Open Data Governance Board Meeting
Wednesday, 14ᵗʰ March, 2018 – Note of Meeting

Attendance: Dennis Jennings**,** Denis Parfenov, Dietrich Rebholz (via phone link), Andrew O'Sullivan, Daithí Mac Síthigh, Sue Duke (by phone), Barry Lowry, Sandra Collins, Cronan McNamara
Others: Eoin McCuirc, CSO, Hugh Mangan, OSi – attended for Agenda items 1 & 2 only.

Apologies: Emer Coleman (Chair), Ashling Cunningham, Sandra Collins, Cronan McNamara

Secretariat: Evelyn O'Connor, Marian Beakey, Rhoda Kerins,

A number of documents had been issued to the Board in advance of the meeting as follows:

- Note of meeting held on 28 November, 2017
- Progress report and some examples of progress being made across the public service in implementing open data

The items on the agenda were discussed as set out below:

1. **Presentation from the CSO ' Linked Data in Ireland and Beyond' Eoin McCuirc**

The CSO was recently successful in a bid for EU Commission funding (via ESSnet) to create a cloud based 5 star linked open data platform and it had been suggested at the November meeting that the CSO present to the Group on this project.

Eoin McCuirc gave an overview of the project which they are working on in conjunction with Cork City Council and a number of other countries as well as the OSi, Derilinx, the Adapt Centre in Trinity College and Insight Institute (NUIG). This project is a very positive development and allows an opportunity for Ireland to be put on the map for linked data as well as continue to be a global thought leader in this field.

Eoin also gave an overview of some of the recent enhancements to the CSO website which now includes a number of visualisation and interactive tools which present data in a visually friendly way and these have proven very popular with those using their website. It was suggested that these could be put on the showcase page of the national open data portal.   It was also noted that CSO's Statcentral database would be retired over time.

2. **Presentation by on Open Data Initiatives – Update from the OSi.**

Hugh Mangan gave an overview of the operation of OSi, Ireland's National Mapping Agency and some of the open data initiatives currently underway. Since 2016 the OSi have a Memorandum of Understanding in place with the CSO which has facilitated geospatial and statistics collaboration on a number of initiatives. These include the publication of some 20 common national datasets as 5 Star linked Data via data.geohive.ie, the development of a geospatial portal for Census 2016 where statistical and boundary data fused together to provide over 500 layers of geo-statistical information. The CSO and OSi hosted the global EFGS 2017 Conference in Dublin Castle as well as establishing Ireland's UN Sustainable Development Goads (SDGs) Data Hub irelandsdg.geohive.ie.

In addition a draft national Geospatial Strategy for Ireland was drafted in 2017 which will feed into the proposed National Data Infrastructure. A national mapping agreement was also put in place in 2017 to facilitate public sector bodies to make greater use of geographic information for the effective delivery of public services.   Future plans include working with Eurogeographics in 2018 towards the creation of a harmonised pan European geospatial information service.

3.   Minutes of 28 November meeting and matters arising.

The Minutes were taken as approved and it was noted that these have been published on the portal.

The Chair welcomed Rhoda Kerins, Department of Public Expenditure & Reform who will join the Open Data Unit in April and is replacing Fiona Morley Clarke who left in November.

4.   Update from D/PER and Progress Report

The Open Data Unit updated the Board on the progress made by public bodies in implementing the Open Data Initiative. Some examples are attached at Appendix 1.

A Progress Report was circulated to the Board in advance of the meeting.   Some of the highlights were mentioned as follows:

- Open Data training for public bodies continues to be rolled out by Urban Tide with some 240 public servants from 42 organisations availing of training since September;
- Progress reports from the successful applicants who drew down funding from the Open Data Engagement Fund 2017/2018 have been requested by end March with projects to be completed by end June 2018;
- The Open Data Unit has increased its outreach and engagement by participating in or hosting stands at conferences as well as continuing to meet with public bodies. The Progress Report will be published on the portal.

The Board had a discussion on tracking open data progress and how to measure success in the context of data being published by public service organisations. The focus should be on quality rather than quantity, publishers need to know who is using their data and what it is being used for. Some suggestions for consideration included the use of mystery shoppers or SBIRs (via Enterprise Ireland) or surveys, look at what other countries are doing, increasing the amount of funding provided via the Open Data Engagement Fund and the use of advocacy groups, researchers and students.

It was noted that there may be plans for a Data Summit later on in 2018 and that the Open Data Unit should use the opportunity to promote open data.

