

information and privacy commission new south wales

Media release

07 May 2018

Privacy Awareness Week

NSW Privacy Commissioner, Samantha Gavel, today launched Privacy Awareness Week under this year's theme - *Privacy in the Digital Age*.

Privacy Awareness Week (7 to 13 May) is a timely reminder about the importance of privacy and its significance for government practitioners who manage people's personal information on a day-to-day basis.

According to Ms Gavel, Privacy Awareness Week helps put the spotlight on privacy issues, which are more important than ever before in today's changing information landscape.

"New technology makes it faster and easier for personal information to be collected, analysed and shared," Ms Gavel said.

"That is why Privacy Awareness Week is so important – it's about raising awareness of the importance of privacy and making sure we use this opportunity to take action and ensure we have the right privacy protections in place.

"We all share responsibility for ensuring the personal information we collect is protected and respected. That is why in Privacy Awareness Week I encourage all agencies to take time out to check their internal privacy protection systems and processes.

"When the right protections are in place – privacy is an enabler – it allows us to harness the power of new technology, share data and optimise the delivery of government services .

"As NSW Privacy Commissioner I am committed to ensuring the people of NSW have confidence that the personal and health information collected and held by government is managed in a way that protects their privacy rights," Ms Gavel said.

To support practitioners and members of the public new privacy resources are available on the Information and Privacy Commission NSW website including the <u>General Data Protection Regulation fact sheet</u> and <u>Privacy Complaints: Your</u> review rights fact sheet under the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998* (PPIP Act).

For more information about privacy protection and <u>Privacy Awareness Week</u>, including how to get involved as a <u>PAW Champion</u>, please visit the Information and Privacy Commission NSW website at <u>www.ipc.nsw.gov.au</u>

Media inquiries: 0435 961 691.



ABOUT THE INFORMATION AND PRIVACY COMMISSION

The Information and Privacy Commission NSW (IPC) is an independent statutory authority that administers New South Wales' legislation dealing with privacy and access to government information. The IPC supports the Information Commissioner and the Privacy Commissioner in fulfilling their legislative responsibilities and functions and to ensure individuals and agencies can access consistent information, guidance and coordinated training about information access and privacy matters.