

### What is the Ombudsman's role?

The Ombudsman is an independent officer of Parliament with responsibility to investigate the actions of State Government departments and public authorities.

The Ombudsman's office, among other functions:

- Receives, investigates and resolves complaints about the administrative decision making and practices of the public sector, local government and universities; and
- Reviews certain child deaths and family and domestic violence fatalities.

### Why have I been asked to come for an interview?

The interview is an opportunity for the Ombudsman's office to ascertain background information, gather facts and substantiate or disprove complaints and allegations. Under the *Parliamentary Commissioner Act 1971* and *Royal Commissions Act 1968*, we have the power to obtain information and interview people for an investigation.

### Do I have to attend an interview?

Yes, attendance of witnesses is required under the *Parliamentary Commissioner Act 1971* and the *Royal Commissions Act 1968*.

### What can I expect?

You may be asked to take an oath or affirmation. You will be given more information on the subject of the investigation and advised of relevant provisions of the *Parliamentary Commissioner Act 1971* and the *Royal Commissions Act 1968*, including confidentiality.

The proceedings may be recorded or video-taped.

### Confidentiality

It is important that you are aware that interviews are private and that Ombudsman's investigations are subject to the relevant confidentiality provisions of both the *Parliamentary Commissioner Act 1971* and the *Royal Commissions Act 1968*.

### Do I have to answer the questions at the interview?

You must answer questions frankly, truthfully and not mislead the investigator/reviewer.

### Questions

If you have any questions about this process, please contact us.