#### 1. RATIONALE

- 1.1. The City of Marion (the Council) has developed this procedure to give effect to its obligations under the Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018 (the PID Act) and to support the Council's Public Interest Disclosure Policy.
- 1.2. This document explains the applicable procedures and processes that the Council has in place for making and dealing with appropriate Disclosures of Public Interest Information, to ensure that the Council:
  - fulfils its responsibilities and obligations under the PID Act and the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption Act 2012 (the ICAC Act):
  - encourages and facilitates Disclosures of Public Interest Information, within the Council area;
  - provides a process by which Disclosures may be made so that they are appropriately received, assessed and action is taken, where required:
  - ensures the protections under the PID Act are afforded to Informants who make Disclosures in accordance with the PID Act; and
  - recognises the need to appropriately support Informants, the Responsible Officer and, as appropriate, those Public Officers affected by any appropriate Disclosure.

#### 2. PROCEDURE SCOPE AND IMPLEMENTATION

- 2.1. This Procedure applies to appropriate Disclosures of Public Interest Information, made in accordance with the PID Act, by public officers, including Council Members, Officers and Employees of the Council, as well as by members of the public.
- 2.2. This Procedure is intended to complement the reporting framework under the Guidelines prepared by the Commissioner in accordance with section 14 of the PID Act, as well as the reporting obligations of public officers under the ICAC Act and the Ombudsman Act 1972 (the Ombudsman Act).
- 2.3. This Procedure is also designed to complement the existing communication channels within Council and to operate in conjunction with other existing policies, including the:
  - Public Interest Disclosure Policy;
  - Fraud & Corruption Prevention Policy;
  - Code of Conduct for Council Employees;

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- Code of Conduct for Council Members;
- Complaint and Grievance Policy; and
- Internal Review of Council Decisions Policy under section 270 of the Local Government Act 1999.

#### 3. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Procedure the definitions are as per the Public Interest Disclosure Policv.

#### 4. PROCEDURE / STEPS

### **Role of Responsible Officer**

- 4.1. Upon receipt of a Disclosure of Public Interest Information, the Responsible Officer will deal with the Disclosure in accordance with the processes described in this Procedure, and within the authority granted by the Public Interest Disclosure Policy and the PID Act.
- 4.2. If an Informant believes that his/her Disclosure is not being dealt with appropriately or in accordance with this Procedure or the Public Interest Disclosure Policy, they should contact the Responsible Officer in the first instance.
- 4.3. The Responsible Officer may be contacted in person, by telephone or in writing. The relevant contact details are:

Telephone 08 8375 6625 (Manager Corporate Governance) 08 7420 6413 (Manager Human Resources)

Email Publicinterestdisclosure@marion.sa.gov.au

Address Confidential

Responsible Officer, Public Interest Disclosure

PO Box 21

Oaklands Park SA 5046

This mail box is cleared by the records management team daily, however all mail addressed in this way will be delivered direct to the Responsible Officers unopened.

An Informant may also make a Disclosure of Public Interest Information by contacting the dedicated hotline on 1300 304 550, established by the Council for the purposes of receiving such Disclosures.

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### Confidentiality

- 5.1. The identity of an Informant will be maintained as confidential, subject to the requirements under section 8 of the PID Act, and the Guideline 3 of the Guidelines published by the Commissioner.
- 5.2. A recipient of an appropriate Disclosure may only divulge the identity of an Informant where:
  - 5.2.1. the recipient believes on reasonable grounds that it is necessary to divulge the identity of the Informant in order to prevent or minimise an imminent risk of serious physical injury or death to any person, **and** the identity of the Informant is then divulged to a person or authority that the recipient believes on reasonable grounds is the most appropriate authority or person to be able to take action to prevent or minimise the imminent risk of serious physical injury or death to any person; or
  - 5.2.2. the recipient has been issued with a notice from the OPI advising that the identity of the Informant is required by the OPI, in which case the recipient must disclose the identity of the Informant to the OPI; or
  - 5.2.3. doing so is necessary for the matter to be properly investigated (but only to the extent necessary to ensure proper investigation); or
  - 5.2.4. the Informant consents to his/her identity being disclosed
- 5.3. The PID Act does not expressly require any other information relating to a Disclosure (including, for example, the nature of the allegations) to be maintained as confidential, but in considering whether to further disclose other information provided as part of an appropriate Disclosure the recipient should be mindful of the prohibition against Victimisation under the PID Act.
- 5.4. An Informant may wish to remain anonymous, but in that event, must ensure that the allegation is sufficiently supported by the provision of necessary details and evidence to enable the matter to be properly investigated.

