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OFFICIAL

11 January 2022

Committee Secretary
Economics and Governance Committee
Parliament House
George Street, Brisbane QLD 4000

via email: egc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Committee,

**RE: POLICE SERVICE ADMINISTRATION AND OTHER LEGISLATION
AMENDMENT BILL 2021**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission on the Police Service Administration and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2021 ("the Bill").

The Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC) makes the following submission regarding Part 2 of the Bill. The CCC makes no submission in relation to the balance of the Bill.

The CCC is supportive of clause 37 of the Bill which expands Part 5A of the *Police Service Administration Act 1990* (PPRA) to include protective services officers (PSO) as persons to whom the Queensland Police Service (QPS) alcohol and drug testing regime applies. The ability of the QPS to test relevant persons for alcohol and drugs is particularly important following critical incidents, and it is therefore appropriate to expand the regime to include PSO's in circumstances where they are, in certain circumstances, authorised to use force when exercising their powers.

The CCC recognises the forensic value of body-worn camera footage as evidence in investigations and welcomes the use of body-worn cameras by PSO's as provided by clause 5 of the Bill.

The CCC notes clause 8 of the Bill which provides it is lawful for a PSO to use force against an individual that is reasonably necessary to exercise a power under chapter 19, part 1 of the PPRA. This is a widening of the use of force powers previously available to senior protective security officers under the *State Buildings Protective Security Act 1983*. Use of force powers, due to their potential to cause injury to a person, can present a potential corruption risk and must therefore be exercised in

accordance with appropriate legislative safeguards, training, and be closely monitored by the QPS. The CCC considers the limit on the exercise of force powers in clause 8 to be appropriate.

As was the case with protective security officers and senior protective security officers, PSO's will be subject to the CCC's oversight. The Bill does not affect the CCC's jurisdiction to deal with complaints involving corruption by a PSO nor does it affect the QPS' obligations under section 38 of the *Crime and Corruption Act 2001* to raise a reasonable suspicion of corrupt conduct against a PSO to the CCC.

I trust this submission will be of assistance to the Committee.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. MacSporran', with a long, sweeping underline.

Alan MacSporran QC
Chairperson