

QUEENSLAND CHILD PROTECTION
COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

STATEMENT OF IAN DUNCAN HUNTER STEWART

I, **Ian Duncan Hunter Stewart**, of Level 7, Police Headquarters, 200 Roma Street, Brisbane in the State of Queensland, Deputy Commissioner (Regional Operations), Queensland Police Service, solemnly and sincerely affirm and declare:

1. I make this statement pursuant to a request from the Commission of Inquiry dated 26 July 2012 to provide information to the Queensland Child Protection Commission of Inquiry.
2. I have been a Deputy Commissioner of the Queensland Police Service (QPS) since April 2008. I am currently the Deputy Commissioner with responsibility for Regional Operations. Between April 2008 and October 2010 I was the Deputy Commissioner with responsibility for Specialist Operations. I was sworn in as a member of the QPS in 1973 and have remained as a member of the Service since that day.
3. I have 39 years of policing experience having served in a variety of roles both functional and geographic throughout my career. Postings have included Brisbane, Townsville, Blackwater, the Police Academy, Redcliffe, Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast. In that time I have worked in a range of roles including as a general duties, traffic officer, detective, project manager and as an operational manager in areas including District Inspector at Redcliffe, District Officer of the Gold Coast Police District and in Senior Management roles including Assistant Commissioner of the Ethical Standards Command and Assistant Commissioner of the Information Communication and Technology Command.

Service Delivery within the QPS

4. The QPS is the primary law enforcement agency for the state of Queensland. Section 2.3 of the *Police Service Administration Act 1990* (PSAA) outlines the

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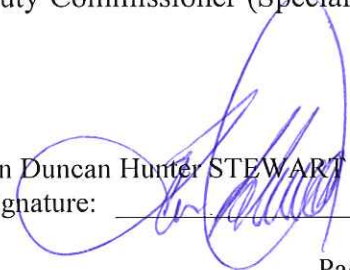
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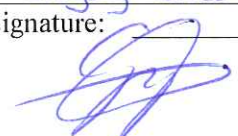
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QPS functions, which include the preservation of peace and good order, the prevention and detection of crime, and the protection of all communities in the State and all members of those communities.

5. QPS delivers a 24 hour, seven day a week policing service including a first response to reported crime. This service has continued during a time of rapid population growth which has increased demands for services and placed pressures on the allocation of available policing resources.
6. Policing services are structurally provided through eight geographical regions and are supported by three commands that focus on criminal activities and networks (State Crime Operations Command), specialist operational resources (Operations Support Command) and professional practice and ethical behaviour (Ethical Standards Command). Response to disaster situations in Queensland is also a legislated primary responsibility of the Queensland Police.
7. General duties police officers provide the first response to the community with Regional services supported by specialist units including Child Protection and Investigation Units (CPIU) and Criminal Investigation Branches (CIB) that investigate criminal offences. Both first response general duties officers and specialist investigation units (CPIU and CIB) provide a decentralised law enforcement response across the State.
8. The Child Protection and Investigation Unit format is unique in Australia and is staffed by highly trained, skilled and professional investigators. It provides a specialist policing response to children, both as victims and offenders. These dedicated officers provide an ongoing response to the safety of children within the community.
9. My portfolio as the Deputy Commissioner (Regional Operations), includes responsibility for the eight police regions (Far Northern; Northern; Central; North Coast; Southern; South Eastern; Metropolitan South and Metropolitan North). The Deputy Commissioner (Specialist Operations) is responsible for overseeing

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the provision of specialist police services including duties undertaken by State Crime Operations Command and Operations Support Command.

10. The Deputy Commissioner (Specialist Operations) is also responsible for overseeing the Crime and Misconduct Commission Police Group, Ethical Standards Command, Media and Public Affairs Branch and the Office of the Queensland Police Service (QPS) Solicitor. The Deputy Chief Executive (Resource Management) oversees five corporate services functions (Administration, Education and Training, Finance, Human Resources and Information and Communications Technology).

