



About IBAC

www.ibac.vic.gov.au

IBAC works to prevent and expose public sector corruption and police misconduct. Corruption and misconduct wastes public money, damages lives and erodes trust. Victorians have a right to expect that public sector employees and police officers act in the community's best interests – **not** influenced by personal interests, greed or criminal motives.

IBAC is Victoria's anti-corruption agency

Our vision is a public sector that actively resists corruption.

We work towards this by:

1. receiving complaints and notifications about public sector corruption and misconduct (including police misconduct and misconduct in public office)
2. investigating and exposing corruption and misconduct, giving priority to serious and systemic issues
3. educating the public sector, police and community about the risks and impacts of corruption and misconduct, and how to prevent it.

1. Reporting corruption

IBAC receives around 5000 allegations of public sector corruption and misconduct each year. We use this information to expose corruption and to identify emerging trends and risks across the sector.

We assess each complaint carefully – cross-checking the information with our research and other complaints and intelligence we've received. Then we either:

- **refer the complaint** to another agency, such as the Victorian Ombudsman, Victoria Police, or the agency the complaint is about. IBAC often reviews the outcomes of complaints we've referred, to ensure they've been thoroughly investigated and appropriately dealt with.
- **investigate the complaint** ourselves (sometimes we conduct a preliminary inquiry to help with this decision).
- **take no further action.**

IBAC's jurisdiction covers the Victorian public sector



State government

- Departments
- Agencies/offices
- Public healthcare services
- Schools
- TAFEs and universities



Councils

- Councillors
- Council staff



Victoria Police

- Sworn police officers
- Protective services officers (PSOs)
- Police recruits
- Police custody officers
- Employees



Parliament

- Members of Parliament
- Electorate officers
- Ministerial staff
- Parliamentary staff



Judiciary

- Judges, magistrates and other judicial officers
- VCAT members

What is public sector corruption?

Examples of corruption include:

- fraud
- taking or offering bribes
- awarding contracts to family or friends
- using or leaking privileged information for personal benefit.

What is misconduct in public office?

Misconduct in public office can include anything a public sector employee does that is unlawful, or fails to meet the ethical or professional standards expected in carrying out their duties or exercising the powers of their position.

What is police misconduct?

Some examples include:

- drink driving
- making false entries in log books or registers
- using excessive force
- circulating offensive material.

IBAC also takes complaints about broader misconduct or corruption by Victoria Police personnel including sworn officers, recruits, employees and PSOs.

2. Investigating corruption

By law, IBAC must prioritise investigation of serious or systemic public sector corruption and misconduct. We can investigate a complaint or notification, or begin an 'own motion' investigation.

IBAC relies on evidence to determine whether corrupt conduct or police misconduct has occurred. We may lay criminal charges or recommend further action. We also publish reports and recommend system or practice improvements.

Holding examinations

Examinations (hearings) are part of our process of investigation and they're generally held in private. IBAC's Commissioner may hold public examinations if:

- there are exceptional circumstances
- it is in the public interest
- they can be held without causing unreasonable damage to a person's reputation, safety or wellbeing.

Exercising IBAC powers responsibly

During an investigation, IBAC may:

- compel people to produce documents and other things
- enter and search premises and seize documents and objects
- use surveillance devices or intercept telecommunications
- hold private and public examinations
- require people to give evidence.

Some of these powers can only be used with formal approval by courts or tribunals. We're also required to regularly report on the use of our powers to certain Commonwealth and state bodies.

3. Preventing corruption

It's everyone's responsibility to help prevent public sector corruption. A corruption-free public sector means public funds are being spent as intended – delivering important government services and infrastructure for all Victorians.

Preventing public sector corruption and serious misconduct is a key priority for IBAC.

Together with our partners in Victoria's integrity system, IBAC designs and delivers resources to help prevent corruption and misconduct. These resources:

- empower people to identify and report corruption and serious misconduct
- support organisations to build effective corruption and misconduct controls
- raise community awareness and interest in a corruption-free public sector.

Understanding the impact of corruption

Our research into corruption trends and issues helps us understand which areas of the public sector are most vulnerable to being exploited or corrupted. Other projects highlight opportunities for improving systems and practices.

As well informing investigations, our research is used to:

- engage with the community and the public sector to improve understanding of corruption and its harms
- improve reporting of corruption and help build the public sector's ability to report it
- alert organisations to the latest information and intelligence so they can stay ahead of corruption risks.

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- investigating serious corruption and police misconduct
- informing the public sector, police and community about the risks and impacts of corruption and police misconduct, and how to prevent it.

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

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