

# Public interest disclosures e-news

## Changes to the Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994

Welcome to our first bulletin about the changes to the *Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994*. The first amendments to the Act, formerly the *Protected Disclosures Act 1994*, were proclaimed on 3 March 2011. Two further sets of changes to the Act commence on **1 July 2011** and **1 January 2012**. New information about the [timeline for delivery of changes](#) for agencies is available on our website. We have reviewed our [first fact sheet](#) with a summary of the main changes to the system, and the updated version is now available.

We have set up a **Public Interest Disclosures Unit** to carry out our new oversight functions which begin on 1 July 2011. This unit will also provide guidance and help to agencies and build close working relationships with the agency staff who are working with protected disclosures.

### OUR NEW TEAM:

**Chris Wheeler**, Deputy Ombudsman  
**Selena Choo & Sanya Silver**, Managers  
**Tom Millet**, Policy  
**Jemi Jeng**, Projects  
**Barbara Neil**, Communications

We are also in the process of recruiting trainers and plan to have a training program ready by June 2011.

We are creating a Frequently Asked Questions resource for our website with your real questions and our real answers! Please send your question about protected disclosures, no matter how curly, to [pid@ombo.nsw.gov.au](mailto:pid@ombo.nsw.gov.au) and we will publish both question and answer. If we can't answer immediately, we will publish your question and answer it as soon as possible.

Please forward this bulletin to other people in your organisation who are interested in the changes to the public interest disclosures system.

**Bruce Barbour**  
NSW Ombudsman

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