



# **PARLIAMENTARY CRIME AND CORRUPTION COMMISSIONER**

## **REPORT TO THE PARLIAMENTARY CRIME AND CORRUPTION COMMITTEE**

### **PUBLIC REPORT**

**13 MAY 2025**

#### **OPERATIONAL REPORT**

1. This report details the activities of the Office of the Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Commissioner for the period since 21 January 2025 when the report for the 12 February 2025 meeting with the Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Committee (the Committee) was provided.

#### **Progressive Work Program**

2. The Progressive Work Program of the Office of the Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Commissioner for the period 22 January to 22 April 2025 is attached as Appendix 1 for the consideration of the Committee.

#### **SIGNIFICANT EVENTS**

##### **Resignation of Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Commissioner**

3. Mr Michael Woodford resigned his position as Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Commissioner by formal notice to the Speaker on 31 January 2025 prior to taking up his appointment as President of the Parole Board Queensland. Mr Mitchell Kunde was appointed to act as Parliamentary Commissioner until a new Parliamentary Commissioner is appointed.

##### **Prospective Amendments to *Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979 (Cth)***

4. Over the last two years, the Committee and the Parliamentary Commissioner's office have been involved in discussions with the Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC), the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department and others agencies concerning proposed amendments to the *Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979 (Cth)* (TIA Act). The proposed amendments are sought to enable the CCC Chairperson to communicate lawfully intercepted information and/or interception warrant information to the Parliamentary Commissioner for certain permitted purposes.

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## Records of the Connolly Ryan Commission of Inquiry

5. The Connolly Ryan Commission of Inquiry (COI) was constituted by Order in Council in 1996. The COI concluded unresolved in 1997. Under the *Crime and Corruption Act* the Parliamentary Commissioner is required to secure the records of the Connolly Ryan COI so that only persons who satisfy the Parliamentary Commissioner that they have a legitimate need of access may access the records. The most important aspect of this role is the determination of a person's legitimate need of access. It is not essential that my office maintains physical possession of the records in order to make that assessment.
6. In August 2024 amendments were made to the *Crime and Corruption Act* (s.346C) which allowed the Connolly Ryan records to be moved to, and eventually be under the control of, the Queensland State Archivist. I have had further discussions with the Office of the State Archivist in the reporting period.

## Submission

7. On 20 February 2025 the Hon Deborah Frecklington MP, Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity, introduced the Crime and Corruption (Restoring Reporting Powers) Amendment Bill 2025 into the Queensland Parliament. The Bill was referred to the Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee.
8. On 21 February 2025 the Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee invited submissions from interested parties, addressing any aspect of the Bill.
9. I made a short submission to the Committee on 11 March 2025 stating that I was supportive of the intent of the Bill in ensuring the CCC has the power to report on corruption risks in the State and on the CCC's corruption investigations including particular corruption complaints. I briefly addressed some concerns with the wording in some of the proposed amendments.
10. The Departmental response to written submissions adequately addressed each of my concerns.

## ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

### Key Outputs achieved during the period 22 January to 22 April 2025.

11.

Function	Output
Committee referrals finalised	1
Statutory functions finalised	1
Notifications of improper conduct assessed	10
Advices to the Committee finalised	0
Own initiative investigations finalised	0
Committee referrals received	0
Statutory functions arising	3
Notifications of improper conduct received	10
Advices to the Committee requested	0
Own initiative investigations commenced	0
Committee referrals on hand	1
Statutory functions on hand	2
Notifications of improper conduct to be assessed	0
Advices to the Committee to be provided	0
Own initiative investigations current	0

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Reports to the Committee	2
Public meetings with the Committee	1
Private meetings with the Committee	1
Other meetings (CCC/QPS etc)	1
Hearings (in hours)	0
<b>Timeliness</b>	
Cumulative average time taken to finalise complaints against the CCC	24 weeks
Cumulative average time taken to finalise statutory functions	5 weeks

## MATTERS ARISING FROM KEY OUTPUTS

### Inspection of the CCC's telecommunications interception records

12. Pursuant to s.23(2) of the *Telecommunications Interception Act 2009* (TI Act), the Parliamentary Commissioner must inspect the CCC's telecommunications interception warrants records at least twice during each financial year to consider the extent to which CCC officers have complied with ss.14 to 16 and 18 to 20 of the TI Act. These sections relate to the detailed records the CCC is required to keep and the reports the CCC is required to make.
13. After being postponed for a week due to Tropical Cyclone Alfred, the second inspection of the CCC's telecommunications interception warrants records for the 2024-25 financial year was conducted on 13 March 2025. A schedule of the results of the inspection was provided to the Manager of the CCC's Electronic Collections Unit on 17 March 2025.

