

Budget Estimates 2024-2025

Law Enforcement Conduct Commission

Answers to Supplementary Questions

- (1) In relation to the LECC's strategic intelligence project regarding domestic violence and coercive control by police officers referenced by the Hon. Peter Johnson SC in the 26 February 2025 Budget Estimates hearing, can you provide further detail regarding the scope of this project including the project's intended purpose, methodology, resourcing capacity and any other relevant information?**

The Strategic Intelligence Team is a whole of agency resource and reports on current and emerging issues to inform strategic decision making and provide support to all areas of the Commission by identifying, collecting and analysing relevant data to produce intelligence products to enhance the understanding of systemic, emerging and enduring corruption and police misconduct issues and risks. The team is a new function for the Commission, which started in August 2024 and has produced several strategic intelligence products on emerging issues.

The LECC Strategic Intelligence team has an ongoing collection and detection methodology on coercive control, which was started in September 2024.

Coercive control being a new criminal offence will be subject of legislative reviews and reforms. Therefore, the project's purpose is to:

- review the investigation of Police perpetrators
- the rates of Police perpetration of coercive control
- opportunities to work with public and private sector partners to detect and disrupt coercive control
- identify issues related to at risk victims and vulnerable populations
- identify themes evident in Police coercive control investigations that may require recommendations for reform

It is proposed that the project will run over a period of two year, drawing on information and resources from all parts of the LECC.

- (a) Will the project include the publication of a special report under 138 of the *Law Enforcement Conduct Commission Act 2016* (the Act)?**
- (b) What is the project's timeline, including an estimated timeframe for the finalisation and publication of the report?**

The responses to (a) and (b) are included below.

The project has already produced briefs for internal use on the elements of coercive control, such as technologically facilitated abuse and financial abuse, to inform the agency on these issues and provide recommendations to monitor and detect coercive control. In the next three months the project will provide a further paper on coercive control to inform a strategy for detecting and monitoring Police perpetrated offending.

The Commission is considering the public release of these briefs; however, it is likely that they may form part of an overarching DV report.

(c) Who is leading this work within the LECC?

The Commission's Strategic Intelligence Team will lead this work with support from Oversight, Prevention, Investigation, and Intelligence teams. The project has contribution and engagement with AUSTRAC and the eSafety Commissioner to help identify methodologies such as the use of technology to control, harass and monitor victims.