

Media release

17 May 2016

NSW Information Commissioner launches consultation to promote public participation

The Information and Privacy Commission (IPC) wants to hear about the best ways to engage with NSW government agencies on the formulation of agency policies and the exercise of agency functions. Join the IPC community and have your say.

Public participation is key in achieving Open Government. Public participation happens when citizens affected by government decisions are able to provide their views and have input into the policy development and services provided by government agencies.

NSW government agencies have arrangements in place to enable you as a citizen to participate in the formulation of the agency's policies and the way they undertake their work.

These arrangements take many forms and we want to hear from you about the best ways to engage to support agencies and public participation.

The <u>Your Say IPC website</u> is a dedicated community engagement hub where citizens can register to participate in quick polls, complete a survey or share their prior experiences of participating in government agency decisions. The consultation is open until 31 May 2016.

"The thoughts and ideas the community provides will contribute directly to the development of resources to assist in promoting public participation, and assist government agencies to ensure citizens can actively participate in an agency's policy development and service delivery," said Ms Tydd.

View the Your Say IPC website here.

To request an interview with Ms Tydd, please contact Samara Dobbins – samara.dobbins@ipc.nsw.gov.au or call the media line on 0435 961 691.

ABOUT THE NSW INFORMATION COMMISSIONER:

The NSW Information Commissioner's statutory role includes promoting public awareness and understanding of the 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.