

## Progress Report for Open Data Governance Board Meeting, 25 April 2017

### Governance Activities

The Public Bodies Working Group met on 30 March – no date has been set for their next meeting as yet.

Suggested dates for meetings of the Board for the remainder of the year are Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> or Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July and Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October and Board members are asked to confirm their availability on these dates as soon as possible.

### Open Data Strategy

The draft Strategy was discussed at the Public Bodies Working Group meeting held on 30 March and a revised draft taking into account their observations has been circulated.

### Next Steps

The draft strategy has been sent to the Assistant Secretary Ms. Lucy Fallon Byrne and Secretary General Watt (Department of Public Expenditure & Reform) for approval to submit to the Minister. Subject to the Minister's approval, it is intended to circulate a Memorandum for Government's approval to publish the strategy and to undergo a short (2-3 week) consultation process prior to its publication. It may be necessary to circulate a second Memorandum for Government for approval to publish the final version of the strategy (in late May/early June). It is anticipated that the final strategy will be published by end June/early July.

### Open Data Support

Both tenders for open data technical support and training are currently under evaluation.

### Data Suggestions

Suggestions made through the 'Suggest dataset' feature <https://data.gov.ie/dataset/suggest> continue to be followed up on by the Open Data Team with mixed success. Some 56 suggestions have been received to date.

The number of datasets available on the portal continues to grow although the number added in March was low at 20 (down from 220 in February). The portal now links to approximately 4,800 datasets from 97 publishers. New publishers include the D/Foreign Affairs and Science Foundation Ireland.

The 'latest news' section is updated regularly and there are now 9 '[showcases](#)' on the portal. Regular tweets are also being sent.

### New Datasets and Highlights

Increase in number of datasets: <https://data.gov.ie/stats>

- 220 in February and 20 in March.

These include:

- Science Foundation Ireland Grant Commitments
- Datasets from Irish Aid
- Civil Service Business Customer Service Results
- 3 datasets on housing supply and construction stats.
- Sports capital payments/allocations 2000/2016
- 2016 NCT pass/fail rates

- There were 8339 visitors to the portal in March, the highest number yet.

### New Features

- Some new features are planned for the portal. These include publishing the open source code for the portal, improvements to the visualisations on the home page and the inclusion of an explanation of the formats (json etc.) together with links to open source tools so as to make the portal more user friendly.
- The Open Data Team has been working with Derilinx and the OGCIO to customise a query tracking system to enable dataset suggestions received via the portal and via other channels to be monitored and managed centrally. Due to the volume being received, it is proving necessary to have some sort of system in place to ensure that follow up is being tracked in an efficient manner. This is now up and running on a test basis.

### National and International Engagement

The Open Data Unit responded to the OECD Survey on Open Government Data in January.

The next European Data Portal landscaping exercise, conducted by Capgemini (the consultants engaged by the EU Commission to build the European Data Portal, <http://www.europeandataportal.eu/>) is due in June.

A European Commission survey on how the PSI Directive is being implemented in Ireland is due to be returned by end June. This will be circulated to all departments for input.

A representative from the Open Data Unit attended a joint meeting of the Public Sector Information Group and Sub Group on data portals in Luxembourg on 20<sup>th</sup> April.

The Open Data Unit presented at a European Commission Open Data In-Country Support Workshop in Stockholm on 23/24 March on the best practices Ireland has implemented to date, how Ireland became open data 'mature' and the next steps for Ireland's Open Data Initiative.

The Open Data Unit supported and attended a hackathon on Eircodes and HSE location data on February 10<sup>th</sup>. Further details and the winning entries are available on the [portal](#).

It is expected that a presentation on Open Data will be made at the Data Sharing Global Summit taking place in Dublin Castle on 15/16 June.

The portal has been nominated for an e-government award – the results will be announced on 26<sup>th</sup> May.

