



Complaints about the public official for the Queensland Veterans' Council Policy

(section 48A of the Crime and Corruption Act 2001)

Purpose

The Chairperson, Queensland Veterans' Council (QVC) is the public official of the QVC.

The objective of this policy is to set out how the QVC will deal with a complaint (also information or matter) that involves or may involve corrupt conduct of its Chairperson as defined in the *Crime and Corruption Act 2001* (CC Act).

Principles

The policy is designed to assist the QVC to:

- Comply with section 48A of the CC Act.
- Promote public confidence in the way suspected corrupt conduct of the Chairperson is dealt with (section 34(c) of the CC Act).
- Promote accountability, integrity and transparency in the way the QVC deals with a complaint that is suspected to involve, or may involve, corrupt conduct of the Chairperson.

Policy application

This policy applies:

- if there are grounds to suspect that a complaint may involve corrupt conduct of the Chairperson of the QVC;
- to all persons who hold an appointment in, or are employees of, the QVC.

For this policy, a *complaint* includes information or matter.





Nominated person

Having regard to section 48A(2) and (3) of the CC Act, this policy nominates;

- The Transition Lead, QVC Secretariat, as the nominated person;

to notify the Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC) of the complaint and to deal with the complaint under the CC Act.

The CC Act applies as if a reference about notifying or dealing with the complaint to the Chairperson (as the public official) is a reference to the nominated person.

Complaints about the Chairperson

If a complaint may involve an allegation of corrupt conduct of the Chairperson of the QVC, the complaint may be reported to:

- the nominated person; or
- a person to whom there is an obligation to report under an Act (this does not include an obligation imposed by sections 37, 38 and 39(1) of the CC Act).

If there is uncertainty about whether a complaint should be reported, it is best to report it to the nominated person.

If the nominated person reasonably suspects the complaint may involve corrupt conduct of the Chairperson, they are to:

- (a) notify the CCC of the complaint, and
- (b) deal with the complaint, subject to the CCC's monitoring role, when pursuant to section 46 of the CC Act, the CCC refers the complaint to the nominated person to deal with.

If the Chairperson reasonably suspects that the complaint may involve corrupt conduct on their part, the Chairperson must:

- (i) report the complaint to the nominated person as soon as practicable and may also notify the CCC; and





- (ii) take no further action to deal with the complaint unless requested to do so by the nominated person in consultation with the Minister responsible for administering the *Queensland Veterans' Council Act 2021*.

Record keeping requirements

Should the nominated person decide that a complaint, or information or matter, about alleged corrupt conduct of the Chairperson is not required to be notified to the CCC under section 38 of the CC Act, the nominated person must make a record of the decision that complies with section 40A of the CC Act.

Resourcing the nominated person

If pursuant to sections 40 or 46 of the CC Act, the nominated person has responsibility to deal with the complaint:

- (i) the QVC will ensure that sufficient resources are available to the nominated person to enable them to deal with the complaint appropriately, and
- (ii) the nominated person is to ensure that consultations, if any, for the purpose of securing resources sufficient to deal with the complaint appropriately are confidential and are not disclosed, other than to the CCC, without:
- authorisation under a law of the Commonwealth or the State, or
 - the consent of the nominated person responsible for dealing with the complaint
- (iii) the nominated person must, at all times, use their best endeavours to act independently, impartially and fairly having regard to the:
- purposes of the CC Act;
 - the importance of promoting public confidence in the way suspected corrupt conduct in the QVC is dealt with; and
 - the QVC's statutory, policy and procedural framework.

If the nominated person has responsibility to deal with the complaint, they:





- are delegated the same authority, functions and powers as the Chairperson to direct and control staff, agents or other officers of the QVC as if the nominated person is the Chairperson of the QVC for the purpose of dealing with the complaint only;
- are delegated the same authority, functions and powers as the Chairperson to enter into contracts on behalf of the QVC for the purpose of dealing with the complaint;
- do not have any authority, function or power that cannot — under the law of the Commonwealth or the State — be delegated by either the Minister responsible for administering the *Queensland Veterans' Council Act 2021* or the Chairperson, to the nominated person.

Liaising with the CCC

The Chairperson is to keep the CCC and the nominated person informed of:

- the contact details for the Chairperson, QVC and the nominated person; and
- any proposed changes to this policy.

Consultation with the CCC

The Chairperson will consult with the CCC when preparing any policy about how the QVC will deal with a complaint that involves or may involve corrupt conduct of the Chairperson as public official.





Definitions

Term	Meaning
Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC)	The Commission continued in existence under the CC Act
CC Act	<i>Crime and Corruption Act 2001</i>
Complaint	Includes information or matter: see definition provided by section 48A(4) of the CC Act
Contact details for nominated person	Megan Read, Transition Lead, Queensland Veterans' Council Secretariat Email: megan.read@qvc.qld.gov.au Phone: (07) 3003 9640 or 0417 697 591
Corruption	See Schedule 2 (Dictionary) of the CC Act
Corrupt conduct	See section 15 of the CC Act
<i>Corruption in Focus</i>	https://www.ccc.qld.gov.au/publications/corruption-focus ; see chapter 2, page 2.6
Deal with	See Schedule 2 (Dictionary) of the CC Act
Nominated person	See Para 5 of this policy
Police misconduct	See Schedule 2 (Dictionary) of the CC Act
Public Official/CEO	See Schedule 2 (Dictionary) and also section 48A of the CC Act
Unit of public administration (UPA)	See section 20 of the CC Act and section 8 of the <i>Queensland Veterans' Council Act 2021</i>

Statutory references

Unless otherwise stated, all statutory references are to the *Crime and Corruption Act 2001*.





Approval

This policy is approved by:

- Quentin Masson
Chairperson, Queensland Veterans' Council

[Signed: Quentin Masson]
[Date: 26 May 2023]
- Premier and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games

[Signed: Anastacia Palaszczuk]
[Date: 6 June 2023]

Version history

Version	Approval date	Document summary	TRIM Ref	Review date
0.1	19 April 2023	Draft Policy approved by QVC		

