



ACT
Government

ACT Government Chief Engineer

Strategic Directions 2022-25



A message from the Chief Engineer

As the ACT Government Chief Engineer my responsibility is to provide the ACT Government with strategic advice on key infrastructure projects and the broader industry environment, supporting informed decision making for our city's infrastructure planning. This enables the Government to support the community through the delivery of robust and fit for purpose infrastructure.

As we continue to plan, design and deliver infrastructure projects essential to Canberra's future, the importance of good engineering advice has never been more critical.

I will continue to bring together engineers from across government to recognise and promote their value and continue to offer professional development opportunities through the ACT Government Engineering Workforce Plan.



I look forward to working across government and with industry as we strive to deliver high quality engineering outcomes to make Canberra the world's most liveable city.

Adrian Piani
Chief Engineer



The Role of the Chief Engineer

Vision

To provide strategic advice on infrastructure projects, to advocate for the role of engineering and to ensure the ACT Government has the relevant engineering skills to deliver high quality engineering outcomes to make Canberra the world's most liveable city.

Mission

To achieve this vision the ACT Chief Engineer will:

01

Support the safe delivery of **infrastructure**.



02

Provide leadership on **sustainability** in the built environment.



03

Promote the advantages of a **digital transformation**.



04

Advocate for engineering in its broadest sense, including engagement with the **education sector**.



05

Engage with industry to facilitate collaboration across the infrastructure **supply chain**.



06

Support the engineering cohort of the **ACTPS** with professional development opportunities.



01 Support the safe delivery of infrastructure.

As professionals working in the built environment, the ACT public service and our industry partners have the safety of the community in our hands and we must deliver safe solutions.

Safety encompasses the physical and psychological safety of our people, as well as safety on site and the safety of the Canberra community as they move around the ACT.

The Chief Engineer will support the ACT Government to achieve optimal infrastructure outcomes through the provision of early well evidenced and strategic advice in all of the phases of decision making, including through membership on key infrastructure related committees.

02 Provide leadership on sustainability in the built environment.

Sustainability and environmental performance is a foundational element of the engineering process. The Chief Engineer will seek to influence the profession, and the total infrastructure supply chain to both deliver infrastructure in a sustainable and environmentally enhancing way, and to create infrastructure that by its very nature promotes sustainability and environmental outcomes.

The ACT Government has a strong sustainability agenda, with 100% renewable energy currently being used across the Territory and a net zero emissions target for 2045.

Infrastructure has a significant part to play in creating a sustainable, low carbon future. The Chief Engineer will assist decision making to ensure that the delivery of infrastructure can support the Government in delivering this outcome.

03 Promote the advantages of a digital transformation.

Progressing digital engineering as an initiative within government is timely. It has the ability to support the safe and efficient delivery of infrastructure in the short-term, and then once adopted more fully, can provide a platform for improved asset management and city-wide planning

initiatives through the concept of Digital Twins and Building Information Models (BIM).

The Chief Engineer will continue to champion a digital transformation in the infrastructure sector.

04 Advocate for engineering in its broadest sense, including engagement with the education sector.

The engineering profession is broad, encompassing all areas of human endeavour including areas such as biomedical, aeronautical, advanced technology and manufacturing. Although the Chief Engineer role focuses on infrastructure, it also represents the entire profession, and the different sectors engineers work in.

The Chief Engineer will develop positive relationships with local institutions: Australian National University; University of Canberra;

University of New South Wales and Canberra Institute of Technology. This will encompass acting as an advocate for engineering and promoting the ACT Government as an employer of choice for engineering graduates.

The ACT Government is committed to delivering an engineering registration scheme, the Chief Engineer will continue to partner with the lead Directorate and provide an advisory role in the development of the scheme.

05 Engage with industry to facilitate collaboration across the infrastructure supply chain.

Partnering with industry is central to delivering infrastructure for the Territory. A strong partnership and understanding of each other's drivers will support the coordinated delivery of infrastructure projects and amplify efforts to deliver better outcomes for the community. Working together also sends a clear signal to industry about the capability and skill mix that will be needed in the years to come, so they can recruit and invest in the next generation of local workers.

The Chief Engineer will continue to host industry briefing sessions, innovation forums and project working groups.

06 Support the engineering cohort of the ACTPS with professional development opportunities.

In September 2020, the ACT Government Engineering Workforce Plan was released. The Workforce Plan contains 19 actions designed to enable the ACT Government to build the engineering capability required to meet the future needs and growth of the Territory.

The Chief Engineer will continue to deliver on the Workforce Plan by; boosting the recruitment of engineers, targeting entry-level and diverse groups, optimising the existing ACT Government engineering workforce, strengthening the engineering profession in the ACT, and collaborating with key stakeholders.

Stakeholders

The ACT Chief Engineer is accountable to ACT Government Ministers and, through them, to the Canberra community. Successful industry and government engagement is reliant upon integrity, openness and accountability.

Key external stakeholders include:



THE ACT COMMUNITY
AND COMMUNITY
REPRESENTATIVES



PLANNING
AUTHORITIES



INDUSTRY
ORGANISATIONS



OTHER JURISDICTIONS
AND VARIOUS REGULATORS



UNIONS



INFRASTRUCTURE
FIRMS