

Power BI parkrun Report (a retail analogue)

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Who am I?

Ross Waterston

- 20+ years of experience
- 15+ years process design
- 9+ years Power BI
- 5+ years Power Apps
- 5+ years Power Automate

Founded Geordie Consulting (2020) to be an Analytics Centre of Excellence in the North-east. Business data analysis must focus on business outcomes rather than just the numbers. Meaning is everything.

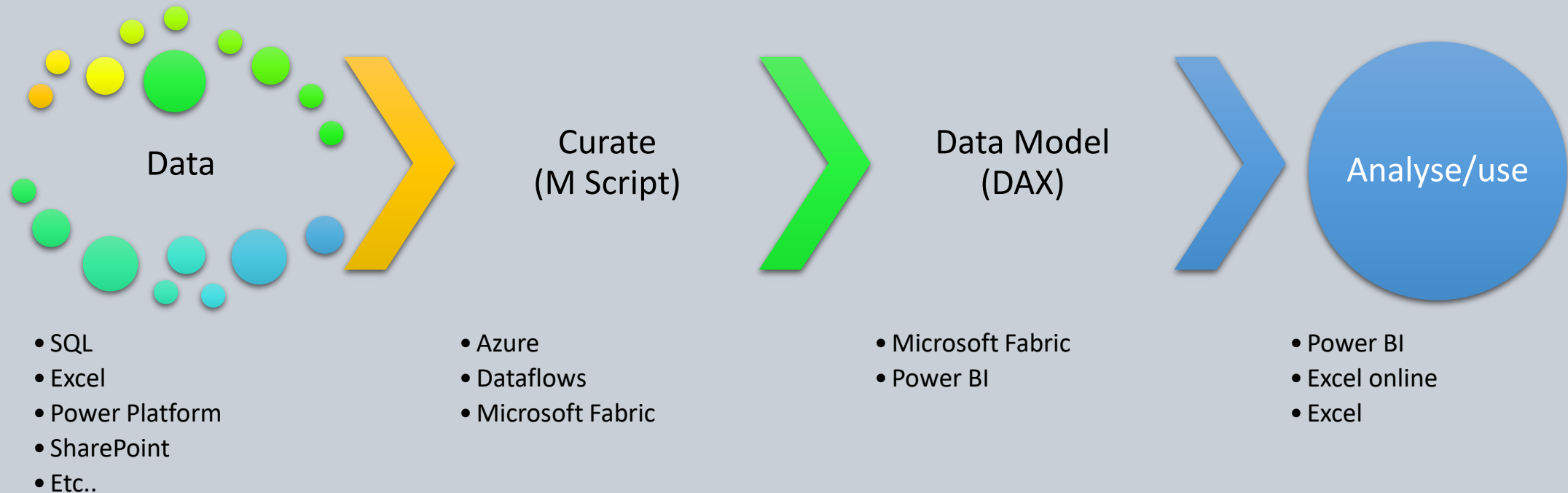
Founded Geordie Intelligence (2020) to empower everyone to be more data literate and able to work with and understand the relevance/meaning of data.



Microsoft
Partner



BI the Microsoft way



Summary

The first project many organisations undertake in Power BI is typically related to the automation of a manual daily report.

Almost every organisation has at least one instance of this, a daily summary or report is sent out by someone. This report takes them up to half an hour to produce each day.

parkrun is a free weekly timed 5km event, these weekly events take place at 1000+ locations globally.

Our plan

Power Automate Desktop

- Read Source
- Save spreadsheets
- One SharePoint folder per Location

Dataflows

- Combine spreadsheets
- One Dataflow per Location

Semantic Model

- Combine Dataflows

Visualisations

- Report
- Metrics
- Dashboard

SharePoint List – Control

- Records are used to facilitate
 - data extract
 - Map location
 - Local Authority comparison
 - Dataflow Refresh
 - Semantic Model Refresh

SharePoint List controls the whole ETL process

Online customer tables that can be configured to use Power Apps to manage content. Automation can also use the table as required.

