



PERTH CASINO ROYAL COMMISSION

111 St Georges Terrace,
PERTH WA 6000

PRACTICE DIRECTION 8¹ PCRC PROGRAMME NOVEMBER 2021 TO MARCH 2022

INTRODUCTION

1. This Practice Direction relates to the conduct of the Royal Commission into the affairs of Crown Casino Perth and related matters (**PCRC**).
2. This Practice Direction should be read in conjunction with the *Royal Commissions Act 1968* (WA) (**Act**) and the Commission issued under the Public Seal of the State of Western Australia establishing the Royal Commission on 5 March 2021, including the terms of appointment (**Terms of Reference**).²
3. This Practice Direction may be varied or replaced at any time. The Commission may depart from this Practice Direction if it considers it appropriate to do so.
4. This Practice Direction gives guidance about the programme for the final phases of the PCRC. It is subject to change if circumstances dictate.

HEARINGS TO TAKE EVIDENCE

5. Three further days of public hearings are currently scheduled:
 - (a) Thursday 11 November: (expert evidence on AML/CTF matters);
 - (b) Tuesday 16 November: (expert evidence on harm minimisation matters); and
 - (c) Wednesday 17 November 2021: Steven Blackburn (Crown remediation plan, particularly AML/CTF and harm minimisation matters).
6. There is no present intention to schedule further hearings to take evidence.

DISCUSSION PAPERS

7. Paragraph 11 of the terms of reference requires the PCRC to report on matters which might enhance the regulatory framework.
8. By 15 November the PCRC will make available for comment by interested parties and members of the public a discussion paper on those questions. Persons who wish to comment on the discussion paper will have until 29 November 2021 to do so.

¹ This Practice Direction was issued on 11 November 2021 and amended on 22 November 2021. A party may request the previous version of this Practice Guideline by contacting the PCRC by email to solicitorassisting@pcrc.wa.gov.au.

² The Terms of Reference are the terms of appointment set out in paragraph (a) of 'Operative Part' of the Commission issued under the Public Seal of the State of Western Australia establishing the Royal Commission on 5 March 2021 and are available here <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/document-collections/perth-casino-royal-commission-terms-of-reference>

9. The discussion paper is a high-level exploration of issues and does not express any final or concluded views. It will not contain findings or comments on evidence and has been prepared as part of the process of gathering information and to give interested parties and the general public an opportunity to consider the issues and make informed comment to assist the Commissioners to reach conclusions at the end of the entire process.
10. The PCRC may produce other discussion papers from time to time during November and early December. If so, they will be made available for the purposes and under the conditions detailed in the preceding paragraph.

CLOSING DOCUMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

11. The programme currently envisaged for closing documents and oral closing presentations is as follows:
 - (a) By 17 December 2021 the PCRC will provide written closing observations to the relevant interested parties that will include notice to the affected interested parties of any relevant issues and potentially adverse material that has not been previously notified to them through the Commission's hearings and other processes to that point.
 - (b) By 20 January 2022 interested parties may provide written closing submissions responding to the PCRC's closing observations and outlining other matters they consider relevant for the Commissioners' considerations.
 - (c) Subject to the terms of any non-publication order, the PCRC may provide a copy of that party's written closing submissions or part thereof to other interested parties.
 - (d) By 27 January 2022 interested parties may provide written closing submissions responding to the written submissions of any other interested party.
 - (e) An interested party intending to make an application for a non-publication order in respect of any part of their written closing submissions (either primary or responsive) must make the application on or before the production of the written closing submissions. Interested parties should otherwise comply with [Practice Direction 5](#) in respect of any application.
 - (f) On 1 or 2 February 2022 interested parties and counsel assisting who wish to make oral closing presentations will have the opportunity to do so.
12. Before 17 December 2021, the PCRC will issue a practice direction for closing observations and submissions covering matters such as:
 - (a) format and manner of delivery of written materials;
 - (b) confidentiality of the PCRC's notification of issues and parties' responses; and
 - (c) whether and to what extent closing observations and closing submissions of interested parties are to be published.
13. Issues concerning oral closing presentations, including time limits to be applied, may be dealt with in the December practice direction or separately.

FINAL REPORT

14. The final report will be delivered to the Governor on or before 4 March 2022.