

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE CORRUPTION AND CRIME COMMISSION



Your ref: Petition No. 60
Our ref: A719443

12 October 2018

Hon Matthew Swinbourn MLC
Chair
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs
Legislative Council of Western Australia
By email: env@parliament.wa.gov.au

Dear Chair

Petition No. 060 – Accountability of police and corruption oversight agencies

Thank you for your letter of 19 September 2018 enclosing Petition No. 60.

The petition encompasses some of the concerns also held by the Joint Standing Committee on the Corruption and Crime Commission. One of these is that the Corruption and Crime Commission only independently investigate a very small percentage of complaints against WA Police.

The majority of allegations of police misconduct are referred back to WA Police to investigate, and many of these are devolved to the district or division where the officer subject to the complaint works. This was discussed at a recent public hearing held by the Committee with the WA Police Commissioner. I enclose a copy of the transcript for your information.

The Committee is aware that some other jurisdictions have independent oversight agencies responsible for investigating allegations of police misconduct. The establishment of a civilian oversight agency that is independent from police could be considered as part of an overall review of the *Corruption, Crime and Misconduct Act 2003*. The Committee notes that any such review would be the responsibility of the Attorney General.

Thank you for taking the time to solicit the Committee's view on this important matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M.M. Quirk'.

**MS M.M. QUIRK, MLA
CHAIR**

Encl.

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