

# The Crime and Corruption Commission

## - An overview



Crime and Corruption  
Commission

QUEENSLAND



# | Today's presentation

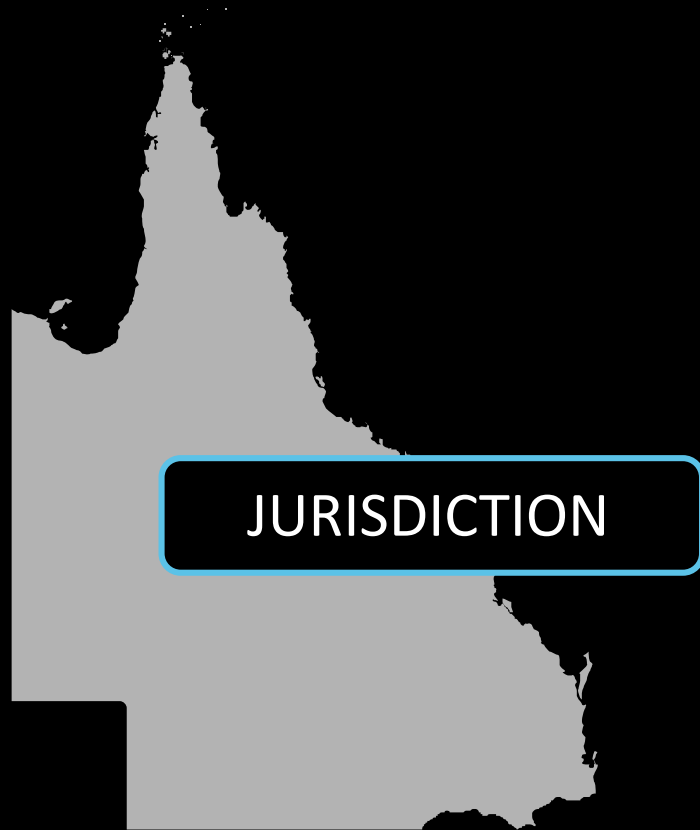
- Who we are
- What we do
- Reporting and dealing with corrupt conduct
- Prevention
- Key messages



# | Who we are



# | About the CCC



**30 YEARS**  
of independent oversight



**67M**  
Annual budget



# | Our vision and purpose



Our vision is to have **safe communities** supported by **fair and ethical public institutions**.

We are an **independent** agency dedicated to **combating major crime** and **reducing corruption** in the public sector for the benefit of the Queensland community.



# | Our legislated areas of work



## Major Crime

We investigate organised crime, criminal paedophilia, terrorism and other serious criminal offences.



## Corruption

We receive and investigate serious allegations of corruption against police, public servants and elected officials. We help strengthen public sector anti-corruption efforts.



## Proceeds of Crime

We freeze cash and assets derived from suspected criminal activity and can forfeit them to the State of Queensland.



## Witness Protection

We administer the witness protection program allowing witnesses to provide evidence in court safely.



# | Our objectives and areas of focus

## Strategic objectives

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### **Reduce the incidence of major crime and corruption**

- Advance major crime investigations and help the QPS solve major crime by leveraging our hearing powers and targeting criminal wealth
- Remove the financial benefit and support for serious criminal offending by recovering proceeds of crime and disrupting the acquisition of criminal wealth
- Investigate and oversee investigations into serious and systemic public sector corruption and police misconduct
- Work with stakeholders to build corruption resistant public institutions through capability development, advisory, auditing and strategic intelligence services
- Inform public policy about major crime and corruption by providing independent advice to government

### **Build our organisational capability**

- Develop capabilities to create a healthy, collaborative and innovative culture
- Modernise our assets, systems and processes to improve investigative outcomes
- Leverage data to become an insight driven agency

