

Media Release

2017-2018 JCC Annual Report tabled

16 OCTOBER 2018

This afternoon the second annual report of the Judicial Conduct Commissioner (JCC) was tabled in the South Australian Parliament.

The 2017-2018 report contains key information and statistics on the office of the JCC which as at 30 June 2018 had been in operation for 19 months.

During 2017-18, the Commissioner received a total of 27 complaints. Most complaints were either dismissed or did not require further action. The most frequent complaint received concerned judicial decisions as opposed to the conduct of a judicial officer, resulting in the Commissioner commenting “it would seem that the public appears to misunderstand my role.

“They mistakenly view my role as that of an appeal court. The JCC Act makes it clear that is not my role”.

The Commissioner stated that he “expected to receive more complaints” including those about delayed decisions by judicial officers or from members of the legal profession.

“The small number of complaints in total and the single complaint of a legal practitioner might tend to suggest that the South Australian judiciary behaves well and is largely efficient. I hope that is the case but I think it is too early to reach that conclusion”.

The 2017-2018 JCC Annual Report can be downloaded from the Commissioner’s website: www.jcc.sa.gov.au