



Australian Government
Office of the National Data Commissioner

**ONE CANBERRA AVENUE
FORREST**

Dr Stephen King
Via email: DATActReview@finance.gov.au

Dear Dr King

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft findings and recommendations of the review of the *Data Availability and Transparency Act 2022* (DAT Act). I have appreciated your transparent and cooperative approach and the skill and professionalism of the review team.

I broadly support the draft findings and recommendations. Combined they would support more data sharing for public benefit, safely and more easily and appropriately qualified entities would gain more reliable access to use data in the public interest.

I welcome your finding of the need for continued improvement and investment in the general data sharing ecosystem to enable better outcomes for participants. The Government's original vision for a National Data Commissioner was of a champion that would 'engage widely with the public; provide guidance to promote technical best practice and ethical uses of data; and drive cultural change towards greater use and reuse of data'. The importance of such a role within the Australian Government remains, including through the expertise of the National Data Advisory Council. Leadership with a broad remit remains critical to drive cultural practices within government and to support the safe, transparent and efficient sharing of public sector data. There should be a continued role for the Commissioner to contribute to this objective.

As you finalise your findings and recommendations, the Office of the National Data Commissioner remains available to assist. Updated information on DATA Scheme activity is now available on our [website](#).

My Office and I are committed to advancing public data sharing and the objectives of the DAT Act and look forward to supporting the operationalisation of reforms flowing from this review.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Gayle Milnes'.

Gayle Milnes
National Data Commissioner

8 August 2025