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CRIME AND MISCONDUCT COMMISSION





Our Reference: BJB / vag

30 August 2004

Mr A Sands
Secretary
Select Committee on the Lindeberg Grievance
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Sands

I refer to your letter of 9 August 2004 inviting a submission and providing the opportunity to comment on evidence given to the Select Committee that may reflect adversely upon the former Criminal Justice Commission (CJC).

The evidence provided consists of two statements and the transcript of a day's hearing. The evidence relates to events occurring over a period of many years.

I note that the terms of reference of the Select Committee relate first to whether any false or misleading evidence was given to earlier Senate Committees and whether any contempt was committed in that regard, and secondly, to implications for measures that may be taken to address certain systemic issues.

I understand that you have also invited a number of individual previous members and officers of the former CJC to respond to evidence that may reflect adversely on them.

In respect to the issues raised by the first of your terms of reference, I understand that the views of the former CJC were expressed in submissions and testimony received by earlier Senate Committees. At this distance in time from the events under consideration and in light of the departure of the previous members and officers of the former CJC mentioned above, the Crime and Misconduct Commission (CMC) is not best placed to add to what was advanced by the former CJC.

Accordingly, the CMC considers that no useful purpose would be served by making a submission at this time. However, the Commission wishes to be of assistance and invites the Committee to contact it further if there is any identified specific issue the Committee wishes to pursue in relation to which it believes the current officers of the CMC can assist.

Thank you for providing the CMC with the opportunity to make a submission.

Yours sincerely

BRENDAN BUTLER SC Chairperson