

# Transparency, Local Data and the Web

Professor Nigel Shadbolt FREng  
Public Sector Transparency Board  
Chair CLG Local Public Data Panel

Eland House, 9<sup>th</sup> September 2010

# Introduction

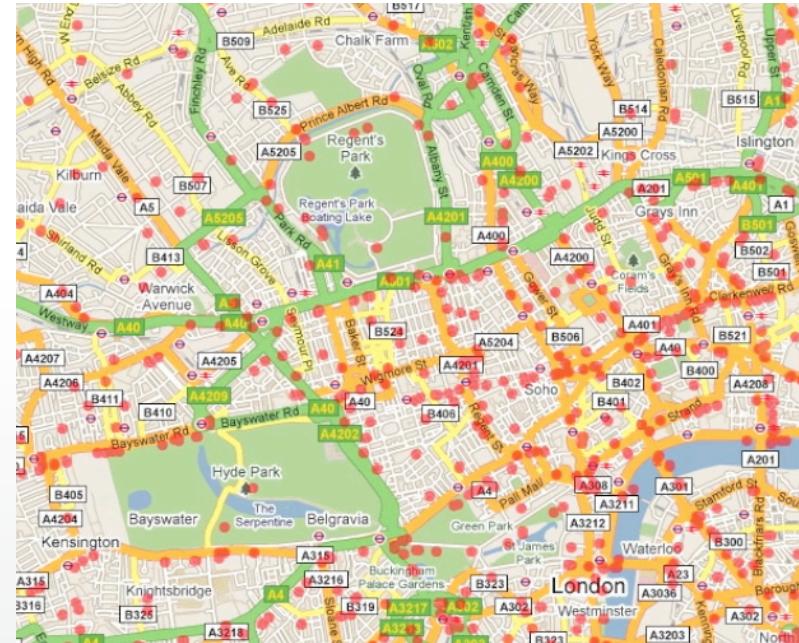
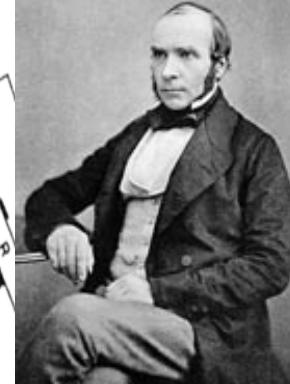
- Open Government Data is creating waves
- Governments, local authorities, cities, organizations, individuals - all releasing data
- Tim Berners-Lee and myself appointed 9<sup>th</sup> June 2009 and set about creating data.gov.uk
- Reappointed Public Sector Transparency Board June 2010

The screenshot displays the data.gov.uk website, which is the central hub for open government data in the United Kingdom. The homepage features a dark header with the HM Government logo and the site's name. Below the header is a navigation bar with links for Data, Apps, Ideas, Forum, Wiki, Blog, Transparency, Linked Data, and Resources. A search bar is also present. The main content area includes a 'Latest Blog Post' section with a link to 'Data.gov.uk releases Open Source code'. There are also sections for 'Helping Pakistan flood victims' and 'Directgov'. The 'Data' section shows various datasets such as 'Department of Health resource accounts', 'spotlightonspend Raw Data D...', 'Scottish Greenhouse Gas Emissions', and 'Police Officer Strength Sta...'. The 'Popular tags' sidebar lists categories like 'health', 'care', and 'population'. The 'Apps' section features an app called 'Where Can I Live?' and the 'Ideas' section includes a post titled 'Link Post Code to Go...'. The overall layout is clean and organized, designed to facilitate easy access to government data and encourage its reuse.

