

# THE ICAC BACKGROUND

## VIDEO TRANSCRIPT

After years of debate, it was decided that South Australia would have an independent anti-corruption body.

The Parliament passed a law, which they called the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption Act. We'll call it the ICAC Act.

The ICAC Act created two offices – the Office for Public Integrity, known as the OPI, and the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption, or ICAC.

The two offices are closely linked. They sit together, they share a leadership team and the Commissioner is responsible for both of them.

The Commissioner is former Federal Court Judge, the Honourable Bruce Lander QC. He has given up his wig and robe because his new office is not a court but a law enforcement agency.

But back to the OPI – what do they do?

They receive and assess complaints and reports about public administration, and either decide whether those complaints or reports should be investigated and who should investigate them, or recommend to the Commissioner what action should be taken.

Public administration is essentially the administration and delivery of public services and infrastructure. Health, education, roads, law and order, councils – you get the picture.

There's not much difference between a complaint and a report, except that a complaint comes from a member of the public and a report comes from a public officer, public authority or an inquiry agency.

A member of the public has a right to make a complaint, whereas a public officer has an obligation to make a report.