



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE CONDUCT AND PROGRESS OF THE OMBUDSMAN'S INQUIRY
"OPERATION PROSPECT"

MEDIA RELEASE

'Conduct and progress of the Ombudsman's inquiry Operation Prospect'

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

24 November 2014

A new parliamentary committee has been established to inquire into the conduct and progress of the Ombudsman's inquiry "Operation Prospect".

In October 2012 the Ombudsman was tasked with investigating allegations concerning the conduct of officers of the NSW Police Force, the NSW Crime Commission and the Police Integrity Commission in relation to a number of investigations which occurred between 1998 and 2002. These investigations include Operations Mascot and Florida and are about a wide range of serious misconduct allegations.

Two years on and the Ombudsman has not yet reported its findings. The committee Chair, the Hon Robert Borsak MLC said "This committee has been established to inquire into and report on Operation Prospect by examining the use of secrecy provisions by the Ombudsman contained in the *Ombudsman Act 1974*, the impact of the inquiry on the NSW Police Force and consider past investigations, Operations Mascot and Florida and Police Strike Force Emblems".

The committee welcomes submissions from interested parties, which must be received by Monday 12 January 2015. Submissions can be lodged via the parliamentary website: www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/conductandprogress. Instead of, or in addition to making a submission, you may indicate that you would like to be considered to appear as a witness at a committee hearing by emailing: operationprospect@parliament.nsw.gov.au.

To assist interested parties, Mr Borsak also stated that "Written or oral evidence provided to the committee is protected by parliamentary privilege. However, submissions received by the committee should not be published or disclosed unless authorised by the committee. Anyone who republishes a committee document other than the committee will not be protected by parliamentary privilege."

Hearings for the inquiry will be held on 29 and 30 January 2015 and 3 and 4 February 2015, with the committee due to table its final report by 25 February 2015.

For more information, including terms of reference and guidelines for making a submission, please contact the committee secretariat on 9230 3367.

-ENDS-

For further information please contact Committee Chair Hon. Robert Borsak MLC, on 9230 2573