



Conference Outline

8:00 – 8:45	Registrations open
8:45 - 9:00	Conference Opening – Catherine Fletcher, Information Commissioner
9:00 - 9:40	Key note speech - Emeritus Professor Geoff Gallop AC
9:40 - 10:30	Panel Discussion – The Information Commissioner leads a discussion with Geoff Gallop, Caroline Spencer, the Auditor General; and Ian Cowie, CEO of the City of Gosnells about the role and challenges of FOI and open government in the current environment.
Morning Tea – 10:30 – 11:00	
11:00 – 11:40	Concurrent 40 minute sessions
11:50 – 12:30	Concurrent 40 minute sessions
Lunch – 12:30 – 1:20	
1:20 – 2:00	Concurrent 40 minute sessions
2:10 – 2:50	Concurrent 40 minute sessions
Afternoon tea – 2:50 - 3:15	
3:15 – 4:00	Q & A session with the Information Commissioner and staff of the OIC. Conference attendees will have the opportunity to submit questions during the day. Selected questions will be discussed during this final session, followed by a wrap-up of the day by the Information Commissioner.

Topics covered in the concurrent sessions will include:

- **Freedom of information and protection of privacy - balancing rights and managing conflicts (State Solicitors Office):** Freedom of information and the right to privacy play important and mostly complementary roles by ensuring that governments are accountable to the public and individuals. However, in some instances, there is the potential for conflict between the two. This presentation considers the complementary and conflicting roles of freedom of information and privacy, and how those potential conflicts are managed.
- **“I want my records and I want them now” (State Records Office):** This presentation will explore the trends State Records is seeing and forecasts for the expectations of the community for access to records and archives; and implications for management of FOI requests. Examples of how we are responding to these expectations and might respond into the future will be discussed through stories from State Records.
- **FOI in WA - how we fare and compare (the Information Commissioner):** Information access statistics, trends and developments in WA and in other access jurisdictions in Australia.
- **Seeking the views of third parties:** Why consult, when do you consult and how do you consult.
- **How to remain effective and healthy in a high pressured environment:** How to deflect and not internalise criticism; how to remain calm under pressure; and mindful exercises to practice.
- **FOI and dogs, disputes and discontent:** FOI requests for information concerning disputes between private individuals are common. This session will consider some case studies in dealing with these kinds of request under the FOI Act.
- **What happens on internal and external review?** Discussion and handy tips about conducting an internal review and the role of external review.
- **Dealing with documents related to Ministers:** A discussion about Ministerial Offices and their expectations of portfolio agencies regarding documents that may fall within clause 12(c) of the FOI Act.

Click [here](#) to be notified when the full program becomes available.