THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS 2018-2022
A message from the Corporate Executive

The Department of Finance’s (Finance) *Strategic Directions 2018-2022* outlines our aspirations for the future and how we will bring our vision to life and make a real difference for the benefit of all Western Australians.

Fundamentally, our plan is to focus on our customers’ needs by delivering practical, cost-effective and quality outcomes across government.

Instrumental to the achievement of our *Strategic Directions 2018-2022* will be our people. Our values define who we are and how we go about our business. Our values are to be: inspiring and influential; passionate and committed; honest and respectful; and bold and innovative. By living our values we will see our vision come to life.

Finance has established a strong foundation which we will leverage to pursue our aspirations for a better Western Australia. We now look to a future where being innovative, finding new ways of doing things and reform are a hallmark of what we do.

We want to be public sector leaders who provide high quality advice and services to make a real difference for the people of Western Australia.

**Corporate Executive**

**Department of Finance**
The operating environment

The Government has commenced a significant reform agenda for the State and the public sector. It envisages a public sector that is collaborative, dynamic, customer-focused and efficient.

This presents new and exciting opportunities for Finance and the public sector. It highlights the pressing need for us to quickly adapt to our changing environment, to stay relevant and keep abreast of, or even ahead of, what is happening around us.

The State is also operating in significantly different economic circumstances than in the past and a key priority of the Government is addressing the State’s Budget deficit and net debt, setting a clear expectation for the public sector to realise greater synergies and efficiencies.

Finance’s practical and central role across government is integral to supporting the Government and agencies in reducing costs whilst concurrently driving cost-effective and quality outcomes. Changes to the operating environment provide opportunity for us to extend and enhance our role across the sector.

Changing priorities, our evolving role and increasing community expectations highlight the need for a new strategic direction for Finance. It is a direction that builds on past achievements and brings an enhanced leadership focus: driving practical, cost-effective solutions across government by working innovatively and collaboratively with our customers.
Our aspirations for the future

Finance’s central government role is unique, driving whole-of-government policy and influencing strategy, while also delivering practical outcomes for the community of Western Australia. This unusual blend of focus on policy, as well as service delivery, provides the foundation for Finance to play a pivotal role in enabling the Government to achieve better outcomes for Western Australians.

Since establishment in July 2011, Finance has entrenched a strong foundation based on:

- building and harnessing excellent relationships
- efficient and effective systems and processes
- a strong, diverse and highly capable workforce.

This provides an excellent opportunity for us to leverage our unique value proposition and further challenge ourselves.

Our vision is:

**Driving practical, cost-effective and quality outcomes across government to benefit Western Australians**

Striving to reach our aspiration will require us to rethink how we go about our business and make informed and deliberate changes to what we do. Maintaining the status quo is not an option.

We need to respect and understand the differing needs of our various customers and work collaboratively with them for the benefit of Western Australians. This means that now, more than ever, we will think about the way we deliver our services, who our customers are, what they expect and how those expectations align with government goals and objectives.
Our vision

Driving practical, cost-effective and quality outcomes across government to benefit Western Australians

Influential and sensible
Pro-active solutions
Systems and tools
Best practice

Harness new technology
Data driven insights
Balancing costs and risks

Meet needs
Fit-for-purpose
Value-for-money
Innovative

Leadership
Collaborative
Sector-wide perspective
Co-design

Align with Government’s goals
Focus on customers
Make real difference
Achievement of our vision is supported by six interconnected strategies as to how we will deliver our advice and services. We make a commitment to:

- take a strong collaborative and inclusive leadership approach in all we do;
- always have a whole of sector perspective;
- implement practical solutions based on deep insights and understanding of issues;
- place customers at the centre of service design and delivery;
- deliver innovative, affordable value-for-money outcomes; and
- promote a culture of inspired, inquisitive and capable people.

To do this well, we will focus on building relationships to enable us to work collaboratively, being adaptable and flexible to design solutions.

Our people are key to achieving our vision. We will create and maintain a workplace where people want to work, employees are engaged and the workplace is vibrant, safe and healthy. Our workforce will need to be flexible and responsive. We will continue to develop the skills and capabilities of our workforce to meet the future demands of customers.

By promoting a culture of inspired, inquisitive and capable people, our staff will ask the difficult questions and challenge the status quo. We want to promote positive change and invest in our people so they have the confidence to improve the way we do business.
Our people : Our values

What will guide us to make a real difference is our values-based culture. Our values reflect our vision, who we are and how we go about our business. We want our people to be known for being:

- Inspiring and influential
- Passionate and committed
- Honest and respectful
- Bold and innovative

Our customers can expect that our people will take the lead, be open-minded and collaborative, and encourage others to be their best. We will be enthusiastic and take pride in what we do. We will do what it takes to get the best outcome for our customers. We will know and do what is right, and we will encourage healthy debate and differences of opinion. Our customers will see that we continually strive to work smarter, identify and seize opportunities and put ideas into action.
How we make a difference

We have established a clear direction for the future of Finance and the strategies that will underpin its success. Finance will continually take steps to be a contemporary department that is dynamic, provides practical solutions and works purposefully to deliver outcomes.

Going forward you can expect us to do things differently to make a real difference. You will see:

• one sector thinking and central leadership on building and infrastructure projects, procurement, office accommodation, revenue collection and concessions;
• analysis of data to drive tax efficacy, better asset management and reduce government expenditure;
• capability building across government around commercial and negotiation skills, contract management, procurement planning and project management; and
• transition to online by design to provide customers with greater convenience and lower cost services.

By recognising the challenge ahead of us and focusing on how we do things, together we will achieve our vision of driving practical, cost-effective and quality outcomes across government to benefit Western Australians.
Department of Finance

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