Open Data Strategy

2023-2027

DATA.GOV.IE

Our Vision

Creating easy access to high quality government data, promoting trust and stimulating innovation.

Our Mission

To continue to strengthen our networks and improve communications between our data publishers and users to ensure the transparency, quality and relevance of Open Data.

Minister's Foreword

Ireland has made enormous strides in the development of Open Data since the beginning of the first Open Data Strategy in 2017, ranking highest for Open Data Maturity in the EU for three years running. I am pleased to present Ireland's second five year Open Data Strategy 2023-2027.

Open Data drives scientific and technological innovation and it is central to the delivery of a whole range of vital public services and societal goals. It fuels innovation in both the public sector and the private sector. We saw the importance of data during the global COVID-19 pandemic and how the Government was able to respond to it. Governments, businesses, organisations and public services were able to share vital information quickly, efficiently and ethically during the pandemic. What's more, open Covid data, communicated daily to the public, was indispensable to demonstrate the necessity of Covid safety measures and reflect the practical benefits of adhering to Government guidelines. This contributed to protecting the health of the population and reducing the impact on the health services. Now that we, as individuals and society, are recovering from the impact of COVID-19, it is vital that we make the most of what we have learned and build on some of the innovations that took place in the use of data.

This Open Data Strategy 2023-2027 lays out how we can build on progress to date and ensure the better use of data across businesses, government, civil society and individuals. It seeks to maintain the high level of Open Data use set during the pandemic, and to enable the use of Open Data to innovate, experiment and drive a new era of growth.

The strategy provides a framework for the actions the Public Service will take on Open Data over the next five years. Opportunities are laid out across three pillars for unlocking the power of Open Data in Ireland. Guiding goals and actions are provided for 1. data publishers, 2. the development of the Open Data platform and 3. for data users.
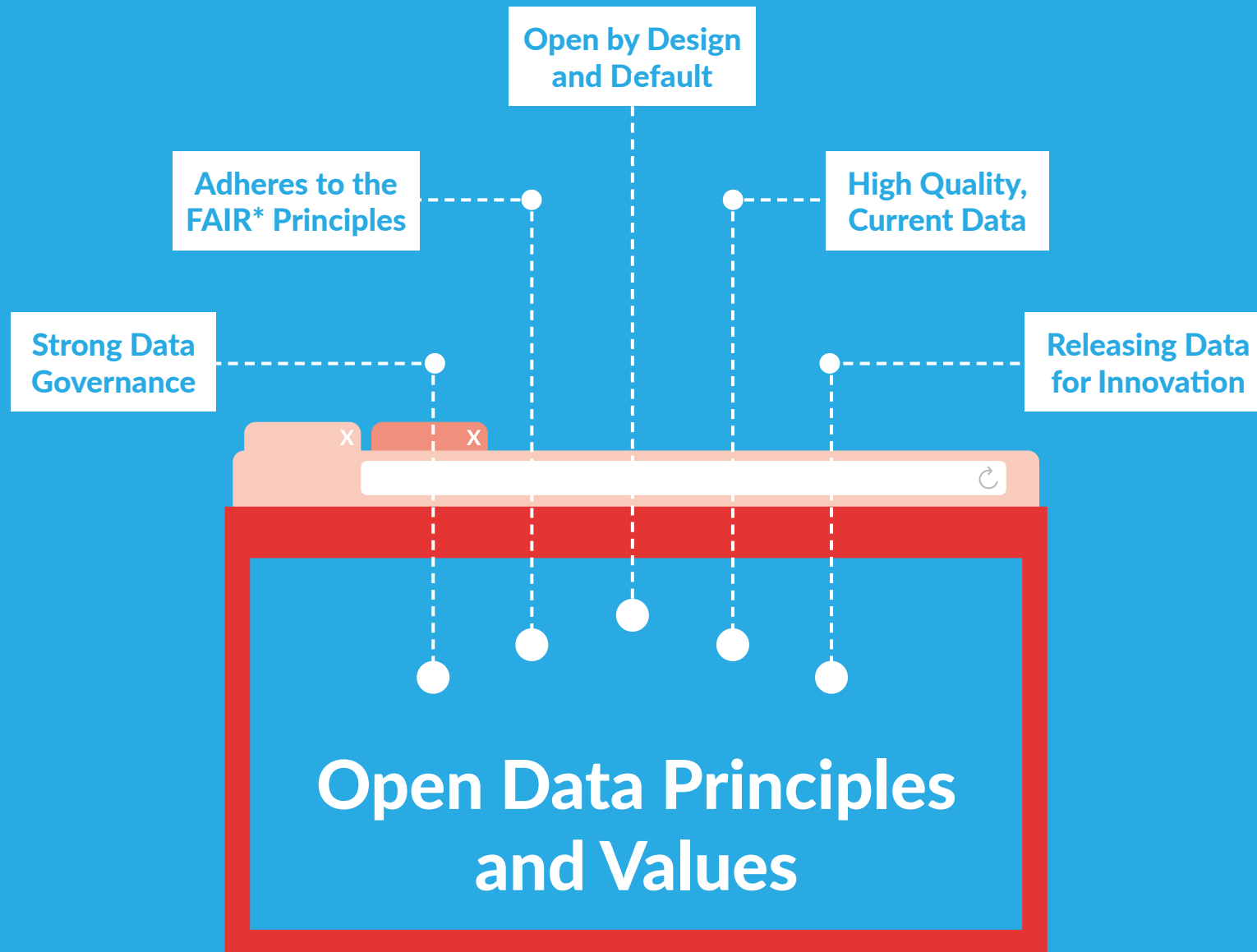
Open Data and its uses provide opportunities to be embraced; opportunities to transform and improve public services; opportunities to boost productivity and create new businesses and jobs; and opportunities to build public trust. This strategy positions Ireland at the forefront of innovation and as a trendsetter in the provision and use of Open Data, building on successes to date. The number of datasets available on the Government's open source portal already stands at almost 15,000 coming from 160 data publishers, and the Irish portal is used as an exemplar for other countries. Open Data is a central part of the Government's wider ambition for a thriving, fast-growing digital economy.

