



Wednesday, 24 May 2023 | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **NSW Police Watch Dog Holds Public Hearing into the Use of Force**

Tomorrow (25 May) the Law Enforcement Conduct Commission (LECC) will examine the use of force by NSW Police, along with systemic issues related to the arrest and detention of children.

Redfern Legal Centre (RLC) will be attending the hearing as part of Operation Mantus. RLC represents [YPM1], a 14-year-old boy who sustained a serious and horrific injury while being arrested by NSW Police.

The LECC is investigating allegations that excessive force was used by a member, or members, of the New South Wales Police Force at a location in Northern New South Wales in September 2022 during the apprehension and arrest of YPM1, together with other issues arising from the detention of that young person in custody following his arrest.

Systemic issues within the NSW Police Force have been highlighted by this incident, and they will form part of the LECC's investigation including the use of force by police.

Samantha Lee, senior solicitor with RLC's Police Accountability practice states, "The unlawful use of force by NSW Police is of enormous public concern. The community deserves to be treated with respect by NSW Police.

"The use of force is a systemic issue. Communities who are policed disproportionately, including First Nations people, young people, and people with living with disability and/or mental illness will also experience excessive use of force by NSW Police disproportionately. NSW Police must face greater scrutiny and oversight on this issue. The public LECC hearing is a forum to ensure accountability and transparency on use of force."

**RLC Police Accountability Solicitor Samantha Lee is available for interview.**

**Contact Jessica Lowy, RLC Communications Officer: [jessica@rlc.org.au](mailto:jessica@rlc.org.au) | 0411 961 771.  
Email is preferred.**