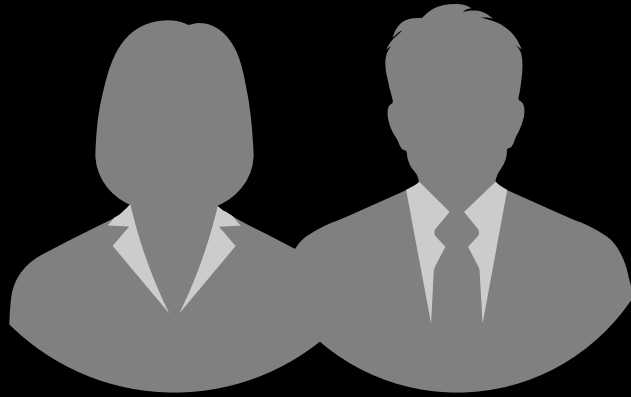
## Areas of focus in 2019–20

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- Illicit markets of high value or high public impact
- Crimes involving risk to, or actual loss of life or serious injury to a person
- Crimes against children and vulnerable victims
- Corruption involving elected officials, misuse of confidential information, and exploitation of public sector resources
- Stakeholder engagement
- Critical organisational capabilities



# | Who we are



360

Multi-  
Disciplinary  
Teams

- Police
- Civilian investigators
- Financial investigators
- Lawyers
- Intelligence officers
- Forensic computing experts
- Researchers and policy specialists
- Corporate staff





# | Strategic leadership and oversight

The Commission provides strategic leadership and direction for the functions and the exercise of its powers by the Chairperson, CEO and other staff.

The Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Committee monitors and reviews performance and reports to Parliament on matters relevant to CCC.



# The national context



# | What we do



# | Our Corruption function

The CCC's corruption function involves:

- raising standards of integrity and conduct in units of public administration
- ensuring complaints about corruption are dealt with in an appropriate way
- investigating and otherwise dealing with conduct liable to allow, encourage or cause corrupt conduct
- investigating conduct connected with corrupt conduct
- investigating whether corrupt conduct may have happened, may be happening or may happen



# | Units of public administration in jurisdiction

- Local governments
- Elected Officials\*  
(jurisdiction restricted to criminal offences)
- Government departments and statutory bodies
- Queensland Police Service (QPS)
- Government-owned corporations
- Universities
- Courts, tribunals and boards



# | Special powers

- Coercive hearings
- Telephone Interception & Access warrants
- Search warrants
- Surveillance Device warrants



