

INTEGRITY MATTERS



Message from the CEO



Welcome everyone to the first edition of 'Integrity Matters', a newsletter from the Integrity Commission.

Each edition will have an ethical topic or theme, give an update on the Commission's activities and provide resources to help public sector employees and their agencies to act ethically and to deal with misconduct risks in their workplaces. 'Integrity Matters' will provide an insight into the unique activities of the Commission which are essential for ensuring trust in government.

We will distribute this newsletter to our mailing list members twice a year, and it will also be on our website at www.integrity.tas.gov.au.

Diane Merryfull, Chief Executive Officer.

In the Spotlight: public interest

Power is given to the institutions of government on condition: they exist for the public to serve the interests of the public.

The concept of 'public trust' has provided ethical guidance in the development of administrative law in Australia, and the trust expected of public officers has also been applied by the courts to enforce obligations and create and apply common law criminal offences.

Public officers have a fiduciary-like relationship with the community, meaning they are expected to put the interests of the community first, and always ahead of their own.

[Read more...](#)

Investigations

In 2013-14, just over half (51%) of complaints to the Commission were received electronically. During 2013-14, the Commission concluded three own motion investigations. Two of those matters had been commenced in the 2012-13 financial year.

The Commission received 660 allegations of misconduct (an increase of 84.8% from the previous year), from a total of 113 complaints received (an increase of 71.2%). 23% of complainants either remained anonymous or requested anonymity in the event that their complaint was referred to a

public agency.

[Read more...](#)

Audit of Tasmania Police complaints

In November 2014, the Integrity Commission tabled a report in Parliament of its most recent audit of Tasmania Police complaints. The audit was of complaints managed internally by Tasmania Police, and covered 105 complaints of varying seriousness made against Tasmania Police which were finalised in 2013. Tasmania Police cooperated fully with the audit.

[Read more...](#)

Misconduct prevention and education across the state

The Commission has a strong focus on education and prevention in relation to public sector misconduct. The Commission has developed and released educational modules within the '[Ethics and Integrity Training Program](#)', which is a series of modules and resources to address areas of misconduct risk within the public sector. It is designed to allow agencies to deliver training in-house to staff.

The Commission has also commenced ethics and integrity training for elected members in local government.

[Read more...](#)



'Speak Up' lifts off in the Tasmanian public sector



[Speak up](#) commenced in September 2014 and is being rolled out across state service agencies, councils, government business enterprises, state-owned companies and state authorities.

The Commission has developed the campaign in response to our misconduct prevention research and our investigations, to help employees to [Speak up](#) about misconduct.

'[Speaking up](#)' will become an embedded and continuing part of working life across the state public sector, as more agencies adopt the campaign.

Lights... camera... action!

The Commission has recently produced six new **video scenarios** for use in the public sector. One group of videos feature Tasmania Police officers and the other, local government elected members facing ethical dilemmas in their day-to-day work.

The Commission now has a comprehensive collection of video scenarios addressing key misconduct risk areas. The **video scenarios** are a useful resource for training sessions and to generate discussion around ethical issues. The videos can be accessed from the **Commission's website**.



Freebies, Friends and Facebook
Integrity Commission Tasmania | 1300 720 289 | www.integrity.tas.gov.au



A Balancing Act
Integrity Commission Tasmania | 1300 720 289 | www.integrity.tas.gov.au



Where do you draw the line?
Integrity Commission Tasmania | 1300 720 289 | www.integrity.tas.gov.au

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

