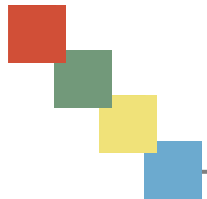Queensland Spatial Information Council
smart spatial solutions for Queensland

CC Tech Summit

Government Information Licensing Framework - a multidisciplinary project improving access to Public Sector Information
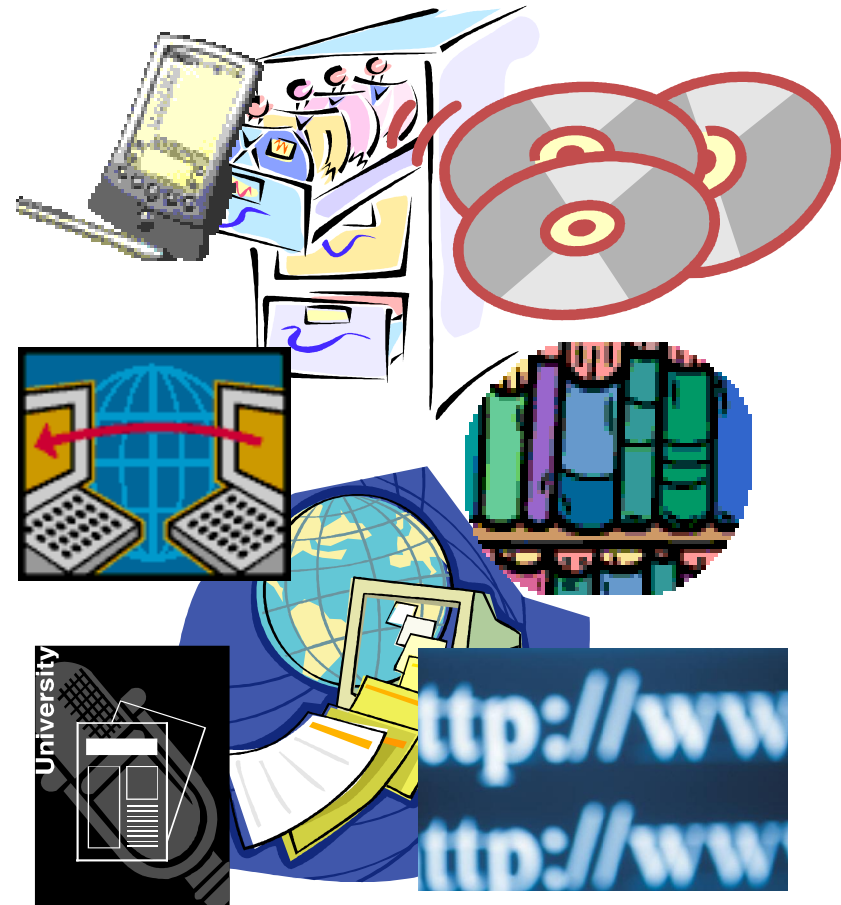
Date 12 December 2008
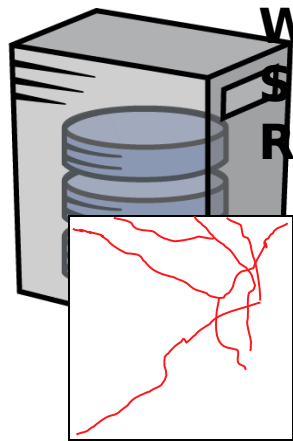
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Government

GILF Project Participants

- Funding Cooperative Research Centre for Spatial Information
- Queensland Government - Economic and Policy
- Queensland University of Technology - Legal & Policy
- Australian Bureau of Statistics - Technical
- Landgate Corporation - Spatial Implementation –
- Acknowledge the work of colleagues but views expressed here are not necessarily those of any of these organisations.
- Split between research and Government Implementation

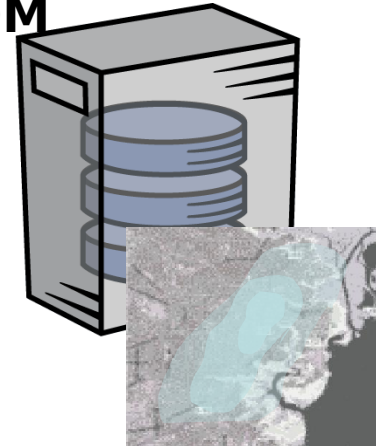# What types of information does government hold?