# About our work

## Complaints



**3109** received **3381** assessed

## Corruption Investigations



**23** people charged 192 offences

**65** investigations finalised

**17** recommendations for disciplinary action

## Witness Protection

**100%** of witnesses kept safe to give evidence

## Major Crime Investigations

**36** people charged  
126 offences

**37** investigations  
finalised



## Proceeds of Crime

**\$13.6M** cash and assets forfeited to the State



## Hearings

**244** days of private  
hearings

**3** days of public  
hearings

## Prevention

**5** prevention audit  
reports published

**82** prevention  
recommendations

Figures based on 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019



# Operation Belcarra

Based on over 30 separate complaints across four councils

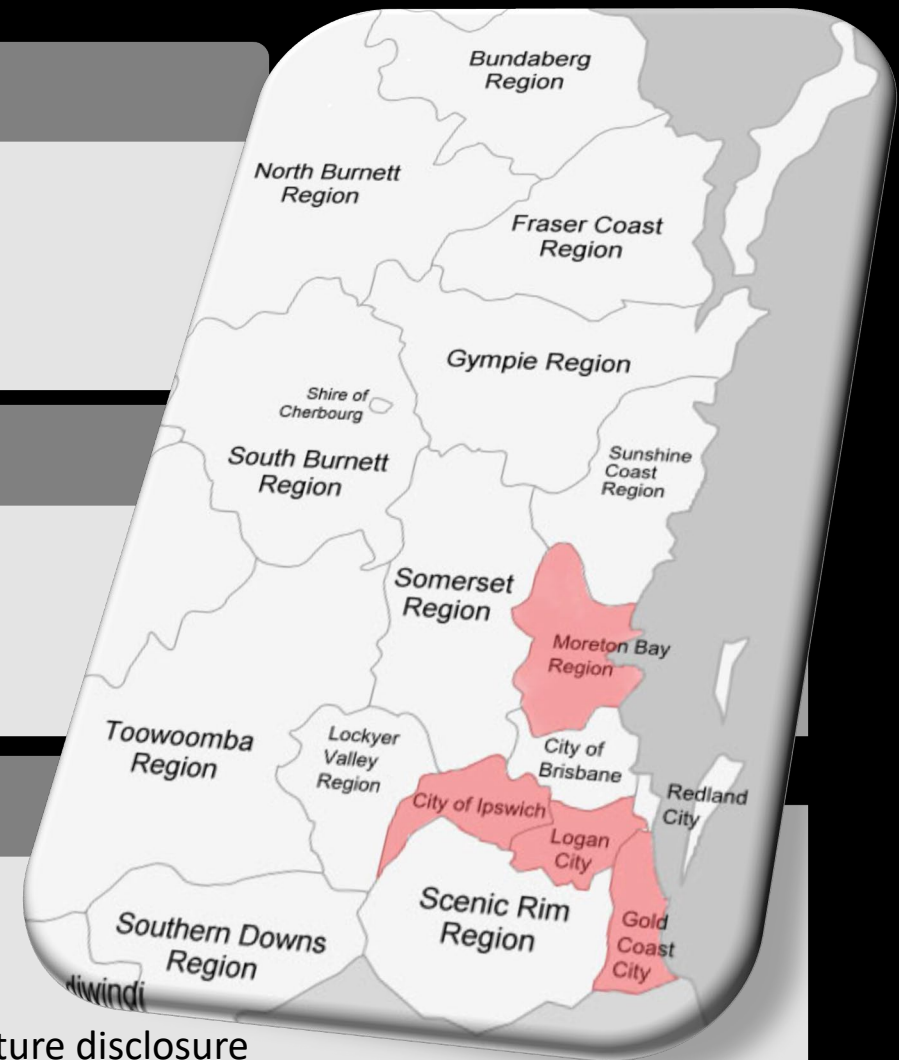
- Gold Coast City Council
- Ipswich City Council
- Moreton Bay Regional Council
- Logan City Council

## Allegation Types

- False claims of independence
- Failure to declare donations
- Misleading voters regarding funding from political parties
- Conflicts of interest – preferential decision-making

31 recommendations spurred reforms

- Legislative reform
- Banning donations from property developers
- Mandatory training requirements as part of nomination
- Dedicated candidate bank accounts; real time donation & expenditure disclosure
- Registration of groups of candidates





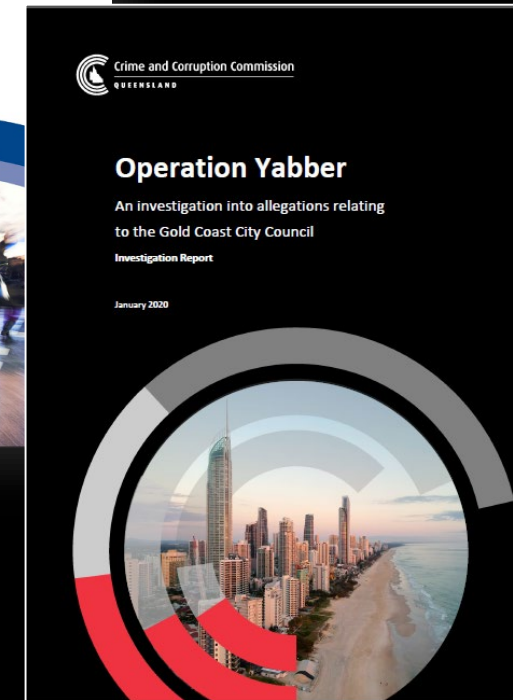
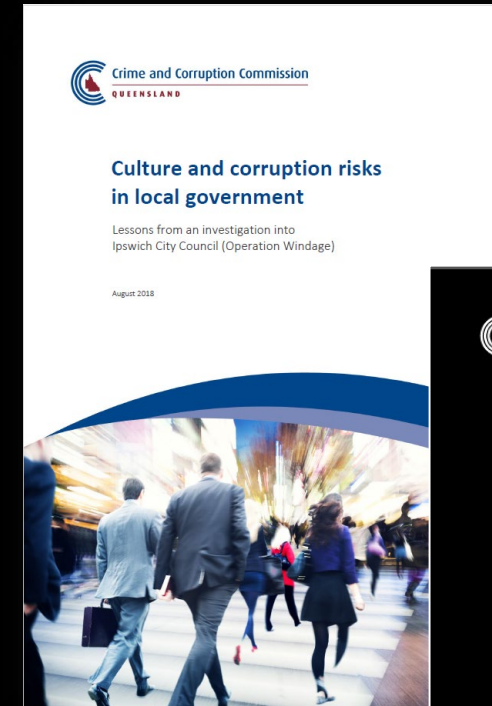
# | Operation Belcarra

