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|  | **North East Citizen Advocacy Incorporated**  **Quality Manual**  **Quality Management System** | **Effective Date:**  **05/2014**  **Revision:01** |

Policy 19 Privacy Statement

**Context:**

North East Citizen Advocacy (**we, our, us**) recognises the importance of protecting the privacy and the rights of individuals in relation to their personal information. This document is our privacy policy and it tells you how we collect and manage your personal information.

We respect your rights to privacy under the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) (**Act**) and we comply with all of the Act’s requirements in respect of the collection, management and disclosure of your personal information.

The organization’s privacy policy includes sections on the following areas:

1. What is your personal information?
2. What personal information do we collect and hold?
3. How do we collect your personal information?
4. Cookies
5. What happens if we can’t collect your personal information?
6. For what purposes do we collect, hold, use and disclose your personal information?
7. To whom may we disclose your information?
8. Direct marketing materials
9. How can you access and correct your personal information?
10. What is the process for complaining about a breach of privacy?
11. Do we disclose your personal information to anyone outside Australia?
12. Security
13. Links
14. Contacting us
15. Changes to our privacy policy 6

Procedure

1. **What is your personal information?**

When used in this privacy policy, the term “personal information” has the meaning given to it in the Act. In general terms, it is any information that can be used to personally identify you. This may include your name, address, telephone number, email address and profession or occupation. If the information we collect personally identifies you, or you are reasonably identifiable from it, the information will be considered personal information.

1. **What personal information do we collect and hold?**

We may collect the following types of personal information:

name;

mailing or street address;

email address;

telephone number;

facsimile number;

name of organisation you work or volunteer for;

profession, occupation or job title;

details of the services you have obtained from us or which you have enquired about, together with any additional information necessary to deliver those and services and to respond to your enquiries;

any additional information relating to you that you provide to us directly, or indirectly through our website or online presence, through our representatives or otherwise; and

information you provide to us through our office, surveys or visits by our representatives from time to time.

We may also collect some information that is not personal information because it does not identify you or anyone else. For example, we may collect anonymous answers to surveys or aggregated information about how users use our website.

1. **How do we collect your personal information?**

We collect your personal information directly from you unless it is unreasonable or impracticable to do so. When collecting personal information from you, we may collect in ways including:

through your access and use of our website or online presence (e.g. *Facebook* and *Twitter*);

during conversations between you and our representatives;

when you complete a membership application; register to attend training and other events; subscribe to *NECA NEWS* and other communications; advertise volunteer or paid roles through our online database or complete a survey.

1. **Cookies**

In some cases we may also collect your personal information through the use of cookies. When you access our website, we may send a “cookie” (which is a small summary file containing a unique ID number) to your computer. This enables us to measure traffic patterns, to determine which areas of our website have been visited and to measure transaction patterns in the aggregate. We use this to research our users’ habits so that we can improve our online products and services. Our cookies do not collect personal information. If you do not wish to receive cookies, you can set your browser so that your computer does not accept them. We may log IP addresses (that is, the electronic addresses of computers connected to the internet) to analyse trends, administer the website, track users movements, and gather broad demographic information.

1. **What happens if we can’t collect your personal information?**

If you do not provide us with the personal information described above, some or all of the following may happen:

we may not be able to provide the requested products or services to you, either to the same standard or at all;

we may not be able to provide you with information about services that you may want; or

we may be unable to tailor the content of our websites to your preferences and your experience of our websites may not be as enjoyable or useful.

1. **For what purposes do we collect, hold, use and disclose your personal information?**

We collect personal information about you so that we can perform our activities and functions and to provide best possible quality of service. In general terms, our relevant activities and functions are:

providing Citizen Advocacy

providing membership services;

advertising volunteer and paid positions online;

answering queries; and

providing information on our website and online presence.

We collect, hold, use and disclose your personal information for the following purposes:

to provide services to you and to send communications requested by you;

to answer enquiries and provide information;

to assess the performance of the website and to improve the operation of the website;

to conduct business processing functions, including providing personal information to information to our contractors

for the administrative, planning, product or service development, quality control and research purposes of North East Citizen Advocacy and our contractors;

to provide your updated personal information to our contractors

to update our records and keep your contact details up to date;

for the marketing (including direct marketing) purposes of North East Citizen Advocacy;

to process and respond to any complaint made by you; and

to comply with any law, rule, regulation, lawful and binding determination, decision or direction of a regulator, or in co-operation with any governmental authority of any country.

Your personal information will not be shared, sold, rented or disclosed other than as described in this Privacy Policy.

