



PARLIAMENTARY CRIME AND CORRUPTION COMMISSIONER

REPORT TO THE PARLIAMENTARY CRIME AND CORRUPTION COMMITTEE

PUBLIC REPORT

17 FEBRUARY 2026

OPERATIONAL REPORT

1. This report details the activities of the Office of the Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Commissioner for the period since 5 November 2025, when the report for the previous meeting with the Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Committee was provided, to 27 January 2026.

Progressive Work Program

2. The Progressive Work Program of the Office of the Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Commissioner for the period 5 November 2025 to 27 January 2026 is attached as Appendix 1 for the consideration of the Committee.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

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

3. Over the last two and a half 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 other 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 permitted purposes.

Records of the Connolly Ryan Commission of Inquiry

4. 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.
5. 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.

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6. On 3 December 2025 I attended a meeting at Queensland State Archives to discuss the proposed Memorandum of Understanding concerning the transfer of the Connolly Ryan COI documents, and the associated logistics. I also wanted to satisfy myself, as the custodian, about the appropriateness of the transfer and future storage conditions. Present at the meeting were Mr Kunde from my office, Ms Louise Howard - State Archivist, Ms Katrin Hurlimann-Graham - Director Digital Archives and Collections Manager, and Ms Colleen Sippo - Manager Collections and Discovery.
 7. I am satisfied that the material will be kept in conditions where it will be preserved and subject to positively controlled security and access measures. There are over 650 boxes which need to be moved out of storage and itemised at our end. State Archives do not regard this as a 'large' transfer. They recommend obtaining a commercial courier which offers a secure service, and an escort by our office. Upon arrival, the boxes will be placed in physical quarantine and inventoried to ensure the contents match the manifest.
 8. There is a computer record of the index to the material within my office. It is in a format used by State Archives many years ago. The physical holdings have been checked against that index. State Archives have now provided a copy of its current template and Mr Kunde has begun the process of transferring our office's index of holdings to the new template.

OTHER MATTERS

Local Government

9. At the last meeting there was discussion about whether my office had a sense of whether enough training in anti-corruption was provided to local government members. It was not something that we had considered nor for which we capture data and we indicated that we would investigate the issue. We have started scoping this issue and - absent objection - request that there be a direction pursuant to s.314(2)(g) of the *Crime and Corruption Act*.
10. There is a related issue which is the Department of Home Affairs education campaign aimed at strengthening democratic institutions as part of national security strategy. In the context of local government, corrupt conduct would also capture malign foreign influence campaigns targeting local government. <https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/about-us/our-portfolios/national-security/countering-foreign-interference/overview/in-local-government> At my request, Home Affairs will brief the Inspectors' meeting to be held in Canberra later this year.
11. I note that the CCC recommended consideration being given to providing some basis of sanction for local government candidates in light of the Townsville City Council issues which occurred in 2025. It struck me that this underscored the central role of the media— the 'fourth estate' – in the democratic process, described by writers such as Jurgen Habermas. In this case by publicising and investigating the problematic representations of the former mayor's prior employment and qualifications.
12. The Welsh Assembly has struggled for several years trying to implement what seemed like a simple, admirable idea of sanctioning politicians who misled the electorate. Their scheme is still being developed and raises profound issues of principle. It is not expected to be applied until 2030 at the earliest. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c7v07je1119o>
<https://www.bangor.ac.uk/news/2025-02-24-wales-wants-to-punish-lying-politicians-how-would-it-work>

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Key Outputs achieved during the period 5 November 2025 to 27 January 2026.

13.

Function	Output
Committee referrals finalised	0
Statutory functions finalised	3
Notifications of improper conduct assessed	3
Advices to the Committee finalised	3
Own initiative investigations finalised	0
Committee referrals received	0
Statutory functions arising	2
Notifications of improper conduct received	3
Advices to the Committee requested	1
Own initiative investigations commenced	0
Committee referrals on hand	0
Statutory functions on hand	0
Notifications of improper conduct to be assessed	0
Advices to the Committee to be provided	0
Own initiative investigations current	0
Reports to the Committee	2
Public meetings with the Committee	1
Private meetings with the Committee	1
Other meetings (CCC/QPS etc)	3
Hearings (in hours)	0
Timeliness	
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

Audit and Report on Authorities for 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 conducted on 21 November 2025. It involved an inspection of the CCC's records of assumed identities for the period from 24 April to 21 November 2025. On 27 November 2025 a report on the results of the audit was provided to the CCC Chairperson. The CCC has fully complied with its responsibilities pursuant to s.315 of the PPRA and s.146ZR of the *Crime and Corruption Act*.

Inspection and Report on Surveillance Device Warrants Records

16. Section 362(1) of the PPRA requires that the Parliamentary Commissioner inspect the CCC's surveillance device warrant records to decide the extent of compliance with Chapter 13 of the PPRA by the CCC and law enforcement officers of the CCC.