# The Power of Open Data



Cholera  
cases



Bicycling traffic  
accidents

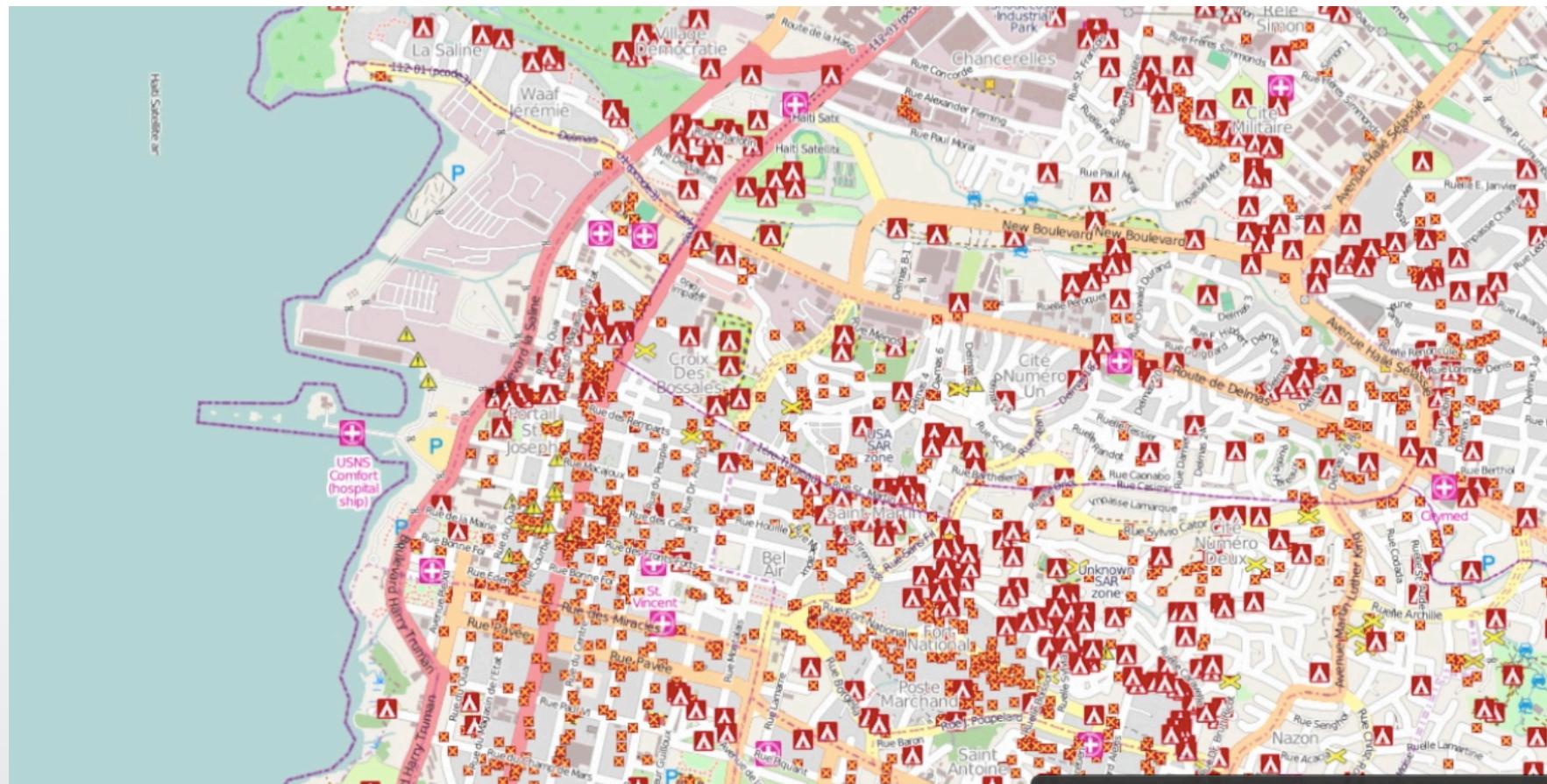
# The Power of Open Data

## Port-au-Prince < 12 Jan 2010



# The Power of Open Data

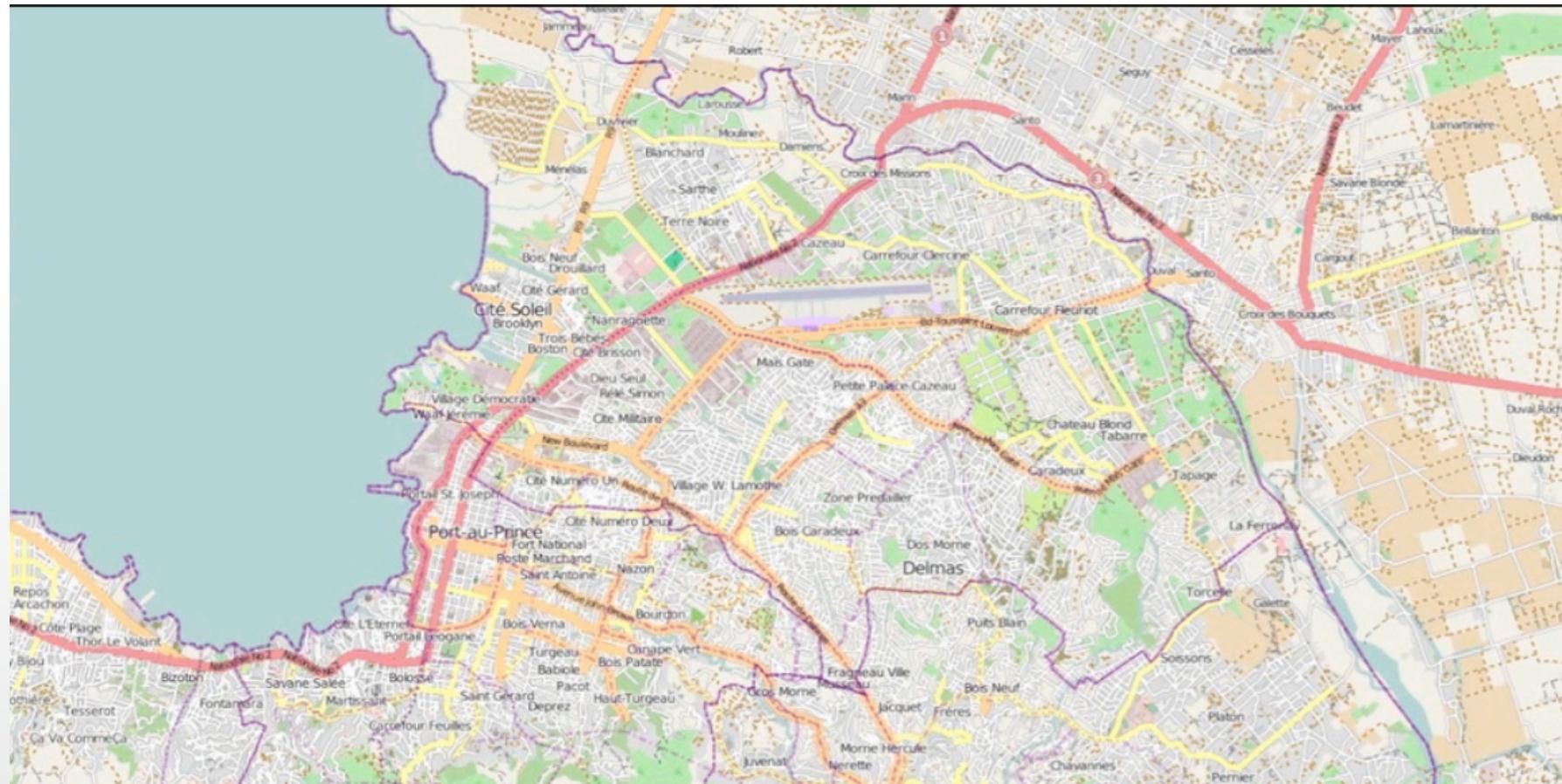
## Port-au-Prince ≈ 25 Jan 2010



from this...



to this... in 13 days



# Accomplishments

- data.gov.uk itself (now with almost 4000 datasets)
  - Open source and open standards
  - Key data sets released inc OS OpenData, COINS etc.
- a new open licence for Crown Copyright information
- overcoming the many objections to transparency of data
- community of data users and developers who hold the teams to account
- political and technical leadership

The screenshot displays the data.gov.uk homepage, which is the central hub for open data in the UK. The top navigation bar includes links for HM Government, data.gov.uk (Beta), a search bar, and user options like 'Log in' or 'Sign up'. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Latest Blog Post:** Data.gov.uk releases Open Source code (20 AUG).
- Helping Pakistan flood victims:** A link to direct.gov.uk/pakistanappeal.
- Directgov:** A button for navigating to the Directgov website.
- Data:** A section showing a list of datasets, including 'Department of Health resource accounts' (by DH), 'spotlightonspend Raw Data D...', 'Scottish Greenhouse Gas Emissions', and 'Police Officer Strength Sta...'. Each dataset card includes a brief description, the author, and a rating.
- Popular tags:** A sidebar listing tags such as 'health' (735), 'health-and-social-care' (444), 'care' (438), 'population' (395), and 'health-well-being-and-care' (338).
- Apps:** A section showing an app titled 'Where Can I Live' by Christopher Osborne, which allows users to find affordable housing based on travel time and house prices.
- Ideas:** A section showing an idea titled 'Link Post Code to Go...' which aims to provide carbon accounts for post codes.

# Coalition Government's Commitments

- Prime Minister's letter to Ministers on Transparency and Open Data - established Public Sector Transparency Board
- Creating a powerful new right to government data, enabling the public to request and receive government datasets
- Publishing data in open and standardised formats
- Transforming the culture of the public sector to one that presumes datasets should be open and shared with the public on an ongoing basis.
- Bringing in new measures to enable the public to scrutinise the government's accounts
- Requiring public bodies to publish online job titles, salaries and expenses of senior staff
- Publishing in full government contracts for good and services worth over £25,000 ...

**Number10.gov.uk**  
The official site of the Prime Minister's Office

Home News Communicate Meet the PM History and Tour Number 10 TV

Home > Government data to be opened up to the public

## News

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Latest News

Press Briefings

Press Notices

Prime Minister's Questions

Speeches and Transcripts

Statements and Articles

Webchats

May 2010

| M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
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| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 |    |    |    |    |    |    |

« Apr      Jun »

**Monday 31 May 2010**  
**Government data to be opened up to the public**

The Prime Minister has today launched a radical plan to open up Government data to the public.

In a letter sent to all Government departments, David Cameron has set out ambitious plans to open up data and set challenging deadlines to public bodies for the publication of information on topics including crime, hospital infections and Government spending.

The letter also announced that MySociety founder Tom Steinberg will advise ministers on the development and implementation of the transparency agenda.

Whitehall departments will begin to release new data to the public this week, starting with senior civil service salaries, MRSA infection data on a hospital-by-hospital basis and the Treasury's COINS database of public spending.

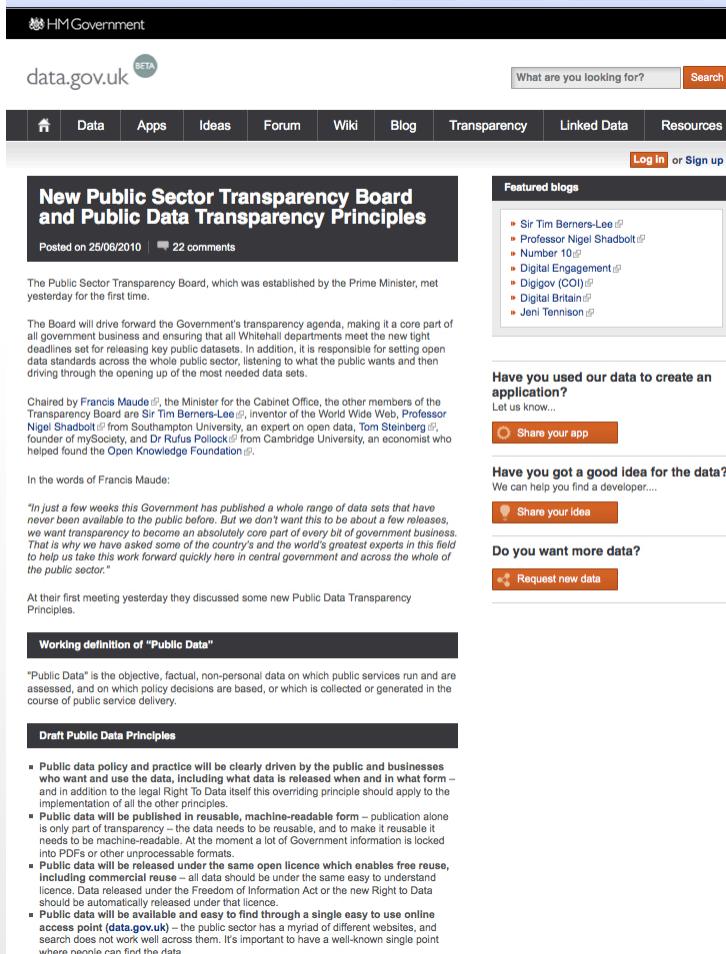
In his letter, the PM said:

*"Greater transparency across Government is at the heart of our shared commitment to enable the public to hold politicians and public bodies to account; to reduce the deficit and deliver better value for money in public spending; and to realise significant economic benefits by enabling businesses and non-profit organisations to build innovative applications and websites using public data."*



# Public Data

"Public Data" is the objective, factual, non-personal data on which public services run and are assessed, and on which policy decisions are based, or which is collected or generated in the course of public service delivery.



