

PRESENTATION

A stylized, glowing blue and yellow padlock is the central focus, set against a background of a circuit board. The padlock is rendered with a grid-like pattern and a keyhole, and it glows with a yellow-orange light. The circuit board background is dark blue with various components and traces visible.

Privacy Commissioner, Samantha Gavel

Privacy Awareness Week NSW 2021
Public Sector Leaders' Event



What is Privacy Awareness Week?

- **Privacy Awareness Week NSW** (3 – 9 May 2021) aims to improve understanding and awareness of NSW privacy legislation, and to raise awareness of a person's privacy rights and agency obligations.
- NSW privacy legislation relevant to public sector agencies includes the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998* (PPIP Act) and *Health Records Information Privacy Act 2002* (HRIP Act) which deal with the handling of personal and health information.
- How we collect and what we do with people's personal information is critical to building trust in government and government agencies.

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NSW Privacy Commissioner



The Privacy Commissioner upholds and promotes privacy rights in NSW through:

- independent advice on privacy issues to Ministers, Parliament and Government
- advice and assistance to agencies regarding privacy
- regulatory engagement to assist agencies with privacy compliance
- guidance and tools for agencies
- promoting good privacy practice through public speaking and other engagements.

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Make Privacy a Priority

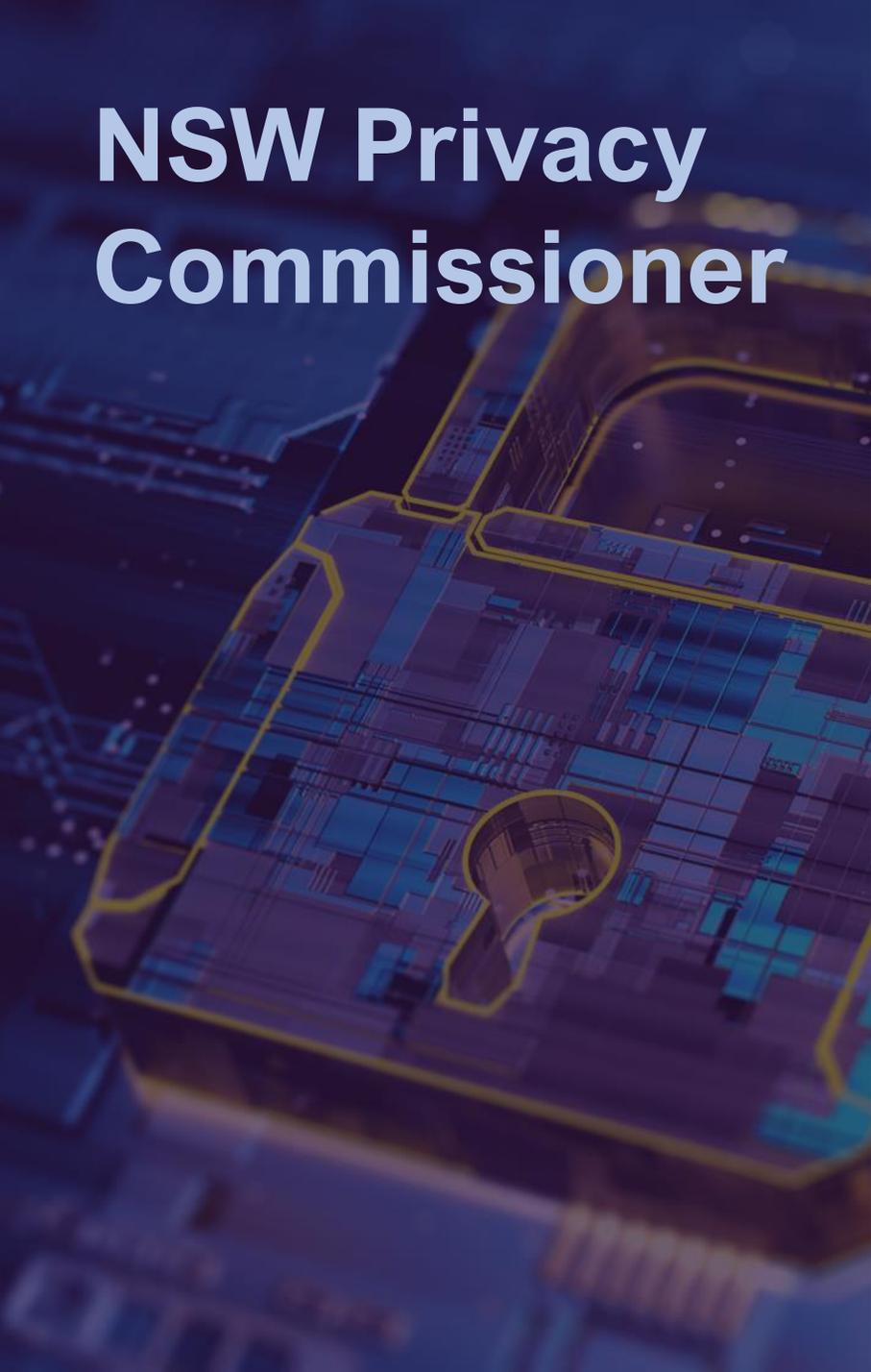
Good privacy practice:

