Inquiry into the reappointment of the Chief Ombudsman
Report of the Officers of Parliament Committee
April 2020

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Rt Hon Trevor Mallard
Chairperson
Inquiry into the reappointment of the Chief Ombudsman

**Recommendation**
The Officers of Parliament Committee recommends that the House recommend to the Governor-General that Peter Francis Boshier be reappointed as an Ombudsman and as Chief Ombudsman pursuant to sections 3(1), 3(4), and 5(1) of the Ombudsmen Act 1975.

**Overview**
Peter Francis Boshier is the current Chief Ombudsman. He was appointed in 2015 to a term of 5 years. His current term will expire on 10 December 2020.

**Committee procedure and consultation**
The committee considered Mr Boshier’s reappointment at its meetings in March 2020.

Section 5(1) of the Ombudsmen Act 1975 (the Act) states that every Ombudsman shall hold office for a term of 5 years. Section 5(3) of the Act states that an Ombudsman will resign their office upon attaining the age of 72.

The Chief Ombudsman has indicated that another term of 3 years, until around April 2023, is his preference and that he would want to discuss and engage with the committee about future plans at that time.

The chairperson sought and obtained the support of political parties represented in the House for Mr Boshier’s reappointment. In the light of this support, the committee resolved to recommend Peter Francis Boshier for reappointment as an Ombudsman and as Chief Ombudsman.
Appendix

Committee procedure
We met on 12 and 19 March 2020 to consider this inquiry.

Committee members
Rt Hon Trevor Mallard (Chairperson)
Barbara Kuriger
Clayton Mitchell
Chlöe Swarbrick
Hon Anne Tolley
Michael Wood