

Digital Policy Office launches data governance thematic web page

The Digital Policy Office (DPO) launched a thematic web page on data governance today (December 3) covering the Principles of Data Governance and the relevant strategy, guidelines, and technical standards, etc concerning data governance to introduce the Government's data governance policies in a one-stop manner.

In December last year, the Innovation, Technology and Industry Bureau promulgated the Policy Statement on Facilitating Data Flow and Safeguarding Data Security in Hong Kong, which proposed enhancing data governance as one of its action items. Following the establishment of the DPO in July 2024, the thematic data governance web page aims to integrate existing data governance strategies focusing on open data and data sharing, and elaborate in detail the guiding principles and work objectives set by the Government for data governance, thereby enhancing the quality and reliability of data, promoting data flow and sharing, and strengthening data protection. These efforts support government departments and society in leveraging data better for development.

There are three guiding principles of data governance:

1. The opening up, sharing and application of data shall be conducted in compliance with relevant laws and regulations, and ensure the protection of personal data privacy. Personal data sharing must be conducted with appropriate authorisation;
2. Data security forms the foundation of open data and data sharing. The opening up, sharing and application of data shall take into account data security, which includes ensuring security and protection of data content, as well as safeguards on the sharing, flow and usage of data; and
3. Corresponding data governance principles should be adopted for different types of data to balance the opening up, usage and protection of data.

The Principles of Data Governance as attached have been uploaded to the data governance thematic web page for reference by industries and the general public

(www.digitalpolicy.gov.hk/en/our_work/data_governance/policies_standards/). The thematic web page also provides consolidated information on data policy, laws and guidelines, supporting facilities, as well as protection of data security, etc.