



Recognising the Heroes

“Corruption is a corrosive disease. Its presence eats away our moral fabric, undermines our law and order and leaves devastation in the lives of ordinary citizens in our society.” (Corruption Watch, 2019 Analysis of Corruption Trends report).

According to this report, titled “Together as one voice”, Corruption Watch¹ received **1591** whistleblower reports between January 2019 and June 2019 relating to the public sector. These reports were received from resilient citizens, who were not deterred by the possible threat of those who are in a position of power; citizens

who believe that they can do something to combat fraud and corruption by taking the initiative to blow the whistle on criminal activities. They have given context to citizens’ plight against poor service delivery and social issues exacerbated by corruption.

The WCG does not tolerate corruption, fraud and unethical behaviour. The WCG Anti-fraud and Corruption Strategy (the Strategy) makes the fight against fraud and corruption one that is shared amongst all WCG employees, regardless of rank or position. The Strategy also highlights our commitment to establishing collaborative relationships with internal and external stakeholders, such as SAPS, SARS and the National Prosecuting Authority to act against fraud and corruption.

The decision to report suspicious activity is often difficult for employees due to fear of victimisation. Provincial Forensic Services (PFS) recognises the efforts of all those who have the courage

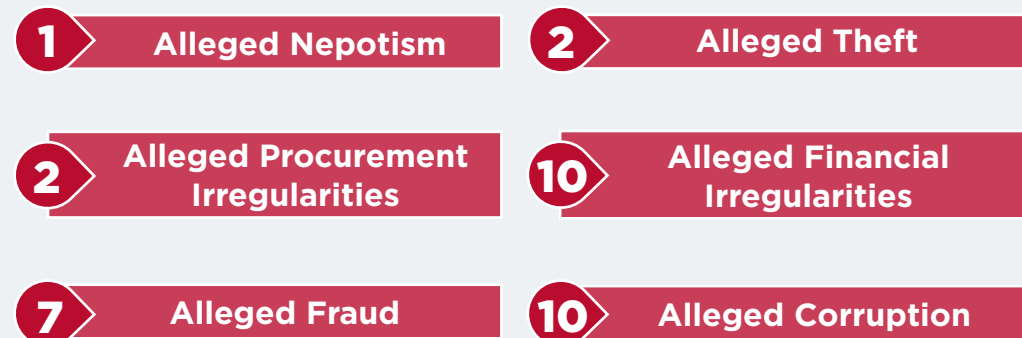
to speak up and report the suspicion of economic crime – you are the heroes! We also acknowledge the collaboration with and commitment by the 13 WCG Provincial Departments, who conduct preliminary investigations into various alleged irregularities, refer suspicions of fraud and corruption to PFS for investigation and implement recommendations made by PFS and Internal Audit. We would like to share some statistics in this regard:

32
Cases

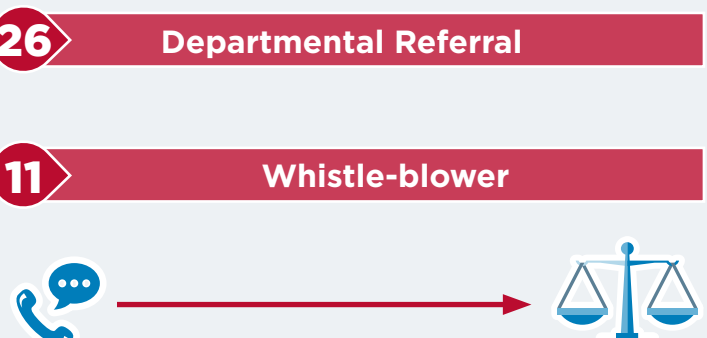
At the beginning of 2019/20 financial year, PFS had **34** forensic investigation cases on hand. We received **32** new allegations. Of the 32 matters reported, **10** were reported by **whistleblowers** and **22** were **referred** to PFS by **Departments**.

¹Corruption watch is an independent anti-corruption agency that relies on members of the public to report their knowledge and experience of corruption

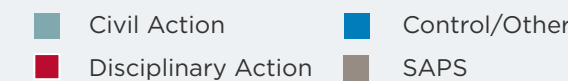
Number of allegations reported during FY 2019/20 per allegation type



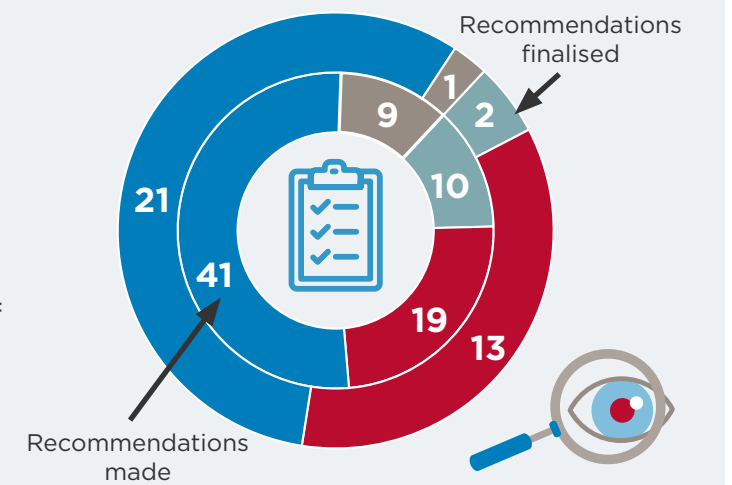
Number of cases finalised per reporting channel during FY 2019/20



Finalised cases: categories of recommendation made vs finalised



Without the commitment of Departments and the whistle-blowers, who noted and reported suspicious activities to PFS, these allegations would have gone unchecked.



Did you know?

If you blow the whistle, you will be protected?


This means that **no employee** who blows the whistle **responsibly**, and in **good faith**, may be subjected to occupational detriment, in the form of:

- disciplinary action, harassment or intimidation or being transferred against your will;

- be refused transfer or promotion, a reference, or being provided with an adverse reference, by your employer; or
- denied an appointment to any employment, profession or office;

- subjected to civil claim for breach of confidentiality, for doing so.

For more information, refer to the WCG Whistle-blowing Policy ([click here to read](#))

 We encourage you to continue reporting suspicions of fraud and corruption to safeguard the WCG’s resources and reputation.

Report suspicions of fraud, corruption and theft on:
 Telephone on 021 483 0931 | Email to: tip.off@westerncape.gov.za
 National Anti-Corruption Hotline on 0800 701 701

Let us protect the integrity of our government,
BETTER TOGETHER.