An Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe
Department of Public Expenditure and Reform

DATA.GOV.IE

Progress Report on Open Data Initiative –

March to May 2021

Highlights

- The successful Impact Series event '***Open Data and Climate Change'*** held on April 21st was opened by **Minister Ossian Smyth**.
- **OD Liaison Officers** meeting held on **April 29th**.
- The Open Data Unit participated in the an EU Open Data Programme Leader
- The overall usage of the Portal continues to grow year on year with an increase of 24% in 2020 compared with 2019.
- The Engagement Fund 2020/2021 projects are progressing- 4 are nearing completion.
- **Hale & Hearty Oversight Committee** meeting took place on May 25th.

Open Data Impact Series Event

An Open Data Impact Series event **'Open Data and Climate Change'** took place on April 21st. The topic was meteorological data and climate change utilising MET Eireann datasets on the portal, demonstrating how these can be used in so many ways. The event looked at how these datasets are being used in our attempt to understand the dynamics and implications of climate change. Derilinx hosted the event, **Minister Ossian Smyth** gave the opening address and there were 150 attendees.

Open Data Portal

The overall usage of the national open data portal, Data.Gov.ie, continues to grow. 2020 saw an increase of 24% when compared with 2019. The usage in 2021 has been steady so far.

The Open Data Unit is continuing to work on portal maintenance and identifying and fixing broken links.

Work is continuing on the implementation of QA Validator and KPI reports on the Portal. This will allow PBs to see reports on their data and address quality issues.

Metric	Nov 2020	Dec 2020	Jan 2021	Feb 2021	Apr 2021
New Datasets	96	21	438	13	57

Website & Usage Metrics

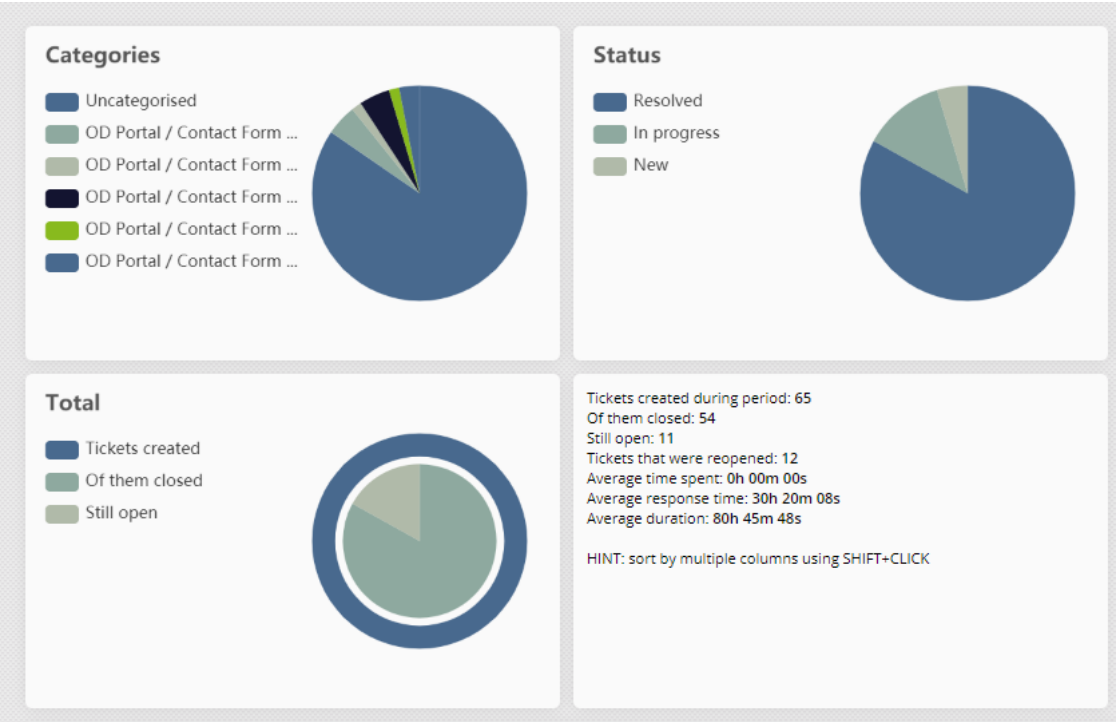
Metric	Nov 2020	Dec 2020	Jan 2021	Feb 2021	Apr 2021
Visitors	21351	19206	23796	21661	23778
Sessions	30525	25390	31246	29473	32949
Avg. Session Duration	206 sec	165 sec	139 sec	153 sec	174 sec
Page Views Per Session	5.25	4.35	3.80	4.06	4.54
Page Views	160274	110404	118755	119545	149677
Avg. Page Load Time	2.1 sec	2.6 sec	2.8 sec	3.6 sec	3.1 sec
Exit Rate	18.99 %	22.95 %	26.22 %	24.61 %	21.96 %

