

# Open Government Partnership New Zealand

## National Action Plan 2018-2020

### Progress Report: January – June 2020 (Commitment Complete)

#### 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 and which businesses have been awarded contracts.

**OGP values:** Transparency, Accountability, Technology and Innovation

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 HAVE BEEN DOING

- In January 2020, New Zealand Government Procurement (NZGP) released the second procurement open data report on the MBIE website. Open data was provided for the period 1 July 2019 to 31 December 2019.
- In January, we teamed up with Paul Stone from the New Zealand Open Government Data Programme to help promote the *Open Data, Open Potential* event on the 6 March hosted by Statistics New Zealand.
  - To help promote the event to government agencies, on 5 February we ran a story on our website and on 11 February we included it our Contract Bulletin.

- In the lead-up to the event, on 27 February 2020, we posted a blog about the work we are doing on the data.govt.nz website.
- In January, we analysed GETS data fields against the Open Data Contracting Standard and identified some areas needing further work to complete mapping to the standard.
- On 9 March, we met with Keitha Booth, the Independent Reporter on New Zealand's Open Government Partnership National Action Plan. We shared with her the work we are doing and confirmed we were on track to achieve our commitments.
- During March we worked with government agencies to prepare for the release of historic contract award notices (prior to 1 Jul 2019) as open data by encouraging agencies to check the accuracy and quality of their data. Due to COVID-19 the date for the release of the historic data has been deferred until July.
- On 1 May, the third quarterly report was published for the period 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020. There was a slight delay due to the COVID-19 outbreak. The next quarterly report is due to be released in July 2020.

## **HOW WE ARE INCLUDING DIVERSE VOICES**

- We have established a key stakeholder group and as new stakeholders make contact, we invite them to participate in the group.
- We planned to bring our stakeholders together in April to discuss procurement open data and provide a forum through which to receive suggestions. Due to COVID-19 this was postponed to a later date.
- Stakeholder communication has been two-way with some interested parties such as Transparency International New Zealand (TINZ) reaching out to offer support and suggestions.

## **HOW WE ARE KEEPING DIVERSE COMMUNITIES INFORMED**

- We communicate with stakeholders via an email list keeping them up-to-date on our progress including the release of open data reports. On 19 May 2020, we emailed the group to let them know the third report was available.
- Other communication channels include our website and blog post on the data.govt.nz website.

## WHAT'S NEXT?

- We will release the next quarterly report in July 2020.
- We are considering how we could release historic data in line with the July 2020 quarterly release.
- We will look to bring our stakeholders together to gather their suggestions.
- We are considering what actions we could implement over the next 12 months.

## LINKS – EVIDENCE OF PROGRESS AND MILESTONES ACHIEVED

New Zealand procurement open data report:

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

**The New Zealand Government Procurement Open Data Project Team**



*From left to right: Dave Price, Alison Goffin, Alex Collie, Eileen Moughan, and Dan Palazzetti*