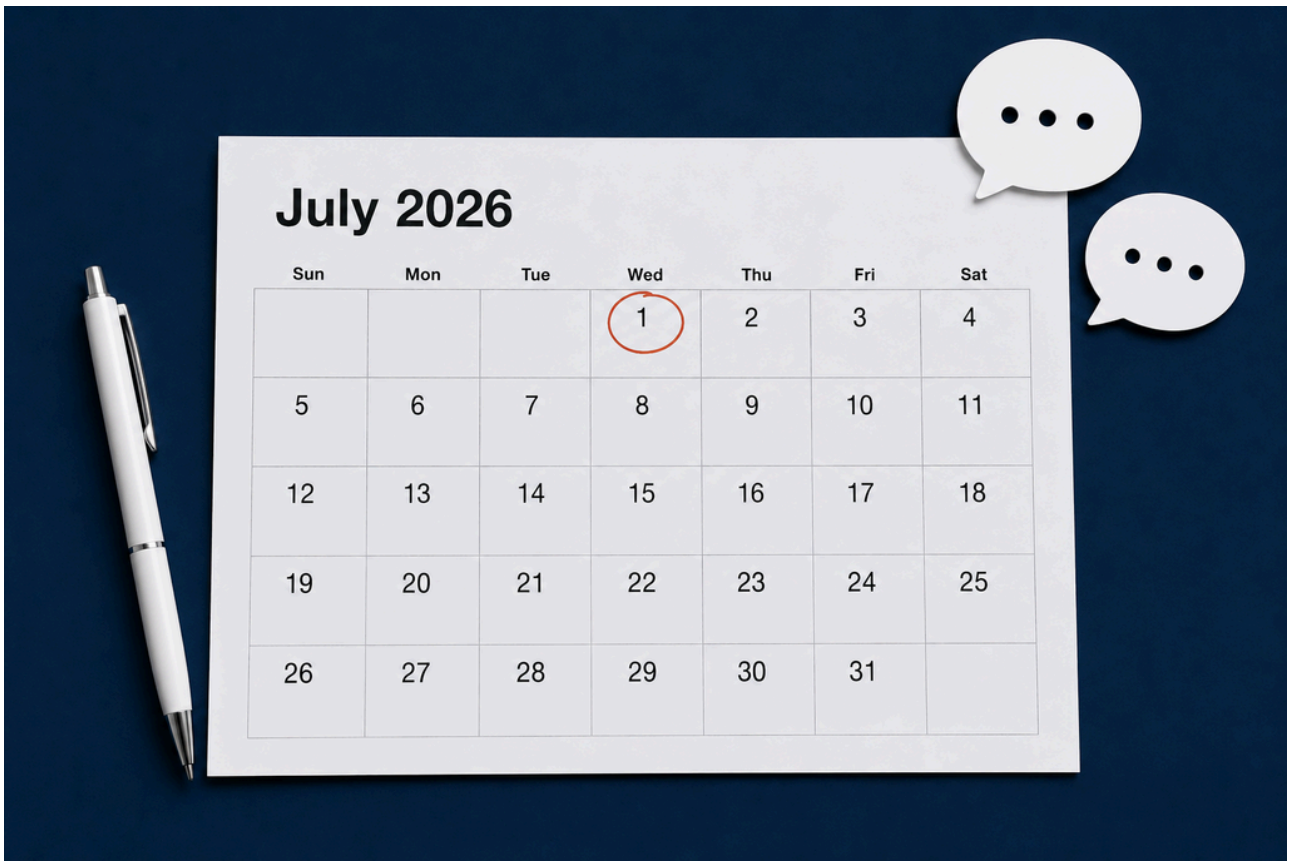
Office of the Information Commissioner
Western Australia

June 2026 - No. 11

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PRIS provisions commencing



From 1 July this week, key provisions under the Privacy and Responsible Information Sharing Act 2024 (WA) (PRIS Act) commence.

This includes the commencement of the Office of the Information Commissioner WA's privacy complaint functions under the PRIS Act. Individuals can make privacy complaints to the OIC WA about how Western Australian public sector entities and their contracted service providers handle their personal information if not satisfied with how the relevant public entity has responded to the complaint.

To support the commencement of these functions, the OIC has published a new privacy complaint form on its website. The form guides complainants through the information required to

assess a complaint, including details of the alleged privacy incident, its impact, previous engagement with the entity involved, and any supporting documentation.

Members of the public are encouraged to review the available guidance before lodging a complaint.

We have also launched a new external review complaint form for FOI. Use of our privacy complaint and FOI external review forms will facilitate complaint handling processes and ensure we have the right information to process your complaints as timely as possible.

Access the privacy complaint form on our website.

Access the FOI external review form on our website.

Enforcement of the PRIS Act

From 1 July 2026, the OIC will consider any complaint received on its merits, which in some cases may involve issuing determinations, ordering compensation or requiring certain actions to be undertaken. However, the OIC also recognises uplifting existing personal information handling practices takes time and building a robust privacy program is a journey of continuous improvement.

Accordingly, the OIC will continue to prioritise working with regulated entities to raise awareness of their obligations and uplift capability. In support of this, the OIC also intends to publish information about its decisions in response to complaints, as well as embedding case studies in guidance where relevant.

For more information, visit the *"What approach will the OIC take to enforcing the PRIS Act from 1 July 2026"* FAQ on our website.

