# Action plan to strengthen integrity, 2025-2028



### **PRIORITIES**

- Get back to basics
- Reset behaviour
- Improve performance

#### INTENT

Lift integrity performance across the public sector, by resetting expected standards of behaviour and strengthening professional practices

#### **AMBITION**

A trusted and high-performing public service, unified by high standards of integrity and conduct, and resilient to integrity and corruption risks & threats

#### RESULT

Better, fairer decisions that uphold the public interest

2026/27 start

#### **PROPOSED ACTIONS** (led by Public Service Commission unless noted otherwise) **FOCUS AREAS TIMEFRAME** Re-issue the Code of Conduct 2025/26 Reset expected standards of Mandatory baseline integrity training for all public servants, and scenario-led training for specific risk areas 2026 integrity and conduct and Identify system/agency trends and opportunities from Public Service Census; support Integrity Champions to improve practice 2025/26 drive agency practice 2026/27 start GO FURTHER... Refine and make better use of system and agency data to monitor and promote integrity practice 2025/26 Develop template conflict of interest (CoI) management plans and scenario-led learning Improve conflict of 2025/26 Embed improved conflict of interest identification and management practices through Integrity Champions interest identification and GO FURTHER... 2026/27 start Explore options to increase transparency of chief executive and board chair interests & management plans management Explore options to strengthen transparency around lobbying/'revolving doors' for senior public service leaders (with MoJ) 2026/27 start Strengthen agency practice around complaints management and 'Speaking up' processes/practices 2025/26 Simplify and improve 2026/27 Implement amendments to the Public Service Act 2020 around mandatory agency reporting of integrity & conduct investigations complaints management GO FURTHER... Policy review of Protected Disclosures (Protection of Whistleblowers) Act 2022 and related practices 2026/27 start Contribute to Anti-Corruption Taskforce pilot activities (SFO-led) 2025/26 **Progress domestic/** • Support implementation of recommendations from United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) peer review (MoJ-led) 2025/26 international commitments to reduce corruption and fraud GO FURTHER...

Explore policy options for re-starting work to implement a beneficial ownership register (MBIE/MoJ-led)

GO FURTHER options have not yet been fully scoped, and may therefore be suitable for co-design with stakeholders as OGP national action plan commitments

#### **KEY ENABLERS**

## **RELATED WORK PROGRAMMES**

Open Government Partnership, and next national action plan (due Dec 2025, to run 2026-28)

Amendments to the Public Service Act 2020 and follow-on implementation

Cross-agency expert networks e.g. for integrity, security and risk/assurance

Engagement with civil society, private sector and other jurisdictions

Work to strengthen the Public Service against insider threat risks

#### **MONITORING AND EVALUATING SUCCESS**

- Six-monthly progress reports to relevant Ministers and stakeholders, highlighting delivery and key shifts in behaviour.
- Maintain or improve scores/rankings in measures for public trust, integrity, public sector effectiveness.
- Observe greater alignment between the expected standards of integrity and conduct and agency practices.
- Use what we learn from monitoring and benchmarking to course-correct interventions.
- Improve/adapt domestic and international good practice for the New Zealand public sector context.

[UNCLASSIFIED] JULY 2025