#### **Disclosure Process**

- 6.1. The PID Act provides for protection for Informants where Disclosures are made:
  - 6.1.1. by a member of the public or a public officer about Environmental and Health Information, which the Informant reasonably believes to be true or which the Informant believes may be true and is of sufficient significance to warrant Disclosure, regarding a location within the Council area; and/or

- 6.1.2. by a public officer in relation to Public Administration Information, where that public officer reasonably suspects that the information raises a potential issue of corruption, misconduct or maladministration in public administration regarding either a location within a Council area, or a public officer who is a Council Member, Officer or Employee of the Council.
- 6.2. Disclosures should, wherever possible, be directed in the first instance to the Responsible Officer, who has the responsibility for receiving and actioning appropriate Disclosures relating to the Council.
- 6.3. However, nothing in this Procedure prevents a person from making a Disclosure to another Relevant Authority, including a Relevant Authority external to the Council. This is a choice to be made by the Informant at his/her discretion.
- 6.4. The following are relevant considerations for an Informant in determining where to direct a Disclosure:
  - 6.4.1. when choosing to make a Disclosure internally, Disclosures relating to a Council Member, Officer or Employee of the Council, should usually be made to a Responsible Officer;
  - 6.4.2. Disclosures relating to the Principal Officer (being the Chief Executive Officer under the PID Act), or person acting in that position, should be made to a Responsible Officer or the Mayor;
  - 6.4.3. any Disclosure relating to a person appointed as a Responsible Officer should be made to the other person appointed as a Responsible Officer or failing this, to a Relevant Authority external to the Council (such as the OPI or the Ombudsman):
  - 6.4.4. any Disclosure relating to Public Administration Information about a public officer who is a Council Member, Officer or Employee of the Council may be made to a Responsible Officer, or may be made direct to the OPI or the Ombudsman:
  - 6.4.5. if a public officer holds a reasonable suspicion that a matter pertains to corruption in public administration, they must report the same to the OPI in accordance with the Directions and Guidelines for Public Officers published by the Director of the OPI;
  - 6.4.6. if a public officer holds a reasonable suspicion that a matter pertains to maladministration or misconduct in public administration, they should report the same to the Ombudsman in accordance with the Directions and Guidelines published by the Ombudsman;

- 6.4.7. if a Disclosure relates to allegations of Fraud or Corruption, the Informant should report the matter in accordance with the Council's Fraud and Corruption Management Policy, which provides that:
  - 6.4.7.1. if the Disclosure relates to corruption in public administration it will be reported to the OPI; and
  - 6.4.7.2. if the Disclosure relates to Fraud, it may be reported to the Responsible Officer or direct to SAPOL.
- 6.5. A Disclosure may be made in person, by telephone (including by way of contacting the dedicated hotline) or in writing (either by post or email)
- 6.6. Where a Disclosure is made by telephone or in person, the recipient must take notes of the conversation and, where possible, should ask the Informant to verify and sign the notes.

