



**Australian Government**  
**Attorney-General's Department**

MC26-015596

26 May 2026

Mr Bob Buckley  
Autism Aspergers Advocacy Australia  
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Dear Mr Buckley

Thank you for your email of 11 March 2026 to the Attorney-General, the Hon Michelle Rowland MP, regarding the handling of a complaint made to the Administrative Review Tribunal (Tribunal). The Attorney-General has requested that the Attorney-General's Department (the department) respond to you on their behalf. We apologise for the delay in response.

We acknowledge the concerns you have raised regarding the handling of a recusal request by the Tribunal. As an independent agency, the Tribunal is responsible for its own operation and management, including the handling of complaints and internal practices. As such, it is not possible for the Attorney-General or the department to comment on the circumstances of individual cases, or handling of complaints made to the Tribunal.

If you have concerns about how the ART has handled your complaint, please raise your concerns with the complaints officer in the first instance. Alternatively, you can make a complaint to the Commonwealth Ombudsman regarding the handling of the complaint. The Commonwealth Ombudsman cannot investigate the conduct of Tribunal members nor review decisions or orders made by the Tribunal. Further information about making a complaint is located on the Ombudsman's website: <https://www.ombudsman.gov.au/contact-us>.

Your correspondence also seeks information about the Administrative Review Council (ARC). The ARC is an independent review body which monitors the Commonwealth administrative law system, inquires into systemic issues in administrative law, develops and publishes guidance, and supports education and training for Commonwealth officials. However, the ARC does not examine individual claims or hear appeals.

Thank you again for bringing your concerns to the Attorney-General's attention. We trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

**Administrative Law Branch**  
Attorney-General's Department