

Data Centres

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PUBLIC

Purpose

This QGEA Policy states the Queensland Government's direction in regards to data centres.

Data centres are buildings or rooms that provide the secure and controlled environments necessary to support the operation of the information technology and telecommunications equipment that stores, processes and transmits the government's information.

Scope

This policy applies to whole-of-Government and relates to the domain B-9.6 Manage Facilities and Network Operations within the Business Process Layer of the Queensland Government Enterprise Architecture (QGEA).

Traditionally a data centre is a large and purpose built facility, but for the purposes of this policy, the term data centre will be used to cover any dedicated computer room or facility which is used to house operational ICT equipment and systems. This ICT equipment typically includes networking systems (switches, routers), servers and processing equipment and storage systems (tape and disk).

This policy applies to metropolitan government data centres within the southeast corner of Queensland.

The following are outside the scope of the current policy:

- regional data centres and regional computer rooms.

The following standards and strategies relate to this policy:

- Queensland Government Data Centre Strategy
- The whole-of-Government Consolidated Data Centre Strategy
- AS2834 Computer Accommodation
- TIA942 Telecommunications Infrastructure Standard for Data Centres.

Policy statement

The Queensland Government and its agencies will adopt a whole-of-Government approach to data centres as outlined in the *Queensland Government Data Centre Strategy*.

Policy benefits

This policy will assist government to move towards becoming a single enterprise, reduce risk and improve value for money through:

- the provision of resilient fit for purpose data centre accommodation for the Government's ICT systems
- economies of scale through consolidation of small data centres to a shared facility
- increased security through the provision of appropriate physical security, 24 hour surveillance and monitoring and auditable access control
- certainty of costs for budgeting for ICT initiatives
- less project risk for agency initiatives as the need for data centre "design, build and operate" tasks is removed
- facilitates other ICT consolidation to shared infrastructure, such as servers, storage and networks
- potential cost savings through re-assignment of computer room space to in-demand office accommodation in the Brisbane CBD.

Policy requirements

Policy requirement 1: Use of government data centres

Agencies must use the two government data centres currently located at 317 Edward Street and/or Springfield (Polaris), unless otherwise approved by the Peer Review Panel, to ensure the implementation of the whole-of-Government Data Centre Strategy and consolidation of data centre requirements across the Queensland Government.

Policy requirement 2: Use of whole-of-government solutions

Migration of agency ICT equipment to the Queensland Government data centres must include consideration for the use of whole-of-Government solutions for networks, infrastructure and enterprise management as part of the migration strategy.

Implementation

Implementation of all requirements must be completed in accordance with the *Data Centres QGEA position paper*.

The deployment of all ICT equipment to the Queensland Government data centres will be carried out under the conditions outlined in the CITEC Service Catalogue.

Issue and review

This QGEA policy is published within the QGEA and is administered by the Queensland Government Chief Information Office (QGCI0). It was jointly developed by the Queensland Government Chief Technology Office and ICT Consolidation Initiative and approved by the Queensland Government Chief Information Officer on 16 December 2009.

This QGEA policy will be reviewed on a two yearly basis. The next review date is December 2011.

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