

# Schedule A – Mechanism to develop the National Data Sharing Work Program

## 1. Purpose

The purpose of this Schedule is to identify how specific time-limited national priority data areas will be agreed for focused national effort.

## 2. Eligibility criteria

A national priority data area may be added to the Work Program if it meets each of the following criteria:

- a) It is a national strategic priority, including for example consideration by National Cabinet or a Ministers' Meeting;
- b) Public benefit (or a public cost to be reduced or removed) outweighs the costs and risks of sharing;
- c) There are current barriers preventing or limiting effective data sharing which requires a cross-jurisdictional response; and
- d) The nomination is endorsed by a minimum of one Commonwealth portfolio Minister and a relevant portfolio Minister from at least two States and/or Territories.

## 3. Prioritisation process

- a) Data and Digital Ministers will seek advice from responsible Portfolio Ministers from all jurisdictions to seek the nomination of national priority data areas for the Work Program.
- b) Data and Digital Ministers will apply the eligibility criteria to determine the forward Work Program.
- c) Data and Digital Ministers reserve the right to decide not to add a nominated national priority data area to the Work Program and may apply additional eligibility criteria to national priority data area nominations as required.
- d) Deliverables and timeframes for each national priority data area will be identified in the Work Program.

## 4. Progress and review

- a) Where multiple Portfolio Ministers are responsible for a national priority data area, multiple data sharing agreements may be used to initiate and progress data sharing.
- b) Portfolio Ministers, with support from Data and Digital Ministers as needed, will identify key projects under each priority data area.
- c) Data and Digital Ministers will review Work Program progress every six months in consultation with Portfolio Ministers.
- d) Resolved priorities will be removed from the Work Program.

## **5. Opt-out process**

- a) Any jurisdiction may decide to opt-out of, or withdraw, their participation in any individual national priority data area in the Work Program.
- b) The relevant Portfolio Minister should notify Data and Digital Ministers of the decision and outline the reasons for it in writing.
- c) Participating jurisdictions for each national priority data area will be noted in the Work Program.

## **6. System reforms**

Based on lessons learnt through the COVID-19 period, the Commonwealth and States and Territories have identified foundational reform activities required to support better data sharing and continued improvements in data maturity. These reform activities will be built into the Work Program.

## 7. Work Program prioritisation flowchart

