

IPC Champion Communications Pack

The below content will be pulled out to individual documents for upload to the RTK 2024 Champion SharePoint. Homepage content to be included on the homepage of the SharePoint site.

a. SharePoint Homepage Content

Right to Know Week NSW 2024

28 September marks the International Day for Universal Access to Information. The United Nations declared this international day in support of the right to seek and receive information encapsulated by Article 19 of the United Nations' Declaration of Human Rights.

The IPC holds an annual, week-long celebration around this international day: Right to Know (RTK) Week. Our RTK event focuses on educating NSW agencies and the public about the GIPA Act and raising awareness about rights and obligations for accessing NSW government information.

RTK Week will run from 23 September – 29 September 2024 and will celebrate the UN's 2024 theme of **Mainstreaming Access to Information and Participation in the Public Sector in NSW**.

About the 2024 theme

Transparency is a core pillar for supporting public participation in the public sector. Mandated openness under legislation is one reason the NSW GIPA Act is a world-leading example of how to mainstream transparency in the public sector.

The GIPA Act provides a framework through which agencies can foster a culture of accountability, openness and responsible information management.

Rights to access government information make public participation both possible and meaningful. Successful public participation can help create more responsive and effective policies and increase trust between community and public institutions.

Role of Champions in supporting RTK 2024

Right to Know Week supports NSW public sector agencies to explore opportunities to provide access to more government information, as well as to better understand their obligations.

The IPC invites NSW government departments and agencies, universities, local councils, ministers' offices and state-owned corporations to take a proactive step towards supporting public participation through greater transparency.

RTK Champions help promote the Right to Know campaign within their own agency and to members of the public. RTK is an opportunity to highlight your agency's commitment to citizens' right to access information by promoting the week through your communications channels and through events. While the IPC provides a wealth of suggested communications for you to use, promotion of the campaign and the content of messaging is up to individual agencies.

Using this SharePoint site

Please note this SharePoint site is only available to RTK Champions. If you would like someone from your agency, such as your communications team, to have access to the page, please email communications@ipc.nsw.gov.au with your colleague's work email address and we will provide access for them.

b. External news article

Format: News article for agency website (**external**)

Audience: NSW public

Title: Right to Know Week NSW 2024

Body:

This week is Right to Know Week, an international campaign that aims to raise awareness of the public's right to access government-held information. In NSW, the Information and Privacy Commission encourages all NSW public sector agencies to improve their knowledge about their transparency obligations under the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* (GIPA Act).

Right to Know Week NSW runs from 23 – 29 September 2024, with the UN's International Day for Universal Access to Information being celebrated on 28 September. This year's UN theme is '**Mainstreaming Access to Information and Participation in the Public Sector in NSW**'.

Transparency is a core pillar for supporting public participation in the public sector. Mandated openness under legislation is one reason the GIPA Act in NSW is a world-leading example of how to mainstream transparency in the public sector.

Legally protected rights to access government information make public participation both possible and meaningful. Successful public participation can help create more responsive and effective policies and increase trust between community and public institutions.

In NSW, members of the public can seek information directly from many public sector agencies such as NSW government departments, councils, universities, state-owned corporations and ministerial offices. Some of this information is proactively available on websites or other publications, while other information needs to be requested.

Accessible information can include records about how a NSW state government agency or other type of public sector institution is operating and making decisions. It can also include an individual's personal information that is held by a public sector agency. Personal information is information that can identify you, such as your name, address and contact details.

The public has a right to access information from **<your agency>**. You can access information that we have made available on our website as open access information, or you can make an informal request or, in some cases, you may need to make a formal access application. For more information on how to access our information, click the link **<your agency's access to information page>**.

<Your agency name> is a proud Champion of Right to Know Week NSW 2024 and is committed to supporting public participation through greater transparency.

