



# Open Data Strategy

Department of Transport and Main Roads

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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Why Open Data?

The Queensland Government's aim<sup>1</sup> in publishing open data is to:

- *“encourage people, companies, researchers and non-government organisations to develop innovative solutions to Queenslanders’ problems”*
- *“help make government more transparent and accountable.”*

The Department of Transport and Main Roads' (TMR) Open Data Strategy describes the method and the data we plan to release. The Department will:

- Embed the Queensland Government Open Data Principles<sup>1</sup> in its daily operations.
- Engage with businesses, academia and the community to ensure our open data is useful, usable and used.
- Enhance data quality, systems and processes over time, based on demand and value to Queensland.

## 1.2 What is Open Data?

The department collects and creates a large amount of data in the course of its normal business however much of this data is not publicly accessible. To release this data as open data, TMR must apply the Queensland Government Open Data Principles<sup>1</sup>:

- **Government data will be available for open use.**  
We will make our data openly available under flexible licences, allowing for reuse by the public, including by businesses, researchers and individuals.
- **Government data will be available free.**  
We will make our data available free in future, unless the cost is set by law, or benefits the Queensland community and has been approved by Cabinet.
- **Government data will be in accessible formats and easy to find.**  
We will make our data easily discoverable through [www.qld.gov.au/data](http://www.qld.gov.au/data) in accessible formats that promote its reuse.
- **Government data will be released within set standards and accountabilities.**  
We will make our data available in a timely and relevant manner, unless it is restricted for reasons of privacy, public safety, security, commercial confidentiality or compliance with the law. Each agency will be accountable for the release of good-quality data in accordance with set standards.

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<sup>1</sup> The Premier of Queensland's Open Data message, <http://data.qld.gov.au/about>

## 2 Our Strategy

Our Open Data Strategy aims to:

- Embed open data practices within our organisation.
- Engage with the open data community.
- Enhance our open data based on demand.

Success will be managed through strong governance and performance measurement.

### 2.1 Embedding Open Data practices within TMR

TMR plans to embed new open data practices within existing processes. Open data activities will be coordinated centrally to ensure a consistent approach, knowledge sharing and efficient use of resources.

#### Identifying candidate Open Data

TMR will identify data to be released as open data in a number of ways:

- Review data already published on TMR web sites and in Right to Information enquiries for commonly requested data.
- Review the TMR Information Asset Register.
- Review new data requests from the Queensland Government Open Data Portal and the Open Data Reform Group<sup>2</sup>.
- Engage with potential users of open data to understand the demand for datasets.

#### Assessing Open Data candidates

Data will be assessed to determine if it can be published as open data. Our customers' privacy and commercially sensitive data will be protected and will only be released in summary or de-identifiable formats. Data custodians will assess if the data is suitable for release. The assessment will be validated by the TMR Legal and Ethical Standards unit and approved for release by a Deputy Director General.

Assessments may also capture information to help determine the sequence of the release of data. This may include:

- The potential value achieved via the proposed use of the data.
- The public demand for the dataset.
- The complexity of converting the data to open data.

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<sup>2</sup> The Open Data Reform Group will seek feedback from the public and the ICT sector on what kinds of data, and what formats they need to develop solutions. See <http://statements.qld.gov.au/Statement/2012/10/9/queensland-governments-open-data-revolution-begins>

## Releasing Open Data

Releases of open data will be scheduled based on assessment results, logical groupings of datasets and available resources.

## Publishing Open Data

Open data is currently catalogued and published differently depending on whether it contains geospatial information or not. TMR will take steps for all open data to be discovered via the Queensland Government Open Data Portal but in the short term will use the two existing data catalogues.

### *Non-Geospatial data*

TMR will publish metadata on the Queensland Government Open Data Portal, [www.qld.gov.au/data](http://www.qld.gov.au/data). The portal will link to the associated open data hosted on TMR internet sites. Existing TMR internet publishing processes will be extended to ensure compliance with release requirements before data is published.

### *Geospatial data*

Metadata for Geospatial data will be published on the Queensland Spatial Catalogue, <http://qspatial.information.qld.gov.au/>. Geospatial open data will be published on the Queensland Government Information Service, <http://dds.information.qld.gov.au/dds/>. The TMR Geospatial Technologies unit will use existing processes to publish metadata and data to these web sites.

## Raising Staff Awareness about Open Data

Open data concepts and practices will be communicated to existing staff via the Intranet and regular Departmental messages.

## 2.2 Engaging with the Open Data community

TMR recognises that active engagement is the key to the success of the Queensland Government Open Data Initiative. Without an active community using open data, the release of data is ineffective.

### Engaging through the Open Data Portal

Initial engagement has already commenced via the Queensland Government Open Data Portal. All questions and responses will be centrally coordinated.

### Engaging through Open Data Events

Engagement with users of open data will be via the broader Queensland Government Open Data Initiative by participating in organised events, working groups and competitions.

### Engaging with existing Stakeholder Groups

TMR will include open data in discussions with a number of existing stakeholder groups to better understand their requirements. TMR will also support the Queensland Government Open Data Reform Group in its interactions with various stakeholder groups.