It was suggested that the Open Data Unit write to research funders for their policy around open research data and to research institutions to see what their practice is.

Action 1 (Secretariat) Ensure note of meeting and progress report are published on the portal.
Action 2 (Secretariat) Secretariat to consider inclusion of stats via graphs in future progress reports (c/fwd from November meeting)
Action 3 (Secretariat & CSO) Consider if CSO visualisation and interactive tools can be included on the showcase page of the portal.
Action 4 (Secretariat) Check positon with regard to Data Summit 2018 and participating in same
Action 5 (Secretariat) Put data storage on the agenda for a future meeting (c/fwd from November 2017 meeting)
Action 6 (Secretariat) Consider suggestions made on measurement of use of data – mystery shopper, etc.
Action 7 (Secretariat) Write to research funders and research institutions

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5.   Any Other Business and discussion on EU Commission consultation on the PSI Directive.

It was noted that the EU Commission are currently reviewing the operation of the Re Use of Public Service Information (PSI) Directive – the review is to be completed by July 2018.   Some of the areas that the review will look at include: re-use of cultural heritage materials; functioning of the current charging provisions; interplay of personal data protection and re-use; re-use of data held by semi-public undertakings; re-use of research data; better use of dynamic data; (APIs) and clarification of the interplay with INSPIRE.   A public consultation took place between September and December 2017 and the results of the consultation are expected to be published shortly.

The public consultation looked at the evaluation of the functioning of the current Directive; remaining barriers to PSI re-use and possible solutions and possibilities of enhancing access to data of public interest.   Possible proposals for amendments to the Directive are expected in May 2018.   The Open Data Unit will circulate details of the results of the public consultation once they are published by the Commission.

Dietrich Rebholz asked that the links to the EU Landscaping Survey be circulated to the Board.

It was noted that a new version of the portal was launched during the week with better functionality. Overall it will be more user friendly, faster and more secure than the previous version. It was suggested that people should be able to sign up for alerts so as to automatically receive news items etc. via the portal. The Secretariat are to check this with Derilinx.

It was noted that a public consultation is currently in place on the draft Open Data Charter Measurement Guide with a view to aligning Open Data Principles.   The closing date for receipt of submissions is 26th March.   It was suggested that the Open Data Unit respond to the public consultation process.

It was suggested that a representative from the Office of the Data Protection Commission should be invited to attend the next Board meeting to discuss the impact of the GDPR on Open Data.

> **Action 8 (Secretariat)** Circulate details of the results of the EU Commission public consultation on the Review of the PSI Directive when they are published by the Commission.
> **Action 9 (Secretariat)** Circulate links to the EU Landscaping Survey to the Board.
> **Action 10 (Secretariat)** Input into the public consultation on the Open Data Charter Measurement Guide.
> **Action 11 (Secretariat)**. It was suggested that people should be able to subscribe for alerts/to receive news items etc. via the portal. The Secretariat are to check this with Derilinx.
> **Action 12 (Secretariat)**. Invite a representative from the Office of the Data Protection Commission to attend the next Board meeting.

6.   Next meeting

It was suggested that the Board should meet in early July (4th or 5th). The Secretariat will confirm in due course.

> **Action 12: (Secretariat)** to confirm date for next meeting.

Open Data Unit, Department of Public Expenditure and Reform
14 March, 2018

Appendix 1. Some examples of progress on implementing the Open Data Initiative across the Public Service

Organisation	An update of progress in your organisation's implementation of the Open Data Initiative to end February 2018 - for example, datasets put on data.gov.ie, data audit carried out, open data events attended/held, training attended	An update of any open data activities planned for the coming months.	Any other progress/comments?
D/Housing, Planning and Local Gov.	There are 238 datasets published the department so far, primarily in the areas of Housing and Zoning and Government and Public Sector, these include 12 Web Map Services (WMS) files for spatial data and associated shapefiles. A Request for Quote was published in December 2017 for the provision of a data catalogue for DHPLG Open Data and a company was successful in winning the project. The design of this is in its final stages and we expect it to be live in the coming weeks. This will provide a platform from which the Open Data Portal can directly harvest DHPLG data. This will also facilitate data uploads by department staff, bypassing some bottlenecks in the existing process.	The Department's ArcGIS Online open data portal has been enabled and it is directly linked to the Open Data Portal, providing a stable environment to host spatial data. Once a new data catalogue is in place, training for Information Coordinators on the importance and criteria of Open Data and on how they can directly load their Business Unit's data and associated metadata onto the Departments open data catalogue/storage.	A presentation has been made to senior management to emphasise the importance of recognising the role of the Information Coordinator and ensuring they have the support of the head of their Business Unit to audit data and make it available as Open Data. This support is important for the training of staff and to make data open at the earliest opportunity.
EPA	A project is underway to build data.epa.ie which will be a single access point for EPA open data. The project will have a number of phases. The first phase is the building of an API page so developers can discover all of the EPA open data API's. The Connecting European Facility project on opening air quality data continues: - a report was created on the state of air quality open data in Europe	Project in development with release in Q2 2018 Project to run until May 2019.	EPA staff changes will see a new Open Data Liaison Officer nomination and new attendees at the Public Sector Bodies Working Group

