



# New Zealand Policy on Information Access:

presentation to the

International Summit on Open Access to Public Sector Information,  
Brisbane, 4 March 2008; Canberra, 6 March 2008

Keitha Booth

Senior Advisor, E-government Strategy and Policy, Information and Communication Technologies Branch



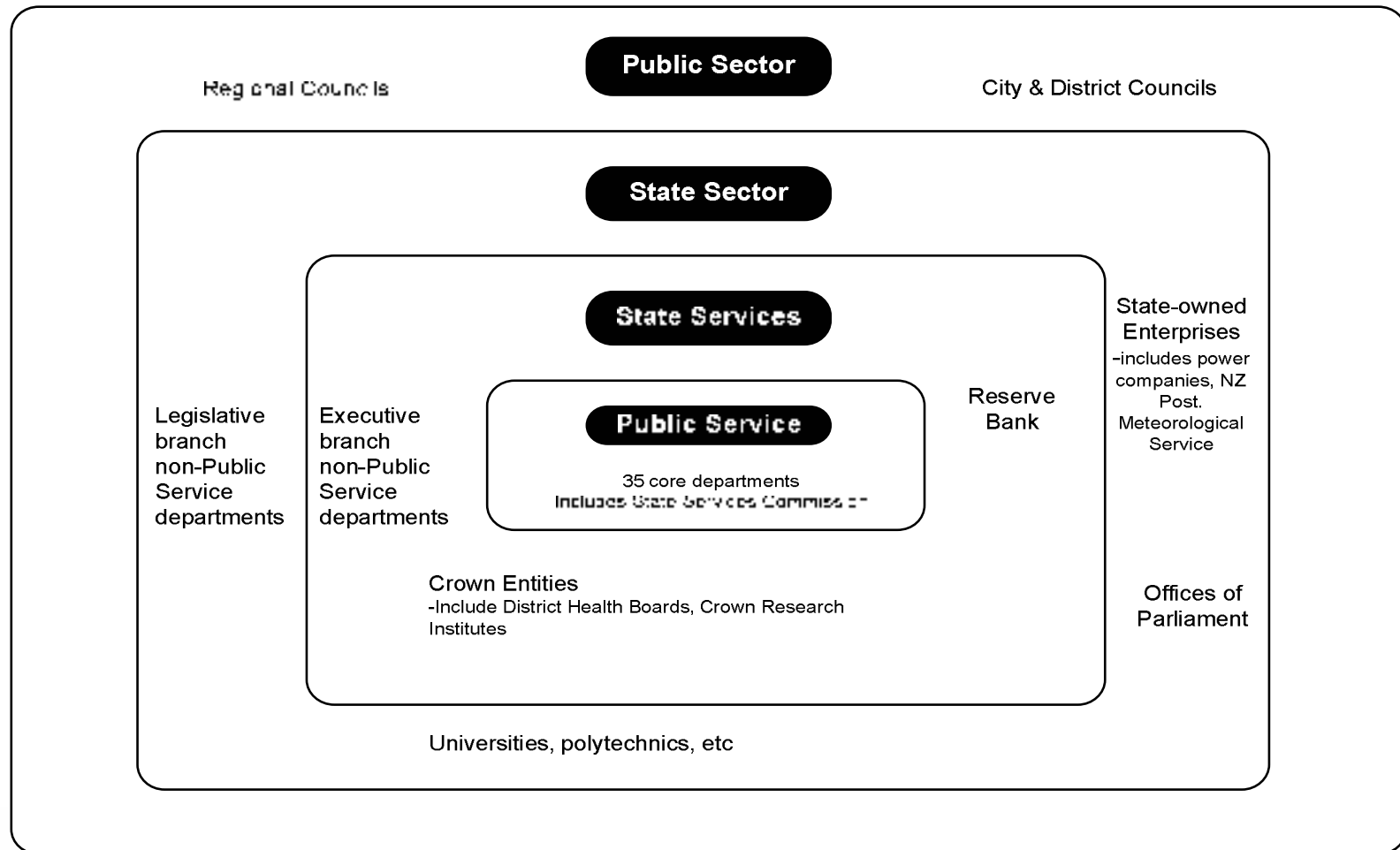
State Services Commission  
Crown Copyright 2008  
[www.ssc.govt.nz](http://www.ssc.govt.nz)



# Contents

- NZ machinery of government
- Information policy leadership
- Policy framework for government held information
- Making it happen
- Ideas for the future

