



Ref: QCS-02373-2020
Your Ref: qA19745

10 AUG 2020

Office of the
Commissioner

**Queensland
Corrective Services**

Mr Karl Holden
Committee Secretary
Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Committee
pccc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Holden

I refer to correspondence from Mr Tim Nicholls, Chair, Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Committee (the Committee) of 2 June 2020 inviting Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) to provide a submission regarding the five-year review of the Crime and Corruption Commission's (CCC) activities. I thank you for the opportunity to provide input to the Committee.

QCS supports the critical role of the CCC and its collaborative approach to reducing integrity and corruption risks across government. QCS is committed to providing ethical and transparent corrective services to Queensland. QCS values its working relationship with the CCC and its commitment to ensuring that the anti-corruption frameworks of public service agencies are equipped to prevent, detect and respond to corruption and corruption risks.

The opportunity to contribute to the CCC's Taskforce Flaxton and Operation Impala was welcomed by QCS, to assist in assessing existing practices, systems and controls and in shaping the formation of a mature, corruption resistant, top tier public safety department. I view QCS' engagement in the aforementioned investigations as a significant growth experience for the department and has positioned QCS well and supports the QCS strategic roadmap to deliver corrective services through safety, excellence, empowerment, respect and accountability.

It is understood the review plans to examine CCC's performance over the past five years with a focus on the CCC's responsibilities, functions and powers. I intend to incorporate my previous feedback regarding the CCC, which was provided to the Committee on 28 January 2020. Accordingly, I have enclosed the feedback to support this review. I take this opportunity to provide the following submission on the CCC areas, which are most relevant to QCS. I provide my consent to publish this submission.

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Investigative powers and hearing

QCS' engagement with the CCC has found the Commission's objectives align with its functions described under sections 33 and 34 of the *Crime and Corruption Act 2001* (the Act).

The CCC has been instrumental in enhancing standards of integrity and conduct for QCS, and ensuring that complaints involving corruption are dealt with appropriately and in accordance with the principles of cooperation, capacity building, devolution, and public interest.

The CCC's Taskforce Flaxton, an examination of corruption risks and corruption in Queensland prisons (2018), provided 33 recommendations to reform the QCS anti-corruption framework, strengthen and mature the department's organisational structure, enhance internal and external oversight of correctional centres, and build robust integrity and professional standards.

Furthermore, the CCC's Operation Impala, an examination of corruption and corruption risks in relation to the improper access to, and disclosure of, information, has provided a timely opportunity to enhance information privacy through system design, education and practice improvement. Aligned to the recommendations, QCS has developed annual online refresher training to educate staff on the management of confidential information, and supports such training, with face-to-face contact and assessment.

CCC's corruption prevention function

The CCC has also provided QCS independent consideration and reporting of risk, which enabled the department to enhance our fraud and corruption controls and informed our Strategic Internal Audit Plan for the financial years 2021 to 2023.

Additionally, the CCC has an overriding responsibility to promote public confidence in the way that QCS deals with corruption. The CCC provides support and monitors QCS systems and processes to manage and respond to complaints referred to the CCC, by either taking a lead role investigating, or in collaboration with QCS Professional Standards and Governance Command.

The CCC's role is one of assessing the appropriateness of systems and procedures adopted by QCS for dealing with complaints about corruption and providing advice and recommendations to QCS. QCS considers that the existing processes of the CCC are appropriate and effective. In particular, the effectiveness of guidance material, such as the Fraud and Corruption Best Practice Guide and Prevention in Focus is valuable in guiding our practice.

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If you require further information regarding this submission, please contact Superintendent Robert Wood, Chief of Staff, QCS, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I trust that this information is helpful to you.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Martin APM
Commissioner

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Ref: QCS-05253-2019
Your Ref: qA22560

28 JAN 2020

Office of the
Commissioner

**Queensland
Corrective Services**

Mr Karl Holden
Committee Secretary
Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Committee
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Dear Mr Holden

I refer to correspondence from Mr Tim Nicholls MP, Chair, Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Committee (the Committee) of 17 December 2019 seeking a submission from Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) to an inquiry into the Crime and Corruption Commission's (CCC) performance of its functions.

QCS is dedicated to becoming a forward-facing, top-tier, public safety agency, steadfastly committed to ethical conduct and building a mature, corruption resistant culture. QCS supports the important role of the CCC and its collaborative approach to reducing integrity and corruption risks across government. QCS is committed to continuing to work closely with the CCC to prevent, detect and respond to corruption and corruption risks, and above all else, keep communities safe.

QCS expects the highest integrity from every officer across the agency, and recognises the Queensland community rightfully expects every public servant to discharge their duties ethically and professionally. The administration of correctional services and public safety comes with its own unique challenges and demands, requiring a rigorous approach to professional standards.

To support professional standards in QCS, the agency is supportive of the CCC's important role in investigating, responding to and reducing integrity and corruption risks across government. QCS values its working relationship with the CCC and will continue to work closely with the CCC to prevent, detect and respond to corruption and corruption risks within the department.

I am pleased to provide the following submissions in accordance with the terms of reference to assist the Committee's consideration. I provide my consent to publish the submission.

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Statutory Framework

QCS notes the Committee's examination pursuant to sections 33 to 51 and 64 of the *Crime and Corruption Act 2001* (the Act). The CCC's objectives consistently align with its functions described under sections 33 and 34 of the Act.

In particular, the CCC has been instrumental in raising standards of integrity and conduct for QCS, and ensuring complaints involving corruption are dealt with appropriately and in accordance with the principles of cooperation, capacity building, devolution, and public interest. While no specific submissions are considered necessary on the matter of the statutory framework, QCS will continue to work effectively and productively with the CCC as the need arises.

Procedures

QCS commends the recent organisational restructure of the CCC and supports the improvements that are being made to CCC procedures. In particular, following Taskforce Flaxton, to build greater capability and corruption resistance, the CCC commenced meeting regularly with key QCS Ethical Standards Managers, improving complaint handling and investigations, resolving issues as they arise, and the timeliness of matters. This collaborative relationship has assisted QCS to improve its processes and provide ongoing support to perform its functions.

Outcomes and reporting

The CCC's public reporting of assessment determinations is integral to upholding the principles of transparency, accountability, ethics, professionalism and leadership; this only serves to enhance public confidence. The Professional Standards and Governance Command in QCS is working closely with the CCC, the Queensland Police Service and the Public Service Commission to manage, report, investigate and proactively address a range of conduct, misconduct and corrupt or criminal conduct matters.

The ethical framework of QCS has been significantly strengthened by the implementation of reforms recommended by Taskforce Flaxton and those more broadly developed through proactive engagement with the CCC.

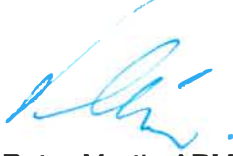
The cooperative and collaborative relationship between the CCC and QCS continues to support QCS to build a best practice corruption prevention and detection system. Achieving these priorities will provide a solid base for building a mature and corruption-resistant culture, which is essential for QCS continuing to transform into a top-tier public safety agency.

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If you require further information regarding this submission, please contact Mr James Koulouris, Deputy Commissioner, Organisational Capability, QCS, on telephone 07 3565 7421 or email james.koulouris@corrections.qld.gov.au.

I trust that this information is helpful to you.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Martin APM
Commissioner