



## The Probity Advisor and Role

A probity adviser is an individual who is engaged to observe, review and report on the Application for Funding assessment process and to provide advice on probity issues which may arise, to ensure that the process is equitable and that it is conducted with integrity.

The Probity Advisor is appointed by the Department to provide guidance to the Department. The Probity Advisor is not engaged to provide advice to applicants and should not be contacted by applicants. Any applicant who has an issue in relation to the process should, in the first instance, contact the nominated Contact Officer for the Application for Funding process.

The Probity components of the process are in place to:

- ensure conformity to processes designed to achieve value for money;
- provide accountability;
- ensure that all applications are assessed against the same criteria;
- preserve public and applicant confidence in government processes; and
- improve defensibility of decisions to potential challenge or other external scrutiny.

There are five essential probity principles to achieve procedural fairness that are considered throughout the process. They are:

- open competitive process;
- fairness, consistency and transparency of process;
- identification and resolution of conflicts of interest;
- accountability in relation to decision making; and
- monitoring and evaluating performance.

Mr Harvey Gibson is the Probity Advisor for the Targeted Youth Support Service for Children and Young People in Tasmania - Application for Funding and the Therapeutic Residential Care for Children and Young People in Tasmania - Application for Funding.

Mr Gibson is a partner with Wise Lord and Ferguson, specialising in Audit and Corporate Advisory Services for large and medium sized businesses. His key areas of expertise include audit, quality assurance, business planning, business valuations, experts reports, prospectuses and due diligence reviews. Harvey also has extensive experience as a probity advisor in the public sector.