

Record-keeping

17O. (1) The Ombud must keep proper files and records in respect of complaints as well as a record of any determination proceedings conducted in terms of section 17H.

(2) Any interested person may, subject to the discretion of the Ombud and applicable rules of confidentiality, obtain a copy of any record on payment of a fee determined by the Ombud.

Annual Report of Ombud

17P. (1) The Office must prepare and submit to the Minister an annual report, as determined in the rules, within five months after the end of its financial year.

(2) The annual report referred to in subsection (1) must include the following documents:

(a) The audited financial statements prepared in terms of this Chapter;

(b) the report prepared in terms of the Public Audit Act, 2004; and

(c) a report of the activities undertaken in terms of the functions of the Ombud set out in this Chapter.

(3) The Minister must table in Parliament each annual report submitted in terms of this section.

Penalties

17Q. A person who—

(a) commits any act in respect of the Ombud or an investigation by the Ombud which, if committed in respect of a court of law, would have constituted contempt of court, is guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a penalty which may be imposed on a conviction of contempt of court; or