

INTEGRITY MATTERS



From the Chief Executive Officer

I'm delighted to be back in Tasmania, and to have taken up the position as CEO of the Integrity Commission.

I've spent the past three years as Queensland Integrity Commissioner, and the five years before that as South Australia's Ombudsman. I've learned different things in different places, but one constant is the central importance of integrity issues to government today.

I'm looking forward to catching up with State and local government colleagues, and meeting many of you at forthcoming Ethical Reference Group meetings, to share some thoughts about how we can all contribute to that aim.

In the meantime, I'd like to place on record my appreciation for the fine work done by Michael Easton and the team in the period pending my appointment.



Upcoming workshop - Practical Ethics for Managers in the Public Sector

The Integrity Commission will facilitate its first [Practical Ethics for Managers in the Public Sector](#) workshop on Tuesday 15 August.

The training, which is a full day workshop, will be an opportunity for public sector managers and team leaders to discuss ethical issues they face in their role and to develop strategies for contributing to an ethical culture in their organisation.

The workshop is relevant to public sector managers and team leaders – from state and local government to government businesses.

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



Educating through release of investigation reports

The public release of investigation reports, such as the recent one dealing with allegations of

nepotism by senior TasTAFE executives, is an important way to help raise public sector awareness of misconduct risks.

The Commission maintains a balance between transparency and accountability. Much of its investigative work is conducted in private to protect the integrity of an investigation and to preserve the rights, reputation and privacy of those involved in investigations.

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

Community Perceptions Survey: Public Sector Accountability on the Rise

We successfully completed the fourth round of this research through an independent research company which interviewed 600 Tasmanian adults by telephone in June. The first survey was conducted in 2011.

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

New fact sheets available

The Commission has recently developed two new two fact sheets.

The first, [Information for Members of Parliament and Ministers](#), covers matters such as:

- raising matters with the Commission
- what happens to a complaint?
- the Commission's jurisdiction, and
- when might the Commission contact a Minister or the Premier?

The second fact sheet, [Information for Lawyers](#), includes:

- right to representation
- confidentiality
- reimbursement of fees
- privilege
- procedural fairness
- coercive interviews, and
- Integrity Tribunals.

In addition to these fact sheets, clarification on Commission processes can be obtained from our website, or by speaking to the Commission representative listed on any notice received.

What are your ethics training requirements?

The Integrity Commission Act requires the principal officer of a public authority to ensure their employees (public officers) and elected officers (for local government) are provided with appropriate education and training in relation to ethical conduct.



Part 4 - Educative, Preventative and Advisory Functions of Commission

- 31. Educative, preventative and advisory functions
- 32. Public officers to be given education and training relating to ethical conduct

Section 32 of the Act requires the education and training relate to the:

- operation of the Act and the conduct of public officers
- application of ethical principles and obligations to public officers
- relevance of any applicable code of conduct, and
- rights and obligations of public officers regarding contravention of applicable codes of conduct.

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

Why notify the Commission of misconduct allegations?

Most public sector employees do the right thing, most of the time. On occasion however, public sector organisations will have to deal with allegations of misconduct.

Currently the requirement to notify the Commission is optional. The legislated 5-year review of the Commission recommended that notifications of serious misconduct by public sector organisations become mandatory. At present, a number of public sector organisations provide voluntary notifications of misconduct to the Commission.



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

Sixth Australian Public Sector Anti-Corruption Conference (APSACC 2017)

The Integrity Commission is proud to be a partner of the sixth Australian Public Sector Anti-Corruption Conference (APSACC), to be held in Sydney from Tuesday 14 to Thursday 16 November 2017.



The APSAC Conference aims to expand our attendee's knowledge to identify corruption and misconduct risk areas and increase their awareness and understanding of practical solutions to minimise these risks. The program comprises anti-corruption practitioners and experts in management and leadership, change and communications, investigations, audit and oversight, governance, and research.

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