

# Department for Work and Pensions – Transparency / Open Data

## Welfare Sector Transparency Board – Progress Report

Date: 19 February 2015

This report is aligned to the department's published [Open Data Strategy](#) and provides a summary 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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**Find out more about DWP's Transparency and Open Data agenda** including stakeholder groups, strategy and case studies at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/transparency-and-open-data>

**Welfare Sector Transparency Board minutes** can be viewed at <https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/welfare-sector-transparency-board>

## 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 to 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 which datasets are most popular and to identify further improvements

### **Achievements / Work completed since the last meeting**

(3.4.2) Any one can use Stat-Xplore without registering but it now has over 2,500 registered users. Almost 40,000 bespoke tables have been constructed by users since its launch, including 10,000 in the last quarter. 40% of tables produced in the last quarter relate to HB, 30% for JSA/ESA sanctions, 13% for NII registrations, 9% PIP, 8% Benefit Cap

(3.2.1) DWP Open Data Group meeting held 22.10.14. Outcomes from meeting are published at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/welfare-sector-transparency-board-external-stakeholder-group>

(3.3.1) In January 2015 DWP attended Jobs open data challenge series event 20.1.15. Included cross section of data owners. Next event planned for 25.2.15

(3.4.7) Continued to meet all cross government publishing requirements for the quarterly written ministerial statement periods up to and including QTR3 2014 /15

(3.4.8) Universal Credit Digital service launched a live test on 26.11.14 taking new claims to UC for claimants in a limited area. Building Capability – worked with CO and the ODI to arrange 'open data in a day' training event in Leeds – 5 people from DWP attended.

Commercial staff attended 'procurement and open data' training event in Sep 14. New Civil Service Learning E-learning session circulated amongst our Information Asset Co-ordinators, over 50% (20) have now completed it

### **Feedback from Data.gov.uk**

#### **No new feedback on DWP's data set inventory**

#### **Most popular DWP datasets on DGU to the end of January 2015**

- Organogram and staff pay data
- JSA claimants by ethnicity
- JSA Sanctions and disallowances
- JSA monthly claimant count
- Households Below Average Income

11 ODUG requests have been allocated to DWP on data.gov.uk (DGU) – DWP working with CO to resolve them

Published updated and more user friendly DWP spend data and staff costs/ organograms

### **Key engagement activity**

- Active engagement in cross data sharing legislation development to allow linking and sharing with academia and other researchers
- Working with ESRC and ADS on establishing the Admin Data Research Network
- Stat-Xplore registered user feedback
- DWP's External Data Sharing Advice Centre – continued engagement with OGDs to explore options for cross government data sharing
- Participated in Transparency International Public Sector Integrity programme, provided details of DWP's transparency activities including visibility of programmes & policies and service usage
- Invited to the Public Sector Transparency Board In January 2015 to update them on DWP progress

### **Forward Look**

- Next meeting of the DWP Open Data Group being arranged for Spring 2015
- During 2015 release an updated version of Stat-Xplore which will include significant user and performance enhancements (as a result of feedback from registered users)
- Updating case studies on Transparency webpage summer 2015
- UC digital service – Phase 2 & 3 will see the service re-open and postcode area expansion

## 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***

#### **NII Framework**

- Contributed to the Cabinet Office led workshops in September 14 as part of the 'discovery phase' for the next iteration of the NII
- Provided DWP response to NII prototype document out for consultation in January 15. Engaged with key stakeholders across DWP including the analytical community
- Developing a DWP wide data sharing inventory and are considering how to combine this with our NII/IAI. We will develop proposals for this early in 2015.

**(4.2.3) Work Programme Statistics – DWP response to consultation published Sep 2014**  
[see here](#). As a result of the feedback the document summarises our improvements and broad approach for the publication of Work Programme official statistics using a Statistical Summary, bespoke Tabulation option and **Data Visualisation Tool**

#### **(4.1.13) Universal Credit**

Monthly official statistics on Universal Credit have been published since Dec 2013. In November 2014 we also added a breakdown for those 'in employment' or 'unemployed' to align more closely with the claimant count  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/universal-credit-29-apr-2013-to-11-dec-2014>

### ***Recent Statistical Releases***

**(4.4.5) Stat-Xplore releases** – the following statistics are now being released on a routine quarterly basis (Feb / May / Aug/ Nov)

- Housing Benefit with spare room subsidy
- Registration of NII Nos allocated to overseas nationals
- JSA/ESA Sanctions data
- Benefit Cap
- PIP

**(4.3.1) Unified Publication database** – database now being used by other departments for the 'indices of deprivation' A methodology has been developed and tested to underpin the production of an extensive range of statistics ( i.e HB, HMRC, Tax Credits) based on DWP's administrative data. Decisions still to be made for the type of release i.e done as a stand alone / time series

**(4.4.5) Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) – Work Capability Assessments (WCA)** – Latest publication was released 11<sup>th</sup> December 2014 [see here](#)  
 This publication includes data on the outcome of appeals up to September 14. DWP plan to completely update the ESA WCA quarterly statistics to cover the entire lifecycle process, which is due to be completed after June 2015

### ***Key Engagement Activity***

- External data users via WSTB, DWP Open Data Group,
- Stat-Xplore and Data.Gov.UK users
- The Stats User Net community

