

**Michael HART MP**Member for **Burleigh**Shadow Minister for Housing and Public Works, Shadow Minister for Energy  
and Shadow Minister for Innovation and Digital Economy

28 January 2020

Mr Karl Holden - Committee Secretary  
Parliamentary Crime and Corruption CommitteeBY EMAIL: [pccc@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:pccc@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Mr Holden

**Re: Inquiry into the Crime and Corruption Commission's performance of its functions to assess and report on complaints about corrupt conduct**

I thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to this inquiry. I find your inquiry opportune as it comes at a time I was considering writing to your committee about my recent experiences with the Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC).

I note your committee will not consider individual complaints so I will keep my submission to making mostly general comments around areas of the investigation that concern me.

My concerns are as follows:

1. The timeframe that the CCC take to investigate allegations of corruption.  
In 2108, I made several speeches to the Queensland Parliament which were then self-referred to the CCC by former Member Robert Swarten.  
That referral took place between November 2018 and February 2019.  
I was contacted by the CCC on the 18<sup>th</sup> of February 2019 to respond to that referral.  
I supplied a response on 18th February 2019.  
I was notified on 17 October 2019 the case was closed.  
The investigation took 11 months and during that time I was unable to speak further in Parliament on this issue.
2. The lack of transparency in the CCC investigation process.  
During the process above, apart from the times I outlined, no communication came from the CCC as to progress of the investigation or when it might be completed. Eventually it was reported in the media that Mr Swarten declared he had been cleared by the CCC around the 4<sup>th</sup> September 2019. The CCC advised me of the same on 17<sup>th</sup> October after I pursued them for advice on the outcome of the investigation.

3. The lack of follow up from the CCC during the investigation.

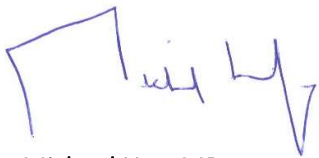
I was informed during a meeting with the CCC on the 1st March, they would call me back to explain the information I said I had, once they issued a directive for me to supply said information. I was never called back to clarify the information.

I supplied the CCC with a list of names and contact numbers of persons who provided the information which my speeches to the Parliament were based on.

In a letter sent to me by the CCC on the 17<sup>th</sup> October 2019, the CCC advised the investigation was closed and that their "inquiries included interviews of witnesses". I have since been contacted by a number of the people on the supplied list who tell me the CCC has not spoken to them at all.

I appreciate your consideration of my submission.

Yours sincerely



**Michael Hart MP**

State member for Burleigh

Shadow Minister for Housing and Public Works

Shadow Minister for Energy

Shadow Minister for Innovation and Digital Economy