

## MEDIA RELEASE

17 September 2024

### **Public Transport Authority mismanaged investigation into a use of force incident**

The Corruption and Crime Commission has concerns about the Public Transport Authority's (PTA) management of use of force by Transit Officers. In its latest report, tabled today in Parliament, the Commission reviewed how the PTA dealt with an incident at Aubin Grove train station in 2023, where a member of the public fractured his collarbone during an interaction with Transit Officers.

Transit Officers have the power to use reasonable force to assist them perform their duties. The PTA concluded that the actions of the officer were reasonable and lawful. The Commission considers the force used was excessive and unnecessary.

In its report, the Commission highlights concerns with not only the PTA's management of this incident, but the wider serious misconduct risks associated with use of force by Transit Officers.

The Commission's review considers the actions taken by the PTA failed to demonstrate a comprehensive and transparent investigation of the incident.

The Commission report recommends that PTA review, update and implement policies and procedures to ensure transparent oversight over incidents where Transit Officers use their powers. The PTA has confirmed that some of this work is already underway.

"Oversight plays a vital role in facilitating an agency's understanding of its misconduct risks," said Commissioner John McKechnie. "Implementing well-defined policies and procedures safeguards the public, the officers and the entire agency."

The Commission will review the PTA's response to the recommendations in 12 months' time.

**ENDS**

#### **Media contacts**

Marie Mills: 0418 918 202

Louisa Mitchell: 0434 308 208

---

#### **Contact the Corruption and Crime Commission**