I encourage all public bodies to ensure they implement this strategy, and that they are fully compliant with the requirements of the European Commission's Open Data Directive and the Implementing Act on High Value Datasets. It is essential that they collaborate to deliver the vision for Ireland as a country where the economic, social and democratic opportunities and benefits of Open Data are recognised and achieved by all stakeholders. I believe that the implementation of this Strategy by all partners, under the leadership of the Open Data Governance Board, will deliver significant opportunities for Ireland over the next five years and beyond. I look forward to seeing the benefits of this for the people of Ireland.

Paschal Donohoe, TD
Minister for Public Expenditure
National Development Plan
Delivery and Reform of Ireland

Open by Design and Default

Adheres to the FAIR* Principles

High Quality, Current Data

Strong Data Governance

Releasing Data for Innovation

Open Data Principles and Values

*Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable

The Benefits of Open Data

Open Data facilitates public visibility of government data, underpins democracy and reinforces our social contract. It must be effectively managed to deliver its full potential. Open Data and the transparency and scrutiny that comes with it, is critical to all data management in the public sector. We must plan for data openness at the design stage of projects and programmes, capture our data ethically, organise it logically, store it effectively and ensure it is accessible and searchable appropriately. To do otherwise would be to mismanage a valuable resource.

Open Data is a driver of scientific and technological innovation, and central to the delivery of a whole range of vital public services and societal goals, from tackling climate change to supporting the delivery of better evidence-informed service delivery to the people of Ireland. As businesses embrace technology, data creates jobs, opens new markets and drives demand for a highly skilled workforce.

On an individual level, the use of Open Data benefits us every day – from planning our journeys, knowing what weather awaits us at our destination, to understanding how much we have exercised and identifying a good beach for swimming.

Since 2014, Open Data has developed rapidly and successfully in Ireland. We went from ranking 18th in the EU in 2017 to ranking 1st for Open Data Maturity in 2018, 2019 and 2020. The functionality of our open source code portal has been used as an exemplar to other national portal developers, the number of datasets has grown to almost 15,000 coming from 160 data publishers.

With its establishment in 2015, the Open Data Unit in the Department of Public Expenditure, National Development Plan and Reform has been instrumental in driving discussion and engagement with stakeholders to generate ideas and understand the requirements of a range of stakeholders. The Open Data Governance Board (ODGB) has provided best practice in data governance, identified opportunities for improved access to government data and identified the opportunities to realise the long-term social, political, environmental and economic benefits of Open Data for Ireland. Coupled with the Technical Framework to support the practical publication requirements of government data and the creation of the Open Data portal (data.gov.ie) to publish the data, metadata and to showcase examples of how the data can be used.

This Strategy looks at how we can build on progress to date and ensure the better use of data across businesses, government, civil society and individuals. We have a duty to lead, to do more and do it better, starting with the data that the Government itself holds, which can be used and shared for the benefit of everyone.

Data is a valuable resource in principle, but its use is limited by barriers to its access – when data is hoarded in silos, when access rights are unclear, when it is insufficiently findable or when organisations do not make good use of the data they already have. These barriers reduce the effectiveness of public services and the possibilities for innovation and, risk poorer outcomes for all.