↳ Operation Windage  
Ipswich City Council

↳ Operation Front  
Logan City Council

↳ Operation Yabber  
Gold Coast City Council

↳ Operation Dugong  
Moreton Bay Regional Council



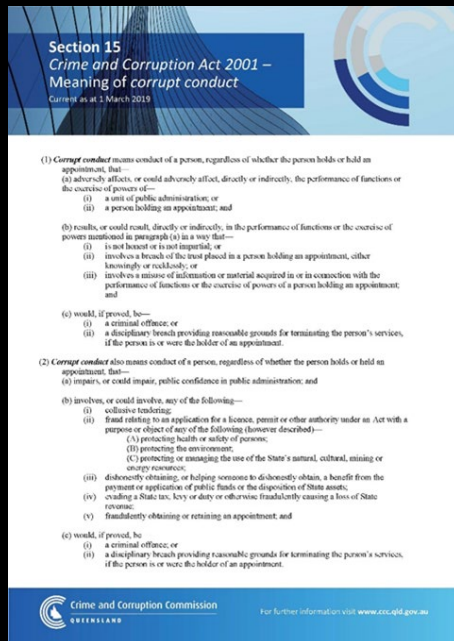
# | Reporting and dealing with corrupt conduct



# What is corrupt conduct?

**Corrupt conduct is defined in the *Crime and Corruption Act 2001* (section 15)**

- (1) *Corrupt conduct* means conduct of a person, regardless of whether the person holds or held an appointment, that:
- (a) adversely affects, or could adversely affect, directly or indirectly, the performance of functions or the exercise of powers of—
    - (i) a unit of public administration; or
    - (ii) a person holding an appointment; and
  - (b) results, or could result, directly or indirectly, in the performance of functions or the exercise of powers mentioned in paragraph (a) in a way that—
    - (i) is not honest or is not impartial; or
    - (ii) involves a breach of the trust placed in a person holding an appointment, either knowingly or recklessly; or
    - (iii) involves a misuse of information or material acquired in or in connection with the performance of functions or the exercise of powers of a person holding an appointment;
  - (c) would, if proved, be—
    - (i) a criminal offence; or
    - (ii) a disciplinary breach providing reasonable grounds for terminating the person's services, if the person is or were the holder of an appointment.



