

2 March 2018

info@opendatacharter.net

To the Open Data Charter,

New Zealand is adopting the Open Data Charter

The New Zealand Government is pleased to adopt the Open Data Charter (the Charter) as this signals the government's continued commitment to increasing access to the data held on behalf of citizens, while ensuring privacy is maintained. The Charter reinforces and clarifies expectations on government agencies to proactively release high value open government data.

Stats NZ is responsible for the implementation of the Charter principles, and the Chief Executive of Stats NZ and Government Chief Data Steward, Liz MacPherson, is the government point of contact for the Charter.

The Charter principles will be implemented through the existing [Open Data Action Plan](#) for which the Government Chief Data Steward has responsibility. The action plan is accompanied by an [implementation plan](#) containing time-bound activities and milestones, and describing how the action plan will be delivered.

The Open Data Action Plan was developed through consultation with the data community and citizens as part of commitment 4 of New Zealand's Open Government Partnership National Action Plan, and has been updated to include initiatives for implementing the Charter principles.

The action plan and implementation plan will be regularly updated to reflect:

- what has been learnt as we progress
- changes in the needs of data users and government agencies
- feedback from the data community
- changes in the data landscape.

Our intention is to keep the action plan relevant, effective, and working towards the best interests of New Zealanders.

We will publish quarterly reports to enable New Zealanders to check on progress. These reports will provide an overview of activities completed, key feedback themes and environmental changes, and updates to the plans.

The New Zealand Government is committed to transparency and open data, and looks forward to working with the international Open Data Charter community to keep improving.

Signed,



Hon. James Shaw
Minister of Statistics



Liz MacPherson
Government Chief Data Steward