

SHARON GRIERSON MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR NEWCASTLE
DEPUTY CHAIR, JOINT COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS & AUDIT

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APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR-GENERAL

Sharon Grierson, Member for Newcastle and Deputy Chair of the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit, today welcomed the appointment of Mr Ian McPhee to the position of Auditor-General.

"Mr McPhee is a leader of reform who is committed to bringing about continuous improvement in accountability, accounting standards and administrative performance in the public sector," Ms Grierson said.

"The Auditor-General position is a prestigious and powerful one," Ms Grierson said.

"It keeps government honest and gives Australians confidence that the taxes they contribute to the public purse are spent prudently to maximise the opportunity for all Australians to benefit from the nation's prosperity."

"Government is now more complex and more intertwined with the private sector than ever before, making accountability more and more about shared standards and shared performance," Ms Grierson said. "The members of the Committee believe Mr McPhee is up to the task ahead."

He has formerly been Deputy Auditor-General in the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) and Deputy Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, and has also worked in the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Ms Grierson also thanked the outgoing Auditor-General, Mr Pat Barrett AO, who retires after a decade in the position. "Mr Barrett has developed the ANAO to a level of operation admired and respected internationally," she said. "The Committee wishes him a healthy and productive future."

"We are confident that Mr McPhee will continue in the strong tradition of Mr Barrett in acting independently, impartially and without fear or favour to deliver the best outcomes for the people of Australia."

For more information contact Sharon Grierson on 4926 1555