Allocation of staff

11. As at 1 July 2012, there was ten thousand, six hundred and ninety-five (10695) sworn police in the Queensland Police department. Other than the central police commands and functions, staff are allocated to three hundred and thirty-five (335) operational police divisions, within 31 police districts across the State. Many police boundaries are historically based and include where practical, alignment with local government boundaries. There are 56 neighbourhood police beats and 45 police beat shopfronts located throughout the State. There are also 35 School Based Police Officer positions created in Queensland state secondary schools.
12. As at 1 July 2012, 1,836 or 17% of police officers were attached to central functions and state commands. The majority of police officers attached to the state-wide commands perform operational roles. For example, State Crime Operations Command provides specialist investigators for child protection and major and serious criminal offence investigations occurring across the State. Similarly, Operations Support Command provides a specialist response to high risk policing operations, counter terrorism operations and traffic policing across the State. As at 1 July 2012, 8,859 or 83% of the Service's police officers were allocated to the eight regional areas.
13. The QPS continually monitors and reviews the allocation of its human resources across the State as part of its annual planning and budgetary processes. The QPS

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allocates police resources on a range of factors including demographic changes in individual regions or districts. This approach takes into account the service delivery requirements, community policing initiatives and the complexity of providing an equitable policing service in a state the size of Queensland. Allocation of human resources to central functions and state-wide commands is determined on the basis of service delivery and specialist support requirements.

14. Factors impacting the allocation of police resources to regions include:

- crime levels
- population, demographic characteristics and projected growth
- traffic statistics
- service delivery
- specialist support requirements.

15. The Queensland Government has announced a number of initiatives in relation to police numbers and allocations, including:

- recruit an additional 1100 new police
- move up to 200 existing police back to frontline duties
- boost school and community based policing with 15 more officers
- establish the major crime squad and relocate the illegal firearms squad to the Gold Coast, and
- provide crime fighting resources in Cairns, Townsville and the Gold Coast to focus on juvenile crime and alcohol management.

Role of QPS in Child Protection

16. All police regions have CPIUs that are primarily focused on the investigation of criminal matters that pertain to Child Protection and Youth Justice matters. The QPS operates predominantly in the tertiary section of the Child Protection system. The role of the QPS in this area is principally the investigation of crimes committed against children and in practical terms generally amounts to the conduct of a criminal investigation where a crime has been committed against a child or is suspected of having been committed against a child. Generally

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investigations fall into the broad categories of sexual abuse, physical abuse, and serious neglect where there is a suspected criminal offence. The QPS's primary contribution to the Child Protection System is the provision of investigative expertise. Where there is no CPIU office where the investigation is to occur, the local CIB will assume responsibility for that investigation. If there is no CIB office, general duties police will undertake the investigation (at least initially) with remote specialist assistance.

17. The CPIU role is much more expansive than the role performed by the Department of Communities, Child Safety Services (CSS) as the QPS is responsible for the investigation of extra-familial abuse (offences committed on children) and criminal offences committed by children. The role and functions of the CPIU has grown over time to accommodate government and community expectations and has included responses to legislative and policy change, responding directly to emerging social issues, and undertaking work on behalf of other agencies, particularly after hours and in rural and remote areas where those agencies have no physical presence.
18. An example of the expanding role of the CPIU is the Australian National Child Offender Register (ANCOR), which requires police to monitor registered child sex offenders in the community. ANCOR has created significant workload on CPIU around the state with some officers being diverted to undertake a full-time role in ensuring that reportable offenders within their area of responsibility are complying with their reporting requirements.
19. As previously stated CPIU officers investigate child protection matters that relate to extra-familial abuse. These investigations rarely impact on the role of CSS unless it is identified that there is not a parent that is willing and able to protect the child from harm. Over the past decade investigations into extra-familial abuse, particularly sexual abuse investigations, have increased significantly due to the advent of technology-facilitated offending such as the production and distribution of child exploitation material. CPIU officers receive specific training to assist in these investigations and due to the level of investigation required these matters have significant resource implications. The attributes of these crimes (accessing

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images and videos of children being abused) generally mean that police are able to rely on evidence that assists with the prosecution of offences and the identification of child victims subject to these crimes. In other words the solvability of this type of crime has increased and the rate of identifying and removing children from harm has increased.

