Corrupt conduct complaints involving the Director-General

Policy Number: E15 (QH-POL-419)

Publication date: January 2020

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to outline the process of making a complaint that involves, or may involve, corrupt conduct, as defined in section 15 of the Crime and Corruption Act 2001 by the Director-General (as the public official), or any such person acting in the role of Director-General.

This policy is designed to:

• outline the process when making a complaint of alleged corrupt conduct by the Director-General
• promote public confidence in the way a reasonable suspicion of corrupt conduct by the Director-General is dealt with in accordance with section 34(c) of the Crime and Corruption Act 2001 (CC Act)
• promote accountability, integrity and transparency in the way the department deals with a complaint that is reasonably suspected to involve, or may involve, corrupt conduct by the Director-General.

Application: The policy applies to all Department of Health employees, volunteers, contractors, consultants and others who exercise power or control resources for or on behalf of the department.

Members of the public who want to make a complaint of alleged corrupt conduct by the Director-General may also use this policy.

Delegation: The ‘delegate’ is as listed in the relevant Department of Health Human Resource (HR) Delegations Manual, as amended from time to time.

Legislative or other authority:
• Crime and Corruption Act 2001
• Human Rights Act 2019
• Public Interest Disclosure Act 2010
• Public Service Act 2008

Related policy or documents:
• Requirements for reporting corrupt conduct HR Policy E9 (QH-POL-218)
• Public interest disclosure HR Policy I5 (QH-POL-202)
• Guideline for the management of corrupt conduct complaints involving the public official
• Crime and Corruption Commission - Corruption in focus: a guide to dealing with corrupt conduct in the Queensland public sector
Policy statement:

1 Complaints about the Director-General

Under sections 48A(2) and (3) of the CC Act, the Director-General can nominate a person or persons to notify the Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC) of a complaint of alleged corrupt conduct that involves, or may involve, the Director-General. This policy nominates:

- the Chief Human Resources Officer, Department of Health
- the Director, Ethical Standards Unit, Department of Health

as the ‘nominated persons’ to notify the CCC of a complaint and to deal with the complaint under the CC Act.

If a complaint involves, or may involve, an allegation of corrupt conduct by the Director-General, the complaint may be reported to:

- Chief Human Resources Officer
  Human Resource Services Branch
  Department of Health
  GPO Box 48
  BRISBANE  QLD  4001
  Telephone: 07 3708 5953
  Email: CHRO@health.qld.gov.au

- Director, Ethical Standards Unit
  Office of the Director General
  Department of Health
  GPO Box 48
  BRISBANE  QLD  4001
  Telephone: 07 3708 5414
  Email: CO_Complaints@health.qld.gov.au

- Crime and Corruption Commission
  http://www.ccc.qld.gov.au
  Telephone: 07 3360 6060
  Email: mailbox@ccc.qld.gov.au

A complaint can be written or verbal, and may be made anonymously.

If there is uncertainty about whether or not a complaint should be reported, advice should be sought from the nominated person/s, who will assess whether the complaint is reportable to the CCC.

When a complaint is made by a public officer that raises allegations of corrupt conduct, confidentiality is to be maintained, as it may be a public interest disclosure pursuant to the Public Interest Disclosure Act 2010. Further information is available in the Public interest disclosure HR Policy I5.

History:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 2020</td>
<td>Policy:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- formatted as part of the HR Policy review</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- updated to include reference to the Human Rights Act 2019.</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 2018</td>
<td>Policy amended to update references and naming conventions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 2015</td>
<td>New policy. Developed as a result of section 48A CC Act requirement.</td>
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