Open Government Information and Data in New Zealand

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WC3 eGovernment Interest Group 21 January 2013
Open Government in NZ

Cabinet

Minute of Decision

Declaration and Principles

5 agreed to the Declaration on Open and Transparent Government, attached as Appendix One to this minute, and the supporting New Zealand Data and Information Management Principles, attached as Appendix Two to this minute;

7.1 directed all public service and non-public services departments;

7.2 encouraged State Services agencies; and

7.3 invited State Sector agencies to:

commit to releasing high value public data actively for re-use, in accordance with the Declaration and Principles referred to in paragraph 5, and in accordance with the NZGOAL Review and Release process;

8 directed Chief Executives to submit their plans to actively release public data to portfolio Ministers for approval;

Chapter 12 Proactive disclosure

Proactive disclosure of official information is an important and live issue internationally. Information technology facilitates electronic publication of material by agencies without it having been requested by anyone, in a way never possible before. Most agencies do publish important information and documents on their websites. The advantages of this process go without saying. The agency is saved the trouble of responding to perhaps several requests for the same

At this stage we are not inclined to propose that the publication of further categories of information be mandatory, but rather to require that agencies take all steps which are reasonably practicable to proactively make information publicly available, taking into account the type of information held by the agency, the public interest in it, and the resources of the agency. Such an “all reasonable steps” provision would incentivise agencies to move progressively towards more open availability. It aligns with the strong encouragement focus of the existing

Clear Cabinet decision and intent

“proactive disclosure” OIA review
Who it applies to

Central government must:

- commit to actively releasing high value public data for release
- discuss plans with portfolio Ministers
- report on progress to portfolio Ministers

Wider government encouraged or invited to:

- commit to actively releasing their high value public data for release
NZ Data and Information Management Principles (2011)
Recommended guidance for agencies to use when releasing copyright and non-copyright material for re-use by third parties
Government datasets online

data.govt.nz is a directory of publicly-available, non-personal New Zealand government held datasets. This site does not host data, instead it links to datasets held on other government websites. For more info, see About this site.

Find out about the New Zealand Open Government Data and Information Reuse Programme, and the Declaration on Open and Transparent Government.

Search, browse, or list government held datasets on data.govt.nz.

Recently added datasets

- Christchurch CBD Aerial Photography (16 October 2012) Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority
- Hospital Events 2008/09 & 2009/10 Ministry of Health
- Christchurch Central Recovery Plan - Transport Data Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority
- Christchurch Aerial Photography (24 February 2011) Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority
- CERA Land Zones (NZTM) Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority

See all government datasets »

Featured datasets

- Disclosure of Public Sector Chief Executive Expenses
  - July - December 2010
  - July - December 2011
  - January - June 2011
  - January - June 2012

Most common dataset keywords

- geo (1638)  new zealand (1350)
- environment (1174)  open government (374)
- sport and recreation (140)
- Chief Executive (129)
- CEEexp Jul-Dec2011 (120)
- CEEexp Jan-Jun2011 (108)
- CEEexp Jan-Jun2012 (97)
- CEEexp Jul-Dec2010 (93)
- downloadable data (92)  forecasts (82)
- Fiscal (72)  classification (64)  Soil (61)

Dataset categories

- Agriculture, forestry and fisheries
- Arts, culture and heritage
- Building, construction and housing
- Commerce, trade and industry
- Education
- Employment
- Environment and conservation
- Energy
- Fiscal, tax and economics
- Health
- Infrastructure
## Latest data requests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Likely source agency</th>
<th>Votes</th>
<th>Request Status</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paua quota management areas</td>
<td>Ministry for Primary Industries</td>
<td>1 Vote</td>
<td>Agency notified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PMP estimation for twin stream catchment</td>
<td>National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research Limited</td>
<td>1 Vote</td>
<td>Agency notified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walking Access Data Vector Download</td>
<td>New Zealand Walking Access Commission</td>
<td>37 Votes</td>
<td>Agency responded</td>
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<tr>
<td>Porsche Motor Vehicles Registered in NZ 1955 - 1978</td>
<td>New Zealand Transport Agency</td>
<td>2 Votes</td>
<td>Dataset already listed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Motorcycle registration data road and off road</td>
<td>New Zealand Transport Agency</td>
<td>2 Votes</td>
<td>Dataset already listed</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

See all data requests »
Minutes of Decision

Release of the 2012 Report on Agency Adoption of the Declaration on Open and Transparent Government

Portfolio: Internal Affairs

On 29 May 2012, the Cabinet Committee on State Sector Reform and Expenditure Control (SEC):

1. noted that in August 2011, Cabinet:

   1.1 agreed to the Declaration on Open and Transparent Government (the Declaration) and the supporting New Zealand Data and Information Management Principles;

   1.2 noted that the Data and Information Re-use Chief Executives’ Steering Group would report annually to the Ministerial Committee on Government ICT on agencies’ progress in adopting the Declaration;

[CAB Min (11) 29/12]

2. noted that the State Sector Reform Ministerial Group (replacing the Ministerial Committee on Government ICT) referred the 2012 report to SEC;

3. noted that the skills, competencies and agility that departments are gaining as they release public data for re-use will contribute to achieving the Better Public Services *Improving Interaction with Government* result areas (9 and 10);

4. agreed to the immediate release of the 2012 report-back and the raw report data by the Chair of the Government Data and Information Re-use Chief Executives’ Steering Group;

5. noted that the Minister of Internal Affairs intends to publicly release the paper under SEC (12) 31 and the associated minute.
DECLARATION ON OPEN AND TRANSPARENT GOVERNMENT

Government Priority: ‘Competitive and Productive Economy’

Better Public Services
Result Areas 9 and 10

Canterbury Rebuild

Economic & social impacts

Efficiency impacts

Transparency & democratic impacts

New Zealand Government
Some great benefits emerging

- Economic and social
Some great benefits emerging

- Economic & social

Feeding economic indicators

Growing ASB’s business
Some great benefits emerging

- Efficiency
Some great benefits emerging

- Transparency

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Disclosure of Chief Executive Expenses

Published: 2 July 2012
Last updated: 2 July 2012
Related topics: transparency

In 2010 the State Services Commissioner introduced a disclosure regime for chief executive expenses, gifts and hospitality. Chief executives of Public Service departments, Statutory Crown entities and Corporations Sole are expected to disclose their expenses every six months and make this information publicly available on their agency’s website and data.govt.nz.

The State Services Commissioner’s purpose for introducing this disclosure regime is to show New Zealanders that public funds are being spent judiciously, and that senior officials are modelling appropriate behaviours. This requirement is in line with international practice, and locally, Ministers, MPs and Mayors are all subject to disclosure provisions.

The next round for chief executive expenses, gifts and hospitality disclosures is due 31 July 2012.

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ChiefExecutiveExpenses template (updated)
June 2012 (Excel 97-2003)

Chiefexecutive expenses, gifts and hospitality disclosures: Howto's guide for agency staff – State Services Commission
June 2012 (PDF 20K)
Some new apps using public data

- [http://appshopper.com/navigation/nz-tides-pro](http://appshopper.com/navigation/nz-tides-pro)
Next steps

Continue supporting central government to release high value public data

Report on agency adoption of the Declaration during 2012

Continue training – NZGOAL, data management, data aggregation

Develop a business case for an open government data service

Keep releasing case studies showing the impact of data reuse

Implement the programme across the wider public sector

Work with users to understand what public data they want to use
Developing the Government ICT Strategy 2017
Centrally Led, Collaboratively Delivered