

Deliberate False Disclosures

In situations where, after investigation a disclosure is found to be deliberately false, malicious or vexatious the identity and civil and criminal protection provisions under the legislation do not apply. In these cases, the Responsible Officer in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer or the Mayor (where the matter relates to the Chief Executive Officer), with legal advice, will determine if the Whistleblowers' identity will remain confidential.

The person deliberately making such a disclosure may be subject to legal proceedings.

In the case of an employee making a deliberate malicious disclosure or accusation about another employee, disciplinary action may be taken by the Council.

Further Information

Further information can be obtained by reading Council's Whistleblowers Policy G:18 and Fraud Corruption Policy G:24 which is located on Council's website:

www.murraybridge.sa.gov.au
Or email
whistleblower@murraybridge.sa.gov.au

The Rural City of Murray Bridge

Local Government Centre
2 Seventh Street
Murray Bridge SA 5253

PO Box 421
Murray Bridge SA 5253

Ph: 8532 1100
Fax: 8532 2766

www.murraybridge.sa.gov.au



Whistleblowers



Legislation Website

www.legislation.sa.gov.au/index.aspx

The South Australian Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993

The Act:

- Provides civil and criminal protection and immunity for any person who makes an appropriate disclosure* of public interest information* ;
- Requires the person making the disclosure to assist with any investigation resulting from the disclosure by the police or any other official investigating authority;
- Specifies that the identity of an Informant/Whistleblower will be advised of the outcome of any investigation;
- Protects the Informant/Whistleblower from any form of victimization resulting from their disclosure;
- Ensures that the Informant/Whistleblower will be advised of the outcome of any investigation;
- And provides a severe penalty of two years imprisonment for any person who knowingly makes a false or reckless disclosure of public interest information and is not entitled to the protection provisions under the Act.

*Appropriate disclosure has the same meaning as in the Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993.

* Public interest information has the same meaning as in the Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993.

Blowing the Whistle

The Executive Officer, Ros Kruger, has been appointed by Council as the Responsible Officer who is authorized to receive and act upon information forwarded by Informants/Whistleblowers.

Any member of the public, an Elected Member of an employee of Council wishing to provide information in accordance with the Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993 should contact the Responsible Officer in the following manner:

- in person by appointment
- By telephone on 8539 1174
- In writing:
Confidential—Whistleblower
Responsible Officer
Rural City of Murray Bridge
PO Box 421
MURRAY BRIDGE SA 5253
- Or by email:
whistleblower@murraybridge.sa.gov.au

The Rural City of Murray Bridge, where it is the relevant authority, is committed to investigating the provision of public interest information that is appropriately disclosed and also to taking appropriate action.

Reporting Disclosures

Subject to the Act all appropriate disclosures will be reported to the Chief Executive Officer or where the matter relates to the Chief Executive Officer, the Mayor by the Responsible Officer.

It is suggested that disclosures relating to the Mayor or Chief Executive Officer should be made direct to the Ombudsman or SA Police. Disclosures relating to the Responsible Officer should be directed to the Chief Executive Officer.

All appropriate disclosures of a serious nature (ie where it involves fraud, theft or corruption) will be reported to the South Australian Police.

The identity of a person providing public interest information will be kept confidential unless consent of that person is obtained.

Whistleblowers

Whistleblowers can report conduct of a public officer, which includes "a member of a local government body" such as:

- Maladministration (which includes impropriety, negligence or waste); or
- An illegal activity; or
- Irregular or unauthorized use of public money; or
- Substantial mismanagement of public resources; or
- Conduct that causes a substantial risk to public health or safety or to the environment.