

CORRUPTION ALERT!

Corruption is one of the many social-ills infiltrating our society and affecting all citizens. Corruption can be defined as a multilateral process in which fraudulent conduct is implemented by those in power. The provider and recipient benefit, at the cost of everyone else, who become the victims. This negative phenomenon is often present within political and economic environments as well as in any professional institution that requires ethics and morals to be upheld.

Corruption inhibits economic growth and affects the business community employment and investments. It also reduces tax revenue and the effectiveness of various financial assistance programs. The wider society experiences the ripple effect of corruption at a higher degree as crime statistics rise, there is poor service delivery, lack of access to infrastructure, inadequate health care, education consequently leading to loss of trust in the government and the rule of law. There are numerous causes of corruption, however here are the 4 most common causes below:

1. OPPORTUNITY

This refers to circumstances that allow fraudulent and corrupt activities to occur. Such circumstances include weak internal controls and inadequate policies.

3. RATIONALIZATION

Rationalization refers to an individual's justification for committing fraud. Those committing the fraud often create a narrative that justifies or deems it "fair or legitimate" to commit corruption. Those that commit fraud often do not feel guilty or remorseful and their justifications include "Everyone does it" "or" "There is no other solution".



2. TOLERANCE

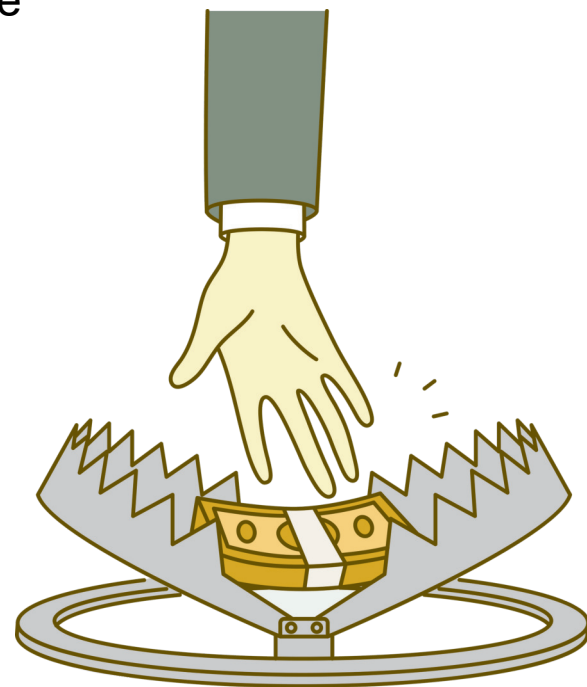
While there has been a significant change in attitude towards corruption over the years, corruption is still largely engrained in our society and many people have simply accepted this practise a norm and are afraid to break the cycle.



4. NEED

Motives behind the need to commit corrupt activities differ from one person to another. Some participants may require to be paid in cash and others in kind depending on their motives. However, the following are common motives of corrupt activities:

- Greed for money or material desires.
- Maximization of profit.
- Gaining of a competitive advantage.



REPORT FRAUD AND CORRUPTION

One of the key obstacles to fighting fraud and corruption is the fear by employees and stakeholders of being intimidated to identify or "blow the whistle" on corrupt or unethical practices witnessed within or outside the Municipality. Any suspicion of fraud and corruption reported will be treated with caution and confidentiality and will be reviewed, analysed, and if warranted, investigated adequately.

If an employee and or stakeholders becomes aware of any fraud, corruption or suspected irregularity and unethical behaviour, such issues should be reported. The whistleblower may report the suspected fraud or corruption in good faith through the following telephonic channels:



Presidential Hotline:

17737 (1PRES)

Corruption Watch:

0800 023 456

National Anti-Corruption Hotline:

0800 701 701

Office of the Premier Hotline:

0800 864 729

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