

Evaluations

A primary object of the *Independent Commissioner Against Corruption Act 2012* (ICAC Act) is to prevent or minimise corruption, misconduct and maladministration in South Australian public administration. An evaluation of a public authority's practices, policies and procedures is an effective way of assisting the authority to minimise its risks of improper conduct.

What is an evaluation?

The purpose of an evaluation is to improve an agency's systems to assist it to guard against corruption, misconduct and maladministration. It involves the ICAC evaluating an agency's practices, policies and procedures to assess whether they are suitably robust, and making recommendations for change where appropriate.

Is an evaluation an investigation?

An evaluation is **not** an investigation or a 'corruption probe'. An evaluation **does not** examine the specific conduct of any person.

If during the course of an evaluation conduct is identified that requires investigation, that conduct will be dealt with separately and in accordance with legislation.

How long does an evaluation take?

It is difficult to predict how long an evaluation will take. However, the intention is always to complete an evaluation in as timely a manner as possible.

How is an evaluation conducted?

The Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner will conduct the evaluation and set out its scope. The evaluation team will then begin the process of learning about the agency's operations, collect documents that relate to its practices, policies and procedures and talk to its staff.

Relevant parties may be invited to make a submission.

The evaluation will conclude with the preparation of a report to Parliament.

Is an evaluation secret?

On some occasions an evaluation may be conducted by way of a public inquiry. If so submissions may be invited from members of the public and information collected during the evaluation may be published.

Information gathered in the course of an evaluation can only be made public by the Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner. Section 54 of the ICAC Act prevents any other person from disclosing information that he or she has received knowing that it is connected to an evaluation unless the disclosure is authorised by the Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner.

MORE INFORMATION



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