

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Dr Leigh Gassner was in Victoria Police for 35 years leaving as an Assistant Commissioner. His senior executive and leadership experience have included leading and managing two of the largest police regions (each of approximately 2000 personnel) in Victoria and being responsible for the wide range of services to the community. Leigh has also led the delivery of education and development programs to the organisation. He also managed and lead significant cultural and organisational change processes in Victoria Police including new service delivery and community engagement models and corporate management review functions

His experience in the public sector includes developing social policy with multiple and diverse stakeholders to achieve outcomes in complex social systems through meaningful dialogue and problem-solving methods. Leigh has also advised in the public sector on organisational performance and cultural change, strategy development and organisational re-positioning. He has chaired Cabinet endorsed committees involving system reform including the State-wide Steering Committee to Reduce Family Violence and the State-wide Steering Committee to Reduce Sexual Assault involving both the community and government sectors.

Since leaving the public-sector Leigh has provided executive coaching and leadership development programs in the finance, manufacturing and retail sectors. This work builds on Leigh's knowledge and practice around systems thinking, on which he has lectured at post-graduate level. Because of his experience and study Leigh brings both a practical and theoretical mix to his work. Leigh has also worked numerous times in China with the Australian Human Rights Commission and the Supreme People's Court of China on family violence legislative and system reform and in South Africa on system reform to violence against women.

Leigh has also been a regular speaker at the Australian & New Zealand School of Government on the Towards Strategic Leadership Program and also guest speaker and facilitator on systems thinking and leadership at the Melbourne University on law enforcement and public health and the Leadership Victoria Program

In 2014 government asked Leigh to establish and undertake the roles of Deputy President (Registration) and Deputy President Professional Standards) at the Police Registration and Services Board in Victoria. He left this role in 2017



LEIGH GASSNER
ASSOCIATE

Qualifications & Memberships

- Member, Prime Ministers Commonwealth Government Violence against Women Advisory Group
- Victorian Ministerial Advisory Committee on Mental Health Reform.
- Chair, Victoria Coroners Family Violence Death Review Panels.
- Board Director, Australian Community Support Organisation
- Fellow, Institute of Public Administration (Victoria)
- Adjunct Professor, Torrens University, Australian Graduate School of Leadership (Supervisor of Doctorate of Business Leadership candidates)

Areas of Expertise

- Executive Leadership and Management
- Change Management
- Systems Thinking
- Leadership Development
- Executive Coaching and Mentoring
- Community Engagement Management and Dialogue