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17. On 3 December 2025 notice of an inspection of the CCC's surveillance device warrant records was provided to the CCC Chairperson pursuant to s.362(2)(a) of the PPRA. I conducted an inspection of the CCC's surveillance device warrants records on 4 December 2025.
 18. Pursuant to s.363(1) of the PPRA, the Parliamentary Commissioner is required to make written reports at six-monthly intervals on the results of each inspection under s.362.

Intelligence Data Review

19. Section 320(1) of the *Crime and Corruption Act* requires the Parliamentary Commissioner to conduct an annual review of the intelligence data in the possession of the CCC and the Queensland Police Service (QPS). The review of intelligence data for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 was conducted between 14 and 31 October 2025 and involved inspections of the intelligence data held by the QPS State Intelligence Group and the CCC's intelligence holdings on its IRAS database.
20. Section 320(3) of the *Crime and Corruption Act* requires that the Parliamentary Commissioner prepare a written advice on the review containing the Parliamentary Commissioner's findings and recommendations. I provided the written advice to the Parliamentary Committee, the CCC Chairperson and the QPS Commissioner on 18 December 2025.
21. On 27 January 2026 I received correspondence from the Officer in Charge of the State Intelligence Group acknowledging and providing feedback on the review of intelligence data held by the QPS.

Question on Notice

22. During my public meeting with the Committee on 25 November 2025, the Member for Lockyer, Mr Jim McDonald MP, asked about the methodology and efficacy of the CCC's controlled operations, and if there were any trends. The question was taken on notice.
23. I provided a response to the Committee on 5 December 2025.

Section 329 Notifications

24. 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 three notifications pursuant to s.329 of the Act.
25. 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.
26. 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 three s.329 notifications received in this reporting period and notified the Committee and the CCC of my assessments.

Assessments under section 314(4)

27. Section 314(4) of the *Crime and Corruption Act* provides for the Parliamentary Commissioner's own initiative investigative function in relation to complaints made against, or concerns expressed about, the conduct or activities of the commission or a commission officer. This function only relates to conduct of a CCC officer that involves or may involve corrupt conduct.

28. Pursuant to s.314(5), the Parliamentary Commissioner may conduct a preliminary assessment to decide whether a matter involves corrupt conduct. Apart from matters notified pursuant to s.329, I received a complaint from another complainant in the relevant period.

CERTIFICATION

29. 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.

30. 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.



Dr Daniel Morgan
**Parliamentary Crime and
Corruption Commissioner**

Appendix 1

PARLIAMENTARY CRIME AND CORRUPTION COMMISSIONER

Progressive Work Program

PUBLIC

As at 27 January 2026

Meeting date: 17 February 2026

Inquiry or Function	Description	Anticipated or agreed completion date	Progress last reporting period	Anticipated progress next reporting period	Resources
Audit of Assumed Identities	Pursuant to s.146 <i>ZZ 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.	December 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspected registers of assumed identities, cancellations and variations. • Inspected authorities to acquire/use assumed identities, variations and cancellations. • Prepared report on audit of assumed identities. • Provided report to CCC Chair. 	Finalised. Report provided to CCC Chair 27 November 2025.	Parliamentary Commissioner Principal Legal Officer
Inspection and report on the inspection of the CCC's records of Surveillance Device Warrants	Pursuant to s.362 of the <i>PPRA</i> inspect the CCC's records to decide extent of compliance with chapter 13 of the <i>PPRA</i> and report to the Committee Chair.	December 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formally notified CCC Chair of inspection. • Inspected warrants registers for all required documents. • Checked warrants compliance with provisions of <i>PPRA</i>. • Inspected Use and Communication register. • Inspected destruction register. • Finalised report and provided to Committee. 	Finalised. Report provided to Committee.	Parliamentary Commissioner Principal Legal Officer
Intelligence Data Review	Pursuant to s.320(1) of the <i>Crime and Corruption Act</i> conduct an annual review of intelligence data in the possession of the CCC and the QPS.	October 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed advice on Intelligence Data Review and provided advice to Committee, CCC and QPS 	Finalised. Review completed 31 October 2024. Report provided to Committee, CCC and QPS on 18 December 2025.	Parliamentary Commissioner Principal Legal Officer

Inquiry or Function	Description	Anticipated or agreed completion date	Progress last reporting period	Anticipated progress next reporting period	Resources
<p>Receive and assess notifications of suspected improper conduct.</p> <p>Preliminary Assessment of complaint or concern</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>Pursuant to s.314(5) of the <i>Crime and Corruption Act</i> conduct preliminary assessment of complaint or concern about conduct of CCC.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received 3 new s.329 notifications. • Assessed notifications. • Advised Committee and CCC of assessment decisions for 3 notifications. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read material referred to by complainant. • Finalised s.314(5) preliminary assessment of complaint. • Advised complainant of assessment decision. • Notified Committee of assessment decision. 	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Parliamentary Commissioner</p> <p>Principal Legal Officer</p> <p>Parliamentary Commissioner</p> <p>Principal Legal Officer</p>