



June 2016

# **Making allegations of corrupt conduct public**

## Is it in the public interest?

Submission form

## **Lodging a submission**

Send your submission to us by **5pm Thursday 30 June 2016** by any of the following methods:

Online: <[www.ccc.qld.gov.au/publicisingallegations/](http://www.ccc.qld.gov.au/publicisingallegations/)>

Post: Publicising allegations  
Crime and Corruption Commission  
Policy and Research  
GPO Box 3123 Brisbane Qld 4001

Email: [publicisingallegations@ccc.qld.gov.au](mailto:publicisingallegations@ccc.qld.gov.au)

Fax: 07 3360 6333

We may not consider late submissions.

## Do you wish to maintain partial or complete confidentiality?

We will generally publish submissions on our website — including the name of the submitter but no contact details. If you would prefer to maintain partial or complete confidentiality, please indicate your preference by selecting one of the following:

- NAME WITHHELD — PARTIAL CONFIDENTIALITY**  
I consent to my submission being published on the CCC website, without my name being disclosed.
- CONFIDENTIAL — COMPLETE CONFIDENTIALITY**  
I do not consent to my submission being published on the CCC website.

If there is no clear selection of one of these alternatives, we will regard any submission (including an anonymous submission) as a public document, and will publish it on our website.

The CCC may quote from your submission or refer to it, either generally or individually, in publications.

### Privacy statement

No submission marked as confidential will be published on our website. However, any submission may be subject to disclosure under the *Right to Information Act 2009* and the *Information Privacy Act 2009*, and applications to access submissions will be determined in accordance with those Acts.

If you provide your details, we may contact you to ask whether you consent to further consultation for the purposes of this project.

## Your details

*Provide as much or as little information as you wish.*

Name(s):	<input type="text"/>		
Organisation:	<input type="text"/>		
Address:	<input type="text"/>		
Phone:	<input type="text"/>	Mobile:	<input type="text"/>
		Fax:	<input type="text"/>
Email:	<input type="text"/>		

## Your submission

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You may wish to address the following considerations in your submission.

### Open, transparent and accountable government

As a resident in a Local Government area where open, transparent and accountable government has been anything but the norm for the past eight (8) years, the veil of secrecy only serves those who need to hide behind it. When it takes ten (10) months to obtain one (1) document under RTI legislation, and then only following the intervention of the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner, there is something seriously wrong at Local Government level, particularly when that document reveals an "inappropriate" claim made against Qld Disaster Relief funding. The lack of open, transparent and accountable government provides fertile ground for corruption with limited likelihood of discovery.

### Freedom of speech

Politically motivated allegations of corruption which are made public in the lead up to an election can readily be dealt with without the need to prevent disclosure of ALL corruption allegations. Simple: the imposition of legislation/regulations governing non-disclosure/publishing of such allegations for a specific period immediately prior to an election. Curtailing freedom of speech simply fosters an environment within the community where "everyone knows" but no-one speaks out, thus perpetuating the behaviour/corruption.

### Reputation of alleged subject officers

Again, politically motivated allegations made purely to gain political advantage by discrediting an opponent can be prevented by the implementation of a "black out" period prior to an election. This would also reduce the CCC's workload as scurrilous allegations would be reduced. Any allegations with merit would be made in a timely manner as the alleged corrupt actions come to light, rather than immediately prior to an election. Some of those against whom allegations are made have already damaged their own reputation by their own actions and limiting freedom of speech only serves to protect those people from themselves. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I believe "reputation" is the last thing which really needs to be considered. Without freedom of speech these linkages would not become publicly known and others who have remained silent as they believed they were the "only ones" affected would not come forward.

**Fair trial**

**Effectiveness of the CCC**

**Other**

The public perception of the avenues available to deal with allegations of corruption is, I believe, poor. Any attempt to stifle publicity around allegations of corruption would further damage that perception and likely result in less allegations ultimately being reported to the CCC. This would be counter-productive and considered an extra level of protection afforded alleged offenders.



**Crime and Corruption Commission**

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