Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Multicultural Affairs

OPEN DATA STRATEGY 2013 - 2017

Our vision

Aboriginal people, Torres Strait Islander people and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds contribute to and enjoy Queensland's prosperity and lifestyle.

Introduction or Executive Summary

The Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Multicultural Affairs (DATSIMA) has a purpose to provide whole-of-government leadership to improve the outcomes for Aboriginal people, Torres Strait Islander people and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

What enables this Department to achieve this purpose is access to data sources that is used to derive necessary information and wisdom needed for decision making process (for example Census data). The vast majority of DATSIMA's business relies on data consumption from external sources and very limited own data creation and management.

Strategic Overview

The overall objective of DATSIMA's Open Data Strategy is to show how data improves DATSIMA's business and demonstrate transparency and openness through the release of information.

a) **Short and long-term goals and objectives**

To date, data relating to grant funding paid by DATSIMA to community organisations has been published by the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services (DCCSDS), which manages grant payment on behalf of DATSIMA. By June 2013, DATSIMA will publish more detailed grants funding information on a monthly basis.

DATSIMA recently began publishing hourly productivity reports for the six retail stores operated by DATSIMA in Woorabinda, Lockhart River, Kowanyama, Palm Island, Pormpuraaw and Doomadgee communities. The data shows store sales and trend data.

By June 2013, DATSIMA will publish the Queensland Multicultural Policy as outlined in the Open Data Annual Report.

The long term goal is to:
- continually improve the current datasets e.g. move towards providing data application programming interfaces (APIs);
- identify new datasets for publishing; and
- produce information about existing datasets which may be published in the future, e.g. Traditional Owner Repository of Cultural Heritage (TORCH).

Current at 25 March 2013

b) The types of data held by DATSIMA

The following identifies data generated, maintained and owned by DATSIMA:

1) merchant data for Woorabinda, Lockhart River, Kowanyama, Palm Island, Pormpuraaw and Doomadgee Retail Stores;

2) Queensland Multicultural Policy;

3) grants data related to Cape York Welfare Reform, Multicultural Affairs and Urban and Regional Strategy;

4) Index of Colonial Secretary's correspondence relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people 1859-1903 (data held and managed by Queensland State Archives);

5) Cultural Heritage Bodies list;

6) Cultural Heritage Designated Landscape Areas list;

7) Cultural Heritage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Parties list;

8) Cultural Heritage Management Plans list;

9) Lotus Notes client request database—this database contains names and contact details of Communities and Personal Histories (CPH) clients and information about their research inquiry. The CPH digital library includes a Document Management System (DMS) which contains pdf copies of closed and open archive documents (NB: personal details regarding applicants and individuals remain confidential);

10) Under Award Wages Process (UAW) and DMS reparations database—contains information about clients who applied for the UAW Process and the Reparations process, including personal contact information and notes on outcome of the claim (NB: personal details regarding applicants and individuals remain confidential);

11) Removals Database—contains information regarding the removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Queensland, including name, reason for removal and place taken from and to, and dates (NB: personal details regarding applicants and individuals remain confidential); and

12) Integrated spatial database for managing information about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage. Known internally as TORCH the system allows staff in the Cultural Heritage Coordination Unit to access geographical and historical information about more than 30,000 sites of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage significance throughout the state. The information in the database is highly cultural sensitive and is protected under the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003* and *Torres Strait Islanders Cultural Heritage Act 2003*.

Refer to Appendix for release timetable.

Data belonging to DATSIMA, but held by other agencies includes:

• Grant funding paid to organisations, held by the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services (DCCSDS);

• Information on DATSIMA's property portfolio, held by the Department of Housing and Public Works; and

• Employee data held by Queensland Shared Services.

c) Overarching data identification process

DATSIMA's data has no known inter-agency links to datasets, other than its link to DCCSDS. DCCSDS provides a large number of corporate services and manages ICT systems on behalf of DATSIMA.
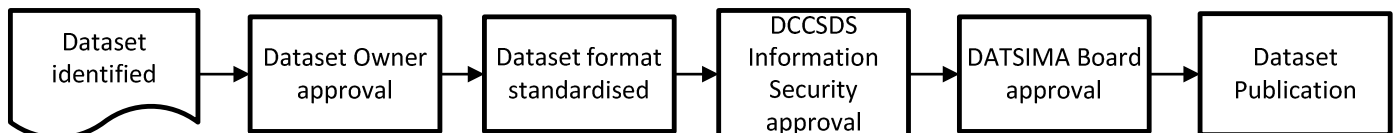
d) Release strategy

DATSIMA's release strategy is focused on:

- improving the delivery of identified datasets;
- working with the Information Communication Technology (ICT) team based within DCCSDS to move information systems (that contain identified datasets) to DATSIMA to enable data publication;
- continual reassessment of the department's position to make more data available in the future including reviewing and assessing data requests from external sources.

