



MEDIA RELEASE

A year of focus on more serious misconduct and corrupt behaviour in the WA public sector for CCC

22 September 2016

The Corruption and Crime Commission 2015-2016 Annual Report has been tabled in State Parliament, presenting an important operational shift by the State's leading anti-corruption agency to target more serious misconduct and corrupt behaviour in the WA public sector.

The CCC conducted 79 investigations during the year, including 16 in cooperation with other agencies. Nine reports were published and 32 recommendations made to public authorities.

Throughout 2015-2016, the CCC's investigations, examinations, and reports successfully exposed corruption and highlighted the need for agencies to have thorough prevention policies and procedures to reveal, disrupt and reduce systemic corruption. They also emphasised the responsibility that public authorities have to create an environment where people feel confident reporting suspected misconduct.

Some key achievements of the 2015-2016 year included:

- 2,244 notifications were received from public authorities and the community;
- from these notifications, 4,024 allegations were assessed and 1,891 of these allegations were identified as requiring further action;
- 34 disclosures were made to State and Commonwealth public authorities, including information provided to Western Australia Police and the Australian Federal Police to assist in conducting criminal investigations.

Over half of the allegations of misconduct assessed (2,284) were from WA Police. The CCC's report states this was partly due to WA Police having a lower misconduct reporting threshold, and more rigorous auditing of their restricted databases to identify breaches.

Other features of the report reveal:

- nearly two thirds of all notifications alleging misconduct received by the CCC during the year were from public authorities (62.1 per cent) and nearly a quarter (24.2 per cent) were from the general public;
- almost a third of all allegations assessed by the CCC were in the two most prevalent categories of neglect or procedural breach of conduct, policy, procedures; and criminal assault - physical, excessive use of force; and
- misuse of computer systems, email, and internet also increased from the 10th most prevalent notification in 2014-2015 (3 per cent), to the fourth most prevalent in 2015-2016 (8.2 per cent).

The CCC also commenced work on making recommendations to Government on potential amendments to disrupt major criminal and corrupt activity by having co-extensive powers with DPP. This would allow the CCC to target individuals with significant unexplained wealth that could be from the proceeds of crime or corrupt behaviour.

Download the Corruption and Crime Commission 2015-2016 Annual Report at <https://www.ccc.wa.gov.au/annual-reports>

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Media contact

Marie Mills: (08) 9421 3600 or 041 891 8202.