

**Operation Impala
Misuse of Information Inquiry**

Terms of Reference

Context

The Queensland Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC) has received a number of allegations of corrupt conduct within Queensland public sector agencies, relating to misuse of information. The allegations include both improper access to, and improper disclosure of, confidential information.

Historically, the Queensland Police Service (QPS) has attracted the most complaints in this area. Since 2016 the QPS and the CCC have worked to educate and deter officers and staff of the QPS on this corruption risk area. There has been a decrease in the number of complaints within QPS over this period of time. Meanwhile, the number of allegations has been increasing in other areas of the public sector, and it is reasonable to also suspect a level of non-reporting in the sector.

In discharging its corruption function, the CCC has conducted investigations of alleged corrupt conduct relating to misuse of information within the Queensland public sector, both directly, and in its monitoring role. As a result of investigations conducted, a number of possible systemic issues have been identified. This project will examine these issues with a view to raising standards of integrity relevant to: detecting, managing and preventing corruption risks associated with misuse of information within the public sector; and the way allegations of suspected corrupt conduct against public sector staff are dealt with by the various agencies.

Objectives of the Public Hearing Component of Operation Impala

Pursuant to sections 176 and 177(2)(c)(ii) of the *Crime and Corruption Act 2001*, the Commission authorises and approves the holding of public hearings in relation to the misuse of information.

The CCC public hearing is examining:

- 1) Factors which facilitate misuse of information within the Queensland public sector, by examination of the technical, people, and systems components of information management within the following identified agencies – Queensland Police Service, Queensland Corrective Services, Department of Education, Department of Health (including selected Hospital and Health Services) and Department of Transport and Main Roads.
- 2) Features of the legislative, policy and operational environment within each agency that may enable corrupt conduct to occur or are vulnerable to corrupt conduct.
- 3) Reforms to better prevent, detect and deal with corrupt conduct relating to misuse of information within the identified agencies, and lessons that can be extrapolated to the broader Queensland public sector.

Public Report

The CCC will issue a public report on the outcomes of this project.



**A J MacSporran QC
Chairperson**

5 August 2019