## Engaging with new Interest Groups

It is anticipated that, over time, communities of interest may form around various types of TMR data and broader and more direct engagement may be required. Based on demand, TMR expects to participate in conversations with these new interest groups on data release priorities, preferred data formats, helping understand the data, receiving feedback on data quality and capturing case studies.

## 2.3 Enhancing our Open Data based on demand

Enhancements will be demand driven and prioritised based on value to Queensland. These enhancements may take many forms including:

- frequency of publication,
- data download formats,
- using standards-based classification schemes.

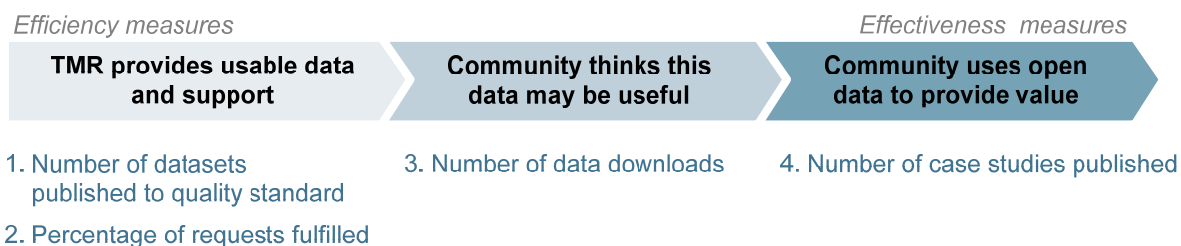
TMR will also ensure that new systems include the publishing of open data as a requirement.

## 2.4 Ensuring Success

The Open Data Strategy will be governed by the Information and Systems Committee, a TMR Board of Management sub-committee. The Deputy Director-General (Corporate and Human Resources) is accountable for ensuring objectives are met and benefits are achieved. The Strategy will be reviewed every year.

Progress and performance metrics will be reported quarterly to the Information and Systems Committee and the Queensland Government Open Data Reform Group.

We will measure and report our success quarterly using four metrics:



## Financial Impacts and Risks

TMR receives minimal revenue from the sale of data so the loss of revenue does not present a risk to the implementation of the Open Data Strategy.

Resource constraints are a risk to the Strategy and open data activities will require additional funding or will compete for existing funds and resources. TMR plans to minimise this risk by embedding open data requirements within existing processes.

## 3 The Data

### 3.1 Data we collect

TMR captures data in a number of broad categories, including:

- Transportation networks,
- Transport network access and usage,
- Movement of goods and passengers,
- Customer services,
- Corporate information.

### 3.2 Data we can share

Data proposed for the next release is predominately data already published on TMR web sites but not published as open data. This data has already been assessed as being valuable to the public by the fact that it has been published. This data is neither private nor confidential but does need to be assessed to ensure it can be openly licensed. Data on the most popular pages and that can easily be resupplied will be released first. Any data released that includes codes, will have associated “look-up” reference data or documentation released with it.

Data proposed for release is detailed in the appendix. The release schedule will also be published as open data. In summary, the new open data TMR intends to publish includes:

- Road Crash locations
- Aggregated Road Crash data of behaviours and characteristics by region.
- Road Corridor Environment Assessment locations
- Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program data
- Contracts currently out to Tender
- Infrastructure Contracts Awarded
- Proposed Major Works to Competitive Tender
- Visitor Travel Surveys
- Household Travel Surveys
- TMR Service Delivery measures
- Annual Report data
- Roadside Amenity locations
- TMR Registered Quarry Suppliers
- 131940 Road Conditions
- Traffic Census
- Traffic Web Camera locations and real-time images
- Customer Service Centre wait times
- Practical driving examination results state-wide
- Practical driving examination lead (wait) times
- Compliance programmed inspections volume and results
- Compliance programmed inspections lead (wait) times
- Internet channel migration reports per online service

## 4 What we'll do in the future

TMR will initially focus on embedding the publishing of open data in its day-to-day operations. A number of activities will be centrally coordinated including:

- Providing an overarching framework,
- Coordinating activities across TMR,
- Knowledge sharing,
- Coordinating prioritisation and scheduling of data releases,
- Consolidating progress and performance reports.

Change will be driven, in part, through the annual planning process. Each of TMR's Divisions will:

- Identify and assess data to be released,
- Develop and automate ongoing data extracts,
- Check and publish data,
- Respond to public requests for new datasets, help using the data, and data quality issues,
- Participate in Queensland Government engagement events,
- Include open data in conversations with existing stakeholder groups.

Other existing TMR processes that will require change include:

- Internet publishing (check against publishing standards, identify closed data releases),
- Information Asset Register maintenance (include open data metadata),
- System selection (ensure support for publishing of open data),
- Publication authoring (to include the release of embedded data).

Specialist areas including the Information Technology Branch and the Geospatial Technologies unit will support the business in publishing their data by providing information management expertise, automated data extraction services and participating in business-led projects to open more data.