Compliance with Technical Framework

Metric	Nov 2020	Dec 2020	Jan 2021	Feb 2021	Apr 2021
Datasets Under Open Licence	10069	10085	10492	10504	10388
Datasets Formats	10097 datasets scored, from which: 28 None 539 ★ 69 ★★ 9457 ★★★ 0 ★★★★ 4 ★★★★★	10113 datasets scored, from which: 28 None 548 ★ 69 ★★ 9464 ★★★ 0 ★★★★ 4 ★★★★★	10522 datasets scored, from which: 30 None 480 ★ 120 ★★ 9888 ★★★ 0 ★★★★ 4 ★★★★★	10534 datasets scored, from which: 30 None 479 ★ 122 ★★ 9899 ★★★ 0 ★★★★ 4 ★★★★★	10419 datasets scored, from which: 31 None 494 ★ 103 ★★ 9787 ★★★ 0 ★★★★ 4 ★★★★★

Open Data Support

A 'Tracker' system was implemented in April to help manage the queries being received in to the ODU. The charts below provide some information on support issues dealt with from May 1st 2021. These are provided as an example of the types of reports we intend to provide in the future.



Hale & Hearty Progress

The Hale and Hearty Action to create a health and well-being knowledge base and associated app is continuing to progress well. WP 2 **User Scenario & Requirements** is completed and Report 2.1 was submitted to the INEA at the end of March. WP3 **Identification of data sources** is completed and Report 2.2 was submitted to the INEA at the end of March. Report 2.3 on the Risk assessment for privacy, security, inclusiveness and accessibility is in draft format and will be submitted at the end of May. The Interim Report is complete and with the partners for review and will also be submitted at the end of May.

Engagement Fund

- The first engagement fund project of 2021, the UCD Hackathon on Open Data has been completed by DataSoc. There were 140 participants from around the world.

- The second engagement fund project run by Smart Dublin has also commenced- The Dublin Region Open Data Active Challenge 2021 competition is open and the first phase is complete.
- A workshop (Data4Nature) on improving the availability, accuracy, usability, accessibility, reproducibility, and discoverability of nature-related data in Ireland as part of the EU Green Deal took place on May 11th.
- The Report on the Cycle to School Scheme is ongoing and they are currently finalising the look and feel of the website and visualisations.

National and International Engagement

- The ODU took part in a virtual Round Table as an EU Open Data Programme Leader on **May 19th**. Discussion topics included:

    1. Approaches to transposing the directive into law (scope / timing / objectives)
    2. Principles linked to the management of the community of publishers (Communication, support, etc.)
    3. Current and future priorities linked to the programme
    4. Overall return on experience – Do's & Don'ts

- The ODU represented Ireland at the EC Open Data and PSI Working Group meeting on **May 12th** and provided updates on the progress of Ireland's OD initiative and the transposing of the ODD.

- The Open Data Unit participated in a European Data Portal workshop on **6th May 2021** on the EU Open Data Maturity survey 2021.

- On invitation from the Library Association of Ireland, the ODU presented the OD Initiative at the inaugural LAI Open Scholarship event on **22nd April**.

- The Open Data Unit presented at the "Preparing for Ireland's new Open Data and Reuse of Public Sector Information (PSI) Directive" webinar which took place on **March 24th**.

- Blog posts and news items continue to be regularly added to the portal.

Open Data and Reuse of Public Service (PSI) Directive

The text of the Statutory Instrument to transpose the Open Data Directive is nearing completion and a third draft has been returned to Attorney General's Office with comments. A meeting has been arranged with our German counterparts to discuss how they are implementing the provisions relating to the HVDs / Implementing Act in their legislation.

A number of changes to Data.Gov.ie will be required on foot of the transposing of the Directive such as the addition of a page for PBs who are allowed to charge for data.

Technical Support Framework

The **Technical Services Framework for Open Data and Data Management for the Irish Public Service** will be forwarded to the CSSO within the next week. The estimated date for publication of the framework to eTenders is week beginning June 14th. The Framework will contains services under 3 categories:

1. **Data Management**

- Data Audits,
- Data Extraction, Transform and Load (ETL) and Preparation Services
- Develop a Publication Plan and Publish data
- Data Maintenance
- Data Maturity Assessment

2. **Fully Hosted and Managed Open Data Platform Solution**
3. **Other Consultancy Advice and Support Services**

Open Data Training Framework

The draft specification for the **OD Training RFT** is being progressed with the OGP. The course specifications have been completed by the ODU. Given the move to online training has been such a success a blended approach to delivering the courses will be taken. The current expected go to market date is **23/08/2021**. The courses to be included in the RFT are:

1. General Introduction to Open Data
2. Open Data & Re-Use of Public Service Information (PSI Directive) – Implications for public bodies
3. Open Data Audits and Data Publication
4. Introduction to Data Analytics and Visualisations
5. Data Anonymisation Techniques
6. Introduction to Linked Data

The main items for discussion and decision are the delivery methods and the expected course take up. A blended approach to the training is most likely to include webinars, online and classroom based training.

Open Data Unit

27th May 2021