



**Gladstone Area  
Water Board**

**Open Data Strategy 2013-2017**

**June 2014**

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## 1 Our Vision

GAWB's vision is: *To be an excellent water business*, and its mission statement is: *To ensure the long and short term water needs of current and future customers are met in ways that are environmentally, socially and commercially sustainable*. GAWB does this by focussing on achieving the best possible balance of outcomes against its four business goals listed below.

Understanding, facilitating and satisfying the water requirements of current and future customers requires a detailed understanding of the demand supply balance and GAWB addresses these challenges through planning based on information gathered. Open access to data will assist us in achieving our vision.

## 2 Our commitment

GAWB is committed to embedding the principles of the Queensland Government Open Data initiative within the organisation's ongoing business activities by:

- releasing as much data as possible
- making data accessible and easy to find
- publishing data in line with the Open Data Policy Principles
- ensuring data is fit-for-purpose
- working with stakeholders to realise the benefits of open data.

## 3 Our goals

- Meeting water needs (not only demand requirements, but balancing water availability, reliability, quality and price requirements with risk)
- Commercial result
- Corporate responsibility, and
- Capability.

## 4 Principles

**GAWB data will be available for open use:** Open access to Government data drives innovation and entrepreneurial activities. Where appropriate, data will be made available under the least restrictive licence allowing for its use and re-use.

**GAWB data will be available free:** Unless cost has been prescribed by legislation or benefits to the Queensland community approved by Cabinet, data will be made available, free.

**GAWB data will be in accessible formats and easy to find:** Publishing data in different formats offers maximum flexibility of user experience and access. Where practicable, data will be published in machine readable formats that can be downloaded, indexed, and searched by commonly used web applications.

**GAWB data will be released within set standards and accountabilities:** As a Commercialised Statutory Authority, we hold information which is commercial-in-confidence and unsuitable for release. GAWB will make data available in de-identified and/or confidential forms and will reduce risks associated with the public release of data by establishing a robust publication process to identify and protect confidential and commercial-in-confidence information in accordance with relevant legal and administrative frameworks.

## 5 Our plan

We will facilitate **better services for Queenslanders** by:

### **Stimulating innovation**

- creating opportunities by making data available, free for use and re-use in easily accessible and open formats by anyone who wishes to use it
- prioritising datasets for release in consultation with industry, enterprises, researchers and the wider community

### **Increasing government efficiency and performance**

- creating a culture that supports the sharing of Government information
- facilitating greater scrutiny of the effectiveness of Government policy
- driving more efficient public services through more transparent performance monitoring
- reducing red tape and streamlining processes for data sharing

We will **increase community participation in government decision making** by:

### **Increasing awareness**

- communicating the potential economic and social benefits created through the release of data
- promoting participation in the knowledge economy by making data available on [www.qld.gov.au/data](http://www.qld.gov.au/data)

### **Building trust**

- demonstrating transparency by making data open by default
- releasing data within set standards and in accordance with legislative protections (i.e. privacy)
- continuing to publish 'information' about our business in an accessible and user friendly manner
- being responsive to feedback and suggestions for new datasets

We will *build a stronger knowledge economy* by:

### **Unlocking the value of data**

- building on the foundations for a strong knowledge economy by providing sound data infrastructure.

## 6 Our data

We collect, store and maintain a diverse range of datasets to support the delivery of bulk water supply services to the Gladstone area community. These datasets relate to water supply services.

## 7 Our release strategy

Our release strategy contains four main components:

**Identification:** We will proactively identify information assets by surveying GAWB's publications and business systems for underlying data sources, gathering information from business units about stand-alone data collections and engaging with stakeholders about their needs and interests.

**Assessment:** We will assess the suitability of data for release in accordance with relevant legislation, administrative instruments, policies and guidelines. The release of data will be prioritised according to its value to the public.

Not all data is suitable for release. The process of identifying and assessing data for publication acknowledges the need for it to be accessible to external audiences. Datasets subject to valid privacy, security or privilege limitations may be restricted or released in a modified form.

