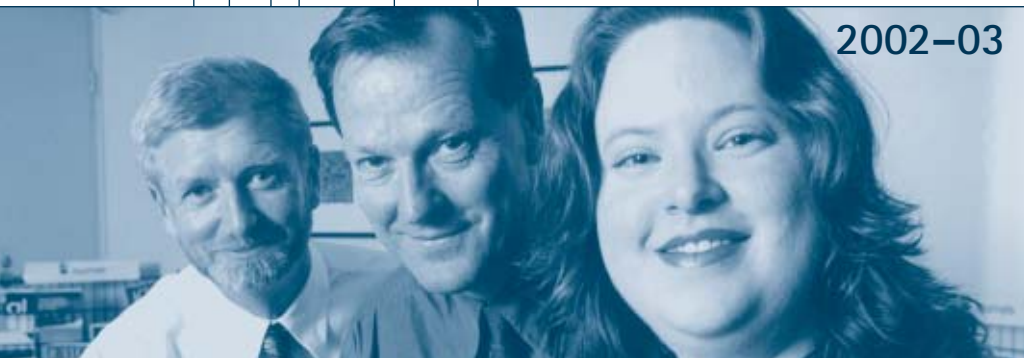


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PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSIONER
ANNUAL REPORT

2002-03

INCORPORATING
THE ANNUAL
REPORT 2002-03
OF THE MERIT
PROTECTION
COMMISSIONER



Australian Government

Australian Public Service Commission

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONER

The Honourable John Howard MP
Prime Minister
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Prime Minister

In accordance with the provisions of section 44 of the *Public Service Act 1999*, I present to you my report for the financial year ending 30 June 2003.

Incorporated with the report is the report of the Merit Protection Commissioner for the financial year ending 30 June 2003. The incorporated report of the Merit Protection Commissioner is published in accordance with the provisions of section 51 of the *Public Service Act 1999*.

The *Requirements for Annual Reports*, approved by the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit, require that a copy of these reports be laid before each House of Parliament on or before 31 October in the year in which the report is given.

In presenting you with my report on the activities of the Australian Public Service Commission during 2002–03, I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the Commission's staff for the contribution they have made towards meeting our objectives.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Podger'.

Andrew Podger
October 2003

GUIDE TO THE REPORT

The Australian Public Service Commission supports two statutory office holders, the Public Service Commissioner (who is also Agency Head) and the Merit Protection Commissioner, who reports separately on his statutory responsibilities in Part Four of this document.

The Commission as a whole contributes to the achievement of a Government Outcome—a high performing Australian Public Service with a culture based on the APS Values. The Commission's contribution to this Outcome is most clearly articulated through its Outputs. The Commission's Output structure is included in the 2002–03 Portfolio Budget Statements of the Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio.

The Public Service Commissioner Annual Report 2002–03 is based on that Output structure and provided in accordance with the provisions of section 44 of the *Public Service Act 1999*.

PART ONE

OVERVIEW includes the *Public Service Commissioner's Review* which constitutes an executive summary of the principal developments affecting the work of the Commission during the year and its more significant achievements, and a *Commission Overview* that outlines the Commission's role, responsibilities, Outcome and Output structure, and organisational structure.

PART TWO

PERFORMANCE REVIEW details performance with respect to each of the Commission's Outputs:

- Output 1: APS policy, legislation and information
- Output 2: Leadership, performance and development in the APS
- Output 3: Employment-related services and functions.

The price and performance information in Part Two covers the Commission as a whole, including the work of the Merit Protection Commissioner. Details of the Merit Protection Commissioner's statutory responsibilities are reported in Part Four.

PART THREE

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE comments on the development and operation of the Commission's governance arrangements.

PART FOUR

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MERIT PROTECTION COMMISSIONER is published in accordance with the provisions of section 51 of the *Public Service Act 1999*.

APPENDIXES

APPENDIXES include additional information about the Commission as required for reporting.

The Commission's Financial Statements are included at Appendix A.

The Report includes as Appendix B a statement as required under subsection 8(1) of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*.

The Commission also produces the State of the Service series of reports—the *State of the Service Report*, the *Workplace Diversity Report* (for this year to be incorporated into the *State of the Service Report*) and the *APS Statistical Bulletin*, which comment on the performance, nature and composition of the APS during the year.

Other key corporate documents produced by the Commission are its *Corporate Plan*, *Budget Statements*, *Service Charter* and a booklet *Introducing the Australian Public Service Commission*.

Information provided in Commission publications and circulars, as well as speeches given by the Public Service Commissioner, are available on the Commission's internet site at www.apsc.gov.au. The Annual Report can be found on the Internet site at www.apsc.gov.au/annualreport.

Readers with enquiries about the Annual Report or seeking additional information which is made available to the public, but which is not required to be published in the Annual Report, should contact:

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