### Engagement Fund

The successful applicants were asked to report back on progress on their projects at end March. The following were received:

- Progress report on Correlations in Agriculture (John O'Brien, Crème Software)
- Progress Report on Linking Datasets with Ordnance Survey Ireland's Authoritative Linked Data (Christophe Debruyne, ADAPT Centre, TCD)
- Progress Report on Uplift: Generating RDF from Non-RDF Resources (Prof Declan O'Sullivan, ADAPT, TCD)
- Progress Report on planned Open Data Training (Rebecca Grant, NLI)

- Progress Report on visualisation of Crimes at Garda Station Level 2003-2015 (Cyril Connolly, IADT)- project completed
- Progress Report on visualisation of Pedestrian Footfall (Capel St, Henry St, Mary St, O'Connell St) (Cyril Connolly, IADT)- project completed
- Progress report on Quality of Life (Brian O'Mullane, Crème Software)
- Blog Post- Apps for Gaps- Building Apps with Open Data –(Niall O'Brolchain, Insight)
- Blog Post- Geo Open Data Publishing Best Practices in a Day- (Trevor Alcorn, Marine Institute)- project completed
- Email progress update on workshops focused on exploring health data (Flora Fleischer, Open Knowledge Ireland)
- Report awaited from Dublinked

Participants will be asked to provide a blog post at the completion of their projects and will be asked to submit a showcase to the data.gov.ie portal where appropriate. A number of the projects are due to complete in June with some others extending later into the year.

### Engagement with Public Bodies

The Open Data Unit are continuing to engage with public bodies on open data albeit at a slow pace. The Unit has been in contact with recently recruited statistician in the Department of Children & Youth Affairs with regard to release of open data from that Department in due course. Met Eireann is recruiting an Open Data Officer and will be working on an open data portal with plans for it to link to the national portal in due course. The Unit met with officials from D/Oireachtas to get a preview of the new Oireachtas website.

Examples of progress being made across public bodies in implementing Open Data is attached at Appendix 1.

Open Data Unit  
25 April, 2017

Ends/

Examples of progress on implementing the Open Data Initiative across public bodies

Organisation	An update of progress in your organisation's implementation of the Open Data Initiative for Q1 2017 - for example, datasets put on data.gov.ie, data audit carried out, open data events attended/held etc.	An update of any open data activities planned for the coming months.	Any other progress/comments?
SFI	<p>Science Foundation Ireland has published a detailed list of grants awarded (including amount and duration of each award) on its website (<a href="http://www.sfi.ie/news-resources/open-data.html">http://www.sfi.ie/news-resources/open-data.html</a>) and on the Open Data Portal (<a href="https://data.gov.ie/dataset/science-foundation-ireland-grant-commitments">https://data.gov.ie/dataset/science-foundation-ireland-grant-commitments</a>) in both Excel and CSV format.</p>	<p>Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) plans to publish details of SFI programmes / calls on the Open Data Portal over the coming months.</p>	
National Library of Ireland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The NLI has convened an internal working group to develop a data publication policy for the Library's digital collections and metadata, which will potentially facilitate the open licensing and sharing of NLI collections.</li> <li>• Rebecca Grant (Digital archivist &amp; data policy manager) attended the Open Data Publishing Best Practices training course at the Marine Data Institute, Dublin, facilitated by Trevor Alcorn.</li> <li>• The NLI is currently developing three free training courses on Open Data and cultural heritage in collaboration with the Digital Repository of Ireland and UCD Library.</li> <li>• In collaboration with the Digital Repository of Ireland, Research Data Alliance and the Open Research Ireland group, the NLI is also planning workshop entitled "A National Approach to Open Research Data in Ireland" with the proposed aim to develop national principles for open research data in Ireland.</li> </ul>	<p>The NLI's planned Open Data training will be held on the following dates: 19 July 2017, 5 October 2017, Open Access Week 2017 (October, date TBC)</p> <p>The Workshop "A National Approach to Open Research Data in Ireland" is planned for 8 September 2017.</p>	