# NZ government





# Public sector information layers

- **Public Service** – statistics; most public registers; land registration
- **State Services** – legislation; research data; motor vehicle registration
- **State Sector** – academic research; meteorological data; property valuation data
- **Public Sector** – local government bylaws, geospatial data



# NZ information policy leadership

## **State Services Commission**

- *Development Goals for the State Services 2005, 2007*
- *E-government strategy 2001, 2003, 2006*
- *Policy framework for government held information 1997*
- *Trusted computing/digital rights management principles and policies 2006*
- *Trusted computing/digital rights management standards and guidelines 2007*
- *NZ web standards 2007 (Crown copyright statement)*



# NZ information policy leadership

## **Ministry of Justice**

- Official Information Act 1982
- Privacy Act 1993
- Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

## **Ministry of Economic Development –**

- Copyright Act 1994
- Digital Strategy 2005; 2008 refresh underway

## **Ministry of Research Science and Technology and Ministry of Education**

- Access to research data – academic, scientific, etc



# Information policy leadership

- **National Library of New Zealand**
  - Digital content strategy 2007
  - Advocacy for NZ Creative Commons licences 2007
  - E-legal deposit 2003
  - EPIC – e-licensing initiative – 22 databases from 6 vendors - 2008
- **Statistics New Zealand**
  - Making more information freely available programme
- **New Zealand Geospatial Office**
  - accountable to the Geospatial Executives Group, which represents some 15 central government agencies
  - Geospatial Strategy 2007
- **Archives New Zealand**
  - Digital sustainability strategy 2008 – being prepared
  - Public Records Act 2005





# Policy framework for Government held information, 1997

- Government's statement of good practice in information management
- Balances the ease of access with security and the need to withhold certain types of information, particularly personal
- Common principles ensure a consistent approach across agencies

# Eleven principles

Availability

Coverage

Pricing

Ownership

Stewardship

Collection

Copyright

Preservation

Quality

Integrity

Privacy

[www.ssc.govt.nz/Documents/policy\\_framework\\_for\\_Government\\_.htm](http://www.ssc.govt.nz/Documents/policy_framework_for_Government_.htm)



# Policy framework supports open access

- Makes information available easily, widely and equitably
- Promotes free access or pricing to cover the costs of dissemination
- Pricing only when the information is created for the commercial purpose of sale at a profit
- Government-held information is a strategic resource 'owned' by the Government as a steward on behalf of the public
- Information created by departments is subject to Crown copyright but where wide dissemination is desirable, the Crown should permit use of its copyrights subject to acknowledgement of source



# Public sector information thrust into the open!

- All published material; indexes
- Policies; forms
- Information created or collected on a statutory basis
  - Subject to commercial sensitivity and privacy considerations
- Cabinet papers
- Select Committee reports
- Discussion papers
- OIA released information
- Online fora – e.g. – Road Safety forum
  - Comments from people; informed comment on comments
  - Final policy framework based on comment and participation

## Browse New Zealand Government

- » A-Z of Government Agencies
- » Participate and be involved
- » Arts and Events
- » Business, Finance and Tax
- » Economy, Industry and Trade
- » Education and Training
- » Emergencies
- » Employment and Jobs
- » Environment, Energy and Conservation
- » Families and Communities
- » Government - Local, Central and Regional
- » Health
- » History and Heritage
- » Housing and Property
- » Immigration
- » Kids and Youth
- » Law and Justice
- » Māori
- » Research, Science and Technology
- » 60s Plus
- » Social Welfare and Support
- » Sport and Recreation
- » Tourism and Travellers
- » Transport and Roads

Find out how to live, work and play in  NEW ZEALAND

## About New Zealand

- » Live and Work
- » Travel
- » New Zealand at a Glance

## Today

Tuesday 26 Feb, 2008, 12:36  
Population: **4,259,324**



### Popular Searches

### Popular Links

citizenship, companies office, education, employment, Government, immigration, IRD, jobs, KiwiSaver, legislation, minimum wage, ministers, passport forms, public holidays, tax, visa

View as: [cloud](#) | [list](#)

## NZ GOVT RSS

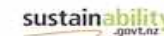
### SORTED NEWS

- » Set your goals



### SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

- » Worms become child's play at a local Kōhanga...
- » Renewable generation for Taranaki students
- » The Outlook for Someday
- » Sustainable TV shows back on the box



### TODAY IN NZ HISTORY

- » 13/02/1869 - Killings at Pukearuhe
- » 14/02/1872 - Te Kooti fights government forces...
- » 14/02/1915 - Maori soldiers sail to war
- » 15/02/1882 - First shipment of frozen meat...



