

Reporting corruption and misconduct

www.ibac.vic.gov.au

Have you witnessed corruption? Suspect something? Your information could help expose how public sector corruption or police misconduct is wasting public money and hurting Victorians. Importantly, your complaint can help everyone learn valuable lessons to prevent future corruption and misconduct.

What can you report to IBAC?

1 Corruption by a public sector body or employee

Corruption can be someone committing fraud, taking or offering bribes, awarding contracts to family or friends, and using or leaking privileged information for personal benefit.

You can make a complaint to IBAC about:



- state government employees (at departments, agencies, public hospitals, public schools, universities and TAFEs)



- Victoria Police officers, recruits, protective services officers (PSOs), police custody officers and employees



- council employees and Councillors



- Members of Parliament and their employees



- judges, magistrates and other judicial members.

You can also choose to report your concerns directly to the agency that is the subject of your complaint, through its Public Interest Disclosure Coordinator. Most public sector agencies have someone equipped to support staff and members of the community in making complaints, and to protect whistleblowers.

You can find a list of agencies that are authorised to receive disclosures at www.ibac.vic.gov.au/PID

2 Misconduct in public office

Misconduct in public office is broadly defined. It can be any conduct by a public sector employee which is unlawful or fails to meet the ethical or professional standards required in the performance of duties or the exercise of powers entrusted to them.

3 Misconduct by Victoria Police personnel

IBAC also takes complaints about misconduct by all Victoria Police personnel, including sworn officers, recruits, PSOs, police custody officers and staff. This could be circulating offensive material, drink driving, making false entries in log books/registers or using excessive force.

Complaints about police misconduct can also be made to Victoria Police's Professional Standards Command on 1300 363 101.

WHAT IBAC CANNOT INVESTIGATE

- The private sector.
- Issues arising in other states and territories.
- Federal government parliamentarians, departments or agencies.

You will be protected

IBAC handles your information and personal details carefully and in accordance with relevant legislation. If your complaint is considered a public interest disclosure:

- your name and personal details will not be shared with anyone (except agencies your complaint may be referred to)
- you can't be fired, disciplined or bullied for making the complaint
- you are protected from legal actions such as defamation and civil liability
- your friends, family and colleagues are protected.

If your complaint is not a public interest disclosure, your identity doesn't have to be kept confidential, but:

