



Department of Mines,
Petroleum and Exploration

Future ready

Leading WA's global
resources advantage



Acknowledgement

The Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration (DMPE) respectfully acknowledges Aboriginal peoples as being the traditional custodians of Western Australia. We acknowledge the enduring connection Aboriginal people continue to share with the land, sea and sky through both their ancestral ties and custodianship to Country. We pay our respect to Elders both past and present, and acknowledge the value brought to our department through the collective contribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across Western Australia.

Director General foreword

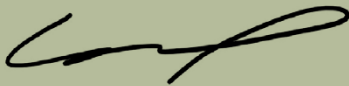
I am pleased to present our 2026–29 Strategic Plan for the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration.

This inaugural plan establishes the foundation for the department's strategic directions that enable and support our capacity to ensure WA's resources are developed responsibly, safely and sustainably.

We lead, advocate and regulate, and as a department we have a critical role in the future of the resources sector in Western Australia. Our strategic directions provide us with the focus that builds capacity and capability to establish ourselves as a newly formed department combining our strengths in scientific excellence, trusted regulatory expertise, professionalism and being culturally responsive.

Our strength is in our people. We are recognised for our passion, commitment and expertise, consistently delivering value to our resources sector and Western Australia.

By working together, we are creating a strong and sustainable resources industry for future generations.



Chris Shaw
Director General



Our vision

To position Western Australia's resources sector as the global leader.

Our purpose

Provide trusted knowledge and stewardship of Western Australia's resources to maximise value for current and future generations.

Our role

Western Australia remains a destination of choice for investors because it offers exceptional mineral and energy potential, supported by a stable, transparent regulatory environment and comprehensive, pre-competitive geoscience datasets. Investors benefit from reliable tenure systems, predictable approvals, strong infrastructure and a skilled workforce capable of delivering complex resource projects. Western Australia's commitment to environmental protection, cultural heritage and a responsible energy transition further strengthens certainty and reinforces its reputation as a secure, future-focused jurisdiction.

Within this landscape, the department provides a constructive, outward-facing role – advocating a strong and sustainable resources sector by grounding decisions in trusted geoscience, clear regulatory standards and transparent processes. The department protects and restores the environment by ensuring resource development is underpinned by a robust, contemporary and trusted regulatory framework. This framework safeguards land, oceans and cultural heritage, while providing certainty and confidence for industry to invest responsibly.

The department enables responsible development through authoritative data, coordinated whole of government approaches, efficient approvals and open engagement. Our strong engagement with industry, government, Traditional Owners and the community, ensures policy and legislative settings anticipate emerging trends, manage risks and support sustainable development outcomes.

Through this stewardship, the department contributes to the confidence, clarity and long-term stability that continue to make Western Australia one of the world's most attractive destinations for resource investment.

Our principles

We lead, advocate and regulate. Our principles guide us in the delivery of our services to the resources sector, the State and all Western Australians.



Drive discovery and innovation.

We create new opportunities and champion our resources sector to benefit Western Australia.



Regulate with purpose.

Our regulation is clear, proportionate and outcomes-focused, supporting the responsible development of the State's resources.



Bold and agile.

We adapt, commit and act decisively to get the best results.



Working together.

We collaborate to achieve great outcomes.



Every voice matters.

We value diversity and engage respectfully.



Do what's right, every time.

We speak and act with honesty and integrity to build trust.



Aligning with Government priorities

We align with the Western Australian Government's vision to remain the strongest economy in the nation. We contribute to the Government's priorities to diversify the Western Australian economy by becoming a global leader in investment attraction, industry facilitation and regulation, and protect and restore our environment.

The department delivers economic, environmental and community benefits for Western Australia by enabling a strong, diversified and sustainable resources sector aligned with the Government's priorities for jobs, investment attraction and environmental protection. By providing clear policy direction, trusted regulation and authoritative geoscience, we support Western Australia's position as a global destination of choice for exploration, investment and responsible resource development—creating jobs and strengthening the State's economy.

Concurrently, the department embeds rigorous environmental protection, cultural heritage considerations and decarbonisation objectives into resource development, supporting a responsible energy transition and the protection and restoration of land and marine environments.



Our strategic directions

Strategic direction 1:

Secure WA's place as lead jurisdiction across the lifecycle of resource development.

Work with industry and the community to improve the sustainability of resource development while protecting our environment and rich cultural heritage.

Deliver world leading geoscience intelligence

- Deliver authoritative, decision-ready geoscience information and resource intelligence that grows exploration, supports coordinated land-use planning and strengthens confidence across government and industry.

Transform tenure systems

- Modernise and future-proof tenure frameworks to ensure reliability, transparency and equity in sustainable resource management.

Demonstrate clear regulatory accountability

- Lead transparent, evidence-based environmental performance and compliance reporting to strengthen trust and ensure responsible operations across the resource sector.
- Drive effective, industry-leading rehabilitation of active, legacy and abandoned resource sites to safeguard environments, communities and long-term regional value.
- Align future-focused regulatory settings to enable timely gas development, secure energy supplies and support energy transition.



Strategic direction 2: **Deliver modern government.**

Drive innovative practices that strengthen connection with our stakeholders by harnessing data and technology to deliver more efficient and transparent outcomes for Western Australia.

Digital transformation

- Invest in digital technology and innovation to enhance decision-making, build organisational capability, improve efficiency and transform the delivery of core services.

Smarter, faster approvals

- Streamline and strengthen approval processes to deliver consistent, timely decisions and reduce delays.
- Modernise compliance and enforcement through risk-based approaches, data and transparency to deliver consistent and effective regulatory outcomes.
- Partner across government through a coordinated, whole of government approach that supports the resource sector, strengthen investment pathways and accelerate economic diversification.

Future-ready policy and legislation

- Modernise legislative and policy frameworks to anticipate emerging challenges and opportunities, ensuring they remain adaptive, forward-looking and aligned to expectations.

Strategic direction 3: **Strengthen our team.**

Empower our people through continuous learning opportunities and providing an environment that is inclusive, diverse and collaborative.

Develop our future workforce

- Develop a high-performance, purpose-driven culture where every employee can be safe, contribute and thrive.
- Build an agile, future-ready workforce environment that attracts high-calibre talent, invests in capability, and retains people through meaningful work, growth and flexibility.
- Build a culturally safe and responsive workforce through initiatives that support reconciliation and inclusion.
- Deliver workplaces that proactively identify and mitigate risk, embed psychological safety, and partner with workers to co-design and implement safe systems of work.

Responsive enablers

- Deliver innovative and insight-driven services that are responsive to business needs and drive better organisational outcomes.
- Develop and embed a strong governance framework that guides effective accountable decision making.



Strategic direction 4:

Deliver trusted, transparent public value.

Deliver accessible, trusted, quality services and data that demonstrate our expertise and capabilities to support Western Australia.

Champion a sustainable resource sector

- Advocate for a dynamic and sustainable resource industry, acknowledging the sector's contribution to the State's economy and the benefits it delivers to the Western Australian community.

Build enduring partnerships

- Deploy place-based community engagement teams to actively listen to Aboriginal communities and local stakeholders and build a shared understanding of complex, region-specific issues.
- Operate in genuine enduring partnership with industry, government, Traditional Owners and the Western Australian community to realise shared outcomes and build lasting trust.

Operate transparently to build trust

- Provide reliable, and timely performance information to enhance transparency and accountability.
- Progress recommendations from government, statutory and audit reviews to improve our delivery and maintain trust in our systems.
- Build organisational resilience to climate risks while reducing the department's operational emissions footprint.





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