1 August 2014.

#### **Mr P Hastie QC BA LLB LLM (Qld)**

1 August 2014 – Current

Mr Hastie was admitted to the Queensland Bar in 1983. He was appointed as a Queen's Counsel for the State of Queensland in 2013.

Mr Hastie has also been admitted to practice in New South Wales, South Australia, and Victoria. He is entitled to practice in the Federal and High Courts.

Mr Hastie has a broad civil practice involving contractual and commercial disputes, building and construction disputes, professional liability, administrative law, corporations law, insurance, property, trusts, equity, personal injuries, arbitrations, expert determinations and mediations.

Mr Hastie originally worked in the Solicitor-General's Office and as a crown prosecutor at the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions. Mr Hastie commenced private practice in January 1986.

Mr Hastie was also a consultant to the former Commission of Inquiry into Possible Illegal Activities and Associated Police Misconduct (Fitzgerald Inquiry).

**Professor P M McDermott RFD LLB (Hons) (Qld), LLM (Qld), PhD (Griffith)**

1 August 2014 – Current

Professor McDermott was admitted as a barrister of the Supreme Court of Queensland in 1978. He is an Adjunct Professor of the Central Queensland University and an Academic Fellow of Emmanuel College, The University of Queensland. He is a former Reader in Law at the Law School of The University of Queensland.

He is an author of *Equitable damages* (2004) (Foreword: Sir Robert Megarry) and a co-author of *Company Law* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed, 2008) (Foreword: Justice Michael Kirby). His recent research on 'Enemy Aliens in the First World War: Legal and Constitutional Issues' was published in Barry Wright, Sir Eric Tucker and Susan Binnie (eds), *Security, Dissent and the Limits of Toleration in War and Peace: Canadian State Trials Vol IV, 1914 – 1939* (University of Toronto Press, 2015), pp 71–96.

Professor McDermott was a junior Counsel to Sir Maurice Byers QC for the Thayorre People in the *Wik* case. Professor McDermott was the Senior Legal Officer (1982 –1988) and later the Principal Legal Officer (1988 – 1991) of the Queensland Law Reform Commission. He is a former Deputy Chairman of the Commission (1996 – 1998). Professor McDermott serves on the Administrative Appeals Tribunal and formerly served on the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal. He has been a Member of the South Queensland Regional Community Corrections Board (2002 – 2006).

**Mrs S J Traves LLB (Hons) LLM**

1 August 2014 – Current

Mrs Traves was admitted as a solicitor of the Supreme Court of Queensland in 1990.

She has a broad range of legal and academic experience.

Mrs Traves is a former Senior Lecturer and Visiting Fellow at the Faculty of Law, Queensland University of Technology where she was Head of Commercial Law and Insurance Law. Mrs Traves is the author of *Commercial Law*, LexisNexis, 3rd ed, and co-author of *Due Diligence*, LawBook Co. She has published widely, in particular in the areas of commercial and insurance law.

Mrs Traves has assisted in the drafting of insurance contracts legislation for Papua New Guinea, has been guest speaker at National and State insurance law conferences and is a past recipient of the Australian Insurance Law Association (AILA) Insurance Law Prize. She is a former member of the committee of the National Insurance Lawyers Group of the Law Council of Australia, and currently serves on the Scientific Council of the Association International de Droit des Assurances (AIDA). Mrs Traves was Chair of the Plenary Session on Preventive Measures at the 2014 AIDA World Congress in Rome.

On 1 June 2015, Mrs Traves was appointed to the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

### **The Hon M A Wilson QC BA LLB (Hons)**

1 August 2014 – Current

Ms Wilson is a graduate of The University of Queensland.

She completed articles of clerkship with Feez Ruthning and Co, Solicitors, and was admitted as a solicitor in 1978. She was admitted as a barrister in March 1979, and became a Queen's Counsel in 1992. She practised at the Queensland Bar continuously from her admission until her appointment to the Bench.

Ms Wilson served as a Judge of the Trial Division of the Supreme Court of Queensland between August 1998 and April 2014, when she sat on a wide range of criminal and civil trials and appeals. She was the Judge constituting the Mental Health Court for three years, a Commercial List Judge for two years, and an Additional Judge of Appeal in 2011-2012. She was a member of the Rules Committee appointed under the *Supreme Court of Queensland Act 1991* between 1999 and 2012 and a member of the Judges' Building Committee between 2006 and 2012.