### ***Forward Look***

- Welfare Reform – **Universal Credit Statistics to be released via Stat-Xplore during 2015**
- Quarterly Updates for Benefit Cap, Reduction of Spare Room Subsidy, PIP, Work Programme, Foreign Worker National Insurance registrations
- PIP statistics – looking at also including 'clearance times' from March 2015
- ESA WCA – update statistics to cover lifecycle. Due for completion after June 2015

## 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** – UC evaluation of the pathfinder sites including ad –hoc statistics were published in November 2014 [see here](#). Includes detailed research with UC claimants through quantitative surveys and in-depth qualitative research

#### **(5.2.1) Fit Note data**

Funding has been secured to take this forward, for set up and running costs. The fit note data will be gathered and produced by Health & Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC). Data will include the number of fit notes issued, diagnosis (high level), gender, whether they are fit for work, sick absence durations  
Initial data extract due late February 15 subject to legal clearance, followed by data being available to the public during summer 2015 with access to data at Clinical Commissioning Group level

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

DWP did a small pilot to test a new process for sharing data ( FRS) 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. Six contracts have been signed for data permissions, and all other permissions are in place to allow for delivery of data to applicants

**Admin Data Research Network (ADRN)** was launched 25.11.14. Agreed process for ADRN requests to be received at a single point of contact in DWP

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

**Adult Social Care Financial Assessments – (giving LAs access to CIS)** DWP will share data with LAs across Great Britain to support them in using means testing to calculate the amount elderly customers should contribute to their care. Activity is underway to initiate access to CIS by LAS to support this Fairer Charging.

**Warm Home Discount (DECC)** – Year 4 of WHD Scheme and an additional 17,500 Pension Credit customers have been identified as being eligible for a rebate (Data matching between Energy suppliers and DWP to identify eligible customers)

**Electoral Registration Transformation Programme** – Individual Electoral registration has now been live for 6 months in England and 3 months in Scotland. Up to 18.12.14 DWP has successfully processed over 4 million requests from CO to streamline the verification of electors.

**DEFRA** - On 15<sup>th</sup> October DWP attended a meeting with DEFRA (Water Reform Team) and Water UK. Discussed the feasibility of DWP supporting the identification/ validation of vulnerable water customers who could benefit from a reduction in their bill. Following this, Water UK will now arrange to discuss and fully explore the options with the Water Companies

### Key Engagement Activity

- DWP’s analytical community
- Across Government including HMRC, DECC, DEFRA, CO, Government Digital Service, Foreign & Commonwealth Office Services
- ONS
- Energy Suppliers
- Admin Data Research Network

### Forward Look

- Opening up DWP data for wider research – 6 contracts have been signed
- Adult Social Care Financial Assessments - Pilot currently underway in Leeds. Extending access to CIS to more LA staff
- DECC – Energy Company Obligation. Four organisations have bid for the contract and once a decision has been made expected delivery date is June 2015
- UC being rolled out nationally from February 2015
- NHS data sharing to bear on prescription fraud

## Arms Length Bodies (ALBs) update – following attendance at the WSTB

### Health & Safety Executive (HSE)

Since the meeting of the WSTB in November 2013 HSE has continued to demonstrate open data compliance by publishing various datasets on data.gov (e.g. organograms, GPC transactions), and on HSE's website (e.g. senior officials expenses etc). Other developments include:-

- Publication of various information regarding Fee For Intervention (FFI) including invoice information being published on HSE's website (<http://www.hse.gov.uk/fee-for-intervention/ffi-invoices-oct12-sep14.pdf>) and a one year on report into the Fee for Intervention (FFI) scheme <http://www.hse.gov.uk/fee-for-intervention/independent-ffi-review-panel-final-report-2014.pdf>.
- Statistical information which is judged to be of wider public interest and has been released under the Freedom of Information Act is also updated and published on the HSE website (<http://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/adhoc-analysis/index.htm>).
- HSE routinely publishes enforcement information on notices and prosecutions for Great Britain within its Public Registers and has recently published the 'In-year work-related deaths reported to HSE and local authorities' data for the Quarter 2 period <http://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/fatalquarterly.htm>.
- HSE has also published findings from its 'Safesite construction campaign' and its targeted inspection initiative which ran from Sep – Oct 14 <http://www.hse.gov.uk/construction/campaigns/safersites/>.
- HSE now has 48 datasets listed on Data.gov, 12 new datasets have been identified since our last version of the Information Asset Inventory submitted to DWP in February 2014, they include:-
  - Organogram and staff data (published)
  - Blood lead exposure statistics (published)
  - Psychosocial Working Conditions in Britain statistics (published)
  - Fatal injuries in the workplace statistics (published)

HSE continue to engage and raise awareness amongst their IAO community, including clarification on roles, responsibilities and our obligations under the transparency and open data agenda. We have engaged with our Senior Management Team on this issue and have to date identified 48 datasets, work is underway looking at developing a strategy for HSE to prioritise and publish its remaining unpublished datasets. To help us understand the position across HSE we have used the National Archives (TNA) self assessment information management tool which also covers openness and transparency. Overall, the results of the assessment indicate HSE is managing knowledge and information management to a satisfactory level, and we are at a reasonable level of maturity. This assessment also helped inform our Information Assurance Maturity Model (IAMM) with Cabinet Office. There are however some areas where improvements could be made e.g. in governance and compliance and those cultural challenges remain so we would look to lessons learned from colleagues across government who are tackling similar issues working with IAOs to prioritise and publish datasets.