

Department for Work and Pensions – Transparency / Open Data

Welfare Sector Transparency Board – Progress Report

Date: 27.11.2013

This report is aligned to the department's published Open Data Strategy and provides a progress update on how DWP is meeting its Transparency / Open Data commitments. The report is split into the following key sections:

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Engaging with key stakeholders & data users – Summary of DWP’s activities since the last meeting

This section illustrates how we are working with key stakeholders including data users to help inform what demand there is for our data and the priority users attach for the timing of its release. We are also using feedback from sources such as registered users on Stat-Xplore to data.gov.uk analytics to assess how popular our data is and identify further improvements

Achievements / Work completed since the last meeting

(3.2.1) *DWP Open Data Group (formerly External Stakeholder Group) met on 26.9.13 .The group has expanded it’s external members from 8 to 15*

(3.3.1) *In September DWP attended the Energy & Environment Open Data Policy workshop*

(3.4.2) *Stat-Xplore over 500 registered users – feedback received has resulted in several improvements including introducing a hierarchy for geographical breakdowns, increasing size of tables for guest users*

(3.4.5) *Received 8 ODUG requests which have been responded to*

(3.4.7) *Met all cross government publishing requirements for the quarterly written ministerial statement period QTR1 2013/14. Also released new data for customer complaints and GMPP outlined in the 2012 OD Strategy*

(3.4.8) *Feedback from customers on-line access – latest feedback shows we have achieved the 80% JSA online target one month early (82.5% in month)*

Feedback from Data.gov.uk

Two DWP data sets reviewed by users:

*A Greater London Authority rep said that **Winter Fuel Payments data** would help detect trends in older people claiming – they seek aggregate stats.*

*New Philanthropy Capital (NPC) - an organisation “working to aid charities show their impact by making data more available & user friendly” - seek access to **Universal Credit data** by non-profit bodies who work to support people into employment. Also suggest linking UC data to Police and National Drug Monitoring Systems.*

Most popular DWP datasets
*Organogram and staff pay data
JSA sanction and DLA stats
Spend over £25K datasets
NINOs allocated to overseas nationals*

Key Stakeholders we have been engaging with

- *DWP Open Data Group which includes Data Users from the private sector, Academia, Welfare Groups / ODUG/ODI*
- *Stat-Xplore registered users
DWP Benefit customers*

Forward Look

- *Next meeting of the expanded DWP Open Data Group due January 2014*
- *Evaluating new feedback on DWP dataset inventory on data.gov.uk*
- *Updating case studies on Transparency webpage*
- *Taken on board feedback from Stat-Xplore users to improve format and tables (see 3.4.2 below).*

Open Data / Transparency dataset commitments – Summary of DWP’s activities / data releases since the last meeting

This section illustrates how DWP is meeting its Transparency / Open Data commitments for releasing more datasets in an open and re-usable format. It covers DWP dataset releases identified as part of the National Information Infrastructure, other key datasets planned for release via Stat-Xplore as well as the development of a unified data format for future reporting of statistics

Achievements / Work completed since the last meeting

Contributed to the Government’s National Information Infrastructure and developing the inventory of public datasets for assessment by users on data.gov.uk. Alerting external stakeholders WSTB and DWP Open Data Group of the opportunity to assess our ‘unpublished’ datasets on data.gov.uk

Drafted the refresh of the Open Data Strategy outlining DWP’s future transparency / open data commitments. The Strategy links to DWP’s commitments in the National Information Infrastructure and is split into the following key headers:

- *Engaging with external data users*
- *Transparency / Open dataset commitments*
- *Wider Activities*

(4.2.3) Launched a public consultation of format and content of future work programme statistics due to close 22.11.13

New DWP Datasets Released (outlined in the NII)

(4.1.2) New dataset released via Stat- Xplore from September - National Insurance Number registrations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK

(4.1.10) New dataset release via Stat-Xplore from 13.11.13 – Welfare Reform Official Statistics on Spare Room subsidy

(4.1.11) New dataset release from 6.11.13 – Welfare Reform Official Statistics on Benefit Sanction Regime data for JSA and ESA

(4.1.3) DWP Benefit Rates data available on data.gov.uk from 31.10.13

(4.1.4) DWP Flight expenses data 2011 available on data.gov.uk from 14.10.13

(4.1.9) L2 (Lifetime Labour Market database) available via the tabulation tool on data.gov.uk

(4.2.1) Work Programme data released in September 2013 covering the proportion of customers for who providers have received job outcome payment at 24 months on the programme

Key engagements

- *Public consultation on Work Programme Official stats*
- *External data users via WSTB, DWP Open Data Group and Stat-Xplore and DGU users*
- *Information Asset Owners across DWP to develop and publish the Data Inventory/agree new*

Forward Look

- *Publication of the OD Strategy December 2013*
- *Welfare Reform - Release of Benefit Cap official statistics by end of December 2013*
- *Welfare Reform - Universal Credit Pathfinder Statistics starting to be released*
- *Further work programme data release*
- *Internal process developed for quality & regularity of DWP data releases*

Wider Activities – Summary of DWP’s activities since the last meeting

This section illustrates the wider activities DWP are undertaking to drive forward the transparency / open data agenda including the growth review measures, Universal Credit, Fit Note data outlined in the Autumn Statement 2011. It includes progress on DWP’s data sharing activities and continuing support to the Admin Data Task Force (ADTF) for wider welfare provision

Growth Review Measures

(5.1.1) Universal Credit

First set of Official Stats that could contain UC is intended to be released approx 9 moths after admin data relating to UC is available to DWP statisticians

(5.2.1) Fit Note data

Once fit note data is secured from DH a start date for publishing can be agreed

(5.3.1 & 5.3.2) Linking welfare datasets / Opening up DWP data for wider research

DWP is starting a small pilot to test a new process for sharing data with third party researchers outside of the Data Archive, which is non personal but richer and more sensitive data than we can make freely available.

To support this DWP has completed the process to give the Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) access to the Family Resource Survey (FRS) for research purposes.

Data Sharing Activities (details in section 5 of refreshed Open Data Strategy)

Population census beyond 2011 – next key milestone completion of *Beyond 2011 Report* in Spring 2014

Warm Home Discount – now provide a data checking solution for the Energy Company Obligation to enable accurate referrals to suppliers

Electoral Registration Transformation Programme - DWP supporting development of a process to support validation of electors

Benefit Fraud Activities – DWP looking to share details of known fraudsters across the banking, insurance, policing and welfare sectors to help combat multiiple sector fraud

Key Stakeholders

- *Analytical community*
- *Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS)*
- *Across Government including HMRC, DECC, CO, Government Digital Service, Foreign & Commonwealth Office Services*
- *ONS*
- *Energy Suppliers*

Forward Look

- *Arranging session on fit note data at next DWP Open Data Group January 2014*
- *Opening up DWP data for wider research – now working on contracts for another 5 requests*
- *Population Census Beyond 2011 report due Spring 2014*