#### Receipt of a Disclosure

- 7.1. A flowchart outlining the Disclosure Process is at **Appendix B** to this Procedure.
- 7.2. If a Council Member, Employee or Officer receives a Disclosure of Public Interest Information regarding a location within the Council area, or a public officer of the Council, the recipient of that Disclosure will:
  - 7.2.1. ask the Informant whether they consent to the details of their identity being provided to the Responsible Officer, and in doing so advise the Informant that a failure to provide that consent may mean that the Disclosure cannot be properly investigated; and
  - 7.2.2. refer the Disclosure to the Responsible Officer and, in doing so, comply with the wishes of the Informant with respect to whether details of their identity may be divulged.
- 7.3. Upon the receipt of a Disclosure (whether directly, or by referral from a Council Member, Employee or Officer), the Responsible Officer will:
  - 7.3.1. immediately undertake a Preliminary Assessment in accordance with Part 8 of this Procedure; and
  - 7.3.2. as soon as practicable thereafter, in accordance with Part 9 of this Procedure:
    - 7.3.2.1. notify the OPI of the Disclosure; and
    - 7.3.2.2. confirm receipt of the Disclosure with the Informant; and

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- 7.3.3. subject to the outcome of the Preliminary Assessment, take appropriate action, including, where required:
  - 7.3.3.1. appointing an Independent Assessor to further investigate the Disclosure in accordance with Part 10 of this Procedure; and
  - 7.3.3.2. notifying the Informant of the outcome of any action taken by the Council, including any investigation in accordance with Part 11 of this Procedure; and
  - 7.3.3.3. notify the OPI of the outcome of any action taken in accordance with Part 11 of this Procedure; and
  - 7.3.3.4. preparing and issuing a final report to the Principal Officer in accordance with Part 12 of this Procedure.

### **Preliminary Assessment of Disclosure**

- 8.1. Where the identity of the Informant is known to the Responsible Officer or is reasonably ascertainable, the Responsible Officer will acknowledge receipt of the Disclosure within 2 business days and in doing so, will provide a copy of this Procedure to the Informant.
- 8.2. Upon receipt of a Disclosure, the Responsible Officer will undertake a Preliminary Assessment to determine:
  - 8.2.1. if the content of the Disclosure suggests there is an imminent risk of serious physical injury or death to any person or the public generally;
  - 8.2.2. if the matter/s the subject of the Disclosure involve corruption, misconduct or maladministration in public administration; or
  - 8.2.3. if the information disclosed justifies further action.
  - 8.2.4. When determining whether the information disclosed justifies further action, the Responsible Officer will determine whether the Disclosure:
    - 8.2.4.1. pertains to information that does not justify the taking of further action, which may include an assessment as to whether it is frivolous, vexatious or trivial (in which case, no further action will be taken in relation to the Disclosure);
    - 8.2.4.2. relates to a matter which has already been investigated or acted upon by a Relevant Authority and there is no reason to re-examine the matter, or there is other good reason why no action should be taken in respect of the matter (in which case, no further action will be taken in relation to the Disclosure);

- 8.2.4.3. requires referral to another Relevant Authority external to the Council; or
- 8.2.4.4. warrants referral to an Independent Assessor for a formal investigation and report to the Principal Officer.
- 8.3. The Responsible Officer must report the outcome of his/her determination following the Preliminary Assessment to the Principal Officer (unless the Disclosure relates to the Principal Officer, in which case it should be to the Mayor). Any report prepared in accordance with this Part will not disclose particulars that will, or are likely to lead to, the identification of the Informant, unless the circumstances in clause 5.2 of this Procedure apply.
- 8.4. Where the Responsible Officer determines that the content of the Disclosure suggests there is an imminent risk of serious physical injury or death to any person or to the public generally, the Responsible Officer must immediately communicate such information as may be necessary to mitigate that risk to the most appropriate agency (for example, South Australia Police, SafeWork SA, SA Ambulance, or the Environment Protection Authority). In doing so, the Responsible Officer must also have regard to clause 5.2.1 of this Procedure.
- 8.5. Where the Responsible Officer forms a reasonable suspicion that the matter/s the subject of the Disclosure involve corruption, misconduct or maladministration in public administration, the Responsible Officer must comply with any reporting obligations that may exist under the ICAC Act or the Ombudsman Act.
- 8.6. Where the Responsible Officer determines the Disclosure warrants further investigation by the Council, the Responsible Officer will, having regard to available resources, appoint the Independent Assessor and refer the Disclosure to the Independent Assessor for investigation.
- 8.7. Where the Responsible Officer determines the Disclosure warrants referral to an external body or another Relevant Authority, the Responsible Officer will undertake the referral, including ensuring that such information as is necessary to enable action to be taken is communicated to the most appropriate person or relevant authority to take that action.
- 8.8. Where the Responsible Officer determines the Disclosure requires any other action, to ensure the matter the subject of the Disclosure is properly addressed, the Responsible Officer will include in his/her determination details of that other recommended action.
- 8.9. The Council will not be responsible for investigating disclosures of Public Administration Information (being information that raises a potential issue of corruption, misconduct or maladministration in public administration) in the absence of a direction or referral to do so from the OPI or the Ombudsman.

