

# Appendix 6—Freedom of information

## Freedom of information statement

As required by s. 8 of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*, the following information is published regarding the organisation and functions of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, and how members of the public can gain access to documents in the possession of the AIHW.

### Organisation and functions of the AIHW

Chapter 1 and Chapter 3 of this report provide details of the organisation and functions of the AIHW.

### Powers

The AIHW is a body corporate subject to the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*. Powers exercised by the Chair of the Board and the Director are in accordance with delegations determined under that Act.

### Consultative arrangements

The composition of the AIHW Board, prescribed in s. 8 of the *Australian Institute of Health and Welfare Act 1987* (see **Appendix 2 Legislation**, page 163), enables participation on the Board by a broad range of bodies or persons outside the Commonwealth administration.

The AIHW consults with a wide range of constituents through its membership of national committees (see **Appendix 9 Participation in national committees**, page 225).

The AIHW has established a number of topic-specific steering committees, which include bodies and persons from outside the Commonwealth administration, to advise the AIHW on its major reports.

### Categories of documents in possession of the AIHW

#### *Documents available to the public upon payment of a fee*

The AIHW does not hold any documents of this type.

#### *Documents available for purchase or available free of charge*

The majority of AIHW reports are available free of charge on its website <[www.aihw.gov.au](http://www.aihw.gov.au)>, or can be purchased through the AIHW website or from its contracted distributor CanPrint.

#### *AIHW data*

The AIHW makes available through its website unidentifiable aggregated data on a series of 'data cubes' (see Chapter 3 Communicating with stakeholders).

Data collected under the *Australian Institute of Health and Welfare Act 1987* are protected by the confidentiality provisions (s. 29) of that Act.

#### *AIHW seminar program*

The AIHW makes available documents about topics included on the AIHW seminar program conducted for staff, and for some seminars open to invited guests.

### ***Government and parliament***

Some ministerial briefings, ministerial correspondence, replies to parliamentary questions and tabling documents are available.

### ***Meeting proceedings***

Agenda papers and records of proceedings of internal and external meetings and workshops are available.

### ***Business management***

Documents related to development of the AIHW's work program, business and personnel management, and general papers and correspondence related to management of the AIHW's work program are available.

### ***Privacy***

The AIHW supplies information on the extent and nature of its holdings of personal information for inclusion in the *Personal information digest* published by the Office of the Federal Privacy Commissioner.

### **Freedom of information requests**

There were no requests made under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* during 2007–08.

### **Freedom of information enquiries**

All enquiries concerning access to documents under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* may be directed to the:

Freedom of Information Contact Officer  
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare  
GPO Box 570  
Canberra, ACT 2601

Phone (02) 6244 1123.