



Data Policy Statement

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1 MRIWA Data Policy

1.1 Statement of Intent

The Minerals Research Institute of Western Australia's (MRIWA) vision is for minerals research to advance Western Australia (WA), creating capability and delivering economic, environmental, and social benefit through the outcomes of the research it supports. MRIWA provides targeted financial assistance and support for research activities and collaborates on research projects.

Data is a critical strategic asset. As a publicly funded organisation supporting research and innovation, MRIWA is committed to ensuring research data is managed responsibly, transparently, and in alignment with national and international best practices.

By enabling effective data management practices, MRIWA seeks to ensure research data is not only protected and discoverable, but also positioned for reuse where appropriate - amplifying its impact across industry, academia, and government.

Potential users of research data includes researchers, industry stakeholders, students, and policymakers.

The MRIWA Data Policy and Guidance Notes have been developed to support both MRIWA and Project Participants to manage data throughout its lifecycle - from creation and active use through to publication, long-term archiving, or secure deletion. It reflects our commitment to responsible stewardship, collaboration, and the advancement of knowledge through effective data governance.

1.2 Legal and regulatory framework

The Data Policy aligns with and was developed with due consideration to the following legal and regulatory requirements:

- Western Australian Whole of Government Open Data Policy 2022 (the State Policy)¹.
- Western Australian Information Classification Policy²
- Digital Strategy for the WA Government (2021–2025)³
- Western Australian Cyber Security Policy⁴
- Western Australian Artificial Intelligence Policy and Assurance Framework⁵
- ICT Modernisation and Delivery Frameworks⁶
- Western Australian Privacy and Responsible Information Sharing Act 2024.⁷

1.2.1 Western Australian Government Open Data Policy

The purpose of the Western Australian Whole of Government Open Data Policy (the State Policy) is to improve management and use of the public sector's data assets to deliver value and benefits for all Western Australians.

This includes greater release of appropriate and high-value data to the public in ways that are easily discoverable and usable. It is intended opening access to public sector

¹ <https://www.wa.gov.au/system/files/2022-03/Open%20Data%20Policy%20v2%202022.pdf>

² <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/western-australian-information-classification-policy>

³ <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/digital-strategy-the-western-australian-government-2021-2025>

⁴ <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/wa-government-cyber-security-policy>

⁵ https://www.wa.gov.au/system/files/2025-07/ai_policyv2.pdf

⁶ <https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/department-of-the-premier-and-cabinet/office-of-digital-government/whole-of-government-ict-modernisation-framework>

⁷ [https://www.legislation.wa.gov.au/legislation/prod/filestore.nsf/FileURL/mrdoc_48019.pdf/\\$FILE/Privacy%20and%20Responsible%20Information%20Sharing%20Act%202024%20-%20%5B00-a0-01%5D.pdf?OpenElement](https://www.legislation.wa.gov.au/legislation/prod/filestore.nsf/FileURL/mrdoc_48019.pdf/$FILE/Privacy%20and%20Responsible%20Information%20Sharing%20Act%202024%20-%20%5B00-a0-01%5D.pdf?OpenElement)



data will increase productivity and improve service delivery by supporting innovation, research and education, and by facilitating collaboration and evidence-based decision making.

The State Policy:

- outlines the Western Australian Government's position on open data;
- encourages a well-considered and consistent approach across the public sector to opening access to data (which also ensures the privacy of individuals is adequately protected);
- demonstrates the value of data and the potential benefits of opening access to data;
- and helps agencies implement best practice information management principles to achieve open data objectives.

State data is any data owned by Western Australian Government agencies, in this instance MRIWA. Project data may be State data where MRIWA fully funds research and owns the data created or the data is co-owned with other Project Participants by agreement.

MRIWA is required to have regard to the following principles when developing and managing State data:

- Where appropriate and financially viable, consider the commercialisation of State data.
- Consider public interest and principles of good government including accountability and transparency.
- Identify and facilitate opportunities to obtain the maximum social and economic benefit from State data.

The Policy considers where the creation, protection, management, use and disposal of data can facilitate positive outcomes for the community and the State including through support of:

- a strong and diversified economy.
- development and growth of the State's priority sectors.
- attracting investment to the State.
- building the State's reputation for innovation and entrepreneurial activity and establishing new revenue streams.
- innovation across the WA public sector and enabling agencies to capitalise on opportunities to commercialise data where they arise. o incentivising, attracting, and retaining talent across the WA public sector.

In applying the State Open Data Policy, early in the data creation process MRIWA will consider:

- who is best placed to further develop the data resulting from the research it supports; and opportunities to facilitate the maximum public benefit, transfer of knowledge or innovation from the data.



1.3 MRIWA Data Policy

The Minerals Research Institute of Western Australia (MRIWA) is committed to maximising the value of research data generated through publicly funded projects. It will do this by adopting a data management framework which includes:

- Mechanisms to identify, capture, evaluate, and protect data created or acquired through MRIWA's research and innovation activities.
- Educating and engaging MRIWA staff and partner organisations to foster a culture of proactive and responsible data management essential for integrity, reproducibility and discovery.
- Promoting open access to research data where appropriate, guided by the FAIR principles—Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable—unless restricted by ethical, legal, or commercial considerations.
- Understanding data ownership and respecting the rights of third-party organisations and companies, maintaining legal compliance, upholding intellectual property rights, protecting privacy and maintaining data integrity.
- The necessary infrastructure to ensure all research data under MRIWA's custodianship is securely stored, easily located, and where appropriate, accessible for reuse by others.
- Evaluating and implementing, where appropriate, secure and effective integrations with Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools to enhance data analysis, accessibility, and decision-making.

Confirmed by Board Resolution 251117 #12

