# **NSW Trend Atlas**

OECD Observatory Public Sector Innovation – Call for Innovation 2022



SENSITIVE: NSW GOVERNMENT

# **Project Background**

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# The NSW Trend Atlas has a unique and compelling value proposition for NSW Government and beyond

**The offering:** An interactive, strategic intelligence platform where users can easily find rich insights on local and global trends necessary to anticipate possible futures for NSW.





What's the Value?

Breaks down silos and delivers substantial efficiency dividends. It reduces resources needed for common research and analysis tasks. We build on each others' research and analysis efforts.



#### What sets it apart?

No other futures team or consultancy has a tool like Trend Atlas. It reduces the need for consultancy services and establishes a unique platform for collaborative intelligence.

# The NSW Trend Atlas confronts the big challenges for 21st century decision makers



## Too much data storage, not enough re-use

Fragmented, agency-based record management systems may meet basic statutory record storage requirements but they are not designed for collaboration and enhancement. The 'lock it up and leave it' approach can result in research and analysis often 'reinventing the wheel'.



## Finding the signal in the noise

The volume and velocity of information is rapidly expanding. Organisations are confronted with an explosion in information. Without effective curation governments may struggle to interpret citizen expectations, seize opportunities, generate insights from their own service systems and read the external operating environment.



## Mainstreaming collaborative intelligence

Governments have developed innovative digital platforms but many lack interactive sharing and collaboration tools used on private sector platforms. Collaborative intelligence in government could break down portfolio silos, streamline solutions brokerage and diversify knowledge.



# Bolster evidence based policy and service design

Digital platforms for insight sharing have the potential to embed evidence evaluation into daily intelligence collection tasks and progressively build new public sector capability. Regular scanning of the operating environment builds greater sector capacity to anticipate change and manage volatility.

## The NSW Trend Atlas is a platform that continually grows, but this is what it looks like today



Detailed and unique trends spanning social, economic, ecological, political and technological themes with capacity for continued growth.





Reports and datapoints underpinning trends with more than **20 per cent** of those reports using **NSW data**.



Unique publishers of reports and data from government, business, universities, civil society and think tanks spanning the globe.



Timely and curated articles from international and local sources enabling rapid horizon scanning and interjurisdictional analysis.

**1060+** NSW Agency Users and growing quickly.

# The NSW Trend Atlas delivers against three important strategic objectives for NSW

Communities are becoming increasingly aware of the 'once in a generation' structural changes emerging in their homes, workplaces and societies. They seek informed and thoughtful actions to manage change.



## Evolve strategic planning for adaptable and resilient futures

The NSW Government has developed long-term strategic plans to guide its vision for the future. However recent disruptions have created a need for detailed revisions. Agencies need tools to help make their plans more resilient and adaptable to change and uncertainty.



## Support NSW in the innovation arms race

Innovation-led international competition is driving governments to find emerging industries and transformative technology. Sophisticated and NSW-specific insights are crucial to keeping ahead of the pack.



#### Foster collaborative intelligence to break through silos

Beyond eCabinet there is no existing NSW Government platform that crowdsources ideas to break down traditional agency silos. The private sector and civil society are already finding opportunities to tap into the wisdom of the crowd.

# The NSW Trend Atlas is a credible source of evidence for several important government functions and uses

## Established use cases



#### **Strategic Planning and Visions**

Develop preferred futures and alternative scenarios to better inform long-term strategy and visions.



#### Asset and Business Management Planning

Identify future opportunities and challenges to inform investment and prioritisation decisions of agencies in asset and business plans.

#### **Forecasting and Modelling**

Collect inputs and diversify assumptions about future conditions to run effective sensitivity analysis.



#### **Business Transformation & Service Redesign**

Explore and anticipate future customer and citizen needs.



#### **Policy Development and Advice**

Provide evidence to inspire new thinking or test assumptions behind proposals. Enable rapid project scoping and problem definition.

## Planned / growth use cases



#### Placing making and community engagement

Explore NSW scale trends at a local level via a map view tool to enhance place making engagement processes.

#### Post disaster recovery

Help communities and decision makers explore opportunities and options for rebuilding back better.



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# The NSW Trend Atlas is already being used by NSW Government agencies on major strategies and projects



### State Infrastructure Strategy 2022-2024, Infrastructure NSW

Infrastructure NSW used Trend Atlas to develop scenario planning content, and provided trend analysis to test assumptions in thematic chapters.



#### Future Transport 2060,

**Transport for NSW** 

Trends in transport use and population distribution informed the development of the long-term strategic thinking within Transport for NSW.