20. The very nature of the investigations undertaken by the CPIU mean that it is difficult to devolve these duties to mainstream police due to the expertise required and the welfare issues that may arise if this function was devolved. Officers selected to perform duty within the CPIU undertake a rigorous selection process and are subject to specialist training to perform the roles of a CPIU officer.
21. The growth of powers and obligations contained in the *Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000* (PPRA) demonstrates the expanded legislative responsibilities placed on QPS members since the inception of the PPRA. (Some powers were an amalgamation of existing powers whilst others were new powers, some of which had never previously existed in Queensland). Hooning legislation and 'blue card' legislation are good examples.

History of the CPIU

22. Police Commissioner Bischof established the Juvenile Aid Bureau (now CPIU) in Brisbane on May 14, 1963, with a staff of two police. The initiative was based on the success of a juvenile liaison scheme in Lancashire, England, to prevent juvenile delinquency and to work with problem children.
23. Bureau police worked with juveniles (aged 5 to 15 years) who showed a tendency towards delinquency, but were not involved with convicted delinquents or juveniles against whom action was pending. The acceptance and full co-operation of parents was also a requirement. The policy was for police to visit juveniles in their own homes, discuss their problems and encourage an interest in hobbies and sports.

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24. By the end of the first year the Bureau had increased to four officers and it aimed to prevent juvenile crime and rehabilitate problematic young offenders with support from community organisations.
25. The greatest juvenile issue around this time was truancy, however by 1972 other issues were becoming evident such as delinquency among unsupervised children and juvenile drug use.
26. In November 1972, a decision was made that the 21 Bureau members were to spend less time on follow up counselling of juveniles and concentrate on patrolling discos, parks and billiard halls where young people congregated and were thought to be at risk. At around this time, provincial Queensland saw the advent of sub-groups of CIBs being allocated to full time JAB type duties.
27. In 1980, the Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect (SCAN) teams were formalised as a multi-agency response to suspected child abuse. Whilst officers from the Juvenile Aid Bureau provided support, they were not yet core members.
28. By the mid-1980s the Juvenile Aid Bureau numbered 95 members who were allocated to a Brisbane Bureau, covering most police divisions in the metropolitan and adjacent areas and local JABs, covering the major provincial centres throughout Queensland.
29. The Juvenile Aid Bureau was responsible for investigating offences committed against or by children, as well as offences committed in respect of property at a school, whether the offender was an adult or a child. Special units were developed to deal with child abuse, sexual exploitation and missing persons.
30. Following the Fitzgerald Inquiry and the 1991 regionalisation of the Queensland Police Service, the Juvenile Aid Bureau was subject to decentralisation. The control and duties of the Juvenile Aid Bureau within the Brisbane metropolitan area were subsequently split.

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31. Child victims who were the subject of intra-familial child abuse were handled by the Task Force Juvenile Aid Bureau and offending juveniles were dealt with by suburban Juvenile Aid Bureaux under the control of District Officers.
32. In June 1992, the Task Force Juvenile Aid Bureau was renamed the Task Force, Crime Operations, Child Abuse Investigation Unit. In August 1992, the *Juvenile Justice Act 1992* was assented to and, in conjunction with the *Childrens Court Act 1992*, effected significant changes in the organisation and delivery of juvenile justice in Queensland.
33. In 1997, a joint program between the Queensland Police Service and the Department of Education saw School Based Police Officers commence duties in Queensland. Initially there were 12 officers which, as at January 2012, has now increased to 35.
34. In 1999, Task Force Argos commenced operation with the responsibility to investigate extra-familial sexual abuse, organised paedophilia and child abuse material on the internet.
35. In 2001 the Child Abuse Investigation Unit became the Child Sexual Assault Investigation Unit and Juvenile Aid Bureaux increased to 35 offices throughout the state with Bureau members numbering more than 200.
36. The *Child Protection (Offender Reporting) Act 2004* was assented to on 29 November 2004 and as a result of that legislation the Child Protection Offender Registry commenced operation in 2005. The responsibilities of the Juvenile Aid Bureau and the Child Sexual Assault Investigation Unit were expanded to include the monitoring of convicted child sexual offenders. At around this same time the position of QPS Child Safety Director was created and continues to this day.
37. As at July 1 2006, the Juvenile Aid Bureau changed its name to the Child Protection and Investigation Unit (CPIU). The new title reflects that CPIU officers now have primary responsibility for investigating child deaths, serious physical child abuse and neglect and the sexual exploitation of children. Regional Child