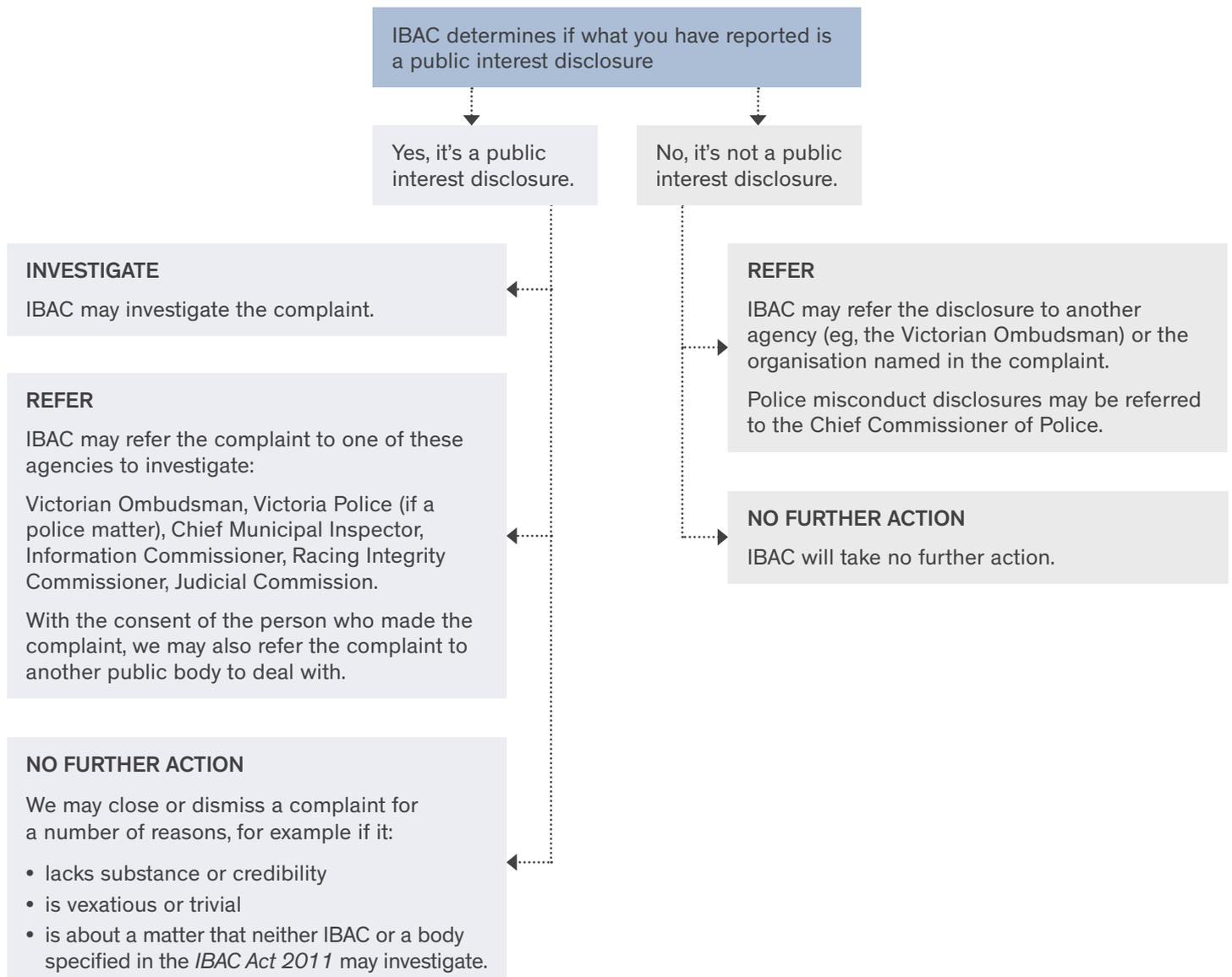
- you can't be fired, disciplined or bullied for making the complaint
- you are protected from legal actions such as defamation and civil liability.

If you are very concerned about your privacy, you can choose to make a complaint anonymously. If you make a complaint anonymously, our investigation will be limited. This is because we cannot contact you for more information, or discuss the complaint if you follow up.

What is a public interest disclosure?

A disclosure that shows improper conduct by a public officer or body (for example, corruption), or detrimental action (for example, firing someone for making a disclosure).

What happens when you report corruption and misconduct to IBAC



How do you report?

Fill out the secure online form at www.ibac.vic.gov.au

If you have difficulty accessing the online form, please call us on **1300 735 135**.

If you need help with translation, call Translating and Interpreting Service on **13 14 50** or visit www.ibac.vic.gov.au/general/accessibility/tr

Before you contact IBAC

Please be aware of what complaints we can and can't accept. If your complaint isn't about corruption or misconduct, we may refer you to another agency, such as the Victorian Ombudsman.

Please also be clear on who/what you're complaining about, and provide as much detail or evidence as possible.

What does IBAC do with your information?

By law, IBAC prioritises allegations of serious or systemic corruption and misconduct. After carefully assessing your complaint, IBAC may decide to:

- refer the complaint
- investigate
- take no further action.

To help us prioritise the right matters, IBAC may also conduct a preliminary inquiry to support our decision on what to do with your complaint.

While we cannot use a lot of our broader investigative powers during a preliminary inquiry, we may:

- request further information from anyone
- summons a person to produce documents
- issue confidentiality notices.

Your information helps

Regardless of the outcome of your complaint, the information you give us helps us identify broader trends and patterns. IBAC uses this analysis to alert the public sector to potential vulnerabilities in their practices and organisations.

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IBAC is Victoria's anti-corruption agency responsible for preventing and exposing public sector corruption and police misconduct. We do this by:

- investigating serious corruption and police misconduct
- informing the public sector, police and the community about the risks and impacts of corruption and police misconduct, and ways in which it can be prevented.

To report corruption now, visit www.ibac.vic.gov.au or call **1300 735 135**.

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