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*PRESIDENT: Chris Earl  
SECRETARY: Steve Patterson  
TREASURER: Tim Bodey  
COMMITTEE: Raylee Riley*

6 February 2017

MEMO: National councillors  
Branch secretaries

Pipe Bands Australia and kindred entities has discovered alleged financial irregularities in what amounts to a complete and utter betrayal of all members.

There are no words to adequately describe this alleged gut-wrenching action against our organisation comprised of many members who unselfishly devote countless hours each year raising funds to operate their bands and associations.

We have been advised that the allegation predominantly relates to the first half of the 2016-2017 financial year during which time Pipe Bands Australia had begun preparing proposals for a new financial reporting and accountability platform to replace an antiquated software package with unacceptable limitations.

That new reporting and accountability platform with proven integrity and transparency is now not for discussion but immediate implementation by the new treasurer.

The previous treasurer was removed from the position by national management committee following internal dissatisfaction with performance including a failure to provide the 2015-2016 financial statement in a timely manner.

Pipe Bands Australia and kindred entities are working co-operatively is pursuing avenues to recover funds allegedly misappropriated. The matter has also been reported to authorities.

Against the above background, both our and the police investigations are ongoing and we will further report back to our members. We would therefore ask that members do not participate in social media "gossip" surrounding the matter.