The screenshot shows the data.gov.uk website, a beta version, with a dark header featuring the HM Government logo and the word 'BETA'. The main navigation bar includes links for Home, Data, Apps, Ideas, Forum, Wiki, Blog, Transparency, Linked Data, and Resources. A search bar is at the top right. The main content area displays a blog post titled 'New Public Sector Transparency Board and Public Data Transparency Principles' posted on 25/06/2010 with 22 comments. The post discusses the establishment of the Public Sector Transparency Board and the principles of public data transparency. It quotes Francis Maude, the Minister for the Cabinet Office, and other members of the Transparency Board. Below the post, there are sections for 'Working definition of "Public Data"', 'Draft Public Data Principles', and 'Featured blogs' with links to profiles of Sir Tim Berners-Lee, Professor Nigel Shadbolt, and others. There are also sections for sharing apps and ideas, and requesting new data.

# Public Data Principles

- Public data policy and practice will be clearly driven by the public and businesses who want and use the data, including what data is released when and in what form
- Public data will be published in reusable, machine-readable form
- Public data will be released under the same open licence which enables free reuse, including commercial reuse
- Public data will be available and easy to find through a single easy to use online access point ([data.gov.uk](https://data.gov.uk))
- Public data will be published using open standards, and following relevant recommendations of the World Wide Web Consortium

# Public Data Principles

- Public data underlying the Government's own websites will be published in reusable form for others to use
- Public data will be timely and fine grained
- Release data quickly, and then re-publish it in linked data form
- Public data will be freely available to use in any lawful way
- Public bodies should actively encourage the re-use of their public data
- Public bodies should maintain and publish inventories of their data holdings

# Early examples of OGD - ASBOrometer



**ASBOrometer** is a mobile application that measures levels of anti-social behaviour at your current location (within England and Wales) and gives you access to key local ASB statistics.

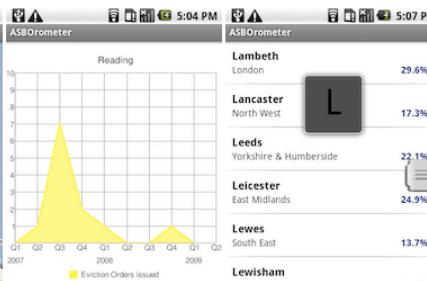
**ASBOrometer** is available for iPhone and Android phones. Get it FREE from the iTunes App Store or Android Market now!

This app was created by [Jeff Gilfelt](#) and made possible by the [data.gov.uk](#) initiative, which is opening up UK government data for public reuse.



Leaderboard

| 1. | Newham             | 47.9% |
|----|--------------------|-------|
| 2. | Tower Hamlets      | 45.9% |
| 3. | Barking & Dagenham | 39.1% |
| 4. | Hackney            | 37.6% |
| 5. | Waltham Forest     | 36.5% |
| 6. | Rochdale           | 35.7% |



Leaderboard

|           |       |
|-----------|-------|
| Lambeth   | 29.6% |
| Lancaster | 17.3% |
| Leeds     | 22.1% |
| Leicester | 24.9% |
| Lewes     | 13.7% |
| Lewisham  | 24.4% |

# Early examples of OGD – NHS dentists

Home

News

Apps

Find GPs

Find Pharmacies

Find Postboxes

Find Pubs

Find Toilets

SF Trees

**UK Dentists**

Support

Contact

**UK Dentists**

Find your nearest NHS dentist quickly and easily!

The National Health Service has over 7,500 dental surgeries across England but finding one can be a difficult and time consuming task. This app is based on data provided by the UK's Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC)\* and covers 99.4% of all registered NHS dental surgeries in England.

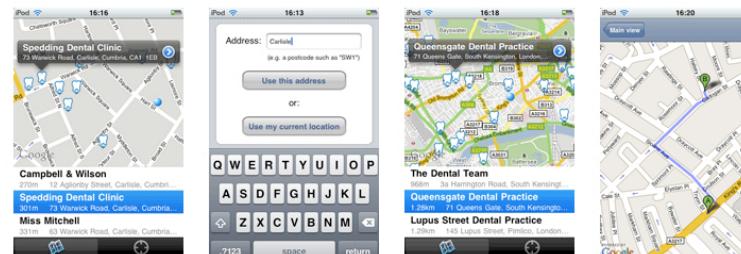
Search for an NHS dentist around your current location, or look for one in another area (where you may be moving to, or for a friend) via a simple place name or postcode search. Distances can be displayed in metric or imperial units (configured in the application preferences).

UK Dentists uses the built in GPS on the iPhone to get your current location, but can also locate an iPod Touch in built-up WiFi areas. If your location cannot be determined automatically then you can always enter your post code to get started. Please note that an internet connection is required to get location and map data.

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**Application Screenshots**

Click on any of the images to see a larger version



**Buy on iTunes**

# Power of OGD – Location...

www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/opendata

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**Ordnance Survey** OS OpenData

Mapping data and geographic information from Ordnance Survey

Create and support innovative, exciting ideas and applications using Ordnance Survey mapping. With OS OpenData you can access a selection of the most detailed mapping datasets available for Great Britain.

Now available - OS VectorMap™ District - a new mid-scale vector and raster dataset (alpha version).

**view**

- Outline of Great Britain
- Overview of Great Britain
- MiniScale ®
- 1:250 000 Scale Colour Raster
- OS Street View ®
- Boundary-Line™
- OS VectorMap™ District - **New**

**develop**

- Create amazing web applications
- Enhance online projects
- Put Ordnance Survey maps on your website

Our API uses JavaScript to make web pages more interactive, anyone can create an application by following simple code and tutorials.

**supply**

Order OS OpenData on hard media or download direct to your PC, Mac or laptop (please note - you may need specialist GI data software to view and use this data...)

**about**

[View, download and order](#) OS OpenData or use [OS OpenSpace](#) to enhance your own application.

You can also experiment with [OS OpenData in RDF format](#).

If OS OpenData doesn't meet your needs, why not try:

- The Ordnance Survey [Map Shop](#) for paper maps.
- The [Explore portal](#) for routes, photos and blogs.
- Ordnance Survey mapping for [business](#) or [education](#).

**help**

See our [FAQ](#) page to find answers to any questions you might have about OS OpenData, get more [technical help](#) with the map viewer or downloads.

Or you can [email](#) or call us on 0845 408 1895 (8.30am - 5.30pm, Monday to Friday).

- [OS OpenData Licence](#)
- [Privacy policy](#)
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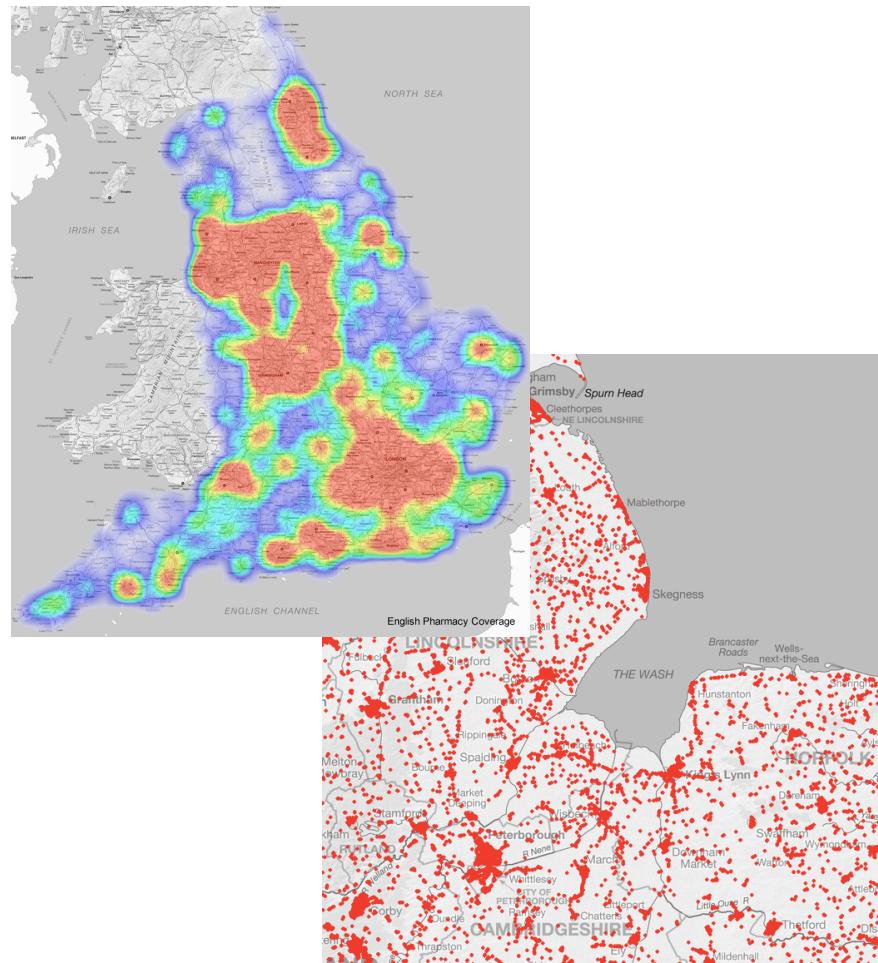
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[YouTube](#) [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Blog](#)

Featured blogs:

[Ordnance Survey Blog](#), [Sir Tim Berners-Lee](#), [Professor Nigel Shadbolt](#), [Digital Engagement](#)



# The Power of OGD – Spending...

**guardian.co.uk**

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News > Politics > Coins data explorer

## Coins Data Explorer

This is our first attempt at producing a way to navigate around the 3.2m data items released by the UK government as part of Coins. Scroll down the page to choose which chunk of data you'd like to explore - and let us know what you find.