### Audit of Assumed Identities

14. Pursuant to s.316 of the *Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000* (PPRA) and s.146ZS of the *Crime and Corruption Act*, the CCC Chairperson must have the records of authorities for the use of assumed identities audited by the Parliamentary Commissioner at least once every six months while the authority is in force and at least once in the six months after the cancellation or expiry of the authority. The Parliamentary Commissioner is required to give the CCC Chairperson a report on the results of the audit.
15. A six-monthly audit of the CCC's records of authorities for the use of assumed identities was scheduled for 23 April 2025. A report on the results of the audit is to be provided to the CCC Chairperson.

### Investigation Matter

16. This matter was finalised during the reporting period.

### Review Matter

17. This referral is ongoing.

### Section 329 Notifications

18. Pursuant to s.314(4) of the *Crime and Corruption Act* the Parliamentary Commissioner has the function to investigate on his or her own initiative a matter mentioned in s.314(2)(b) or (c) or a matter notified to the Parliamentary Commissioner under s.329, subject to certain conditions set out in s.314(4)(a) and (b). During the period covered by this report, the CCC sent notifications to the Committee and to me pursuant to s.329 of the Act.
19. Under s.314(5) of the Act, the Parliamentary Commissioner is permitted to undertake a preliminary assessment of a matter to decide whether the conditions set out in s.314(4)(a) and (b) are satisfied for the matter.

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20. If the Parliamentary Commissioner decides to conduct a preliminary assessment under s.314(5), then pursuant to s.314(7), the Parliamentary Commissioner must notify the Parliamentary Committee of the decision. I finalised preliminary assessments of the s.329 notifications received in this reporting period and notified the Committee and the CCC of my assessments.

## **CERTIFICATION**

21. I submit that the above information demonstrates:

- a) satisfactory progress in the efficient, effective and economical achievement of the goals of the Office of the Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Commissioner;
- b) resources are being allocated to produce best value for money; and
- c) outputs are being provided at the standards stated in the Parliamentary Service Plan.

22. I also submit that the above information confirms:

- a) the appropriateness of the goal, and strategies to achieve the goal, as outlined in the Parliamentary Service Management Plan;
- b) the suitability of the performance indicators in measuring the achievement of the goal;
- c) options to improve the efficiency, effectiveness and economy of operations are being pursued.

Yours faithfully,



Mitchell Kunde  
**Acting Parliamentary Crime  
and Corruption Commissioner**

*Appendix 1*

**PARLIAMENTARY CRIME AND CORRUPTION COMMISSIONER**

**Progressive Work Program**

**PUBLIC**

**As at 22 April 2025**

**Meeting date: 13 May 2025**

Inquiry or Function	Description	Anticipated or agreed completion date	Progress last reporting period	Anticipated progress next reporting period	Resources
Inspection of Telecommunications Interception Records	Pursuant to s.23(2) of the <i>Telecommunications Interception Act 2009</i> inspect the CCC's TI records to find out the extent to which the CCC has complied with ss.14-16 and 18-20.	March 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inspected hard copy files and RADARS records to ensure all documents and details kept</li> <li>• Checked copies of evidentiary certificates were maintained.</li> <li>• Inspected Use and Communication register to ensure appropriate level of detail recorded.</li> <li>• Recorded results of inspection on Compliance Schedule</li> </ul>	Finalised. Report provided to CCC 17 March 2025.	Acting Parliamentary Commissioner
Audit of Assumed Identities	Pursuant to s.146ZS <i>Crime and Corruption Act</i> and s.316(1) <i>PPRA</i> , audit the CCC's records of authorities for assumed identities and provide a report to the CCC Chair.	April 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notified CCC and made arrangements for audit on 23 April 2025.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inspect registers of assumed identities, cancellations and variations.</li> <li>• Inspect authorities to acquire/use assumed identities, variations and cancellations.</li> <li>• Prepare report on audit of assumed identities.</li> <li>• Provide report to CCC Chair.</li> </ul>	Acting Parliamentary Commissioner
Investigation of complaint	Pursuant to s.295(2)(d) of the <i>Crime and Corruption Act</i> investigate and report on the complaint	Jan/Feb 2025 (Revised from October 2024)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requested and obtained further material from CCC.</li> <li>• Considered further material obtained from CCC.</li> <li>• Finalised investigation report.</li> </ul>	Finalised. Report provided to Committee	Parliamentary Commissioner  Legal Officer

Inquiry or Function	Description	Anticipated or agreed completion date	Progress last reporting period	Anticipated progress next reporting period	Resources
<p>Review information provided by Committee</p> <p>Receive and assess notifications of suspected improper conduct.</p>	<p>Pursuant to s.295(2)(f) of the <i>Crime and Corruption Act</i> review information and advise whether CCC acted appropriately</p> <p>Pursuant to s.314(5) of the <i>Crime and Corruption Act</i> assess notifications received from CCC of suspected improper conduct of Commission officers.</p>	<p>Feb/March 2025</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finish drafting report on review.</li> <li>• Received new s.329 notifications.</li> <li>• Assessed notifications.</li> <li>• Advised Committee and CCC of assessment decisions for notifications.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalise report and provide to Committee.</li> </ul> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Acting Parliamentary Commissioner</p> <p>Acting Parliamentary Commissioner</p>