**Publication:** We will publish data as outlined in Appendix 1, in line with set standards and prioritised having regard to public interest; feedback from stakeholders; potential social or economic value.

**Management:** We will maintain datasets as fit-for-purpose, identify opportunities to improve data quality, seek feedback from data users and review our processes to ensure maximum efficiency.

## 8 Governance and accountability

The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the success of the organisation's Open Data initiative by creating and sustaining an open data culture within GAWB.

Execution of our Open Data Strategy will be governed by the organisation's Executive Management Team, sponsored by the Corporate Services Manager.

Progress against the success criteria of the initiative will be reported in the Queensland Government rolling six month action plan to be prepared by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet and overseen by the whole of government Open Data Reform Group (CEO Leadership Team).

This strategy is a four year forward plan to be reviewed annually. GAWB will also provide progress reports to the Open Data Reform Group when requested.

## 9 Legislative and administrative framework

Implementation of GAWB's Open Data Strategy will be managed in accordance with information management and publication provisions contained in relevant State and Federal legislation and administrative instruments.

## 10 The future

Our commitment to Open Data will focus on data release driven by user need, monitored through public interaction. GAWB's Open Data capability is expected to expand as the systems and processes used to release data are embedded in staff's ongoing work processes.

We will place emphasis on opportunities to improve data quality in the future by:

- building capability through professional development and guidance
- continuing to support transparent decision making processes to ensure as much data is being released as possible
- encouraging data users to provide feedback about usefulness, gaps and general satisfaction
- reviewing data-related processes and addressing issues relating to timeliness, reliability, relevance and accuracy.

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## 11 Appendix 1: Datasets to be released and release timeline

Dataset name	Description of data	Target date of publishing (i.e. month & year)	Frequency of update (e.g. daily, monthly, quarterly, annually)	End of release date (if applicable)	Open licence? (Yes or No)
GAWB Water Sales	Volumetric water sales (raw and potable)	December 2013	Monthly	Nil	Yes
Gladstone Water Treatment Plant-Raw Water Received	Raw water delivered to GWTP	January 2014	Monthly	Nil	Yes
Yarwun Water Treatment Plant-Raw Water Received	Raw water delivered to YWTP	January 2014	Monthly	Nil	Yes
Gladstone Water Treatment Plant-Water treated	Volumetric water treated at GWTP	January 2014	Monthly	Nil	Yes
Yarwun Water Treatment Plant-Water treated	Volumetric water treated YWTP	January 2014	Monthly	Nil	Yes
Gladstone Water Treatment Plant-Monthly [Water Quality]	Turbidity avg NTU and Free Chlorine avg mg/L	January 2014	Monthly	Nil	Yes
Yarwun Water Treatment Plant-Monthly [Water Quality]	Turbidity avg NTU and Free Chlorine avg mg	January 2014	Monthly	Nil	Yes
Awoonga Dam Level	Awoonga Dam Level-Daily measurement	December 2013	Monthly	Nil	Yes
Fish stocking program	Amount and types of fish stocked from hatchery to Awoonga Dam	December 2013	Annually	Nil	Yes
Raw water pumped from Lake Awoonga	Total raw water pumped from Lake Awoonga	June 2014	Monthly	Nil	Yes

Dataset name	Description of data	Target date of publishing (i.e. month & year)	Frequency of update (e.g. daily, monthly, quarterly, annually)	End of release date (if applicable)	Open licence? (Yes or No)
Visitor vehicles to Lake Awoonga	Total number of visitor vehicles to the Lake Awoonga recreation area	June 2014	Monthly	Nil	Yes
Annual consultant expenditure	Total annual expenditure on consultants	June 2014	Annual	Nil	Yes
Total area of GAWB land owned and managed	Total area of land owned and managed by GAWB	June 2014	Annual	Nil	Yes
Total GAWB land agistees	Total number of agistees that utilise GAWB land under commercial agistment arrangements	June 2014	Annual	Nil	Yes
Total Lake Awoonga licensees/lessees	Total number of licensees/lessees operating a business venture under agreement on or around Lake Awoonga	June 2014	Annual	Nil	Yes