

## Transcript

Station: **3AW** Date: **28/03/2019**

Program: **MORNINGS** Time: **09:25 AM**

Compere: **NEIL MITCHELL** Summary ID: **X00078336952**

Item: **CONTINUING INTERVIEW WITH GRAHAM ASHTON, CHIEF COMMISSIONER, VICTORIA POLICE, ABOUT THE WHEREABOUTS OF NICOLA GOBBO.**

**INTERVIEWEES: GRAHAM ASHTON, CHIEF COMMISSIONER, VICTORIA POLICE**

Audience:	Male 16+	Female 16+	All people
	52000	89000	141000

NEIL MITCHELL: Lawyer X Royal Commission has begun. Do you know whether Nicola Gobbo is in the country?

GRAHAM ASHTON: I know- well, in relation to her security, I'm bound by certain legislation in what I can say about it. So I'd be careful there not to [indistinct]-

NEIL MITCHELL: [Talks over] I ask because at one stage, you said she was rejecting any security from police...

GRAHAM ASHTON: [Talks over] Yeah. Look...

NEIL MITCHELL: ... we are in a different situation, are we?

GRAHAM ASHTON: Yeah, a different situation but there's also- we get occasionally people saying: she was seen here, she was seen there and that sort of stuff, but generally they're not- it's not sort of real sightings, it's people thinking they've seen her.

NEIL MITCHELL: Well, I do understand if it's progressed...

GRAHAM ASHTON: Yeah.

NEIL MITCHELL: ... in a certain direction that we can't explore legally, so we won't.

\* \* END \* \*

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## Transcript

Station: **3AW** Date: **28/03/2019**

Program: **MORNINGS** Time: **09:28 AM**

Compere: **NEIL MITCHELL** Summary ID: **X00078337068**

Item: **CONTINUING INTERVIEW WITH GRAHAM ASHTON, CHIEF COMMISSIONER, VICTORIA POLICE, ABOUT EVIDENCE PRESENTED TO THE ROYAL COMMISSION INTO VICTORIA POLICE PRACTICES.**

**INTERVIEWEES: GRAHAM ASHTON, CHIEF COMMISSIONER, VICTORIA POLICE**

<b>Audience:</b>	Male 16+ 52000	Female 16+ 89000	All people 141000
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NEIL MITCHELL: Back to the Royal Commission, and not the issue that we were talking about earlier but this- it started yesterday and resumes in half an hour's time, and already the evidence is that Lawyer X, Nicola Gobbo, was working for the Police longer than we thought.

There had been a warning from a police officer that she was a loose cannon. This is going to be pretty embarrassing for Vic Pol, isn't it?

GRAHAM ASHTON:

Well, it goes back to those events from, you know, 15 to 20 years ago, and this is the evidence that we'll be going through and working out what is the history of that particular human source and how she was used. So, I mean, that's just part of the ongoing Royal Commission process. And-

NEIL MITCHELL:

[Interrupts] Will you be giving evidence?

GRAHAM ASHTON:

Well, if I'm asked to, of course, yeah, I'll go along and help as best as I can.

NEIL MITCHELL:

[Talks over] But you haven't been yet?

GRAHAM ASHTON:

Ah no, I haven't been called to give evidence, no. But I will, obviously, if I'm asked and go along and be as best we can to assist, but I said at the time when this was first out that at the time, police were trying to deal with some significant criminal activity.

NEIL MITCHELL:

Not over that period of time, though. She was a source from about 1993, wasn't she? When were the gangland wars?

GRAHAM ASHTON:

[Talks over] Seems like back when she was a student, from what the evidence was yesterday.

NEIL MITCHELL: She went through till 2010, which was after the gangland wars.

GRAHAM ASHTON: Oh yeah, but there was significant underworld activity right through that period as well.

NEIL MITCHELL: It's the old argument that the ends justify the means.

GRAHAM ASHTON: Well, the question is what was the means and what was wrong with the means. And I think-

NEIL MITCHELL: [Interrupts] Well, the High Court had a view that it was atrocious behaviour by Victoria Police.

GRAHAM ASHTON: Yeah, and the courts have had a view about this all the way through. But, you know, that doesn't mean that we

don't take a slightly different view of that.

NEIL MITCHELL: You take a slightly different view to the High Court of Australia?

GRAHAM ASHTON: Yeah.

NEIL MITCHELL: [Laughs] Fair enough.

\* \* END \* \*

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