

PRIME MINISTER

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APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY COMMONWEALTH OMBUDSMAN

Mr Ian Donald Emerton has been appointed Deputy Commonwealth Ombudsman for a five-year term. The office of Deputy Ombudsman is a full time statutory position.

Mr Emerton, who has a wide administrative background, currently holds the statutory office of Deputy Chief Australian Electoral Officer. He previously held a number of senior positions in the Australian Public Service, more recently in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Mr Emerton's appointment at this time recognises the importance and growth in the operations of the Commonwealth Ombudsman.

Mr Emerton holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the Australian National University. He is 47 years of age.

It is expected Mr Emerton will take up duty early in April.