### **Notification of Preliminary Assessment**

- 9.1. So long as the identity of the Informant is known to the Responsible Officer, or is reasonably ascertainable, the Responsible Officer will notify the Informant of the outcome of his/her determination in writing as soon as is reasonably practicable after the Preliminary Assessment has been made, and in any event within 30 days of receipt (as required by the PID Act) of the Disclosure. In doing so, the Responsible Officer must advise the Informant of:
  - 9.1.1. any action that has been, or will be, taken in relation to the Disclosure; or
  - 9.1.2. if no action is being taken in relation to the Disclosure, the reason/s why.
- 9.2. If the Responsible Officer fails to notify the Informant in accordance with clause 9.1 above, the Informant may be entitled to protection in relation to any subsequent Disclosure of that information to a journalist or Member of Parliament in accordance with the PID Act.
- 9.3. If the Informant is dissatisfied with the Responsible Officer's determination, it is open to him/her to report the Disclosure to another Relevant Authority external to the Council.
- 9.4. As soon as reasonably practicable following the Preliminary Assessment and notification to the Informant, the Responsible Officer must use the dedicated online notification form at www.publicintegrity.sa.gov.au/public-interest-disclosure to notify OPI of the Disclosure (Initial Notification), and in doing so must ensure that the details required by Guideline 1.4 of the Guidelines are included.
- 9.5. The Responsible Officer will retain the unique reference number issued by the OPI upon making the Initial Notification, and will ensure that reference number is provided to any other person or authority to whom the Disclosure is referred.

### **Investigation Procedure**

- 10.1. Where the Responsible Officer determines, following a Preliminary Assessment, that a Disclosure warrants referral to an Independent Assessor for a formal investigation and report to the Principal Officer, the Responsible Officer will appoint an Independent Assessor in accordance with this Part to investigate the Disclosure.
- 10.2. The Independent Assessor will be appointed on a case-by-case basis depending on the nature of the Disclosure. A list may be prepared of pre-approved persons who may be appointed as an Independent Assessor in any given circumstances, in which case the Responsible Officer must have regard to this list in appointing the Independent Assessor.
- 10.3. The objectives of the investigation process are:

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- 10.3.1. in appropriate circumstances, to investigate the substance of the Disclosure and to determine whether there is evidence in support of the matters raised or, alternatively, to refute the report made;
- 10.3.2. to collate information relating to the allegation as quickly as possible. This may involve taking steps to protect or preserve documents, materials and equipment;
- 10.3.3. to consider the information collected and to draw conclusions objectively and impartially;
- 10.3.4. to observe procedural fairness in the treatment of any person who is subject of the Disclosure; and
- 10.3.5. to make recommendations arising from the conclusions drawn concerning remedial or other appropriate action.
- 10.4. The Independent Assessor will observe the principles of natural justice throughout the investigation process. The investigation will be conducted in an efficient manner and will involve a thorough and balanced assessment of the available evidence and any other factors deemed relevant to making a fair and reasonable judgement about the matter.
- 10.5. Upon receipt of a Disclosure referral under this Part, the Independent Assessor will bring the fact of the Disclosure to the attention of the person who is the subject of it in writing within 5 days, and provide them with an opportunity to respond to the Disclosure within a reasonable timeframe (either in writing or in person). The full details of any allegations contained in the Disclosure need not be brought to the person's attention if the Independent Assessor considers that doing so will compromise the investigation.
- During any interview with the Independent Assessor, the person who is the subject of a Disclosure may be accompanied by any person providing support to him/her (including a lawyer) as he/she considers fit. Any costs incurred in relation to obtaining the assistance of a support person are the personal expenses of the person subject of the Disclosure. The support person is bound by a duty of confidentiality in relation to any matter discussed during such interview.
- The investigation will be undertaken in confidence. So long as the identity of the 10.7. Informant is known to the Responsible Officer or is reasonably ascertainable, the Independent Assessor will keep the identity of the Informant confidential unless the circumstances in clause 5.2 of this Procedure apply.
- 10.8. The Independent Assessor will keep the Responsible Officer informed of the expected timeframes for completion of the investigation and the provision of his/her investigation report to the Responsible Officer.

