

## Media Statement

MS# 1603 12 February 2016

## Kate Jenkins an ideal candidate for Sex Discrimination Commissioner

The following statements can be attributed to Stuart Clark AM, President, Law Council of Australia:

- On behalf of the Australian legal profession, we welcome the appointment of Kate Jenkins as the new Sex Discrimination Commissioner.
- Ms Jenkins' experience as Victoria's Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commissioner, and previously as a Partner in the equal opportunity and diversity practice of Herbert Smith Freehills, makes her an ideal candidate to fill the vacancy.
- ➤ The Law Council looks forward to working with Ms Jenkins and the Australian Human Rights Commission.
- The Law Council remains concerned by the reduction of funding to the Australian Human Rights Commission to account for the reduction of special-purpose Commissioners from seven to six, and the impact changes have on the Commission's capacity to undertake its statutory complaints handling role. The Law Council continues to advocate for standalone Commissioners, including a Disability Discrimination Commissioner with lived experience.

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