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Our ref: C-ECTF-19/14989  
Your ref: qA22560

**Queensland Health**

Mr Karl Holden  
Committee Secretary  
Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Commission  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Email: [pccc@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:pccc@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Mr Holden

I refer to the letter dated 17 December 2019 from Mr Tim Nicholls MP, Chair of the Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Commission (PCCC), inviting submissions to inform the PCCC's inquiry into the Crime and Corruption Commission's (CCC) performance of its functions to assess and report on complaints about corrupt conduct. I understand the Honourable Steven Miles MP, Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services received the same correspondence. The Minister has asked that I respond to the PCCC on this occasion.

I wish to thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback to inform your inquiry. The Department of Health (the Department) recognises the important and independent role of the CCC in dealing with and preventing corruption in the Queensland public sector.

I understand the PCCC are examining a range of matters as part of this inquiry, including but not limited to the CCC's statutory framework for assessing complaints, the procedures adopted by the CCC to assess and investigate complaints and the public reporting of such matters.

The Department is satisfied with the current legislative framework relating to matters involving corrupt conduct and the directions issued to the Department by the CCC under section 40 of the *Crime and Corruption Act 2001*, that detail how and when the Department must notify the CCC of certain types of complaints.

The Department is unable to comment specifically on the procedures used by the CCC to assess complaints. However, the Department is interested in receiving timely and consistent assessment decisions from the CCC in relation to all corrupt conduct matters.

The majority of corrupt conduct matters relating to the Department are returned to the Department to deal with, subject to the CCC's monitoring role. I understand this is consistent with the devolution principle and allows the CCC to focus on more serious cases of corruption.

Given the CCC are involved in the more serious cases of corruption, the public reporting of these outcomes, or their use within case studies, is an important education and prevention

tool for all public sector agencies, and the Department continues to find value in the prevention resources made available by the CCC to public sector employees.

I can advise that the Department of Health has no additional comments to submit regarding the inquiry.

Should you require further information in relation to this matter, the Department of Health's contact is Ms Jess Byrne, Acting Director, Ethical Standards Unit, Office of the Director-General, on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely



Dr John Wakefield PSM

**Director-General**

06 / 02 / 2020