Privacy and disclosure of birth data

The Registry is responsible for the administration of the *Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 1995 (NSW)* in compliance with the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998*. The information required on the Birth Registration form is collected under the provisions of these Acts and forms the basis for the birth registration and the issue of birth certificates. The Registry is collecting this information to determine your eligibility to register the birth and to prevent fraud. The Registry may retain your personal information and proof of identity documents indefinitely for the purpose of record keeping and verifying personal particulars.

The birth register is part of the civil records of NSW and is a permanent historical record. The NSW birth register is ‘closed’, that is, access to birth certificates is restricted to the person named on the certificate, or their parents. Birth records are available to the public after 100 years.

Information held in the register may be used for statistical, medical research, community planning purposes, law enforcement and other uses provided for by law.

Disclosure of information

When you complete this form, understand that you have consented to the release of information provided by you, to those agencies who may be able to validate that information in support of your application.

This information may be provided to agencies including other Registries of Births, Deaths & Marriages, law enforcement agencies, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Department of Home Affairs, and motor vehicle or driver licensing authorities.

Usually these referrals will be to simply verify the documents or other evidence that you have provided us in making your application for a certificate. If there are discrepancies, we may require you to correct any errors with the issuing agency, before being able to process your application. It is extremely important that all your identity documents are accurate and reflect your correct identity information.

Documents provided as proof of identity may have their authenticity verified through the online National Document Verification Service.