

014

Whistleblower Protection Policy v1.0

Introduction

The Board is committed to the protection of a person who makes a disclosure in accordance with the *Whistleblowers Protection Act 2001* (Act). The Board has established a system for the matters disclosed to be investigated and rectifying action to be taken.

The policy will be accessible on the Board's website.

The policy is complemented by the "Whistleblower Procedures" which describe activities to occur in the event of a person making a disclosure in accordance with the Act.

Policy

This policy sets the framework for management of whistleblowers protection, and outlines the structures for managing disclosures.

The Board:-

- is committed to the aims and objectives of the *Whistleblowers Protection Act 2001* (the Act);
- does not tolerate improper conduct by employees, officers or members, nor the taking of reprisals against those who come forward to disclose such conduct;
- recognises the value of transparency and accountability in the administrative and management practices of the Board office, and supports the making of disclosures that reveal corrupt conduct, conduct involving a substantial mismanagement of public resources, or conduct involving a substantial risk to public health and safety or the environment;
- will take all reasonable steps to protect people who make such disclosures from any detrimental action in reprisal for making the disclosure. The Board will also afford natural justice to the person who is the subject of the disclosure; and
- will follow the procedures established for reporting of improper conduct or detrimental action by the Board, the Chief Executive Officer or employees.

Policy management / implementation

The Protected Disclosure Coordinator is the Director, Corporate & Governance. Refer to Whistleblower Procedures 6.2 for a list of roles and responsibilities of the protected disclosure coordinator.

An investigator may be appointed by the protected disclosure coordinator or the Ombudsman to carry out an internal investigation into a disclosure. The investigator may be a person from within the Board or a consultant engaged for that purpose.

A welfare manager will be appointed by the protected disclosure coordinator to ensure the general welfare of the whistleblower.

All meetings will be conducted discreetly and in strict confidence.

Annual Report Response

The following is a summary of the application and operation of the *Whistleblowers Protection Act 2001*, including required disclosures

***Use this table:-*

	Number	Type
The number and type of disclosures made to the Board during the year		
The number of disclosures referred to the Ombudsman for determination as to whether they are public interest disclosures.		
The number and types of disclosed matters referred to the Board by the Ombudsman for investigation.		
The number and types of investigations taken over from the Board by the Ombudsman.		
The number of requests made by a whistleblower to the Ombudsman to take over an investigation by the Board.		
The number and types of disclosed matters that the Board has declined to investigate.		
The number and types of disclosed matters that were substantiated upon investigation and the action taken on completion of the investigation.		
Any recommendations made by the Ombudsman that relate to the Board.		