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Protection and Investigation Units additionally maintain juvenile justice responsibilities.

38. Today, 39 years since the Juvenile Aid Bureau first commenced with two officers, there are now Child Protection and Investigation Units in each Queensland Police District, with numerous experienced officers providing a specialist policing response to children, both as victims and offenders.

Governance

39. The Commissioner of Police has wide-ranging powers under the PSAA. In accordance with section 4.8 of the Act the Commissioner is responsible for the efficient and proper administration, management and functioning of the police service in accordance with law.

40. In 2008, the Service Delivery and Performance Commission (SDPC) reviewed (among other things) the QPS corporate governance arrangements. Consequently a new QPS corporate governance structure was approved in 2010. There are two main areas to corporate governance in the QPS under the new structure:

- Board of Management (BOM) – which makes determinations at the corporate level concerning QPS resource allocation, management and performance. Governance committees are established to attend to the detailed work, provide advice and refer relevant issues for the Board's consideration.
- Senior Executive Conference (SEC) – which governs mid to long-term planning and determines strategic direction.

41. This allows for determination of organisational priorities, organisational structure and the number and location of police establishments and police stations. The QPS is effectively a multi-tiered, hierarchical organisation with the Commissioner of Police, in effect, fulfilling the role of the 'Chief Executive Officer'. As previously outlined there are eight police regions comprising of 31 police districts. Under this decentralised service delivery model all police officers follow a chain

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of command within their respective district and region. This governance structure provides for clear lines of communication and reporting.

42. Within this structure, there are 36 CPIU offices statewide, with at least one CPIU office per district. Officers in Charge (OIC) of CPIUs report through the chain of command within their district and region. Additionally, the QPS Child Safety Director is also the Statewide CPIU Coordinator, with responsibility for maintaining an overseeing role of all CPIU and SCAN team operations throughout the State. This is achieved through regular liaison with regional CPIUs, and by holding an annual OIC CPIU Conference to address significant policy and operational issues affecting CPIU officers.

Monitoring - Performance Management

43. The key framework that underpins performance management within the QPS is the Operational Performance Review (OPR) process. This process is closely linked to the Problem-Oriented and Partnership Policing (POPP) initiative that commenced in 1999. Both are based on a problem solving approach that endeavours to look beyond crime figures to the causes that lie behind them. The OPR process reviews each police district and in recent times has commenced reviewing corporate areas. The OPR process works under guiding principles which are as follows:

- Specific objectives
- Timely and accurate intelligence
- Effective strategies and tactics
- Rapid deployment of personnel and resources; and
- Relentless follow-up and assessment.

44. These principles are closely aligned with operational imperatives (know what is happening; know why it is happening; identify and align resources; ensure something is being done; and assessing the effectiveness of strategies and make adjustments). One of the priorities within the OPR process is Personal Safety and criminal offences pertaining to child protection investigations are a subset of offences against the person.

