

Start publishing public sector data online

Gavin Wray 14th July 2010

Keep it simple



- Make data easy to find
- Make data easy to licence
- Make data easy to re-use

[From data.gov.uk]

Where's this coming from?



"...we want Government information to be accessible and useful for the widest possible spectrum of people.

That is why the Prime Minister asked Sir Tim Berners-Lee to advise on how Government can best use the internet to make non-personal public data as widely available as possible.'

Stephen Timms, Minister for Digital Britain, 26 Oct 2009 [link]

Where's this coming from?



Putting the Frontline First: Smarter Government

- Establishing public data principles
- Data available via data.gov.uk
- Free for re-use and promoting transparency
- Formation of Local Public Data Panel
- 'Raw data now'

Gordon Brown's speech, 7 Dec 2009 [link]

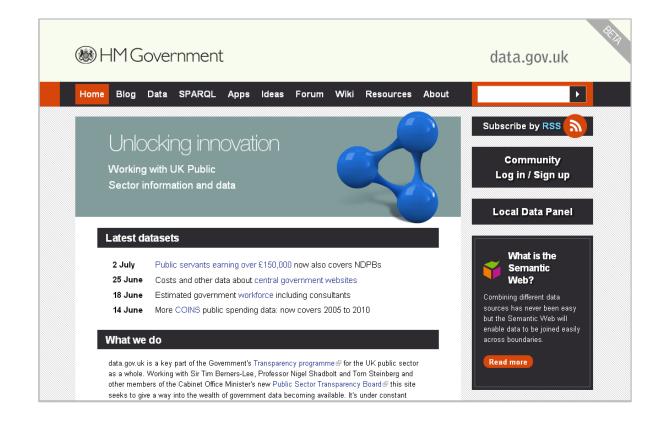
Photo: Gordon Brown, Liam Byrne and Sir Tim Berners-Lee, 17 Nov 2009 Crown copyright [view on flickr]



Where's this coming from?



data.gov.uk beta launched January 2010



What are expectations of publishers?



'Start with the "low-hanging fruit". Whatever else, the raw data should be made available as soon as possible.'

Sir Tim Berners-Lee, Putting government data online, 30 June 2009 [link]

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'...ensure that any data published is made available in an open format so that it can be re-used by third parties. From July 2010, government departments and agencies should ensure that any information published includes the underlying data in an open standardised format.'

Prime Minister's letter to Secretary of State, 1 June 2010 [link]

What are expectations of consumers?



'It's our data, we have a right to it'

Expectations have increased about access to data, through:

- Freedom of Information Act
- Office of Public Sector Information
- Advisory Panel on Public Sector Information
- Sites such as TheyWorkForYou.com and data.gov

Chris Taggart, OpenlyLocal.com 'Why open up local government information' [link]

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Expectations of availability and presentation of data increasing

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- June: Prime Minister's letter opening government data to public
- June: New government's Public Sector Transparency Board set out 'draft public data principles'

Where to start



Make data easy to re-use

Make data easy to find

◆ → Make data easy to licence ◆ →

'Get your data out - for others to consume. Sounds simple.

Just take the spreadsheet (or similar file) that you use to track information, post it on your web site and link to it from a description posted in an accompanying web page.'

Richard Wallis, Talis
The data publishing three-step [link]

