

STATE GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE CORRUPTION AND CRIME COMMISSION

IMPROVING THE WORKING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE CORRUPTION AND CRIME COMMISSION AND WESTERN AUSTRALIA POLICE – REPORT NO. 18 (MARCH 2015)

Recommendation		Response
1	<i>The Corruption and Crime Commission (CCC) should enter into dialogue with similar interstate oversight agencies to ascertain the viability of entering into an agreement to second their staff when an internal investigation of CCC staff is required.</i>	CCC Commissioner McKechnie QC, attended a meeting, in Sydney in early May 2015, of the Australian Anti-Corruption Commissions Forum for agency heads, where such an agreement was discussed.
2	<i>An amended Memorandum of Understanding between WA Police (WAPOL) and the CCC should be finalised by 30 June 2015.</i>	The Commissioner of Police has met with the Commissioner of the CCC on several occasions since the commencement of his tenure in late April 2015 and a refreshed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between WAPOL and the CCC is in the process of being finalised.
3	<i>The Attorney General re-consider recommendation 4 in the Joint Standing Committee’s Report No. 2, as supported by Ms Gail Archer SC, WAPOL and the CCC “That the CCC Act should be amended to make it clear that the CCC may include findings of fact in its reports”, as is the case in interstate and international jurisdictions.</i>	No action is proposed to be taken in relation to this recommendation as there is nothing in the Report to make the State Government reconsider its previous position in relation to this issue.
4	<i>The Attorney General should expedite an amendment to the Corruption and Crime Commission Act 2003 to amend the definition of ‘organised crime’.</i>	The matter is still under consideration by the State Government.
5	<i>The CCC and WAPOL amend their Memorandum of Understanding to include an improved understanding of the use of section 42 notices.</i>	The Commissioner of Police has met with the Commissioner of the CCC on several occasions since the commencement of his tenure in early April 2015 and a refreshed MOU between WAPOL and the CCC is in the process of being finalised. It is intended that the use of section 42 notices will be a provision of that MOU.

6	<p><i>The Commissioner of the CCC and the WA Police Commissioner should ensure that future meetings of the Joint Agency Steering Committee are held at least quarterly and the minutes of the meetings are rapidly produced and distributed to members of the Committee.</i></p>	<p>The Commissioner of Police and the CCC Commissioner intend to meet on a quarterly basis, that is the Quarterly Meeting of Commissioners (QMC), with the first such meeting having occurred in early May 2015, to be followed by meetings in August and November.</p>
7	<p><i>The Commissioner of the CCC and the WA Police Commissioner should institute a schedule of formal meetings to build their relationship and ensure that tensions between the two agencies do not affect the effectiveness of their working together to combat corruption and crime in Western Australia.</i></p>	<p>In addition to the scheduled QMC meetings, the Commissioner of Police and the CCC Commissioner will meet, or contact one another, as required. In effect the Joint Agency Steering Group will cease to meet, being replaced by the Senior Officers Coordination Group (SOCG) and the QMC, which is in accordance with provisions of the revised MOU.</p> <p>The SOCG creates a forum for senior officers to facilitate the early identification, discussion and resolution of matters of corporate and operational significance.</p> <p>The scheduling of these meetings, and the timeframes connected with the production and distribution of meeting minutes, will be clarified and addressed within the revised MOU between WAPOL and the CCC.</p>