

Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services

Ref No: 2019/9235 JF Your Ref: A437226

1 5 MAY 2019

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Mr Linus Power MP
Chair
Economics and Governance Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000
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Dear Mr Power

Thank you for your letter of 29 April 2019 drawing my attention to matters raised by Mr Alan MacSporran QC, Chairperson of the Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC), about part 7A of the *Police Service Administration Act 1990* (PSAA) and the Police Service Administration (Discipline Reform) Amendment Bill 2019 (the Bill).

I also take this opportunity to thank the Economics and Governance Committee (the Committee) for its thorough examination of the Bill and for the report delivered by the Committee on 12 April 2019.

I have discussed the issue raised by Mr MacSporran with him, and representatives of the Queensland Police Service (QPS), personally. The issue has revealed that a similar issue may also exist in other legislation, including the *Ambulance Service Act 1991*, *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990* and the *Public Service Act 2008*.

Owing to the potential government-wide application of this matter, consultation between departments and stakeholders (including several unions) is preferable before any legislative amendment is contemplated.

Mr MacSporran acknowledges in his letter to the Committee that the issue relating to part 7A of the PSAA is a rare occurrence. As an interim measure, the QPS has amended its internal policy to alleviate CCC concerns while a legislative solution is considered. QPS policy now restricts decision-making on this issue to either a Deputy Commissioner, or the Assistant Commissioner and Chief Superintendent of the Ethical Standards Command.

For the above reasons, I do consider it appropriate to pursue an amendment during consideration in detail of this Bill, to resolve the part 7A PSAA issue, in isolation from the government-wide implications that have been subsequently identified.

For your information, I have asked for this issue to be referred to the Department of Premier and Cabinet, for consideration of coordinating a whole of government examination of the issue, with specialist input from the Queensland Public Service Commission and the CCC.

As you requested, I will respond to this issue during the Second Reading Debate on the Bill and advise Members of my referral of the matter to the Premier.

Should you have any questions in relation to this matter, please contact my Chief of Staff, Ms Ellen McIntyre on

Yours sincerely

The Honourable Mark Ryan MP

Minister for Police and

Minister for Corrective Services