



From: Carroll.KatarinaR[QPS] [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 6, 2019 5:40:23 PM
To: QPS ALL POLICE OFFICERS [REDACTED]; QPS ALL STAFF MEMBERS [REDACTED]; QPS Chaplains <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Executive Support COP [REDACTED]
Subject: Access to information on QPS systems/Information Misuse

Colleagues

On 30 March 2016, a Commissioner’s direction was issued to all members of the Queensland Police Service (QPS) in relation to accessing information on QPS computer systems without a purpose related to a member’s official duties. On 31 December 2018, a further Commissioner’s directive was issued reinforcing to all members access to QPS information systems must be for an official purpose.

Despite these two directives, a small number of current and former members have failed to comply with these directives. Each of these individuals have faced criminal and/or disciplinary action for accessing and misusing information stored within QPS computer systems. The actions of these individuals have brought our organisation into disrepute and in some respects, overshadowed the outstanding and important community work performed by members on a daily basis throughout the State.

My message to all members is clear, accessing QPS confidential information without a purpose related to your official duties is both a criminal offence and misconduct. Every information misuse complaint will be considered for criminal charges in line with the DPP Guidelines, assisted by the information misuse guidelines. Curiosity or personal interest is not an acceptable reason to access QPS information.

The community, government agencies and non-government agencies entrust all of us to responsibly and appropriately handle confidential, private and sensitive information. The information provided to us and stored within our computer systems is integral to our ability to discharge our daily duties and achieve our strategic objectives.

In the coming weeks, the Queensland Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC) will undertake public hearings as part of Operation Impala (Misuse of Information Inquiry). Information concerning the public hearings can be viewed on the CCC web site at <https://www.ccc.qld.gov.au/public-hearings/operation-impala>.

We all have a shared responsibility to maintain the integrity of Service held information and safeguard the privacy of all Queenslanders. To this end, we must all ensure information is used only for an official purpose in connection with our official duties.

**KATARINA CARROLL APM
COMMISSIONER**

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