



Institute of Public
Administration Australia
Queensland

MEDIA ALERT

March, 2009

Existing Freedom of Information laws revamped

“The Right to Information reforms will make Queensland the most open and accountable Government in Australia,” Premier Anna Bligh said.

The Queensland Government has announced a complete overhaul of the framework for access to information – the Right to Information (RTI) reforms. The Institute of Public Administration Australia (IPAA) Queensland is bringing together key individuals from the RTI reform process in an *IQ Seminar Series: Openness and Accountability* event on **Wednesday 22 April**.

The 2008 review of Queensland’s Freedom of Information (FOI) Act resulted in the development of the RTI framework, which clearly articulates a commitment by government to readily make information available to the community.

An open panel discussion about the RTI reforms involving **Mr Ken Smith**, Director-General, Department of the Premier and Cabinet, **Mr David Fagan**, Editor, The Courier-Mail and **Dr David Solomon AM**, Chair of the Independent FOI Review Panel, will form the basis of the IQ Seminar Series event.

CEO of the Institute of Public Administration Australia (IPAA) Queensland, Peter Rumph said the aim of the reform is to promote increased openness, transparency and accountability in access to government information.

“The IQ Seminar Series is suitable for everyone, not just FOI workers, offering practical insights into how the reforms will affect the operations of the public service and Queenslanders generally,” Mr Rumph said.

“It is a great opportunity for attendees to hear first-hand from the key figures involved in the reform process,” Mr Rumph said.

Mr Rumph said the legislative changes will affect the work of all Queensland Government officers, who will be working within a new environment of increased openness and accessibility.

The IQ Seminar Series is committed to bringing quality speakers and topics to the forefront, that will challenge your current way of thinking and keep you up to date with issues facing the public sector in Queensland and nationally.

The review into Queensland’s freedom of information laws, led by Dr David Solomon, proposed a complete overhaul of the Government’s approach to information. The Government supported in full, in part or in principle all but two of the Panel’s recommendations, signalling a commitment by Queensland to take the lead on open and accountable government.

WHAT: IQ Seminar Series: *Openness and Accountability*
Taking the lead on an open and accountable government

DATE: 7:30am Wednesday, April 22, 2009

VENUE: Sebel & Citigate Hotel
Cnr Ann and Roma Streets
Brisbane City

INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES: Mr Peter Rumph, CEO IPAA Queensland
Mr Ken Smith, Director-General, Department of the Premier and Cabinet
Mr David Fagan, Editor, The Courier-Mail
Dr David Solomon AM, Chair of the Independent FOI Review

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