This Strategy seeks to ensure that Open Data can be leveraged to deliver new and innovative services, promote stronger competition, and better prices and choice for consumers and small businesses.
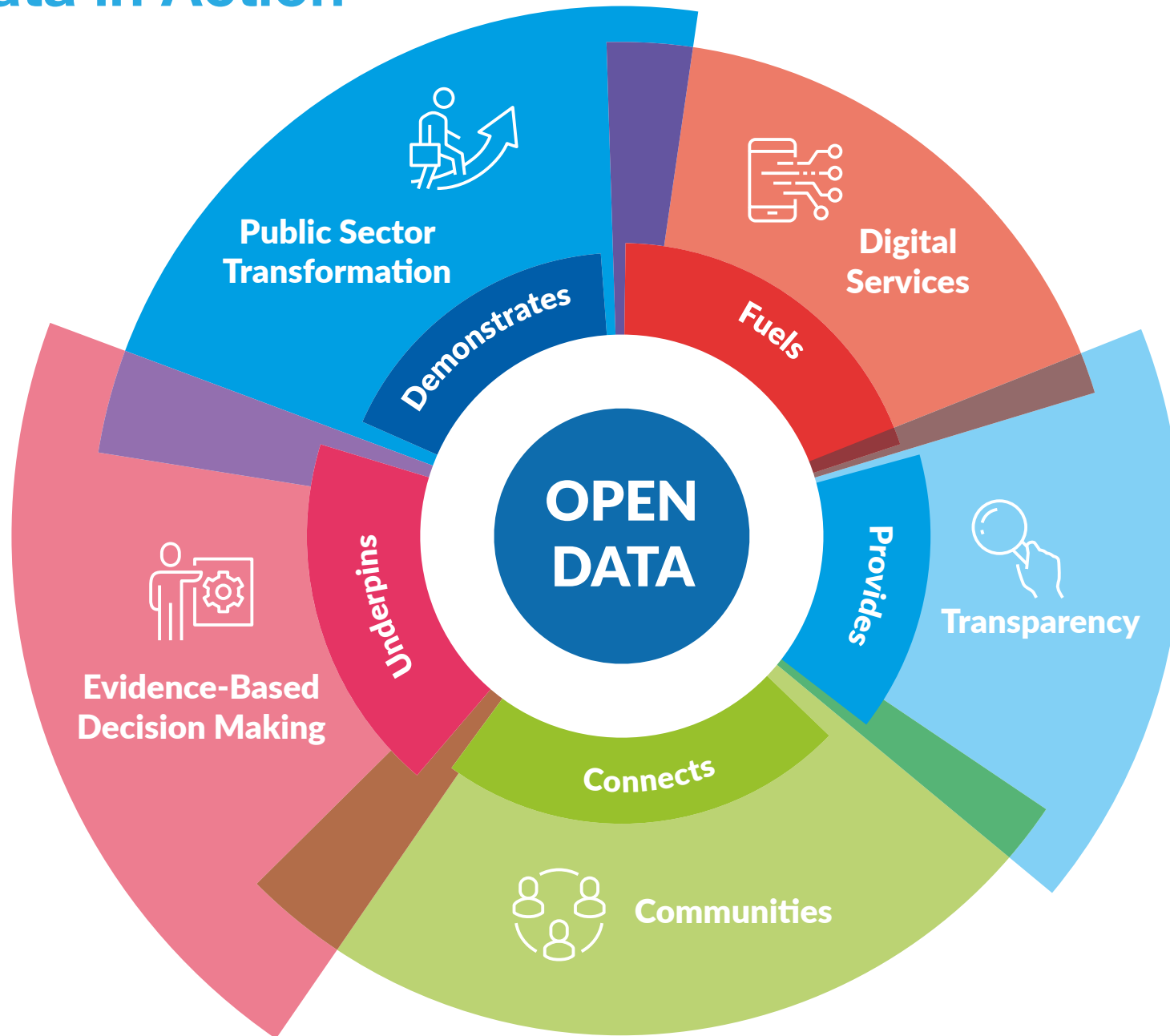
"Publishing Sport Ireland's National Trails Register as Open Data has helped us to structure our data better and streamline our processes. It has also facilitated collaboration with other agencies such as Fáilte Ireland, who are using the data to augment the walking product on their consumer websites."

Sports Ireland Outdoors

"Open Data has progressed the way we deliver our services to our clients. It has increased transparency on the role of Open Data and the socio-economic benefits that accrue from presenting this information in a useful manner."

eTownz, Community Dashboard

Open Data in Action

Public Sector Transformation — Demonstrates

Digital Services — Fuels

Transparency — Provides

Communities — Connects

Evidence-Based Decision Making — Underpins

OPEN DATA

Open Data Strategy Framework

Publishers

- Standardised Formats
- Accessible
- Quality Data
- Responsive to User Needs

Pillar 1

Platform

- A Trusted Source
- Good Data Governance
- Open Communication
- Encouraging Reuse

Pillar 2

Users

- Collaboration & Partnership
- Data Visualisation
- Engagement
- Effective Feedback

Pillar 3

Pillar 1

High-value and high-quality datasets that are responsive to users' needs.

