



Health
Murrumbidgee
Local Health District

**GOVERNMENT INFORMATION
PUBLIC ACCESS (GIPA)
ANNUAL REPORT**

2021/2022

Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 ANNUAL REPORT

1. Review of proactive release program – Clause 7(a)

Under section 7 of the GIPA Act, agencies must review their programs for the release of government information to identify the kinds of information that can be made publicly available. This review must be undertaken at least once every 12 months.

Murrumbidgee Local Health District's program for the proactive release of information involves a review of information requested via informal access and formal access channels. This includes ongoing or repeated requests for information and working with the executive team to identify information that can be released proactively. The District also reviews the Disclosure Log and websites of other agencies to see the type of information they release proactively.

The most accessible way for the public to access such information is via the Murrumbidgee Local Health District internet website <https://www.mlhd.health.nsw.gov.au/>

During 2021/2022, the following information was released proactively on the website:

- Aboriginal Health Statement Commitment
- MLHD Board Commitment Bullying and Harassment
- MLHD Board Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2022 - 2024
- MLHD Organisation Chart
- MLHD Board Minutes and Board Member information
- MLHD Facility Budget Allocations 2021/2022 financial year
- MLHD Safety and Quality Account 2020/2021 Report and Future Priorities
- Facility Service Plan Urana
- Patient Safety First Quality Health Care Framework 2017-2021
- MLHD Research Framework 2022 -2027
- MLHD Excellence Awards 2022
- Career Success – MLHD job application guide
- MLHD Strategic Plan 2021 – 2026
- Privacy Management Annual Report 2020 - 2021
- 2021/2022 MLHD Service Agreement
- 2021/2022 MLHD Budget Allocation Summary
- 2021/2022 NSW Health KPI Data Supplement Summary
- 2021/2022 Service Agreement Notes to the State Outcomes Budget Schedule
- MLHD Clinical Education Strategy 2021 -2023
- 2020 -2021 MLHD Service Agreement
- 2020 2021 Service Agreement Summary Data Supplement
- 2020 – 2021 Summary Agreement Explanatory Notes
- MLHD GIPA Disclosure Log
- MLHD Agency Information Guide
- Invitation 2021 MLHD Annual Public Meeting
- Quarterly magazine, *Murrumbidgee Matters Magazine*
- Employment information and positions under recruitment
- Links to performance information via Bureau of Health Information

- Link to Government Contracts on the Government Tenders Website
- Policy and procedure information (linked to MoH external site)
- Public Access List of MLHD Policy, Procedures and Guidelines
- MLHD Facility Re-Development/Building Projects
- External Performance Measure links (Health Statistics NSW; Bureau of Health Information; Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation Series)

Information already publicly available on the site includes:

- 2017-2021 Community Engagement Strategy
- Information on the District's community engagement mechanisms
- Service information including contact details of facilities and services
- Research Innovation and Change Strategic Plan 2017/21

2. Number of access applications received – Clause 7(b)

During the reporting period, the District received a total of fifteen (15) formal access applications, including two invalid applications and two withdrawn applications.

Year	Number of Applications
2021/2022	15
2020/2021	10
2019/2020	17
2018/2019	11

There are no applications that have a decision pending. No informal applications were received.

3. Number of refused applications for Schedule 1 information – Clause 7(c)

During the reporting period, the District has not refused any applications under Schedule 1 to the GIPA Act.

4. Statistical information about access applications – Clause 7(d) and Schedule 2

Table A: Number of applications by type of applicant and outcome*								
	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Media	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Members of Parliament	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Private sector business	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not for profit organisations or community groups	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of the public (application by legal representative)	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Members of the public (other)	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1

*More than one decision can be made in respect of a particular access application. If so, a recording must be made in relation to each such decision. This also applies to Table B.

Table B: Number of applications by type of application and outcome								
	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Personal information applications*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Access applications (other than personal information applications)	7	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Access applications that are partly personal information applications and partly other	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

*A **personal information application** is an access application for personal information (as defined in clause 4 of Schedule 4 to the Act) about the applicant (the applicant being an individual).

PLEASE NOTE: The total number of decisions in Table B should be the same as Table A.

Table C: Invalid applications	
Reason for invalidity	Number of applications
Application does not comply with formal requirements (section 41 of the Act)	3
Application is for excluded information of the agency (section 43 of the Act)	0
Application contravenes restraint order (section 110 of the Act)	0
Total number of invalid applications received	2
Invalid applications that subsequently became valid applications	1

Table D: Conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure: matters listed in Schedule 1 of the Act	
	Number of times consideration used*
Overriding secrecy laws	0
Cabinet information	0
Executive Council information	0
Contempt	0
Legal professional privilege	1
Excluded information	0
Documents affecting law enforcement and public safety	1
Transport safety	0
Adoption	0
Care and protection of children	1
Ministerial code of conduct	0
Aboriginal and environmental heritage	0

*More than one public interest consideration may apply in relation to a particular access application and, if so, each such consideration is to be recorded (but only once per application). This also applies in relation to Table E.

**Table E: Other public interest considerations against disclosure:
matters listed in table to section 14 of the Act**

	Number of occasions when application not successful
Responsible and effective government	0
Law enforcement and security	0
Individual rights, judicial processes and natural justice	0
Business interests of agencies and other persons	0
Environment, culture, economy and general matters	0
Secrecy provisions	0
Exempt documents under interstate Freedom of Information legislation	0

Table F: Timeliness

	Number of applications
Decided within the statutory timeframe (20 days plus any extensions)	10
Decided after 35 days (by agreement with applicant)	1
Not decided within time (deemed refusal)	0
Total	11

Table G: Number of applications reviewed under Part 5 of the Act (by type of review and outcome)

	Decision varied	Decision upheld	Total
Internal review	1	0	1
Review by Information Commissioner*	0	0	0
Internal review following recommendation under section 93 of Act	0	0	0
Review by NCAT	1	0	1
Total	2	0	2

*The Information Commissioner does not have the authority to vary decisions, but can make recommendation to the original decision-maker. The data in this case indicates that a recommendation to vary or uphold the original decision has been made.

Table H: Applications for review under Part 5 of the Act (by type of applicant)

	Number of applications for review
Applications by access applicants	0
Applications by persons to whom information the subject of access application relates (see section 54 of the Act)	0

Table I: Applications transferred to other agencies under Division 2 of Part 4 of the Act (by type of transfer)

	Number of applications transferred
Agency-initiated transfers	0
Applicant-initiated transfers	0