Find out what the acronyms mean with our [glossary](#).

Send story ideas to [coindata@guardian.co.uk](mailto:coindata@guardian.co.uk)

Help fill in the joint [Guardian](#) and [Where Does My Money Go?](#) google spreadsheet

[Jump to results](#) [Output all as CSV](#) [Reset search](#)

Search:

All queries are filtered by what we believe to be the latest forecast of the amount spent in tax year 2009/10. This is only a forecast, the actual figures will only be known in September.

(Technically, filtered by data type "Forecast Outturn March" and data subtype "Forecast Outturn (Submitted)", removing zero values)

**Filter by department description**

- Armed Forces Retired Pay, Pensions etc (170)
- Cabinet Office (910)
- Cabinet Office: Civil superannuation (246)
- Charity Commission (68)
- Crown Estate Office (12)
- Department for Business Innovation and Skills (4985)
- Department for Business, Enterprise & Regulatory Reform: UKAEA pension schemes (51)
- Department for Children, Schools and Families (2641)
- Department for Communities and Local Government (6255)
- Department for Culture, Media and Sport (2707)
- Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (4668)
- Department for International Development (2066)
- Department for International Development: Overseas Superannuation (72)
- Department for Transport (4004)
- Department for Work and Pensions (4073)
- Department of Energy and Climate Change (1041)
- Department of Health (1696)
- Electoral Commission (126)
- Export Credits Guarantee Department (185)
- Food Standards Agency (203)
- Foreign and Commonwealth Office (512)
- Government Actuary's Department (121)
- Government Equalities Office (139)

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Comment is free > liberty central

## Coins publication is welcome – but not everyone will like results

There's a risk of tabloid-unfriendly projects being mauled, but it's still right for government spending to be transparent

 Michael Cross  
guardian.co.uk, Friday 4 June 2010 13.35 BST  
Article history

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[A](#) [larger](#) [smaller](#)

A few years ago I helped the Department for International Development run a lavish international conference in Bangladesh, on the subject of migration. Its general conclusion was that migration is a good thing – remittances from migrant workers to their home countries far outstrip official aid, and, arguably, do more good.

I'm guessing that this is exactly the sort of jamboree the new government had in mind when, in opposition, it promised to open up the detailed ledgers of public spending. While I, and many real experts, might defend spending tens of thousands of taxpayer pounds promoting migration, it's not hard to see what the popular press would have made of it. Had they known about it.

In the new transparency age, ushered in today by the release of the first tranche of public data from the Treasury's jealously guarded [Coins](#) (Combined Online Information System), the migration conference would have had a very rough ride indeed.

In fact, in the current climate, the chances of funding it would be zero. Likewise, whole swathes of public spending that doesn't immediately fall into the categories politicians like to boast about – bobbies on the beat, hospital beds, etc.

Despite this danger, I'm heartily in favour of the opening of Coins along with itemised government spending data. It's the latest stage in a revolution that was beyond our wildest dreams when Charles Arthur and I launched the [Guardian's Free Our Data campaign](#), four years ago.

**Judges include:**  
Esther Dyson, angel investor  
Anil Hansjee, Google  
Julie Meyer, Ariadne

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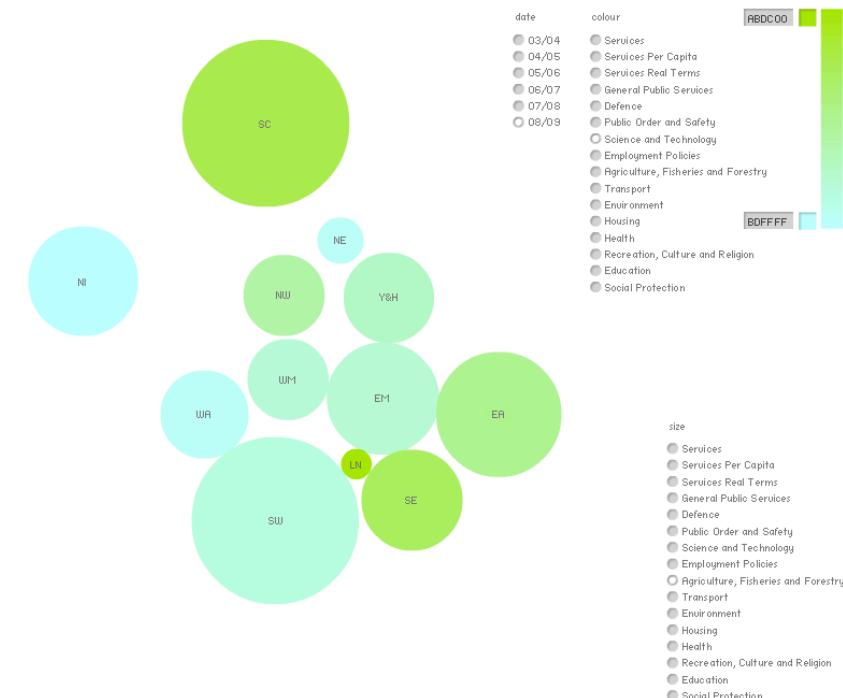
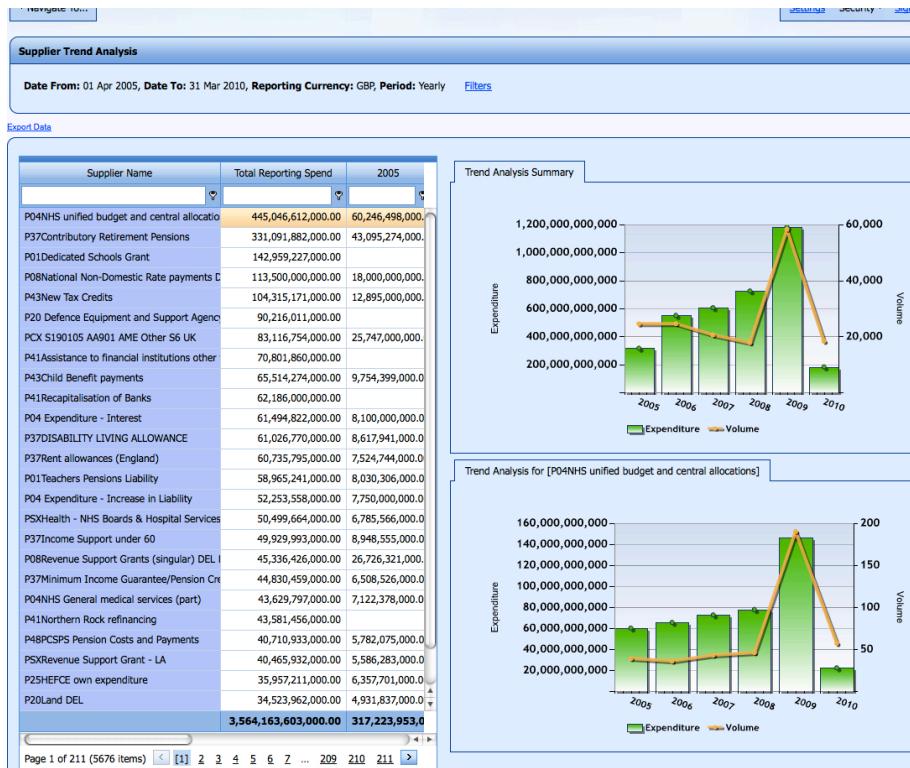
1. David Mitchell: are smug Apple users losing their cachet?
2. Omega-3 lesson: Not so much brain boost as fishy research
3. Nick Clegg sets the test which will make or break this coalition | Andrew Rawnsley
4. We were wrong to allow so many eastern Europeans into Britain | Ed Balls
5. No, I don't believe in God | Alom Shaha

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[lanzamiento; disparo; aflojamiento; descargo; absolución; disparador; novedad 2. emitir; estrenar; largar; libertar; excarcelar; descargar](#)

[Coins data release](#)  [months free](#) [FREE](#)

# The Power of OGD – Publish it...and the apps flow



# Local Matters

- New items of Local government spending over £500 – council by council from Jan 2011

