New Whistleblower Commissioner Appointed

The Northern Territory Government has appointed the Commissioner who will oversee the implementation of the Northern Territory’s new whistleblower legislation, the Public Interest Disclosure Act.

Attorney General, Delia Lawrie, today announced that Ms Brenda Monaghan has been appointed as the Commissioner for Public Interest Disclosures, a role that also includes the position of Information Commissioner.

“The Henderson Government is committed to open and transparent government which is why we introduced the Whistleblowers legislation in July last year,” Ms Lawrie said.

“The new statutory position will oversee the Whistleblowers legislation to encourage and assist people to disclose improper conduct or corruption in the public sector.

“We want to ensure that if people are aware of misconduct in the public sector they report it.

“The Act also provides whistleblowers with protection when they report misconduct in the public sector.

“Ms Monaghan brings a wealth of legal and policy experience in the Northern Territory to this position and is the first appointment to the role.

“I would also like to thank Mr Robert Bradshaw who has been acting in these roles, as well as Ms Zoe Marcham who has acted as the Information Commissioner.”

Ms Monaghan is a qualified solicitor and barrister with extensive practice experience who has been a Judicial Registrar of the Magistrates Court, lectured law at university and has acted in the Deputy Coroner role, all in the Territory.

Most recently she has been the Legal Member of the Northern Territory Licensing Commission and held the position of Executive Director Licensing Regulation & Alcohol Strategy in the NT Department of Justice.

The Public Information Disclosure Act commenced on 31 July 2009. For more details visit www.blowthewhistle.nt.gov.au

Media contact: Campbel Giles 0407 972 900