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	- a machine learning model was created to screen air quality results. It is being tested on EPA air quality data to see if it can help with near real-time release of air quality results, while assuring adequate quality EPA staff availed of the UrbanTide training (1 attended the Data Visualisation and Analytics session and 3 attended the Introduction to Open Data) The EPA has developed a draft open data publication plan which will be submitted to EPA Board in March for approval to submit to DPER. New datasets were released in October as a result of work on defining Ireland's river basin management plans: the number now stands at 228.	Plan will be submitted to DPER once approved.	
Met Éireann	Open Data audit almost complete. Over 50 datasets identified as suitable for publication. Agreement from PER on Met Éireann custom open data licence. Awaiting signoff on licence policy from senior Met Éireann management.	API for display of weather warnings near completion.	
Office of the Revenue Commissioners	There are currently 55 datasets on data.gov, with 9 new datasets being added in 2017, along with 39 pre-existing datasets which were updated throughout 2017. A number of CSVs and reports are currently being reviewed to ensure conformity with our Statistical Disclosure Controls, which are outlined in detail on the Revenue website. In Q4 2017 Revenue competed audits on 4 data sets to ensure the published content is the most up to date available and conforms to Open Data best practices.	Explore the feasibility of creating reports in open source 'word' documents that links to csv tables.	Revenue has completed the process of 'Official Statistics' designation which is owned by the Central Statistics Office. Part of this designation involved ensuring Revenue conformity

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	GIS generated maps have been added to 2 reports – Help to Buy and Home Renovation Incentive.

New staff has attended Technical Framework Open Data training provided by Urban Tide. | | with the Irish Statistical System Code of Practice (ISSCoP), of which the Open Data principles and platform forms part of, in particular Principle 3 – Accessibility and Clarity. |
| **Valuation Office** | The Valuation Office (VO) is committed to the principles of Open Data in accordance with the Open Data Strategy 2017 - 2022. Accordingly, as part of this commitment, the VO has established and resourced an ICT Data Management Unit with the responsibility of delivering on the organisations Open Data priorities as outlined in the VO ICT Strategy 2017-2020. Other progress includes:

- Registration on Open Data Portal
- Registration for use of the Data Audit Tool
- Completion of a preliminary pilot data audit outlining potential datasets that could with sufficient anonymisation be made available as Open Data. (Adherence to a three star Open Data format was a prerequisite of this audit)
- To-date the VO has been represented at the following training/events:
  - Data Analytics & Visualisation User Group (UrbanTide)
  - Technical Framework User Group Training (UrbanTide) | Activities planned for the coming months include:

- Further Open Data training for staff
- Comprehensive data audit
- Build on VO Data Model
- Construction of an Open Data silo and portal on the VO Domain
- Research Open Data API for VO data | |

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		o Publishing of the first Valuation Office Open Data datasets	
Cork City Council	Cork City Council has an **Open Data Repository** built on an open source CKAN platform. This has been enhanced and improved and the platform is available at http://opendata.corkcity.ie/. There are currently 4 data sources available to view and download on the platform:- • Real time parking availability information in seven car parks across the city, • River Lee water levels at the Anglers Rest and the Lee Road; • Planning Applications • Coke Bike locations. Overall usability of the platform was improved to include the addition of a customised appearance along with Data Previews to display the data in easy-to-understand snapshots. All of the data on the platform is available in an open format for anyone to download, conduct research, develop web and mobile applications, design data visualisations and more. CCC is represented on the **Local Government Open Data Project Team,** and attends meetings and inputs into discussion. Key datasets under consideration by the group are being prepared by the CCC GIS officer to make available on data.gov.ie. Recent **Training** involved attendance of 5 staff at Data Analytics & Visualisation ran by Urban Tide and hosted by Cork County Council.	The next step will involve carrying out a data audit of Open Datasets across Council depts. It is our intention to make more datasets available via our Open Data Platform and also on data.gov.ie It is our intention to attend future training from a broader range of CCC staff.	

