



Karin Fisher—Principal Reviewer—Canberra

Karin Fisher has had a successful and diverse public service experience in both Australia and the UK. She is a former acting Commonwealth Merit Protection Commissioner and Group Manager of the Ethics and Employment Policy Groups in the Australian Public Service Commission. She is highly experienced in managing complex public service issues.

Karin was the senior executive leading the development of Commonwealth service-wide integrity policies and the amendments to the Australian Public Service Act in 2013 and 2014. She was responsible for developing service-wide guidance on the APS Values; the handling of Code of Conduct investigations; recruitment; termination of employment and complaint handling. Karin has led culture change strategies on ethics, gender and disability.

Karin has managed sensitive inquiries into suspected breaches of the Australian Public Service and Parliamentary Service Codes of Conduct by senior public servants in a wide range of agencies. She has also undertaken investigations into whistleblowing reports by or against SES employees and agency heads.

Karin worked closely with the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Commonwealth Ombudsman on the development of the Public Interest Disclosure Act and on its subsequent implementation.

As Principal Adviser to the Merit Protection Commissioner, Karin conducted or supervised reviews of alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct, including of bullying and harassment, and other agency decisions. She is a respected leader in sensitive areas requiring sound and impartial judgement, tact, high quality communications and good stakeholder management.

She has expertise in the practical application of administrative and employment law and Australian Public Service governance.

In the UK, Karin undertook various roles, including as a policy adviser on counter-terrorism and as an immigration caseworker, including in relation to refugees. She was a Ministerial Adviser to two Cabinet Ministers.

Karin has a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Canberra. She holds a negative vetting level two security clearance.

Providing Reviews of Decisions and Actions, Workplace Investigations
and Related Strategic Advice to the Public Sector and Other Organisations