

Country case: Procurement probity plans by the Queensland Government (Australia)

Description

Procurement Transformation Division under Department of Housing and Public Works of the Queensland Government in Australia has developed a [Procurement Guidance](#) document that provides that a probity plan should be prepared before the commencement of each procurement process and forms part of procurement planning documentation.

It should identify the probity risks and related management strategies for the procurement, including the role and responsibilities of each stakeholder in responding to those risks. Where the procurement is part of a broader project, the probity plan should be agreed with the project's governing body and management. It should identify the probity risks and related management strategies for the procurement, including the role and responsibilities of each stakeholder in responding to those risks. Where the procurement is part of a broader project, the probity plan should be agreed with the project's governing body and management.

As part of the probity plan, a description should be provided of the probity services that are to be sourced, including whether a probity auditor and/or probity advisor is to be engaged, and the scope and nature of the probity services that will be delivered. All members involved in the procurement, or project, including the steering committee, advisors and other project stakeholders should be aware of arrangements put in place to preserve the probity of the process and should be provided with a copy of the probity plan.

In those procurement situations where more than one agency is involved in different elements of the procurement process, it is essential that the roles and responsibilities in relation to probity be addressed within the probity plan to ensure that accountabilities are clear and that governance practices are in place. The responsibility for probity remains with the agency to which funds have been appropriated. Where this agency engages service providers (Government or private) to engage in procurement activities on its behalf, it should require those providers to meet its (the agency's) responsibility and particular requirements regarding probity. However, this does not transfer the responsibility for probity to the service provider, which remains with the agency.

Source: OECD (2015), [Effective Delivery of Large Infrastructure Projects: The Case of the New International Airport of Mexico City](#), OECD Publishing, Paris

Public Procurement
Principle: **Integrity,
Risk Management**

Procurement Stage:
Pre-tendering

Audience: **Policy Maker,
Procuring Entity**