



information
and privacy
commission
new south wales

Media Statement 22 January 2020

Statement by Information Commissioner and NSW Open Data Advocate on availability of 10,000 data sets

Information Commissioner and NSW Open Data Advocate today recognised the work conducted by the NSW Government in pulling together and sharing 10,000 data sets via the NSW Open Data Portal. This data was and continues to be used to keep the public informed about the location of fires in NSW.

Information Commissioner and NSW Open Data Advocate, Ms Elizabeth Tydd, said “Well managed and trusted data sources and the responsible release on non-personal data has improved outcomes in government services including health, transport, consumer protection, planning and education.

“There is a value to open data that is not as readily realised in other forms of information release. For instance, trends and predictions can be readily identified using data and software to better inform decision making and promote transparency and accountability.

“Importantly the accessibility of Open Data ensures that anyone can use the data – and that promotes a more open Government.”

Launched in 2009 as the first state-level open data catalogue in the world, the NSW Open Data Portal provides businesses and individuals access to data sets from all government departments and agencies in NSW.

ENDS

For further information, please contact:

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About the Information and Privacy Commission:

The Information and Privacy Commission NSW (IPC) is an independent statutory authority that administers New South Wales’ legislation dealing with privacy and access to government information. The IPC supports the Information Commissioner and the Privacy Commissioner in fulfilling their legislative responsibilities and functions and to ensure individuals and agencies can access consistent information, guidance and coordinated training about information access and privacy matters.

About the NSW Information Commissioner

The NSW Information Commissioner’s statutory role includes promoting public awareness and understanding of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* (GIPA Act); providing information, advice, assistance and training to agencies and the public; dealing with complaints about agencies; investigating agencies’ systems, policies and practices; and reporting on compliance with the GIPA Act.

For further information about the IPC visit our website at www.ipc.nsw.gov.au