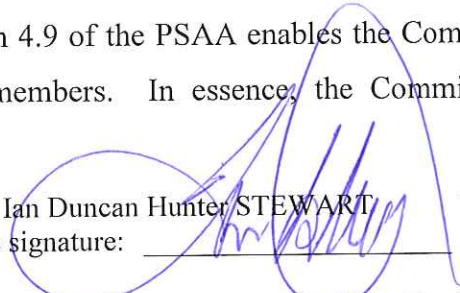
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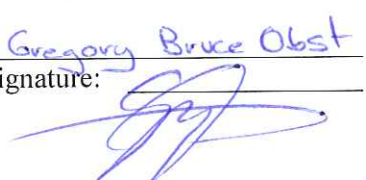
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45. Both the Annual Report and the Annual Statistical Review provide details of the QPS' performance. The QPS Annual Report provides information about the QPS, how it is governed, its activities, performance and future direction. The report also provides an overview of the QPS financial and non-financial performance and the key achievements for the report year. Both reports are available on-line.
46. The Queensland Police Service Annual Statistical Review provides a comprehensive record of crime statistics for Queensland. It includes information on levels of reported and cleared crime, traffic related matters and police personnel. The Statistical Review is a key component of the Service's overall performance management and accountability framework. The Statistical Review also has a strategic role. In order to help ensure the safety and security of Queenslanders, the Service continues to formulate relevant and innovative policing strategies. The information contained in the Statistical Review supports evidence based, strategic decision making.
47. In both of these reports, specific reference is made to child protection policing activities. In the Annual Report, the QPS outlines achievements and outcomes relating to child protection investigations and activities. In recent years there has been a greater emphasis on technology-facilitated crimes, and the significant QPS investigations and outcomes in this field. The Annual Statistical Review provides broad data on children as victims and offenders. Both reports illustrate the variety of roles undertaken by police in relation to children.
48. The QPS also contributes to the Child Protection Partnerships Report developed by CSS, and the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian (CCYPCG) Monitoring Plan. Nationally, the QPS also participates in the development and review of the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children.

Accountability

49. Section 4.9 of the PSAA enables the Commissioner to make certain directions to QPS members. In essence, the Commissioner in discharging the prescribed

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responsibility may give, and cause to be issued to officers, directions, written or oral, general or particular as the Commissioner considers necessary for the efficient and proper functioning of the police service. Every officer to whom a direction of the Commissioner is addressed is to comply in all respects with the direction.

50. The Operational Procedures Manual (OPM) contains such written directions. The OPM provides the framework for guidance and instructions in all aspects of operational policing and are issued pursuant to section 4.9 of the PSAA.
51. The manual is continually reviewed and updated to ensure currency and consistency with the law and community expectations. It also allows for local procedures to be developed at regional, district or establishment level. Officers are to comply with the contents of the manual so that their duties are discharged lawfully, ethically and efficiently. Failure to comply with the contents of this manual may constitute grounds for disciplinary action.
52. Chapter 7 of the OPM is dedicated to outlining policies related to the investigation and response to children who are harmed, or at risk of harm. Other child-relevant sections of the OPM relate to processes for investigation of child deaths (including associated coronial processes), children exposed to domestic and family violence, and child abduction alerts.
53. Accountability within the QPS also involves financial accountability. This process is incorporated in the BOM governance process. The Financial Planning and Review Committee (responsible for the budget and financial performance) is one of the many governance committees that reports to and supports the BOM. This committee's purpose is to assist the BOM in achieving effective financial management within the Service. Additionally, the committee advises the SEC about the medium to long-term strategic focus and direction of QPS finances. The financial administration of the QPS is governed principally by the *Financial Accountability Act 2009* and under this Act the QPS is required to prepare an annual report. As previously outlined the QPS Annual Report provides an overview of the QPS financial performance.

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54. The discipline framework is closely linked to the accountability process. Ethical Standards Command plays an important role which includes:

- investigating allegations of corruption, misconduct and serious breaches of discipline, including suspected unethical conduct;
- developing educational strategies to promote, reinforce and engender in all employees a full understanding of the expected standards of behaviour;
- enhancing ethical standards for employees of the QPS, including development of corporate policies, practices and strategies that prevent, minimise and discourage unethical conduct; and
- administering the discipline system of the QPS.

