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CC.
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Hon Lisa Neville
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Friday 15th November 2019

Urgent action is required on the Investigation of police corruption and misconduct in Victoria

Dear Premier,

In light of yet more shocking revelations in the national media about the abject failure of the current system of police complaints in Victoria, we believe that action on the investigation and oversight of police corruption and misconduct is urgently required.

The IBAC Committee's (IBACC) report, 'Inquiry into the external oversight of police corruption and misconduct in Victoria', was tabled in the Victorian 58th Parliament on 4 September 2018.^[1]

The IBACC inquiry identified concerns regarding the failure of the current complaint system to meet the human rights and justice needs of Victorian citizens, or establish clear accountability outcomes. These concerns remain and have not yet been addressed.

There has been no action from the Victorian Government in the 13 months since the IBACC report was tabled.

As such, the undersigned call upon the Government to urgently bring forward legislation and policy that will fund IBAC sufficiently, create the new Police Corruption and Misconduct Division within IBAC, ensure Victoria Police acts on all recommendations, including those relating to transparency; and legislate to implement these recommendations.

The IBACC report is an important and thorough analysis of police oversight in Victoria that pays careful attention to the experiences of vulnerable Victorians and explored international best practice in this vital area of integrity and anti-corruption reform.

Its ground breaking set of recommendations acknowledged the clear public interest in a complaint system where complaints of serious police misconduct are investigated independently of the police.

^[1] Inquiry into the external oversight of police corruption and misconduct in Victoria,
<https://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/ibacc/article/3802>

In its current form IBAC does not have the powers or resources to properly and independently investigate serious police misconduct.

We call on your government to act urgently and restore the community's faith in the police accountability system.

We look forward to assisting you in implementing this critically important and historic reform.

Yours sincerely

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