

## **Independent Public Sector Information Review**

### **Draft Terms of Reference**

#### **Summary**

The scope of the review will consider the full breadth of the public sector information market, both current and future. It will deal with both the private sector, civil society and general public use and re-use of public information as well as the potential benefits for how the public sector uses and re-uses its own data.

It is expected that the review will cover the elements set out below and include answers to the questions posed. These questions are not exhaustive but are indicative of the aspects we expect to be addressed in the review.

Government will consider the recommendations for action from this review, including whether they are affordable and represent value for money, and publish a formal response in due course.

#### **Use and Re-Use of PSI within Government**

The review will seek to establish, and take stock of, the current use and re-use of PSI within Government, making recommendations for improvements where appropriate. It will consider the current and anticipated future needs for Government given the current policy objectives across departments as well as the opportunities and challenges presented by rapidly developing technology in the area.

Policy agendas it may wish to consider could include:

- The need for government to use its data more effectively to support policy outcomes, both within and across departments, with a particular focus on growth, efficiency and transparency in a way that is affordable and represents value for money.
- The need for data to be more accessible to inform decisions on policy interventions. The availability and use of data will be a key part of any future NICE-style institute for social policy that has been proposed in the Open Public Services (OPS) White Paper and Civil Service Reform Plan;

#### **Use and Re-Use of PSI outside of Government**

Having established Government's needs in terms of the use and re-use of PSI, the review will turn to considering how PSI is currently used and re-used outside of Government— by the private sector, civil society and general public. The review should also consider the merits and demerits of the current regime for how outside organisations secure access to data as well as ad-hoc and proactive release undertaken by departments.

## **Overview of the markets and existing studies**

This will include an audit of current and past studies, as well as taking stock of the current use and re-use of PSI, and a forward look of planned analyses from the public and private sector.

- *What are the main market segments for PSI both existing and emerging?*
- *What are the differences in the markets for PSI, including secondary markets?*
- *What do past studies tell us about the markets and how they function?*
- *What has been taken forward from past reviews and what are the outcomes?*
- *Are there other analyses planned?*

## **Definition of Public Sector Information and Data Sector**

For the purposes of this study, the sector is defined as including those businesses active in data use and re-use of public sector information. This section to include data on:

- Number of companies & numbers employed
  - Leading companies
  - Output in terms of products, sales and trade
  - Main markets
  - Structure(SMEs/large companies and ownership)
  - Trade Associations/Activist Bodies
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- *Is there a defined market and can we quantify its size and reach?*
    - *Who are the main players and how is market share distributed?*
    - *How do they work with their supply chains?*
    - *How dynamic is the market in terms of innovation and internationalization?*

## **Establishing the evidence base and how we measure our Performance:**

- *What are the different types of PSI and can we estimate the value that they hold for government and the economy?*
- *What does the evidence tell us about the size and potential market for public sector information? Is there reliable data available?*
- *What are the gaps in the evidence base and what can we do in the short term to address them?*
- *Can we assess the current and future for the; UK market, EU market, Global market?*
- *What indicators should we use to measure our success in widening access to public sector information?*

## **Competitiveness analysis:**

There are two important influences which affect competitiveness and the review should fully address these:

## **Funding of PSI**

The review should consider whether the current funding models for PSI supports the Government's stated aim to support growth through making more data openly available. While this analysis will assess whether there are benefits to the whole economy, the review should also recognise the funding constraints on departments and their aims to reduce costs and promote efficiencies across the public sector, and the need for any recommendations to represent value for money to the taxpayer.

## **Regulation of PSI**

Given any recommendations from previous analyses relating to the use, re-use and funding of PSI, the review should be free to make recommendations in relation making PSI available for re-use as set out in the PSI regulations and EU directive on Public Sector Information.

It will also consider the wider issues set out below.

- *What are the strengths and weaknesses of the UK market*
- *What are the key issues affecting the data market?*
- *What are the medium and longer term trends in the data market?*
- *How far does regulatory regime enable the market and how far does it constrain it and in what ways?*
- *What licensing arrangements are currently in place for PSI and how do they enable open data?*
- *How does the cost of PSI affect the data market?*
- *How clear are the standards that apply to PSI and how do they affect the market?*
- *How can we categorise the innovative potential of the market and how can we unlock that potential?*

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