

The Public Interest Disclosure Act 2013 creates a framework you can trust for handling reports of wrongdoing in the Commonwealth public sector.



WHAT IS AN INTERNAL PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURE?

When a public official (current or former)

- » public servants and parliamentary service officers
- » service providers under a Commonwealth contract
- » Defence Force members
- » Australian Federal Police appointees
- » statutory office holders
- » staff of Commonwealth companies
- » individuals taken to be public officials

discloses information

The information tends to show, or the public official believes on reasonable grounds that the information tends to show disclosable conduct

about disclosable conduct

- » conduct engaged in by an agency, public official or contracted service provider

AND

- » involves illegal conduct, corruption, maladministration, abuse of public trust, deception relating to scientific research, wastage of public money, unreasonable danger to health or safety, danger to the environment, or abuse of position or grounds for disciplinary action

to an authorised internal recipient

- » principal officer or authorised officer of own agency, agency where the public official previously belonged, or agency to which the disclosable conduct relates
- » supervisor or manager
- » Commonwealth Ombudsman
- » IGIS (if the matter relates to an intelligence agency)

they receive protection

Protection from:

- » reprisal
- » exposure of their identity
- » civil, criminal or administrative liability

