

## 180 Authorisations for access to prospective information or documents

- (1) Sections 276, 277 and 278 of the *Telecommunications Act 1997* do not prevent a disclosure of information or a document if the information or document is covered by an authorisation in force under this section.

### *Prospective authorisation*

- (2) An authorised officer of a criminal law-enforcement agency may authorise the disclosure of specified information or specified documents that come into existence during the period for which the authorisation is in force.

### *Authorisation for access to existing information or documents may also be sought*

- (3) The authorised officer may, in that authorisation, also authorise the disclosure of specified information or specified documents that came into existence before the time the authorisation comes into force.

### *Limits on making the authorisation*

- (4) The authorised officer must not make the authorisation unless he or she is satisfied that the disclosure is reasonably necessary for the investigation of:
- (a) a serious offence; or
  - (b) an offence against a law of the Commonwealth, a State or a Territory that is punishable by imprisonment for at least 3 years.

### *Period for which authorisation is in force*

- (6) An authorisation under this section:
- (a) comes into force at the time the person from whom the disclosure is sought receives notification of the authorisation; and
  - (b) ends at the time specified in the authorisation (which must be a time that is no longer than the end of the period of 45 days beginning on the day the authorisation is made), unless it is revoked earlier.

Note: Section 184 deals with notification of authorisations.

### *Revoking the authorisation*

- (7) An authorised officer of the criminal law-enforcement agency must revoke the authorisation if he or she is satisfied that the disclosure is no longer required.

Note: Section 184 deals with notification of revocations.