- promotes community trust in government projects and service delivery
- enables agencies to manage new technology and service delivery
- minimises the potential for harm and non-compliance with privacy legislation

Privacy impacts during COVID-19

- Cyber risks
- Risks associated with collection, storage and retention of data
- Re-identification of deidentified data

NSW Privacy Commissioner



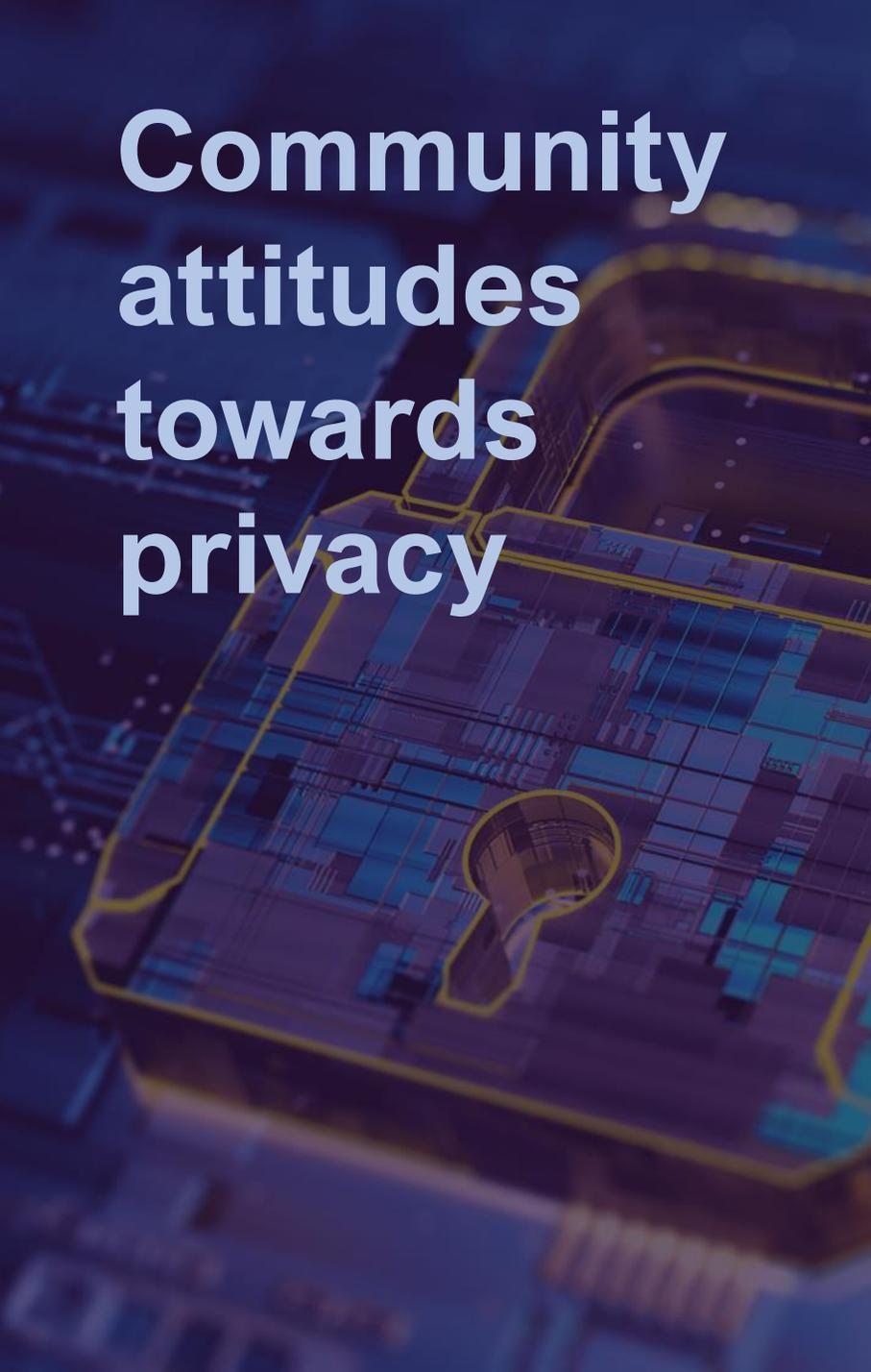
Some ways the Privacy Commissioner has promoted privacy rights in NSW:

