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Welcome to the third edition of PID E-news



There has been plenty of activity in the PID space already this year. In this edition you will find information on new guidance products for agencies, updated notification forms, the Ombudsman's new website, and the various events related to the statutory review of the *Public Interest* Disclosure Act 2013 which is now well underway.

There are a number of opportunities for practitioners working under the Commonwealth PID scheme. We have included information for PID practitioners interested in joining Whistling Wiki, an online platform for sharing PID related information and resources. We are also seeking expressions of interest from PID practitioners to join the Ombudsman's office to work on two short-term PID projects.

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We hope you enjoy this edition of PID e-news.

Revised guide for agencies

A revised Agency Guide to the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2013* (PID Act) is now available on the Ombudsman's website, providing the latest information and practical guidance to assist agencies in fulfilling their legislative obligations.

Read more

It could be a PID, what do I do?

Authorised officers, as the main gatekeepers for internal public interest disclosures (PIDs), have an important role in recognising the different types of misconduct arising in PID matters, and where or to whom within an organisation it is most appropriate to allocate those matters for investigation.

There are a range of considerations for authorised officers in the discharge of these responsibilities, and caution must be exercised to ensure that their role is not confused with the role of a PID investigator.

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Request a speaker





New 'Managing the Risk of Reprisal' fact sheet available

We recently released a new information product on managing the risk of reprisal.



Updated forms for notifying the Ombudsman

The Ombudsman's notification and request for extension of time forms have been updated and are now available online. PID practitioners should take a look at the new forms and ensure that any out-of-date forms being used internally are updated.





Update on the statutory review of the PID Act

The statutory review of the PID Act conducted by Mr Philip Moss AM is well underway. The Ombudsman's office has made its submission on areas for potential reform of the PID Act. PID practitioners have also had their say during a series of successful community of practice meetings held in Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne.



Opportunity to work with the Ombudsman PID team

The Commonwealth Ombudsman's Public Interest Disclosure (PID) Team is seeking expressions of interest from officers at the APS 6/EL 1 level, to fill a temporary position undertaking project work for a period of approximately three months ending 30 June 2016, with a possibility of extension.



Join the 'Whistling Wiki' community

Do you want access to PID resources, discussion forums, news and more from other PID practitioners and experts from around Australia? You can join the Whistling Wiki, which is a closed online community where Australian authorities and PID practitioners can discuss the challenges and share best practices in PID schemes across Australia.



Upcoming PID annual reporting

With the end of the financial year approaching, the Commonwealth Ombudsman's office will be contacting agencies soon to collect data for the annual report on the operation of the PID Act.



The Ombudsman's office has a fresh new look



With the launch of the Ombudsman's office new website and branding, the PID website has also changed. If you have links to the Ombudsman's website, you may find that they now require updating.



Read more

The Ombudsman's PID team

The Commonwealth Ombudsman is committed to both supporting and protecting persons who make PIDs, and to providing assistance and guidance to agencies responsible for handling those PIDs.

Our PID Team can be contacted on 02 6276 3777, or via email at pid@ombudsman.gov.au. We are here to help!



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