

CORRUPTION AND CRIME COMMISSION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Your ref:

Our ref:

01986/2007

25 March 2008

The Principal Research Officer
Community Development and Justice Standing Committee
Legislative Assembly
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Sir/Madam

SUBMISSION TO THE INQUIRY INTO COLLABORATIVE APPROACHES IN GOVERNMENT

Wherever possible the Corruption and Crime Commission (the CCC) uses a collaborative approach to work with State Government agencies, and where appropriate, does so in conjunction with other Commissions charged with the responsibility of promoting integrity in the public sector. This is particularly true of the Commission's Corruption Prevention, Education and Research Directorate. Some collaborative initiatives are listed below.

Collaboration with government agencies

- The Commissioners of CCC and the WA Police, together with their senior staff meet quarterly as a Joint Agency Steering Group to discuss situations where they can work collaboratively, and problems that can be solved by a collaborative rather than a confrontational approach.
- Senior staff of the CCC and the Department of Education and Training meet quarterly to more effectively promote the management and prevention of misconduct in that department, and to ensure that problems are dealt with efficiently and effectively.
- Senior staff of the CCC and the Department of Corrective Services meet frequently, on an "as needs" basis to more effectively promote the management

and prevention of misconduct in that department. Plans are underway to formalise quarterly meetings between these officers.

- Senior staff of the CCC and the Department of Child Protection are meeting frequently to more effectively promote the management and prevention of misconduct in that department.
- Prevention staff of the CCC provide a consultancy service to all Government Departments on the promotion of integrity and the prevention and management of misconduct.

Collaboration with Integrity agencies

The Commissioners of the CCC and Public Sector Standards, together with the State Ombudsman and the State Auditor General meet quarterly as the Integrity Coordinating Group (ICG). The purpose of these meeting is to promote communication in order to provide a more efficient and effective service to the people of Western Australia. Although there are jurisdictional issues, the member bodies of the ICG do, from time to time, engage in shared activities.

- They jointly resourced a project to achieve a shared understanding of Conflict of Interest and to develop a way forward that all could promote. These shared understandings were the basis of a series of workshops presented by the CCC across the state, and will be used by the Department of Premier and Cabinet in presentations to Senior Officers of Government Agencies.
- At least twice a year the four agencies of the ICG present an Integrity Forum for Chief Executive Officers and officers of state agencies responsible for the promotion of professional standards and the prevention and management of misconduct.

National Collaboration

Nationally the CCC works collaboratively with integrity agencies on other states. In 2007 the CCC, together with the Crime and Misconduct Commission in Queensland and the Independent Commission against Corruption in New South Wales presented the first Australian Public Service Anti-Corruption Conference (APSACC 07). This was attended by almost six hundred public officers and was acclaimed nationally. The WA Department of Premier and Cabinet supported this conference and was very positive in its evaluation.

The CCC, the CMC and the ICAC collaborate on other projects, and where appropriate include more targeted integrity bodies such as the Office of Police Integrity in Victoria, the Police Integrity Commission in New South Wales.

The CCC has begun international collaboration with integrity bodies in neighbouring countries.

Yours faithfully

Con babberts-Suit.

The Hon L W Roberts-Smith RFD QC COMMISSIONER