



Australian Government

Australian Government response to the House of
Representatives Standing Committee on
Infrastructure, Transport and Cities report:

Smart ICT: Report on the inquiry into the role of
smart ICT in the design and planning of
infrastructure

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Overview

The report on the inquiry into the role of smart ICT in the design and planning of infrastructure (the Report) was tabled by the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Transport and Cities on 15 March 2016. The Government's response to the Report's recommendations is below.

Australian Government response

The Australian Government's response to the inquiry into the role of smart ICT in the design and planning of infrastructure is set out in detail below.

Recommendation 1:

The Committee recommends that the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development, the Department of Communications, and Geoscience Australia continue to build their smart ICT capacity, in partnership with private sector actors where appropriate. Where possible, these departments should seek to share their knowledge and thus build capacity with their state and local government counterparts.

The Government **notes** this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

Recommendation 2:

The Committee recommends to the Australian Government that the proposed Smart Infrastructure Task Force take responsibility for the national coordination of:

- the development of national protocols for the release of infrastructure related data in both the government and private sectors, including creating mechanisms for the brokerage or sale of private sector data;
- the development of standards for the collection and management of infrastructure related data, including metadata standards; and
- an objects library.

The Government **notes** this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

Recommendation 3:

The Committee recommends the Australian Government appoints and resources the National Archives of Australia to oversee the development of a whole-of-government strategy for the collection, management, storage and security of data related to the design, planning, operation and management of infrastructure.

The Government **notes** this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

Recommendation 4:

The Committee recommends that the Australian Government recognise public safety communications systems as critical infrastructure, and continue to support the development of these systems, including funding research, promoting implementation, and providing national coordination.

The Government **notes** this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

Recommendation 5:

The Committee recommends that the Australian Government continue to support the development of disaster planning and emergency response systems, including funding research, promoting implementation, and providing national coordination.

The Government **notes** this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

Recommendation 6:

The Committee recommends that the Australian Government leads the formation of a suitably qualified and resourced Smart Infrastructure Task Force, led by Infrastructure Australia, on the model of the UK BIM Task Group, representing governments at all levels, academia and industry to provide for the coordination and implementation of smart ICT in the design, planning and development of infrastructure, and in the maintenance and optimisation of existing infrastructure. The Task Force will act as a coordinator and conduit for the development and implementation of policy nationally, including the development of industry and product standards and training and education. The Task Force will have responsibility for the development of a national strategy to accelerate the adoption of new technologies and innovations; and engage Australia with international experience and global best practice.

The Government **notes** this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

Recommendation 7:

The Committee recommends that the Australian Government, as part of its infrastructure procurement processes, require BIM to LOD500 on all major infrastructure projects, exceeding \$50 million in cost, receiving Australian Government funding, including projects partially funded by the Federal Government in partnership with state, territory and local governments, and that it focus on tendering mechanisms that will facilitate this outcome, on a project-by-project basis, with a view to ultimately establishing BIM as a procurement standard.

The Government **notes** this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

Recommendation 8:

The Committee recommends that the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development adopts a practice of examining whether the use of smart ICT, in optimising the operation and maintenance of existing built infrastructure assets, can provide a more cost-effective solution than their physical replacement or upgrade.

The Government **notes** this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

Recommendation 9:

The Committee recommends that the Australian Government, through COAG, works with state and territory governments to develop a national approach to the application of smart ICT in the design and planning of infrastructure, particularly with respect to state government responsibilities in land management, utilities, and transport systems.

The Government **notes** this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

Recommendation 10:

The Committee recommends that the Australian Government invite Infrastructure Australia to consider the use of smart ICT in infrastructure as a means of identifying savings that can be made in the short term.

The Government **notes** this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.