The Information and Privacy Commission (IPC) can also help you understand information access laws in NSW and give you information on how to assert your rights. Learn more by visiting the IPC's Right to Know Week webpage www.ipc.nsw.gov.au/RTK2024

c. Intranet news article

Format: News article for agency intranet (**internal**)

Audience: Agency staff

Title: Right to Know Week NSW 2024

Copy:

This week, we celebrate Right to Know Week NSW 2024. The week aims to encourage public sector agencies to improve their knowledge of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* (GIPA Act), and to raise awareness of the public's right to access government held information in NSW.

Right to Know Week runs from 23 – 29 September 2024, with the UN's International Day for Universal Access to Information being celebrated on 28 September. This year's UN theme this year is '**Mainstreaming Access to Information and Participation in the Public Sector in NSW**'.

Transparency is a core pillar for supporting public participation in the public sector. Mandated openness under legislation is one reason the GIPA Act in NSW is a world-leading example of how to mainstream transparency in the public sector.

Legally protected rights to access government information make public participation both possible and meaningful. Successful public participation can help create more responsive and effective policies and increase trust between community and public institutions.

The public's right to access information underpins meaningful public participation in several fundamental ways:

- **Inclusiveness:** Providing relevant community information and involving a diverse range of people and organisations, can ensure that different perspectives are represented.
- **Deliberation:** By accessing information, the public is better equipped to discuss and debate issues, providing a platform for informed and equitable decision-making.
- **Collaboration:** Through the release of information and public consultation, government, communities and members of the public can work together to develop and implement better policies, creating a sense of shared responsibility and ownership.
- **Empowerment:** The more information that is released, the more the public is empowered with the tools and knowledge to meaningfully and effectively participate in how they are governed.

This Right to Know Week, the Information and Privacy Commission NSW (IPC) is promoting greater awareness of the GIPA Act obligation of agencies to be transparent what arrangements exist to enable the public to participate in the formulation of their policies and the exercise of their functions. To mark the week, the IPC is also inviting NSW government departments and agencies, universities, local councils, ministers' offices and state-owned corporations to take a proactive step towards supporting public participation through greater transparency.

<**Your agency**> is a proud Champion of Right to Know Week NSW 2024 and recognises the importance of mainstreaming access to information and public participation making Open Access information publicly accessibly. To celebrate Right to Know Week 2024, we will be hosting a number of activities that you can join in:

- <list your activities here>
- <list your activities here>.

The Information and Privacy Commission NSW is leading the Right to Know Week campaign. Learn more about the week and access information access resources for both citizens and agencies here: www.ipc.nsw.gov.au/RTK2024

d. Sample leader email to staff

Format: Email from your agency leader e.g. CEO, Secretary, GM, Vice Chancellor

Subject: Right to Know Week NSW 2024

Email:

Hi everyone

This week (23 – 29 September 2024) is Right to Know Week NSW 2024.

Right to Know Week is an important global campaign that aims to raise awareness of each individual's right of access to government information and promote open, transparent government. In NSW, this important right is legislated through the *Government Information (Public Access) Act* (GIPA Act).

This year's theme is '**Mainstreaming Access to Information and Participation in the Public Sector in NSW**'.

Transparency is a core pillar for supporting public participation in the public sector. Mandated openness under legislation is one reason the NSW GIPA Act is a world-leading example of how to mainstream transparency in the public sector.

Rights to access government information make public participation both possible and meaningful. Successful public participation can help create more responsive and effective policies and increase trust between community and public institutions.

This Right to Know Week 2024, the IPC invites public sector agencies, universities and state-owned corporations, such as **<our organisation/cluster/agency name>** to take a proactive step towards supporting public participation through greater transparency.

The IPC encourages NSW agencies to support a public sector culture where transparency and information-sharing are valued integrity indicators. This week, I encourage you all to reflect on how greater openness about government information can support a culture of integrity.

You can also learn more about what's planned during Right to Know Week NSW 2024 and other resources on the IPC's website: www.ipc.nsw.gov.au/RTK2024.

