

PURPOSE

This document outlines Mount Isa Water Board's information release process and Open Data Strategy which details our plan to deliver on the Queensland Government's open data initiative. The policy principles that underpin this strategy are that our data will be available for open use, will be available for free, will be in accessible formats and easy to find and be released within set standards and accountabilities.

OUR COMMITMENT

To develop, implement and maintain a process to make sure our approach to information release is consistent with a pro-disclosure approach and the policy principles stated above. Mount Isa Water Board (MIWB) is committed to the Queensland Government's Open Data Strategy and we endeavour to:

- release as much data as possible;
- make data accessible and easy to find;
- publish data in line with the Open Data Policy Principles;
- inform our stakeholders and key service delivery areas of data for impending release;
- maintain data as fit-for-the-purpose for which it was collected.

OUR GOALS

Our goals are to ensure:

- Better services for Queenslanders, our customers and stakeholders through innovation, research and development of new data-enabled services and products by researchers, business and industry using MIWB data.
- Increased community participation in decision-making through improved access to MIWB data and greater levels of interaction between policy-makers and the wider community.
- A stronger knowledge economy by unlocking the social and economic value of MIWB data through sound data infrastructure.

PRINCIPLES

Open access to data and information held by MIWB enables MIWB to achieve its vision of being an organisation engaged with our community. Where appropriate, data will be made available under the least restrictive licence, allowing for its use and re-use in accordance with the Australian Government Open Licensing Framework.

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Published data will be made available for free unless a fee for accessing data has been prescribed by legislation or benefits the Queensland community and is approved by Cabinet.

Publishing data in accessible formats offers maximum flexibility of user experience and access. Where practicable, we will publish data in machine readable formats that can be downloaded, indexed, and searched by commonly used web applications.

MIWB data will be released within set standards and accountabilities – as a commercialised Statutory Authority, MIWB also holds commercial and personal information that is not suitable for public release. MIWB will reduce the risks associated with the public release of data by establishing a robust publication process to identify and protect personal/confidential information and commercial-in-confidence information in accordance with relevant legal and administrative frameworks.

OUR PLAN

We will facilitate better services for Queenslanders by:

- Stimulating innovation by creating opportunities for making data available, free for use and re-use in easily accessible and open formats by anyone who wishes to use it, and prioritising datasets for release in consultation with industry, enterprises, researchers and the wider community.
- Increasing government efficiency and performance by 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 and reducing red tape and streamlining processes for data sharing.

We will increase community participation in government decision making by:

- Increasing awareness by communicating the potential economic and social benefits created through the release of data and promoting participation in the knowledge economy by making data available on www.qld.gov.au/data.
- Building trust by demonstrating transparency in making data open by default, releasing data within set standards and in accordance with legislative protections (i.e. privacy) and being responsive to feedback and suggestions for new datasets.

We will build a stronger knowledge economy by:

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

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OUR DATA

We collect, store and maintain a range of information and datasets to support the delivery of bulk water supply services to our customers. In addition to administrative documentation, datasets held by MIWB include operational, workplace health and safety and environmental data.

OUR RELEASE STRATEGY

Our release strategy contains four main components:

- **Identification:** We will proactively identify information assets by surveying MIWB 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. In addition, MIWB applies a responsive information release process where any requests for information received trigger a review of the publication schedule.
- **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 in line with set standards and priority having regard to public interest; feedback from stakeholders and 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.

GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The Chief Executive is responsible for the success of MIWB's Open Data initiative by creating and sustaining an open data culture within the organisation. Execution of our Open Data Strategy will be governed by MIWB's Chief Executive. This strategy is a four year forward plan and MIWB will regularly provide progress reports to the Open Data Reform Group as and when requested.

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LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE FRAMEWORK

Implementation of MIWB'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.

