



Factsheet

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ICAC Evaluations

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

What is an evaluation?

The purpose of an evaluation is to improve an agency's systems to assist it in guarding against corruption. It involves the Independent Commission Against Corruption (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 ICAC Commissioner will set out the scope of the evaluation. The ICAC evaluation team will then commence the process of understanding the authority's operations. This involves collecting documents that relate to an agency's practices, policies and procedures and talking to staff.

Submissions may be invited from relevant parties.

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

Is an evaluation secret?

Evaluations are often conducted by way of a **public inquiry**. In these cases, 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 ICAC Commissioner. Section 54 of the ICAC Act prevents any other person from disclosing information that they have received knowing that it is connected to an evaluation unless the disclosure is authorised by the Commissioner.