Kind regards

[Leader name]

e. Viva Engage or other internal social media

Format: Viva Engage post or other internal social media post

Audience: Agency staff

Sample post 1:

Welcome to Right to Know Week NSW 2024.

Right to Know Week NSW runs from 23 – 29 September 2024 and aims to encourage public sector agencies to improve their knowledge of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* (GIPA Act), and to raise awareness of the public's right to access government held information in NSW.

This year's theme is '**Mainstreaming Access to Information and Participation in the Public Sector in NSW**'.

<**Your agency**> is a proud Champion of Right to Know Week NSW 2024 and recognises the importance of taking a proactive step towards supporting public participation through greater transparency.

For Right to Know Week, <**your agency**> is hosting a number of activities that you can join in:

- <list your activities here>
- <list your activities here>.

Learn more about Right to Know Week NSW 2024 and access information access resources for both citizens and agencies here: www.ipc.nsw.gov.au/RTK2024

Sample post 2:

This week is Right to Know Week NSW 2024.

Right to Know Week is an important global campaign that aims to raise awareness of each individual's right of access to government information and promote open, transparent government. In NSW, this important right is legislated through the *Government Information (Public Access) Act* (GIPA Act).

Right to Know Week NSW runs from 23 – 29 September 2024 and the theme this year is '**Mainstreaming Access to Information and Participation in the Public Sector in NSW**'.

Transparency is a core pillar for supporting public participation in the public sector. Mandated openness under legislation is one reason the NSW GIPA Act is a world-leading example of how to mainstream transparency in the public sector.

Rights to access government information make public participation both possible and meaningful. Successful public participation can help create more responsive and effective policies and increase trust between community and public institutions.

Right to Know Week NSW plays an important and active role in supporting NSW public sector agencies with their obligations in providing access to government information and data to the NSW community.

The Information and Privacy Commission NSW encourages all NSW government departments and agencies, universities, local councils, ministers' offices and state-owned corporations to reflect on how greater openness about government information can support a culture of integrity.

<Your agency> is a proud Champion of Right to Know Week NSW 2024 and recognises the importance of taking a proactive step towards supporting public participation through greater transparency, including the information of **<your agency>**.

For Right to Know Week, **<your agency>** is hosting a number of activities that you can join in:

- <list your activities here>
- <list your activities here>.

Learn more about Right to Know Week NSW 2024 and access information access resources for both citizens and agencies here: www.ipc.nsw.gov.au/RTK2024

f. Social media posts (Twitter, LinkedIn, etc.)

Format: Public social media posts

Audience: NSW public

General sample posts for RTK 2024:

<Your agency> supports Right to Know Week NSW 2024 (23 – 29 September). This year's theme is the mainstreaming access to information and participation in the public sector in NSW. For more information visit: <https://bit.ly/RTKW2024> #RTKW2024

It's Right to Know Week NSW 2024. The week runs from 23 – 29 September and the theme is Mainstreaming Access to Information and Participation in the Public Sector in NSW.

<Your agency> is a Right to Know Week NSW Champion and is committed to taking proactive steps towards supporting public participation through greater digital transparency. Learn more about NSW information access legislation: <https://bit.ly/RTKW2024> #GIPA #righttoinformation

Theme sample posts for RTK 2024:

This year, Right to Know week focuses on how greater openness about government information can support a culture of integrity.
Learn more: <https://bit.ly/RTKW2024> #RTKW2024 #righttoinformation

This year, Right to Know week encourages NSW public sector agencies to consider ways to uplift their proactive release program for a better-informed community.

<https://bit.ly/RTKW2024> #RTKW2024 #righttoknow

Tag the Information and Privacy Commission NSW in your posts:

LinkedIn: [/company/information-and-privacy-commission-nsw](https://www.linkedin.com/company/information-and-privacy-commission-nsw)

Facebook: [/InformationandPrivacyCommissionNSW](https://www.facebook.com/InformationandPrivacyCommissionNSW)