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<b>Dept of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government</b>	<p>There are a total of 224 three star datasets published by the department so far. These are mostly .csv files, but include 12 Web Map Services (WMS) files for spatial data and associated shapefiles. To date, the focus has been on transforming data from the Department's website to open data.</p> <p>The Irish Spatial Data Exchange Open Data Publishing Best Practices training course, funded by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER) Open Data Engagement Fund was attended by a member of staff in February.</p> <p>Department staff continue to support the Open Data PBWG and are currently working on the Open Data Technical Assistance Evaluations. Once the Framework is available, it is planned to use it to provide guidance and support for more formal audits.</p> <p>To increase the number and range of datasets published, it is planned to hold Open Data training for the Information Officers in each business unit as a means of facilitating future audits.</p>	<p>The Department plans to use the DPER Framework to drawdown expertise for setting up a data harvester to use on applicable datasets as it has not been possible to do this under the existing contract with our website developers</p> <p>It is planned to publish the spatial data from the Rebuilding Ireland site <a href="http://rebuildingireland.ie/news/rebuilding-ireland-land-map/">http://rebuildingireland.ie/news/rebuilding-ireland-land-map/</a> into the department's published data on the portal.</p> <p>The Formal enabling of the Department's ArcGIS Online open data portal. (<a href="http://data-housinggovie.opendata.arcgis.com/">http://data-housinggovie.opendata.arcgis.com/</a>)</p>	<p>Representation has been made to senior management to support the training of staff on open data and the necessity of making data open at the earliest opportunity. Without such support, open data is unlikely to reach its publishing potential in the Department.</p>
<b>National Transport Authority (NTA)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Data Audit</b> – The NTA is currently undertaking an audit for the purposes of compliance with GDPR. We anticipate that this will serve as the basis of an audit of all available datasets within the NTA.</li> </ul>	<p>The NTA expect to make the following datasets available in Q2 2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leap Card data relating to</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Publication Planning</b> – The datasets identified within the ‘Update’ section represent the data that the NTA is anticipating to be added to the Open Data portal by the end of Q2 2017.</li> <li>• <b>Compliance</b> – The NTA does not currently have any datasets that are being reviewed for compliance with the Technical Framework. However, we expect those datasets identified in the Publication Planning to be reviewed before release.</li> <li>• <b>Release</b> – The NTA currently have 56 datasets that are in the data.gov.ie portal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 1 x Rural Transport Routes (KMZ)</li> <li>○ 51 x Bus Route Schedules for Public and Private Operators (GTFS)</li> <li>○ 1 x Tram Schedule Data for LUAS (GTFS)</li> <li>○ 1 x Train Schedule Data for Irish Rail (GTFS)</li> <li>○ 1 x NaPTAN – National Public Transport Access Nodes database.</li> <li>○ 1 x Real-time Passenger Information (RTPI) for Dublin Bus, Bus Eireann, Luas and Irish rail (API, HTML, PDF)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• In addition to this data there are 16 datasets available on the ‘Dublinked’ portal. Whilst we appreciate that these are not served via the data.gov.org portal, they do conform to the relevant standards where possible.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Volume of cards issued / sold</li> <li>○ Value of Top Ups</li> <li>○ Volume of Top Ups</li> <li>○ Value of Tickets</li> <li>○ Volume of Tickets</li> <li>○ Cycle Counter Data for the GDA</li> </ul>	
<b>Office of the Revenue Commissioners</b>	In Q1 2017, the Revenue Commissioners have completed the audits in respect of 16 Datasets and subsequently published 19 related CSV files, including three CSV's updated on a weekly basis relating to the popular ‘Help to Buy’ scheme. In the same period 23 published CSVs have been updated.	Assessment of the potential of embedding GIS data alongside non-personal taxation data, facilitating the linking of data.	Currently Revenue are in the process of redesigning their website. This will result in a reconfiguration of

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	Revenue has begun announcing all Open Data updates on its twitter feed, and has begun to issue a regular mailing list updating users of new and updated open data sets.	Revenue intends on publishing its open data and statistics schedule by the end of Q2.  Revenue's Annual Report will be published in Q2, with each of the tabular pieces of data expected to be published in open data.	our statistics web pages. Links to existing datasets will be preserved.
<b>An Garda Siochana</b>	Garda statistics supplied by CSO. Updated safety camera zones on data.gov.ie		Garda Station locations on data.gov.ie
<b>Roscommon County Council</b>	<p>Datasets added to <a href="#">Roscommon Open Data Portal</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Area Plan updates - various</li> <li>• Roscommon Thatch Building Survey</li> <li>• 2017 Budget</li> <li>• 2016 councillor remuneration.</li> </ul> <p>In February Barry Doyle attended Open Data Introductory training course given by Trevor Alcorn of the Marine Institute.</p>	In April Barry Doyle will be attending 2 workshops relating to Linked Data and the Semantic Web being hosted by the ADAPT Centre for Digital Content Technology and the Ordnance Survey Ireland.	A Local Government Open Data working group was recently re-established under the initiative of Dominic Byrne. This is a key development as its key aim is to coordinate developments in open data at local Government sectoral level in terms of agreed datasets, agreed schemas, and agreed data publication protocols.

