

Dr Vivienne Thom AM – Principal Reviewer, Canberra

Vivienne Thom is a consultant in the field of public administration with a focus on integrity and governance. She specialises in highly sensitive and complex inquiries into code of conduct matters concerning senior executives including agency heads.

In her public service career, Vivienne conducted a number of formal inquiries and complex reviews directed at identifying improvements to be made within organisations. In June 2016 she was appointed as a Member of the Order of Australia for significant service to public administration through a range of senior roles, and as a mentor to women in executive positions.

In July 2015 Vivienne completed a five-year term as the Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security—an independent statutory officer agency head position in the Prime Minister's portfolio responsible for the oversight of Australia's intelligence agencies. Prior to this, she was Deputy Commonwealth Ombudsman with responsibility for the oversight of law enforcement, immigration, taxation and defence agencies. She was the Chief Executive Officer of the Royal Australian Mint from 2002 to 2006.

Vivienne's academic background is in chemistry. After post-doctoral research and teaching, she joined the Australian Public Service in 1987 as a patent examiner. She qualified as a patent attorney and in 1999 was appointed as Commissioner of Patents. Vivienne also has a qualification in government investigations.

As a former agency head Vivienne has first-hand experience of a wide range of public sector governance issues. She has chaired agency audit committees and has been an independent member on a range of other governance boards and committees. She is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and has been an ACT Division Councillor since 2009.