



29 June 2023

Our ref: GIPA23/1640

Ms Telina Webb
NSW Freedom of Information
PO Box 8030
MARKS POINT NSW 2280

Sent via email: info@nswfreedomofinformation.net

Dear Ms Webb

**Warning regarding your recent correspondence with the Department of
Communities and Justice**

We refer to your communications with staff of the Department of Communities and Justice (the Department) in relation to proceeding no. 2023/0125842 before the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (the Tribunal).

I note that staff of the Open Government, Information and Privacy (OGIP) Unit of DCJ Legal have received emails from you regarding the above proceedings. Staff have indicated that the content and tone of your communications are perceived as defamatory, threatening, insulting, misleading and abusive. This has resulted in significant levels of distress.

Examples of the content that has created this perception among staff include your letter attached to your email of 25 June 2023, received at 2pm, in which you (see **attached**):

- expressed baseless allegations of “*gross professional misconduct and abuse of position*”, in addition to speculative threats and multiple allegations of a vague breach of the Department’s Code of Conduct; and
- made misrepresentations that the Department is acting untoward and manipulative.

Under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* (NSW), I am obliged to appropriately respond to potential threats to the safety of employees. As advised, staff of the OGIP Unit have indicated that they perceive the content and tone of your communications to be unduly defamatory, threatening, insulting and misleading

Upon review of the relevant correspondence, I consider that you have no factual basis on which to impute dishonesty or professional misconduct against staff of the OGIP Unit. I also note that this was communicated externally by you to the Tribunal.

Accordingly, any communication which is not respectful or likely to cause undue distress to staff of the OGIP Unit is inappropriate and it must cease. If you continue to behave in this way, we will impose restrictions on your contact with this office by restricting your contact to ‘writing only’. This means that we will only accept communications from you in writing, delivered by Australia Post.

If this step is taken to give you such a direction, any correspondence sent via email to staff of this office will be blocked and deleted without being read to protect staff from experiencing further stress arising from your emails. For the avoidance of doubt, if such a direction is made, it would:

1. Restrict any email contact with the OGIP Unit monitored by individual staff members or group mailboxes. These include, but are not limited to:
 - infoandprivacy@dcj.nsw.gov.au
 - infoandprivacy@justice.nsw.gov.au
2. The restriction on your email contact would apply to emails received from info@nswfreedomofinformation.net and any other email address you have previously used or may create in the future to any staff employed within the OGIP Unit.

Should this step be taken, the limitation on your access to emailing staff of the OGIP Unit would remain in effect for 12 months. Upon expiry, your access will be reassessed to determine whether there is any demonstrated need to extend it for a further period.

Yours sincerely

Casey Maddison

Solicitor
Open Government, Information and Privacy Unit
Department of Communities and Justice