

Public Statement

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS IN THE EVALUATION OF THE CENTRAL ADELAIDE LOCAL HEALTH NETWORK

Thursday, 2 June 2022

Statement by Mr Paul Alsbury, Deputy Commissioner Independent Commission Against Corruption

On 28 April 2022 I announced that the Commission would conduct an evaluation of specific aspects of the practices, policies and procedures of the Central Adelaide Local Health Network, as they relate to the receipt, management, investigation and outcomes of complaints about the Network and its staff.

That evaluation has commenced and I now invite members of the public, and bodies with an interest in the evaluation to make a written submission relevant to the terms of reference of the evaluation.

The terms of reference are:

1. The degree to which the Network's systems and culture encourage reporting of wrongdoing, the means by which the Network provides opportunities to report, and the manner in which the Network receives and assesses reports of wrongdoing, including its compliance with the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018*.
2. The robustness of the decision-making within the Network related to complaints management and escalation to investigation, including the extent to which decisions are supported by adequate information, consistent with legislation and policy, and appropriately documented and consistent with other decisions.
3. The practices, policies and procedures in place to guide the appropriate conduct of internal investigations, including an audit to test the degree to which investigations are conducted objectively and according to the principles of procedural fairness and the rule against bias.
4. The extent to which disciplinary sanctions and outcomes (including managerial guidance):
 - are imposed by the Network in a timely way
 - reflect the seriousness of the proven conduct, and
 - are consistent with sanctions and outcomes for similar conduct.

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The Central Adelaide Local Health Network comprises the Royal Adelaide Hospital, The Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Hampstead Rehabilitation Centre, Statewide Rehabilitation Services, and mental health services at the Glenside Health Service and other locations. It also includes a range of specialised community and clinical health services across the state, including SA Pathology, BreastScreen SA, SA Medical Imaging and Pharmacy SA. For more information on the services for which the Network is responsible, visit their [website](#).

It is important that employees of the Network and the community can be confident that complaints and investigations are dealt with appropriately and consistently. Complaints and investigations are a rich source of intelligence that can assist an agency to maintain high standards of integrity.

Unlike an investigation, an evaluation is not directed at specific allegations of impropriety. Rather, an evaluation allows the Commission to examine a public authority's practices, policies and procedures, highlighting those which properly safeguard against corruption and identifying any weaknesses or opportunities for improvement.

Submissions close at 5pm on Friday 24 June 2022.

Email:

Please indicated in the subject line of your email that it relates to the Evaluation of CALHN: evaluation@icac.sa.gov.au

Post:

Hard copy submissions can be posted to:

CALHN Evaluation
Independent Commission Against Corruption
GPO Box 11066
ADELAIDE SA 5001

For media enquiries please contact 0428 389 493 or media@icac.sa.gov.au.

The publication of this information has been authorised by the Commissioner under section 54 of the *Independent Commission Against Corruption Act 2012*.