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- 10.9. Upon finalising an investigation the Independent Assessor must prepare an investigation report to the Responsible Officer that will contain the following details:
  - 10.9.1. the allegation(s);
  - 10.9.2. an account of all relevant information received including any rejected evidence, and the reasons why the rejection occurred;
  - 10.9.3. the conclusions reached and the basis for them; and
  - 10.9.4. any recommendations arising from the conclusions, including any remedial action which should be taken by the Council.

The report is to be accompanied by:

- 10.9.5. the transcript or other record of any verbal evidence taken, including tape recordings; and
- 10.9.6. all documents, statements or other exhibits received by the Independent Assessor and accepted as evidence during the course of the investigation.
- 10.10. Any report prepared in accordance with this Part will not disclose particulars that will or are likely to lead to the identification of the Informant, unless the circumstances in clause 5.2 of this Procedure apply.
- 10.11. The Responsible Officer must take whatever action is, in his/her discretion, considered appropriate in the circumstances having regard to the matters identified in the Independent Assessor's report.

#### **Notification of Further Action**

- 11.1. So long as the identity of the Informant is known to the Responsible Officer or is reasonably ascertainable, the Responsible Officer will notify the Informant of the outcome of his/her determination in writing as soon as is reasonably practicable after the Further Action has been taken and, in any event, within either:
  - 11.1.1. **90 days of receipt** of the Disclosure; or
  - 11.1.2. such longer period as may be specified by written notice given by the Responsible Officer within that 90 day period.
- 11.2. In doing so the Responsible Officer must advise the Informant of:
  - 11.2.1. any action that has been, or will be, taken in relation to the Disclosure; or
  - 11.2.2. if no action is being taken in relation to the Disclosure, the reason/s why.

- 11.3. If the Responsible Officer fails to notify the Informant in accordance with clauses 11.1 and 11.2 above, the Informant may be entitled to protection in relation to any subsequent Disclosure of that information to a journalist or Member of Parliament in accordance with the PID Act.
- 11.4. If the Informant is dissatisfied with the Responsible Officer's determination or the action taken it is open to him/her to report the Disclosure to another Relevant Authority external to the Council.
- 11.5. As soon as reasonably practicable following the Preliminary Assessment and notification to the Informant, the Responsible Officer must use the dedicated online notification form at www.publicintegrity.sa.gov.au/public-interest-disclosure to notify OPI of the action taken in relation to the Disclosure (Further Notification) and, in doing so, must ensure that the details required by Guideline 2 of the Guidelines are included.
- 11.6. If the Disclosure came to the Council by way of a referral from a Minister, the Responsible Officer must ensure that the Minister is also notified of the action taken in relation to the Disclosure, and the outcome of any such action. The Minister should be notified in accordance with this clause following the Preliminary Assessment if the Responsible Officer determines that no action is to be taken.

### **Final Report and Recommendation**

- 12.1. Upon finalising any action required in relation to a Disclosure, the Responsible Officer must prepare a report that will contain the following details:
  - 12.1.1. the subject of the Disclosure;
  - 12.1.2. an account of the steps taken by the Responsible Officer in accordance with this Procedure, including, where appropriate, enclosing a copy of any Independent Assessor's report;
  - 12.1.3. conclusions reached as a result of the steps taken in response to the Disclosure and the basis for them; and
  - 12.1.4. any recommendations arising from the conclusions, including any remedial action which is recommended to be taken by the Council.
- 12.2. Any report prepared in accordance with this Part will not disclose particulars that will or are likely to lead to the identification of the Informant, unless the circumstances in clause 5.2 of this Procedure apply.
- 12.3. The Responsible Officer's Report must be provided to the Principal Officer (or to the Mayor where the matter relates to the Principal Officer) to action as he/she considers appropriate.

