

Future Focus

1

MANDATORY PROACTIVE RELEASE

IPC strategies:

- Produce enhanced regulatory guidance and continue to promote compliance with mandatory proactive release obligations, particularly for contract register requirements and the additional open access information requirements prescribed in Part 3, Clause 5 of the *Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2009*.
- Continue implementing the steps that the IPC will take towards a NSW Charter for Public Participation, including:
 - engaging with principal departments to improve the quality of their Agency Information Guides (AIG)
 - hosting a summit on public participation and AIGs
 - co-creating a NSW Charter for Public Participation
 - promoting how agencies can connect AIGs with Open Government Plans
 - monitoring agencies' use of AIGs to understand the trends in AIGs facilitating public participation
 - monitoring disclosure logs and identification of the various kinds of government information held by agencies and made available by agencies with the objective of promoting Open Government and Open Data.

Agency strategies:

- Assess and ensure compliance with their additional open access information requirements prescribed in the *Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2009*.
- Use IPC regulatory guidance to ensure compliance with contract register, AIG and disclosure log requirements.

2

AUTHORISED PROACTIVE RELEASE

IPC strategies:

- Work with the Secretaries Board to promote Open Data and a positive data sharing culture.
- Engage in targeted regulatory action to promote authorised proactive release programs for the release of government information.
- Identify improvements to the GIPA Tool to drive improved compliance and to improve ease and accuracy of agency reporting.

Agency strategies:

- Use IPC regulatory guidance to adopt better practices in the authorised proactive release of government information.
- Schedule and conduct a regular review of the agency's proactive release program, including the release of Open Data.
- Link the agency's proactive release program to its AIG.

3

INFORMAL RELEASE

IPC strategies:

- Continue to promote the appropriate use of the informal access pathway with agencies.

Agency strategies:

- Review and revise its AIG to ensure the informal release pathway is clearly available to the public.

4

FORMAL ACCESS APPLICATIONS

IPC strategies:

- Work with agencies to investigate and respond to the drivers behind release rate trends, the reasons for the increase in the percentage of agencies that uphold their original decision following a section 93 GIPA Act recommendation, transfers of applications, and the use of the top three overriding public interest against disclosure (OPIAD) considerations.
- Develop regulatory guidance on the release of audio visual information under the GIPA Act.
- Lead work under Australia's first Open Government National Action Plan to develop uniform metrics to better measure and improve our understanding of the public's use of rights under freedom of information laws.
- Examine opportunities for digitisation of the GIPA application process and online lodgement.

Agency strategies:

- At an executive level promote full engagement, training and a collaborative approach to investigating, analysing and responding to the issues identified in this report and applying an intelligence-led approach to meeting obligations under the GIPA Act and maximise achievement of Open Government.
- Work with the IPC to improve the recording of data for GIPA Act annual reporting, particularly in regard to recording of reviews.