

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

5 December 2017

### **Don't look on and do nothing - blow the whistle on corruption for International Anti-Corruption Day**

This Saturday (9 December) is International Anti-Corruption Day – a day to expose corruption around the globe, and to recognise that no country, region or community is immune to this crime.

In Western Australia, there are almost 200,000 people working in over 100 state and local government agencies, universities and other public authorities. Every Western Australian comes into contact with the public service.

While the vast majority of public servants, elected officials, and people or companies who interact or do business with the public service – are good, ethical people, a small number are not. For some, the working environment in the public sector delivers temptation and opportunity to put their personal interests above the public interest.

Many people also deliberately turn a blind eye to suspected corruption and do nothing. Doing nothing can sometimes be corrupt in itself. It facilitates and allows corruption to flourish, which only benefits the wrongdoer. Corrupt behaviour costs Western Australians millions of dollars every year and can cause enormous damage to organisations and local communities.

Corruption and Crime Commissioner John McKechnie QC, has called on all Western Australian's to recognise that corruption is everyone's business and that when corruption takes place, we are all paying for it.

"Every organisation should have an anti-corruption commitment that starts with strong leadership, permeates the internal culture, and is shared by contractors and suppliers," said Mr McKechnie.

"It is also equally as important that every individual working within or with the public sector must operate with integrity at all times; be alert to the possibility of corrupt behaviour; and be prepared to speak up whenever there is evidence serious misconduct or corruption. The CCC relies on good people doing the right thing."

The Commissioner, together with Public Sector Commissioner Mal Wauchope AO, will host a special International Anti-Corruption Day breakfast event on Friday (8 December) which will provide attendees with insights into corruption themes, areas of risk, prevention strategies, reporting mechanisms and wider corruption considerations.

In addition to the breakfast event, the Corruption and Crime Commission has also launched an online campaign to mark 2017 International Anti-Corruption Day. The campaign assists WA public officers and members of the community to identify and report suspected corrupt behaviour to the CCC.

You can view and download the 2017 International Anti-Corruption Day campaign materials, including YouTube videos, social media graphics, and posters at <https://www.ccc.wa.gov.au/news/449>

ENDS

**Media contacts**

Marie Mills: (08) 9421 3600 or 0418 918202

Louisa Mitchell (08) 421 3600 or 0434 308 208

---

**Contact the Corruption and Crime Commission**

 PO Box 7667 Cloisters Square  
Perth WA 6850

 General Enquiries (08) 9215 4888  
Report Corruption 1800 809 000

 [www.ccc.wa.gov.au](http://www.ccc.wa.gov.au)

 [info@ccc.wa.gov.au](mailto:info@ccc.wa.gov.au)

 <https://twitter.com/CCCWestAus>