Ms Wilson is a Justice of the Court of Appeal of Solomon Islands.

She was the Commissioner of the Barrett Adolescent Centre Commission of Inquiry from 14 September 2015 to 24 June 2016.

## **Commission Secretariat**

### **David Groth BA LLB — Director**

Mr Groth graduated with a Bachelor of Laws degree from The University of Queensland in 1990. He was admitted as a barrister of the Supreme Court of Queensland in 1992. He also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from The University of Queensland.

Mr Groth has performed previous roles including Director of Legal Services Coordination in the Department of Justice and Attorney-General, Secretary of the Bundaberg Hospitals Commission of Inquiry/Queensland Public Hospitals Commission of Inquiry, Court Administrator of the Supreme and District Courts, and Research Director of the Parliamentary Criminal Justice Committee.

Mr Groth has also performed senior policy roles in both the Department of the Premier and Cabinet and the Department of Justice and Attorney-General.

Mr Groth has previously performed senior roles in the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions including Manager of the Sentencing Unit.

Mr Groth commenced work at the Commission in April 2014.

### **Cathy Green BSc LLB — Assistant Director**

Mrs Green graduated with a Bachelor of Laws degree from the Queensland University of Technology in 1996. She was admitted to practice as a barrister of the Supreme Court of Queensland in 1996. Mrs Green also holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Queensland.

Mrs Green served two periods of secondment at the Commission before being appointed as a Legal Officer on a permanent basis in 2002. In 2005, Mrs Green was appointed as the Commission's Principal Legal Officer and, in 2008, as the Commission's Assistant Director. She is also the Commission's Right to Information and Information Privacy Officer.

Mrs Green previously worked in the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, as a research officer at the Queensland Parliamentary Library, and as a research scientist at the Queensland Institute of Medical Research.

### **Anita Galeazzi BA LLB (Hons) GDLP — A/Senior Legal Officer**

Ms Galeazzi graduated with Honours in Law from The University of Queensland in 2006. She was admitted to the legal profession in Queensland as a lawyer in 2010. She completed a Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice through the Australian National University.

Ms Galeazzi worked as a research officer at the Supreme Court of Queensland Library.

Ms Galeazzi commenced work at the Commission in January 2011.

### **Elise Ho BJur LLB GradDipLegalPrac LLM — A/Senior Legal Officer**

Ms Ho graduated with a Bachelor of Laws degree from the Queensland University of Technology in 2008. She also holds a Bachelor of Justice degree from the Queensland University of Technology.

Ms Ho was admitted as a legal practitioner of the Supreme Court of Queensland in September 2009. Ms Ho completed her Master of Laws (Health Law) in 2012.

Ms Ho has worked as a Research Assistant at the Queensland University of Technology, Legal Officer at the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, and as a Senior Legal Officer with the Office of the Public Advocate.

Ms Ho commenced work at the Commission in February 2015.



**Paula Rogers BA LLB (Hons) — A/Senior Legal Officer**

Ms Rogers graduated with First Class Honours in Law from Griffith University in 2003, having been awarded the University Medal and the Arts Medal, and was admitted as a legal practitioner of the Supreme Court of Queensland in January 2005.

Ms Rogers worked as a Judge’s Associate at the Supreme Court of Queensland in 2003. She completed her articles of clerkship at Allens Arthur Robinson during 2004, where she worked in the energy and resources practice group. Ms Rogers has also worked as a Senior Legal Officer in Strategic Policy in the Department of Justice and Attorney-General.

Ms Rogers commenced work at the Commission in February 2005.

**Jenny Manthey BSc (Hons) Cert III Bus (Office Admin) — Commission Secretary**

Mrs Manthey graduated with a Bachelor of Science from The University of Queensland in 1993. She worked as a Scientific Technician from 1992 to 1995 at CSIRO Long Pocket Laboratories, and completed her Honours degree in 1998.

After gaining qualifications in Office Administration in 2000, Mrs Manthey was employed in a variety of administrative roles before commencing work at the Commission in January 2004.

**Kahren Giles BA — Administrative Officer**

Ms Giles is responsible for a wide range of secretarial and administrative functions within the Commission. She commenced work at the Commission in October 2007.