



THE OFFICE OF SENATOR JACQUI LAMBIE
SENATOR FOR TASMANIA

16 June 2023

Mr Grant Hehir
Auditor-General
Australian National Audit Office
35 Sydney Avenue
Canberra ACT 2603

Dear Mr Grant Hehir

Re: Audit of the Inspector-General of the Australian Defence Force

I am writing to request the Australian National Audit Office (**ANAO**) consider an audit of the Inspector-General of the Australian Defence Force.

The Inspector-General of the Australian Defence Force is appointed by the Australian Government to oversee the quality and fairness of Australia's military justice system, promote trust and justice in the Australian Defence Force and to ensure all defence personnel have access to a fair and impartial military justice system.

The Inspector-General of the Australian Defence Force was established in 2003 following the recommendations of former Justice Mr James Burchett QC's 2001 review into military justice arrangements in the Australian Defence Force. However, it was recently revealed in Senate Estimates that the Inspector-General of the Australian Defence Force has never been subject to an audit.¹

I understand that the ANAO assesses Commonwealth spending to the standard of 'proper' under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*, which necessitates 'efficient, effective, economical and ethical' use of public resources.

Subject to your views, I envisage an audit will look at the effectiveness and efficiency of the Inspector-General of the Australian Defence Force as a whole. I am also seeking an audit on the expenditure of funds for the Afghanistan Inquiry conducted by Major General Justice Paul Brereton and an investigation into its design and administration.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

¹ Senate Hansard, Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee, [Estimates dated 30 May 2023](#), page 114.

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