

MEDIA RELEASE

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Office of the Auditor General takes action to secure data in the wake of CCC report

The Corruption and Crime Commission (the Commission) has tabled a report in State Parliament today commending the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) on a swift response to a recommendation made last year about data security procedures.

The [Commission's April 2020 report](#) revealed how two auditors accessed confidential information that had not been properly protected within OAG systems.

It also made a startling discovery of sensitive audit data that had been improperly retained and stored on an OAG laptop.

The Commission recommended the OAG review its procedures to ensure that following OAG audits, data is only retained in a secure location.

In April 2021, the Commission commenced a review of the OAG's response. The OAG provided the Commission with a comprehensive and transparent response during the review process.

The OAG advised it had tightened access to confidential information, including encrypting laptops so only an authorised user can gain access, and ensuring they are kept in a secure location.

The OAG has taken action to improve its storage and handling of data, as well as how staff manage data. Some of the measures include de-activating all IronKeys (encrypted USB devices) and restricting their use to exceptional circumstances requiring Deputy Auditor General approval, a new secure online file transfer system for sensitive information, and regular checks to ensure audit information is deleted in line with policy requirements.

The OAG has assured the Commission that continued improvements will remain a focus given the cyber landscape in which they operate. The Commission commends its approach and continued commitment to reducing serious misconduct risks around data management.

The Commission continues to emphasise the importance of all public sector authorities securing private information. Access to sensitive information should remain for legitimate work-related purposes and no other.

ENDS

Contact the Corruption and Crime Commission

Read the report

[Review of the Office of the Auditor General's response to misconduct risks with access to confidential information](#)

Previous report

[Report into misconduct risks with access to confidential information in the Office of the Auditor General](#)

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