**spotlightonspend**  
Transparency. Delivered

Supported by  
Improvement and Efficiency  
South East

Overview of the spend for Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead

|                                    | Actual Spend | Compared to English Unitary Authority Average |
|------------------------------------|--------------|---|
| Total Spend                        | £72,820,736  | -36%  |
| Spend / Public Employees           | £44,161      | +134%   |
| Spend with SMEs                    | 46%          | -8.8%   |
| Spend Locally                      | 15%          | -7.0%   |
| Spend / Households                 | £1,296       | -16%  |
| Spend / Working Adults             | £828         | -12%  |
| Spend / Persons of Pensionable Age | £2,783       | -8%   |
| Spend / Children                   | £2,540       | -23%  |

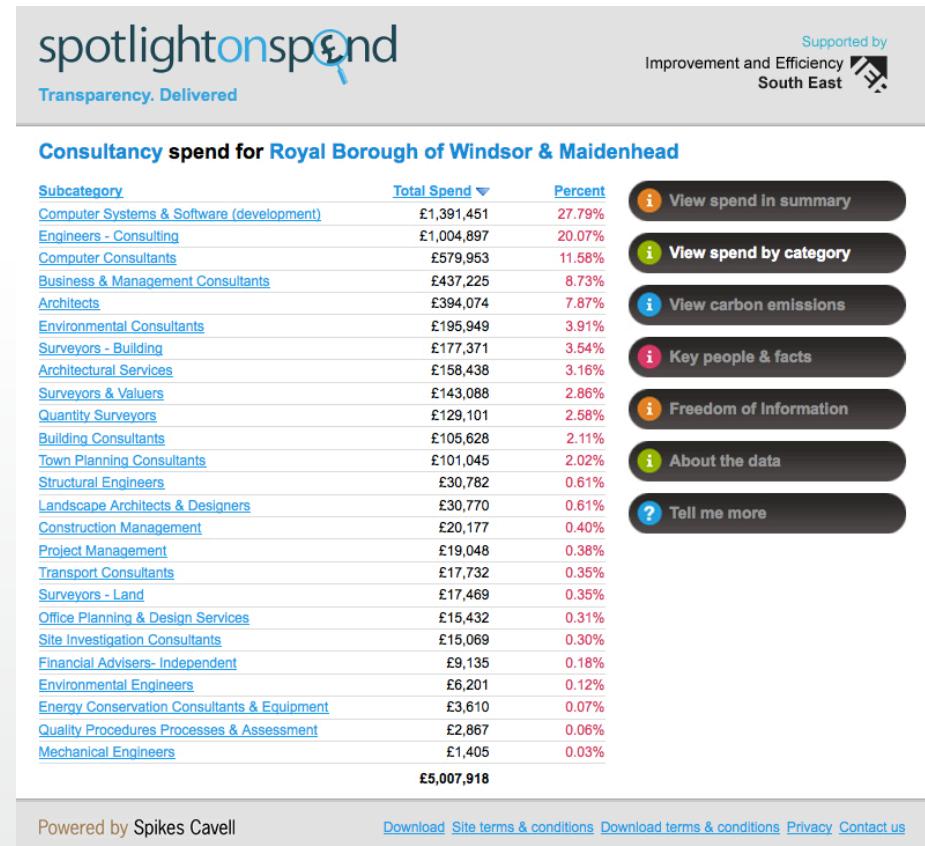
*I'm really excited about the opportunities of transparency and it's something this government is utterly committed to. spotlightonspend demonstrates that, when innovative businesses work with far-sighted public bodies, we can inform the public, reduce costs and improve democracy both locally and nationally.*

Eric Pickles  
Secretary of State  
Communities and Local Government

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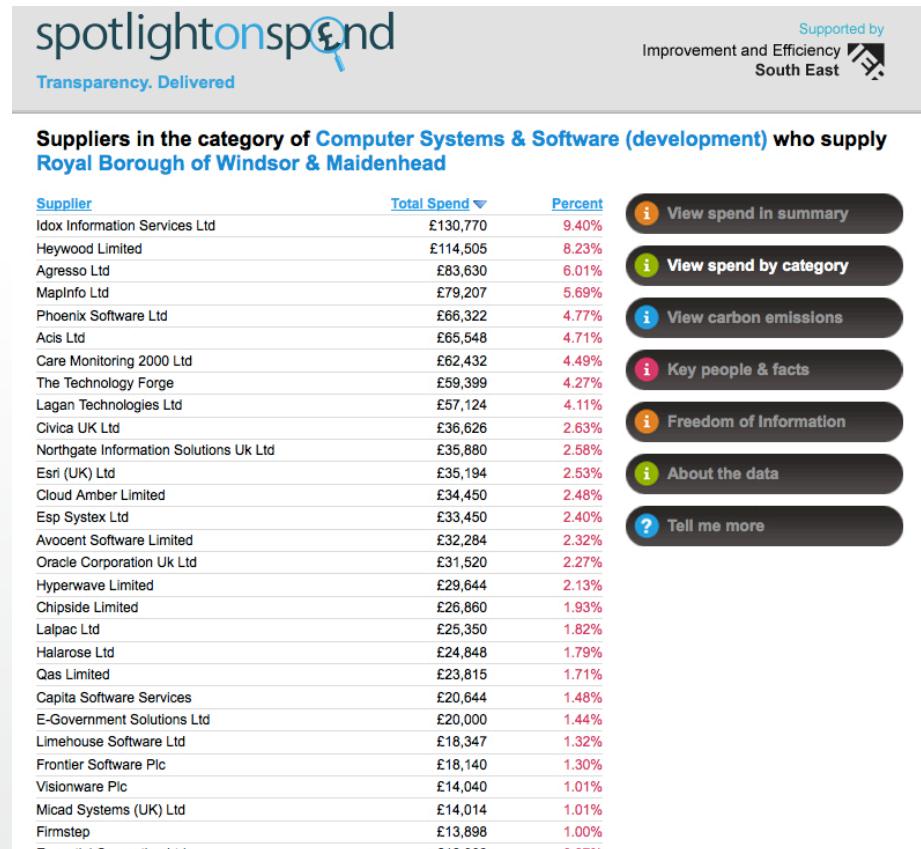
# Local Matters

- New items of Local government spending over £500 – council by council from Jan 2011



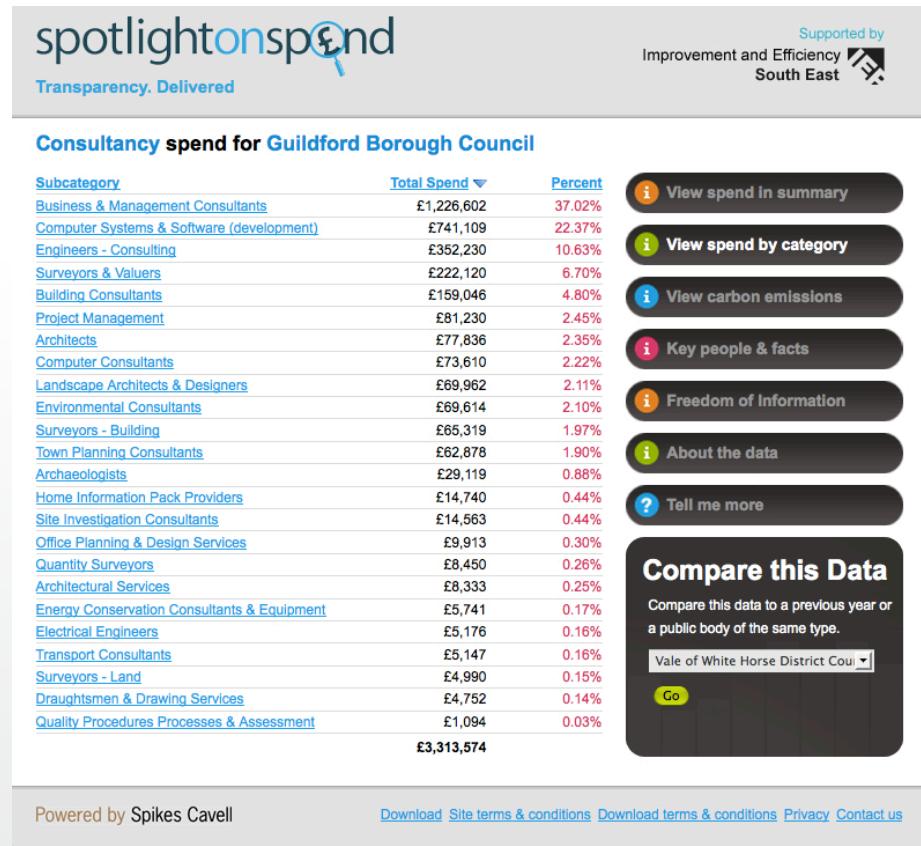
# Local Matters

- “Greater openness in spending is the best way to root out waste, spot duplication and increase value for money.”