### **Information to Elected Body**

- 13.1. As a matter of discretion, the Principal Officer may inform the elected body, on a confidential basis, of the fact that an investigation of a Disclosure took place and the outcome of the investigation.
- 13.2. Factors the Principal Officer will take into account in determining whether to inform the elected body, and the level of detail provided in doing so are to include:
  - 13.2.1. if known, the identity of the Informant, and whether the Informant has consented to his/her identity being divulged;
  - 13.2.2. if applicable, the identity of any person the subject of the Disclosure;
  - 13.2.3. the impact (if any) of the investigation upon the Council's achievement of its objectives under its Strategic Plan and/or policies; and
  - 13.2.4. the impact of any action taken to finalise the matter upon the Council's operations and/or budget.
- 13.3. In the event the Disclosure and/or any subsequent investigation process is confined to issues that impact only upon Council staff and human resource processes, the Principal Officer will not inform the elected body of the fact of the Disclosure and/or investigation, as these matters fall outside the roles and responsibilities of elected members under the *Local Government Act 1999*.

### **Secure Handling and Storage of Information**

- 14.1. The Responsible Officer must ensure accurate records of an appropriate Disclosure are securely and confidentially maintained including notes of all discussions, phone calls, and interviews.
- 14.2. The Responsible Officer will ensure all information relating to an appropriate Disclosure is maintained as confidential and as such, will be solely responsible for the secure storage of this information, which will be stored separately from the Council's records.
- 14.3. In performing his/her duties, the Responsible Officer will maintain a confidential file of information (including written documents, disks, tapes, film or other objects that contain information) that relates to a Disclosure and/or is a product of the associated investigation/reporting process. All such information will be recorded in a register which is to remain confidential and be securely stored in a locked down section of Sharepoint.
- 14.4. In the event that a person's appointment as a Responsible Officer is terminated, the person must provide this information to any incoming Responsible Officer and having done so will continue to be bound by a duty of confidentiality in respect of an Informant's identity and the information received as a result of the Disclosure.

14.5. Although the Responsible Officer is ultimately responsible to ensure any appropriate Disclosure of Public Interest Information is securely received and stored, the security and confidentiality obligations outlined in this Part also apply to any Independent Assessor appointed pursuant to this Procedure in relation to any Investigation.

#### **Protection for the Informant**

- 15.1. An Informant who makes an appropriate Disclosure of Public Interest Information under the PID Act is entitled to:
  - 15.1.1. immunity from criminal or civil liability;
  - 15.1.2. a prohibition on Disclosure of his/her identity, other than in limited specific circumstances, as set out under section 8 of the PID Act and Guideline 3 of the Guidelines;
  - 15.1.3. protection against Victimisation; and
  - 15.1.4. a prohibition against hindering, obstructing or preventing an Informant from making an appropriate Disclosure.
- 15.2. The PID Act does not provide any protections to people who knowingly make disclosures that are false or misleading.
- 15.3. A person who knowingly makes a Disclosure that is false or misleading in a material particular is guilty of an offence and may be prosecuted.
- 15.4. A person who personally commits an act of Victimisation against an Informant is guilty of an offence and may be prosecuted.
- 15.5. The Council will take action as appropriate in the circumstances of the relevant Disclosure/s to protect Informants from Victimisation, and/or from being hindered or obstructed in making a Disclosure. Such action may include acting in accordance with the following risk minimisation steps:
  - 15.5.1. As set out in this Procedure and/or referring the matter to the SA Police;
  - 15.5.2. disciplinary action by the Council or the Principal Officer (as appropriate) for any failure to act otherwise than in accordance with this Procedure or the Public Interest Disclosure Policy (including with respect to divulging the identity of an Informant) in relation to a Disclosure.