- providing information and advice regarding the COVID-19 response
- consulting with agencies on digital projects
- Developing guidance and tools for agencies to assist them to comply with privacy legislation
- promoting privacy through Privacy Awareness Week and other initiatives.

Information and Privacy Commission NSW

The IPC helps citizens understand privacy laws in NSW and provides information on how to protect citizens' personal information and assert their rights.

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Community attitudes towards privacy

In the IPC's 2020 Community Attitudes Survey, it was found that:

- most respondents were concerned about the deliberate hacking of NSW government systems and data being inappropriately shared or released (both 85%), followed by unauthorised access by agency staff (77%) and then accidental release of personal information (74%).
- there was comparatively less concern with accidental release of personal information with around a quarter not really concerned or only a little concerned.

Mandatory Data Breach Notification Scheme

- Department of Communities and Justice's (DCJ) is leading work on the creation of a Mandatory Data Breach Notification scheme to replace the current Voluntary Data Breach Notification Scheme.
- The Privacy Commissioner and Working Group have agreed on a proposed model for the scheme which has been approved by Ministers
- DCJ is developing draft legislation to underpin the scheme
- A consultation bill will be put out for public comment, prior to consideration of legislation by the NSW Parliament

New and updated resources

TOP TEN PRIVACY TIPS

- 1 Hackers use phishing emails to access your secure information. Be cautious about all communications you receive and if you think the email is suspicious do not click on any links or open any attachments.
- 2 Improve your security online by setting up two-factor authorisation. Adding one more step of authenticating your identity makes it harder for an attacker to access your data.
- 3 Do not always enable geolocation. It's common for websites to ask for you to share your location. In doing so, they build a profile around your location and interests. Manually select your location instead to better protect your data.
- 4 Install ad blockers – ads may be tracking you in the background. Use ad blockers to disable tracking and analytics from second and third parties.
- 5 Be wary of public Wi-Fi networks – these are often less secure than regular networks and give access to more data than necessary when providing Internet connection.
- 6 You have a right to ask why any information is being collected about you. This includes, for example, state government agencies and other organisations. Their privacy policy may contain this information.
- 7 Keep your documents and files secure if they contain sensitive or personal information. Consider using encryption to lock portable hard drives and USBs to prevent unauthorised access if they are misplaced.
- 8 Keep passwords, PINs and other access codes confidential and secure. Using a password manager is a good way of keeping your passwords and logins secure as they are stored in encrypted databases.
- 9 Enable privacy settings and review them regularly when using online social media and networking sites (e.g. Facebook, Twitter). Consider making your social media profiles private.
- 10 Securely dispose of mail that contains personal details (e.g. shredding). Never put sensitive documents that have your personal details in the recycle bin.

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- Top Ten Privacy Tips infographic (new)
- Data Breach Prevention Checklist (updated)
- Privacy by Design
- Guide to Privacy Impact Assessments
- Collection of COVID-19 vaccination information (new)
- Guide – Transition to the cloud: Managing your agency's privacy risks

You can download these resources at www.ipc.nsw.gov.au/PAW2021

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