



OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSIONER AGAINST CORRUPTION (NT)

## Recent speculation about my office

21 February 2024

In recent times I have received numerous media inquiries requesting comment on matters that may, or may not, have been reported to my office.

As history demonstrates, in the lead up to general elections various assertions are made, either for principled, or political, reasons. Suggestions of referrals, reports and investigations by anti-corruption agencies are sometimes made.

My office will not be a part of that discourse.

Between now and the conclusion of the Northern Territory General Election, I will not make any public comment on matters that may, or may not, have been the subject of a report, referral or investigation. The only exception will be where I determine, in accordance with the ICAC Act, to publish information relevant to a concluded investigation.

In the lead up to a general election in particular, I respectfully ask that those who are elected or appointed to serve the public (or who seek such election or appointment), engage in public discourse in a manner that reflects the very high standards of propriety demanded of them.

I encourage any person to report suspected improper conduct to my office. It will be assessed carefully, and action will be taken where appropriate and within the remit of our resources.

Next month, I will provide a General Report to parliament on the activities of my office.

**Michael Riches**

Independent Commissioner Against Corruption (NT)