

2021 / 2022

Twenty-second
Annual Report

Controlled Operations Committee

Delivered Pursuant to the Police Powers and Responsibilities Act

Responsibilities and Functions

Chapter 11 of the *Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000* deals with Controlled Operations. Pursuant to Section 235 of the Act, the Committee has the following functions: -

- (a) To consider, and make recommendations about, applications referred to the Committee by a chief executive officer for –
 - (i) an authority to conduct a controlled operation; or
 - (ii) variation of an authority for a controlled operation.
- (b) Any other function conferred on it under this or another Act.

Members of the Committee

The members of the committee are: -

- (i) Retired Judge of the Supreme Court of Queensland, the Honourable Roslyn Atkinson AO (appointed Independent Member and Chairperson 16 November 2021);
- (ii) The Chairperson, Crime and Corruption Commission being Mr Alan MacSporran up to 28 January 2022 followed by Mr Bruce Barbour appointed Acting Chairperson 28 January 2022;
- (iii) The position of Detective Chief Superintendent, Crime and Intelligence Command, Queensland Police Service. Officers relieving in this position during the reporting period are listed below.

Due to current members taking leave or a change of position, other persons have participated in these meetings as necessary.

Other persons who have sat on the Committee during the reporting period have been: -

- (i) Retired District Court Judge Manus Boyce, Acting Independent Member and Acting Chairperson;
- (ii) Ms Sharon Loder, Acting Chairperson, Crime and Corruption Commission;
- (iii) Detective Superintendent Denzil Clark, Acting Detective Chief Superintendent, Queensland Police Service;
- (iv) Detective Superintendent Colin Briggs, Acting Detective Chief Superintendent, Queensland Police Service;
- (v) Detective Superintendent Michael O'Dowd, Acting Detective Chief Superintendent, Queensland Police Service.



Statistical Information

Queensland Police Service

The table below sets out the main statistics for the period 01 July 2021 to 30 June 2022.

Applications Approved		
New Operations	Variations	Urgent
8	5	0

There was one variation application refused during the reporting period. A new application was later made and authorised. There was one further application referred to the committee but withdrawn at the Controlled Operation Committee meeting due to a change in circumstances.

Applications may be varied for four reasons only:

- to extend the period of validity of the authority; or
- to authorise additional or alternative persons to engage in controlled conduct for the purposes of the operation; or
- to authorise participants in the operation to engage in additional or alternative controlled conduct; or
- to identify additional suspects.

The reasons for the variation of approvals in the reporting period are set out in the table below. Note that approval may be given to vary more than one of the above criteria under a single application.

Reasons for Variation Authorisations			
Extend the period of validity	additional/alternative persons	additional/alternative conduct	Identify additional suspects
3	1	0	1

The Committee is not aware of any legal challenges to approvals being brought during the reporting period.

Effectiveness of Applications

5 approved Controlled Operations were finalised during the reporting period. As a result of those closures, 38 persons were arrested and a total of 272 charges were laid. The operational expenditure amounted to \$168,846.08 excluding allowances and staff overtime.

A number of items including vehicles, computers, mobile phones and cash amounting to a total value of \$62,800 were restrained at the closure of these operations. The items and values restrained are listed in the table below.

Item Restrained	Approximate Value
Vehicles	\$48,000
Cash	\$11,800
Computers	\$2,000
Mobile phones	\$1,000



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The following amounts and values of illicit goods were seized or purchased by police during the course of those operations.

<i>Drugs</i>	<i>Amount Seized</i>	<i>Approximate Street Value</i>
Methylamphetamine	358.53 grams	\$121,380
Cocaine	77.1 grams	\$18,500
Cannabis	25 seeds 8 plants Oil (20 Caps/Vials) 100mls 10 grams 29.20 ounces 1.057 kg	\$35,222.50
Firearms	1	\$3,000
3,4-Methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA)	31.24 grams	\$2,600
Fentanyl	0.34 mls	\$300
Lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD)	8 tablets	\$280
Miscellaneous drug utensils	-	\$50
	Total	\$181,332.50

Inspection of Records

Pursuant to section 272 of the Act, I conducted an inspection of the controlled operations records maintained by the Queensland Police Service on 6 October 2022. There were no issues identified during the inspection.

Chief Executive Officer's Report

Pursuant to section 268 of the Act, I received two reports, one from Acting Assistant Commissioner Roger Lowe dated 29 November 2021 and a second report from Acting Assistant Commissioner Michael O'Dowd dated 12 May 2022. The reports outlined the details of controlled operations for the period of 1 April 2021 to 30 September 2021 and 1 October 2021 to 31 March 2022. I found these reports to be comprehensive in the details of the authorities which had been approved during this period and details of the effectiveness of the conduct of the controlled operations.



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