



Our Ref: 63-07402
Your Ref: Petition No 60

Hon Matthew Swinbourn MLC
Chair
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs
Parliament House
4 Harvest Terrace
WEST PERTH WA 6005

Dear Mr Swinbourn

Thank you for your letter regarding Petition No 60 concerning accountability of police and corruption oversight agencies and tabled by Hon Alison Xamon MLC. Please accept my apology for the delay in responding.

Advice was sought from the Western Australia Police Force and is detailed below:

The Western Australia Police Force take the matter of possible misconduct by police officers extremely seriously. These matters are not trivialised and processes are in place to negate bias and conflicts of interest in the related managerial and criminal investigations. The WA Police Force maintains a strong sense of duty and integrity with respect to the processes surrounding internal investigations.

The notion that the WA Police Force investigating police officers is somehow to a lesser or bias standard is fundamentally incorrect. This assertion is contrary to established processes which are designed to maintain the integrity and independence of internal investigations within the WA Police Force, at Professional Standards Command, the Corruption and Crime Commission (CCC) and the Parliamentary Inspector's Office.

Given the increasingly complex nature of police work and high demands placed upon police officers, complaint levels remain relatively low. However, the WA Police Force continue to improve training, supervision, internal investigation methods and quality assurance systems.

It should be noted, the CCC have a mandate for training and education and other functions, as outlined in the *Corruption, Crime and Misconduct Act 2003* and provide the WA Police Force with feedback through their published reports. The WA Police Force consider all feedback and amend practices and procedures, as applicable.

The Committee is welcome to contact the WA Police Force Professional Standards Command, on (08) 9223 1083, to be more comprehensively briefed on the complaints and related governance process if further advice is required.

Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment on this matter and I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



**HON. MICHELLE ROBERTS MLA
MINISTER FOR POLICE; ROAD SAFETY**

23 AUG 2018