

INTEGRITY MATTERS



From the Chief Executive Officer

The appointment terms for our three Board members expired recently, and the new appointments were made on 17 July 2018. We welcome new members Phil Foulston and Robert Winter, and congratulate Luppo Prins on his re-appointment.

We also acknowledge the significant contribution made by outgoing members Liz Gillam and David Hudson, both of whom have been members of the Board since its inception. I'm sure that they take considerable pride in what they and the Commission have achieved over that time.

We've tabled two important investigation reports since the last newsletter, and there are some thoughts arising from them below. There's also a reflection on the journey which TasTAFE has been through since our investigation of that organisation was completed.

For the Commission, just completing an investigation is not enough. We want to help the relevant public authorities prosper from the lessons learnt.

That way we will be realising our principal objective, which is to improve the standard of conduct, propriety and ethics in public authorities in Tasmania.

Richard Bingham
Chief Executive Officer



How is information abuse handled in your organisation?

In June we released a report on an own-motion investigation into the handling of information by Tasmania Police. As an own-motion investigation, it was not triggered by a complaint but by our recognition that significant advances in technology have increased the risk of information abuse within the public sector.

The focus of our investigation was Tasmania Police. This is because:

- of the importance of information to the work and credibility of police, and
- the way in which Tasmania Police views information abuse is important for the entire Tasmanian public sector, as police are responsible for investigating and prosecuting other public sector employees that abuse information.

[Read the full article ...](#)

Investigations: one step to finalising a misconduct matter

Why do some investigations take so long to finalise?

Investigations take time, and the investigation itself is only one part of the process before a matter can be finalised. While delays during investigative operations can cause frustration and stress for those involved, they are often reflective of a robust and fair process.



A recent example is Operation Ireh. The complaint that triggered the investigation was made in June 2017 but the investigation was not tabled in Parliament until July 2018 – over one year later. However, the assessment and investigation of the complaint was completed in approximately four months.

[Read the full article ...](#)

Risk of organised crime targeting public servants

An [intelligence report](#) by IBAC Victoria highlights instances where organised crime gangs have ‘groomed’ public sector employees in other Australian jurisdictions to access information, influence decision making and manipulate public sector systems. ‘Grooming’ involves establishing a relationship with a public servant to support the crime gangs’ activities.

The reason crime gangs target the public sector is to get access to:

- sensitive information or systems
- decision-making processes, and
- high value property or goods that facilitate their criminal activity.

[Read the full article ...](#)

Release of the updated Local Government Good Governance Guide

The Local Government Division has recently updated its Good Governance Guide for Local Government in Tasmania. The guide was first released in May 2016 with involvement from the Integrity Commission as a reference group member.

The guide has been an invaluable resource for many in the local government sector since its release. With the local government elections to be held in October this year, release of the updated guide is timely, for both current elected members and anyone considering standing for election.

The guide was developed with the aim of building a better understanding of, and promoting and enhancing good governance practices in Tasmanian local government.

The updated guide is available on the [Local Government Division website](#).

TasTAFE focusses on the future

TasTAFE has taken a proactive approach to addressing the findings of a far-reaching organisational audit.

There's no doubt that TasTAFE had a challenging year in 2017, with the release of an investigation report by the Integrity Commission, followed by an organisational audit by independent auditors.

In 2018, with a new CEO and considerable work already underway to address identified issues, TasTAFE is looking to the future.

TasTAFE CEO Jenny Dodd said these events provided an impetus for TasTAFE to put a lens over its internal workings and identify improvements.

"TasTAFE has prioritised this work and we are pleased to share our learnings," Ms Dodd said.

[Read the full article ...](#)



You're receiving this because you signed up to our newsletter at an MPER event, through the Integrity Commission website, or have requested modules previously.

[Edit your subscription](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

Integrity Commission
GPO Box 822
Hobart TAS 7001
1300 720 289
www.integrity.tas.gov.au

