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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Ensuring effective police oversight in NSW**

A Parliamentary Committee has recommended more funding for police oversight in New South Wales.

The Law Enforcement Conduct Commission (LECC) is a new body that works to investigate, expose and prevent misconduct in the NSW Police Force and the NSW Crime Commission. This work was previously done by the Police Integrity Commission, the Ombudsman and the Inspector of the Crime Commission.

The Committee that oversees the LECC has found that it needs more funding to keep performing its role effectively.

"Ensuring that police are accountable for their actions helps maintain public confidence in police. The LECC needs to be resourced adequately to do this important job properly", said Committee Chair, Mr Lee Evans MP.

With two new Commissioners and a Chief Executive Officer, the LECC looks different to its predecessors. However, the Committee heard that no funding was provided for these new positions.

"We've recommended funding for the LECC to cover the cost of two new Commissioners and the CEO position."

The LECC has a new role to oversee police investigations of critical incidents. Critical incidents attract considerable community interest because they involve the serious injury or death of a member of the public or a police officer.

"We found that the critical incident team within the LECC may be understaffed, and have recommended extra funding to increase the number of staff in the team."

The Committee has also recommended that the Commissioner for Oversight be given the power to conduct private examinations and that the Minister for Police consult with stakeholders on whether the LECC should be able to conduct joint investigations with police.

The Committee's report is available at: <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/ombudsmanlecc>.

The NSW Government has six months to respond to the Committee's recommendations.

**MEDIA: Lee Evans MP, Committee Chair – 9548 0144**