

# Government 2.0 Taskforce Request for Project Proposal

## Project 7: Whole of Government Information Publication Scheme

### Scope:

Review current agency information disclosure requirements and practices, and provide advice and recommendations on the form of a pro-disclosure agency publication scheme for Commonwealth public service agencies based on local and international best practice (including governance arrangements and the possible role of the Information Commissioner).

### Context:

One of the major barriers to achieving greater openness and access to public sector information has been the lack of a pro-disclosure culture within government. The Australian Government has recently proposed legislative reforms to the Freedom of Information Act 1982 and Archives Act 1983 and the establishment of an [Office of the Information Commissioner](#) (OIC) as the first step in building a pro-disclosure culture across the Government and building a stronger foundation for more openness in government. Many other Governments around the world are grappling with the same challenge of identifying the changes required to Government legislative, policy, governance and regulatory frameworks in order to drive this new “pro-disclosure” culture.

The Taskforce has been asked to advise Government on structural barriers that prevent, and policies to promote, greater information disclosure, as well as identifying policies and frameworks to assist the Information Commissioner and other agencies (e.g. [AGIMO](#), [the National Archives of Australia](#), [the Attorney General's Department](#)) in developing and managing a whole of government information publication scheme to encourage greater disclosure of public sector information.

### Objectives:

- Provide an overview of current agency information disclosure requirements and practices
- Identify local and international best practice examples based on “pro-disclosure” regimes
- Provide a model for a pro-disclosure agency publication scheme that could be applied to Commonwealth public service agencies
- Provide advice on governance arrangements for the whole of government information publication scheme

### Deliverables:

A final report provided to the Gov 2.0 Taskforce Secretariat via email ([gov2secretariat@finance.gov.au](mailto:gov2secretariat@finance.gov.au)) by 30 October 2009. The report will be in Microsoft Word DOC format, Rich Text Format RTF or OpenDocument Text ODT. It will contain at minimum: executive summary; findings; discussion of issues; and recommendations.

As part of the project, the successful contractor may be asked to provide services to further inform the Taskforce or assist with researching/authoring/editing sections of the Taskforce report. The Taskforce may also request progress reports and/or draft versions of the report be provided, and members of the Taskforce may choose to collaborate with the successful contractor on the project.