# Local Matters

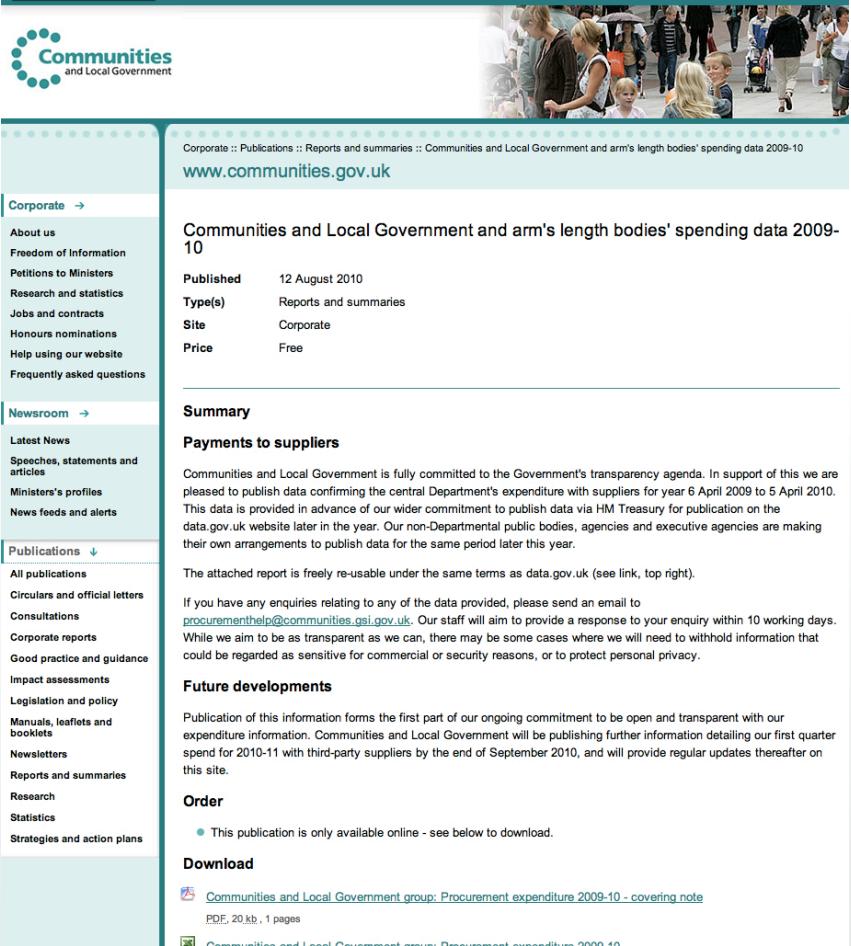
- “Greater openness in spending is the best way to root out waste, spot duplication and increase value for money.”



# Leading from the front

"Now it's our turn. I don't believe in one rule for councils and one for this Department. Central Government spends billions of tax pounds every year and transparency at this level of spending is just as important."

"This Department, like the rest of Whitehall, needs to look at where every penny is going and getting this data out in the open will help that process." SoS 12-8-10



The screenshot shows a web page from the Communities and Local Government website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Corporate', 'Newsroom', and 'Publications'. Below this, a main content area displays a report titled 'Communities and Local Government and arm's length bodies' spending data 2009-10'. The report is dated 12 August 2010, is a 'Reports and summaries' type, is on a 'Corporate' site, and is 'Free'. The page includes a summary section, a 'Payments to suppliers' section, and a 'Future developments' section. At the bottom, there is a 'Download' section with a link to a PDF file titled 'Communities and Local Government group: Procurement expenditure 2009-10 - covering note'.

# And more to come...

- New local government contracts and tender documents for expenditure over £500 to be published in full from Jan 2011
- ...information on senior salaries, names and job descriptions, councillor allowances and expenses, minutes and papers of council meetings, job vacancies that will enable people to see why council wage bills are so high and how many of the positions are for key local services frontline service data - including rubbish and recycling rates, council tax collection rates and detail of major planned projects data such as food hygiene reports for food outlets - information which is routinely collected and of interest to residents, but not currently shared in an easily accessible format
- Crime data to be published at a level that allows the public to see what is happening on their streets from Jan 2011

# Data Publishing – Star Quality

- ★ Put your data on the Web (any format)
- ★★ Make it available as structured data (e.g. Excel, CSV, instead of PDF)
- ★★★ Use open, standard formats (e.g. XML, RDF)
- ★★★★ Use URLs to identify things (so people and machines can point at your data)
- ★★★★★ Link your data to other people's data

# Why 5★ Linked Data?

- National digital infrastructure being built
- URIs for schools, roads, bus stops, post codes, admin boundaries...
- Some of the data links across and connects other data together
- Key data link points exist

Ordnance Survey – Great Britain's national mapping agency See all our sites Login

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Burghclere, Highclere and St. Mary Bourne

A description of the resource identified by <http://data.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/id/7000000000017789>

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>Label</b>       | Burghclere, Highclere and St. Mary Bourne   |
| <b>Name</b>        | Burghclere, Highclere and St. Mary Bourne   |
| <b>Type</b>        | District Ward   |
| <b>Area</b>        | 11445.724   |
| <b>Area code</b>   | DIW   |
| <b>Census code</b> | 24UBKE  |
| <b>Unit Id</b>     | 17789   |
| <b>Borders</b>     | <a href="#">Harewood</a><br><a href="#">Bourne Valley</a><br><a href="#">Kingsclere</a><br><a href="#">Overton, Leverstoke and Steventon</a><br><a href="#">Alamein</a><br><a href="#">Greenham</a><br><a href="#">St. Mary's</a><br><a href="#">Whitchurch</a><br><a href="#">Falkland</a><br><a href="#">East Woodhay</a><br><a href="#">Kintbury</a> |
| <b>Contains</b>    | <a href="#">Litchfield and Woodcott</a><br><a href="#">St. Mary Bourne</a><br><a href="#">Echinswell, Sydmonton and Bishops Green</a><br><a href="#">Burghclere</a><br><a href="#">Highclere</a><br><a href="#">Ashmansworth</a><br><a href="#">Newtown</a>   |

The data for this description was obtained from the SPARQL service at <http://api.talis.com/stores/ordnance-survey/services/sparql>. This data is also available as: [RDF/XML](#), [Turtle](#) and [JSON](#). A free text search service is available at <http://api.talis.com/stores/ordnance-survey/items>

View this data using these other browsers:

- [Marbles](#)
- [Ziglist Data Viewer](#)
- [Disco](#)
- [Dipper](#)
- [OpenLink Data Explorer](#)

[Top of page](#)

Ordnance Survey is Great Britain's national mapping agency, providing the most accurate and up-to-date geographic data, relied on by government, business and individuals.

