

Office of the State Archivist

ON THE RECORD



July 2023

In this edition:

- Accidental release of Port Arthur records
- Office of the State Archivist 2023 priorities
- Managing exposure to psychosocial hazards in records
- New date for Commission of Inquiry final report
- Review of privacy laws in Tasmania
- In Brief: Artificial intelligence (AI)
- In the News

Accidental release of Port Arthur records

You may have seen recent media coverage about records from Port Arthur Historic Site Management Authority (PAHSMA) and the Tasmanian Archives. PAHSMA employee records, some containing personal information, were published on the Libraries Tasmania website. This was the result of human error. Once known, the records were removed from public access on the same day. Business processes have been changed to stop this happening again.

The State Archivist is working with the Chief Executive Officer of PAHSMA to contact people impacted by the release of this information.

Libraries Tasmania apologises for the error.

Office of the State Archivist 2023 priorities

Website

Our biggest project this year is a new website. We're excited this is finally happening, having been on our wish list for many years. The new website will have a simple, user-friendly site structure, and better search features. It will also allow embedded videos and online forms.

Crystal Adams (Project Officer) is managing the project and Tamsin Lowe has joined our team to support the project. We expect our new website will go live this year.

Digitisation toolkit

Our other big project is the Digitisation toolkit which we wrote about in our [October 2022](#) newsletter. The toolkit will include new and updated publications including digitisation specifications (Technical Standards), advice (*Digitisation FAQs* and *Plan before you scan*) and the *Disposal Schedule for Source Records* (DA2159).

We'll hold online information sessions later this year to support the release of the toolkit.

Client enquiry service

We continue to support all our government clients through our client enquiry service. This is a core service and our most important priority.

When our website and Digitisation toolkit are complete, we'll resume work on our disposal schedules, Information Management Framework and face-to-face training. We'll also finish our eLearning project, releasing the video and supporting training material.

Managing exposure to psychosocial hazards in records

New Tasmanian work health and safety regulations clarify requirements for workplaces to prevent and manage psychosocial hazards. Psychosocial hazards relate to characteristics of the work, or the working environment that increase the risk of psychological harm.

Hazards can include:

- job demands
- remote or isolated work
- bullying, harassment or violence
- poor organisational justice
- traumatic events or material.

In January 2023, Tasmania introduced the [Managing psychosocial hazards at work](#) Code of Practice. The 'Traumatic events or material' section includes examples on controlling exposure, and may be helpful for staff working with records.

New date for Commission of Inquiry final report

The final report of the [Commission of Inquiry into the Tasmanian Government's Responses to Child Sexual Abuse in Institutional Settings](#) was expected by 1 May. The Commission will now deliver its final report by 31 August 2023.

We plan to discuss the recordkeeping implications of the final report in a virtual (Teams) meeting in September. Please [contact us](#) if you'd like to join.

We authorised our [Disposal Schedule for Commissions of Inquiry](#) (DA2540) in December 2022. This disposal schedule covers this Commission, and any future Commissions set up under the *Commissions of Inquiry Act 1995* (Tas).

We'd like to remind you of the [records retention notice](#) we issued last year. The notice means you need to keep all records of relevance until the end of the Commission and any resulting reviews, appeals or actions.

Review of privacy laws in Tasmania

The Tasmanian Law Reform Institute is reviewing privacy laws in Tasmania, including privacy protections, the right to privacy, the *Personal Information Protection Act 2004* (Tas) and related laws.

The [Issues paper](#) discusses:

- whether 'personal information' should be consistent with definitions in the Commonwealth Privacy Act or the European Union's GDPR
- whether Tasmania's Personal Information Protection Principles should be consistent with the Australian Privacy Principles
- introducing a right to be forgotten
- use of artificial intelligence in automated administrative decision-making
- a data breach notification scheme
- stronger protection for individuals against surveillance
- introducing minimum privacy safeguards to all information sharing within and between government bodies.

[Submissions](#) are open until 11 July 2023.

In Brief: Artificial intelligence (AI)

Consultation open on regulating artificial intelligence in Australia

The Australian Government released two discussion papers on artificial intelligence (AI) for consultation in June: [Safe and responsible AI in Australia: Discussion paper](#) (Department of Industry, Science and Resources) and [Rapid Response Information Report: Generative AI: Language models and multimodal foundation models](#) (commissioned by Australia's National Science and Technology Council).

The papers outline regulatory and governance responses in Australia and overseas, and propose options for future governance. They discuss whether high-risk AI technologies should be banned, and raise possible changes to laws, including consumer, criminal, online safety, copyright and privacy.

Public comment closes on 26 July.

Australian Responsible AI Network

The [Responsible AI Network](#) will support Australian companies to use and create AI ethically and safely. Launched in March, the Network will be coordinated by CSIRO.

Automated decision making project in New South Wales government

A new project will [map and analyse New South Wales state and local government's use of automated systems in administrative decision making](#). The ARC Centre for Excellence for Automated Decision Making and Society (ADM+S) and the New South Wales Ombudsman will manage the project.

The Ombudsman will table a report to NSW Parliament with the research findings this year.

Artificial Intelligence Risk Management Framework

The United States National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) released the [Artificial Intelligence Risk Management Framework](#) (AI RMF) and accompanying tools earlier in the year.

Unlike many international standards, the AI RMF is free and publicly available.

In the News

[What Is ChatGPT Doing ... and Why Does It Work?](#), Stephen Wolfram Writings, 14 February 2023.

[AI is helping us read ancient Mesopotamian literature](#), *The Conversation*, 25 May 2023.

[Australian Medical Association calls for national regulations around AI in healthcare](#), *ABC*, 28 May 2023. Perth doctors have been ordered not to use AI including Chat GPT because of patient confidentiality concerns. The move comes after the technology was used to write medical notes, which were then loaded into patient records systems.

Contact Us

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