- Reports, bulletins, briefs
- Statistical or factual profiles, data tables
- Technical reports
- Research
- Maps
- Satellite imagery
- Property boundaries
- Images
- Web pages
- Recordings (audio, video)
- Administrative Collections

Web Feature Server – Sunshine Coast Regional Council
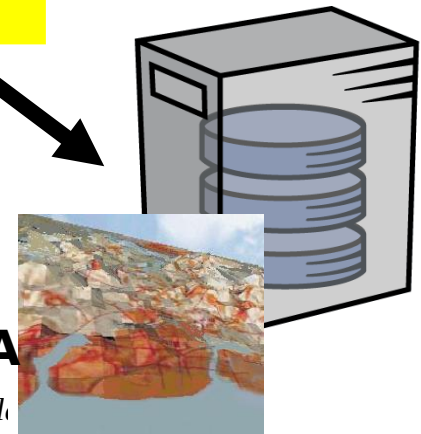
Web Coverage Server - BOM

Web Map Server - QDNRW

Web Terrain Server - GA

Tech Capability to Publish & Disseminate out-stripping Licensing & other Legal Obligations

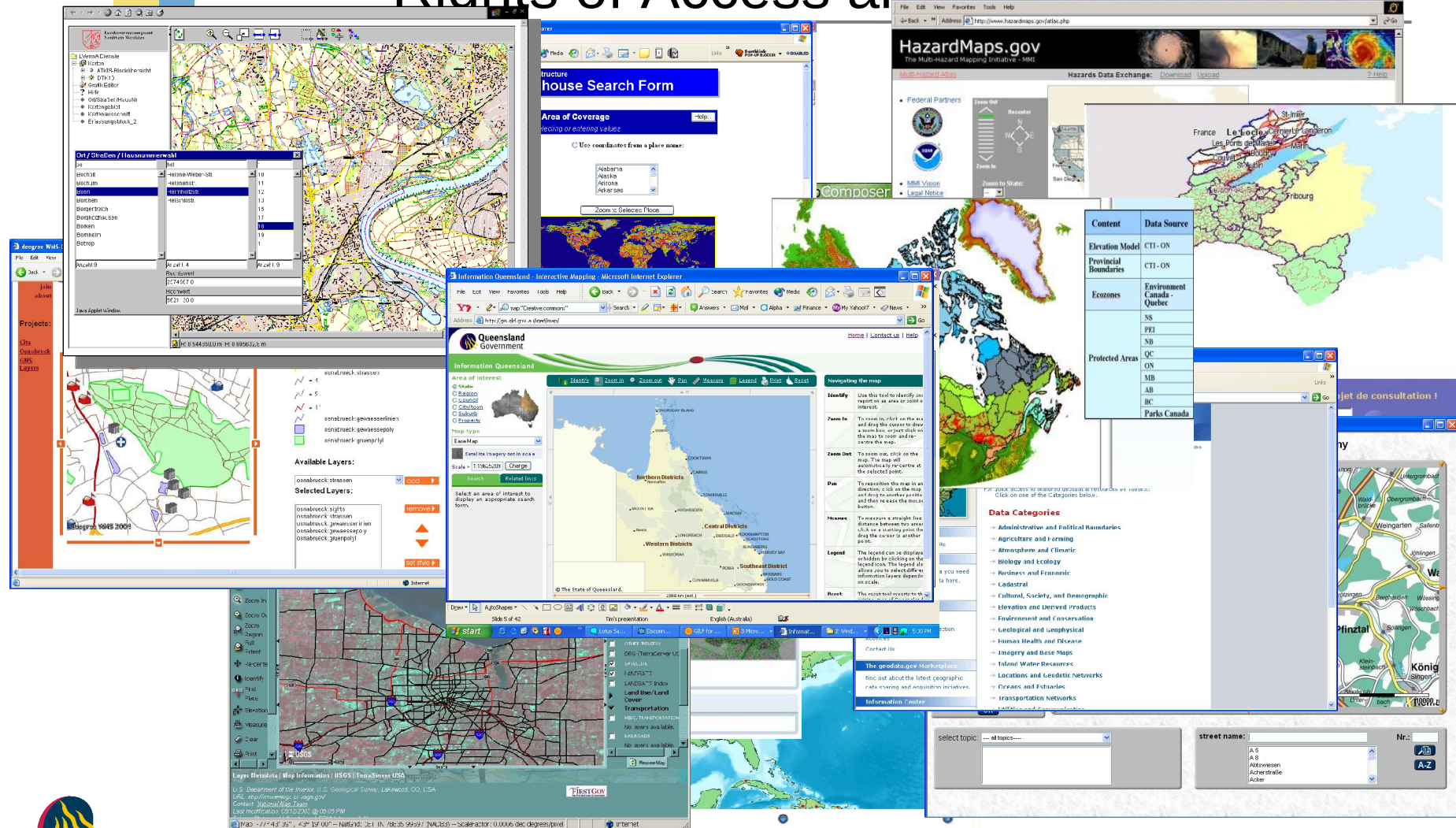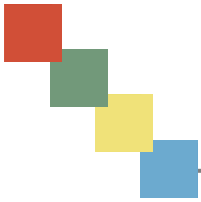# Government Service Channel Delivery Demands Clearer and Simpler Management of Rights of Access and Sharing

AIM of GILF Implementation Project

- Deliver a standard set of terms and conditions for information licensing.