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Central Statistics Office	Continuing to develop the CSO website, new CSO brand launched in January 2018 StatBank redesign project is ongoing Census 2016 data published in 2017 as open data and maps in collaboration with OSi http://census2016.geohive.ie/ Similarly the OSi collaboration produced SDG indicator data as open data and maps http://irelandsdg.geohive.ie/ ESSnet to explore publishing CSO data as Linked Open Data and linking Irish data locally, nationally and internationally Working on creating a citizen friendly national data profile that published data at a local level Babies names of Ireland app released in December 2017 hugely popular http://www.cso.ie/en/interactivezone/visualisationtools/babynamesofireland/	Continuing to work on StatBank redesign, CSO website, ESSnet, OSi collaborations and creating more interactive tools	
Marine Institute	Work is ongoing on the completion of a full data audit for the marine environmental / scientific datasets held by the Institute in preparation for a new data catalogue to be released soon. Also a Data Management Quality Framework is being developed under guidelines from UNESCO's International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (part of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission). A national / international workshop on data was held at the Institute in February, facilitated by the Institute and the European Marine Observation and Data Network and the European Global Ocean Observing System. This workshop aimed to promote the open sharing of marine data to these portals and to data.gov.ie.	Completion of the new Data Catalogue is planned in coming months, including connecting to data.gov.ie.	

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HSE	**Open Data for Health Strategic Programme** http://www.ehealthireland.ie/Strategic-Programmes/Open-Data-for-Health/ Open Data for Health is one of the eHealth Ireland Strategic Programmes that were outlined by the Office of the Chief Information Officer. These programmes are the priority areas for the team to focus upon and act as the catalyst for a change in how technology is delivered to health in Ireland. As part of the Open Data for Health Strategic Programme, the *Open Health Data Governance Strategy* and the *Open Health Data Policy* have been defined, ensuring the consistent and reliable preparation, publication and maintenance of Open Health Data across all arms of the HSE, through a standard set of policies, best practices, and structured processes. **Datasets on data.gov.ie** The HSE has a dedicated Open Health Data portal for the coordination of publication of HSE datasets at http://data.ehealthireland.ie/ There are currently 312 datasets published, including: • Healthcare Pricing Office, Hospital In-Patient Enquiry (HIPE) Scheme (135) • Healthcare Pricing Office, National Perinatal Reporting System (NPRS) (102) • Department of Health (48) • Primary Care Reimbursement Service (PCRS) (9) • Service Directory (6) • National Treatment Purchase Fund (NTPF) (3) • HealthLink eReferrals (1) All of these datasets are published on a periodic basis, e.g. daily, monthly or annually. Many of the publication updates are automated. The data from data.ehealthireland.ie is harvested on a nightly basis to data.gov.ie.	In the coming months, the following datasets will be published: • New datasets from PCRS • HPO HIPE 2016 datasets • HPO NPRS 2016 datasets • Department of Health 2017 statistics • Automated publication of Service Directory datasets Updates from the data audits outlined in the first column. Updates from the projects and related activities outlined in the first column.	

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	Data Audits Data audits are currently underway with a number of units in the HSE, namely: • Health Intelligence, • BIU Acute, • BIU Community, • Information Services • HR Workforce • Finance **Other Open Data Related Activities** The HSE Open Data unit are involved with a number of impact and dissemination events, including participating in the ***Healthy Cities Project*** with CSO, Cork City and County Councils and other Local Authorities, and the ***eHealth Ireland Innovation Programme***, with a number of universities and start-ups. **International Recognition of the HSE Open Health Data Programme** http://www.ehealthireland.ie/News-Media/News-Archive/2017/eHealth-Ireland-Open-Data-Commended-in-Digital-Economist.html 		

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	https://echalliance.com/news/357945/The-eHealth-Ireland-Open-Data-Portal.htm https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/ireland-opens-e-health-open-data-portal_us_5989789fe4b0f25bdfb31f4f 		

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	https://www.europeandataportal.eu/en/news/ireland-opens-e-health-open-data-portal		