



DPC/P3.1

ACROSS GOVERNMENT POLICY

# Cloud Services Policy (ICT Policy Statement 3)

## Purpose

The intent and purpose of this policy is to encourage Public Sector agencies where suitable to evaluate cloud services in ICT sourcing, procurement, or market approach. Suitability should be based on value for money in terms of innovation or productivity outcomes, business needs, resilience, and risk, as well as compliance with any relevant legislation, instructions, policies, standards, and rulings.

## Scope

This policy applies to all South Australian Government Public Sector agencies (as defined in [ICT Policy Statement 1 – Compliant Authorities](#)).

## Policy detail

In November 2018, Cabinet noted *Whole of Government Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Strategy 2018-2021 (ICT Strategy)*. The strategy was approved by the Senior Management Council (SMC) prior to the Cabinet's noting. *ICT Strategy* sets the strategic direction for the services consumed by the SA Government agencies, and all agencies are expected to align their strategies, plans and activities with this strategic direction to ensure optimal outcomes are achieved that best serves the people of South Australia.

The *ICT Strategy* provides flexibility to the agencies to invest in cloud services where suitable. This policy makes it clear that the Government's strategic intent is to shift from 'Cloud First' to 'Cloud Right' approach.

Public Sector agencies may evaluate cloud services in ICT sourcing, procurement, or market approach.

Evaluation must be driven by agencies business needs, resilience, and risk as part of their evaluation and should not be driven whether or not the solution is in the cloud.

Following should be considered as a part of the evaluation:

- value for money outcome for government – that is, value for money in terms of innovation and productivity outcomes
- government's obligations under relevant legislation, instructions, policies, standards, and rulings.

## Roles and responsibilities

The **Chief Executive** of each South Australian Government Public Sector agencies (as defined in [ICT Policy Statement 1 – Compliant Authorities](#)) is accountable for the effective implementation of the policy within the Department.

The **Deputy Chief Executives, Executive Directors, Directors and Managers** are responsible for ensuring

- the policy is implemented and observed by staff
- staff are fully informed of their obligations and responsibilities under the policy, and trained where required
- contracts and agreements with service providers require adherence to across Government policies whilst conducting departmental business
- any reporting requirements are met.

## Related Documents

- [Whole of Government ICT Strategy 2018-2021](#)
- [NIST Definition of Cloud Computing](#)
- [ICT Policy Statement 1: Compliant Authorities](#)
- [ICT Ruling 1: Governance – Exemptions](#)
- [SACSF G3.0 Guideline for Engaging suppliers and cloud security](#)
- [ISMF Standard 139 – Security in an outsourced environment](#) (found in the [Information Security Management Framework](#))
- [Privacy and Cloud Computing Guideline](#), Privacy Committee of South Australia
- [SACSF Ruling 2 – Storage and processing of South Australian Government information in outsourced or offshore ICT arrangements](#)
- [Personal Information Data Breaches](#) (available to SA Government personnel only)

## Definitions

**Cloud Services** A cloud service allows users of ICT to access a service through a network without the need to acquire, own, and operate dedicated infrastructure, software and facilities.

Further detail can be found in the [definition of cloud computing](#) provided by the United States National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). This includes definitions of:

- essential characteristics of cloud services
- service models – e.g. Software as a Service, Platform as a Service, etc.
- deployment models – e.g. private cloud, public cloud, hybrid cloud, etc.

Public Sector Agency An internal to government entity, including administrative units, bodies corporate, statutory authorities, and instrumentalities of the Crown, as defined in the [Public Sector Act 2009 \(SA\)](#).

## Document Control

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