

NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

PUBLIC INFORMATION REGULATIONS

As in force at 14 February 2017

Table of provisions

Part 1 Preliminary matters

1	Citation	1
2	Commencement	1

Part 2 Standards for giving of public information

3	Criteria for public information	1
4	Ensuring public information is factual	2
5	Comment by Agencies	2

ENDNOTES

NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

As in force at 14 February 2017

PUBLIC INFORMATION REGULATIONS

Regulations under the *Public Information Act*

Part 1 Preliminary matters

1 Citation

These Regulations may be cited as the *Public Information Regulations*.

2 Commencement

These Regulations commence on the commencement of the *Public Information Amendment Act 2016*.

Part 2 Standards for giving of public information

3 Criteria for public information

For section 6 of the Act, public information given by a public authority must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- (a) the information serves to do any of the following:
 - (i) maximise compliance with the laws of the Territory;
 - (ii) achieve awareness of a new or amended law;
 - (iii) improve public safety or personal security;
 - (iv) encourage responsible behaviour;
 - (v) preserve order in the event of an emergency;
 - (vi) promote awareness of rights, responsibilities, duties or entitlements;
 - (vii) encourage usage of, or familiarity with, government products or services;

- (b) the purpose of the information is to do any of the following:
 - (i) report on performance in relation to government undertakings;
 - (ii) communicate functions of government (for example, education campaigns, recruitment, community engagement, expressions of interest, future plans);
 - (iii) communicate on matters of social cohesion, civic pride, community spirit or tolerance.

4 **Ensuring public information is factual**

For section 6 of the Act, a public authority giving public information must ensure:

- (a) all facts (including comparisons) and statistics are presented accurately and objectively; and
- (b) all arguments are presented objectively; and
- (c) the source of all data is indicated or a means for identifying the data source is provided.

5 **Comment by Agencies**

- (1) An Agency giving public information must not do either of the following:
 - (a) comment on the views, policies or actions of a particular political party or political person;
 - (b) criticise the views, policies or actions of a particular political party or political person.
- (2) In this regulation:

political person means any of the following persons:

- (a) a person who holds an elected office in the Federal Parliament, the Legislative Assembly or a local government;
- (b) a person who seeks election to an office mentioned in paragraph (a).

ENDNOTES

1 KEY

Key to abbreviations

amd = amended
app = appendix
bl = by-law
ch = Chapter
cl = clause
div = Division
exp = expires/expired
f = forms
Gaz = Gazette
hdg = heading
ins = inserted
lt = long title
nc = not commenced

od = order
om = omitted
pt = Part
r = regulation/rule
rem = remainder
renum = renumbered
rep = repealed
s = section
sch = Schedule
sdiv = Subdivision
SL = Subordinate Legislation
sub = substituted

2 LIST OF LEGISLATION

Public Information Regulations (SL No. 1, 2017)

Notified	14 February 2017
Commenced	14 February 2017 (r 2, s 2 <i>Public Information Amendment Act 2016</i> (Act No. 34, 2016) and <i>Gaz S2</i> , 14 February 2017, p 2)