



Your reference: A671435
Our reference: 00641/2018

21 March 2018

Mr P A Katsambanis MLA
Chairman
c/- A/Principal Research Officer
Community Development and Justice Standing Committee
Legislative Assembly
Parliament House
4 Harvest Terrace
WEST PERTH WA 6005

Dear Chairman

Submission to the Inquiry into the protection of crowded places in Western Australia from terrorist acts

Thank you for your letter dated 15 February 2018 inviting the Corruption and Crime Commission to make a submission to the Community Development and Justice Standing Committee's inquiry.

The inquiry's terms of reference identify that the WA Police Force, state government departments, agencies and local governments all have roles in the development and implementation of strategies for protecting crowded places in Western Australia from terrorist acts.

The Commission has a significant role in ensuring accountability by public officers with these responsibilities where there is a risk of corruption, serious misconduct or police misconduct. Under the *Corruption, Crime and Misconduct Act 2003* (CCM Act), the Commission has jurisdiction to investigate and respond to any allegations of serious misconduct or police misconduct. The Commission also oversees the WA Police Force's use of covert powers under the *Criminal Investigation (Covert Powers) Act 2012*.

Public authorities are obliged to notify the Commission as soon as reasonably practicable of any matter which concerns serious misconduct. The Commissioner of Police must also notify the Commission of matters concerning reviewable police action.

The Commission's functions under the CCM Act provide a measure of accountability over whether those bodies identified fulfil their obligations in accordance with their lawful functions.

I do not comment on other matters raised by your inquiry as they do not relate to Commission functions.

Yours sincerely

John McKechnie, QC
Commissioner