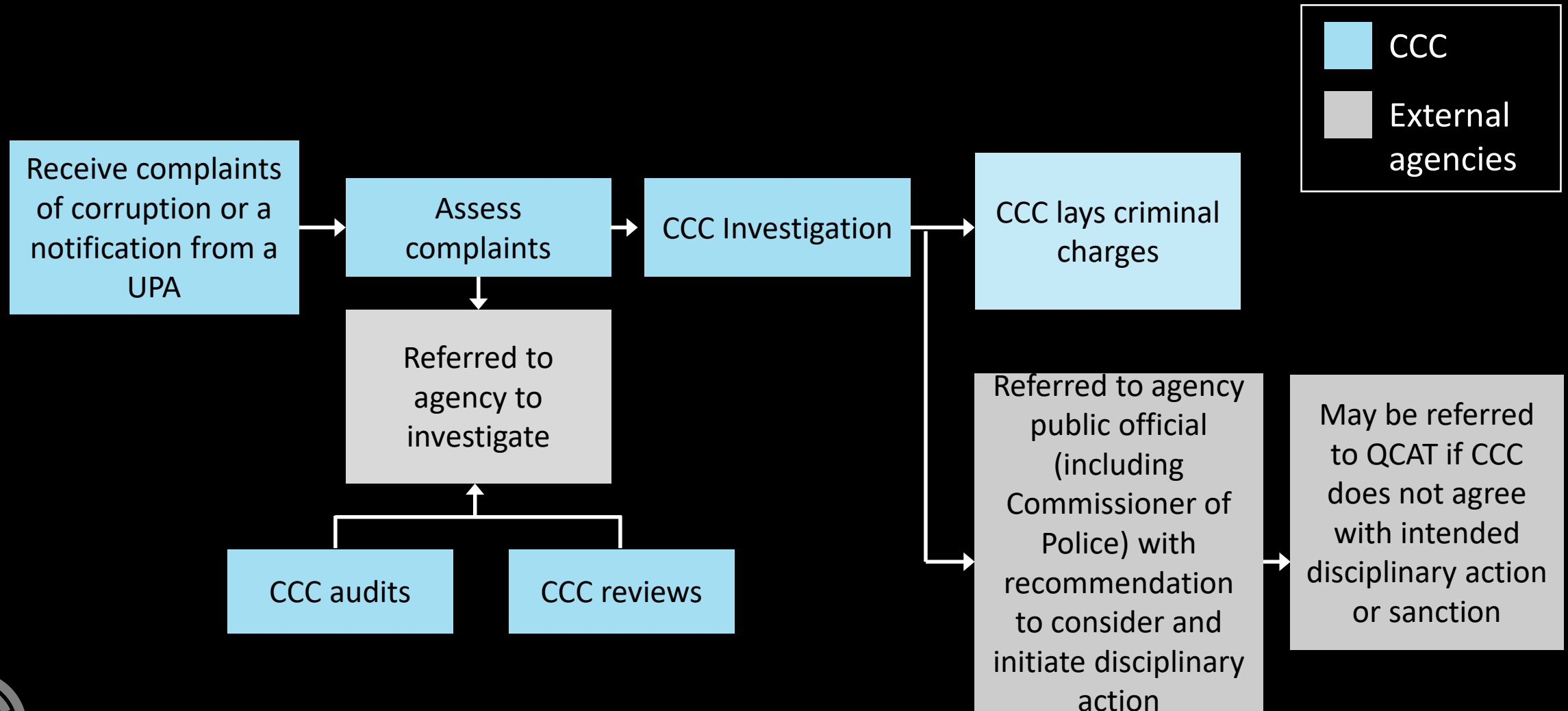
# | What is corrupt conduct?

(2) *Corrupt conduct* also means conduct of a person, regardless of whether the person holds or held an appointment, that—

- (a) impairs, or could impair, public confidence in public administration; and
- (b) involves, or could involve, any of the following—
  - (i) collusive tendering;
  - (ii) fraud relating to an application for a licence, permit or other authority under an Act with a purpose or object of any of the following (however described)—
    - (A) protecting health or safety of persons;
    - (B) protecting the environment;
    - (C) protecting or managing the use of the State’s natural, cultural, mining or energy resources;
  - (iii) dishonestly obtaining, or helping someone to dishonestly obtain, a benefit from the payment or application of public funds or the disposition of State assets;
  - (iv) evading a State tax, levy or duty or otherwise fraudulently causing a loss of State revenue;
  - (v) fraudulently obtaining or retaining an appointment; and
- (c) would, if proved, be—
  - (i) a criminal offence; or
  - (ii) a disciplinary breach providing reasonable grounds for terminating the person’s services, if the person is or were the holder of an appointment.



