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NSW Ombudsman releases FOI discussion paper

The NSW Ombudsman, Bruce Barbour, released a public discussion paper today as part of a comprehensive review of the New South Wales *Freedom of Information Act 1989*.

It is vital that freedom of information legislation operates effectively, as it ensures that government decision makers can be held to account for their actions, Mr Barbour said. **I would encourage all those with an interest in FOI to provide us with a submission.**

The discussion paper forms part of a broader review of the FOI Act. This review includes an investigation into the FOI practices and procedures of eighteen government agencies, as well as interviews with FOI staff. The Ombudsman has also sought information from Local Councils and the Administrative Decisions Tribunal. A final report and recommendations will be made to Parliament.

Submissions should be sent to:

foireview@ombo.nsw.gov.au

Or

FOI Review
NSW Ombudsman
Level 24
580 George Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Submissions should be lodged by the close of business on 31 October 2008.

For further information regarding the review, or to access an electronic copy of the discussion paper, follow the links on the NSW Ombudsman website (www.ombo.nsw.gov.au) to the [FOI review update page](#).