

Economics and Governance Committee

Parliament House George Street Brisbane Qld 4000 Ph: 07 3553 6637 Fax: 07 3553 6699 egc@parliament.qld.gov.au www.parliament.qld.gov.au/egc

Our Ref: A437226

29 April 2019

Hon Mark Ryan MP
Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services
PO Box 15195
BRISBANE QLD 4001

By email: police@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Dear Minister

Police Service Administration (Discipline Reform) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2019

I write in relation to the Police Service Administration (Discipline Reform) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2019, on which the committee tabled its report to the Legislative Assembly on 12 April 2019.

Subsequent to the tabling of this report, the committee received correspondence from the Chairperson of the Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC), Mr Alan MacSporran QC, raising a concern about the operation of the new review provisions contained in the Bill, as they apply to disciplinary declarations against former officers (see enclosed). Whilst this correspondence was sent to the committee on 8 April 2019 (prior to tabling), unfortunately it was incorrectly addressed and therefore only received by the committee on 17 April 2019.

The committee has noted Mr MacSporran's advice that the key stakeholders on the working group responsible for developing the revised discipline framework are in agreement that a 'gap in this legislation does exist and needs to be resolved', but that these stakeholders were unable to reach consensus on how best to address this issue before the committee was required to report back to the Legislative Assembly.

Mr MacSporran has reported that the CCC understands that the Queensland Police Service is looking at internal policy changes to alleviate some of the CCC's concerns as an interim measure, and that the Queensland Police Union of Employees, while supportive of the need for further legislative amendment, is of the view that stakeholders should continue to work towards a solution and report back to Parliament within six months. Mr MacSporran has indicated that the CCC considers the matter should be addressed more immediately ('at the committee stage'). The CCC has accordingly recommended three amendments to the Bill to achieve this objective and maintain the original intention of the proposed changes. Further, the CCC has asked that, should the committee not accept the recommended amendments, stakeholders be directed to continue to consult and collaborate on a solution and be 'mandated to report back to the Minister within three (3) months with an effective resolution'.

I must emphasise that the committee has not consulted on this matter, or otherwise provided stakeholders with an opportunity to comment on the CCC's proposed amendments or alternative approaches to addressing this issue. However, the committee considers that the issue should ideally be addressed prior to any final vote on the proposed legislation in the House, regardless of the agreed method of its resolution.

Accordingly, the committee is bringing this matter to your attention and asks that you consider the CCC correspondence and respond to the issue raised by the CCC during the Second Reading Debate on the Bill and/or during Consideration in Detail.

For your information, the committee has resolved to publish this letter and the correspondence from the CCC on its inquiry webpage.

If you have any questions about this correspondence please contact our Acting Committee Secretary, Lucy Manderson, on 07 or via email to egc@parliament.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Linus Power MP

Chair

cc Mr Alan MacSporran QC, Chairperson, CCC
Mr Ian Stewart, Commissioner of Police, Queensland Police Service
CLLO, Queensland Police Service

Enc.