



Western Australia

Public Sector Management Act 1994

## **Western Australian Public Sector Code of Ethics (2002)**

Replaced by 2007 Code as at 23 May 2007 published in *Gazette* 8  
May 2007 p. 1981-3.

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Western Australia

# **Western Australian Public Sector Code of Ethics (2002)**

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Public Sector Management Act 1994

## **Western Australian Public Sector Code of Ethics (2002)**

### **Minimum Standards of Conduct and Integrity for the Western Australian Public Sector**

I, Donald Wayne Saunders, Commissioner for Public Sector Standards, in accordance with Section 21(5) of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*, hereby gazette the Western Australian Public Sector Code of Ethics.

#### **Commencement**

The *Western Australian Public Sector Code of Ethics* operates from 1 March 2002.

#### **Justice**

Justice means being impartial and using power fairly for the common good. It means not abusing, discriminating against or exploiting people.

#### **The Code**

To meet the minimum standards of conduct and integrity, all public sector bodies and employees must:

- Act impartially and in the public interest.

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- Treat all people equally and fairly, recognising that fairness can involve treating people differently, according to circumstances.
- Act without fear or favour and be open and accountable.
- Protect people's right to equal opportunity.
- Protect people's right to due process.
- Report fraud, corruption and maladministration.
- Act openly and promptly to help resolve complaints.
- Refrain from using any circumstance or information connected to official duties for personal profit or gain.
- Declare any interest that may conflict with the performance of public duty.
- Comply with any applicable code of conduct.

### **Respect for Persons**

Respect for persons means being honest and treating people courteously, so that they maintain their dignity and their rights are upheld. It means not harassing, intimidating or abusing people.

#### **The Code**

To meet the minimum standards of conduct and integrity, all public sector bodies and employees must:

- Respect people's dignity and well-being.
- Treat others with courtesy, consideration and sensitivity.
- Respect diversity.
- Be honest.
- Respect people's right to seek advice and support.
- Inform others about decisions and actions that affect them.

- Share information wherever permissible.
- Protect privacy and confidentiality.
- Respond promptly to enquiries.

### **Responsible Care**

Responsible care means protecting and managing with care, the human, natural and financial resources of the State. It means decisions and actions do not harm the short and long-term well-being of people and resources.

### **The Code**

To meet the minimum standards of conduct and integrity, all public sector bodies and employees must:

- Assume responsibility for the best deployment and use of human, natural and financial resources.
- Seek the efficient and effective use of public assets and avoid waste.
- Minimise risk and harm.
- Be conscientious and scrupulous in the performance of public duty.
- Co-operate to achieve what is best for the community.
- Be open and accountable for decisions and actions, and consult those affected, where possible.
- Maintain records sufficient to enable review by others.
- Develop skills and competencies in accordance with responsibilities and help others to do so.

**Notes**

- <sup>1</sup> This is a compilation of the *Western Australian Public Sector Code of Ethics (2002)*.

**Compilation table**

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<b>Citation</b>	<b>Gazettal</b>	<b>Commencement</b>
<i>Western Australian Public Sector Code of Ethics (2002)</i>	19 Feb 2002 p. 753-4	1 Mar 2002
<b>Replaced by 2007 Code as at 23 May 2007 published in <i>Gazette</i> 8 May 2007 p. 1981-3</b>		

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