

Government Information (Public Access) (GIPA) annual report

Agency Name	Cancer Institute NSW
Principal Department (if applicable)	Ministry of Health
Reporting Period	1 July 2014 – 30 June 2015

As a consequence of the *Public Finance and Audit Amendment (Cancer Institute (NSW)) Regulation 2013*, made under the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1983* and published on the NSW legislation website on 11 October 2013, the Cancer Institute is no longer listed in Schedule 2 to the *Public Finance and Audit Act*. Consequently, it is no longer required to prepare an annual report under the *Annual Reports (Statutory Bodies) Act 1984*. The Cancer Institute remains an agency as defined in the GIPA Act.

Appendix 1 – Obligations under the GIPA Act 2009

Obligations under the GIPA Act

1. Review of proactive release program - Clause 7(a)

Under section 7 of the GIPA Act, agencies must review their programs for the release of government information to identify the kinds of information that can be made publicly available. This review must be undertaken at least once every 12 months.

The Cancer Institute NSW conducts, initiates and supports activities, both internally and externally, that generate results, findings and information of value to its mission to lessen the impact of cancer on members of the public. A key function of the Cancer Institute NSW is to ensure there is public access to this information, subject to any overriding public interest against disclosure.

Resources that are proactively released by publication on the website of the Cancer Institute NSW, which is constantly updated, include publications, media releases, Cancer Fact Sheets, policy documents, statistics, patient support information, best practice guidelines and professional development opportunities for health professionals, and information regarding research grants, clinical trials support and research awards.

During the reporting period, the information published on the website was reviewed to ensure that the Cancer Institute NSW continues to meet its objective of providing public access to information that will lessen the impact of cancer on the community. Making information publicly available through the website is integral to the design and implementation of new initiatives – an example during the reporting period was the publication of material about hospital procedural volumes concerning surgical care for oesophageal and pancreatic cancers.

2. Number of access applications received – Clause 7(b)

During the reporting period, our agency received a total of 4 formal access applications (including withdrawn applications but not invalid applications).

3. Number of refused applications for Schedule 1 information – Clause 7(c)

During the reporting period, our agency refused a total of 0 formal access applications because the information requested was information referred to in Schedule 1 to the GIPA Act. Of those applications, 0 were refused in full, and 0 were refused in part.

4. Statistical information about access applications - Clause 7(d) and Schedule 2

Table A: Number of applications by type of applicant and outcome*

	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Media	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of Parliament	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Private sector business	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not for profit organisations or community groups	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of the public (application by legal representative)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of the public (other)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*More than one decision can be made in respect of a particular access application. If so, a recording must be made in relation to each such decision. This also applies to Table B.

Table B: Number of applications by type of application and outcome

	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Personal information applications*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Access applications (other than personal information applications)	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Access applications that are partly personal information applications and partly other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*A **personal information application** is an access application for personal information (as defined in clause 4 of Schedule 4 to the Act) about the applicant (the applicant being an individual).

The total number of decisions in Table B should be the same as Table A.

Table C: Invalid applications

Reason for invalidity	Number of applications
Application does not comply with formal requirements (section 41 of the Act)	0
Application is for excluded information of the agency (section 43 of the Act)	0
Application contravenes restraint order (section 110 of the Act)	0
Total number of invalid applications received	0
Invalid applications that subsequently became valid applications	0

Table D: Conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure: matters listed in Schedule 1 of the Act

	Number of times consideration used*
Overriding secrecy laws	0
Cabinet information	0
Executive Council information	0
Contempt	0
Legal professional privilege	0
Excluded information	0
Documents affecting law enforcement and public safety	0
Transport safety	0
Adoption	0
Care and protection of children	0
Ministerial code of conduct	0
Aboriginal and environmental heritage	0

*More than one public interest consideration may apply in relation to a particular access application and, if so, each such consideration is to be recorded (but only once per application). This also applies in relation to Table E.

**Table E: Other public interest considerations against disclosure:
matters listed in table to section 14 of the Act**

	Number of occasions when application not successful
Responsible and effective government	0
Law enforcement and security	0
Individual rights, judicial processes and natural justice	0
Business interests of agencies and other persons	0
Environment, culture, economy and general matters	0
Secrecy provisions	0
Exempt documents under interstate Freedom of Information legislation	0

Table F: Timeliness

	Number of applications
Decided within the statutory timeframe (20 days plus any extensions)	1
Decided after 35 days (by agreement with applicant)	0
Not decided within time (deemed refusal)	3
Total	4

Table G: Number of applications reviewed under Part 5 of the Act (by type of review and outcome)

	Decision varied	Decision upheld	Total
Internal review	0	0	0
Review by Information Commissioner*	0	0	1
Internal review following recommendation under section 93 of Act	0	0	0
Review by ADT	0	0	0
Total	0	0	1

*The Information Commissioner does not have the authority to vary decisions, but can make recommendation to the original decision-maker. The data in this case indicates that a recommendation to vary or uphold the original decision has been made.

Table H: Applications for review under Part 5 of the Act (by type of applicant)

	Number of applications for review
Applications by access applicants	0
Applications by persons to whom information the subject of access application relates (see section 54 of the Act)	0