Session 2: Approaches to Data System Stewardship

Australian Statistician
Mr David Kalisch
Positioning of ABS prior to Government Data Reforms (circa 2015)

- ABS independence/isolation – it was an art form!
- User difficulty accessing data, especially microdata
- ABS trusted for national statistics, but not well regarded for data innovation and services to government
- Appreciation of value of data, but little wide-ranging understanding of the complexities of production and safe use, and capabilities/judgments required
The Government has committed to:

- harnessing the value of data
- publishing, linking and sharing data to stimulate innovation and create opportunities
- optimise the use and reuse of public data.

The Productivity Commission’s Inquiry looked at options to increase the availability and use of public and private sector data. It found significant barriers to data sharing including:

- a culture of risk aversion
- dense web of legislative requirements
- a lack of a whole of government approach
My primary responsibility is to maximise the value the data can offer society.

Need to know

It’s risky to share data, so I won’t

Responsibility to share

How can I share data safely?

My primary responsibility is the safety and security of my data.
## Data System Reforms

### Data Sharing and Release Bill
- Streamline access and use of Commonwealth data
- Overcoming barriers and identifying and managing risk
- Late 2019 ??

### National Data Commissioner
- Oversee new governance arrangements
- Balance data use for the benefit of society with ensuring community trust through safe data use
- Transparency and accountability

### National Data Advisory Council
- Advisory Panel with cross-sectoral experts across data-driven industries
- Advise on ethical data use, technical best practice, and industry and international developments
Aactors in the system

Data custodian
- Govt bodies that collect or have primary responsibility for data.
- Responsible for ensuring data is used safely and securely.

Accredited user (AU)
- Accesses and analyses data.
- Must meet accreditation criteria.

Accredited data authority (ADA)
- Existing bodies holding data expertise e.g. linking, access.
- Must meet accreditation criteria.

Data sharing agreement with custodian outlines terms and conditions and how ADA will safeguard data.

Engages ADA to provide data services on their behalf.

Assesses data requests against purpose test and DS&R principles.

Data release notices will apply to release of data for public use.

National Data Commissioner
- Provides assurance and oversight.
- Monitors data requests from AUs.
- Publishes Data Release Notices.
- Publishes Data Sharing Agreements.
- Accredits and publishes registers of ADAs and AUs.

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Accredited user’s data sharing agreement will outline how data will be used and how purpose test will be met.
Questions?