Data identified for publication on the Government's Open Data website will be approved by the dataset owner, DCCSDS Information Security, and the DATSIMA Board of Management.

The following describes the Open Data Release process:

Dataset identified → Dataset Owner approval → Dataset format standardised → DCCSDS Information Security approval → DATSIMA Board approval → Dataset Publication

e) Governance and compliance with standards including the protection of private and confidential data

- Open Data Strategy implementation is directed by the DATSIMA Board and regular reporting on the progress is submitted to the Board for review and decision;
- the DATSIMA Strategic Plan 2013-2017 will include strategic objectives relating to Open Data;
- an employee awareness campaign and an intranet page is being developed to provide details, promote Open Data, and collect feedback on current data and suggestions on possible future datasets;
- as part of the release strategy all datasets identified for release are checked for compliance with appropriate standards including the protection of private, culturally sensitive, commercial-in-confidence and confidential data.

Data

It is expected that the identified datasets being released to the public will:

- increase the openness and transparency of government and its processes;
- be used and analysed by researchers, information management companies or non-government organisations;
- encourage competitive provision of services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and Multicultural groups in Queensland.

Future program

The DATSIMA Board will review proposals for future datasets and take appropriate action. The proposed future programs include:

- publishing the data relating to the Index of Colonial Secretary's correspondence. This information is currently published as a series of PDF documents on the Queensland Government's Archive website. DATSIMA has engaged the State Archives to examine whether it is possible for the index to be converted into a comma separated values (CSV) document, which is appropriate for publishing on the Open Data portal;
- upgrading the Retail Stores datasets. The Retail Store datasets are derived from a Borland database, which is being upgraded over the next 12-24 months. DATSIMA will continually review its ability to provide improvements in delivery of these datasets;
- migrating the Community and Personal Histories system to a platform with the ability to extract data;
- monitoring stakeholder feedback sent via opendata@datsima.qld.gov.au

More detail on DATSIMA's Open Data program can be found in the Appendix to this Strategy.

Appendix - Datasets to be released and release timeline

	Dataset name	Description of data	Target date of publishing (i.e. month & year)	Frequency of update (eg daily, monthly, quarterly, annually)	End of release date (if applicable)	Open licence? (Yes or No)
01	Hourly productivity report for stores in selected Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities	Store sales data and trends for Woorabinda, Lockhart River, Kowanyama, Palm Island, Pormpuraaw and Doomadgee communities	Published on Open Data Website	quarterly	n/a	Yes
02	Multicultural Affairs and Indigenous Support Grant Payments	Monthly report on expenditures related to grants initiatives	Published (on Open Data website by June 2013)	monthly	n/a	Yes
03	Queensland Multicultural Policy	The policy celebrates the traditions and values of all Queenslanders and advances our state's social, economic and civic identity.	June 2013 (on Open Data website by June 2013)	annual	n/a	Yes
04	Index of Colonial Secretary's correspondence	The records of the Colonial Secretary's Office (in the form of correspondence received) relating to Aboriginal affairs expenditure.	December 2013	once	n/a	Yes
05	Cultural Heritage organisation list	Currently stored in excel format and in part also published on	December 2013	quarterly	n/a	Yes
06	Cultural Heritage designated landscape areas list	DATSIMA internet site. Information consists of detailed listings of Aboriginal cultural heritage organisations by region and geospatial information related to the site recorded on the Cultural Heritage Register.	December 2013	quarterly	n/a	Yes
07	Cultural Heritage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander parties list	Currently stored in excel format and contains party contact details and registration status.	December 2013	quarterly	n/a	Yes
08	Cultural Heritage management plans list	Information on applicants, proposed projects, geospatial information on culturally significant areas and related Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples information **NB: personal details regarding applicants and individuals will**	December 2013	quarterly	n/a	Yes

		remain confidential and will not be published.				
09	Community and Personal Histories request database	Information contains name and contact details of Communities and Personal Histories (CPH) clients and information about their research inquiry. **NB: personal details regarding applicants and individuals will remain confidential and will not be published.**	June 2014	TBA	TBA	TBA
10	Under Award Wages process	Information contains client details who applied for the UAW Process and the Reparations process – contains mix of personal contact information and notes on outcome of the claim. **NB: personal details regarding applicants and individuals will remain confidential and will not be published**	June 2014	TBA	TBA	TBA
11	Removals database	Information regarding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people removed in Queensland – includes their name, reason for removal and place taken from and to and dates. **NB: personal details regarding applicants and individuals will remain confidential and will not be published.**	June 2014	TBA	TBA	TBA
12	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Cultural Heritage sites database (TORCH)	Geographical and historical information about more than 30,000 sites of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage. **Much of this information has been exempted for publication due to cultural sensitivity.** However, some aggregated information on the datasets (eg. numbers of sites, types of sites, regional information etc) will be examined for publication.	June 2014	TBA	TBA	TBA

Current at 25 March 2013