

INTERNET

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GOVERNMENT GAZETTES

A survey of government gazettes online is a salutary reminder not to cancel the print subscription. None of the gazettes that are available go back earlier than 1998 and often

only the most current issues are available. Some gazettes are not available in full, such as the Commonwealth of Australia Gazette. The following table indicates the URL and holdings of Australian government gazettes.

<p>Commonwealth Public Service Gazette http://www.psgazetteonline.gov.au/index2.html</p> <p>Commonwealth Purchasing and Disposals Gazette http://www.contracts.gov.au and http://www.ads.gov.au</p> <p>Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) Gazette http://www.asic.gov.au/publications and select 'ASIC Gazette'</p> <p>Chemicals Gazette http://www.nicnas.gov.au/publications/#gazette</p> <p>National Registration Authority Gazette http://www.nra.gov.au/gazette/subpage_gazette.shtml</p>	<p>Current two issues</p> <p>1 July 2001 –</p> <p>February 2001 –</p> <p>November 1999 –</p>
<p>Australian Capital Territory http://www.act.gov.au/gazettes/</p>	<p>July 1998 – Also has annual indexes from 1989</p>
<p>New South Wales http://gps.dpws.nsw.gov.au/GPS/gazette/index.htm</p>	<p>Current issue only Quarterly index Oct-Dec 2000 –</p>
<p>Queensland http://www.goprint.qld.gov.au/r_gazettes.html</p>	<p>Current month only</p>
<p>South Australia http://www.governmentgazette.sa.gov.au/</p>	<p>1999 – Bi-annual index also available</p>

Tasmania http://www.jobs.tas.gov.au/	Latest month (job vacancies only)
Victoria http://www.craftpress.com.au/	1998 –

ADMINISTRATIVE

ARRANGEMENTS ORDER

An administrative arrangements order will tell you which matters and legislation a government department is responsible for. There was a query sent to the *anz-law librarian's list* earlier this year asking where to find the orders but it did not generate many responses. Having tried to find them myself, I think I can understand why.

The current administrative arrangements order for the Commonwealth is available at SCALEplus <http://scaleplus.law.gov.au> – select 'Legislation Tools' from the menu, scroll to the bottom of the page and select 'Administrative Arrangements Order'. The state and territory orders are not as easy to find and so far I have only found the three below:

Northern Territory

<http://www.nt.gov.au>

Select 'Government Directory', then 'Parliament House NT', then 'Members' (left hand side of the screen in the dark band – hard to see), then 'Administrative Order'. At this point you will have reached the 'Administrative Arrangements' page and realise why we have not used the specific URL instead of this step-by-step guide. Click on expand and you will see a list of ministers. Click on a particular Minister and the agency, acts and principal areas of government will be listed. It is possible to do a full text search for a particular act or government department but keep it simple – search for 'Contracts' not 'Contracts Act'.

Queensland

<http://www.qld.gov.au/html/pathways.htm#indexes>

Tasmania

<http://www.parliament.tas.gov.au/tpl/adminarrange.htm>

The administrative arrangements order may be published in the government gazette but as

the table above demonstrates, the relevant issue may not be available.

HANSARD

The Internet archives of Hansard for states and territories begin in the 1990s but Commonwealth Hansard goes back to 1981.

Most sites will let you browse Hansard by date but for Tasmania and Western Australia it is necessary to do a search first.

Commonwealth http://www.aph.gov.au/hansard/index.htm	1981 – (html) 1996 – (pdf)
Australian Capital Territory http://hansard.www.act.gov.au/welcome.htm	1995 –
New South Wales http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/prod/web/PHWeb.nsf/Archives?OpenFrameSet	1991 –
Northern Territory http://www.nt.gov.au/lant/hansard/hansard.shtml	6 th Assembly 4/12/90 –
Queensland http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/Hansard/index.htm	1990 –
South Australia http://www.parliament.sa.gov.au/hansard/6_hansard.shtm	Current session only
Tasmania http://www.parliament.tas.gov.au:8000/index.htm NB: can search the database but cannot browse	1992 –
Victoria http://www.dms.dpc.vic.gov.au/ [Select Parliamentary Documents, then select Hansard] NB: can search the database from 12 March 1991 onwards	Spring 1999 –
Western Australia http://www.slp.wa.gov.au/hansard/hans35.nsf/hansard+menu/index.html NB: can search the database but cannot browse.	1997 –

ACT LEGISLATION REGISTER

The ACT has launched a legislation register aimed at making legislation in the territory more accessible. The register has two main functions, to make new and up-to-date legislation freely accessible on the Internet and to provide a mechanism for notifying new laws electronically.

<http://www.legislation.act.gov.au>

The ACT is still the only Australian jurisdiction with authorised electronic legislation. Other jurisdictions only authorise printed copies of legislation.

The register will also contain forms approved for legislation and other documents incorporated by reference in legislation.