

CORRUPTION AND CRIME COMMISSION - REPORT ON SMITHS BEACH DEVELOPMENT

560. Mr P.D. OMODEI to the Premier:

I refer the Premier to comments in the Corruption and Crime Commission's report on the Smiths Beach development that -

During the compilation of this report there has been considerable debate about the power of the Commission to make comments on allegations of misconduct by non-public officers. Therefore, in order to avoid further delaying the tabling of this report, comment on non-public officers, particularly Messrs Burke and Grill, has been limited to reporting the facts concerning their actions as revealed by the Commission's investigations.

- (1) Does the Premier concede that deficiencies in the powers of the Corruption and Crime Commission have effectively gagged it from making comment on non-public officers such as Brian Burke and Julian Grill?
- (2) Will the Premier agree to provide bipartisan support for amendments to the Corruption and Crime Commission Act to extend the category of persons capable of being investigated for misconduct to non-public officers, as already contained in Queensland's Crime and Misconduct Act and the New South Wales Independent Commission Against Corruption Act?

Mr A.J. CARPENTER replied:

- (1)-(2) In relation to the second point, we will consider any proposition to improve the efficacy and the work of the Corruption and Crime Commission, if the member has a detailed proposition. If the member has a proposition and wishes to discuss it with the Attorney General, I am sure he would be more than happy to discuss any proposition or proposal. Until the member has one, we will leave it at that.

In relation to the first question, yes, there are those limitations, which the CCC has recognised. However, it is blatantly obvious to everybody that the activities of Brian Burke and Julian Grill have been exposed, and people can make their own judgements. I have made mine. I have taken action - the sort of action that the Leader of the Opposition has been unable to replicate in the matters over which he has some sort of control. The CCC, for all the pain that it may have caused some individuals, has done us a major service. It has revealed the activities of Brian Burke and Julian Grill and to the best -

Mr C.J. Barnett: Nobody is smiling on that side of the house.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr A.J. CARPENTER: There are more reports to come and to the best of my abilities I have enacted changes that will see those activities cease.