

Queensland Government Open Data Policy Statement

Data is increasingly vital to solving real world problems. The Queensland Government is committed to releasing data and allowing it to be freely used, reused and redistributed by anyone, anytime, and anywhere. Open data can bring a number of benefits to Queensland, including to:

- foster transparent, accountable, efficient, responsive and effective government
- support the design, delivery and assessment of better services for citizens and businesses
- improve the evidence-base for policy and programs
- provide major opportunities for innovation and underpin growth of the digital economy.

The Queensland Government is committed to building a trusted data ecosystem that makes important data open for anyone to access, use and share. Open data is non-sensitive data that is freely available, easily discovered and accessed, published in ways and with licences that allow easy reuse.

1. Principles

The Queensland Government recognises the importance of effectively managing the release of government data to optimise the use and reuse of open data for the benefit of the Queensland people. The Queensland Government commits to following the International Open Data Charter¹ principles:

1. Open by Default
2. Timely and Comprehensive
3. Accessible and Usable
4. Comparable and Interoperable
5. For Improved Governance and Citizen Engagement
6. For Inclusive Development and Innovation

2. Open Data Policy Statement

The Queensland Government holds large amounts of data that will be made open. Our objectives in publishing open data are to:

- **Stimulate economic activity** and innovation by making government data available for commercial reuse.
- **Improve public services** by using and sharing government data to support evidence-based policy and program design.
- **Increase transparency, accountability and public trust** in the Queensland Government.

¹ International Open Data Charter, *Principles*, available at <https://opendatacharter.net/>, accessed 17 November 2016.



3. To achieve these objectives Queensland Government agencies will:

- Make non-sensitive data open by default to encourage its reuse to support innovation; improve service delivery and inform policy across all sectors of the Queensland economy;
- Make data available with easy to use, interoperable, high quality and reliable Application Programming Interfaces (APIs);
- Conduct an annual Open Data Maturity Assessment² and Action Plan;
- Develop a public registry listing of:
 - high value data sets
 - non-sensitive datasets that are not yet openly available
 - sensitive datasets that will not be made publicly available³;
- Anonymise sensitive data to enable data release, whilst upholding the highest standards of security and privacy for individuals;
- Build core data literacy skills in their organisation;
- Provide support and mentoring at GovHack events; and
- Ensure all new systems support data discovery, access and interoperability to facilitate the cost- effective release of open data.

4. In particular, Queensland Government will:

- Develop co-ordinated action plans and identify existing mechanisms and policies to support the implementation of this policy statement and associated resources in accordance with existing government processes; and
- Adapt user-friendly ways to access, understand, use and remix our data by:
 - Establish consistent metadata standards across government, to make datasets easier to discover, access and use
 - Complement access to data with meaningful data visualisations
 - Clarify licensing and attribution of data
 - Promote achievements through open data and undertake more engagement.

Requests for access to public data can be made via data.qld.gov.au. If access to data is denied by the entity, users may appeal the decision using the public request data functionality available through data.qld.gov.au.



The Hon. Leanne Enoch MP

Minister for Communities and Housing
Minister for Digital Economy
Minister for the Arts

² Open Data Institute, Open Data Pathway, available at <https://pathway.theodi.org/> accessed 28 November 2016.

³ 'Sensitive data' includes: personal information as defined in section 12 of the *Information Privacy Act 2009*, data that is subject to licensing arrangements or contracts that prevents its open publication, data that would breach statutory or legislative requirements were it to be published, including court orders and other legally-privileged data, and data that has not been classified as PUBLIC under the Queensland Government Information Security Classification Framework.