

This document has been redacted for Public Interest Immunity claims made by Victoria Police. These claims are not yet resolved.

**Royal Commission
into the Management of Police Informants**

SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT OF STEPHEN CRAIG GLEESON APM

- 1) My full name is Stephen Craig Gleeson APM.
- 2) I have provided a statement to the Royal Commission dated 6 November 2019 (First Statement). Since signing that statement, I have been given access to additional documents relevant to the issues in my First Statement.

Additional relevant documents

- 3) I have been provided with two bundles of documents which constitute a copy of the Comrie Report and annexures,¹ and my working notes prepared while undertaking the Comrie Review (Notes).²
- 4) My Notes speak for themselves. Where I feel that my Notes add to the content of my First Statement, I have provided details below.
- 5) In my First Statement at [54], I refer to steps I took to access the Petra Steering Committee meeting minutes during May 2012.
- 6) My Notes include a file note³ setting out further enquiries I made in order to access the Petra Steering Committee meeting minutes. The file note states that I contacted Superintendent Clive Rust on 16 May 2012, who was based at the Ethical Standards Department at the time. Having reviewed the file note, I am reminded that I did contact Superintendent Rust, and the note accords with my recollection.
- 7) In my First Statement at [51], I refer to discussions I had with Officer Hotham regarding Ms Gobbo's AOR (among other things) during May 2012.
- 8) My Notes include a file note⁴ setting out a discussion that I had with Superintendent Paul Sheridan on 7 June 2012. Reviewing the file note reminds me that I had a conversation with Superintendent Sheridan regarding endeavours to locate Ms Gobbo's AOR, and my

¹ VPL.0099.0047.0001.

² VPL.0099.0048.0001.

³ VPL.0099.0048.0001 at .0007, noting this is incorrectly dated 16 May 2011 but should be dated 16 May 2012.

⁴ VPL.0099.0048.0001 at .0253.

noting from the conversation that Superintendent Sheridan was not convinced that an AOR in fact existed.

- 9) The 7 June 2012 file note also records that subsequent to my conversation with Superintendent Sheridan I then engaged in discussions with Mr Comrie about AOR processes.
- 10) In my First Statement at [58], I refer to a letter I drafted requesting legal advice from the VGSO during either late-April or early-May 2012.
- 11) My Notes include a copy of the letter I describe in my First Statement at [58].⁵ This copy includes the handwritten annotation 'Copy / By hand to Stephen 9/5/12'. Reviewing this version of the letter, I am reminded that I hand delivered a copy of it to Mr Stephen Lee of the VGSO on 9 May 2012.
- 12) My Notes also include an email sent by me (from my Department of Justice email address) to Mr McRae on 9 May 2012.⁶ Reviewing the email reminds me that on 9 May 2012, I requested additional advice from VGSO beyond that referred in the letter I describe above.

Additional matters

- 13) In addition to the material referred above, I now recall two other additional matters that I wish to mention to the Commission.
- 14) The first concerns actions taken by Victoria Police following the Comrie Review.
- 15) In my First Statement at [69] – [74], I describe further operations and investigations arising after the Comrie Review.
- 16) In addition to these operations and investigations, I have recalled that:
 - a) In early September 2012, after the Comrie Review was completed, I wrote to David Watts, the Commissioner for Law Enforcement and Data Security (CLEDS) to report the apparent loss or misplacing of files relating to the Petra Task Force;⁷
 - b) Victoria Police established a Comrie Recommendation Acquittal process (**Acquittal Process**).

⁵ VPL.0099.0048.0001 at .0620 - .0622.

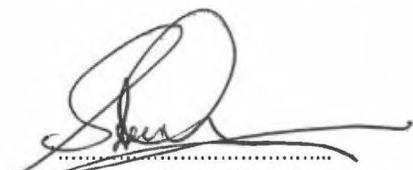
⁶ VPL.0099.0048.0001 at .0619.

⁷ VPL.0005.0224.0001.

- 17) Regarding the letter to CLEDS, I note that the version of the letter I have referred to in paragraph 16)a) above is in tracked changes. I am now unable to locate a 'final' (as in, not tracked) version of the letter. I cannot now precisely recall but I expect that I prepared a final version of the letter. I provided a hardcopy version of the letter to CLEDS shortly after it was prepared.
- 18) I provided the letter to CLEDS because I was at that time the Officer in Charge of the Information Management, Standards and Security Division (IMSSD) and it was my responsibility to alert CLEDS to the file being lost or misplaced; and
- 19) I do not remember specifics about the Acquittal Process and I had no formal role in it. However, I understood from my discussions with Mr McRae post the Comrie works that Mr McRae had involvement with a group constituted to implement the recommendations of the Comrie Review. I understood from those discussion that the group was mostly made up of members from the Intelligence and Covert Support Command.
- 20) From time to time, Mr McRae requested that I assess update reports he had received from the group carrying out the Acquittal Process, and provide advice back to him regarding the extent to which Victoria Police was implementing the recommendations. I believe that Mr McRae asked for my advice because of my familiarity with the Comrie Review recommendations, as a result of my involvement preparing the Comrie Review.
- 21) I believe that I reviewed and provided my assessment to Mr McRae in relation to two or three update reports.
- 22) The second matter is that I was approached by Senior Sergeant Chris Corbell about searches that he had undertaken of the Interpose database. I cannot now recall the context for SS Corbell's approach but I think it is likely that it occurred during 2014.
- 23) SS Corbell explained to me that during 2012 he had been approached by AC Pope on two occasions to undertake [REDACTED] of the Interpose database, and that he had undertaken those searches. SS Corbell expressed concern to me about the fact that he had undertaken [REDACTED] of the Interpose database. I advised SS Corbell that he was duty bound to prepare a statement detailing the request and searches and to report the statement through his line management. I do not recall discussing the matter further with SS Corbell.

- 24) I have been shown a copy of a statement prepared by SS Corbell.⁸ I am reminded by the statement that in the course of my involvement in Operation Bendigo, I was provided with the file containing SS Corbell's statement. The file also contained copies of documents relevant to Ms Gobbo's registration in 1999.⁹
- 25) On receiving the file, I considered it was appropriate to prepare a memorandum addressed to DC Cartwright.¹⁰ The memorandum attached copies of the documents for DC Cartwright's consideration. I note that the documents referred to in the memorandum include an Informer Registration Application and a document with the subject 'request that status be reclassified from 'active' to 'inactive''. I consider that these documents confirmed Ms Gobbo's 1999 registration.
- 26) I am not aware of actions taken by DC Cartwright or others following receipt of the memorandum.
- 27) I believe that the first time I saw these documents was in the course of the Operation Bendigo works during 2014.

Dated: 20 November 2019



Stephen Craig Gleeson

⁸ VPL.0002.0002.0038, noting that the statement is signed but not dated.

⁹ VPL.0002.0002.0038, VPL.0002.0002.0047, VPL.0002.0002.0048, VPL.0002.0002.0053.

¹⁰ VPL.0002.0002.0037, noting that this document includes handwritten comments which appear to be prepared by DC Cartwright and in any event were not prepared by me.