## Pathology 2035,

NSW Health Pathology (NSWHP)

Trend Atlas used to explore the plausible dynamics for pathology service demand and supply and opportunities and risks associate with service reconfiguration.



### 2021-22 Intergenerational Report, NSW Treasury

Trends shared for overall IGR narrative. Contributed section on digital transformation in government.

TOWARDS 2051 planning FOR THE FUTURE



#### Horizon scanning,

#### **Department of Planning and Environment**

Trend Atlas formed the foundation for a horizon scanning exercise in DPE to advise the incoming Secretary of arising opportunities and risks.



#### NSW Government Research & Development Action Plan, 2021,

#### Office of the NSW Chief Scientist and Engineer

Trends contributed for research and analysis of investment opportunities in the biotechnology and advanced manufacturing sectors.

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# The NSW Trend Atlas is a strategic intelligence aggregator across international, national and local data sources



Trend Atlas - OECD Observatory Public Sector Innovation - Project Summary

# The NSW Trend Atlas team has a proven track record of innovation and delivery that can be scaled for big impact

# We have a team with a proven track record to take the project forward

Trend Atlas has been developed by a small group of policy specialists, data analysts and UX practitioners within the Shaping Futures team. The team has:

- Turned conceptual or theoretical ideas into tangible products that carry unique intellectual property
- -Acquired advanced digital capability and learnt by doing
- Continuously refined project planning and management approaches to maximise impact of limited time and resources
- Developed enterprise architecture, library content, workflow systems and data ecosystems from scratch and with no capital or operating budget wholly within the MS365 environment
- -Executed two waves of major platform enhancements
- Built critical relationship networks and commenced training public servants to use the tool across government

## We used an iterative product development process to go from concept to live release

#### Ideation (3 months) Identified need in NSW Government and market gap

## **Prototype (3 months)**

Developed proof of concept (POC) to demonstrate the kind of trend information that could be compiled and tested functionality

### Beta (12 months)

Finalised platform and trend content for user training and testing

## MVP Release (2 months - training and testing)

Deployed a refined platform and trend library for user testing

#### Live Release Deployed for wide scale NSW public service sector use

# Visions for the NSW Trend Atlas are built upon broad engagement and discussion with 40+ stakeholders

The eight design options for the Trend Atlas platform are informed by digital product design methods and more than 40 stakeholder demonstrations and discussions throughout 2021 and 2022. In addition to the user testing and training campaign, our presentations and stakeholder engagement discussions highlighted eight interconnected design considerations that could form the foundations for on-going platform development. Some of these stakeholders include:

#### **NSW Government Agency Stakeholders**

- Land and Housing Corporation: Policy and Innovation team
- Regional NSW: Data and Futures Teams
- Department of Customer Service: Spatial, Digital Transformation, Life Journeys, LiveNSW teams
- NSW Pathology
- NSW Treasury: Centre for Evidence and Evaluation, Industry Insights
- Schools Infrastructure NSW
- Infrastructure NSW
- Multicultural NSW
- Department of Planning, Industry and Environment: Strategy and Innovation, Environment Protection Authority
- NSW Police
- Ministry of Health

#### Federal Government / External Stakeholders

- CSIRO
- UK Government Office of Science
- Australia New Zealand Policing Advisory Agency (ANZPAA)
- Commonwealth Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources (DISER)
- Infrastructure Australia
- Australian Federal Police
- The Future Laboratory
- ANU National Security College
- Australian Cross Jurisdiction DigiGov Network
- Human Centred Design Community of Practice

# Performance metrics are designed to measure platform functionality, credibility and reliability

## Number of users, platform visits and training

*What it tells us?:* Whether users find the content and platform functionality helpful, relevant and credible.

*Measurement:* PowerBI user and platform metrics, training and induction sessions.

### **Expansion and Maintenance of Trend Library**

*What it tells us?:* Whether users have access to the most recent and relevant content. Sufficient resources are allocated to trend writing and updating.

Measurement: Trend Atlas summary dashboard

### **Collaborative Intelligence Network Activity**

*What it tells us?:* The degree to which users are generating content, providing feedback and sharing their insights.

Measurement: User feedback system analytics

### **User efficiency benefits**

*What it tells us?:* Quantification and verification of projected efficiency dividends

*Measurement:* User surveys and number of references to Trend Atlas in government documents.

## 12 quantitative and qualitative KPIs form the NSW Trend Atlas performance targets for December 2022



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