



POLICY – PRIVACY

1. Statement

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation is committed to protecting individuals’ privacy and managing personal information (PI) responsibly through strong practices that uphold public confidence.

2. Objectives

This policy outlines how the department collects, uses, store and discloses personal information in compliance with its privacy obligations while performing its functions. It should be read in conjunction with the the [Privacy and Responsible Information Sharing Act 2024 \(WA\)](#), [WA.gov.au Website Privacy Statement](#) and is aligned with applicable WA Government privacy standards.

3. Principles

Principles	Description-How we act
1. Collection	We collect PI only when necessary to support our functions.
2. Use and disclosure	We use or disclose PI solely for the primary purpose for which it was collected.
3. Information quality	We ensure PI is accurate, complete, and up to date.
4. Information security	We protect the PI we hold from misuse, loss, and unauthorised access, modification, or disclosure.
5. Openness and transparency	We promote open and transparent privacy practices to build trust.
6. Access and correction	Individuals may request access to or correction of their PI, unless restricted by law.
7. Unique identifiers (UI)	We do not assign UIs to individuals unless necessary for our functions, and we do not use or share those issued by other agencies.
8. Anonymity	Where lawful and practicable, individuals may interact with us anonymously.
9. Disclosures Outside Australia	We do not disclose PI outside Australia unless legally permitted or with the individual's consent.
10. Automated decision-making	When using automated systems (including AI systems) for significant decisions involving PI, we evaluate impacts, offer informed choices, and uphold legal compliance.
11. De-identified information	We take steps to protect <u>de-identified information</u> from misuse, re-identification, or unauthorised access.

Additional information relevant to this policy is provided in the Privacy Policy – Guidelines

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