



## **THE HON MARK DREYFUS KC MP**

**ATTORNEY-GENERAL  
CABINET SECRETARY  
MEMBER FOR ISAACS**

### **Administrative Appeals Tribunal appointments and reform process**

The Albanese Government has appointed two new Deputy Presidents, and made short-term reappointment of 32 members and two Deputy Presidents to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT).

The appointments provide the AAT with continuity, stability and support to ensure its ongoing operation during this transition period.

The Honourable Justice Lisa Hespe and the Honourable Justice Geoffrey Kennett have been appointed as new Deputy Presidents for two-year terms.

Justice Hespe was appointed to the Federal Court of Australia in 2022, preceded by a 27-year career as a lawyer, including five years as a Senior Member of the AAT.

Justice Kennett was also appointed to the Federal Court of Australia in 2022. Prior to that appointment, Justice Kennett had an extensive career in the Australian Public Service, including as Counsel Assisting the Solicitor-General of the Commonwealth, before being called to the NSW Bar in 1998. He was appointed Senior Counsel in 2010.

Justices Hespe and Kennett bring extensive experience and expertise across a range of relevant practice areas and will enhance the AAT's capacity to consider matters within its jurisdiction.

Thirty-four reappointments have also been made to the AAT on a short-term basis until 22 December 2023. This includes 32 members and two Deputy Presidents, Ms Jan Redfern PSM and Mr Ian Molloy.

Consistent with the requirements for short-term reappointments to the AAT, views were sought from the Acting President of the AAT about members' suitability for short-term reappointment and the ongoing operational needs of the AAT.

On behalf of the Government, I congratulate Justice Hespe, Justice Kennett, and the reappointed Deputy Presidents and members on their respective appointments.

### **Reform update**

The Government is continuing work to develop legislation to establish a new federal administrative review body.

The recent consultation process received 120 formal submissions and 287 short form responses to the public issues paper.

These submissions, together with contributions from stakeholders at events held during the consultation period, will inform the design of the new body. As will the advice from the Expert Advisory Group chaired by former High Court Justice the Honourable Patrick Keane AC KC.

Information about the reform process is available on the Attorney-General's Department [website](#).

### **Appointments to the AAT**

#### **Deputy Presidents**

Honourable Justice Lisa Hespe

Honourable Justice Geoffrey Kennett

### **Short-term reappointments to the AAT**

#### **Deputy Presidents**

Ms Jan Redfern PSM

Mr Ian Molloy

#### **Members**

Mr David Barker

Mr Michael Biviano

Mr Peter Booth

Mr Michael Bradford

Dr Christhilde Breheny

Ms Nicole Burns

Ms Justine Clarke

Ms Christine Cody

Mr Damian Creedon

Mr Brendan Darcy

Ms Nicola Findson

Ms Tania Flood

Ms Margaret Forrest

Mr Nicholas Gaudion  
Mr Peter Haag  
Ms Linda Holub  
Ms Noelle Hossen  
Ms Penelope Hunter  
Ms Christine Kannis  
Mr Roger Maguire  
Ms Deborah Mitchell  
Mr Peter Newton SC  
Professor Julie Quinlivan  
Ms Tamara Quinn  
Mr Frank Russo  
Ms Roslyn Smidt  
Mr David Thompson  
Mr Ian Thompson  
Mr Dominic Triaca  
Mr Peter Vlahos  
Brigadier Anthony Warner AM LVO (Rtd)  
Mr Paul Windsor

#### **Friday, 2 June 2023**

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