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## WILBERT KRAAN RESPONSE (E-MAIL)

Dear Madam / Sir,

Following your request for views on making open data real, I'd like to take this opportunity to suggest a few on some of the points raised:

- how we might enhance a 'right to data', establishing stronger rights for individuals, businesses and other actors to obtain data from public service providers

I think a 'presumed open, unless' policy could be quite powerful for data, provided the 'unless' rules are clear, and the data publication barriers low.

- how public service providers might be held to account for delivering open data

Perhaps a data ombudsman might work: if a person requests a dataset, and has difficulties obtaining it, a data ombudsman could arbitrate.

- how we might ensure collection and publication of the most useful data

Demand driven seems the most practical; if someone wants a dataset, that ought to be a good motivator.

- how far there is a role for government to stimulate enterprise and market making in the use of open data.

I think the role can be limited to the provision of clearly licensed, fully open data.

The main reason for that is that the greatest value of open data for the UK economy at large lies in the processing of data, not in the data itself. There already is far more data available than there are people who understand that data or people who are capable of turning it into something useful. Put differently, the added value organisations are most likely to pay for lies in people who can provide them with insights, not in licensing raw data that may or may not hold the answer.

For government, the main value of the data lies in the ability to freely mix different datasets. That enables applications that are otherwise impractical, un-economical or simply impossible. I already notice that in my daily work.

Kind regards,

Wilbert Kraan

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