



June 2018

Landgate: A strong, innovative statutory authority.

FAQs

The State Government has rejected the sale of Landgate and has opted instead to commercialise a restricted part of Landgate's electronic functions.

The Government has decided to commercialise a restricted part of Landgate's functions — automated titling, which involves the electronic processing of property transactions.

The Government will retain ownership and oversight of the land titles register, and Landgate itself will continue to function as a statutory authority.

There will be no change to existing protections for property owners. The existing security, privacy and integrity of the land titles register will be maintained, and any arrangement would include pricing safeguards.

The Government will commence an open and competitive process in the coming months to find the right operator of the services.

1. What is Landgate?

Landgate administers Western Australia's land and property information. Landgate's core business is:

- Land Titling which includes maintenance of the Land Titles Register;
- Valuations to support rating and taxing;
- Location Information including capture and maintenance of geographic information; and
- SPUR – the State's location information hub - supporting collaboration and innovation to harness the value of location information for the benefit of the State and management of the State's Open Data Policy.



2. Why is part of Landgate being commercialised?

Landgate has transformed itself into a world class operator and the time is right for the Government to realise a return on this investment.

A scoping study identified that currently there is strong market interest for this type of transaction, and the Government has decided the greatest value to the State is to seek a return on the automated land titling functions.

Now is the right time to realise value from an agency that was always set up to act commercially and generate value for the State.

3. What exactly is being commercialised?

Only a part of Landgate's business will be commercialised - automated land titling functions. These functions involve the electronic processing of property transactions without the need for manual processing or the exercise of employee discretion. The scope also includes searches of the title register, property interest reports, electronic advice of sale service and e-conveyancing lodgment support services.

Landgate will continue to maintain all other functions, including manual titling transactions.

4. Will my privacy be protected?

All existing privacy protections, including compliance with Federal privacy laws, will be maintained. The land titles register will continue to be owned by the State Government, and it will continue to have oversight of the titles register and protect people's property rights by guaranteeing the indefeasibility of title.

5. What will happen to the cost of services?

Pricing for services provided under the contract will be capped at CPI or CPI plus one per cent, meaning the new operator will be restricted in the prices that they can charge customers. This matter will be determined as part of the tender process.

6. What will this mean for Landgate services?

The general public will continue to deal with Landgate. There will be no change to the level or type of service provided for titling services as a result of this transaction.

The land titles register will continue to be owned by the State, and Landgate and the Registrar of Titles will have oversight of the new operator. Strict performance measures, operating protocols and service level agreements will be part of the contract.

Other Landgate services will continue to be provided as they are today.



7. What does this mean for Landgate customers?

Our customers will continue to be at the heart of everything we do and should see no change in service: they will continue to deal with the same people, on the same contact numbers, in the same locations.

8. What does this mean for Landgate staff?

There will be no forced redundancies as a result of this decision.

There will be no impact to Landgate staff with the introduction of a commercial operator providing the automated land titling functions as no staff will be transferred to the operator.

Landgate will continue to run an efficient, innovative and customer focused business in line with its strategic direction and will continue to harness the benefits of technological advancements into the future.