Open Government Partnership New Zealand

National Action Plan 2018-2020

Progress report to: July – September 2019

Commitment 12: Open Procurement

Lead agency: The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

Objective: To publish the data on government-awarded contracts that is currently publicly available on the Government Electronic Tenders Service (GETS) as open data.

Ambition: It will be easy for people to find and access published GETS information for contracts awarded by government agencies that are subject to the Government Rules of Sourcing. This will increase the level of trust the public has in procurement as it will be possible to analyse what contracts government agencies are awarding, what the expected spend is and which businesses have been awarded contracts.

OGP values: Transparency, Accountability, Technology and Innovation

	Milestones	Progress
1	Design with Stats NZ and the public a more usable format for this data. *Start/End dates: October 2018 - June 2019*	😃
2	Publish the results of the first milestone, for example information on what format the data will be released in and if we need to publish supporting material to help people interpret the data. *Start/End dates: July 2019 - December 2019*	🙂
3	Publish the Contract Award notices online in the agreed usable format. *Start/End dates: June 2020 - On-going*	N/A

Progress key: 😐 **some delays**   🙂 **underway**   😃 **completed**

WHAT WE HAVE BEEN DOING

- New Zealand Government Procurement and Property (NZGPP) facilitated a second workshop in August to provide an update on progress towards this commitment and gather feedback on how to make the data more accessible to a wider audience.

- We updated the group that we have revised our timeframes and are looking to release the data quarterly from October this year, for the previous three months. The data will be released in a .csv file on www.mbie.govt.nz and on www.data.govt.nz.

- NZGPP has been working with agencies to encourage them to complete their contract award notices before this data is released.

- In late June we sent an email to agencies notifying them that contract award data will start being released as open data in October. We also advised them of upcoming training sessions which will help them prepare for the change.

- We continued to hold Government Electronic Tenders Service (GETS) training sessions in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch in July. This training included detail about changes to the GETS system to improve and simplify completing contract award data.

- In September we published a third news item on New Zealand Government Procurement's website, which was also sent to agencies in our newsletter. This story provided more detail about what would be released as open data.

HOW WE ARE INCLUDING DIVERSE VOICES

- By publishing contract award notices as open we are making government spending more transparent and accessible to everyone.

HOW WE ARE KEEPING DIVERSE COMMUNITIES INFORMED

- We have been communicating with stakeholders interested in open data.

WHAT'S NEXT?

- We plan to release the first set of open contract award data in October 2019. Following the initial release, we will continue to work with stakeholders to review and revise the format of the data.

- Confirmation of supporting messages to accompany the dataset.

LINKS – EVIDENCE OF PROGRESS AND MILESTONES ACHEVED

- https://www.procurement.govt.nz/about-us/news/contract-award-data-to-be-open-from-october/

- https://www.procurement.govt.nz/about-us/news/contract-award-notices-to-be-published-as-open-data/