Public Service Delivery Review Board meeting

Minutes

Wednesday 17th April 2019

10:30 - 11:30

The Public Service Delivery (PSD) Review Board (the Board) met for the second time on Wednesday 17 April. The focus of the meeting was discussion of a new objective proposal on Early Learning and Childcare from the Scottish Government. This proposed objective had been discussed at the previous Board meeting. The Scottish Government were reporting back to the board on how the questions raised during the first meeting had been addressed. The Board also discussed the use of the Digital Economy Act (DEA) to date, including the PSD power, looking at the emerging themes and issues as well as a broader discussion of the opportunities and barriers.

1. Welcome and introductions

The Chair welcomed attendees and set out the agenda.

2. Review of Actions

All actions complete.

3. Update on Scottish Government's Early Learning and Childcare proposal

Scottish Government presented an update on their objective proposal on Early Learning and Childcare in response to the questions raised at the last meeting. As part of this, they updated board members on their subsequent discussions with colleagues from DWP, DFE and HMRC. The Board's consensus was that the proposal met the criteria for a new objective and that questions had broadly been addressed.

Points raised

- <u>Clear purpose</u>: the proposal could be clearer on the purpose of the data share, removing any ambiguity of a secondary purpose.
- <u>Update original proposal form</u>: the updated information following conversations with colleagues in DWP, HMRC and DfE should be incorporated into the original proposal form.

Action 1 - Secretariat to share link to Review Board page on GOV.UK, signposting process map and other documents.

Action 2 - Scottish Government to update ELC objective proposal form with the latest information from the update document, ensuring that the purpose of data share is clear. Action 3 - Secretariat to circulate updated ELC proposal form for comment/agreement via correspondence. We agreed a window of 2 weeks from re-circulation of the template for comment/endorsement.

Action 4 - (Subject to completion of action 3) Secretariat to send a submission to Minister with a recommendation on the ELC objective based on the advice of the Board. As noted at the meeting, we would like to do this in mid May.

4. Update on the use of the DEA and PSD power to date - emerging themes and issues

The secretariat provided an update on usage of the DEA and PSD power to date. The secretariat outlined the engagement activity which it has undertaken with a range of stakeholders, aimed at promoting awareness of the DEA and the PSD power. This programme of stakeholder engagement has helped to build a picture of how the PSD power - and other DEA powers more generally - are already being used and of how plans for future use are taking shape. The following points were highlighted and discussed with the Board:

- <u>Usage</u>: mixed picture in terms of usage of the PSD power. Some ISAs have been established under the fuel poverty objective and are published on the register; discussions are ongoing between a number of organisations about further potential ISAs under this legal power.
- <u>Awareness-</u> The engagement activity has highlighted the need to continue raise awareness, beyond policy leads and representatives of the data community, through to frontline practitioners.
- <u>Barriers</u>: some nervousness to share data in context of GDPR i.e. reticence of making data available in case of data breaches or risks to data confidentiality; Case studies would help inspire confidence.
- <u>Health and adult social care data</u> Anecdotal evidence, gathered through the engagement activity, suggests that bringing health and adult social care bodies into scope of the PSD power could greatly enhance its impact and encourage further usage.

a. Discussion of opportunities and barriers in relation to the PSD power

The Board discussed insights on usage of the powers, as well as opportunities and obstacles.

Points raised

- <u>Case studies</u>: The Board agreed that case studies would be helpful in demonstrating the benefits of data sharing under the PSD power.
- <u>GDPR</u>: Since the DEA data sharing powers became operational GDPR has been prominent. Providing clarity that PSD power (and DEA in general) is consistent with GDPR will encourage usage.
- <u>Awareness in major data holding departments</u>: within departments awareness of the DEA is patchy. While anecdotal evidence suggests it is well understood among members of the data community within departments, there is a need to spread awareness more widely among the various other professions. The Board could help to address this.

Action 5 - Board members to think about how to raise awareness of PSD power more widely (e.g beyond the relevant data and policy leads) within major data holding departments for discussion at the next meeting

Action 6 - Data Policy and Governance team (DCMS) to follow up with DHSC and NDG on the feedback associated with health and adult social care bodies.

5. Agreement of actions

Actions were agreed as set out in the table below:

	Description	Owner	Status
1	Secretariat to share link to Review Board page on GOV.UK, signposting process map and other documents.	Secretariat	Closed (Link circulated at the same time as the minutes)
2	Scottish Government to update ELC objective proposal form with the latest information from the update document, ensuring that the purpose of data share is clear.	Scottish Government	Open
3	Secretariat to circulate updated ELC proposal form for comment/agreement via correspondence. We agreed a window of 2 weeks from re-circulation of the template for comment/endorsement.	Secretariat	Open
4	(Subject to completion of action 3) Secretariat to send a submission to Minister with a recommendation on the ELC objective based on the advice of the Board. As noted at the meeting, we would like to do this in mid May.	Secretariat	Open
5	Board members to think about how to raise awareness of PSD power more widely (e.g beyond the relevant data and policy leads) within major data holding departments for discussion at the next meeting.	All	Open
6	Data Policy and Governance team (DCMS) to follow up with DHSC and NDG on the feedback associated with health and adult social care bodies.	Secretariat	Open

6. AOB

There was no additional business raised by attendees.

Attendees:

- Sue Bateman, DCMS, Chair
- Kevin Fletcher, HMRC
- Louise Bennett, PCAG

Secretariat:

- Lee Pope, DCMS
- Alastair Bolton, DCMS

Apologies:

- Steven Aldridge, MHCLG
- Edgar Whitley, PCAG
- Ross Young, UKSA
- Lee Almond, HO

By Phone

- Lorraine Jackson, DHSC
- Jenny Westaway, NDG
- Helen Walker, DWP
- Carolina Valsecchi, BEIS
- John Fotheringham, SG
- Joanna Mackenzie, SG
- Claire Wainwright, SG
- Glyn Jones, WG
- Judith Jones, ICO (observing)