business.govt.nz  
Making sense of business

jobs.govt.nz

Find a school  
Use School Directory to search for a NZ school  
team-up  
Helping our kids learn



**Kia ora. This site contains New Zealand Acts, Bills, and Regulations.  
You can read and download any of these free of charge.**

This website replaces the Interim Website of New Zealand Legislation. However, the Interim Website is still available at [interim.legislation.govt.nz](http://interim.legislation.govt.nz) on a temporary basis. [More information on the transition period.](#)

For an introduction to the New Zealand Legislation website, what it provides, and the status of legislation on the site, see [About this site](#). The [Guide to using the New Zealand Legislation website](#) will help you get started in using the site.

- **Acts** are laws made by Parliament [Search](#) | [Browse](#)
- **Bills** are proposed Acts [Search](#) | [Browse](#)
- **Regulations** are laws made under Acts [Search](#) | [Browse](#)
- **All** of the above [Search](#) | [Browse](#)
- [Glossary](#)
- [About this site](#)
- [Guide to using the New Zealand Legislation website](#)
- [Site map](#)
- [List of access keys](#)
- [Feedback](#)
- [Contact us](#)
- For more information about government services go to [newzealand.govt.nz](http://newzealand.govt.nz)

This site is updated regularly by the [Parliamentary Counsel Office](#), which drafts and publishes most New Zealand legislation.





**DATABASES**

[Animals](#)

[Fungi & micro-organisms](#)

[GIS](#)

[Plants](#)

[Protected areas](#)

[Soil](#)

**COLLECTIONS**

[Animals](#)

[Fungi & micro-organisms](#)

[Plants](#)

[Home](#) > [Databases](#) > [GIS](#) > [Geospatial Data Integration Portal](#)

## Geospatial Data Integration Portal

Landcare Research has environmental data from New Zealand, Antarctica and the also from other places in the world. To explore these data holdings visit the [Portal](#) select World map, NewZealand map or Antarctic map and choose the information to draw on your map from the list provided. Whether you have an interest in animal distributions, soils, insects, fungi or forests – there is good chance you will find information of interest.

Many of Landcare Research's GIS databases are available to use on-line at: [Public GIS Databases](#)

[Read more - gisportal.landcareresearch.co.nz »](#)

**RELATED RESEARCH**

[Geospatial informatics](#)

[Informatics](#)

**PUBLICATIONS**

[Discovery Issue 9](#)

### Primary Contact



Peter Newsome [Email](#)

Landcare Research  
Private Bag 11052  
Manawatu Mail Centre  
Palmerston North 4442  
Phone: 06 353 4800  
DDI: 06 353 4975  
Fax: 06 353 4801



### Home

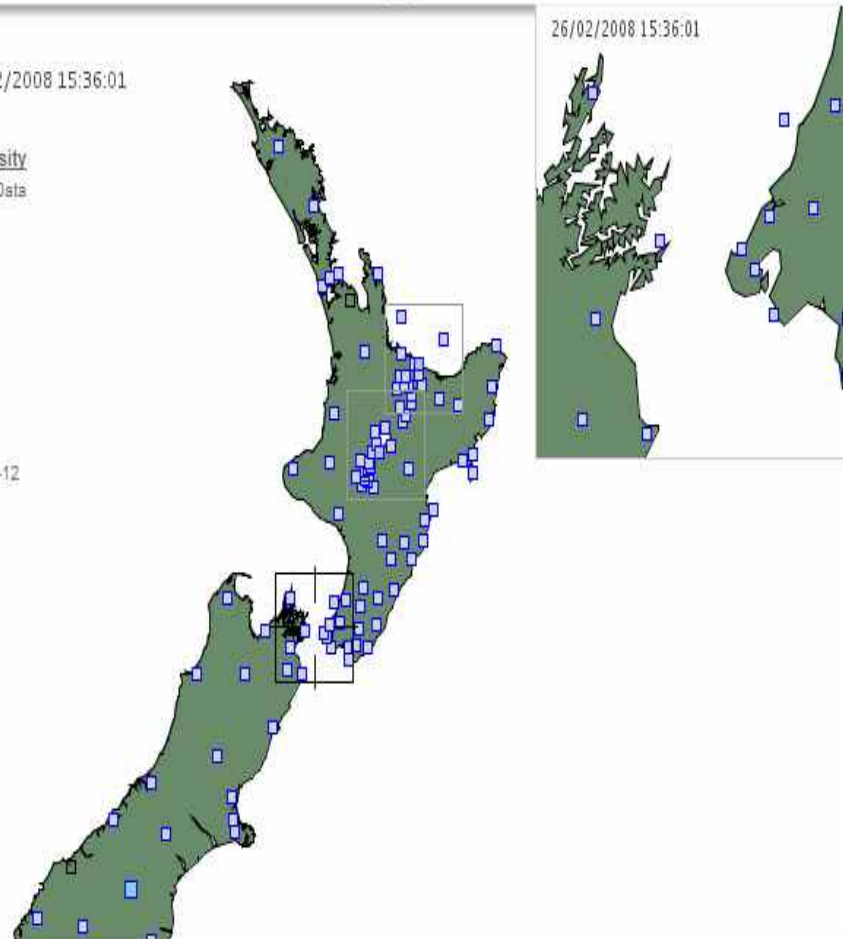
This map shows near real-time shaking intensity from New Zealand's network of seismographs.