- That will work effectively and legally in practice.

- But must fit within a national and internationally recognised environment.
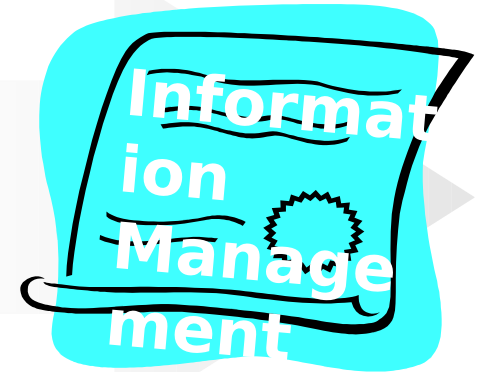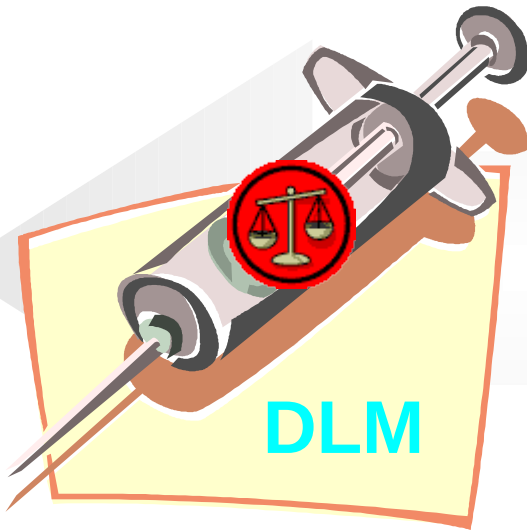
Why Government needs to License

- Australian Governments have copyright on works

- Copyright in Australia extends to works with relatively small creative components such as databases eg white pages directory.

- This has some positive impact in that Government must be attributed, but it raises the need for a clear licensing model

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GILF Components

creative commons **RL**

DLM

Information Management

Legal Review

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Restrictive Licence (RL)

- Many public sector transactions involve information that can only be used in a restricted way
  - Personal and confidential information
  - Legislative and statutory restrictions
  - Security and Commercial in Confidence
- Restrictive Licence
  - Based on copyright and contract law
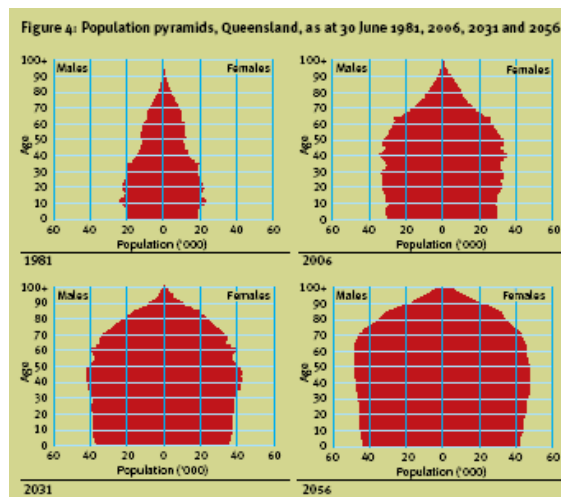
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Surface Water Database