# | How we deal with complaints



# CCC guide: Corruption in focus

- Includes sections on:
  - Obligations of public officials
  - Managing a CCC referral
  - Planning and conducting an investigation
  - Interviews
  - The final report
  - Reducing the incidence of corruption
- Contains information specific to local government (section 4)
- Available on the CCC website



## Corruption in focus

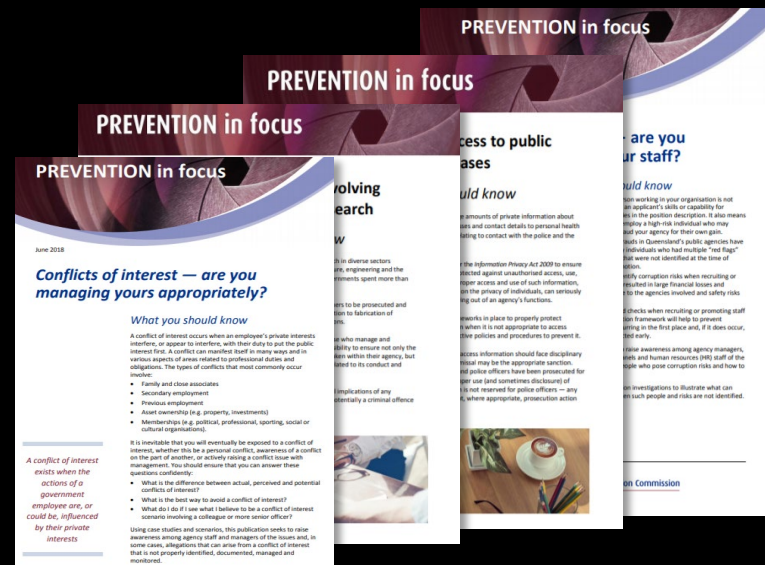
A guide to dealing with corrupt conduct in the Queensland public sector

March 2019



# CCC corruption prevention

- CCC undertake meetings with leaders from UPAs and provide a range of publications:
  - » Prevention in Focus - series
  - » Fraud and Corruption Control: Best Practice Guide
  - » Advisories, case studies, reports
  - » Joint agency communiques





# | Key messages

- Crime and corruption prosper when individuals put their private interests before the public interest.

## Common allegations:

- » misuse of authority (including reprisal and misuse to further one's own interests or the interests of family, friends and associates)
- » not declaring or properly dealing with conflicts of interest
- » not ensuring decisions are transparent, accountable and in the public interest
- » destroying records

## Common offences:

- » Fraud
- » Official corruption (i.e. bribes)
- » Misconduct in relation to public office that either
  - deals with information gained because of office
  - performs or fails to perform a function of office
  - does an act or makes an omission in abuse of the authority of office





# A Message from ECQ

# Election Summary Return



- Due: **13 July 2020**
- A candidate's election summary return must include:
  - the **total value** of all gifts/loans received (including gifts under \$500);
  - the number of entities that made the gifts/loans; and
  - the **total value** of all electoral expenditure incurred.
- A bank statement from the dedicated bank account must be lodged with the election summary return
- Candidates must lodge an election summary return even if they have not received any gifts/loans or incurred any expenditure
- **Elected candidates risk automatically vacating office if they fail to lodge a return by 13 July 2020.**
- Returns must be lodged online via the ECQ's Electronic Disclosure System at
- For assistance - contact the Funding, Disclosure and Compliance Unit on 1300 881 665 or

# | Thank you. Questions?



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# | Carl Wulff – The Inside Story

- <https://www.ccc.qld.gov.au/carl-wulff-inside-story>

