

## The Hon. Greg Smith SC MP

Attorney General Minister for Justice

Mr Mohammed Tariq 98 Adelaide Street ST MARYS NSW 2760 IM12/05756, 12/05914, 12/06070, 12/07358, 12/07361, 12/08486 FILE09/002026 MATTER12/001169

Dear Mr Tariq

Thank you for your emails about the dismissal of your complaints by the Legal Services Commissioner.

I do not consider that an independent inquiry into the complaint handling practices of the Commissioner is warranted. I note that the Commissioner wrote to you to explain in detail the reasons for the dismissal of your complaints. I am advised your belief that the Commissioner has dismissed all complaints about Keddies is incorrect. I understand there are currently two related prosecutions before the Administrative Decisions Tribunal.

I recognise you are dissatisfied with the outcome in your particular case but I can assure you the Commissioner examines every case presented thoroughly. The Commissioner makes his decisions based on the facts before him and within the relevant legislation and policy guidelines. While it may be possible for you to appeal a decision of the Commissioner to the Supreme Court under administrative law principles, I would encourage you to seek independent legal advice before taking such action.

The authority to investigate complaints against legal practitioners rests entirely with the Legal Services Commissioner under the provisions of the Legal Profession Act 2004. Neither I nor any other Member of Parliament have the authority to review the decisions or investigative functions of the Commissioner.

I must also advise that I have no power to investigate alleged corruption. Allegations of public sector corruption in NSW can be considered by the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC). A complaint of corruption can be made using the form at www.icac.nsw.gov.au or by writing to the ICAC at GPO Box 500, Sydney NSW 2001.

I note you have been writing with your concerns about the Legal Services Commissioner for some years. Though I acknowledge you remain aggrieved, I regret that I am unable to be of further assistance to you. I do appreciate that you may be disappointed with this advice. However I trust you will understand there is sometimes a limit to the assistance I am able to provide, and also to the extent that correspondence can continue after a definitive response has been provided.

If you wish to correspond further on this same subject, your concerns will of course be noted and recorded on an official file, but I regret it will not be possible for my Department or I to provide you with a further response.

Yours sincerely

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