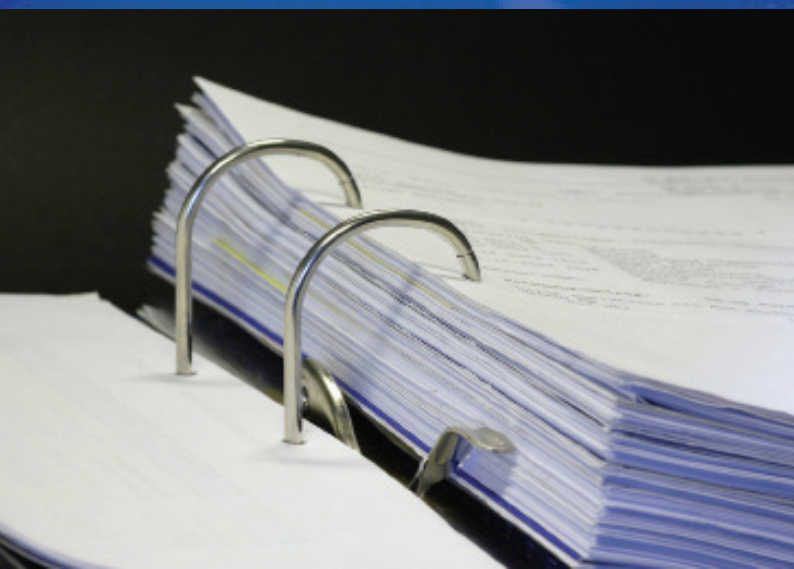


STOPPING GOVERNMENT CORRUPTION

A LIBERAL PLAN TO STRENGTHEN SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION





Liberal Policy

STRENGTHENING SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S ICAC

The South Australian Liberals have long been advocates for an Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC). South Australia will be the last Australian state to introduce an ICAC and recent events, such as the inquiry into the Burnside Council, have highlighted the need to have an ICAC to investigate allegations of corruption.

South Australia needs a strong ICAC to ensure the State is governed in the public's interest without fear or favour. South Australians deserve to feel confident that corruption is investigated independently and in a transparent way.

Unfortunately, the Weatherill Labor Government's reluctance to commit to the independence of the Commission shows they are yet to embrace the spirit of an ICAC. In addition, the blanket secrecy of Labor's ICAC will undermine public confidence.

The South Australian Liberals are committed to ensuring South Australia has a strong ICAC and that it operates independent of government. Combating corruption and improving public faith in government is not an optional extra, it's a must.



Liberal Policy

STRENGTHENING SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S ICAC

If elected, a Marshall Liberal Government will strengthen the South Australian ICAC. We will:

Broaden the scope of the ICAC

- A Liberal Government will review the scope of the ICAC in relation to misconduct or maladministration so that it can deal effectively with systemic corruption, with a focus on prevention and early intervention. Labor's simplistic focus on corruption at the criminal level is too narrow – it is out of step with interstate practice and the international definition of corruption.

Introduce Public Hearings

- A Liberal Government will lift Labor's blanket ban on public hearings and empower the Commissioner to use public hearings in the public interest, while balancing the need to protect reputations. All commissions in other states provide for public hearings.

Protect Independence

- A Liberal Government will strengthen the process for the appointment of the Commissioner to ensure that the appointment of the ICAC Commissioner has the confidence of the Parliament and the community.

Establish an Inspectorate

- A Liberal Government will establish an Inspectorate to oversee the ICAC's use of its special powers to ensure that the powers are being used within the law and used appropriately. Three of the five other Australian anti-corruption commissions have an inspector.

Ensure the ICAC is appropriately resourced

- A Liberal Government will review the budget of the ICAC to ensure that it has the resources it needs to do its job.



What do you think of our plan to strengthen the South Australian ICAC?

Contact Stephen Wade MLC, Shadow Attorney General:

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- via email at stephen.wade@parliament.sa.gov.au; or
- via letter to Stephen at Parliament House, North Terrace, Adelaide, SA, 5000.

Alternatively, contact Steven Marshall, State Liberal Leader:

- via email at liberal.opposition@parliament.sa.gov.au; or
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