

Open Data Access Policy

Corangamite Shire

May 2021



**CORANGAMITE
SHIRE**

Council Policy



Open Data Access Policy

Introduction

Corangamite Shire Council recognises the benefits from and encourages the availability of government data for the public good.

Purpose

This Data Access Policy provides direction on the release, licensing and management of Council data so that it can be used and reused by the community and businesses.

Scope

Corangamite Shire Council data refers to datasets and databases owned and held by the Council and stored in formats including hardcopy, electronic (digital), audio, video, image, graphical, cartographic, physical sample, textual, geospatial or numerical form. Data does not include software.

Definitions

Data & Datasets	Any information held in digital or hardcopy format
Flexible licence	When datasets are made available, they need to be done so under licence, to the extent they are protected by copyright Public sector datasets should be released under terms allowing flexible public re-use without further permission. Applying Creative Commons (CC) licensing is the recommended way to achieve this. The default licence is CC-BY 4.0 as it is the least restrictive licence for datasets released under the Policy. See section 6 of the DataVic access Policy Guidelines for more info. Link above.

References

DataVic Access Policy Guidelines

<https://www.data.vic.gov.au/policy-and-standards-0>

CC-BY 4.0 licence - <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

Information Privacy Policy – [Doc Set ID 2736794](#)

Approval Process – Appendix A

Open Data Checklist – Appendix A

Open Data Register – [Doc Set ID 2176580](#)

Policy Detail

The policy of the Corangamite Shire Council is to, consistent with the requirements of this policy, make available its data in an open exchange format:

- To enable public access to government data to support research and education, promote innovation, support improvements in productivity and stimulate growth in the Victorian economy.
- To enhance sharing of, and access to, information-rich resources to support evidence-based decision making in the public sector.

Principles

These principles are based on a position of data openness, with the prerogative in favour of data release, unless there is a clear need to restrict or preclude access for reasons of privacy, security or other relevant considerations:

- Council data will be made available unless access is restricted for reasons of privacy, public safety, security and law enforcement, public health, and compliance with the law.
- Council data will be made available under flexible licences.
- With limited exceptions, Council data will be made available at no or minimal cost.
- Council data will be easy to find (discoverable) and accessible in formats that promote its reuse.
- Council will follow standards and guidelines relating to release of data and accountability for that release.

Benefits

The policy is expected to achieve the following benefits:

- Stimulate economic activity and drive innovation and new services to the community and business
- Increase productivity and improve personal and business decision-making based on improved access to data
- Improve research outcomes by enabling access to primary data to researchers in a range of disciplines
- Reduce the effort required to share data with other parties
- Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of government by encouraging better management practices and use of the data.

Exceptions

Not all data is suitable for release under the policy.

Access to some data will need to be restricted for reasons of privacy, public health and compliance with the law. Only data owned by the Corangamite Shire Council or sufficiently licensed to the Corangamite Shire Council will be released under this policy.

Review Date

May 2025

It is considered that this Policy does not impact negatively on any rights identified in the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

It is considered that this Policy does not adversely impact community members or employees of different genders and has been developed in accordance with the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

New Open Data Approval Process

