



## Suspension of a Police Officer Policy Statement

### Suspension of a police officer is a risk minimisation strategy only.

The primary consideration should be whether the officer's continued performance of duty would involve too great a risk to the NSW Police Force, the public, other members of the NSW Police Force or the subject officer.

### The following principles underpin this policy statement:

- Suspension is not to be used as a penalty or as management action.
- Suspension is a risk minimisation strategy and should only be contemplated when other risk minimisation strategies are not reasonably viable. A decision to suspend an officer from 'office as a police officer' is a serious consideration.
- Alternatives to suspension, such as changing the officers' duty type or location, or imposing other work restrictions should be considered prior to resorting to suspension from office.

### Our commitment is to ensure that the NSW Police Force:

- The Professional Standards Command (**PSC**) is responsible for setting and embedding the professional standards for performance, conduct and integrity across the NSW Police Force.
- PSC is strongly focused on the prevention, disruption and response to serious misconduct and maladministration

### Responsibilities:

- **Senior Executive** - approve and support the NSW Police Force *Suspension Procedures for Police Officers* and the *Suspension of a Police Officer Policy Statement*; regularly monitor and review the procedure; and promote and support the correct processes when suspending a police officer.
- **Professional Standards Command** - design, develop, implement, monitor and improve these Procedures and Policy.
- **Commanders/Managers** - communicate, manage and achieve compliance with the NSW Police Force *Suspension Procedures for Police Officers* within their command by identifying risks and obligations; monitoring effectiveness; and ensuring adherence.

**Commander  
Management Action & Workplace Services  
Professional Standards Command  
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