



Records disposal schedule

Records Disposal Schedule Kava Licensing Regulation Department of Business

Disposal Schedule No. 2014/5

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Preamble

Introduction

The *Information Act* states that public sector organisations must safeguard their records and must not delete or otherwise dispose of a record unless authorised to do so¹. Disposal of records is permitted through the use of records disposal schedules and enable regular, planned and authorised disposal of records controlled by an agency.

Records retention decisions are based on:

- the current and future business needs of the organisation
- compliance with legal and governance requirements of the organisation
- the current and future needs of internal and external stakeholders, including the wider community.

Records disposal schedules provide continuing authorisation for the legal disposal of records and are authorised by the records service, archives service and chief executive officer of the public sector organisation responsible for the schedule.

Records disposal schedules apply to records created and maintained in any format, including electronic records, records in business systems, and parts of records.

In the Northern Territory government there are two types of records disposal schedules:

- General records disposal schedules that apply to records common to most or all NT Government public sector organisations (http://www.nretas.nt.gov.au/knowledge-and-history/ntas/records/records_disposal), and
- Functional records disposal schedules that apply to records specific to an NT Government public sector organisation or function.

Functional records disposal schedules should be used in conjunction with general records disposal schedules.

Structure of a Records Disposal Schedule

Records disposal schedules set out minimum requirements for the creation, maintenance, retention or destruction actions to be taken in relation to existing or future records described in each class. Records disposal schedules specify

- a) whether a class of record has temporary or permanent status;
- b) the retention period for a temporary class of record;
- c) authorised disposal actions for a class of record.²

Each class of records created by an agency is described using classifications based on business analysis.

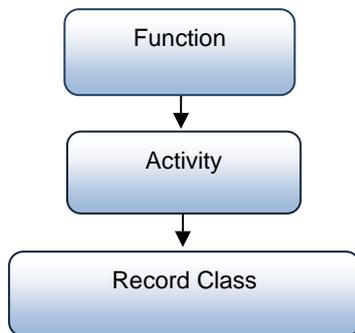
Disposal schedules are developed using the functional structure based on the business classification scheme of the *Keyword AAA: A Thesaurus of General Terms* produced by the State Records Authority of NSW and modified for use by NT Government public sector organisations.

¹ S.145 *Information Act*

² S.136A(3) *Information Act*

Within the schedule, functions are documented as the highest level terms and business activities under the functions, followed by record classes, as shown in diagram 1.

Diagram 1



Function

The function or keyword is the highest level in the classification scheme in this disposal schedule. The function is indicated at the start of each section and a description (scope note) provided.

Activity

Activities are the processes or operations that make up the business function. This is the second level in the classification scheme in this disposal schedule. The description (scope note) provides details of the transactions that take place in relation to the activity, for example, REPORTING or POLICY.

Record Class

A record class is a group of records that relate to the same activity, function or subject and require the same disposal action. The descriptions can relate to one record (such as a register) or a group of records documenting a particular set of business transactions.

Status and Disposal Action

The appraisal status of a record class is assigned as either permanent or temporary.

Permanent Records: Records appraised with permanent status have been identified as archives and must be transferred to the NT Archives Service for their preservation and eventual public access.

The retention period for permanent records is the maximum period before the records must be transferred to the NT Archives Service. Permanent records must be transferred no later than 30 years after creation in accordance with the Information Act, unless exemption has been granted (see Archives Management Standards Transfer of Archives, and Exemption from Compulsory Transfer of Permanent Records to the NT Archives Service). An Application to Transfer Records form must be submitted to the NT Archives Service before records will be accepted for transfer.

Temporary records: The retention period for temporary records is the minimum period before the records can legally be destroyed. The retention period is calculated after an event or a disposal trigger such as 'date of action completed', 'date of audit' or 'date of birth'. Destruction should be done following consultation with relevant operational business employees responsible for the records.

Retention periods for temporary records in a records disposal schedule are minimum periods only and agencies may keep records for a longer period if considered necessary for business requirements.

Reasons for longer retention could include,

- administrative need or agency directives,
- legal requirements such as current or pending legal action,
- relevance to an investigation or inquiry which is in progress,
- is subject to an Information Access application, or
- subject to a disposal freeze.

Records created prior to 1 July 1978 must not be disposed of without the authorisation of the NT Archives Service in accordance with Archives Management Standard Records Created Prior to 1978, unless specified in a schedule.

Sentence records with this records disposal schedule using the following five steps:

1. Determine the appropriate function and activity of the records. This can be done by examining an existing record or when creating a new record.
2. Identify the disposal class.
3. From the disposal action in the class, identify the trigger event and a date when the record can be disposed of, alternately, identify that the record is to be retained permanently as archives.
4. If the trigger event has already occurred (such as action is completed), confirm and implement the disposal action.
5. If the trigger event has not occurred (e.g. the record is still in active use), set a review date for the future.