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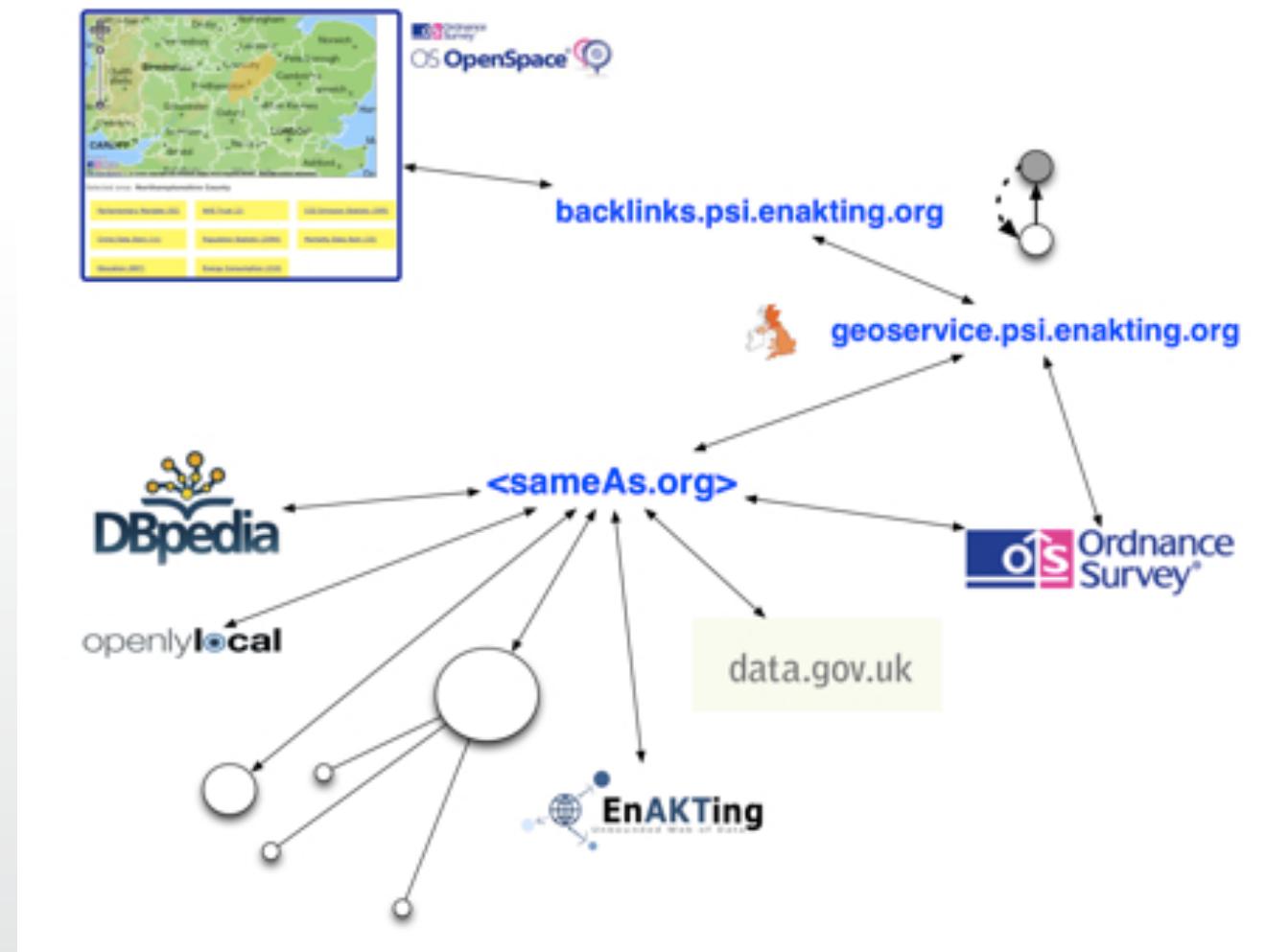
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| <a href="http://data.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/doc/70000000000017789.rdf">http://data.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/doc/70000000000017789.rdf</a> |                     |  |
|---|---------------------|--|
| Litchfield and Woodcott   | label               | Litchfield and Woodcott  |
| Burghclere, Highclere and St. Mary Bourne   | Area                | 11445.724  |
|   | Area Code           | DIW  |
|   | Census Code         | 24UBKE   |
|   | Unit ID             | 17789  |
|   | borders             | Greenham<br>Falkland<br>Kinbury<br>Overton, Laverstoke and Stevenston<br>Harewood<br>St. Mary's<br>Whitchurch<br>Kingsclere<br>East Woodhay<br>Bourne Valley<br>Alamein<br>St. Mary Bourne<br>Echinswell, Sydmonton and Bishops Green<br>Newtown<br>Burghclere<br>Highclere<br>Litchfield and Woodcott<br>Ashmansworth<br>District Ward  |
|   | contains            | Burghclere, Highclere and St. Mary Bourne<br>Burghclere, Highclere and St. Mary Bourne<br>Highclere<br>Harewood<br>Alamein<br>Echinswell, Sydmonton and Bishops Green<br>Burghclere<br>Greenham<br>St. Mary Bourne<br>Newtown<br>Bourne Valley<br>District Ward<br>East Woodhay<br>Falkland<br>Kingsclere<br>Kinbury<br>St. Mary's<br>Whitchurch<br>Ashmansworth<br>Overton, Laverstoke and Stevenston |
|   | type                | http://data.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/doc/70000000000017789.html  |
|   | label               | http://data.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/doc/70000000000017789.json  |
|   | name                | http://data.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/doc/70000000000017789.rdf   |
|   | label               | http://data.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/doc/70000000000017789.ttl   |
|   | label               | Linked Data for Burghclere, Highclere and St. Mary Bourne  |
|   | label               | http://purl.org/dc/dcmitype/Text   |
|   | label               | Document   |
|   | label               | Burghclere, Highclere and St. Mary Bourne  |
|   | application/rdf+xml | application/rdf+xml  |
|   | primary topic       | http://data.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/doc/70000000000017789   |
| http://data.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/doc/70000000000017789.rdf  | Format              | Linked Data in RDF/XML format for Burghclere, Highclere and St. Mary Bourne  |
|   | Is Format Of        | http://purl.org/dc/dcmitype/Text   |
|   | Title               | Document   |
|   | type                | Burghclere, Highclere and St. Mary Bourne  |
| http://data.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/doc/70000000000017789.html   | primary topic       | text/html  |

# Joining up the dots....

<http://map.psi.enakting.org/how>



# Joining up the dots....

## <http://map.psi.backlinks.org/>

PSI BackLinking Service for the Web of Data  
powered by EnAKTing, [EPSRC EP/G008493/1](#)



<http://dbpedia.org/resource/Portsmouth>

(sameAs) <http://statistics.data.gov.uk/id/local-authority-district/00MR>

[Further Education](#) (2)  
[Foundation School](#) (2)  
[LA Nursery School](#) (1)  
[Higher Education Institutions](#) (1)  
[Miscellaneous](#) (3)  
[Voluntary Controlled School](#) (2)  
[Other Independent School](#) (9)  
[Pupil Referral Unit](#) (7)  
[Community Special School](#) (11)  
[EY Setting](#) (144)  
[Voluntary Aided School](#) (6)  
[Community School](#) (67)  
[School](#) (514)  
[Playing for Success Centres](#) (2)

(sameAs) <http://data.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/id/7000000000037254>

[CO2 Emission Statistic](#) (85)  
[Mortality Data Item](#) (3)  
[Road Energy Consumption](#) (30)

Other formats: [RDF](#) [TTL](#) [JSON](#)

[enable geographic containment](#)

# Joining up the dots – UK Linked Data

## <http://myarea.psi.enakting.org/>

### How good is my area ?

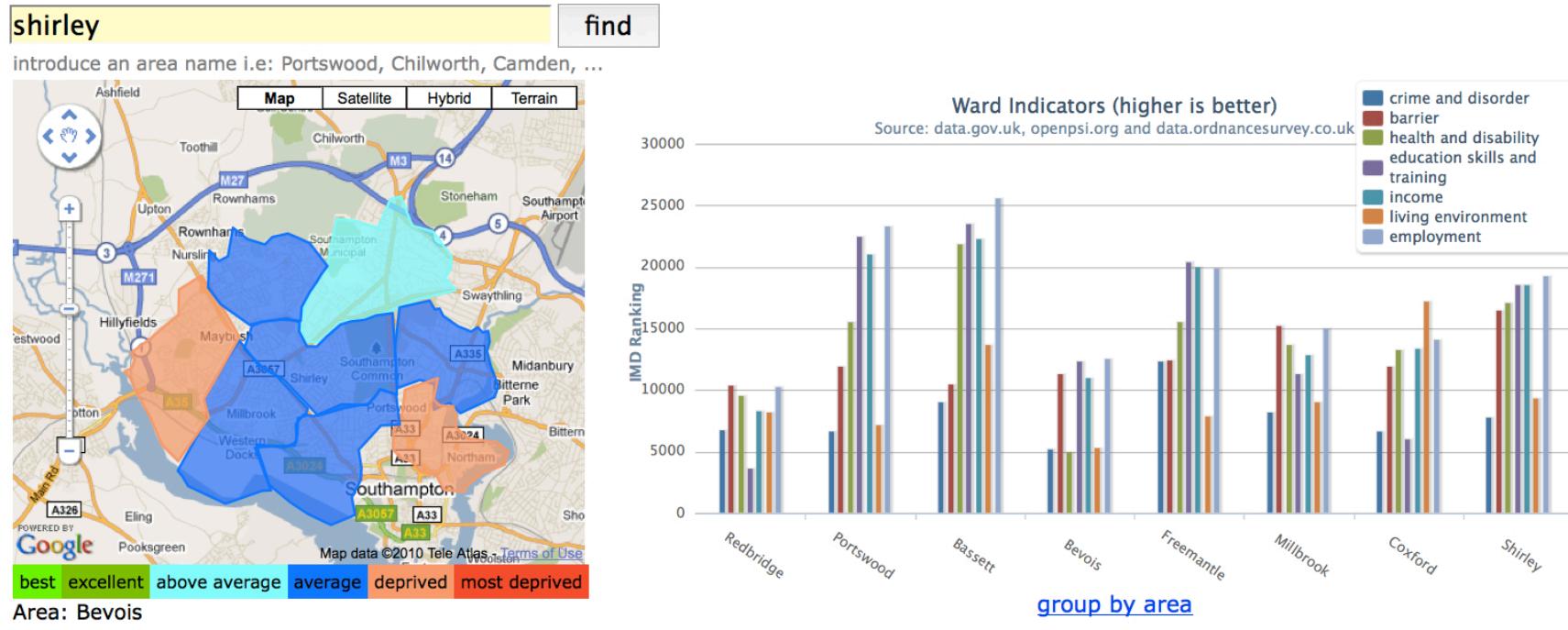
feedback ... please [email us](#)

#### Sources:

[statistics.data.gov.uk](http://statistics.data.gov.uk), [data.ordnancesurvey.co.uk](http://data.ordnancesurvey.co.uk),  
[IMD Database](#), [Boundary data from OS Open Data](#)

This is a **BETA** app developed in a [EnAKTing](#) hack day. It is built on top of Semantic Web technologies and Linked Data.

