

Open Government Partnership New Zealand

National Action Plan 2018-2021

End of Term Report

Commitment 12: Open Procurement

Lead agency: The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE)

Objective: To publish the data on government-awarded contracts that is currently publicly available on the Government Electronic Tenders Service (GETS) as open data.

Ambition: It will be easy for people to find, and access published GETS information for contracts awarded by government agencies that are subject to the Government Procurement Rules. This will increase the level of trust the public has in procurement as it will be possible to analyse what contracts government agencies are awarding, what the expected spend is and which businesses have been awarded contracts.

OGP values: Transparency, Accountability and Technology and Innovation.

What we achieved:

New Zealand regularly makes available (on a quarterly basis) as open data, data on government-awarded contracts that is currently publicly available on GETS.

Summary

Milestones		Progress
1	Design with Stats NZ and the public a more usable format for this data. <i>Start/End dates: October 2018 - June 2019</i>	
2	Publish the results of the first milestone, for example information on what format the data will be released in and if we need to publish supporting material to help people interpret the data. <i>Start/End dates: July 2019 - December 2019</i>	
3	Publish the Contract Award notices online in the agreed usable format. <i>Start/End dates: June 2020 - On-going</i>	

Progress key:



some delays



underway



completed

What we achieved

Milestone 1

In June 2019 MBIE completed enhancements to the GETS system to improve and simplify completing contract award data for government agencies and provided training to agency GETS users on these changes.

Milestone 2

This Milestone was completed in the final quarter of 2019, and information on what was intended was provided to agencies and stakeholders. A workshop was held to align the Award data with the Open Data Contracting Standard. Stakeholders had also sought inclusion of historic data, and consideration of this proposal was considered. This proved not to be practicable. This finding is consistent with experience in other comparable international jurisdictions on this.

Milestone 3

This milestone was completed in January 2020 with the publication of the second procurement open data report, covering the period July 2019 to December 2019. This work has now transitioned to business as usual.

Work commenced on some areas needing further work to complete mapping to the Open Data Contracting Standard and to consider release of historic data.

2,400 unique webpage views of our open data page, with the award notice file (the main file of four available) being downloaded almost 1,000 times (obviously people download new copies each quarter). We also made historical data available, and this has also been downloaded ~400 times.

Commitment links:

MBIE website: <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/cross-government-functions/new-zealand-government-procurement-and-property/open-data/>

govt.nz website: <https://catalogue.data.govt.nz/dataset/new-zealand-government-procurement-award-notice>

NZGPP newsletter item about the Open Data Open Potential event hosted by Statistics New Zealand <https://www.procurement.govt.nz/about-us/news/open-data-open-potential-event/>

Blog story about our work on the data.govt.nz website <https://www.data.govt.nz/blog/making-procurement-data-more-accessible/><https://www.mbie.govt.nz/cross-government-functions/new-zealand-government-procurement-and-property/open-data/>

Impacts:

The data is public and accessible, the impact will depend on the use to which organisations and individuals put the information they are now able to access and manipulate.

Where to from here:

Consideration is being given to how to make further improvements to the transparency of government procurement data.

With regards to future plans, we are looking at improving the data quality to give a more granular data, which will be possible by our recent platforming of the GETS system to Azure. We are also working with agencies to improve the data quality and timeliness of the data provided.