

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE CORRUPTION AND CRIME COMMISSION**

*Second Report — “How the Corruption and Crime Commission  
handles allegations and notifications of Police misconduct” — Tabling*

**MR P. PAPALIA (Warnbro)** [11.13 am]: I present for tabling the second report of the Joint Standing Committee on the Corruption and Crime Commission entitled “How the Corruption and Crime Commission handles allegations and notifications of Police misconduct”.

[See paper 396.]

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** As I earlier indicated, in a way this report is linked with the report I just tabled. I am reintroducing a report tabled by the previous Joint Standing Committee on Corruption and Crime Commission that predominantly focuses on the manner in which the CCC conducts its oversight of Western Australia Police. The purpose of the report is to place greater emphasis on the paramount importance of the CCC’s oversight of WA Police, which is why it is being re-tabled, and it seeks to elevate the importance of that role.

As I indicated in relation to the previous report, we believe the legislation introduced and second-read in the previous Parliament would have compromised that role. It would have resulted in the potential exposure of WA Police to the influence of organised crime, and also compromised the CCC’s stature as a separate and independent authority conducting oversight of the police. This report proposes amendments to the CCC act, and some other actions that the committee hopes will ensure that the oversight role of the CCC over WA Police is elevated to an appropriately high level, the CCC is provided with some additional guidance and some changes are made to the current act to respond to some concerns identified in how the Corruption and Crime Commission handles allegations and notifications of police misconduct.

This genesis of this report was the investigation into the use of Tasers against Mr Kevin Spratt by Western Australian police officers; the results of that investigation can be found in the thirty-second report of the previous Corruption and Crime Commission committee, tabled on 15 November 2012. A number of findings and recommendations were made, but one of the key points was that there had been an apparent reluctance—it was seen as, in a way, a failure by the CCC—to involve itself early enough in the process of investigating that particular incident. In fact, the CCC allowed the WA Police to conduct its investigation prior to engaging itself in a thorough inquiry, which eventually resulted in a good outcome. But it was the view of the previous JSCCCC that the CCC should have involved itself very early on, or much earlier, in that particular investigation, and some recommendations were made in this report to address that matter and respond to the perceived need to elevate the CCC role of the oversight of WA Police to the highest possible level.