THE FUTURE

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

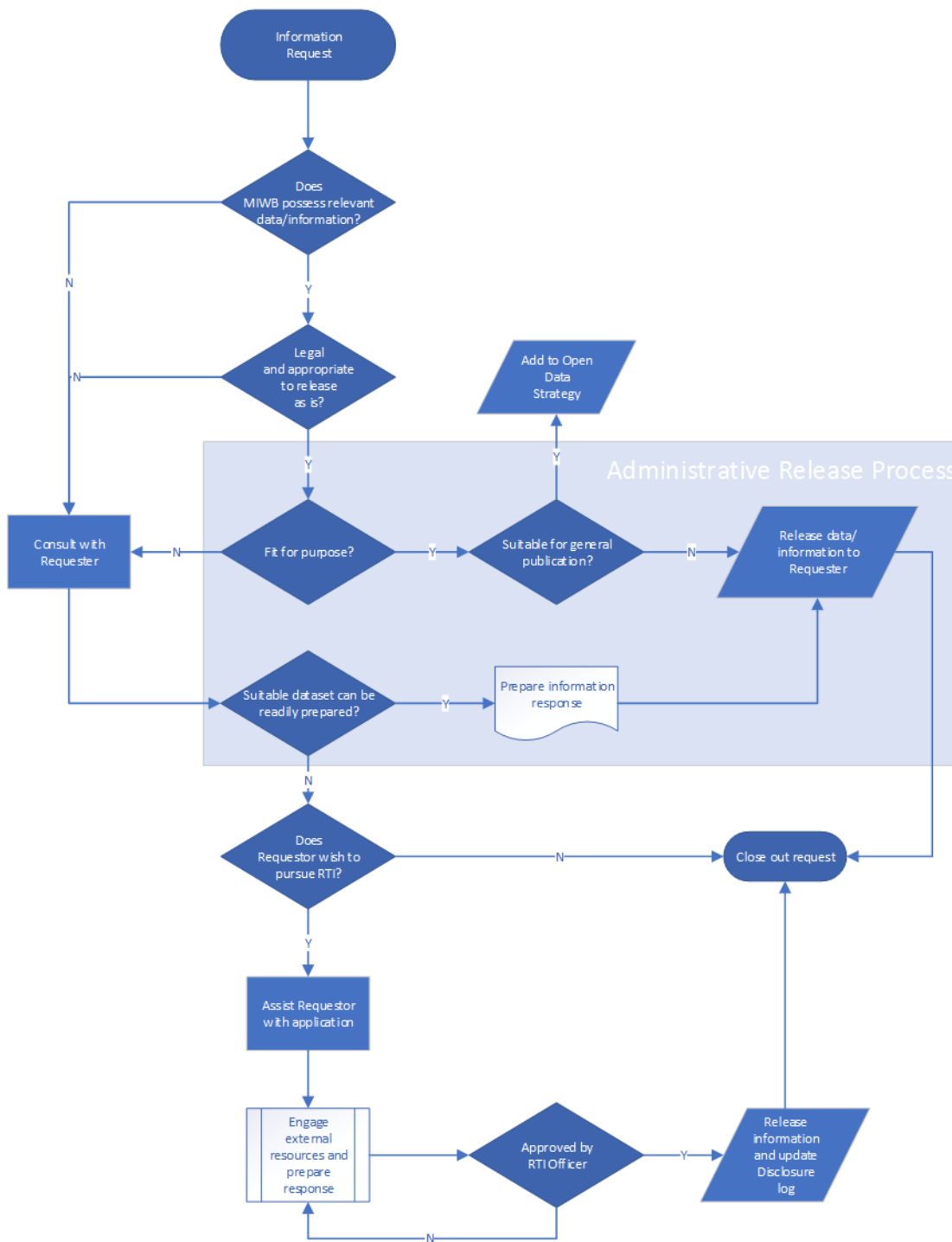
We will place emphasis on opportunities to improve data quality in the future by:

- 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; and
- reviewing data-related processes and addressing issues relating to timeliness, reliability, relevance and accuracy.

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APPENDIX 1 – RESPONSIVE INFORMATION RELEASE PROCEDURE



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APPENDIX 2 – DATASETS TO BE RELEASED AND RELEASE TIMELINE

Dataset Name	Description of Data	Target Date of Publishing	Frequency of Update	End of release date	Open license? (Yes or No)
Lake Moondarra Historic Level	Lake Moondarra capacity level	Biannually	Biannually	Nil	Yes
Lake Julius Historic Level	Lake Julius capacity level	Biannually	Biannually	Nil	Yes
Lake Moondarra Monthly Allocations	Lake Moondarra Monthly Allocation Data	15 August	Annually	Nil	Yes
MIWB Consultant Expenditure	Annual MIWB consultant expenditure	Last business day in September	Annually	Nil	Yes
MIWB Overseas Travel	Annual MIWB overseas travel	Last business day in September	Annually	Nil	Yes
Water Quality	Water quality summary report	15 December	Annually	Nil	Yes

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