

Privacy Awareness Week NSW 2026

**Presentation to Department of Primary Industries and
Regional Development**

6 May 2026

Sonia Minutillo
Privacy Commissioner



information and
privacy commission
new south wales

The Information and Privacy Commission NSW



information
and privacy
commission
new south wales

The IPC is an independent integrity agency that supports the Information Commissioner and the Privacy Commissioner to oversight the NSW public sector in relation to privacy and information access laws.

Privacy functions:

- ✓ promote and protect privacy rights in NSW.
- ✓ provide information, advice, assistance and training for agencies and individuals on privacy matters.
- ✓ investigate and conciliate complaints relating to public sector agencies, health service providers (both public and private) and some large organisations that deal with health information.
- ✓ provide feedback about the legislation and relevant developments in the law and technology.
- ✓ to investigate, monitor, audit and report on a public sector agency's compliance with data breach notifications, including the agency's data handling systems, policies and practices.
data breach notifications.

The Information and Privacy Commission NSW

Our jurisdiction and who we regulate in Privacy



**NSW
government
departments
and agencies**



**Local
councils**



Universities



**State-Owned
Corporations**



Ministers

In addition, other **NSW public authorities** and **private health service providers** that collect, hold or use health information are also subject to the NSW privacy legislation.

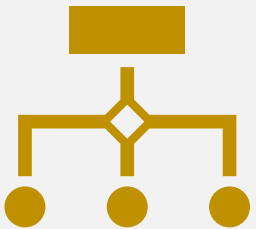
Privacy Legislation and oversight

The IPC has specific functions under NSW Acts:



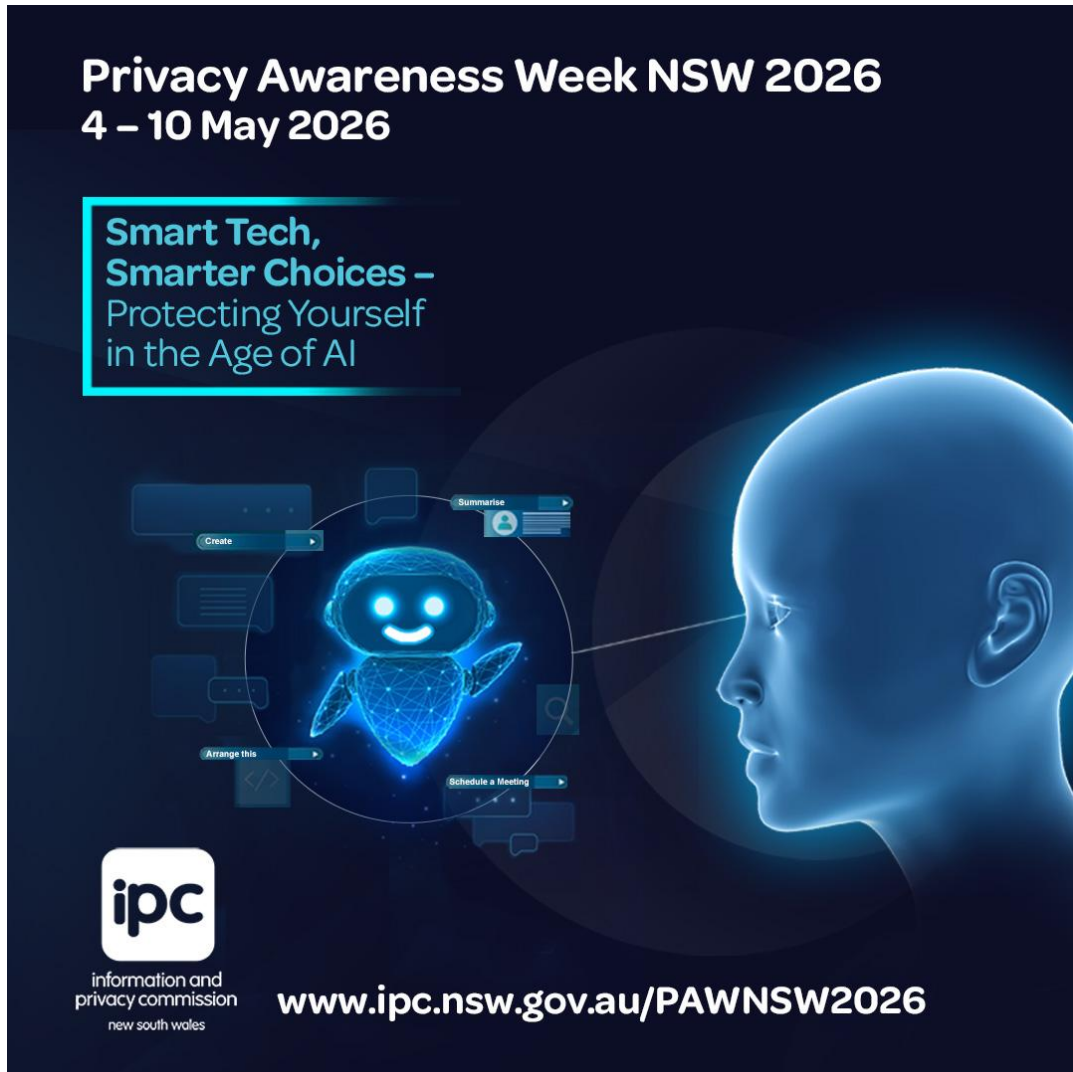
- *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (PPIP Act)*
- *Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002 (HRIP Act)*
- *Public Interest Disclosures Act 2022 (PID Act)*
- *Digital Restart Fund Act 2020 (DRF Act)*

