



POLICY	
Public Interest Disclosure	
<b>Scope (Staff):</b>	Employees, Contractors and Volunteers and General Public
<b>Scope (Area):</b>	Child and Adolescent Health Service

## Aim

To support individuals who decide to disclose information regarding perceived or actual incidents of improper conduct that involves a substantial and specific risk to public health, public safety, irregular use of or substantial mismanagement of public resources / finances or harm to the environment under the [Public Interest Disclosure Act 2003](#)<sup>1</sup>.

## Risk

Non- compliance with the [Public Interest Disclosure Act 2003](#)<sup>1</sup> (PID Act).

## Definitions

**Disclosure:** A disclosure is more than a general complaint about dissatisfaction with a product or service or the merits of government policy. It is more than a personal grievance that can be resolved by agreement between parties. In order to be covered by the PID Act<sup>1</sup>, the information needs to relate to a matter of public interest.

**Principal Executive Officer (PEO):** The Chief Executive of the Health Service is the designated Principal Executive Officer (PEO). Within CAHS, the Principal Executive Officer is the CAHS Chief Executive to carry out the functions of Section 23 of the PID Act<sup>1</sup>.

**Principal PID Officer (PPIDO):** A central co-ordinating role within CAHS for Public Interest Disclosure (PID). The position of CAHS Manager, Integrity and Ethics is the appointed role of the Principal PID Officer within CAHS.

**PID Officers:** A PID Officer is the Proper Authority as designated by Section 5 (3) (a-g) of the PID Act<sup>1</sup> who receives and manages public interest disclosures in accordance with the PID Act<sup>1</sup>.

## Principles

The principles behind this policy are outlined within the PID Act<sup>1</sup>.

- The PID Act only applies to disclosures of public interest information.
- A disclosure must relate to a matter of public interest and tend to show wrongdoing by a public body when performing a public function.
- The PID Act:<sup>1</sup>
  - protects the person making the disclosure from legal or other action;
  - provides for the confidentiality of the identity of the person making the disclosure and a person who is the subject of a disclosure;

- provides remedies for acts of reprisal and victimisation that occur substantially because the person had made a disclosure.

## Policy

- CAHS will manage Public Interest Disclosure in accordance with the PID Act<sup>1</sup>, WA Government policy, Public Sector Standards and the CAHS [Public Interest Disclosure \(PID\) Guidelines](#)<sup>2</sup>.
- All CAHS employees who decide to disclose public interest information must do so to a CAHS PID Officer to receive the protection afforded under the PID Act<sup>1</sup>.

## CAHS PID Officers

- At CAHS, the Principal PID Officer is the Manager Integrity and Ethics.
  - All CAHS PID Officers must:
    - be authorised by the Principal Executive Officer (PEO), registered with the Public Sector Commission;
    - receive training on and be informed in Public Interest Disclosure; and
    - comply with the PID Act<sup>1</sup>, CAHS Public Interest Disclosure Guidelines<sup>2</sup> and [PID Code of Conduct and Integrity](#)<sup>3</sup>, when receiving and investigating a disclosure of public interest information.
- Depending upon the nature of the disclosure it may be necessary to refer the matter to a higher authority such as the WA Police Service or the WA Crime and Corruption Commission.
- Further information on PID, including a list of CAHS PID Officers, can be obtained from the CAHS [Public Interest Disclosure - Information for Managers and Staff](#) HealthPoint page.
  - A list of registered CAHS PID Officers and their contact details is included in the Public Sector Commission's [PID Officer Contact Directory](#).

## Public Interest Disclosure Information

- Public Interest Disclosure information must be referred to:
  - A Public Interest Disclosure Officer, or
  - CAHS Manager Integrity and Ethics in the CAHS Chief Executive Office.
- [Public Interest Disclosure \(PID\) Guidelines](#) are available on the CAHS intranet and CAHS internet.
- For further information on PID, please refer to the [Public Sector Commission](#).
  - Additionally, the CAHS [Public Interest Disclosure \(PID\) Guidelines](#) relate to the obligations of CAHS as a Public Authority under the PID Act<sup>1</sup>.


### Related internal policies, procedures and guidelines

[Public Interest Disclosure \(PID\) Guidelines](#) (CAHS HealthPoint)

References
1. <a href="#">Public Interest Disclosure Act 2003</a> (WA Public Sector Commission)
2. <a href="#">CAHS Public Interest Disclosure Guidelines</a> (CAHS HealthPoint)
3. <a href="#">PID Officers Code of Conduct and Integrity</a> (WA Public Sector Commission)

Useful resources (including related forms)
<a href="#">Public Sector Management Act 1994</a> (WA Public Sector Commission)
<a href="#">PID Officer Contact Directory</a> (WA Public Sector Commission)
<a href="#">Corruption, Crime and Misconduct Act 2003</a> (Western Australian Legislation)
<a href="#">Public Sector Commission Public Interest Disclosure Guidelines</a> (WA Public Sector Commission)
<a href="#">Parliamentary Commissioner Act 1971</a> (Western Australian Legislation)
<a href="#">Public Interest Disclosure - Information for Managers and Staff</a> (CAHS HealthPoint)
<a href="#">Public Sector Commission - Guide for Disclosers</a> (WA Public Sector Commission)

This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with a disability.

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