Document properties



Make data easy to find



Make data easy to licence



Make data easy to re-use



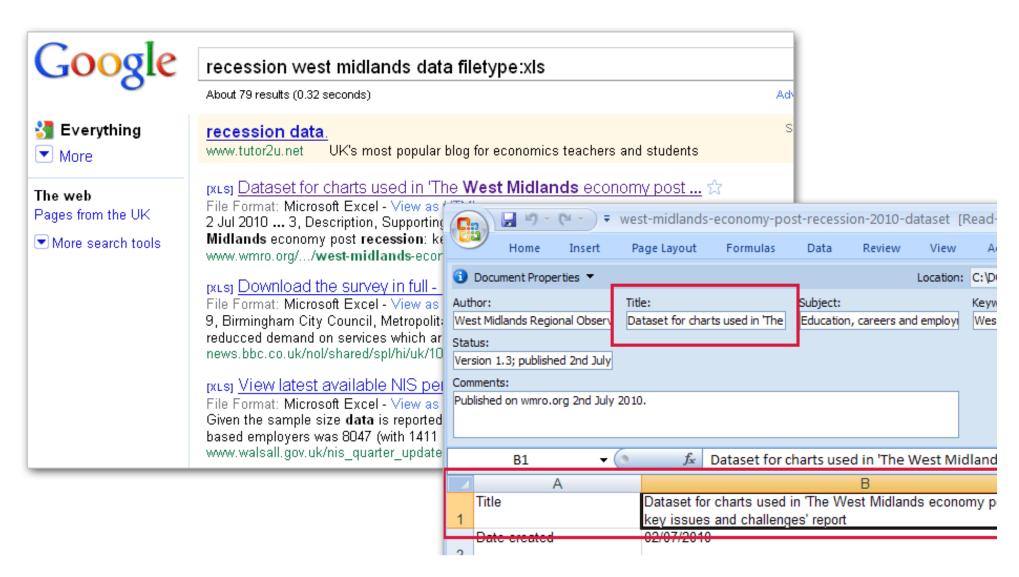
Document properties



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Describe and link to your sources

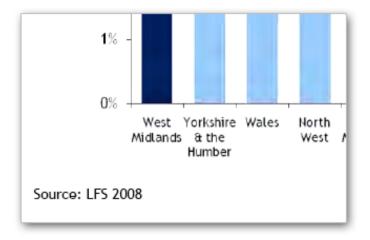


Make data easy to find

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Make data easy to re-use

Describe and link to your sources







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Source: Office for National Statistics, Labour Force Survey 2008

https://www.nomisweb.co.uk



'...when ONS data or National Statistics emanating from another source (eg other government departments or devolved administrations) are included in a WMRO publication, in addition to citing the source of the data, an acknowledgement that the Crown holds the copyright is also required.'

Office for National Statistics Regional Statistician, West Midlands



Make data easy to find Make data easy to licence Make data easy to re-use

'If a "national statistic" is cited in a report, an appropriate reference/note to accompany it would be:

Source: National Statistics website <u>www.statistics.gov.uk</u>
Crown copyright material is reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO '

Office for National Statistics Regional Statistician, West Midlands



Make data easy to find



Make data easy to licence



Make data easy to re-use

'Where national statistics have been transformed in some way or bespoke data have been obtained (eg from an ONS dataservice team, using Supercross within WMRO, or from the Regional Statisticians) and incorporated into tables, charts or maps produced in-house, an appropriate reference/note would be:

Source: Office for National Statistics, <u>Annual Business Inquiry</u> Crown copyright material is reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO Table prepared by West Midlands Regional Observatory'

Office for National Statistics Regional Statistician, West Midlands

Add to Resource Catalogue



Make data easy to find • Make data easy to licence

Make data easy to re-use

Submit dataset to the Resource Catalogue on wmro.org





Make data easy to find Make data easy to licence Make data easy to re-use

"...will potential consumers of the data be confident on their ability to use and/or reuse it?"

Richard Wallis, Talis
The data publishing three-step [link]



Make data easy to find



Make data easy to licence



Make data easy to re-use

'Copyright is a BIG problem - we would like to release the data under an open license (e.g. OpenDatabase or Click-Use) but can't, and could be forced to remove data by "rights holders"

Chris Taggart, OpenlyLocal.com 'Why open up local government information' [link]



Make data easy to find • Make data easy to licence •

Make data easy to re-use

Ideal, clear unambiguous examples give you confidence:

Open Data Commons Attribution License (ODC-By)
 http://www.opendatacommons.org/licenses/by/1.0/



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- Click-Use Public Sector Information Licence http://bit.ly/psiclickuse



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Typical unclear example - I don't know if I can use this data:

'Crown copyright' (No link to terms)

Examples in Observatory work



Make data easy to find



Make data easy to licence



Make data easy to re-use

'Adopt an existing standard of intellectual property rights. Management team have agreed adoption of Creative Commons.'