26/02/2008 15:36:01

#### Intensity

- No Data
- 0-2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10-12



Reference Number: 2870462  
 NZDT: Mon, Feb 25 2008 6:14 am  
 Magnitude: 3.5  
 Depth: 5 km  
 Details: [20 km west of Bulls](#)

Reference Number: 2869986  
 NZDT: Sun, Feb 24 2008 7:34 am  
 Magnitude: 5.0  
 Depth: 60 km  
 Details: [50 km north of Te Kaha](#)

Reference Number: 2869924  
 NZDT: Sun, Feb 24 2008 5:09 am  
 Magnitude: 3.0  
 Depth: 2 km  
 Details: [20 km north-east of Ohakune](#)

#### News

Feb 20 2008 - Isoseismal maps estimate the...

Feb 5 2008 - GeoNet News, Issue 9

Jan 14 2008 - Volcanic Activity in New...

#### Volcano Alert Bulletins

Mt Ruapehu is at alert level 1: Signs of volcano unrest.

Mt Ngauruhoe is at alert level 1: Signs of volcano unrest.

White Island is at alert level 1: Signs of volcano unrest.


Paouli Island is at alert level 0: 1 level dormant or

## Online Services

NIWA offers a variety of online services, some free to use, some that require pay-per-use or paid subscription, and some that have basic information for free with more detail available at cost.

### Free Services

#### CliFlo

CliFlo  is our new subscription-based web service that provides access to the [National Climate Database](#) - New Zealand's national repository of high quality climate data. It comprises historical paper-based archives dating back to 1860, together with extensive digital, computer-accessible data series amounting to about 20 gigabytes of data.

#### Cam-Era Video Monitoring

Cam-Era is a network of computer-controlled video cameras that monitor the New Zealand environment (for research and resource management) while simultaneously providing images for surfers, swimmers, and other beach users.


#### Canterbury Wave Conditions

Canterbury Wave Conditions uses a wave refraction model to simulate wave heights across the Canterbury continental shelf and along the coast. This modelling provides near real-time information on wave heights for use by surfers, fishers and coastal planners and engineers.

#### Cloud Imagery

Our Free Cloud Imagery service provides a satellite view of New Zealand's weather updated hourly and spanning the last 24 hours.

#### Freshwater Biodata Information System (FBIS)

Freshwater Biodata Information System (FBIS)  - NIWA has completed (under contract to the Department of Conservation), development of an information system that integrates all NIWA-held freshwater biodata - both native and introduced (initially including fish, invertebrates, submerged macrophytes, and algae including diatoms). FBIS provides web-based GIS-supported interactive map searching and display of freshwater biodata from NZ's freshwater ecosystems. FBIS is available both as a data repository and as a source of freshwater biodata for other freshwater data-holding institutions to use. For a summary of FBIS and its functionality see: <http://www.niwa.co.nz/pubs/wa/12-3/fbis>

#### Marlborough Sounds Environmental Monitoring

### Free Services

#### > Free Services

- CliFlo
- Cam-Era
- UV & Ozone
- Tide Forecaster
- Sea Levels
- Canterbury Wave Conditions
- Freshwater Fish Database
- Statistical Calculators
- Marlborough Sounds Environmental Monitoring
- NIWA Invertebrate Collection
- NIWA Screensavers
- > Paid Services
- > National Climate Database

### National Centres

- > Aquatic Biodiversity & Biosecurity
- > Climate Energy Solutions
- > Coasts & Oceans
- > Fisheries & Aquaculture
- > National Climate Centre
- > Natural Hazards Centre
- > Water Resources



## What is this fungus?

[Home](#)

[About Fungi](#)

[Ngā Harore](#)

[Simple Key](#)

[Help](#)

[Feedback](#)



What?

