

**ATTORNEY GENERAL; MINISTER FOR COMMERCE**

Our ref: 44-21378



Hon Nick Goiran MLC
Chairman
Joint Standing Committee On the Corruption and Crime Commission
Parliament House
Harvest Terrace
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Chairman

**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE'S REPORT NO. 26:
PUBLIC HEARING WITH THE POLICE COMMISSIONER ON THE CCC'S REPORT ON AN
INCIDENT AT THE EAST PERTH WATCH HOUSE**

I note the tabling of the above report in the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council on behalf of the Joint Standing Committee on the Corruption and Crime Commission.

The Government of Western Australia's response to the Joint Standing Committee's Report No. 26 is as follows:

1. The Government is pleased that WAPOL has implemented all 6 recommendations made by the CCC regarding the operation of the former East Perth Watch House. Improved procedures are now followed at the new Perth Watch House when a person is processed following arrest. The State-wide adoption of new electronic software will also enhance WAPOL's record-keeping.
2. The Government notes that with the appointment of Commissioner McKechnie QC and the transfer of jurisdiction for minor misconduct and the education and prevention function from the CCC to the Public Sector Commissioner on 1 July 2015 the difficulties which led to the CCC's delay in completing its investigation into the incident at the Watch House are unlikely to reoccur. Notwithstanding this, the Government is supportive of the Joint Standing Committee's recommendation to amend the *Corruption and Crime Commission Act 2003* (**CCM Act**) to allow for the appointment of a Deputy (or Assistant) Commissioner. Whether the appointment of a person to that new office needs to occur immediately following the amendment can be considered separately once the impact on the CCC's workload of the transfer of functions to the Public Sector Commissioner has been assessed and consideration has been given to whether the CCC's workload may increase with the conferral on it of other functions which are currently being considered.

3. The Government is supportive of amending the CCM Act to remove the role of the nominating committee in the process for the appointment of new Commissioners so that the Premier may propose one name of a suitable Commissioner to the Joint Standing Committee for its consideration. The Government also considers that an equivalent amendment should be made to the CCM Act to remove the role of the nominating committee in the process for the appointment of new Parliamentary Inspectors. Further, it is proposed that appointments to the position of Deputy (or Assistant) Commissioner will be made following the same process as will be followed for appointments to the office of Commissioner.
4. The Government will move to make these amendments as part of a package of amendments to the CCM Act which is presently being considered.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michael Mischin', with a large, stylized initial 'M'.

Hon. Michael Mischin MLC
ATTORNEY GENERAL; MINISTER FOR COMMERCE

18 APR 2016