Each Location has a record

- Name
- Map Coordinates
- Local Authority
- Dataflow GUID

Power Automate Desktop

Script

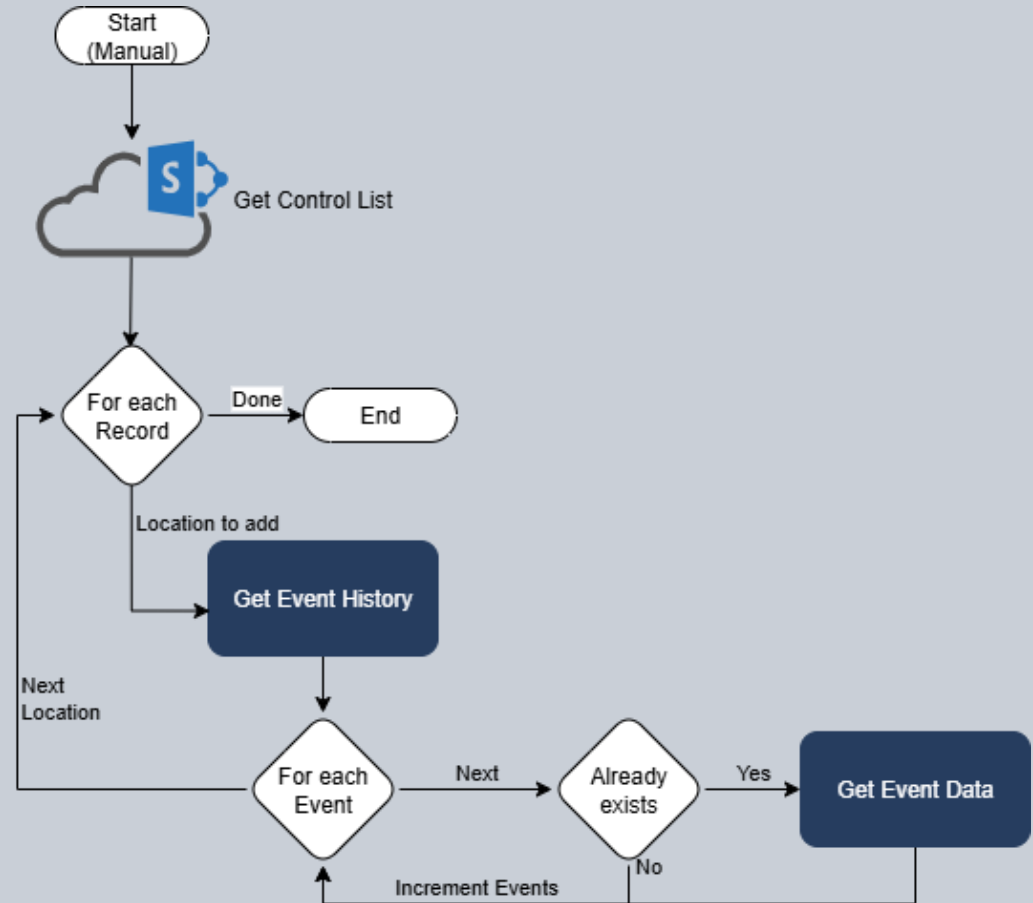
- Reads the SharePoint List
- For Each Row of List processes the records

Function – Event History

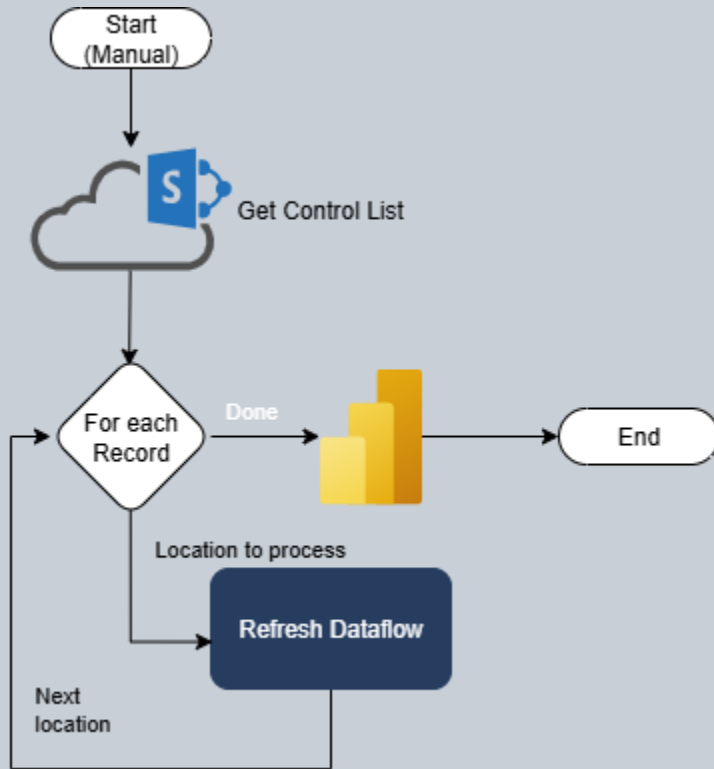
- Connect to Event History and build full list of events for a location

Function – Event Data

- Connect to a specific event and capture a spreadsheet for participants and Volunteers.



Power Automate Service



Script

- Connect to the SharePoint List and for each row (location) process

Loop

- Use GUID to trigger Dataflow refresh

Refresh Semantic Model

- Refresh Power BI Semantic Model – this will refresh all reports and Metrics

parkrun Report

This is a standard development path that is seen in the presence of a Centre of Excellence. A simple initial request of “Can we replicate a simple daily report?” the objection is often to save time and maybe reduce the workload of a specific person.

Automation then leads to the ability to expand and provide additional value. This richer data value expands the value provided

Expansion becomes iterative and the data value provided changes. V1 was limited value, V2 is really only of interest to those who know Jesmond Dene parkrun, V3 and V4 serve real Public Health value far beyond that initial expected value.

- V1 – Lost
 - Single Event of Jesmond Dene parkrun
- [V2 – Click to view](#)
 - All events held at Jesmond Dene parkrun
- [V3 – Click to view](#)
 - All events held in Newcastle upon Tyne
- [V4 – Click to view](#)
 - All events held in Northumberland, Newcastle, North Tyneside, Gateshead, South Tyneside and Sunderland