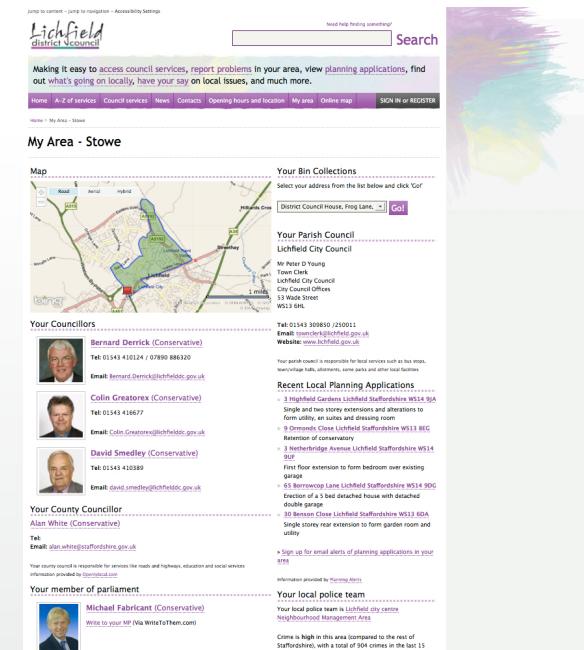
It displays a region and its surroundings showing how good are those areas based on the [IMD database ranking](#).



# The Local Data Panel: Current Activities

Working with new Transparency division on 3 key tasks

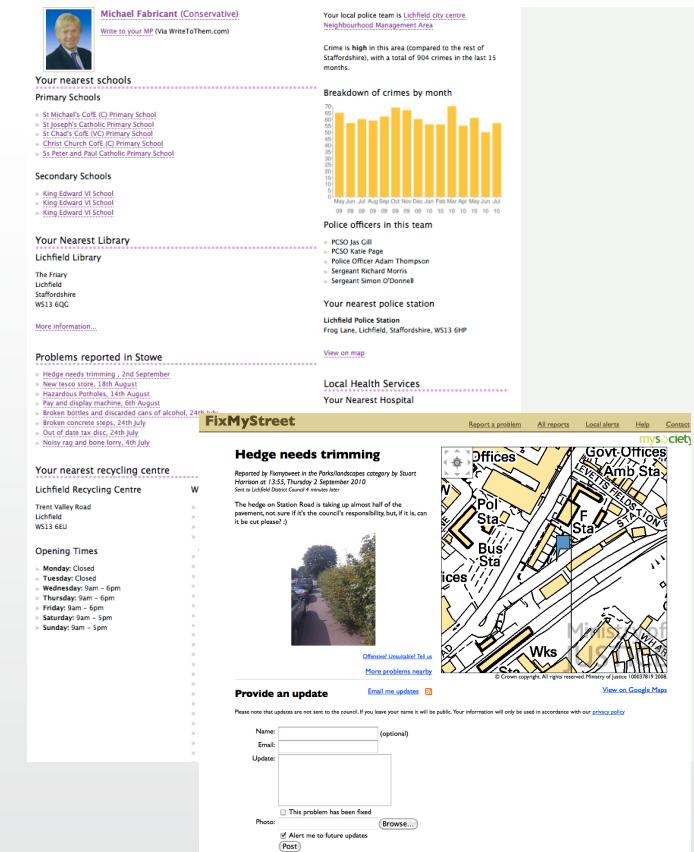
1. How to standardise local authority data and which data should be standardised as a priority
2. Assisting local authorities/public bodies to work through technical/ policy issues relating to making data openly available – in particular the Jan 2011 data release;
3. Encouraging citizens, developers, public and private sector organisations to access and exploit data provided by CLG and LAs



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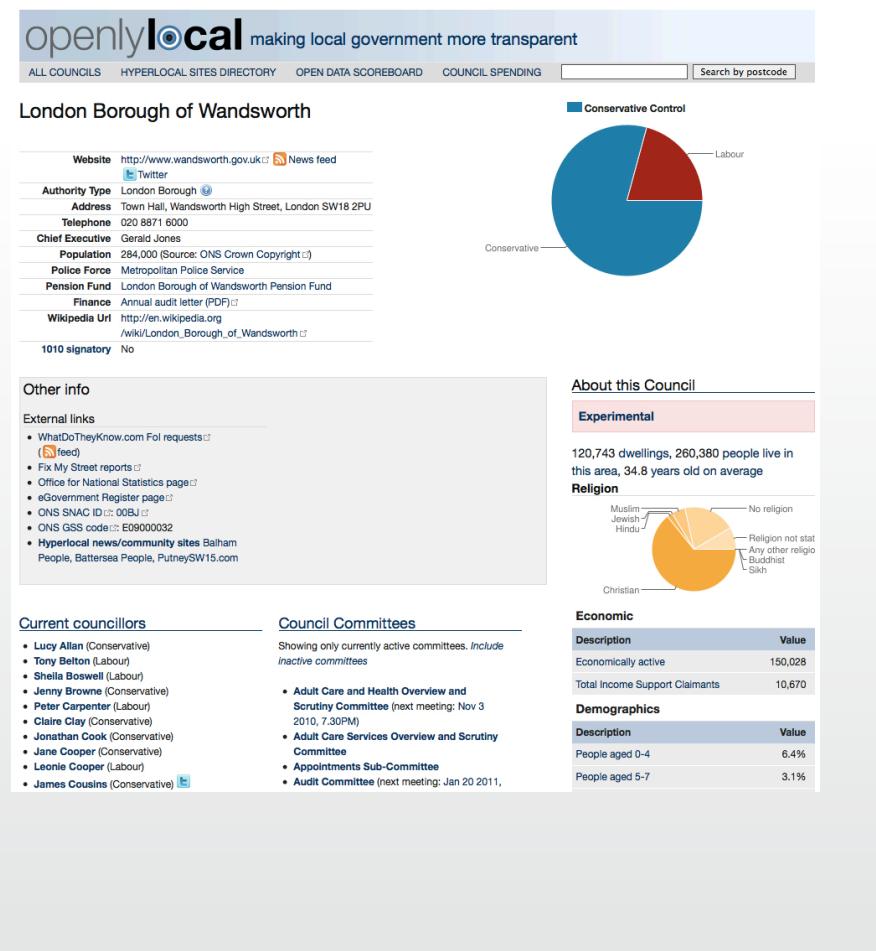
## Appendix i: CSV file format

| Column | Field Name         | What Is Required   | Reason For Inclusion  | Additional Information   | Inclusion status |
|--------|--------------------|--|---|--|------------------|
| 1      | Body               | The <a href="http://statistics.data.gov.uk">statistics.data.gov.uk</a> URI that represents the authority, e.g. Lichfield District Council is <a href="http://statistics.data.gov.uk/id/local-authority/41UD">http://statistics.data.gov.uk/id/local-authority/41UD</a> | To allow the file to be self-describing   | Using a URI to identify the body means that it is uniquely identifiable to data users. The GLA should use the URI <a href="http://data.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/id/700000000041441">http://data.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/id/700000000041441</a>                                  | Mandatory        |
| 2      | Body name          | Name of the authority  | Aids readability for casual reading   |  | Mandatory        |
| 3      | Date               | The payment date as recorded in departments' purchase or general ledger.   | To identify the date that cost the transaction took place.  | If it is not possible to source data using the payment date invoice input date or invoice date may be used. The UK date format (DD/MM/YYYY) should be used. Leading zeros should be used where necessary so that the string is precisely 10 characters (e.g. 01/09/2010) | Mandatory        |
| 4      | Transaction number | A unique reference number for each individual expenditure transaction  | To act as a reference number when dealing with enquiries or FOI requests.   | The transaction number used in departments' own systems may be used.   | Mandatory        |
| 5      | Invoice Number     | The reference number for the invoice if it is recorded on the accounts system  | To allow matching to invoices (one payment may be for several invoices, and one invoice may be settled by several payments) | Some councils have been discussing ultimately publishing invoices, and inclusion of this fields allows for an easy transition to this, should they do this.  | Desirable        |
| 6      | Amount             | The actual value of the transaction  | To identify the full cost of the transaction.   | Amounts should be in sterling and inclusive of irrecoverable VAT. Values should be in pounds and pence. Each   | Mandatory        |

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# Oh no you can't...

Loss of licensing revenue

National security

Loss of control

Complexity

Legal challenges

Investment

Exposure

Capacity building required

Procedural changes

Authenticity and quality

Privacy

Customer service

# Oh yes we can...

More transparency

what is going on?

More accountability

and is this acceptable?

More localism

because it matters to me,  
my family, my locale

More economic/social capital

generates opportunities

More engagement

we can extend and improve

More argument

data for evidenced based  
policy