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<b>Transport Infrastructure Ireland</b>	<p>TII has completed a Data Audit focused primarily on high value datasets. This identified approximately 300 data sets owned by TII.</p> <p>TII have produced an internal data catalogue (CKAN server) based on the results of our data audit which will also be used to record decisions about which data sets may be published.</p> <p>One new data set for the locations and prices of tolls on the national road network has been published.</p> <p>TII has have several requests pending for the release of data sets. Most of these are held by third parties and are therefore more difficult for us to gain possession of. Efforts in this regard are ongoing – see other comments.</p>	<p>We will shortly make a presentation to the Executive Team which will include the findings of the data audit. We will ask for their support in implementing an organisation wide data management policy which will include addressing our open data obligations</p>	<p>TII are in the planning phase of an upgrade to the Motorway and Tunnel Control Centre (MTCC). This facility collects and stores a large amount of data related to the operations of the national road network. We have asked that the planed upgrade include a facility to allow us easy access to the data sets which will allow us to fulfil pending and future requests for open data.</p>
<b>Local Government</b>	<p>A Local Government Open Data working group was recently re-established (under the initiative of Dominic Byrne, Fingal). Its key aim is to coordinate developments in open data at local Government sectoral level in terms of agreed datasets, agreed schemas, and agreed data publication protocols. This will result in the population of <a href="http://data.localgov.ie">data.localgov.ie</a> which in turn will be harvested by data.gov.ie. which is a very positive development.</p>		



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<b>Marine Institute</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Marine Institute Data Strategy kick-off</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Initial actions focussing on Marine Institute Data Policy and developing internal awareness and expertise, including in Open Data</li> <li>b. Data Catalogue development ongoing to highlight available data</li> </ol> </li> <li><b>2. New Marine Institute Data Policy in line with Open Data Policy</b></li> <li><b>3. DPER Open Data Engagement Funding</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Geo Open Data Training Course – Marine Institute Galway (2017-02-10)</li> <li>b. Geo Open Data Training Course – Marine Institute Dublin (2017-02-21)</li> <li>c. Geo Open Data Publishing Best Practices in a Day (training) Blog (2017-02-28)</li> </ol> </li> <li><b>4. Open Data Engagement</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Geo Open Data Training Course – AIRO Maynooth (2017-02-22)</li> <li>o Geo Open Data Training Course – EPA Wexford (2017-03-03)</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 2 Geo Open Data Training courses planned for 2017 Q2 in association with the Irish Spatial Data Exchange.</li> <li>2. Open Data publishing engagement with public bodies who have been trained under the Open Data Engagement funding.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Positional Accuracy regarding Geo Open Data and Creative Commons CC-BY 4.0 licence rights query.</li> <li>2. Organisation ontology for Irish Public Bodies request</li> </ol>
<b>The State Laboratory</b>	<p>The State Laboratory provide an analytical and advisory service to Government Departments and Offices. As discussed at a meeting with the Open Data Unit, the data generated is owned by the clients and not by the State Laboratory. The State Laboratory does not own any datasets related to the analytical work and therefore does not publish these.</p> <p>The State Laboratory publishes quarterly financial data on <a href="http://www.statelab.ie/publications.html">http://www.statelab.ie/publications.html</a>. As previously advised, this can be published in other locations if the Open Data Unit think it is of sufficient interest to users.</p>	No open data activities planned.	

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DCYA	Q1 2017 – Data audit draft questions finalised and data audit proposal agreed.	Data audit to take place during Q2 2017. The data audit will contribute towards and support the implementation of a centralised departmental approach to the storage and management of data for monitoring, planning and evaluation purposes.	Exploratory work towards publication of key DCYA indicators in machine-readable format commenced.