

Government Department Strategy Scorecard

NB: The order in this scorecard does not reflect the order we expect the GDS to follow, but is the order we expect the GDS to be formulated in.

Name of GDS: Government Department: GDS number (#/136):		Possible Score	Actual Score	Comments
1. Opportunities and Threats <i>What context: Does it explore the ecosystem in which this strategy fits?</i>				
a.	Does it identify opportunities going forward?	4		
b.	Does it identify threats going forward?	4		
c.	Is there a clear statement describing the problem this strategy is trying to solve?	8		
2. Capabilities and Resources <i>What assets: Does it outline the capabilities and resources the department has to help solve this problem?</i>				
a.	Does it identify current and future capabilities (e.g. skills, partnerships/relationships etc)?	4		
b.	Does it identify what capabilities it does not have and needs to acquire or work around?	4		
c.	Does it identify current and future resources (e.g. funds, fixed assets)?	4		
d.	Does it identify what resources it does not have and needs to acquire or work around?	4		
3. Vision and Benefits <i>Why this is important: Does it describe why the department should solve this problem?</i>				
a.	Does it provide a clear vision as to what success would like (a desired future condition)?	8		
b.	Does it identify who the beneficiaries are and how they will benefit?	4		
c.	Does it describe how success will be measured and over what time frame?	4		
4. Approach and Focus <i>Why this approach: Does it describe how the department will solve the problem?</i>				
a.	Does it break down the vision into unique strategic objectives (rather than fluff or hubris)? (e.g. we will achieve this vision by focussing on these specific goals ...)	4		
b.	Strategies - Does it identify a range of ways these strategic objectives might be achieved (strategic options or alternative approaches) (NB: think how - goals on their own are not a strategy – strategy is about ‘matching the resources at your disposal to specific situation or context and using them in unexpected ways to create an advantage or overcome a disadvantage’ [Crainer & Dearlove, p.170])	4		
c.	Strategy - Does it clearly describe the selected approach/strategy? Please write that approach in one sentence below (Q3)	4		
d.	Has the approach been critically assessed? (e.g. possible unintended consequences, does it identify who might be disadvantaged)	4		
5. Alignment and Authority <i>With: Does it align with the wider machinery of government?</i>				
a.	Does it discuss predecessors to the strategy and identify any lessons learnt from these? (vertical alignment)	4		
b.	To what extent does it align with its department’s SOI? (horizontal alignment)	4		
c.	To what extent does it align with its department’s 4YP? (horizontal alignment)	4		
d.	To what extent does it align with its department’s Annual Report? (horizontal alignment)	4		
6. Implementation and Accountability <i>Who: Does it identify who is implementing and reviewing the GDS?</i>				
a.	How well does it identify who is responsible for the GDS?	4		
b.	How well does it identify who will report on its progress?	4		
c.	How well does it explain how progress will be reported?	4		
d.	Upon completion or expiry of the GDS, are the arrangements for a review outlined?	4		
TOTAL		96		

1 – Does the GDS contain an illustration of the strategy/approach? If so, what page?

2 - Describe the selected approach/strategy in one sentence below:

3 – After an hour of reading this GDS, do you think that a public servant would be informed on the key points of the issue and how the outcomes sought will be achieved?

4- If an uninformed member of the public had less than an hour to read this GDS, would they be able to understand its overall purpose, strategic outcomes and review processes?

5- Other comments: