

Progress Report for Open Data Governance Board - July 2018

Governance Activities

The Public Bodies Working Group met on 28 June at which a representative of the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner attended to discuss Open Data in the context of the GDPR. The Open Data Unit also gave a presentation on proposals for recasting the PSI Directive. It was agreed that the Terms of Reference of the Group would be reviewed.

Open Data Support

It has been agreed with the Office of Government Procurement to renew the framework for Open Data Technical Support for a further year at which stage the future of the framework will be considered. The contract with Urban Tide for open data training has also been renewed until summer 2019. From September 2017 to June 2018, 292 public servants from 64 organisations availed of the training. The Open Data Unit are to review the training modules with Urban Tide over the summer with a view to amending training content where necessary. The next round of courses will take place in September.

The existing contract for technical support for the Open Data Portal and Initiative is due to expire over the summer. A procurement process to put a new contract in place is currently underway, the closing date for responses is July 31st.

Implementation of the Open Data Strategy

The Open Data Unit continues to meet with individual public service organisations to discuss their open data activities. Liaison Officers have been asked to submit a progress report of their open data activities up to end Q2 2018 and examples of these are appended.

Open Data portal

The third iteration of the portal is now on stream since end March. A blog post on the new functionality has been put on the [portal](#).

The number of datasets available on the portal continues to grow and now totals some 8,500 – this includes some 2,000 new datasets linked from Met Eireann as well as a number of new datasets from CSO and D/Housing, Planning and Local Government. There were 105 additions to the portal in April, 1989 in May, and 568 in June. The number of visitors to the portal is approximately 13,000 per month.

There are now 13 '[showcases](#)' on the portal. Blog posts and news items are regularly added to the portal and regular tweets are also being sent.

Open Data Engagement Fund

The successful recipients of the 2017/2018 Open Data Engagement Fund submitted progress reports as at end March 2018 and most of the projects are due for completion by end June 2018. Final progress reports and currently being requested. The Open Data Unit will carry out an evaluation of the success of the 2017/2018 fund over the summer with a view to holding it again in autumn 2018.

Reuse of Public Service (PSI) Directive

A member of the Open Data Team attended a joint meeting of the European Commission PSI Group and European Open Data portal sub group in May. Following the EU Commission review of the operation of the Re Use of PSI Directive, the results of the review as well as proposals for a recast of the Directive were published in May. The new proposals include expanding the directive to include; 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;

clarification of the interplay with INSPIRE. An EU Commission Working Party meeting in Brussels was attended by a member of the Open Data Team in June during which the new proposals were discussed. The Open Data Unit are consulting with public service organisations on the new proposals ahead of the next EU Commission Working Party meeting which is scheduled to take place on 12 July.

National and International Engagement

The second of a number of Open Data Impact Series took place on 22nd March at 25 Fitzwilliam Place and was a very successful event. Full details are available on the [portal](#). The focus was on transport data. It is planned to have a further similar Seminar in Q4 2018.

The Open Data Unit intend participating in a number of Conference in September / October to showcase and promote the portal. This includes the annual Predict Conference in the RDS on 2nd October, the annual Public Service Innovation Conference on 27th September, the Data Summit on 19th September and the global CoderDojo seminar which takes place in Kilkenny from 19-21 October.

An Open Datathon which is funded by the Open Data Engagement Fund was due to take place in May, this has been deferred to October (date tbc) so that the event will be better aligned with the academic year. Details are available at <http://www.irishopendatathon.com/>

The EU Datathon 2018 is taking place in Brussels on 2nd October. Full details [here](#). The Office of the Attorney General will be making metadata available from the [electronic Irish Statute Book](#) for the ELI challenge of the Datathon and is also trying to identify organisations (companies, publisher, NGO, law firms, start-ups, media) which could reuse EU and national legal data, or develop apps to add value to the data.

The Open Data Unit recently completed the 2018 European Data Portal landscaping survey which is being conducted by Capgemini (the consultants engaged by the EU Commission to build the European Data Portal). <http://www.europeandataportal.eu/>. The results are due out in November 2018. Ireland has been asked to give a presentation to showcase the national Open Data portal as best practice at a Workshop organised by Capgemini in September in Lisbon.

A member of the Open Data Team attended a meeting of the OECD Expert Group on Open Government Data on 7-8 June, 2018 and gave a presentation on Open Data governance in Ireland. Some of the other issues discussed at the meeting included:

- Identifying and engaging the different communities of the national data ecosystem.
- Sound governance models.
- Stimulating re-use.
- Supporting policy development.

The OECD will be publishing the results of the Open Government Data Report later in the year. This report draws on the data and information regarding practices collected by the OECD through several Open Government Data surveys.

Open Data Unit
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