

TASKFORCE FLAXTON

An examination of corruption risks and corruption in Queensland prisons

In March 2018, the Crime and Corruption Commission commenced Taskforce Flaxton to examine:

WHAT WE DID



PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 14–30 May, 28–29 August and 19 November 2018
- 34 witnesses gave evidence



SUBMISSIONS

- 33 submissions received (22 published on the CCC website)



SURVEY OF PRISON STAFF AND PRISONERS

- Voluntary, anonymous survey administered in 14 prisons
- 3,108 prisoners (35% response rate) and 656 staff (18% response rate)



OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- CCC complaints data and investigative outcomes
- Data, policies and reports from Queensland Corrective Services (QCS), Queensland Police Service, the Department of Justice and Attorney-General and Queensland Health
- Relevant literature and reports

- 1** **corruption and corruption risks** in Queensland corrective services facilities, (including 14 prisons (two managed under private contracts) and work camps)
- 2** features of the **legislative, policy and operational environment** that may enable corrupt conduct to occur or are vulnerable to corrupt conduct
- 3** **reforms** to better prevent, detect and deal with corrupt conduct within Queensland corrective services facilities

WHAT WE FOUND



Unique features creating corruption risks:

- prison overcrowding
- complexity and diversity of the Queensland prisoner
- closed nature of prisons
- relationships between staff and prisoners
- privately-operated prisons



Manifestations of corruption risks:

- failure to report corruption
- inappropriate relationships
- excessive use of force
- misuse of authority
- introduction of contraband
- misuse of information



Existing anti-corruption framework in Queensland is not effectively preventing, detecting or dealing with corruption risk or corruption in prisons

RECOMMENDATIONS

1-10

QCS STRATEGY AND PERFORMANCE

Leadership • Strategy • Governance • Performance • Risk management • Organisational structure • Culture • Critical capabilities



11-29

SPECIFIC ANTI-CORRUPTION MEASURES FOR QCS

Code of conduct • Human resource management • Conflicts of interest • Drug testing • Integrity testing • Staff searches • Prisoner informants • Property control • Technology • Information security • Reporting mechanisms



30-31

QCS INTERNAL OVERSIGHT

Ethical Standards Unit • Intelligence



32-33

EXTERNAL OVERSIGHT

Police investigation of criminal conduct • Prison inspections • Public reporting

