

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
FINANCE AND PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION**

REFERENCES COMMITTEE

**Reform of Australian Government
Administration**

SUBMISSION

SUBMISSION NUMBER: 7

SUBMITTER

The Institute of Public Administration Australia

4 August 2010

Ms Christine McDonald
Secretary, References Committee
Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration
PO Box 6100 Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms McDonald

Committee Inquiry into the Reform of Australian Government Administration

The Institute of Public Administration Australia (IPAA) is pleased to provide a submission to the Committee's Inquiry into *Ahead of the Game: Blueprint for the Reform of Australian Government Administration*.

As you will be aware, IPAA is the professional association for those who identify public service, public sector management and the study of public administration as their profession. Its vision is to be "the professional face of a confident public sector". In addition to its professional development activities, IPAA publishes research and reports of practical experience in public administration, promotes networks across jurisdictions and universities in Australia and internationally, and draws on its members' expertise and experience to contribute to government and public discussion on national public administration issues.


IPAA is supportive of the direction charted by the Blueprint for the Reform of Australian Government Administration and acknowledges the contribution of the Advisory Group to complete the review in such a tight timeframe. Many of the recommendations that IPAA made to the review have been taken into account in the report of the review. We particularly underline the importance of those measures designed to strengthen human capital development in the APS so that it can continue to meet its responsibilities to the government of the day and deliver government programs to the Australian community. We also welcome the proposed strengthening of the role of the Australian Public Service Commission which will essentially complete the agenda for reform of the integrity and governance of the public service which IPAA has been highlighting in recent years.

To maximise the benefits of the reforms, ownership of the new reform measures by the wider APS, and support from the Government and the Parliament, will be critical.

A submission addressing the Committee's terms of reference is at Attachment A. The views expressed in the submission have not been formally endorsed by the IPAA National Council or any of IPAA's Divisional Councils, but it has benefited from input from a number of IPAA members in the ACT Division and on our National Council.

Our earlier submission to the review is at Attachment B for your information, a recent article published in the June 2010 edition of the Australian Journal of Public Administration by Professor Evert Lindquist is at Attachment C and a summary of the IPAA Roundtable held in May (to be published in Public Administration Today) is at Attachment D.

Yours sincerely


Percy Allan
National President