

Westpac Place Level 20, 275 Kent Street Sydney NSW 2000 TEL +61 3 9608 3880

19th March 2014

Shane Dowling shanedowling@hotmail.com

Dear Mr Dowling,

I refer to your email of 10 March 2014 addressed to Westpac's Chief Executive Officer Mrs Gail Kelly. I have been asked to respond on her behalf.

You have made a number of serious allegations against Westpac, its Chairman, its employees and the lawyers Westpac has engaged in ongoing Court proceedings. We deny these allegations. We believe that they are entirely without foundation, and in respect of the individuals you have named, seriously defamatory. We request that you do not repeat them.

In particular, it appears to us that you are drawing unfounded inferences of "cover ups" of alleged fraud because we have not made a formal complaint to the police. However, we have obtained a judgment against the relevant individual, and we successfully petitioned for his bankruptcy. We offered to provide assistance to the Queensland police, and were advised that the relevant individual is serving a prison sentence on a serious (although separate) criminal conviction. We have advised the Queensland Police that we are willing to assist in the future, should they require it. We are not obliged to take any other action with respect to this individual, or the police investigation.

You put forward the serious allegation that one of our officers was bribed as a "highly likely hypothesis". We believe that there is no basis for your hypothesis. We have never seen any evidence to substantiate that allegation, and to the best of our knowledge, neither have the Queensland Police.

Given the ongoing Court proceedings, we will not engage in further correspondence with you about these matters, other than to say that Westpac and its officers have acted lawfully and appropriately at all times, and will continue to do so.

Yours faithfully

Paul Green

Acting Head of Dispute Resolution

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