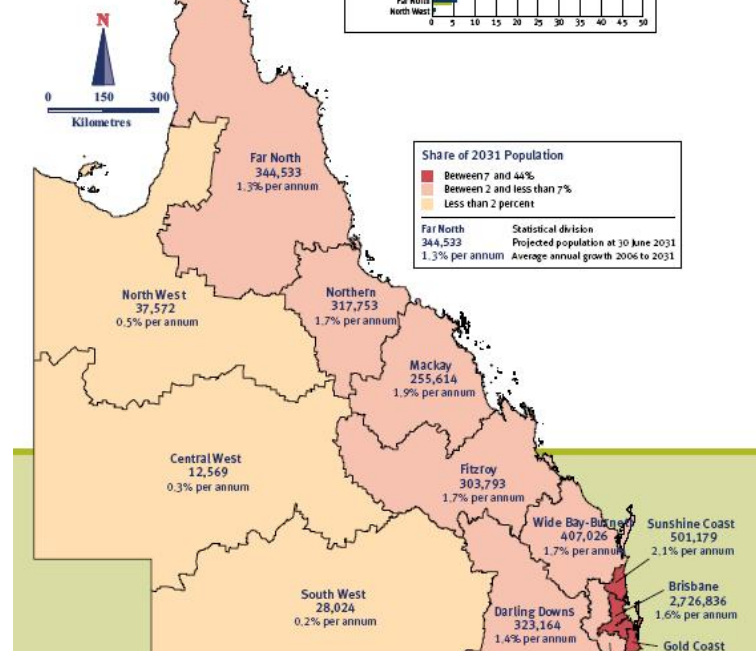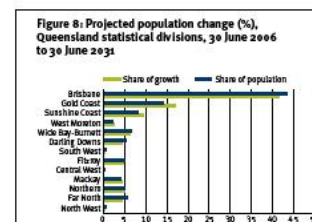- Australia Yellow Waters Billabong by Pedro Lopez

Population projections 2006-2056 Queensland and Statistical Divisions

• **Queensland 1/5 of the area of the USA**
• **65% of the 4 million population live in the SE**
• **We have an aging population**

Figure 4: Population pyramids, Queensland, as at 30 June 1981, 2006, 2031 and 2056

Total population 2031
6,273,883
Average annual growth 2006 to 2031
1.7%

Figure 8: Projected population change (%), Queensland statistical divisions, 30 June 2006 to 30 June 2031
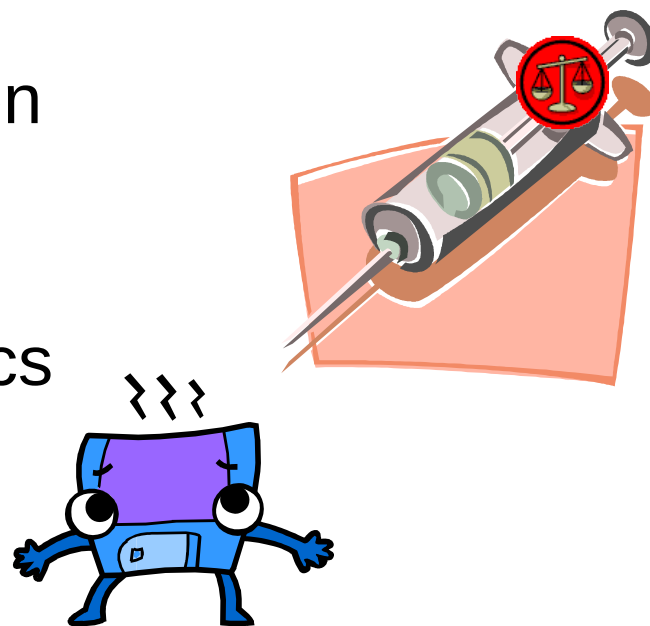
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders (Census 2006 Bulletin no. 4)

Aurukun indigenous community, Copyright Google Maps

Digital Licence Management

- The primary purpose of the DLM is to embed license metadata
- Also does visible markings on some file formats
- Developed in Java
- Australian Bureau of Statistics are leading development
- Why the name?

Benefits of Digital Licence Management

- Easy link from data to licence

- Find information based on its license
  - Eg: free to use or share

- Clear licence branding on data

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More Software??

- When DLM was started a suitable alternative was unavailable for the technical environment

- Liblicense is a current alternative. We will work with Creative Commons to determine the fit

- Initial discussions see a role for DLM in Java environment

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DLM Design

- The software has been designed for extensibility and integration

- New licenses can be added

- New file formats supported as injectors

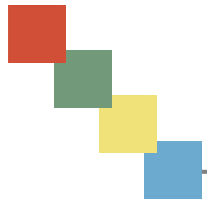- Basic API which can be called from other applications such as CMS

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Current Functionality

- Supported file types for metadata injection and visible elements
  - PDF
  - HTML
  - XML
  - MS Office 2002
  - JPG

