



## Information Matching Bulletin

News from the Office of the Privacy Commissioner – December 2009

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### 2008/09 Annual Report

The annual report of the Privacy Commissioner was tabled in Parliament on 24 November.

This year we reviewed the information presented in previous annual reports and concluded that detailed system information and historical results about each programme would be more efficiently and appropriately presented on our website. Use of the website is more cost effective, enables greater transparency of the matching activity, and also allows the Office to keep general information about each active programme more up to date.

The annual report is now more concise and focused on activity within the reporting year (with updates as necessary about significant events from the previous year). A new feature in each programme report is a summary of what information is disclosed between agencies. Our commentary section is now focused on compliance issues or significant events.

The report can be accessed on our website at [www.privacy.org.nz](http://www.privacy.org.nz). Detailed descriptions of each active programme (which includes the information in the annual report) can be accessed from [www.privacy.org.nz/operating-programmes](http://www.privacy.org.nz/operating-programmes)

We welcome your feedback on our new approach to reporting.

### Portable Storage Device Guidance Note Published

Following on from publishing the results of a survey on the use of portable storage devices (PSDs) in the public sector, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner has published a guidance note directed towards raising an awareness of the privacy risks associated with the use of PSDs in business and government. The note can be accessed from our website at: <http://www.privacy.org.nz/guidance-note-on-the-use-of-portable-storage-devices/>.

### Information Matching Interest Group

We are keen to receive suggestions about the topics/format of the next information matching interest group meeting (date to be advised). Think about a presentation you might present on behalf of your agency. Perhaps you have an information matching success story or cautionary tale to share? Please contact Neil or Colin with your ideas!

### Information matching workshops

The half day workshops are designed to give some practical background knowledge about the Privacy Act along with more detailed information about preparing an Information Matching Privacy Impact Assessment.

The latest workshop, delivered on 27 August, was to a group comprising staff from DIA, Justice, and Corrections. The date of the next workshop will be set once we have sufficient people registered as interested. We are planning that this will be in February 2010. To register interest in attending this workshop, contact Sharon Newton on (04) 4747590 or by email to [sharon.newton@privacy.org.nz](mailto:sharon.newton@privacy.org.nz).

## Publications

There are a number of other publications and reports available from the Privacy Commissioner that may be of interest to those involved in information matching. These are listed on the Privacy Commissioner's website, [www.privacy.org.nz](http://www.privacy.org.nz).

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