



Speech By Michael Crandon

MEMBER FOR COOMERA

PARLIAMENTARY CRIME AND MISCONDUCT COMMITTEE: REPORT, MOTION TO TAKE NOTE

Mr CRANDON (Coomera—LNP) (11.58 am): Once again I rise to support the chair of the committee in speaking on Report No. 93, Report on the Crime and Misconduct Commission's handling of suspected improper conduct. I will focus on one area of the report, which is what I regard as the 'excuses' section—that is, the excuses for the delays in the proper investigation of these matters. I think it can be fairly said that, after such extended delays following a period when the PCMC chair has written to the CMC looking for updates and further information, to be ignored is absolutely amazing. I point out that the acting chair, Dr Ken Levy, simply passed on the comments from the investigator in his letter of 15 August, in response to a letter from us asking for an overview of where he thinks things went wrong. In the final paragraph under the heading 'Other duties' Dr Levy states—

During the extended investigation period in question, the investigator states that there were a range of competing priorities regarding misconduct investigations that unavoidably required his attention.

That would suggest that without this particular individual they could not go on with any investigations. Of course, that is an absurd suggestion. In the last sentence of that paragraph Dr Levy makes the statement—

The CMC protocol dictates that internal investigations are classified as highly protected and it removed scope for him—

He is referring to the comments of the investigator—

to delegate or request assistance from his peers.

Given that the CMC was here a long time before he came along and I am sure the CMC will be here for a long time after he departs this mortal coil, I would suggest that perhaps it would have been appropriate for this particular investigator to prioritise this internal matter further up the list. In doing so perhaps he could have put these other competing priorities and duties to his peers for them to take care of.

It is all very well for people to look for excuses to try to overcome their inadequacies, I would suggest. I note with interest—and this might be of interest to the member for Gladstone—that the British politician William Gladstone said, 'Justice delayed is justice denied.' What he is referring to there is injustice more so than anything else.