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Briars / Contacts with Linnell and Ashby Chronology – Prepared following briefing from Graham Ashton on 14 September 2007, for the information of OPI.

Month	Developments
January 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Late January, received a verbal briefing from DC Overland re possible police involvement in murder of Chartress-Abbott and the possibility that we may establish a taskforce to investigate. Matter was pending as a statement from an informant was still under preparation / consideration.
February 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 February 2007, at 1600hrs, I was briefed by DC Overland re Operation Clonk (investigation into murder of Chartress Abbott). Discussed need to establish taskforce, due to suspected police involvement. I suggested Supt Rod Wilson might head the taskforce. 19 February 2007, about 1600hrs, following a MCMC steering committee meeting at St Kilda Road. I was provided with a draft direction pertaining to the establishment of a taskforce, as discussed on 9 February 2007. The draft was subsequently shredded when I received the final version. 20 February 2007, at 0900hrs, I met with DC Overland to discuss the establishment of taskforce Briars. We also discussed the establishment of a reference group to advise the Chief Commissioner and ourselves in relation to the management of government and media issues which might arise in relation to the operation of the taskforce. I then gave effect to various administrative arrangements within ESD to support the establishment of the taskforce over the following week. 26 February 2007, at 1530hrs, I met with George Brouwer, Graham Ashton, CCP and Simon Overland at George Brouwer's office to discuss the establishment of a taskforce (Taskforce Briars) to investigate police involvement in the murder of Chartress-Abbott. Agreed the taskforce should be conducted [REDACTED], with the highest levels of confidentiality to be maintained. Shared resources between VicPol and OPI to be covered by an agency agreement. 26, February 2007, at 1645hrs, I met with Steve Linnell and CCP, in the CCP's Office re the pending release of the OPI "Past Patterns, Future Directions" report, to discuss media comment in relation to its release.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 27 February 2007, at 1530hrs, I met with Rod Wilson, Wayne Taylor, Peter O'Neill, Nicole McKechnie, Penny Maroulis, Bob Stork, Steve Linnell and Fin McRae re the pending release of the Ombudsman's report into the TPA bullying allegations and the pending release of the OPI "Past Patterns, Future Directions" report. The purpose of the meeting was to agree on media strategy / comment regarding the release of both reports.
March 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 March 2007, at 1130hrs, I attended a meeting with CCP, Simon Overland, Ken Latta, Alastair Milroy, Andy Allen, Steve Linnell, at the CCP's Conference Room. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the establishment of Taskforce Briars and the establishment of this group as a CCP advisory group, to provide advice to the CCP in relation to managing issues with the government and media in relation to the taskforce. It was agreed that Frank Costigan QC would also be invited to join the group. The advisory group was to be separate from the taskforce Board of Management and should not receive operational briefings from the taskforce. This was in order to maintain confidentiality and to avoid any perception arising that the taskforce was being influenced by political or media considerations. To assist in briefing the advisory group, DC Overland gave a powerpoint presentation in relation to the taskforce and the issue likely to be the subject of consideration by the CCP advisory group. DC Overland stressed the need for confidentiality and the documents present were marked "Highly Protected". DC Overland also provided a copy of the draft terms of reference. DC Overland also stressed the confidential nature of the briefing material, indicating that it was being made available to assist in the development of advice for the CCP. The meeting also determined that Steve Linnell would have carriage of the development of a media strategy and that he would be afforded access to the terms of reference document to allow him to prepare the strategy. At no time was anyone given authority to disclose the contents of the briefing beyond the participants in the meeting. Meeting participants were requested to return circulated documentation prior to leaving the meeting. • 1 March 2007, 1300hrs, met with Graham Ashton for regular liaison meeting. Joined by DC Overland during course of meeting to discuss Briars