New resource for contracted service providers

The Office of the Information Commissioner WA has released a new resource, *How PRIS applies to Contracted Service Providers*, to help public sector entities and their contracted service providers understand their responsibilities under the PRIS Act.

The guidance explains how the PRIS Act applies when services are delivered through third parties, including the role of privacy clauses in State services contracts. It outlines the respective responsibilities of entities and CSPs, highlights key privacy risk management practices, and provides practical guidance on procurement, due diligence and contract management.

Read the new *"How PRIS Applies to Contracted Service Providers"* resource on our website.

Recent FOI Decisions

Re McKenzie and Public Transport Authority and Alstom Transport Australia Pty Limited [2026] WAICmr 7

The Information Access Deputy Commissioner varied the agency's decision refusing access to information relating to the Metronet C-Series railcar procurement. Relevantly, only a narrow category of business information, including payment sequencing and other financial information was exempt from disclosure. In this context, the Deputy Commissioner accepted disclosure of such information could increase the risk of fraud or impersonation relating to government payment processes, and the public interest in protecting payment integrity and preventing fraud weighed in favour of non-disclosure of this information (clause 4(3)).

Read the full decision via the Office of the Information Commissioner website.

Re Hart and Public Transport Authority [2026] WAICmr 8

The Information Access Deputy Commissioner set aside the agency's decision and granted access to a financial assessment report the agency used during a tender process, subject to deletion of some personal information. Relevantly, the Information Access Deputy Commissioner found simply using the document in a procurement context (in this case, to assess a contractor's financial capacity) is not enough to establish it concerned the agency's "commercial affairs". The decision reiterates the mere fact an agency undertakes procurement or other commercial activities is not necessarily enough to bring information within clause 10(4).

Read the full decision via the Office of the Information Commissioner website.

Other recent decisions

- Re H and Department of Communities [2026] WAICmr 9
- Re M and Legal Practice Board of Western Australia [2026] WAICmr 10

FOI annual statistical return

Each year, the Information Commissioner requests FOI statistical data from agencies to support reporting to Parliament on the administration of the Freedom of Information Act 1992 (WA). The data covers application volumes, outcomes and internal review activity.

Agency responses are analysed to support transparency and accountability. This helps identify trends in FOI administration across Western Australia. The OIC will write to agency representatives shortly to commence this year's return process.

Previous events

We are receiving numerous requests to speak at events, conferences and other forums. We are centralising management of these requests internally so that we can strategically deploy our resources where time permits. This includes consolidating and merging speaking requests where possible, especially where they come from regulated entities.



Responsible Information Sharing (RIS) Community of Practice Panel discussion

Information Commissioner, Annelies Moens, spoke at the Responsible Information Sharing Community of Practice the Department of the Premier and Cabinet hosted on, *Balancing risk: Using and protecting data for community benefit* on 29 May 2026. The session explored the role of information governance and how the various legislative and policy requirements work together

to ensure regulated entities use and protect government-held information assets in the public interest.

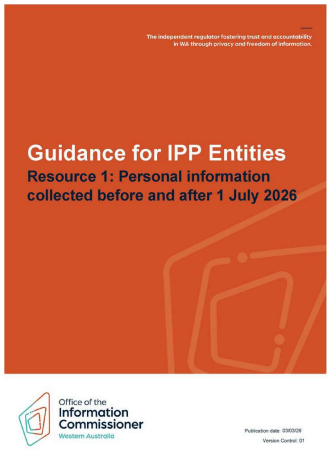
Getting ready for the PRIS Act - Turning policy into action for WA government agencies

Information Commissioner, Annelies Moens, addressed government entities on 3 June 2026 alongside the State Archivist. Grace Information and RecordPoint hosted the event at the State Library of Western Australia.

RIMPA Global Perth roadshow

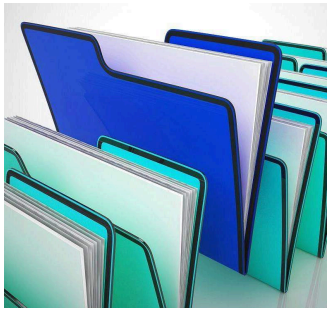
Information Access Deputy Commissioner, Patrick Ky, presented at RIMPA Global's Perth Roadshow on 25 June 2026. His presentation explored how FOI requests can reveal underlying issues with records management and how agencies can use FOI as a diagnostic tool to drive practical improvements, strengthen information governance and enhance accountability.

FOI and privacy tip of the month



Share our PRIS resources to ensure your team is ready

Help strengthen privacy awareness across your organisation and share OIC WA's PRIS resources with your team. These practical tools support staff in understanding their privacy obligations, handling personal information appropriately, and making informed decisions about information sharing. Regularly promoting PRIS resources can help ensure your team remains informed, prepared, and confident in managing privacy responsibilities.



Direct applicants to the new FOI external review form

Where an applicant remains dissatisfied following internal review, they may apply for external review. A new FOI external review form is now available and will be the standard method for lodging an FOI external review application to the OIC.

Agencies should advise applicants of the new form when communicating internal review outcomes. Using the form helps ensure applicants provide all the information required to support their application, as well as enables the OIC to address their review in as timely manner as possible.

View the FOI External Review Form on the OIC website.

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Acknowledgement of Country

The Office of the Information Commissioner acknowledges the traditional custodians throughout Western Australia and their continuing connection to the land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all members of the Aboriginal communities and their cultures, and to Elders both past and present.