



Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes

23 August 2023

Michael Plotecki

By express post

Dear Mr Plotecki,

Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes: Simon Blair Wark

I refer to our previous correspondence in relation to the Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes (“the Inquiry”), in which I assist the Honourable Justice John Sackar (“the Commissioner”).

The Inquiry

On 13 April 2022 the Governor of NSW, by Letters Patent, issued a commission to the Commissioner to inquire into and report on historical LGBTIQ hate crimes. Specifically, the Letters Patent require the Commissioner to inquire into and report to the Governor and Premier on the following matters by 15 December 2023:

- A. The manner and cause of death in all cases that remain unsolved from the 88 deaths or suspected deaths of men potentially motivated by gay hate bias that were considered by Strike Force Parrabell; and
- B. The manner and cause of death in all unsolved suspected hate crime deaths in New South Wales that occurred between 1970 and 2010 where:
 - i. The victim was a member of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ) community; and
 - ii. The death was the subject of a previous investigation by the NSW Police Force.

Further information in relation to the background and conduct of the Inquiry can be found on the Inquiry’s website: www.specialcommission.nsw.gov.au.

Death of Simon Blair Wark

As you are aware, one of the matters the Commissioner is considering pursuant to category A of the Letters Patent is the death of Simon Blair Wark, known as “Blair”. Mr Wark’s body was found near Dobroyd Point in Sydney Harbour on 10 January 1990. As per our previous correspondence, the Inquiry understands that you were one of the officers in charge of the NSW Police Force (“NSWPF”) investigation into Mr Wark’s death.