1. **To whom may we disclose your information?**

We may disclose your personal information to:

our employees, volunteers, contractors for the purposes of operation of our website or our service, fulfilling requests by you, and to otherwise provide services to you; and

any organisation for any authorised purpose with your express consent.

Our contractors may include, without limitation: our website developer, IT systems administrators, mailing houses, couriers, payment processors, data entry service providers, electronic network administrators, and professional advisors such as accountant, business advisors and solicitors and the Department of Social Services.

1. **Direct marketing materials**

We may send you direct marketing communications and information about services that we consider may be of interest to you. These communications may be sent in various forms, including mail, SMS, fax and email, in accordance with applicable marketing laws, such as the *Spam Act 2003* (Cth). If you indicate a preference for a method of communication, we will endeavour to use that method whenever practical to do so. In addition, at any time you may opt-out of receiving marketing communications from us by contacting us (see the details below) or by using opt-out facilities provided in the marketing communications and we will then ensure that your name is removed from our mailing list. We do not provide your personal information to other organisations for the purposes of direct marketing.

1. **How can you access and correct your personal information?**

You may request access to any personal information we hold about you at any time by contacting us (see the details below). Where we hold information that you are entitled to access, we will try to provide you with suitable means of accessing it (for example, by mailing or emailing it to you). We will not charge for providing your personal information to you and will not charge for making any corrections to your personal information.

There may be instances where we cannot grant you access to the personal information we hold. For example, we may need to refuse access if granting access would interfere with the privacy of others or if it would result in a breach of confidentiality. If that happens, we will give you written reasons for any refusal.

If you believe that personal information we hold about you is incorrect, incomplete or inaccurate, then you may request us to amend it. We will consider if the information requires amendment. If we do not agree that there are grounds for amendment then we will add a note to the personal information stating that you disagree with it.

1. **What is the process for complaining about a breach of privacy?**

If you believe that your privacy has been breached, please contact us using the contact information below and provide details of the incident so that we can investigate it.

1. **Do we disclose your personal information to anyone outside Australia?**

We do not disclose your personal information to anyone located outside of Australia.

1. **Security**

We take reasonable steps to ensure your personal information is protected from misuse and loss and from unauthorised access, modification or disclosure. We may hold your information in either electronic or hard copy form. Electronic storage is password protected and hard copies are stored on the premises in a locked filing cabinet. Personal information is destroyed or de-identified when no longer needed. As our website is linked to the internet, and the internet is inherently insecure, we cannot provide any assurance regarding the security of transmission of information you communicate to us online. We also cannot guarantee that the information you supply will not be intercepted while being transmitted over the internet. Accordingly, any personal information or other information which you transmit to us online is transmitted at your own risk.

1. **Links**

Our website may contain links to other websites operated by third parties. We make no representations or warranties in relation to the privacy practices of any third party website and we are not responsible for the privacy policies or the content of any third party website. Third party websites are responsible for informing you about their own privacy practices.

1. **Contacting us**

If you have any questions about this privacy policy, any concerns or a complaint regarding the treatment of your privacy or a possible breach of your privacy, please contact us using the details set out below.

We will treat your requests or complaints confidentially. Our representative will contact you within a reasonable time after receipt of your complaint to discuss your concerns and outline options regarding how they may be resolved. We will aim to ensure that your complaint is resolved in timely and appropriate manner.

Please contact us at: North East Citizen Advocacy

Post: PO Box 251 Watsonia Sth

Tel: 03 8327 8500

Email: [neca@citizenadvocacy.com.au](mailto:neca@citizenadvocacy.com.au)

1. **Changes to our privacy policy**

We may change this privacy policy from time to time. Any updated versions of this privacy policy will be posted on our website.

This privacy policy was last updated May2014

For further information, contact The Office of the Victorian Privacy Commissioner

**Privacy Victoria**   
Level 11   
10-16 Queen Street   
Melbourne Victoria 3000   
Australia     
  
GPO Box 5057   
Melbourne Victoria 3001   
Australia   
DX 210643    **Telephone:**   
Local call within Australia: 1300 666 444   
From outside Australia: +61 3 8619 8719    **Fax:**   
Local call within Australia: 1300 666 445   
From outside Australia: +61 3 8619 8700 **Email:** [enquiries@privacy.vic.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@privacy.vic.gov.au)   
  
Related documents

1. Quality Framework
2. Governance Manual
3. Staff Manual
4. Program Information Handbook
5. Information Release Form
6. Confidentiality Pledge
7. Protégé Consent Form

### Resources

Officer of The Australian Information Commissioner

1300 363 992, [enquiries@oaic.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@oaic.gov.au), [www.oaic.gov.au](http://www.oaic.gov.au)