Ms Ngaree Ah Kit MLA
Chair
Social Policy Scrutiny Committee
Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory
By email: SPSC@nt.gov.au

Dear Madam Chair

Re Public Hearing Inquiry- Additional Comment by Commissioner, Information and Public Interest Disclosures.

I refer to the inquiry considering the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption (ICAC) Bill. This brief additional submission is made to ensure the security and proper management of Public Interest Disclosure (PID) records after the legislation is revoked.

Section 160 of the ICAC Bill titled Current Investigations provides for investigations commenced under the PID Act but not completed before the Act is revoked to be completed under the ICAC Act. Section 160(2) of the ICAC Bill provides that all information relevant to these investigations will be transferred to the ICAC. However, there is no mention in the current ICAC Bill of what will happen to completed investigation files and other records created by the PID Office since it commenced operation. Noting that current PID staff will be relocated into the ICAC Office and current PID investigations will be completed by the ICAC Commissioner, it is appropriate for all PID records to be held by the ICAC Commissioner.

I have raised this proposal with the Department of Attorney General and Justice and will work with them to draft the appropriate wording of the amendment which hopefully can be provided to the Committee and included in the Bill during debate in the November sittings.

Yours faithfully,

Brenda Monaghan
Commissioner, Information and Public Interest Disclosures.