



CORRUPTION AND CRIME COMMISSION

MEDIA STATEMENT

CCC on Perth Watch House Taser Weapon incident

14.10.10

The Corruption and Crime Commission said its review of the quality of an internal police investigation into the Spratt matter cannot be released until it is completed.

Commissioner Len Roberts-Smith QC has written to the Police Commissioner asking for any further documents and information concerning the request for advice he has apparently made to the DPP.

The Commission will consider that material and any advice from the DPP as part of its review of the Police internal investigation, Mr Roberts-Smith said.

“The Spratt matter was one part of a comprehensive research report on the Police use of Taser weapons. The report was not about the quality of Police internal investigations into particular incidents involving the use of Taser weapons.

“The document provided to police in May 2010 was only a draft of the final report tabled last week.

“It was provided to police so they could comment on matters in the report that were adverse to them.

“Draft reports are almost always changed as a result of that process or by further refining of the document.”

In a News Release from Police dated 14 October 2010, the Commissioner of Police quotes two paragraphs omitted from the CCC final Taser weapon report.

Mr Roberts-Smith said the paragraphs were omitted because:

- the report was a research report about the Police use of Taser weapons not a review of a police internal investigation into the Spratt matter.
- the Commission had not completed its review of the Spratt matter so to include those paragraphs was potentially misleading.
- The Commission agreed with the Police conclusion that the Taser weapon deployment against Mr Spratt was inappropriate. However, the Commission cannot complete its review of the Police internal investigation until Police have made a decision about whether or not the officers involved should be charged.

He also said that since it was published, Police have made several complaints about the Commission's Taser report but those complaints were not included in their response to the draft report.

A copy of the Police response to the Commission's draft report on the use of Taser weapons dated 25 June 2010 is on the CCC website at <http://www.ccc.wa.gov.au/Publications/Reports/Pages/PublishedReports2010.aspx>

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