55. The Queensland Public Service Code of Conduct and QPS Standards of Practice provide the framework for ethical behaviour and professional practice. The Crime and Misconduct Commission (CMC) also has a role in overseeing police integrity. In their oversight role they investigate complaints of official misconduct by police and monitor how the QPS deals with complaints of police misconduct.

56. The QPS has a legislative obligation to assist coroners in the initial response, identification and autopsy processes, investigation and inquest of a reportable death. Under the *Coroner's Act 2003*, a coroner may give information about possible police misconduct to the CMC. The usual CMC investigation processes will then apply.

57. Within the child protection system the Child Death Case Review Committee (CDCRC) provides an important monitoring system. The QPS Child Safety Director is a member of the CDCRC which is chaired by the Commissioner for Children, Young People and Child Guardian. The CDCRC was established to increase transparency and accountability in the child protection system. Issues identified are addressed in detail in the CDCRC Annual report. If any adverse comments relate to police actions, the QPS internal review process is commenced, with a view to identifying not only individual actions but also whether any practice or systems issues require review.

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58. These internal and external accountability measures provide direction, guidance and clear obligation for all officers regarding inquiries and investigations involving children and their safety.

CPIU Resource Allocation

59. As at 1 July 2012 the Service's approved strength for police officers specialising in roles involving child protection was 558 and actual strength was 525. This is comprised of specialist CPIU, and SCAN staff throughout the state; and a central team of specialist detectives who deal with complex cases (the Child Safety & Sexual Crime Group).

60. As at 1 July 2012, there are 36 CPIUs and 14 SCAN units throughout Queensland with an approved strength of 478 and an actual police strength of 451. As at 1 July 2012, the central Child Safety and Sexual Crime Group has an approved police strength of 80 and an actual police strength of 74.

61. The SCAN team officers perform functions directly related to the *Child Protection Act 1999*, in accordance with Chapter 5A of that Act. Depending on locality, some SCAN team officers perform other duties such as the assessment of matters relating to children who are exposed domestic and family violence, and activities relating to reportable offenders under the CPOR legislation. In some cases these additional activities consume a full time SCAN position, subject to local workload demands and priorities.

62. CPIU officers perform a broad range of child protection functions, including, but not limited to, investigation of extra-familial abuse and technology-facilitated offending, which fall outside the scope of the *Child Protection Act 1999*. It is therefore difficult to identify actual numbers of investigators dedicated to the work of child protection as it relates to functions contained in the *Child Protection Act 1999*.

Key Issues for Police and the Child Protection System

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63. The ability for police officers to take action to protect victims of domestic violence and their children since domestic violence legislation was first implemented in 1989 has evolved to the present where more robust protection processes are present in the new *Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act 2012*. For example, much more is now known about the significant psychological harm caused to children exposed to domestic violence. As a result, the new Act includes broad guidance about when a child is exposed to domestic violence, thereby allowing courts to consider naming children in orders, which will in turn give greater protection. The new Act also recognises unborn children. That is, where the aggrieved is pregnant, the court may name that child in a domestic violence order thereby protecting that child when it is born.
64. The extensive training given to police in support of the new Act is comprehensive and discusses the above developments in relation to children. Additionally, the new Act will give further powers to police to provide a layer of protection to victims and their children prior to magistrates issuing domestic violence orders. These include the ability to issue Police Protection Notices and increased respondent detention powers.
65. Since the introduction of domestic and family violence legislation and subsequent legislative amendments, children are being afforded increasing recognition and protection. This is largely due to the known detrimental impact on children from being exposed to domestic violence, particularly the impact of cumulative harm as a result of continued exposure to domestic violence. The QPS provides a first response and investigation to incidents of domestic and family violence and are best placed to record information in relation to the incident. It is important that all information relating to children who reside with an aggrieved or respondent is referred to CSS so that all information is taken into account when making a child-focussed assessment of the impact of the cumulative harm.
66. Whilst the QPS will continue to perform a first response and investigative function its officers do not have the expertise to provide a holistic child safety response. QPS officers provide investigative expertise in relation to criminal

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matters pertaining to child protection, but do not have the requisite capacity or specialist knowledge to provide a social service response.

