



Department of the
Premier and Cabinet

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30 JUN 2016

Mr Alan MacSporran QC
Chairperson
Crime and Corruption Commission
GPO Box 3123
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Mr MacSporran

Thank you for your letter of 1 June 2016 concerning the Crime and Corruption Commission's call for submissions regarding publicising allegations of corrupt conduct. I am responding on behalf of all Queensland Government departments.

Your discussion paper highlights the complex tension between ensuring allegations of corrupt conduct are kept confidential, the right to freedom of speech within current legal constraints and the need for open and accountable government.

While transparency and accountability are at the heart of good governance, and promotion of informed open discussion and debate of public affairs is unquestionably valuable to the principles underpinning the Westminster system of parliamentary democracy, those same principles also provide for necessary safeguards against the misuse, abuse and unwarranted disclosure of government-held information.

Government departments are required to deal with complaints of alleged corrupt conduct. In this respect, Queensland Government agencies support the investigation of initiatives that minimise vexatious publication of complaints to obtain personal or political advantage, and aim to ensure any investigation of allegations of corrupt conduct are not compromised by any publication of the allegations.

I speak on behalf of all departments across the Queensland Government in commending the initiative by the Crime and Corruption Commission to examine the issues further with a view to identifying a workable solution. The Queensland Government looks forward to considering the findings of your investigation in more detail when your investigation is finalised.

Yours sincerely

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Dave Stewart
Director-General

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