

Question on Notice
No. 105
Asked on 14 February 2019

MR M HART ASKED MINISTER FOR POLICE AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES (HON M RYAN)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise the outcome of the Queensland Police Service investigations into the allegations of fraud, involving false payment declarations made by persons related to the JM Kelly Group of Companies, that were referred to then Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services by the Minister for Housing and Public Works on 17 January 2017?

ANSWER:

I am advised that the Queensland Police Service (QPS) is currently investigating this matter.

I am also advised by QPS that this matter was also referred to the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) for consideration under Commonwealth legislation.

The QPS takes all allegations of fraud seriously and where sufficient evidence exists will prosecute offenders accordingly.

The Palaszczuk Government recently announced a Special Joint Taskforce to investigate allegations of white collar crime in the Queensland building industry.

The taskforce will conduct a forensic examination of the circumstances surrounding the collapse of a number of major Queensland construction companies and re-test historical claims of fraud.

The special taskforce will be headed by retired Supreme Court Judge Justice John Byrne who was a judge for 28 years and Judge Administrator of the Supreme Court with particular expertise in both commercial and criminal law.

Justice Byrne will be joined by Queensland Police Service detectives plus investigators from the Queensland Building and Construction Commission and prosecutors from the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions.