

Open Data Strategy

Background

The Premier announced the Open Data Revolution as one of the flagship policies of the Government. With the full support of the Minister for Local Government, Community Recovery and Resilience and the Director-General, the Department of Local Government, Community Recovery and Resilience (the Department) has participated in the Open Data Revolution through the progressive and on-going release of Departmental datasets to data.qld.gov.au

Strategic Overview

The Department is actively engaging with the Open Data Revolution to provide data for public use in a format that will help foster innovation and economic efficiencies.

Over the next twelve months, the Department will continue to focus on identifying new datasets that exist or come into existence and seek to embed the Open Data initiative as a business as usual function. The Department will develop a continuous improvement program to embed the identification, refinement and release process for data.

The Principles of Data Release

The following criteria will be used when identifying datasets for release by the Department:

The data

- *is not commercial-in-confidence or protected by legal professional privilege*
- *is not covered by a security classification that prevents its public release*
- *if released, does not breach legal requirements, including the Information Privacy Act 2009*
- *is in a machine readable format*
- *does not represent an undue operational risk to the Department*
- *is currently collected and maintained during normal business operations of the Department*
- *is under the custodianship of the department*

The Department encourages local governments to consider potential data releases in accordance with the above criteria and the Department will make release decisions on a case by case basis. To ensure the greatest economic benefit to the community, all data released by the Department will receive a 'creative commons with attribution' licence, unless otherwise stated on individual datasets.

Short-Term Strategy

Over the next twelve months, the Department will consolidate its efforts in the identification and release of current datasets. Primarily, this will include a further audit of data holdings, examining

business processes to identify opportunities for more efficient data capture and release, and responding to demand drivers within the community for particular datasets.

The Department recognises the importance of disaster and recovery related information to the community. In line with this, the Department will focus on the development of strategic partnerships with other State and Federal agencies, local government and key partners in the non-government sector to increase the availability of this data.

Finally, in line with the partners-in-government agreement, the Department will encourage and facilitate where possible, the involvement of local governments in the Open Data initiative. This will include working with the Local Government Association of Queensland and directly with interested governments to further the release of valuable data to the community.

Long-Term Strategy

The Department's commitment to Open Data extends past the next twelve months. The Department will actively respond to the demand drivers within the community to identify, capture and release data that will benefit the community. The long term strategy will focus on organisational change in the way data is captured and managed. This includes investing in reforms to business case development for new projects, examining the Department's contracting arrangements with external providers and actively seeking employee participation in the program.

Data Governance

To ensure compliance with relevant risk management and privacy principles, all datasets released to the Open Data portal will be approved for release by the Department's accountable officer. To ensure the currency, accuracy and appropriateness of all data holdings, a dedicated Senior Officer is responsible for each dataset identified in this strategy.

The Department's Executive Leadership Team will be responsible for monitoring the Department's overall compliance with the principles stated above and reviewing them quarterly to ensure that the Department is meeting the needs of the community. This includes addressing and communicating potential risks associated with the end-of-life or structural changes to specific datasets.

The Department's strategy will be reviewed annually; however, a quarterly health check will be conducted to ensure on-going development of the Open Data initiative within the Department.

Future program

As the Department progresses through the Open Data maturity cycle, it will actively review its performance against the various stages. The goal is to improve the quality, timeliness and type of data released to ensure that the Department is meeting the community's expectations and demands for data. This includes the use of new technologies to release data where possible. The Department anticipates that as more data becomes available, there will be a greater demand for more frequent releases of data. Therefore, the Department will look at opportunities to automate the release of these datasets where possible. Priority for this process will be based on user requests and community feedback on the need for more frequent updates.

Datasets approved for publication

| Dataset | Description of Data | Target Publish Date |
|---|--|--|
| Competitive Information Report | This is a consolidated report of data supplied by local governments including: Rating information Council income, expenditure and assets and other key information | Currently published – Annual update |
| Local Laws | This is a summary of all current and past local laws | Currently published – Quarterly update |
| Local Government Directory | This is a summary of key contact information relating to senior officers and political representatives of local government | Currently published – Half yearly update |
| Local Government Grant Allocations | A line item report of DLGCRR approved grants to local governments | Currently published – Half yearly update |
| DLGCRR Key Data | Four Resources. 1. ICT dashboard 2. Consultants expenditure 3. Multicultural policy data 4. Overseas travel | Currently published – Annual for all except ICT dashboard which is quarterly |
| Sustainability and reporting data | Asset management, community engagement, governance, financial sustainability | August 2014 |
| Council Annual reports and Financial Statements | Consolidated database of annual reports and financial statements | December 2014 |
| Resilience Index | The Queensland resilience index was designed to measure changes in the level of resilience shown by Queenslanders over time | July 2014 |
| Summary statistics of complaints | Monthly summary of complaints data | December 2014 |
| Resilience Australia Nominations | Summary of submissions and indications of winners | September 2014 |
| Get Ready Grants – Summaries | Summary of initiatives under Get Ready Qld grants (including Exceptional Ideas) | September 2014 |
| Customer Satisfaction Survey | Key results from the annual Mayor and Chief Executive Officer survey | July 2014 |
| Council Loan Borrowings | Summary of annual loan borrowings by local government | July 2014 |
| Capacity Building Program | Details of capacity building programs and evaluations | September 2014 |