



Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions

Your reference:

Our reference:

1 September 2005

Mr Jonathan Curtis Committee Secretary Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Australian Crime Commission Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600 PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE AUSTRALIAN CRIME COMMISSION

REUU: W

AUTHORISED FOR PUBLICATION:

SECRETARY

Dear Mr Curtis

Review of the Australian Crime Commission Act 2002

I refer to your letter of 27 July 2005 to the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions inviting a submission to the Committee's review of the *Australian Crime Commission Act* 2002 ("the Act").

The role of the CDPP is to prosecute criminal offences against the laws of the Commonwealth and to confiscate the proceeds of Commonwealth crime. The CDPP has no power to investigate criminal matters and relies on other investigation agencies, including the Commission, to refer briefs of evidence for consideration of prosecution action. The CDPP however has a role to play in assisting investigation agencies by providing legal advice during the investigation stage. Under subsection 7A(c) of the Act, the ACC is able to investigate matters relating to federally relevant criminal activity. Upon briefs of evidence being provided to the CDPP, they are assessed in accordance with the Prosecution Policy of the Commonwealth.

Matters referred by the ACC may concern a range of conduct such as drug importations and fraud on the Commonwealth. Matters may also relate to alleged offences against section 30 of the Act involving failing to attend an examination, or against section 33 for giving false or misleading evidence.

The CDPP has not identified any issues which it wishes to raise in the context of the review. The CDPP has experienced positive working arrangements with the Commission at both an investigative and liaison level and the CDPP looks forward to continuing to work with the Commission in our respective roles in relation to the investigation and prosecution of Commonwealth offences.

Thank you for inviting the Commonwealth DPP to make a submission.

Yours sincerely

James Carter

A/g Assistant Director