



OGP NAP5 Progress Report Session – Record of Discussion

Date: 24 June 2026

Overview

The Public Service Commission (the Commission) hosted the 2026 progress report for NAP5 implementation. Updates were provided on all four commitments, with discussion and stakeholder questions after each update.

A slide presentation was used to guide discussion and is also available on the OGP NZ website.

Commitment 1: Review of protected disclosures practice

Rodney Scott (Public Service Commission) outlined progress on the practice review of New Zealand's protected disclosures system. Work completed to date included making the information about protected disclosures on the Commission website more user-friendly and accessible, and improving the information available retaliation. A desktop review of international protected disclosure practice (focusing on OECD countries) and academic research has also been completed. Interviews with New Zealand practitioners was about to begin, with the goal of finding out about practice from an agency perspective and opportunities for improvement. Challenges include the fact protected disclosures are confidential so it can be hard to get information or contact disclosers about their experiences. Scoping the community of practice is yet to begin, but this will be part of the discussion with agencies in interviews.

Discussion focused on the experiences of people making protected disclosures and whether the current system provides sufficient protection in practice. Participants emphasised that successful reform should be judged not only by how information is managed, but also by whether people feel safe making disclosures. Several contributors encouraged the review to identify future reform opportunities, including potential legislative changes, even though this is outside the current scope of the commitment.

Commitment 2: Corruption Risk Assessment Tool

Rose Rehm (Serious Fraud Office) reported strong progress on the development of a corruption risk assessment tool for public sector agencies. Research, consultation and initial design work have been completed, with further testing planned before publication in 2027. The tool will help agencies identify corruption and insider threat risk and is intended to be

practical, easy to use and accessible. A key challenge noted was that the tool is voluntary and uptake depends on agencies choosing to use the tool, which is why user testing has been valuable.

Participants broadly welcomed the initiative and highlighted the importance of improving awareness of corruption risks across the public sector. Discussion covered the challenge of encouraging voluntary uptake and how awareness-building, executive sponsorship, audit processes, and existing assurance mechanisms could help drive engagement. Contributors noted that corruption prevention often depends on relatively simple controls and encouraged continued focus on culture change, practical implementation, and ongoing evaluation once the tool is deployed

Commitment 3: Ethical Government–Private Sector Career Transitions

Lydia McKinnon (Public Service Commission) provided an update on work examining the risks and benefits associated with movement between government and non-government roles. The Research, international comparisons and engagement with a reference group have informed a draft discussion document written by the Commission and the Ministry of Justice that has been provided to the responsible Minister. Cabinet timing ahead of the election period remains the primary delivery challenge.

Discussion highlighted the complexity of balancing integrity risks with the significant benefits that career mobility can bring. Participants noted the value of bringing practical experience and expertise into government while also recognising risks associated with procurement, policy development, regulatory decisions, lobbying, and access to information. There was strong support for maintaining a broad scope beyond lobbying alone and for considering the issue as part of a wider high-integrity public sector system. International examples and lessons from comparable jurisdictions were discussed, alongside the need to carefully weigh any restrictions against individual freedoms and labour market realities.

Commitment 4: Transparency of Senior Leaders' Conflicts of Interest

Vishnu Seger (Public Service Commission) outlined progress on options to improve transparency around senior leaders' conflicts of interest. Research and engagement with a reference group has been completed, and a discussion document is being prepared for consultation with impacted senior leaders.

Discussion focused on implementation design. Participants emphasised the importance of common data standards, consistency, and ensuring that published information is genuinely useful rather than simply available. There was interest in understanding the respective advantages of centralised, federated, and agency-led approaches, and broad agreement that consistency of data and accessibility would be critical regardless of the model ultimately adopted.

Broader OGP Discussion

Participants discussed wider OGP implementation, transparency and future engagement opportunities. Updates were also provided on related work being undertaken by civil society organisations. Discussion noted that generally good progress had been made across the four commitments. Participants encouraged the Commission to include OGP in the Briefing to the Incoming Minister that will be provided after the general election.