Extract from Hansard

[COUNCIL — Thursday, 12 November 2020] p7845d-7846a Hon James Chown

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE CORRUPTION AND CRIME COMMISSION

Sixteenth Report — "Annual Report 2019–2020" — Tabling

HON JIM CHOWN (Agricultural) [10.56 am]: I am directed to present the sixteenth report of the Joint Standing Committee on the Corruption and Crime Commission, titled "Annual Report 2019–2020".

[See paper <u>4612</u>.]

Hon JIM CHOWN: During the 2019–20 reporting period, the committee continued its oversight of the work of the Corruption and Crime Commission and the Parliamentary Inspector of the Corruption and Crime Commission. It also finalised one inquiry and substantially progressed another. On 14 May 2020, the committee tabled a report on its inquiry into corruption risk in public procurement. This report to the Parliament provided recommendations to enhance corruption prevention and detection practices within the Western Australian public sector. The report's observations and recommendations, although primarily focused on matters of public procurement, also extended to wider issues such as governance and organisational culture within the public sector. This report concluded two and a half years of wideranging and complex investigations, which coincided with the discovery of some of the most shocking cases of corruption in public sector procurement in this state.

During this reporting period, the committee also progressed an inquiry into the CCC's oversight of investigations into excessive use of force by police officers. This inquiry was instigated as a result of concerns held by the committee about the way the CCC was using its powers and discretion to oversight complaints of excessive use of force by members of the Western Australia Police Force. The committee aimed to determine whether the CCC was providing consistent, accountable and effective oversight of the WA Police Force. Although the committee had initially planned to table a report in June 2020, due to a heavy workload and restrictions imposed by the developing situation around COVID-19, it was resolved that a report be tabled in the spring sitting of Parliament. That report was tabled on 24 September 2020.

Other matters considered by the committee during the reporting period include the reappointment of the Corruption and Crime Commissioner and the need for legislative review of the Corruption, Crime and Misconduct Act 2003. In the final section of this annual report, the committee outlines several matters that were ongoing at the end of the reporting period and that may be of interest to the next joint standing committee in the forty-first Parliament.

I commend the report to the house.