

Department of Science, Information Technology, Innovation and the Arts

2012–13 Annual Report



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Letter of Compliance

24 September 2013

The Honourable Ian Walker MP
Minister for Science, Information Technology, Innovation and the Arts
Executive Building
Level 5, 100 George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Minister

I am pleased to present the Annual Report 2012–13 for the Department of Science, Information Technology, Innovation and the Arts.

I certify that this annual report complies with:

- the prescribed requirements of the *Financial Accountability Act 2009* and the *Financial and Performance Management Standard 2009*
- the detailed requirements set out in the Annual Report Requirements for Queensland Government Agencies published by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

The report outlines the purpose, services, financial performance and achievements of the department during the 2012–13 financial year.

A checklist outlining the annual reporting requirements is included in this report.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Garner
Director-General

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About our annual report

The Department of Science, Information Technology, Innovation and the Arts (DSITIA) Annual Report 2012–13 is an integral part of our corporate governance framework and is one of the main tools we use to ensure we are accountable to stakeholders, the Queensland Parliament and the community about our activities.

This report details our achievements, performance and financial position for the 2012–13 financial year. It aligns with the DSITIA Strategic Plan, Service Delivery Statement 2012–13, and the Queensland Government's objectives for the community. It also provides information on our future direction, people management and corporate governance processes.

[View our report online](#)

This report is available online:

<http://www.qld.gov.au/dsitia/annual-report>

For enquiries about this annual report, contact the Principal Consultant, Strategy, Planning and Performance, telephone 61 7 3008 8156 or webfeedback@dsitia.qld.gov.au .

[More information on the Queensland Government Open data website](#)

A number of annual reporting requirements for this year have been addressed through publication of information on the Queensland Government Open Data website. For further information on consultancies and overseas travel expenditure and our achievements for the Queensland Multicultural Action Plan 2011–14 please visit www.qld.gov.au/data .

From the Director-General – the year in review

I am pleased to present the 2012–13 annual report for the Department of Science, Information Technology, Innovation and the Arts (DSITIA).

This report reviews our performance and illustrates the effort, commitment and achievements of our staff throughout the year. This annual report outlines the service delivery achievements our department has already made in addressing the Queensland Government’s objectives for the community.

I would like to acknowledge and thank my predecessor Philip Reed for the significant contribution he made during his time as Director-General for the department.

Since being appointed Director-General for the department in April 2013, one of my priorities is to ensure DSITIA is acknowledged as being at the forefront of the Queensland Government and recognised as a flagship department which is creative, connected and clever.

Delivering efficient and effective services to government agencies and Queenslanders and at the same time delivering savings, benefits and achievements from whole-of-Government service reform, have been major priorities for the department and are highlighted further in Section 2 of this report.

As outlined in the following pages, the department has delivered significant achievements which assist to fulfil the Government’s five pledges it made to Queenslanders on entering office: to grow a four-pillar economy, lower the cost of living, deliver better infrastructure and planning, revitalise front-line services and restore accountability in Government.

The year ahead – a new direction

A new agenda of reform and a range of renewal activities are currently occurring across the Queensland Public Sector, including planning to implement the recommendations from the Commission of Audit into the State’s finances and the ICT Audit of Queensland Government ICT systems.

Most immediately, a significant body of work is required to reposition the department to give effect to the government’s contestability reform agenda and also to play a lead role in transforming ICT within the Queensland Government. This will involve clarifying and synchronising our role within government to be able to objectively articulate our value proposition and establishing a ‘contestability’ capability within DSITIA.

We have implemented a portfolio management structure which will ensure our reform programs deliver the required results and align under our purpose and strategic direction.

I am committed to engaging with our stakeholders about the new direction of the department, explaining why we are changing and discussing what genuine reform will look like and mean for our staff, our partners, our clients and customers.

In closing I thank all staff for their outstanding work throughout the year to ensure our department delivers quality services to our customers. I look forward to working with my department, my colleagues in other agencies and our many stakeholders to ensure that we transform our services and the public sector for all Queenslanders.

Andrew Garner
Director-General

Department of Science, Information Technology, Innovation and the Arts

Our achievements

DSITIA has continued its commitment throughout the year to support the delivery of the Queensland Government's priorities by advancing service reform and renewal agendas, supporting Queensland businesses and trade, and delivering new innovative service delivery to the community.

DSITIA's strategic objectives and reform agenda directly contribute to the Government's objectives for the community, the Commission of Audit's 'A Plan: Better Services for Queenslanders', and will contribute to the Queensland Plan – a 30 year vision for Queensland.

DSITIA strategic objective

Be recognised as a creative, connected and clever department by being ONE DSITIA

Our achievements

- The DSITIA Renewal Portfolio Board was established in June 2013 to govern the implementation of five renewal programs across the department at a strategic level.
- The ceremony of DSITIA's first Recognition of Excellence Awards, with 27 winner and high-commended awards being given out throughout the department. 112 people were also recognised for 25 years of continuous service in the Queensland Government.

