

Review of the Crime and Corruption Commission's activities

Submission No: 21
Submitted by: Office of the Information Commissioner
Publication: Making the submission and your name public
Attachments:
Submitter Comments:

3 October 2025

Mark Furner MP
Chair
Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Committee
Queensland Parliament

By email: pccc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Chair,

Review of the Crime and Corruption Commission's Activities

The Office of the Information Commissioner (**OIC**) welcomes the opportunity to make a submission to the Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Committee's five-yearly review of the Crime and Corruption Committee (**CCC**).

OIC notes the CCC's jurisdiction, responsibilities, functions and powers will be considered as part of the review, as well as its performance over the last five years.

About the OIC

OIC is an independent statutory body that reports to the Queensland Parliament. The Information Commissioner is an Officer of Parliament and is charged with functions under the *Right to Information Act 2009* (**RTI Act**) and the *Information Privacy Act 2009* (**IP Act**).

Along with the CCC, OIC forms part of Queensland's integrity framework. The Information Commissioner, as the independent regulator of information access and information privacy rights in Queensland, has a broad range of investigative, monitoring, reporting, audit, review and support functions. In addition, the Information Commissioner is responsible for leading the improvement of public sector privacy and access to information administration under the IP Act and RTI Act respectively.¹

The RTI Act promotes openness, accountability and transparency by facilitating greater access to government-held information. It supports the release of government-held information as a matter of course with formal applications for government-held information to be used as a last resort.

The IP Act provides safeguards for the handling of personal information in the public sector environment. It sets out the Queensland Privacy Principles (**QPPs**) which govern the collection, management, use and disclosure of personal information by Queensland public sector agencies, and also provides for the Mandatory Notification of Data Breach scheme.

¹ See Information Commissioner's functions outlined in *Right to Information Act 2009* and *Information Privacy Act 2009*; section 135(1)(b) of *Information Privacy Act 2009*.

Information sharing and possible referral of complaints

OIC submits there is scope for the OIC and CCC to co-ordinate regulatory activities in relation to areas of mutual concern, such as unauthorised access to and misuse of government information.²

At present, there are limited formal mechanisms for referral from the CCC to OIC.³

The CCC may give information to any entity it considers appropriate, pursuant to section 60(2) of the *Crime and Corruption Act 2001*. The CCC, in an earlier submission to the Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Committee, described section 60 as a 'facilitative provision' and the 'general means by which information in the CCC's possession is released'. The submission explains that unexpected information may be uncovered during an investigation which warrants further investigation or action by an appropriate body.⁴

As a starting point, it is suggested the CCC could utilise this provision as an avenue to provide information to the OIC relevant to its investigative, monitoring, reporting, audit and review functions, where appropriate. OIC submits this mechanism for information sharing would need to be incorporated into CCC's processes and procedures (if it is not already) to ensure its availability as an option to be considered by CCC officers.

OIC submits that information sharing, through formal or informal means, will not only support evidence-based decision-making but lead to greater public confidence in Queensland's integrity framework.

There are also opportunities for more comprehensive reform. An analysis of anti-corruption commissions' legislative powers in other jurisdictions may provide valuable insights into the functions and referral mechanisms where the CCC receives a complaint that intersects with the Information Commissioner's statutory functions. For example, in Victoria, the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission has the power to refer public interest complaints to the Office of the Victorian Information Commissioner to investigate.

I trust this information will assist the Committee with its review and thank you for the opportunity to make this submission. Should you require further information, please contact my Office at [REDACTED] or on 07 3234 7373.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Joanne Kummrow
Information Commissioner

² See Queensland Privacy Principle 11.1 of IP Act; CCC Annual reports (including 2024-25) refer to investigations involving misuse of information.

³ CCC may refer a privacy complaint it receives to the Information Commissioner (section 165(2)(e) of IP Act).

⁴ CCC submission to the Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Committee's [Inquiry into the CCC's performance of its function to assess and report on complaints about corrupt conduct](#) (2020) at p 22.