Investors in Excellence improvement plan West Midlands Regional Observatory

Examples in Observatory work



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Reports

Publisher	West Midlands Regional Observatory Level 3, Millennium Point Curzon Street Birmingham B4 7XG
	Telephone: 0121 202 3250 Fax: 0121 202 3240 Email: enquiries@wmro.org
	web site: www.wmro.org
Rights	Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 2.0 UK: England & Wales http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/uk/
Document contact	Andy Phillips Head of Skills Research West Midlands Regional Observatory

Examples in Observatory work



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Datasets





Make data easy to find Make data easy to licence Make data easy to re-use

Get data available in basic formats that can be used by people and machines



Make data easy to find



Make data easy to licence



Make data easy to re-use

Get data available in basic formats that can be used by people and machines

CSV, XLS, XML, KML, JSON



Make data easy to find

Make data easy to licence



Make data easy to re-use

Get data available in basic formats that can be used by people and machines

- CSV, XLS, XML, KML, JSON
- Google Spreadsheets



Make data easy to find • Make data easy to licence •

Make data easy to re-use

Get data available in basic formats that can be used by people and machines

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Tabular data in Word or PDF files are useless



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• 'Is it open but opaque? The terms, codes, identifiers etc. you use may be meaningless, or worse still ambiguous, to those outside your organisation, or even your department.'

Richard Wallis, Talis
The data publishing three-step [link]



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- 'Is it open but opaque? The terms, codes, identifiers etc. you use may be meaningless, or worse still ambiguous, to those outside your organisation, or even your department.
- Could your data be made more consistent with other data you, or similar organisations, already publish?'

Richard Wallis, Talis
The data publishing three-step [link]



ONS Standard Names and Codes (SNAC) ids to describe wards



Make data easy to find



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ALL COUNCILS.

HYPERLOCAL SITES DIRECTORY OPEN DATA SCOREBOARD

Search by postcode

Birmingham City Council: Billesley ward official page of the same of the same

Size	565.558 hectares
Ons Snac Ref	00CNGW
Ons Gss Code	E05001181
Ordnance Survey	700000000000089
Ref	
Fix My Street	http://fixmystreet.com/reports/00CNGW
Reports	

Neighbourhood Police Team Councillors for this ward

- UPDATED Len Gregory (Conservative)
- UPDATED Colin Hughes (Conservative)
- · Acting Sergeant James Tunnicliffe
- · PCSO Arlene Milwood
- · PCSO Adam Wooldridge
- PC Michael Doyle

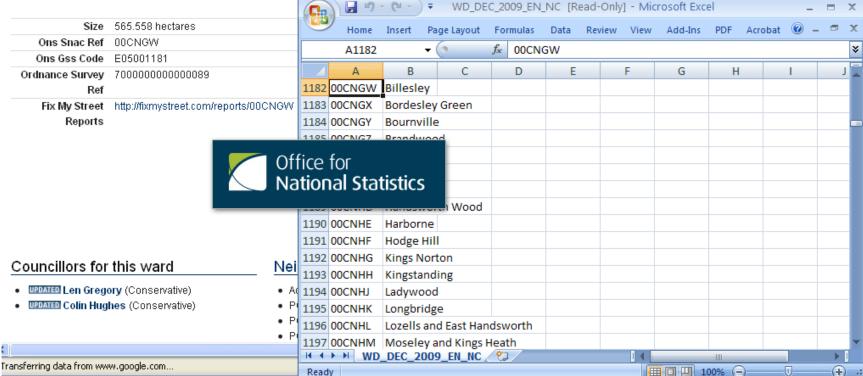


Experimental

10,860 dwellings, 25,874 people live in this













Are there other consistent classifications you know of?

- Business sectors
- Other levels of geography
- **.** ..?

Links



- Much of this presentation is adapted from Chris Taggart's presentation on opening up local government data
- Also indebted to Richard Wallis' post The Data Publishing Three-Step
- http://blogs.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/digitalengagement/post/2009/12/07/Local-Government-Data.aspx
- Prime Minister's letter to Secretary of State regarding transparency, 1 Jun 2010: http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/newsroom/statements/transparency/pm-letter.aspx
- http://www.theyworkforyou.com/
- http://data.gov.uk
- http://www.guardian.co.uk/data-store
- Tackling worklessness: good practice in data sharing: http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/aio/19221282
- http://data.gov.uk/blog/local-public-data-panel
- West Midlands Local Public Data workshop April 2010: http://localdata.citizenshipfoundation.org.uk
- http://data.gov.uk/blog/new-public-sector-transparency-board-and-public-data-transparency-principles
- http://www.opendatacommons.org/licenses/by/1.0/
- http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/information-management/our-services/psi-license-information.htm
- ONS Standard Names and Codes (SNAC): http://www.ons.gov.uk/about-statistics/geography/products/geog-products-area/snac/index.html
- http://delicious.com/gavinwray/opendata
- http://openlylocal.com
- http://www.w3.org/DesignIssues/GovData.html

Contact



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