About this Records Disposal Schedule

Purpose

The purpose of this Records Disposal Schedule is to enable regular, planned and authorised disposal of records of Kava Licensing Regulation of the Department of Business.

Scope

Application of this Records Disposal Schedule is mandatory for Kava Licensing Regulation records of the Department of Business.

This Records Disposal Schedule applies to Kava Licensing Regulation records in all formats.

Responsibility

The Chief Executive of the Department of Business is responsible for the content and implementation of this Records Disposal Schedule including the provision of advice and training, and for monitoring compliance.

Authority

This Records Disposal Schedule is authorised in accordance with S. 136B of the *Information Act*.

Disposal Schedule No. 2014/5 was approved by the Director of the NT Archives Service (The Archives Service), Director of Information Strategy (The Records Service), and the Chief Executive of the Department of Business on 12 June 2014 and is effective immediately.

Regulatory Framework

The regulatory basis for this Records Disposal Schedule is defined in:

- *Kava Management Act*
- *Kava Management Regulations*
- *Information Act*
- NT Government Records Management Standards
- NT Government Archives Management Standards
- Australian Standards AS ISO 15489:2002-Records Management

Related Documents

This Records Disposal Schedule is to be read in conjunction with:

- NT Government Records Management Standard – Records Disposal
- policies and procedures of the Department of Business
- current authorised disposal schedules for Department of Business

Normal Administrative Practice

Public sector organisations are permitted to dispose of some short term or ephemeral documents under the authority of the Disposal Schedule for Short Term Value Records. These include:

- duplicate (eg information or reference copy)
- obviously unimportant (e.g. telephone message slips)
- of short term facilitative value (e.g. compliment slips)

- a combination of these

The guiding principle is that organisations should be sure that destroying these records will not destroy evidence that might be needed.

Records that have been captured into a recordkeeping system should be destroyed using the Disposal Schedule for Short Term Value Records unless the class of records has been identified in a specific disposal schedule.

Notification of Destruction

Provide formal notification of destruction of all records to the NT Records Service.

Note: In the case of the Disposal Schedule for Records of Short Term Value (Disposal Schedule No. 2003/10), notification is only required for the destruction of records described in Disposal Class No. 1.10.1.

Acknowledgement

The NT Archives Service and the NT Records Service acknowledge that material produced by National Archives of Australia, State Records Authority of New South Wales, State Records of South Australia, Public Records Office of Victoria, Territory Records Office and Standards Australia was used in the development of this schedule.

The schedule was drafted principally by the [name of public sector organisation] in consultation with the NT Records Service.

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Compliance Checklist

- Implement a records disposal program to ensure regular appraisal, sentencing, destruction and transfer of all records
- Assign responsibility for the management and application of regular records disposal action using authorised records disposal schedules, to an appropriately skilled records manager who consults with the NT Archives Service and NT Records Service
- Familiarise all employees of the organisation with the authorised records disposal schedules relevant to the organisation's records
- Identify and sentence all records described in this schedule in all formats including electronic records and records in business systems, copies of records and parts of records
- Ensure all copies of temporary records are destroyed in any format (including backups), unless otherwise stated in a disposal schedule
- Apply this records disposal schedule to records in the organisation's records management systems, including systems for the management of paper records, electronic records, or records in any other format
- Apply this records disposal schedule to records in the organisation's business systems, either directly or by linking the business system to a records management system
- Implement quality assurance mechanisms to periodically check that the disposal class originally assigned at the creation of the records is still applicable at the time of sentencing of the record
- Implement review or quality control procedures in recordkeeping systems to ensure disposal actions are implemented correctly
- Identify records that require re-sentencing where a previous disposal schedule has been superseded
- Stop applying sentences from previous schedules that have been revoked or amended
- Retain all records in good order and condition to be available for retrieval during the retention period.
- Identify and update control records so that you can demonstrate what happened to each record, whether paper or electronic
- Implement an appropriate and approved strategy for retention of records of continuing value, eg. preservation in original form, migration to new systems, and conversion to long term medium
- Dispose of all records sentenced according to this schedule in all formats including electronic records and records in business systems, copies of records and parts of records
- Transfer records of permanent value to the NT Archives Service for retention as archives not later than 30 years after creation
- Inactive records can be transferred to offsite service providers providing they have been sentenced
- Destroy time expired temporary records in a secure manner that ensures complete deletion/destruction beyond any possible reconstruction
- Notify the NT Records Service of destruction of all records
- Do not destroy records that are not described in an authorised records disposal schedule.
- Do not destroy any records created prior to 1 July 1978 without specific authorisation from the NT Archives Service

Disposal Schedule

1. Kava Licensing Regulation

The function of regulating the production, possession, supply and consumption of kava including assessing licence applications and compliance checks.

