Progress Report on Open Data Initiative – Q3 2019

Governance

The next meeting of the Open Data Governance Board is scheduled for Wednesday, 9th October.

Open Data portal

A dashboard showing stats for the portal is available here. The number of datasets available on the portal now totals over 8,900. 357 new datasets were added in August and 25 in September.   The number of visitors is approximately 11,500 per month.   Blog posts and news items are regularly added to the portal and regular tweets are also being sent.   The Irish version of the portal is now live.

Implementation of the Open Data Strategy

The Open Data Unit continues to support individual public service organisations on their open data activities.   The second Open Data newsletter issued in August.

Open Data Support

To date, 439 public servants from 83 organisations have availed of the open data training.   The contract with Urban Tide has been extended until Summer 2020.   There has been no drawdown so far from the framework for open data technical support and it is not intended to extend this further.

Open Data Engagement Fund

The 2019/2020 Open Data Engagement Fund was launched in July and the closing date is 14 October.   30,000 in funding is available to promote reuse of the data on the open data portal.

Reuse of Public Service (PSI) Directive

Following the adoption of the Open Data and PSI Directive in July work has begun on the first Implementing Act under the Directive. Any datasets included in an Implementing Act will have to be made available for free and in machine readable format. This could pose challenges for some public bodies. The initial focus is on Statistical and Companies data.   A representative from Ireland will attend EU Working Group meetings on the determination of HVDs; the first meeting is scheduled for 29th October.

National and International Engagement

The Open Data Team attended the annual Predict Conference in the RDS on Tuesday 1st October where they hosted a stand to promote the open data portal and initiative.

The Open Data Team are hosting a delegation from Poland over 2 days on 17/18 October who are looking to learn from the Irish Open Data experience.

The 4th session on the Open Data Impact Series entitled '*Open Data - Supporting Arts, Heritage and Culture*' will take place on Wednesday morning, 23rd October 2019 in the Tangent Venue, Trinity College, Dublin 2.

A member of the Open Data Team is due to attend the joint meeting of the PSI Working Group and European Open Data portal in Luxembourg on 30 October.

The annual Open Data Conference is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, 27th November in the National Gallery.

The Open Data Unit has completed the 2019 EU Landscaping Survey.   The four main areas of focus are open data quality, measuring impact, the open data portal and our open data policy.   The results will be published in late 2019.

The European Commission has opened consultations on the draft orientations for the Digital Europe Programme (DEP). The DEP is a new programme intended to run from 2021 – 2027 and envisages to establish an envelope of funding for eligible projects under a number of headings. The Commission have developed draft orientations for the funding stream and are seeking input from relevant stakeholders and Departments. Further information can be found [here](). The consultation will run until 25 October.

The 2019-2 Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) Telecom call for proposals is now open. It offers co-funding to stimulate and support the deployment of European Digital Service Infrastructures (DSIs) in a number of areas including Open Data. Up to €25 million is made available to meet the needs of public administrations, businesses and citizens in their cross-border activities. Closing date is 14 November.

Open Data Unit
October, 2019
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