



POLICE ASSOCIATION OF NEW SOUTH WALES

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POLICE OVERSIGHT REVIEW BEGINS

The Police Association of NSW today welcomed the announcement from Acting Premier and Minister for Justice and Police, Troy Grant confirming the commencement of the review into Police Oversight.

The terms of reference include considering and reporting to Government on:

- Options for a single civilian oversight model for police in NSW;
- Any gaps in the current police oversight system;
- Best-practice models from around the world, including the UK Independent Police Complaints Commission; and
- A recommended model for police oversight including guidance on its design, structure, cost and establishment.

Police Association President, Scott Weber, said, "We welcome the review to begin this week by former Shadow Attorney-General, Andrew Tink, AM. What is also pleasing, is Mr Tink will report back to the NSW Government by August 31.

"Police officers and the people of NSW deserve a professional, effective and fair police oversight system. We support rigorous oversight of NSW police officers through the establishment of a single oversight body to deliver improved outcomes for police accountability, procedural fairness and better use of resources.

"Multiple oversight bodies do not achieve these outcomes or improve police oversight, instead they hinder it and what's worse, they have lost the confidence of police officers.

"The police oversight landscape is littered with agencies, with overlapping functions and fighting to protect their turf and resources with police in the middle of the chaos. It's a waste of taxpayer's money and we simply can't afford it to continue.

"What we also don't want to see is a repeat of recent debacles where police officers, complainants and affected persons and their families have to suffer through long, traumatic investigations, some taking years. Then when they do reach an end there is still not one consistent finding. Instead each agency has made separate findings which more often than not, conflict with each other.

"How could this be considered as upholding the highest standards of conduct, performance and integrity?"

"While we should explore overseas models regarding oversight, we need to implement world's best practice and heed the lessons learned from areas such as the UK.

"We look forward to working in consultation with Mr Tink and the Government during the review process."

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PRESS RELEASE