

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [DAT Act Review](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** \*\* UQ response to the Terms of Reference – Statutory Review of the Data Availability and Transparency Act 2022 \*\*  
**Date:** Friday, 30 May 2025 2:07:31 PM

---

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Taylor,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the issues raised in the DAT Act review below:

***Does the Act support public sector data availability and transparency, including sharing public sector data in a controlled way?***

- The Act brings much-needed scaffolding to Government data availability and transparency, and we recognise the beneficial intent of the Act and Scheme.
- There is value in having a platform and Scheme to streamline the exchange of Commonwealth Government data, with unified processes around data sharing and where organisations can have visibility of all their data sharing agreements.

***Has the operation of the Act advanced its objects?***

- It is difficult to comment on this question at this stage, as data sharing under the Act has not yet occurred at our organisation. UQ currently has one active request for Scheme data and from our experience, there has been less activity than anticipated. It is acknowledged that our expectations may have been unrealistic at the outset.

***How does the operation of the Act compare and interact with other existing mechanisms for facilitating access to, sharing and use of public sector data?***

- As above, we recognise the value in having unified processes for Commonwealth data sharing, and a single repository to store the associated agreements.
- Thus far there has been no data shared under the Act at UQ, therefore from our experience, there has not yet been a tangible benefit to sharing data under the Act, in comparison with existing mechanisms. However, we acknowledge that there is perhaps a cultural shift required for custodians as well as requestors to request and share data in this new way, and that more time and experience may be needed before the true benefits of the Scheme are observable.

***Stakeholder satisfaction with the operation of the Act as a tool for reducing barriers and enabling effective access to, sharing and re-use of public sector data.***

- The beneficial intent of the Act and the Scheme are acknowledged.
- The operational workflows in place to request and gain access to Scheme data seem better suited to smaller organisations. They may need some modification to be fit-for-purpose for larger organisations, like universities. From our experience thus far, there seems to be insufficient visibility of the various steps in the data sharing pathway, and a lack of gated steps to ensure appropriate oversight of the process by nominated Scheme/Dataplace individuals.

***Should the Act remain in force past its current sunset date of 1 April 2027?***

- We are supportive of the Act remaining in force beyond its current sunset date, to allow sufficient time to work through current obstacles, and better understand the benefits of the Scheme.

***Any other relevant matters.***

- ONDC staff have been helpful and responsive, and their support has been incredibly valuable throughout the application process as well as post-accreditation. The training sessions and guidance notes have assisted us in navigating the complexities of the Act and accreditation process.

Please do not hesitate to contact me personally if there is anything further we can assist with.

Kind regards,

**Professor Paul Bonnington**  
Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research Infrastructure)

The University of Queensland  
Brisbane Qld 4072 Australia

T [REDACTED]  
E [REDACTED]

CRICOS code: 00025B



This email (including any attached files) is intended solely for the addressee and may contain confidential information of The University of Queensland. If you are not the addressee, you are notified that any transmission, distribution, printing or photocopying of this email is prohibited. If you have received this email in error, please delete and notify me. Unless explicitly stated, the opinions expressed in this email do not represent the official position of The University of Queensland.

**Be careful with this message**

External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.