Western Australia

Western Australian Public Sector Code of Ethics (2002)

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CONTENTS

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

Commencement 1

Justice

Respect for Persons

Responsible Care

Notes

Compilation table 1

Western Australia

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.

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**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.
* 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 personsmeans 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 caremeans 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 withresponsibilities and help others to do so.

Notes

1 This is a compilation of the *Western Australian Public Sector Code of Ethics (2002).*

Compilation table

| **Citation** | **Gazettal** | **Commencement** |
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| *Western Australian Public Sector Code of Ethics (2002)* | 19 Feb 2002 p. 753-4 | 1 Mar 2002 |