

Mr Ed Cocks MLA
Chair
Standing Committee on the Integrity Commission and Statutory Office Holders
Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory
GPO Box 1020
Canberra ACT 2601

Dear Mr Cocks

Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2024–25 – Committee Recommendation

I write on behalf of the Electoral Commission in relation to the Committee's report on the Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2024–25, and specifically the following recommendation directed to the ACT Electoral Commission:

"The Committee recommends that the ACT Electoral Commission ensure that the Australian Bureau of Statistics is appraised of concerns regarding the population projections of the ACT insofar as they are used to inform electorate redistributions."

The Commission notes the Committee's recommendation.

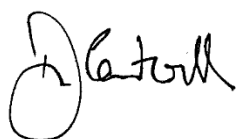
The Commission acknowledges the importance of accurate and robust population projections in supporting the fair and equitable redistribution of ACT Legislative Assembly electorates. The matters raised during the inquiry have been considered by the Commission, and we agree that it is appropriate to ensure the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is made aware of the concerns expressed regarding the current projection data and its application to future Redistributions.

Accordingly, the Commission will formally write to the Australian Statistician to advise that these issues have been raised through the Committee's inquiry, and to offer that the methodology used to prepare the relevant ACT population projections may benefit from review prior to the commencement of the 2026 Redistribution.

The Commission will keep the Committee informed should any substantive outcomes arise from this engagement with the ABS.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should further information be required.

Yours sincerely



Damian Cantwell AM CSC
Electoral Commissioner

23 February 2026