



CORRUPTION PREVENTION ADVICE

To Integrity and Professional Standards Units
Cc Overseas Deployment Units as relevant
From Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity (ACLEI)
Date February 2020
Topic Corruption risk arising from Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation

1 Context

- 1.1 This advice deals with corruption risk. It is not intended as public health or travel advice.

2 Corruption risk in Overseas Deployment

- 2.1 ACLEI released its public report *International Deployments: Corruption Risks for Law Enforcement* in June 2019. This report highlights the importance of agencies maintaining corruption risk treatment measures which are specific and responsive to overseas environments.
- 2.2 Agencies may wish to consider whether corruption risk treatment measures remain fit for purpose given the spread of COVID-19 and the potential impact on overseas operations.

3 Key Points

- 3.1 Physical supervision of some overseas locations may become increasingly difficult. Factor in corruption risk when implementing business continuity work-arounds.
- 3.2 Opportunistic corruption may increase where attention is diverted to crisis management. Consider implementing alternative controls where needed.
- 3.3 It is normal for staff to experience increased stress during this type of event. Some staff may exhibit behavioural change requiring agency intervention. Remind staff of the support mechanisms available to them and reiterate the need to report integrity matters.
- 3.4 Prepare managers to respond to corruption risks arising from changes to standard processes and any local restrictions.

- Further Information:
ACLEI *International Deployments: Corruption Risks for Law Enforcement*
https://www.aclei.gov.au/sites/default/files/international_deployments_-_corruption_risks_for_law_enforcement_-_aclei.pdf
- World Health Organisation:
<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>