

Our ref: 1810068

30 April 2024

Ms Stephanie Galbraith
Committee Secretary
Housing, Big Build and Manufacturing Committee
Queensland Parliament

By email: HBBMC@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Ms Galbraith

Inquiry into the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements Amendment Bill 2024

OIC welcomes the opportunity to make a submission to the Housing, Big Build and Manufacturing Committee's (**Committee**) inquiry into the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements Amendment Bill 2024 (**Bill**).

The Office of the Information Commissioner (**OIC**) is an independent statutory body that reports to the Queensland Parliament. The Information Commissioner is an officer of parliament charged with functions under the *Right to Information Act 2009* (Qld) (**RTI Act**) and the *Information Privacy Act 2009* (Qld) (**IP Act**) to, respectively, facilitate greater and easier access to government held information and oversee safeguarding of personal information held by public sector agencies.

OIC's submission

OIC notes the Games Venue and Legacy Delivery Authority (**authority**) will have a close relationship with the Brisbane Organising Committee for the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games (**corporation**). For instance, under clause 20, new section 53BI, the president of the board of the corporation is responsible for helping the board of the authority perform its functions. The president may attend the board's meetings and participate in the board's deliberations but may not vote at the meetings. The authority must also co-operate with the corporation in performing its functions (new section 53AE) and consult with the chief executive officer of the corporation in preparing the transport and mobility strategy (new section 53AJ).

The *Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements Act 2021* introduced an exclusion into schedule 1 of the RTI Act in relation to a document created or received by the corporation in carrying out its functions, to the extent it comprises information not already in the public domain and which was communicated in confidence by or for the Australian Olympic Committee or the International Olympic Committee.

Given the close relationship between the authority and the corporation, more documents would potentially be subject to this exclusion.

On 8 November 2021, OIC made a submission to the former Economics and Governance Committee in relation to the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements Bill 2021. That submission noted exclusions are used sparingly in the RTI Act and that this exclusion was inconsistent with the comprehensive Review Report tabled by the Attorney-General in October 2017 and the 2008 Solomon Report that resulted in the adoption of the RTI Act in 2009.

As noted in our previous submission, the RTI Act has a sufficient framework to protect sensitive documents and any legislative proposal to add further exemptions should be considered in that wider policy context. A copy of the OIC's submission is available [here](#).

Should you require further information regarding the above matters, please contact me at IC@oic.qld.gov.au or on 07 3234 7373.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a large, stylized capital 'J' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Joanne Kummrow
Information Commissioner