Parliamentary oversight and administration of Acts:



- Committee on the Ombudsman, Law Enforcement Conduct Commission and the Crime Commission
- Attorney General, Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government
- Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health plus Minister for Mental Health

Privacy Awareness Week NSW 2026



- 2026 theme – how understanding AI and new technologies empowers people to feel confident, informed and in control of their personal information.
- Smart technology and AI are now part of everyday life, shaping how information is collected, shared and used.
- AI has become more prevalent, widely adopted and as more tools become available, knowing how and where your data moves has never been more important.

What does your agency's governance look like?

- ✓ Leadership commitment
- ✓ Embed a privacy positive culture
- ✓ Encourage a culture of reporting
- ✓ Integrate privacy into business and risk strategy
- ✓ Understand your privacy obligations
- ✓ Know your data – data inventory
- ✓ Promote an environment of privacy awareness
- ✓ Evaluate and mature your privacy practices, policies and processes
- ✓ Train employees on data handling and breach response
- ✓ Implement technical and administrative measures to protect personal data
- ✓ Have a data breach response plan
- ✓ Data minimisation
- ✓ Privacy by design

Good governance is the key to developing and maintaining trust in your agency and its services to the public.

Bail for man accused of accessing sensitive files, AVOs

'Court hacker' faces justice

Sensitive school data leaked in cyberattacks

EXCLUSIVE

Data breach warning to DV victims

PwC fesses up to data breach

DAVID ROSS

Healthcare sector hardest hit by cyberattacks

CYBERSECURITY
David Swan

Woman arrested over attacks on Western Sydney Uni

Accused elite hacker hiding in a dirty unit

Hackers put Qantas data on dark web

Supratim Adhikari
Chris Zannone

Fighting back against cyber attacks

Fashion retailer has data hacked

Sarah Perillo

NSW gov contractor uploaded Excel spreadsheet of flood victims' data to ChatGPT

LOCAL NEWS

WSU under attack again

"Persistent and targeted": University contacts students after fresh security issues

Council staff apologise for data breach

Hackers hit school network

Mass cyber breach as student details stolen

Rebecca Borg

BREAKING

Public servant charged over alleged data breach of thousands of government files

Shadow IT

Productivity

- Personal scheduling apps for work meetings
- 'Freemium' software with limited security features

Communication

- Social media for internal communications
- Unauthorised chat apps for work discussions
- Personal email for work communications

Cloud storage

- Personal cloud storage for work purposes
- Sharing sensitive documents via public file sharing sites

Efficiency

- Unauthorised large language models (ChatGPT)
- Unauthorised third-party plugins (Grammarly)

Shadow IT refers to information technology (IT) systems, hardware, software, or cloud services used within an organisation without the approval, oversight, or knowledge of the central IT department.



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