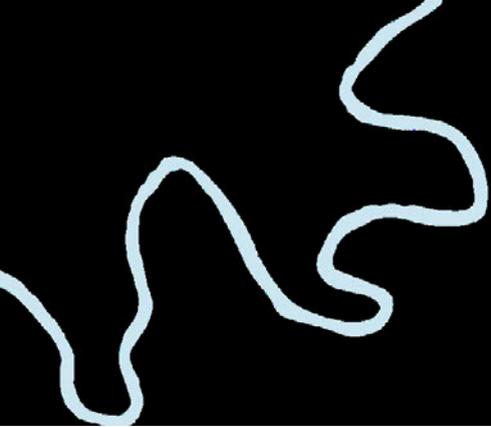


Review of the Crime and Corruption Commission's activities

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Submitted by: Michael Berkman MP, Member for Maiwar
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Submitter Comments:



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MEMBER FOR MAIWAR ▲

3 October 2025

Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Committee
By email: pccc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Review of the Crime and Corruption Commission's Activities

I am pleased to make this submission regarding the performance and functions of the Crime and Corruption Commission ('CCC'). Given the extensive scope of the review, this is not intended to be an exhaustive outline of everything I believe the Committee should consider. Instead, I wish to highlight some particularly pertinent matters that I hope will be prioritised as part of the review.

Independent Police Integrity Unit

In 2022, the *A Call for Change* report following the Commission of Inquiry into Queensland Police Service Responses to Domestic and Family Violence recommended that "within 18 months, the Queensland Government establish the Police Integrity Unit as an independent and separate unit of the Crime and Corruption Commission to deal with all complaints in relation to police". Almost three years later, this recommendation has still not yet been implemented.

I am very concerned by [reports](#) that the CCC has considered a model for a police integrity unit where police would continue to deal with some complaints against police. This is not in keeping with the Commission's recommendation, and fails to properly address the core conflict of interest (whether actual or perceived) that arises when the Queensland Police Service investigates its own members or itself. Given police powers are consistently being expanded by successive governments, while [community trust and confidence in the integrity and professionalism of police is declining](#), the CCC should prioritise the delivery of a genuinely independent police integrity unit, where civilians investigate all complaints against police.

Government Owned Corporations

Under section 20 of the *Crime and Corruption Act 2001* ('the Act'), Government Owned Corporations ('GOC's) are not considered a Unit of Public Administration ('UPA'), which means the CCC cannot deal with complaints about suspected corruption in GOCs unless received directly from the CEO of the GOC or the chief executive of the responsible department. This seems a patently absurd approach to potential corruption in GOCs, which again creates a significant potential conflict of interest.

Whistleblowers at GOCs, including the Gladstone Ports Corporation and Stanwell, have raised concerns that their complaints are not dealt with seriously due to this gap in the CCC's jurisdiction. I urge the Committee to review this loophole and to recommend legislative reforms to bring suspected corruption in GOCs under the jurisdiction of the CCC, as with other UPAs.

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Definition of "corrupt conduct"

Section 15 of the Act sets out the definition of corrupt conduct, which dictates the threshold for investigation by the CCC. Under the Act, for the CCC to investigate suspected corruption, the conduct must be, if proved:

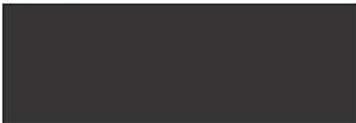
- (a) a criminal offence; or
- (b) a disciplinary breach providing reasonable grounds for terminating the person's services, if the person is or were the holder of an appointment

This creates an unreasonably high threshold for investigation, and excludes conduct that would ordinarily be considered corrupt by the general public.

I suggest that the Committee consider and recommend reforms to expand the definition so that conduct such as bribery, breach of trust, fraud and similar matters more broadly are covered. This could take a similar approach to the equivalent anti-corruption legislation in NSW, the *Independent Commission Against Corruption Act 1988* (ICAC Act). The ICAC Act includes a broader description of the general nature of corrupt conduct, and provides more guidance on additional matters which could be considered corrupt conduct at section 8(2).

I would be happy to discuss this submission further with the Committee if it would assist. Please don't hesitate to contact my office on 07 3737 4100.

Kind regards,



Michael Berkman MP