



NEW SOUTH WALES NURSES AND MIDWIVES' ASSOCIATION
AUSTRALIAN NURSING AND MIDWIFERY FEDERATION NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH



POLICY ON WHISTLEBLOWING AND PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURES

Re-Endorsed by Annual Conference 2019

NSW Nurses and Midwives' Association
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Policy on Whistleblowing and Public Interest Disclosures

Note: This policy should be read in conjunction with the NSW Nurses and Midwives' Association Guidelines on Whistleblowing and Public Interest Disclosures.

THE NSW NURSES AND MIDWIVES ASSOCIATION:

- Recognises the importance of making public interest disclosures (formerly known as a protected disclosure) in accordance with the requirements of the *Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994*; and
- Provides legal advice and Guidelines for members wishing to make a public interest disclosure.

THE NSW NURSES AND MIDWIVES ASSOCIATION ADOPTS THE POLICY THAT:

- Nurses and midwives who make a public interest disclosure in accordance with the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 1994* (the Act) have a right to protection under the Act.
- Not all complaints of serious wrongdoing will meet the criteria for a public interest disclosure. Both public and private health care sectors have policies and procedures for the reporting of grievances, misconduct, bullying and harassment and concerns about clinicians which are not public interest disclosures.
- It is a mandatory requirement for all public health authorities to have a policy and procedure for receiving, assessing and dealing with public interest disclosures.