



# Cabinet Government Administration and Expenditure Review Committee

## Minute of Decision

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### Strengthening Data Leadership Across Government

#### Portfolio                      Statistics

On 4 September 2018, the Cabinet Government Administration and Expenditure Review Committee (GOV):

- 1        **noted** that the increased use of data to drive decision making within government elevates the need for strong common data practices across government to maintain trust and confidence, and to ensure privacy is protected;
- 2        **authorised** the Government Chief Data Steward, working collaboratively with other system and sector leaders or regulators, to:
  - 2.1      set mandatory standards and guidelines for the collection, management and use of data by government agencies;
  - 2.2      direct agencies to adopt common data capabilities, such as data tools, linking infrastructure, or sharing platforms, subject to an opt-out process;
- 3        **noted** that the proposals are supported by a framework that can be used by other system and sector leaders or agencies to develop or endorse system data standards, and provide a way to ensure standards are fit for purpose and won't result in an unmanageable burden as agencies adopt the standard;
- 4        **invited** the Minister for Government Digital Services and the Minister of Statistics, in consultation with the Minister of State Services, Minister of Justice, Minister for Social Development, Minister of Health, Minister of Internal Affairs and Minister for Youth, to work together to progress cross-government digital and data activity and determine early priority areas of work;
- 5        **invited** the Minister of Statistics to report back to GOV:
  - 5.1      in October 2018 on the Data Strategy and Roadmap, priority areas for the data system and options for data governance;
  - 5.2      in March 2019 on the standards set and progress of data activity;
  - 5.3      in the second half of 2020 on the progress of the data system and any implications of data system developments for the scope and mandate of the Chief Data Steward role;

- 6 **noted** that standards and guidelines relating to data about people will comply with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, Human Rights Act 1993, Privacy Act 1993, and any requirements for consent when sharing between agencies and organisations.

Rachel Clarke  
Committee Secretary

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**Present:**

Hon Grant Robertson (Chair)  
Hon Phil Twyford  
Hon Dr Megan Woods  
Hon Chris Hipkins  
Hon David Parker  
Hon Stuart Nash  
Hon Clare Curran  
Hon Ron Mark  
Hon Tracey Martin  
Hon Shane Jones  
Hon Kris Faafoi  
Hon James Shaw

**Officials present from:**

Prime Minister's Office  
Officials Committee for GOV

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Minister for Government Digital Services  
Minister of State Services  
Minister of Justice  
Minister for Social Development  
Minister of Health  
Minister of Internal Affairs  
Minister for Youth  
Minister of Statistics

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