



# Dominic Perrottet MP

## Minister for Finance and Services

---

### MEDIA RELEASE

---

Wednesday 10 September 2014

#### **GURUS WANTED TO UNLOCK GOVERNMENT DATA**

NSW Minister for Finance and Services, Dominic Perrottet today called on the State's best and brightest brains to help unlock the potential of data collected by NSW Government agencies as part of the Premier's Innovation Initiative.

"The Expression of Interest phase is now open and we are calling on the non-government sectors to come forward with new and creative ways to reuse or reinterpret information held by government," Mr Perrottet said. "Specifically we're asking for ideas on what they could do with potential data sets and also how we can fast track the release of open data."

"The private sector is much better placed than we are to come up with these solutions – that's why we're tapping into the power of the crowd."

Mr Perrottet said the NSW government has already made good progress in releasing datasets to the public.

"Large amounts of data have already been made available online through our NSW Open Data Portal, however we want to explore other uses for our data and what de-identified datasets can be fast-tracked for release to developers.

"Greater transparency and an accelerated release of data could help with the creation of new products and apps that could provide wider benefits for the whole community.

"I see this initiative as being a fantastic opportunity to help improve the delivery of frontline services, such as health, emergency services, education and transport."

Mr Perrottet said the community was already seeing the benefits of the Government's release of open data.

"Over the last few years we've seen tremendous successes through our app development and Apps4NSW programs, with apps like TripView and NSW Seniors Card having been downloaded thousands even millions of times," he said.

"Currently our data is accessed more than 40 million times per month; we can expect this to increase as more industries start to harness and customise uses for de-identified government data."

Expressions of interest for the Premier's Innovation Initiative Open Data challenge can be lodged until 13 October 2014 on the NSW Government's eTendering website, [tenders.nsw.gov.au](http://tenders.nsw.gov.au), or via the [data.nsw.gov.au](http://data.nsw.gov.au) website.

For more information on the Premier's Innovation Initiative visit [www.nsw.gov.au/innovate](http://www.nsw.gov.au/innovate).

**MEDIA: Nigel Freitas 0427 464 623**