

Alex Greenwich
Member for Sydney
58 Oxford Street
Paddington 2021



The Hon David Shoebridge MLC
NSW Parliament
Macquarie Street
Sydney 2000

6 April 2016

The Hon Troy Grant MP
Minister for Justice and Police
GPO Box 5341
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Minister

Scott Johnson Investigation

We write to request a new police investigation into the 1988 death of Scott Johnson.

Media reports this week state that the Johnson family barrister will apply to the NSW Coroner tomorrow for a new investigative team to be allocated to this case, following ongoing concern that the Unsolved Homicide Unit may present continued bias or a perception of bias in dealing with gay hate crimes.

We note that Detective Chief Inspector Pam Young from this unit was removed from the investigation last year due to a perception of bias; however the Johnson family believe that there is wider bias and lack of serious treatment of historic gay hate crimes. The unusual decision by the NSW Coroner to carry out a third inquest into Scott Johnson's death reflects this concern and must be properly supported with active police cooperation and meet community expectations.

Constituents who have contacted me are very concerned the community must have confidence that all officers working on these cases will be unbiased and treat homosexual victims with the same respect and dignity afforded others.

We share wide community concern that justice must be served and be seen to have been carried out. It is vital that any perception of bias or institutional homophobia in the current investigation be prevented if the community is to have faith in the outcome in this case and in other unsolved deaths from that time.

Could you please liaise with the Attorney General to ensure unbiased police and justice assistance to the NSW Coroner for the Scott Johnson investigation and inform me what action you will take?

Yours sincerely

Two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is 'Alex Greenwich' and the signature on the right is 'David Shoebridge'.

Alex Greenwich
Member for Sydney

David Shoebridge
The Greens MP Justice Spokesperson

CC: NSW Attorney General; NSW Coroner