



Attorney-General and Minister for Justice  
Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of  
Domestic and Family Violence

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16 DEC 2022

Mr Neil Laurie  
The Clerk of the Parliament  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie *Neil*

I refer to e-Petition 3827-22 tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 29 November 2022 titled, 'Apology and Compensation to Logan Councillors'.

On 2 December 2021, the Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Committee (PCCC) Report No. 108, Inquiry into the Crime and Corruption Commission's Investigation of former councillors of Logan City Council; and related matters (LCC Inquiry Report) was tabled in the Legislative Assembly.

On 31 January 2022, the Queensland Government tabled its response to the LCC Inquiry Report supporting all recommendations directed to the Government. As part of that response, the Premier and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games announced the establishment of a Commission of Inquiry into aspects of the Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC) in response to recommendations 3 and 6 in the LCC Inquiry Report.

On 7 February 2022, the Commission of Inquiry relating to the Crime and Corruption Commission (COI) commenced with the Honourable Tony Fitzgerald AC KC as Chairperson and the Honourable Alan Wilson KC as Commissioner.

On 9 August 2022, the COI delivered its report to the Queensland Government.

The COI concluded that the CCC continues to play a central role in Queensland's integrity landscape and remains fundamental to combating major crime and corruption in Queensland. However, it noted the success of an organisation like the CCC inherently involves public approval, respect and, critically, trust. Queenslanders must be confident that their concerns about crime and corruption can be brought to an institution that will respond effectively and appropriately.

The report made 32 recommendations including:

- introducing checks and balances in charging practices including requiring the CCC to seek advice from the Director of Public Prosecutions before laying charges arising from corruption investigations to ensure any criminal charges are appropriate;
- creating a Corruption Strategy and Prevention Unit within the CCC;
- increased civilianisation of the Corruption Division; and
- improved induction and training.

During the COI, issues were raised which did not fall within the Terms of Reference, a number of which the COI considered might merit consideration by the Queensland Government. Those matters, which are outlined in Appendix I of the report, include witness welfare; with the COI noting the need to better manage witness welfare, in particular the impacts of reputational harm, as part of the corruption investigation process.

The Government has supported in-principle all recommendations made by the COI and is committed to implementing those recommendations directed to the Government. The Government also noted the CCC's commitment to immediately start implementing the recommendations within its remit.

On 11 November 2022, the CCC published its first quarterly report on implementation and delivery of the COI recommendations. The CCC's progress report notes the recommendations provide a five-year blueprint for the reform of the CCC and that the CCC has already implemented some actions where it had sole responsibility but many recommendations require more detailed planning, coordination with key stakeholders and additional resources. I thank the petitioners for bringing their concerns to the attention of the House.

Yours sincerely



**Shannon Fentiman MP**

Attorney-General and Minister for Justice

Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence

Member for Waterford