1.1 Advice

The activities associated with offering opinions by or to the organisation as to an action or judgement. Includes the process of advising.

Class No.	Description of Records	Status and Disposal Action
1.1.1	<p>Records documenting where the licensing authority has determined the price of kava for both wholesale licensees and retail licensees and set conditions that apply to different licence areas. Includes gazettal notices where the Minister has declared:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the maximum number of wholesale and retail licences that the licensing authority may grant - appointed persons to be an analyst for the purpose of carrying out the sampling, analysis or examination of a thing seized - area or areas of land to be authorised licenced areas for the purposes of kava management 	<p>PERMANENT</p> <p>Transfer to the NT Archives Service 10 years after action completed</p>

1. Kava Regulation

The function of regulating the production, possession, supply and consumption of kava including assessing licence applications and compliance checks.

1.2 Authorisation

The process of seeking and granting permission to undertake requested action.

Class No.	Description of Records	Status and Disposal Action
1.2.1	Records documenting delegations given to the licensing authority of powers and functions by the Minister. Includes kava regulation guidelines approved by the Minister.	PERMANENT Transfer to the NT Archives Service 10 years after action completed
1.2.2	Records documenting approved requests to the Minister for a council area to be either a fully or partially licensed area or two or more non-contiguous parts of the council area is a licence area. Includes description of the areas, community consultation notes, kava management plans and variations.	PERMANENT Transfer to the NT Archives Service 10 years after action completed
1.2.3	Records documenting unsuccessful applications to the Minister for council areas to be either a fully or partially licensed area including withdrawn applications. Includes description of the areas, community consultation notes, kava management plans, variations and written decisions.	Temporary Destroy 5 years after action completed
1.2.4	Records documenting authorised appointments by the Minister for authorised officers under the <i>Kava Management Act</i> such as Inspectors. Includes returned identification cards from authorised persons that have ceased from their position.	Temporary Destroy 7 years after end of appointment

1. Kava Regulation

The function of regulating the production, possession, supply and consumption of kava including assessing licence applications and compliance checks.

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Class No.	Description of Records	Status and Disposal Action
1.2.5	<p>Records documenting approved granting and renewal of retail and wholesale licenses to individual persons or body corporates for the purpose of selling kava. Includes surrendered, cancelled and suspended licenses, terms and conditions, variations and approved requests for the issue of duplicate licences where the license has been destroyed, lost or stolen.</p> <p>Records include applications, criminal history checks, financial background checks, community consultation notes, copies of newspaper notices, kava management plans, correspondence with local government authorities, and written consents by the licensing authority and returns.</p> <p>May include objections to variations of kava licensing conditions by the licensee where a hearing has taken place including where the licencing authority has appointed a person to conduct the business of a kava licensee who is unable to conduct business for the purpose of the act.</p>	<p>Temporary</p> <p>Destroy 7 years after licence expires, is withdrawn, surrendered, suspended or cancelled</p>
1.2.6	<p>Records documenting unsuccessful applications for kava licences.</p> <p>Records include applications, criminal history checks, financial background information, community consultation notes, copies of newspaper notices, kava management plans, correspondence with relevant local government authorities, and written decisions by the licensing authority.</p>	<p>Temporary</p> <p>Destroy 5 years after action completed</p>

1. Kava Licensing Regulation

The function of regulating the production, possession, supply and consumption of kava including assessing licence applications and compliance checks.

1.3 Compliance

The activities associated with complying with, or monitoring compliance with, mandatory or optional accountability, fiscal, legal, regulatory or quality standards or requirements. Includes compliance with legislation and with national and international standards.

Class No.	Description of Records	Status and Disposal Action
1.3.1	<p>Records documenting investigations into kava licensing complaints relating to the operations of licensees or non-licensed persons conducted by members of the NT Police Force or the agency such as suspected licensees selling kava outside specified hours, conducting business in a non-authorised area, transportation of kava to an area not authorised, selling kava to persons under 18, selling commercial quantities of kava etc. where the person or licensee has or is unlicensed or is suspected of contravening or failing to comply with a condition or restriction to which the licence is subject.</p> <p>Records include copies of documents in relation to investigations into compliance matters such as written complaints, kava analyst certificates, notifications to licensee of complaints, reports to the licensing authority, written directions given to licensees where they have contravened or failed to comply with the conditions of their licence and requests by persons for the return of seized property pending prosecution. Includes authorised orders by the magistrate to retain or have the kava destroyed, and varied and revoked orders.</p>	<p>Temporary</p> <p>Destroy 7 years after licence expires, is cancelled, suspended or surrendered</p>