



## The WA Government seeks to create a culture of innovation to maximise the public value of WA public sector ideas, creative works, inventions and discoveries.

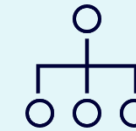
The **Western Australian Government IP Policy** provides a management framework to ensure WA Government agencies use their intellectual property (IP) to **maximise public benefit, knowledge transfer and encourage innovation.**

The IP Policy applies to the public sector as defined under the *Public Sector Management Act 1994 (WA)* and activities using WA Government resources undertaken by agencies, contractors, grant and funding recipients, researchers and commercial bodies under government control.

The activities of WA Government agencies can lead to the creation of valuable IP which can benefit the State by:



Improve lives in the community



Diversify the economy



Attract investment to the State



Create jobs & develop priority sectors

### KEY GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR WA GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

**1**

Identify and facilitate opportunities to obtain maximum benefit to WA from Government IP.

**2**

Consider the commercialisation of Government IP where appropriate and financially viable.

**3**

Consider how Government IP can facilitate positive outcomes for the community and the State.

#### MANAGEMENT & PROTECTION OF IP

**IP is an important asset with potential benefits for the State.**

Agencies are required to implement policies and procedures for consistent, transparent and accountable IP management.



Identify & register IP with significant value.



Protect value of IP.



Address IP ownership & rights in contracts & agreements.



Periodically review & evaluate IP.

#### OWNERSHIP OF WA GOVERNMENT IP

**Generally the State owns IP created by its employees in their employment, unless agreed otherwise.**

The IP Policy provides guidance on ownership arrangements for employment, research partnerships, contractors & suppliers and funding & grants.

Agencies may assign ownership to other parties for the benefit of the State:



Facilitate IP development for the benefit of the WA community.



Facilitate job creation and attract investment.



Build the innovation ecosystem.

#### MAXIMISING PUBLIC BENEFITS OF IP

**Agencies are encouraged to commercialise IP to maximise public value.**

Responsibility for the commercialisation of the IP should be vested with the party best placed to achieve the maximum public benefit.

When making commercialisation decisions agencies should:



Consider strategic priorities, policies & procedures.



Conduct a cost benefit analysis and detailed risk assessment.



Seek expert advice.

#### Sharing benefits

Agencies may consider options to share commercialisation revenue between contributing parties including the IP inventors, the business unit which originated the IP and the agency.

#### RECOGNISE & REWARD EMPLOYEE INNOVATION

**Agencies may recognise WA public sector employees who create significant, inventive and valuable IP.**

Agencies have discretion to implement policies to reward outstanding achievements for employees.

#### Non-monetary rewards

- Public acknowledgment & recognition
- Research time or resources
- Study programs & professional development.



#### Monetary rewards

- Lump sum cash payments
- Periodic payments