#### **16. REVIEW AND EVALUATION**

The review of this Procedure is to be conducted every two years. An interim review is to be carried out in the event of:

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- an amendment to the PID Act; or
- where a Disclosure received and actioned under this Procedure is not managed appropriately and in accordance with the PID Act.

The Manager Corporate Governance will be responsible for the review in consultation with Responsible Officers.

Any changes to the document will be submitted to the Executive Leadership Team and will require endorsement by the Principal Officer.

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### Appendix A

#### **Relevant Authorities**

Where the information relates to	the relevant authority is
a public officer*	either:
*as defined in section 4 and set out in Schedule 1 of the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption Act 2012 - relevantly, this includes Council Members, Officers and Employees of local government bodies	the person who is designated by the Guidelines as being taken to be responsible for management or supervision of the public officer; or
	the person who is in fact responsible for the management or supervision of the public officer; or
	the relevant responsible officer (as designated by the Council in accordance with section 12 of the PID Act)
a public sector agency or public sector employee	either:
	the Commissioner for Public Sector     Employment; or
	the responsible officer for the relevant public sector agency
an agency to which the Ombudsman Act 1972 applies	the Ombudsman
a location within the area of a particular council established under the <i>Local Government Act 1999</i>	a member, officer or employee of that Council
a risk to the environment	the Environment Protection Authority
an irregular and unauthorised use of public money or substantial	the Auditor-General
the commission, or suspected commission, of any offence	a member of SAPOL
a judicial officer	the Judicial Conduct Commissioner
a member of Parliament	the Presiding Officer of the House of Parliament to which the member belongs

City of Marion

245 Sturt Road, Sturt SA 5047 PO Box 21, Park Holme SA 5043 T 08 8375 6600 www.marion.sa.gov.au

Where the information relates to	the relevant authority is
a person or a matter of a prescribed class <sup>1</sup>	an authority declared by the regulations to be a relevant authority in relation to such information
any Disclosure of Public Interest Information	<ul> <li>the OPI;</li> <li>a Minister of the Crown; or</li> <li>any other prescribed person or person of a prescribed class</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> presently, no prescribed persons or classes have been identified

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#### **Appendix B - Notification Process Flowchart**

Receipt of Disclosure

- Disclosure by a public officer about public administration information to be made to the Responsible Officer
- Disclosure by a member of the public about environmental/health information to do with a location in the Council area - can be made to any Council Member, Officer or Employee of the Council to then be passed on to the Responsible Officer to access
- Acknowledge receipt within 2 Business days see part 8 of procedure

Preliminary

- · undertaken by the Responsible Officer to determine:
- if an imminent risk of serious harm exists;
- · whether other action is required, and if so, what

Preliminary Assessment Action

- for example report risk of imminent harm to SA Police or another appropriate agency, make report to OPI etc
- See part 8 of Procedure

Novify informant re Preliminary

- Must be done within 30 days of the disclosure being made (s7(1)(b)) see Part 9 of Procedure
- Include details of the action that has been, or will be, taken
- · Alternatively, if no action will be taken, advise why

Notify OPI about disclosure

- · As soon as reasonably practicable
- Use the online notification form at www.publicintegrity.sa.gov.au/public-interest-disclosure
- Must include the details specificed in Guideline One see Part 9 of Procedure

Take Action

· May include undertaking investigations, or referring to another relevant authority -see Part 10 of Procedure

Notiify informant outcome o

- Must be done within 90 days of the disclosure being made, or such longer period as specified by written notice given within that 90 day period (s7(3)(a)) see part 11 of Procedure
- Include details of the outcome of the action taken

Notify OPI outcome o

- Use the online notification form www.publicintegrity.sa.gov.au/public-interest-disclosure
- Must include the details specificed in Guideline Two see Part 11 of Procedure

applicable, notify Minister re outcome of

• Only applicable if the initial disclosure came from/via a Minister (s7(5)(b)(ii)) - see part 11 of Procedure

Notify Principal Officer of • Upon finalising action prepare a report for the Principal Officer (or Mayor where the matter relates to the Principal Officer) - see part 12 of Procedure

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