## 5 Your Say

The Department of Transport and Main Roads recognises that the success of the Queensland Government Open Data Initiative is dependent on an active community of people using open data.

We encourage your feedback on the Strategy and the data that has already been published. Please email your feedback to [opendata@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:opendata@tmr.qld.gov.au).



## Appendix A – Open Data Release Commitments

In addition to the datasets already published on the Open Data Portal, TMR will release the following open data in 2013-14. All datasets, unless otherwise noted, to be attributed © State of Queensland (Department of Transport and Main Roads), 2013.

Dataset Title	Description	Target Publishing Date	Update Frequency	Data Format	Data Licence
Road Crash locations	Road crash location data for each crash. Annual data over a 10 year period.	Sep 2013	1 year	CSV	CC BY
Aggregated road crash data of behaviours and characteristics by region.	Broad based aggregate information on behaviours and characteristics of crashes and casualties that can not be provided on a crash by crash basis due to privacy implications. Annual data over a 10 year period.	Sep 2013	1 year	CSV	CC BY
Road Corridor Environment Assessment locations	Locations of environmental assessments conducted on the Queensland transport network.	Sep 2013	1 month	CSV / KML	CC BY
Contracts currently out to Tender	Road Construction Contracts and Performance Incentive Cost Reimbursement contracts released for tender	May 2013	1 month	CSV	CC BY
Infrastructure Contracts Awarded	Road Construction Contracts and Performance Incentive Cost Reimbursement contracts awarded	May 2013	1 month	CSV	CC BY
Proposed Major Works to Competitive Tender	Contracts valued at \$1 million and above intended to be procured over the forward 12-month period. Includes road and transport infrastructure contracts proposed to be let by the Department of Transport and Main Roads.	Jun 2013	3 months	CSV	CC BY
Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program	QTRIP is TMR's approved forward program of transport infrastructure works on the National Network, State Network and Local Network across Queensland. QTRIP reflects TMR's transport infrastructure investment for the next four year period. Information published in QTRIP includes project name, location description, work description, annual cashflows and funding sources pertaining to each project.	Jun 2013	Annually	PDF	CC BY
Visitor Travel Surveys	Visitor Travel Surveys for 2007 in the Gold Coast and 2008 in the Sunshine Coast.	Aug 2013	Irregular	Access Database	CC BY
Household Travel Surveys	Various Household Travel Surveys from 1976 through to 2012 of various different urban areas in the state.	Aug 2013	Irregular	Access Database	CC BY
TMR Service Delivery Measures	Service Delivery Statement results	Aug 2013	3 months	CSV	CC BY
Annual Report data	Overseas Travel, Consultancies, Multicultural Action Plan	To be advised	To be advised	To be advised	CC BY
Roadside Amenities	Location of roadside amenities related to state controlled roads, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Motorist rest areas</li> <li>• Driver reviver locations</li> <li>• Scenic stops</li> <li>• Heavy vehicle rest areas</li> <li>• Heavy vehicle stopping areas</li> <li>• Public access effluent dump points</li> </ul>	May 2013	6 months	CSV, GPX	CC BY

Dataset Title	Description	Target Publishing Date	Update Frequency	Data Format	Data Licence
TMR Registered Quarry Suppliers	TMR Registered Quarry Suppliers including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quarry Name</li> <li>• Quarry Registration Number</li> <li>• Location</li> <li>• Business or Commercial Contact details</li> <li>• Current Registration Certificate Number</li> <li>• Registered Nominated Products</li> </ul>	Jul 2013	2 months	CSV	CC BY
131940 Road Conditions	Road condition information (incidents/ road closures/ restrictions)	Jul 2013	Near real time	GeoRSS	CC BY-SA
Traffic Census	Traffic survey datasets accessed via map interface with links to PDF reports.	Jul 2013	1 year	PDF	CC BY
Traffic Camera locations and real-time images	Locations of web-based traffic cameras and near real-time images	Jul 2013	Near real time	GeoRSS	CC BY
Customer Service Centre wait times	Average Customer Service Centre wait times by month per location	Jun 2013	Monthly	CSV	CC BY
Practical driving examination results state-wide	Pass rates for driving examinations by presentation type (Driving School or Private) by class and by month.	Jun 2013	Monthly	CSV	CC BY
Practical driving examination lead (wait) times	Average number of working days until there is general availability (3 booking slots in a day at a location) for a practical driving test for a car by day per location.	Jun 2013	Monthly	CSV	CC BY
Compliance programmed inspections volume and results	Pass rates for programmed vehicle inspections by vehicle type (Heavy Trailer, Heavy Vehicle, Passenger Transport vehicle) by month	Jun 2013	Monthly	CSV	CC BY
Compliance programmed inspections lead (wait) times	Average number of working days until there is general availability (3 booking slots in a day at a location) for a general programmed inspection by day per location.	Jun 2013	Monthly	CSV	CC BY
Internet channel migration reports per online service (break up by service channel)	Volumes of transactions by service channel by month for transactions available to be completed on the Internet.	Sep 2013	Monthly	CSV	CC BY