UK Location Data Provider Update

Issue 3 | December 2012

Welcome back

Welcome to the third edition of the UK Location Data Provider Update. Thanks to all those who completed the web survey in the last newsletter. From the responses it is clear we are reaching a range of different data providers across the public sector, as well as some data users. The Data Provider Update certainly seems to be helpful – we are pleased to report that all respondents said they would like to see it continue!

In this issue we look at download services, Defra's DataShare Service, data quality issues and open data licensing and charging.

Download Services

We covered download services in the last newsletter http://location.defra.gov.uk/2012/05/uk-location-data-providers-update-may-2012/. As a quick reminder, following the publication of view services for INSPIRE Annex I & II data in 2011, download services are due to be delivered this year. Data publishers should aim to make their INSPIRE Annex I & II data available for download by December 2012.

Following a recent informal survey of A I/II data publishers we know that good progress has been made in preparing for the download deadline. Most publishers will implement a bulk download service option (ATOM) in December, moving to direct access (Web Feature Service) later next year. The Defra Network DataShare solution (see below) http://www.geostore.com/environment-agency/ already provides direct access to data and the Welsh Government also plans to offer some direct access in December as well.

An unfortunate delay by the EC publishing download technical guidance meant we were only recently able to start writing our own guidance for UK data providers. Work on this document is well underway and we expect to publish UKL guidance at the end of December or early in the New Year.

Defra Network's DataShare Download Service

Following publication of the INSPIRE Directive's Technical Guidance for the implementation of INSPIRE Download Services in mid-June, Defra Network's DataShare service went live in June. 53 datasets are currently available to download via a WFS (Web Feature Service) in compliance with the 28th June INSPIRE Initial Operating Capability obligation.

Alongside these WFS DataShare continues to make these, and other, datasets available in traditional Download and WMS (Web Map Services) formats.

With the Web Feature Service users will have direct access to data from 6 organisations, allowing tasks such as analysis, mapping and reporting without having to download and manage the data locally.

A short explanatory video has been created by the Environment Agency to illustrate the incorporation of the WFS in a GIS. The video is available at: http://data.defra.gov.uk/inspire/DataShare_WFS.zip

Measuring Service Performance

Performance testing of the WFS has proven compliance with the obligations defined in the INSPIRE Network Services Regulation EC976/2009 (ANNEX I - QUALITY OF SERVICE). The testing assessed the various

specified criteria (inc. Get Spatial Data Set operation and Get Spatial Object operation) against the defined performance obligations, such as:

1. Latency (10/30 seconds depending upon operation), and

2. Maintained response (greater than 0.5 Megabytes per second).

The performance results were all achieved based on the benchmarking of 10 simultaneous requests and are therefore served in accordance with the quality of service performance criteria.

Next Steps

Work is continuing to further develop the DataShare download service into a fully INSPIRE 'compliant' service, specifically with regards WFS 2.0.0 (ISO 19142).

Data Quality

As the number of datasets published increases and functionality on data.gov.uk such as previewing datasets is introduced, we are finding some commons issues with metadata quality. Here are some of the more common data issues:

WMSs are not correctly specified (according to guidance) so fail to work in the new preview service on data.gov.uk. For more information see the UKL view service guidance

A published metadata record is edited and re-published with a different file ID to the initial version, creating a duplicated record on data.gov.uk. The identifiers in your metadata records should not be changed when updating a metadata record.

On many metadata records certain owner details are not being completed. In order to improve the search-ability of data, the *CI_ResponsibleParty organisationName* should be given the "responsible party role" of "Owner" to indicate the "Data Provider".

Dates and date/times need to be encoded as standard XML date and date/time format. See http://www.w3schools.com/schema/schema_dtypes_date.asp for examples.

Missing *Coupled resource* information in service metadata or missing *Resource Locator* URL in dataset metadata. Where this happens, linking information about datasets and their associated services is not possible. UK Location Discovery Metadata guidance provides more details on how to record coupled resources and resource locator information:- http://data.gov.uk/sites/default/files/DMS%20Operational%20Guide%20v2.1.pdf

Discovery metadata records describing a dataset or data series that relate to one or more of the INSPIRE themes must include the appropriate keyword(s) from the GEMET INSPIRE themes as the first keyword. (http://www.eionet.europa.eu/gemet/inspire_themes) For example, a data set that relates to the Addresses Theme, should contain "Addresses" as the first key word in this element of the metadata.

Recording this correctly helps users searching for data by INSPIRE theme and also provides information on whether a dataset in scope of INSPIRE.

Don't forget that the programme now has a dedicated Helpdesk to assist with such issues and can be contacted from this page

Following recent enhancements to data.gov.uk, the programme Helpdesk is now able to delete metadata records when it becomes necessary, for example to remove a duplicate record.

Open data licensing, charging and the Open Government Licence (OGL)

When you publish data into UK Location, you should remember that you have agreed to a number of commitments. These are set out on page 10 of the UK Location Discovery Metadata Service Operational Guide. A particularly important commitment enables a key principle of data sharing and reuse: "you will release your data, data series and on-line services with clear licensing and charging policies".

The Open Government Licence (OGL) is the licensing model which encourages the use and re-use of a broad range of public sector information, including location data, at no cost to the user or re-user. The OGL is designed to enable any public sector information holder to make their information available for use and re-use under its terms.

Where no further restrictions, conditions or charges are required, **the OGL is the preferred licence for location data.** We recognise it will not be practicable for all location data to be licensed by means of the OGL particularly in those circumstances where, charges are applied, distinctions are made between non-commercial and commercial use, third party intellectual property rights are involved or end-users are using data under the terms of an end-user licence (such as that required under the PSMA). Where charges are applied to data in scope of INSPIRE they must be kept to a minimum to cover maintenance and supply of data and services; a charge to secure a reasonable return on investment may be charged only in special circumstances.

For more information on the OGL and other licensing models and charging see our Data Sharing Operational Guidance

Reminder of INSPIRE Deadlines

Getting Started 3 describes what you need to do and by when to comply with INSPIRE, but as a reminder…

- INSPIRE Annex I & II Download Services, Dec 2012

- Newly collected and extensively restructured Annex I datasets must comply with INSPIRE data specifications, 4th Feb 2013

- INSPIRE Annex III Discovery, View and Download services, Dec 2013

- Newly collected and extensively restructured Annex II & III datasets must comply with INSPIRE data specifications, 2015

- All Annex I datasets must comply with INSPIRE data specifications, Dec 2017

- All Annex II & III datasets must comply with INSPIRE data specifications, Dec 2020.

Diary...

PSMA Workshops (Dec'12 & Jan'13)

- Members of the UKLP team will be at most PSMA Members workshops.

http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswebsite/public-sector/events/index.html

Virtual Conference

- We will be announcing the rescheduled UK Location INSPIRE in the UK Virtual Conference soon.

Sharing Environmental Monitoring Data

- UKLP and UK-EOF are hosting a joint event for data providers and users on the 19th February. Register please contact the UK-EOF secretariat: office@ukeof.org.uk

- Further details are available at http://data.gov.uk/location

Helpful Resources

http://data.gov.uk/location

Twitter: @UKLocation
Helpdesk location.defra.gov.uk/contact-us.