Where?



Open Map Viewer ▶

- Any -

Search

Reset Advanced

#### CATEGORIES

- ▶ Applications
- ▶ Audio/Video
- ▶ Case studies, best practices
- ▶ Conference proceedings
- ▶ Datasets
- ▶ Directories
- ▶ Interactive resources
- ▶ Maps & graphics
- ▶ Other information resources
- ▶ Photo

#### RECENT CHANGES



- ▶ Napier City Subdivision Activity
- ▶ NCSPropInfo
- ▶ Property\_Number
- ▶ Aerial Photo Index A3P
- ▶ Property Number Map Book A3
- ▶ Art Deco Building Register
- ▶ Property Number Map Book A4

#### Featured map

##### ▶ NAPIER CITY SUBDIVISION ACTIVITY

Subdivision activity within Napier City Council Boundary. The dataset provides information on the location of potential as well as existing property development.





Please enter a search term



[Home](#)

[Institutions](#)

[Browse](#) ▾

[Search](#)

[Reports](#) ▾

[About](#) ▾

[Help](#) ▾

## Welcome to the Kiwi Research Information Service

This website is a gateway to the open-access research documents produced at universities, polytechnics, and other research institutions throughout New Zealand.

We have harvested research document metadata from around New Zealand and collected it in one place. You can use this website to [search](#) for research, look up specific [subjects](#) or [authors](#), [browse](#) the research in various ways, and [keep abreast](#) of emerging research activity.

If you're a researcher at a New Zealand institution, we encourage you to [contribute](#) your research outputs to your institution's research repository. nzresearch.org.nz will harvest them and distribute them to your peers - both in New Zealand and worldwide.

### Participating Institutions

#### Universities

- [Auckland University of Technology](#) (313 Records)
- [Lincoln University](#) (257 Records)
- [Massey University](#) (198 Records)
- [The University of Auckland](#) (1926 Records)
- [University of Canterbury](#) (625 Records)
- [University of Otago](#) (703 Records)
- [University of Waikato](#) (236 Records)
- [Victoria University of Wellington](#) (201 Records)

#### Polytechnics

**Latest harvest: 4630 documents  
from 15 institutions.**

New!

#### Recent Records

[σ-aryl, carbene and carbyne complexes of ruthenium and osmium](#)  
**Wright, Leonard James**  
The University of Auckland

[Uttar Pradesh - Lagging State of India: Economic Development and Role of Banks](#)  
**Arora, Rashmi Umesh**  
The University of Auckland

[Gene sequencing and in vitro synthesis of the rotavirus non-structural glycoprotein](#)  
**Powell, Kevin F. H.**  
The University of Auckland

[Error and self-correction in reading and oral language](#)  
**Ng, Seok**  
The University of Auckland





# Pricing policy

- NZ Treasury – Guidelines for setting charges in the public sector
  - Cover supply of information
  - Consistent with Policy framework
- Land Information New Zealand – cost of dissemination
- Statistics NZ – increasingly offering official statistics free of charge



# New information-related projects

- Review of the Privacy Act
- Promotion of the *Trusted Computing/Digital Rights Management Principles and Policies*
- Use & reuse of Government's authoritative data
- Implementation of the New Zealand Geospatial Strategy
  - Greater access to geospatial assets owned, maintained or used by government for a wide range of activities, from emergency services and national defence to utilities, resource management, biosecurity and economic development



# Bright ideas for the future

- Implications of offshore hosting of public sector information
- Consideration of Creative Commons for public sector information
- A programme to ensure open access to research output in New Zealand
- Review of progress towards more accessible information 25 years after the Official Information Act 1982 was passed



## Current housework to make it all happen

- 2008 review of the Policy framework for Government held information
- Clarifying agencies' understanding about Crown Copyright for insertion in the NZ Web standards 2007
- Broadening agency access to and usage of information on the Public Sector Intranet



# Projects to get started

- Greater use of information assets to achieve economic transformation and innovation
  - Offer more data for use in a Web2.0 environment
  - Provide opportunities for commercialisation of official and authoritative data by the private sector
- Ownership of data; impact on trust in government
- Consider the value of a Privacy Commons
  - personal data footprints

# Summary

- NZ's government system supports open access to public sector information
- Our focus is on:
  - enabling use and reuse of authoritative data
  - addressing usage licensing
  - updating access policy for all users
- We welcome collaborative opportunities with other jurisdictions