

DfT Transport Sector Transparency Board - Minutes

Great Minster House, London 2-4pm 5 July 2012

Attendees: Steve Gooding, DG Domestic, DfT (Chair)
Andrew Stott, Public Sector Transparency Board
Prof. Jonathan Raper, CEO Placr
Nick Illsley, Transport Direct, DfT
Hazel Lee, Cabinet Office
Daryl Lloyd, Statistics, DfT
Jessie Owen, Information Management, DfT
Hannah John, Information Management, DfT
David Coker, Privacy & DPA Expert, DfT
Tom Newman-Taylor, P/S to Steve Gooding, DfT
Duncan Elder TfL
Barbara King, Traffic Management, DfT
Annabel Kelly, Traffic Management, DfT
Chris Gibbard, Transport Direct, DfT

Apologies: Christopher Muttukumaru, GCO SIRO, DfT
Miles Gibson, No 10
Tim Stamp, Statistics, DfT
Helen Morris, Driving Agency Sponsor, DfT

Introduction

1. The Chair outlined the purpose of the meeting, to provide an update and opportunity for discussion on:
 - travel demand management data collected and created as part of preparation for and management of the Olympics
 - roadworks data and progress with completion of data gathering
 - bus registration data and data relating to changes to bus routes
 - VOSA release of MoT data
 - Network Rail real-time data release
 - Cabinet Office update on White Paper, Data Strategy Board, Open Data Institute

TfL Olympics Data

2. The Board was provided with a presentation by TfL on Travel Demand Management (TDM) and related data release issues. TfL explained that TDM focused on changing people's behaviour, and there was a large media campaign for people to "Get ahead of the Games" and understand how their journey might be affected.
3. The Board agreed that the negotiation of an Ordnance Survey (OS) exemption for the use of its data for the period of the Games could set an important precedent.

4. The Board noted it was important to ensure that the routine seven day timetable release by TfL reflected the Games time timetable and any short notice changes to it to ensure that travel apps had the correct information for travellers.

Action: TfL to confirm that intermediate release points will be arranged for short term / short notice service changes

5. The Board discussed whether the travel demand maps were realistic and whether people would really wait 30 minutes for a train, or whether demand would bleed off to other stations. The Board felt it was important that station staff and Olympics volunteers were briefed to help keep control of travellers and direct them appropriately if overcrowding occurred so that they were not just left to themselves to find another route.
6. The Board suggested it might be useful to use Oyster footfall data to show which stations have capacity.

Action: TfL to investigate whether use of Oyster footfall data might be beneficial to TDM

7. The Board queried what would happen to the technology after the Olympics and whether the TDM infrastructure and data release would be continued. DfT and TfL said that a legacy assessment would happen in September.

Action: DfT and TfL to report back to TSB after Olympics

Local Roadworks

8. The DfT Traffic Management team reported they were working with Geoplace to put together a list of where all Local Authority data is. It was noted that 60-70% of LAs already publish their data via Elgin. The full list is expected to be completed by end September.
9. The Board discussed concerns around reports in the marketplace that Geoplace intend to enter the market to compete with Elgin, and the impact this may have on Elgin given that Geoplace is state owned. There was also concern that Geoplace had taken control of the National Streetworks Gazetteer data and that the public now had no free access to the Additional Street Data without buying an OS mapping licence

Action: NI to investigate and report back to TSB

Action: Traffic Management to circulate link to the format specification for the electronic transfer of utilities streetworks data

Bus registration and route notification

10. The Board noted interest in the early publication of the TransXChange (TxC) data submitted to Traffic Commissioners as part of electronic applications for new and amended bus routes. It was suggested that this data could be published at the point of approval, though the issue of commercial confidentiality will have to be explored.

Action: DfT to investigate whether full or partial TxC data can be published at the point of bus route approval

Action: DfT to investigate issues noted with Greater Manchester access to bus route data

Network Rail real time data

11. Network Rail (NR) updated the Board on the launch of the new transparency web page and release of real time train running data. There has generally been a positive reaction and over 100 users have so far signed up. A few issues have been identified with the train running data relating to user e-mail support and freight data and these are in the process of being addressed. Further data releases are planned on procurement data, level crossings, financial spend and new investment works. NR felt generally they had very positive engagement with the data community.

12. The Board discussed the license, in particular the variation clause and whether further improvements could be made.

Action: AS to provide Network Rail with his suggestions on improving the licence

Action: Cabinet Office to consider the benefit of publishing a model open license, comparable with the Open Government Licence, for use by non-government organisations

ODWP and Transparency representative groups update

13. The Open Data White Paper and Open Data Strategies have now been published and received a low key but positive reception.
14. One obligation in the ODWP was to ensure decision making on data release clearly balanced privacy issues with transparency benefits. As a result **David Coker**, Data Protection Officer, DfT has been invited onto the Transport Transparency Sector Board (TSB) as its privacy expert.
15. The Chair apologised for the delayed release of past minutes and papers of the TSB and will endeavour to speed up publication in future.
16. The Board noted that the Data Strategy Board meets for the first time on 11 July.

17. The Board noted that the Open Data Institute (ODI) is now recruiting for senior roles and engaging with industry, with a formal launch expected in October.

Action: TSB members to bring to the next meeting suggestions for transport related issues to be raised with ODI. A representative from ODI to be invited to November TSB meeting

VOSA data

18. The Board received a progress update on VOSA's investigation of the legal issues around the release of garage specific MOT data and agreed more detail on progress and the legal opinions should be provided at the next meeting. A Privacy Impact Assessment should be undertaken to make clear the privacy impacts and these should be discussed with the Information Commissioner if necessary.

Action: DfT to report back to next meeting with clear approach

Minutes of previous meeting

19. Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) update - CAA provided update to NI just prior to TSB meeting. A programme of data release will be agreed over the summer.

Action - NI to circulate CAA update

Action - DfT to consider additional ways to formally convey request to CAA that ACL contract renewal/retender procurement process should include data release clauses

AOB

20. The Board discussed transparency in relation to the Devolved Administrations. Cabinet Office said they were unable to mandate the adoption of transparency principles.

Action: DfT to add statement to TSB ToR stating remit

Date of Next Meeting

21. The next meeting will be at 14:00 on 25th September at Great Minster House.