Future Functionality

- Resolve some design issues
  - Eg Licenses in XML same approach as liblicense
- Support for web services specifically spatial
  - Standards based approach
- Support for additional file types eg images & GML
- Investigate additional metadata fields eg Dublin Core
- Get the application in a collaborative environment
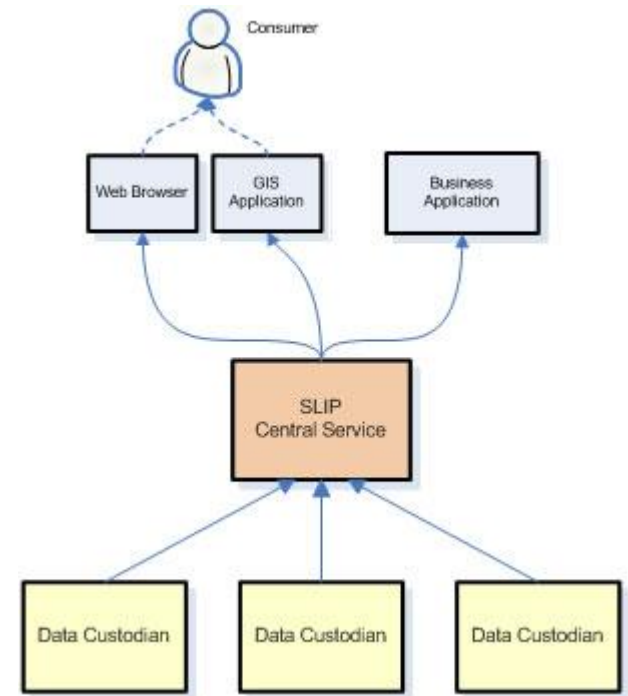
Queensland Government
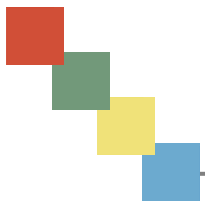
Planned implementations

- Office of Economic and Statistical Research
  - Integration with the Electronic Document Records Management System and Content Management System
  - Extract metadata from attachments and store in CMS
  - Inject metadata into attachments
  - Inclusion of HTML CC License and optionally RDFa

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Planned implementation

- Western Australian Shared Land Information Platform (SLIP)

- 23 Agencies

- 350 datasets
  - Roads
  - Land boundaries
  - Geology
  - Agriculture

- Need clear licence metadata

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SLIP

- Information delivered via Open GIS Consortium format WebMap & WebFeature Services

- Need to amend standards to support insertion of license metadata into the services and or outputs

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What's after licensing

- Metadata catalogues
- We're looking for an approach were:
  - Agencies are responsible – manage with metadata
  - Information is broadly discoverable through web search engines
  - The catalogues can participate in specific metadata networks

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Information Discovery

- Current approach in government is mixed:
  - Registers of metadata – deep web
  - Unstructured descriptions on web pages – good for web search
  - Investigating an alternative approach using RDFa

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DataList example

Queensland Spatial Information Council   *smart spatial solutions for Queensland*

Structured content

```
– <rdf:Description rdf:about="http://datalist.oesr.qld.gov.au/metadata-examples/births.shtml">
      <ns0:title>Births Data, Queensland</ns0:title>
  </rdf:Description>
– <rdf:Description rdf:about="http://datalist.oesr.qld.gov.au/metadata-examples/births.shtml">
    – <ns0:description>
        Demographic unit record data on births registered in Queensland
      </ns0:description>
  </rdf:Description>
– <rdf:Description rdf:about="http://datalist.oesr.qld.gov.au/metadata-examples/births.shtml">
      <ns0:creator>OESR - Queensland Treasury</ns0:creator>
  </rdf:Description>
– <rdf:Description rdf:about="http://datalist.oesr.qld.gov.au/metadata-examples/births.shtml">
    – <ns0:rights>
        Restricted - Unit record data can not be released without the Government Statisticians approval.
      </ns0:rights>
  </rdf:Description>
– <rdf:Description rdf:about="http://datalist.oesr.qld.gov.au/metadata-examples/births.shtml">
      <ns0:source>Australian Bureau of Statistics</ns0:source>
  </rdf:Description>
```

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Structured for Google

DataList - **Births** Data
Births Data, Queensland. Description. Demographic unit record data on **births** registered in Queensland. Custodian. OESR - Queensland Treasury. Rights ...
datalist.oesr.qld.gov.au/metadata-examples/**births**.shtml - 9k - Cached - Similar pages -

- Use of heading tags eg <H1>
- Description metadata tag rather than dc.description
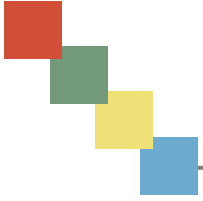- Sitemaps

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Structured for Search Monkey

- Include RDFa Dublin Core and Australian Government Locator Service

- Search result is more appealing and useful

- Does not improve discoverability at this stage

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Summary

- The purpose of the GILF project is to improve access to Government Information

- The information is not that different to private sector and research data

- We would like to collaborate.

Discover more about QSIC at
www.qsic.qld.gov.au

Email: qsio@treasury.qld.gov.au

Phone: (07) 3235 9010

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