Complaints about the Director-General, Department of the Premier and Cabinet: section 48A of the *Crime and Corruption Act 2001*

1. Objective

The Director-General is the public official of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet (DPC) for the purposes of the *Crime and Corruption Act 2001* (CC Act).

The Public Sector Commission has published a 'Framework for oversight of senior public service employee complaints devolved by the CCC' (the Framework), which applies to complaints about the Director-General of the DPC.

The objective of this policy is to set out how DPC will deal with a complaint (or information or matter)¹ that involves or may involve corrupt conduct of the Director-General, DPC (the Director-General).

2. Definitions

Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC)	The Commission continued in existence under the CC Act
CC Act	Crime and Corruption Act 2001
Complaint	Includes information or matter: see the definition in section 48A(4) of the CC Act
Contact details for the Nominated person	Associate Director-General, Governance and Engagement, Department of the Premier and Cabinet
	Tel: 0413 625 052
	Email: cccliaison@premiers.qld.gov.au
Corrupt Conduct	See section 15 of the CC Act
Corruption	Means corrupt conduct or police misconduct: see Schedule 2 (Dictionary) of the CC Act
Corruption in Focus	https://www.ccc.qld.gov.au/publications/corruption-focus; see chapter 2, page 26
Deal with	See Schedule 2 (Dictionary) of the CC Act
Director-General	Director-General, DPC
DPC	Department of the Premier and Cabinet

¹ See s. 48A of the CC Act and the definitions in section 2 of this policy

Framework	Means the 'Framework for oversight of senior public service employee complaints devolved by the CCC'
Nominated person	See item 5 of this policy
Police misconduct	see Schedule 2 (Dictionary) of the CC Act
Public official	See Schedule 2 (Dictionary) and section 48A of the CC Act

3. Policy rationale

The policy is designed to assist DPC to:

- (a) comply with section 48A of the CC Act and the Framework
- (b) promote public confidence in the way suspected corrupt conduct of the Director-General is dealt with (section 34(c) of the CC Act)
- (c) promote accountability, integrity and transparency in the way DPC deals with a complaint that is reasonably suspected to involve, or may involve, corrupt conduct by the Director-General.

4. Policy application

This policy applies:

- (a) if there are grounds to suspect that a complaint may involve corrupt conduct of the Director-General
- (b) to all persons who are employees of DPC.

5. Nominated person

Having regard to s.48A(2) and (3) of the CC Act, this policy nominates the **Associate Director-General, Governance and Engagement, DPC** as the nominated person to notify² the CCC of the complaint and, subject to the Framework, to deal with the complaint under the CC Act, noting that the CCC will only refer a complaint to the nominated person after first consulting with the nominated person.

The provisions of the CC Act that regulate how the Director-General, as the public official of the DPC, is to notify or deal with a complaint also apply to the nominated person.³

² Under s. 38 of the CC Act.

³ See s. 48A(3) of the CC Act.

6. Complaints about the Director-General

If a complaint may involve an allegation of corrupt conduct of the Director-General, the complaint may be reported to:

- (a) the nominated person; or
- (b) the CCC directly, via this form on the CCC's website; or
- (c) a person to whom there is an obligation to report under an Act⁴ (this does not include an obligation imposed by ss. 37, 38 and 39(1) of the CC Act).

If there is uncertainty about whether or not a complaint should be reported, it is best to report it to the nominated person.

Complaints received by the nominated person

If the nominated person reasonably suspects the complaint may involve corrupt conduct of the Director-General, the nominated person is to notify the CCC of the complaint⁵, and they must <u>not</u> commence investigating the complaint.

Complaints received by the Director-General

If the Director-General receives a complaint that may involve corrupt conduct on their part, they must report the complaint to the nominated person as soon as practicable and may also notify the CCC.

7. Recordkeeping requirements

Should the nominated person decide that a complaint about alleged corrupt conduct of the Director-General is not required to be notified to the CCC under s. 38 of the CC Act, the nominated person must make a record of the decision that complies with s.40A of the CC Act.

8. Liaising with the CCC

The Director-General is to keep the CCC and the nominated person informed of:

- (a) the contact details for the Director-General and the nominated person; and
- (b) any proposed changes to this policy.

⁴ See s. 39(2) of the CC Act.

⁵ Pursuant to s. 38 of the CC Act.

9. Consultation with the CCC

The Director-General will consult with the CCC when preparing any policy about how DPC will deal with a complaint that involves or may involve corrupt conduct of the Director-General.

10. Statutory references

Unless otherwise stated, all statutory references are to the *Crime and Corruption Act* 2001.

11. Approval and Review

This policy is approved by

David Mackie

Acting Director-General, Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Date 17 Deleuber 2024

Review date 16 December 2025