Alignment to Queensland Government priorities

- ✓ To grow a four-pillar economy based on tourism, agriculture, resources and construction
- ✓ Lower the cost of living for families by cutting waste
- ✓ Revitalise front-line services for families
- ✓ Restore accountability in government
- ✓ *A Plan: Better Services for Queenslanders*

- The DSITIA *People strategy* has been developed to build and sustain the workforce and culture we require to deliver against the strategic plan and the PSC cultural renewal priorities.

DSITIA strategic objective

Establish the environment to strengthen industries in the knowledge and digital economy through science, technology and innovation

Our achievements

- We developed and updated innovative, environmental, information systems providing ready access to scientific information and maps to support decision-making within other state government departments and to inform industry, small business, educational facilities and the public.
- We supported the Minister at the international BIO 2013 convention to showcase the state's capabilities to attract new investment and establish strategic collaborations.
- The planning for the Australian Institute of Tropical Health and Medicine was progressed by finalising the business case and executing the funding agreement with James Cook University.
- The *Health of Queensland Science report* was delivered to government which reviewed Queensland's research and development sector and the current and future science capability contributing to the growth of the state's economy.
- The delivery of new innovative methods for mapping fire scars and the estimation of ground cover under canopies using Landsat satellite imagery as part of the Joint Remote Sensing Research Program, partnering with University of Queensland, NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, and the Victorian Department of Environment and Primary Industries.
- We partnered with the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO),

Alignment to Queensland Government priorities

- ✓ To grow a four-pillar economy based on tourism, agriculture, resources and construction
- ✓ Lower the cost of living for families by cutting waste
- ✓ Deliver better infrastructure and better planning
- ✓ Restore accountability in government
- ✓ *A Plan: Better Services for Queenslanders*

Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM), Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP), University of Queensland, Griffith University, local councils and other science providers to monitor the progress of aquatic ecosystem health in the waterways of South-East Queensland as part of the Healthy Waterways Program.

- DSITIA soil scientists contributed to the government's first agricultural land audit by contributing technical expertise and information about soils, land-use mapping, land suitability and spatial information. The audit is a key initiative underpinning the Queensland Government's goal to double food production by 2040.
- The DSITIA Innovation Improvement Group was established to source service and efficiency improvement ideas from departmental staff.
- DSITIA analysed and identified 70 datasets and released 42 to the government's Open Data initiative, providing the community and Queensland businesses with access to a range of government data.
- The Office of the Queensland Chief Scientist undertook a first series of science and research capability audits across government departments.

DSITIA strategic objective

Deliver efficient and responsive service delivery across and beyond government**Our achievements**

- The implementation of a reporting capability for departments to monitor payment timeframes to ensure all bills from suppliers with contracts valued up to \$1 million are paid within 30 days.
- We delivered the most comprehensive ICT audit within government of all current government IT systems, applications and support services, to assess how efficiently and effectively they support government requirements, and commenced implementing the audit recommendations.
- We finalised the One-Stop Shop plan and business case for consideration by government to provide simpler and easier access to government services.
- We delivered the access portal as part of the government's Open Data initiative and expanded the range of datasets published providing the community and business with access to a range of government source data.

Alignment to Queensland Government priorities

- ✓ Revitalise front-line services for families
- ✓ Restore accountability in government
- ✓ *A Plan: Better Services for Queenslanders*

- The delivery of a revitalised whole-of-government *Recordkeeping policy framework* that supports more efficient, consistent and accurate recordkeeping practices across the Queensland public sector.
- Queensland State Archives provided leadership and support to 600 public authorities through the provision of the whole-of-government *Recordkeeping policy framework* to promote a consistent approach to the creation, management, disposal, storage, preservation and retrieval of government information.
- We finalised machinery-of-government system consolidations for finance systems and significantly advanced payroll system consolidations.
- The completion of the upgrade of AURION HR/payroll systems servicing 13 departments and the transition of Queensland Health HR/payroll and finance systems support from QSS to Queensland Health.
- We managed HR/payroll and finance system related whole-of-government contracts.

DSITIA strategic objective

Support a vibrant and creative arts and cultural sector to strengthen cultural and economic outcomes for Queensland**Our achievements**

- Over 4.5 million visitors attended the state-owned arts and cultural facilities in 2012–13, including the Queensland Cultural Precinct and the Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts.
- We launched the *Cultural Precinct Strategy 2013–2015*, to capitalise on the unique colocation of Queensland's cultural institutions on Brisbane's South Bank by creating a coordinated program of experiences and events and establishing an outstanding cultural tourism destination.
- We opened the four-year \$3 million Super Star Fund and launched the Playing Queensland Fund which includes a four-year \$3 million boost to touring across Queensland.

Alignment to Queensland Government priorities

- ✓ To grow a four-pillar economy based on tourism, agriculture, resources and construction
- ✓ Revitalise front-line services for families
- ✓ Restore accountability in government
- ✓ *A Plan: Better Services for Queenslanders*

- We supported the fourth Cairns Indigenous Art Fair which generated artwork sales of more than \$600,000 for Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists, and contributed \$1.47 million to the local economy through tourism.
- The Minister established the Arts Investment Advisory Board. We delivered the new *Arts and Cultural Investment Framework*. These mechanisms deliver a new investment model for Queensland that is simpler, more transparent and cuts red tape and sets out clear priorities to achieve artistic, social, cultural and economic returns on government investment.