67. Another issue that currently exists, and referred to in the previous CMC Protecting Children Inquiry and other reports such as the *Restoring Order: Crime prevention, policing and local justice in Queensland's Indigenous communities* report, is that whilst CSS maintains a predominantly 9 to 5, Monday to Friday response with limited after hours coverage, a service delivery gap exists. Generally, due to the QPS providing a 24/7 service, police officers are called upon to fill this service delivery gap. For example, the lack of CSS staff to service rural and remote communities will continue to place additional strain on the QPS to provide a child safety response when the CSS is unable to do so.

68. In many instances, an initial response will be provided by general duties officers, who have limited exposure to child protection issues and will therefore be limited in their ability to identify issues that might indicate a risk of harm to a child. Police (and I suspect other non-specialist child assessors) will invariably lean to a conservative assessment for reporting children at risk. Simply shifting the onus for these decisions will in my opinion not address the circumstances of the specific child's environment.

69. Anecdotally, there has been a rise in the number of calls for police service to residential care facilities in response to children in the care of the Department of Communities. These calls for service relate to those children as both victims and offenders. The impacts on police, as well as the potential for children in care to enter the criminal justice system, creates significant long-term resource implications for government.

Challenges

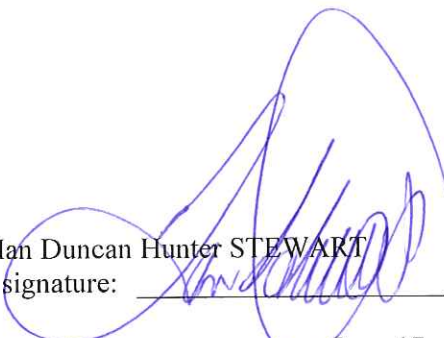
70. The QPS is committed to working with other agencies to improve the operations of the Child Protection System, but it must be acknowledged that child protection forms only a part of a myriad of organisational responsibilities aimed at ensuring a safer community generally. Any proposal for the expansion of the role of the QPS

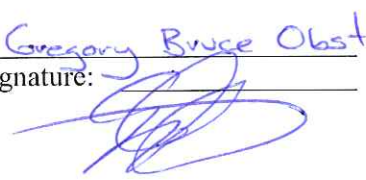
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in the Child Protection System would need to be considered in the context of the impact upon the delivery of all policing responsibilities and the children involved.

71. Service delivery in the Child Protection System is the responsibility of a multi-agency coordinated response, both government and non-government. What is essential is that there be a balanced approach to service delivery. To achieve this goal, there may be a need to consider realignment of current resources within the Child Protection System.
72. Another consideration is the potential for improving information technology (IT) systems across government to enhance the ability to share appropriate information. The key features would be an IT system that is able to facilitate and automate information sharing across government to ensure timeliness, accuracy and usefulness. Currently, each core agency maintains individual IT systems with no ability to interconnect between agencies. This then requires significant manual processes between agencies to request and exchange information relating to the child and the child's family. This proposal does not suggest that an IT system would replace human interaction between agencies, but rather that an IT system would interrogate the information holdings between the agencies and then further interaction between key liaison points within the core agencies would be required to value add and make an assessment based on the information gathered.

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73. There are other broader policy issues that have potential to have a positive effect on child protection. Social policy issues relating to housing, education, employment, health services, and community infrastructure, also have the ability to impact on child protection, particularly in remote and rural areas including indigenous communities (Torres Strait and the mainland). Alcohol Management Plans are a subset of these policies and the announced review of AMPs may be relevant in further consideration of child safety issues in relevant communities.

I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of the *Oaths Act 1867*.

Signed

Ian Duncan Hunter STEWART

Taken and declared before me, at Brisbane this 10th day of August 2012.

Witness

Gregory Bruce Obst
Solicitor/~~Barrister~~/Justice of the
Peace/~~Commission for Declarations~~

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