DfT Transport Sector Transparency Board - Minutes

Great Minster House, London 15:00-17:00, Friday 27th September 2013

Attendees: Steve Gooding, DG Roads, Traffic & Local, DfT (Chair) [SG]
Prof. Jonathan Raper, CEO Placr [JR]
Andrew Stott, Public Sector Transparency Board [AS]
Nick Illsley, Transport Direct, DfT [NI]
..., Freedom of Information Manager, DfT
Helen Morris, Driving Agency Sponsor, DfT [HM]
Krizstina Katona, Cabinet Office [KK]
Robert Toft, DVLA [RT]
Shane O'Neil, Chairman, Elgin [SO'N]

Apologies: Christopher Muttukumaru, GCO SIRO, DfT
Miles Gibson, No 10
Tim Stamp, Statistics, DfT

Introduction and Welcome

Actions from previous meeting (13 June 2013)

1. CAA/ACL: The Board discussed the previous action and sought further clarity on the nature of the request. The important aspects to clarify included: who owns the allocation of flight schedules and slots; is there any public data involved; and whether the data generated would pass through the gate of open data requirements. **Action: to be on the agenda as part of the CAA Open Data proposals at the next Board meeting.**

2. Geoplace: NI met with Geoplace and Ordinance Survey (OS) regarding ASD. **Action: SG to write to OS following the Board regarding the delay in getting a formal response to the Board's request to release the ASD as Open Data.**

3. ORR: NI to follow up with ORR on the release of raw data for delay attribution

4. TOCs: There was a discussion regarding TOC publication of performance statistics. JR said that there was currently a discrepancy between the consumer access to delay and cancellation information. The Board felt that this area required further detailed scrutiny and agreed to "walk through" the delay attribution process in order to understand the nature of the cancellation and delay data available. **Action: NI to arrange an appropriate discussion of items 3 and 4 at the next Board meeting**

DVLA Open Data User Group Business Case for Bulk Data Release

5. RT provided the Board with a brief overview of the datasets involved and the general DVLA approach. RT stated that he had corresponded with the Information Commissioner on the appropriateness of release and they had highlighted the need to safeguard against the possibility that this information could be cross matched with other datasets and it could reveal personal identity. There was a discussion about whether this risk should prohibit release or fall under unlawful processing.

6. The issue of reuse of such data was also discussed. RT said the current contracts had tight controls on the reuse of this data and this would need to be considered if published. NI said this was an important aspect that needed to be considered in terms of the protection of end-users.

7. The nature of the datasets (including VRN and VIN) meant that although in essence this was non private data there still would be a requirement for ministerial and public consultation. AS said that much of the privacy issues must have been addressed if these data sets were currently available for a fee.

8. RT emphasised that these datasets were part of a wider open data release including VOSA / MOT / Stolen Vehicle Database and any decision to make available the DVLA should be made within that wider context.

9. Various questions were raised about the financial impact of publishing the data in a more open fashion and RT said that work was on going to improve the DVLA IT architecture to enable more cost effective processing and routine extracts.

10. KK said the Cabinet Office and the Open Data User Group viewed this release as a priority.

11. The Board agreed that the principle should be that unless there were Ministerial or public objections, or practicalities that meant that publication was unlawful, then the data should be published.

Action: DVLA to investigate practicalities around publishing data and report back to the board in January 2014

Elgin – Future Business Arrangements Discussion

12. S'ON presented a presentation to the group "Update on governance and public data principles." The presentation covered:

   - LA Market Penetration
   - Governance
   - Governance Structure

- Governance in Practice
- ELGIN's Public Data Policies
- Tentative Conclusions

13. The Chair thanked S'ON for the presentation. The discussion centred upon the availability of statutory source data outside the API. A number of questions were posed about whether this would accessible and of equivalent usefulness outside the API. S'ON stated that ELGIN had no exclusivity on the raw data that sat on "Streetworks database"

14. The Board concluded that in principle, if the raw source data was published in a re-usable form, then ELGIN could be deemed to have added value to this via the API, the business would then be able to work up a service level agreement and initiate a form of Ramsay pricing charging model if appropriate. **Action: Issue to be discussed ELGIN guardians group and reported back to the Board in early 2014**

National Information Infrastructure

15. KK stated that CO / DfT had met to discuss the first cut of the Transport data sets. These included:

- Infrastructure data
- Vehicle data
- Timetable and traffic count data
- Real-time data
- Customer Satisfaction data

16. In terms of any additional information required there was consensus that the enhanced CAA stats (discussed under paragraph 1) should be included.

Action: The board agreed that a number of vehicle data sets – from multiple agencies - could be released under the heading "Bulk Vehicle Data." This will feed into the Cabinet Office launch at the end of October

Sub Group Meeting with the Traffic Commissioner

17. The note was passed as an accurate record of the meeting on the 4th July 2013. NI added that it was a really positive meeting.

AOB

18. AS described his recent experience at an Open Knowledge Conference in Geneva. He concluded that DfT had achieved a great deal in terms of the transparency and open data agenda. The forthcoming CO hosted Open Government Partnership Annual Summit was felt to be an ideal opportunity to celebrate a number of the most notable success stories.

Date of next meeting

19. The next meeting is due to be held on 13th November at 15:30 in room H5 at Great Minister House.