



Australian Government

Office of the Australian Information Commissioner Designate

Dr Roger Clarke  
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*Roger*  
Dear Dr Clarke

Thank you for forwarding a copy of your letter to Mr Pilgrim on behalf of five organisations. I am aware that Mr Pilgrim is responding in substance to the issues raised in the letter, and I will not add to his comments.

You will be aware that upon the commencement of the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner on 1 November 2010, the powers currently conferred on the Privacy Commissioner by the *Privacy Act 1988* are formally vested in me. It is expected that the Privacy Commissioner will continue to play a leading role in administering the Privacy Act, but I will also take a close interest in the administration of that Act. My intention is to ensure that the three Commissioners in the new Office take a shared and integrated approach to administering the Privacy Act, *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and *Australian Information Commissioner Act 2010*.

I have noted the views expressed in your letter, and Mr Pilgrim's response. Some of the issues in your letter touch deeply on the regulatory philosophy and approach adopted by offices such as my own and, until now, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner. I will be focussed on questions of philosophy and style in coming months as the role of the new Office develops. I am always open to engaging in discussion of those issues, both directly with civil society organisations, and at seminars and through publications.

I look forward to working with the organisations listed in your letter.

Yours sincerely

Prof. John McMillan  
Australian Information Commissioner Designate