



## Our role /

The role of the Integrity Commission is to **investigate, expose and prevent corruption** and foster public confidence in the **integrity of government**.



## Our functions /

The Integrity Commission Act 2018 (the IC ACT) sets out the Commission's broad range of functions, which include to:

- Investigate conduct that is alleged to be corrupt conduct
- Refer suspected instances of criminality or wrongdoing to the appropriate authorities
- Prevent corruption through research and mitigation efforts
- Publish information about its investigations including what lessons may have been learned during the course of an investigation
- Provide education programs, and
- Foster public confidence in the Legislative Assembly and ACT public sector.



## How to report to us /

Any person can make a complaint to the Integrity Commission about conduct that may be corrupt conduct by a person or organisation that is covered by the IC Act.

The IC Act also makes it mandatory for certain officers to report conduct that they suspect on reasonable grounds to be serious or systemic corrupt conduct. These officers include:

- Heads of public sector entities and Senior Executive Service officers
- Certain statutory officers, and
- Members of the Legislative Assembly and their Chiefs of Staff.

People who make a complaint about suspected corrupt conduct are afforded certain protections under the IC Act against reprisal and detrimental action.

Complaints and mandatory notifications can be made orally or in writing. We recommend use of the relevant forms available from the Integrity Commission website:

 [integrity.act.gov.au](https://integrity.act.gov.au)

You can also contact the Integrity Commission via phone: **(02) 6205 9899** or via email: **complaints@integrity.act.gov.au**

**Investigate  
Expose  
Prevent  
Educate**



## What is corrupt conduct?

Corrupt conduct is broadly defined in the IC Act to ensure the Integrity Commission can investigate and respond to a wide range of allegations. However, our primary focus remains the type of conduct that, if proven, would bring the ACT's decision-making processes and reputation into serious disrepute.



## What we investigate

The Integrity Commission prioritises the investigation of serious and/or systemic corrupt conduct.

### Serious corrupt conduct

Conduct that is likely to threaten public confidence in the integrity of government or public administration in the ACT.

### Systemic corrupt conduct

Instances of corrupt conduct that reveal a pattern of corrupt conduct in one or more ACT public sector entities.



## Our powers

The IC Act gives the Integrity Commission significant powers to perform its functions.

These include the power to:

- Enter premises and seize things
- Acquire and use assumed identities
- Undertake controlled operations
- Use surveillance devices
- Conduct own-initiative investigations, and
- Hold examinations (coercive hearings in public or in private)

### Examinations

The Integrity Commission may hold an examination as part of an investigation. Examinations may be held in public or in private.

We may require witnesses to attend an examination to provide information, documents and things relevant to our investigation.

Witnesses **must** attend an examination if summoned and comply with any directions which are part of the summons relating to confidentiality and other matters.

Witnesses **must** answer questions and provide documents and things, even if doing so would tend to incriminate the witness or make them liable to penalty. Information obtained during an examination is not admissible against the witness in a criminal or civil proceeding, except in limited circumstances.

Failure to attend an examination, and failure to answer questions or provide documents and things may constitute an offence under the IC Act.

## Who we can investigate

The Integrity Commission can investigate allegations of corrupt conduct made in relation to all current and former ACT public officials and ACT public sector entities.

### Public officials

The IC Act defines a public official as any person who exercises an official function of the ACT, or is acting in an official capacity for the ACT.

### Public sector entities

Public Sector entities subject to the IC Act include but are not limited to the following:

- A Legislative Assembly entity
- ACT Government directorates
- Statutory bodies
- Territory authorities and instrumentalities
- Territory-owned corporations (and their subsidiaries)
- Providers of public health services (including public hospitals); public transport; emergency services; public education; public housing; and gas, electricity and water supply (where exercising the functions is of a public nature), and
- ACT correctional centres and places of detention.