

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Procurement Act 2020

‘Government Office Accommodation’

Purpose¹:

The Western Australian Government is committed to supporting the Government Office Accommodation directive (the direction) to establish a framework to achieve value-for money office accommodation that supports agencies’ service delivery requirements within a flexible portfolio, operating at or near capacity, with the right size, cost and location.

General Procurement Direction: 2021 / 06

Scope of Operation and Timing:

This procurement direction is issued by the Deputy Director General, Advisory Services, as delegate of the Minister administering the Act.

This procurement direction is issued to all State agencies and applies on and from 1 June 2021.

¹ Purpose: the information under this heading does not form part of the direction.

Government Office Accommodation

The effective management of office accommodation can drive efficiencies, promote collaboration and contribute to the achievement of government priorities and objectives.

The direction seeks to achieve better outcomes by prescribing a set of principles to govern the planning, procurement, fit-out and management of office accommodation.

State agencies must:

- engage the Department of Finance, who will, on behalf of the Minister for Works, procure and manage government office accommodation² for all State agencies³ ;
- obtain ministerial approval for all fit-out or refurbishment works valued over \$100,000;
- develop their office accommodation requests and funding submissions in consultation with the Departments of Finance and Treasury and in accordance with the strategic asset management framework;
- provide the Department of Finance with their 10-year strategic office accommodation plans on an annual basis, including information pertaining to office buildings owned or leased by the agencies, even where only a portion of the office building relates to office accommodation. This includes but is not limited to the size, value, cost, condition and utilisation of these assets.

END OF DIRECTION

1.0 Background

Office accommodation is one of the largest operating expenses incurred by government agencies.

In July 2017, the Government approved the Government Office Accommodation Reform Program to support the Government's Debt Reduction Strategy. The Reform Program has achieved significant savings for government, with the right foundations in place.

All government office accommodation is to be managed in accordance with this Direction and the Government Office Accommodation Policy (Policy), which facilitates access to accurate and reliable information on the portfolio, benchmarking property performance and ensures government assets are being efficiently utilised. The Policy is supported by standards and guidelines. State agencies should familiarise themselves with the requirements included in these documents.

Decision-making in relation to government office accommodation needs to achieve a balance between agency service delivery requirements and the responsible use of public funds. This direction will support the Department of Finance and agencies in working together to achieve this balance.

This direction and supporting documents are available electronically on wa.gov.au. Office accommodation enquiries can be sent to: officeaccommodation@finance.wa.gov.au.

² As defined in the Government Office Accommodation Policy.

³ As defined in the *Procurement Act 2020*.