The true value of data can only be fully realised when it is fit for purpose, recorded in standardised formats on modern, future-proof systems and held in a condition that means it is findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable.

By improving the quality of the data, we can use it more effectively, and drive better insights and outcomes from its use.

Goal for the Open Data Publishers Pillar

To support publishers and drive the production of high-value and high-quality datasets responsive to users' needs. This will include describing the benefits and the key role Open Data plays in transparent and evidence-based decisions.

We will deliver on this goal by:

1. Mapping and indexing public services data sets to be easily discoverable and compliant with standard open formats and licences.

2. Facilitating increased publication of relevant data not currently available to align with stakeholders' data needs.

3. Ensuring timely and consistent upload frequency for published data sets.

4. Demonstrating the value and impact of Open Data and identifying success indicators to provide evidence on the business case for increased Open Data use.

5. Promoting real-time use of Open Data in government bodies to enhance fully transparent decision-making. Educating a critical mass of public servants on effective data management strategies is central to the delivery of this goal.

6. Using best practice feedback insights to learn from and refine the quality and range of data published.

7. Ensuring the publication of high-quality and high-value datasets by building a community of practice through stakeholder engagement, training and support.

8. Promoting greater clarity among publishers and potential publishers on what data they should make available as Open Data.

> "For MapAlerter, the reliability of Open Data is key to the service performing successfully, where alerts are issued in a timely manner and through automated means. With 100% retention among our council clients since the service was launched, Open Data has definitely helped the service evolve for the better over the years, and 21 Councils are now signed up to MapAlerter as their public-facing alert service. In recent years, the Open Data Directive has helped grow the number of datasets that MapAlerter can consume and our company is definitely a beneficiary of this Directive."

PinPoint Alerts Ltd

Pillar 2

Open Data that is appropriately accessible, mobile and reusable.

For data to have the most effective impact, it needs to be appropriately accessible, mobile and reusable. That means encouraging better coordination, access to and sharing of data of appropriate quality. The EU Open Data Maturity Report scored the Irish Open Data portal 100% in both portal usage and sustainability and the goal for the next 5 years is to ensure data provision builds on the success achieved thus far.

Goal for the Open Data Platform Pillar

To drive a thriving Open Data ecosystem supported by a trusted Open Data platform responsive to stakeholders' needs. Deliver valued outcomes for users, working to high standards of governance and open communication.

We will deliver on this goal by:

1. Updating our Open Data platform to deliver better searches, graphics and an improved personalisation of experience through effective stakeholder collaboration and feedback loops.

2. Providing publishers with quality insight reports on data use building sector-specific knowledge on the uptake and use of valued datasets.

3. Strengthening our governance frameworks to meet high standards in privacy, security and ethics to enhance trust in our systems.

4. Developing the capacity and capability of our Open Data ecosystem through stakeholder events, funding and creating opportunities for networking across sectors.

5. Raising recognition of the value and impact Open Data offers, to align and secure the resources needed to realise its full potential for organisations and communities. Supporting the network of Open Data Liaison Officers to do this on the ground in their own organisations is essential.

6. Sharing best practice learning from international partners and research communities to improve and innovate our Open Data platform and ecosystem.

"Smart Dublin, in collaboration with the four Dublin Local Authorities, recognises that Open Data increases the quality, efficiency, and transparency of Council services. The volume of datasets on our Open Data portal, Dublinked, has grown steadily attracting more and more users. In addition, we use Open Data as the catalyst to enable innovation to address social challenges; recent examples explored the topics of Active Travel, Climate Action and Air Quality."

Smart Dublin

Pillar 3

Trusted Open Data sources benefitting our stakeholder communities.

Open Data users are central to the new Strategy on Open Data, so the relevance of the data published is key. Active outreach is essential to explain the many practical applications of Open Data and also the requirements of the Open Data Directive. Facilitating inclusive feedback will ensure Open Data users have the opportunity to demonstrate their work and contribute to how Open Data develops in the future.

Goal for the Open Data Users Pillar

To support stakeholders across all sectors to shape and improve easy access to and use of trusted Open Data sources to benefit our stakeholder communities.

We will deliver on this goal by:

1. Building data visualisation capability within our Open Data portal that will make Open Data more user-friendly to discover, access and understand.

2. Hosting opportunities for our network of users to share learning and experience.

3. Supporting better communication, engagement and community outreach events.

4. Creating effective feedback loops with user groups and communities of interest to understand how Open Data can serve their needs and improve their experience of Open Data access and use.

5. Facilitating collaborative partnerships to strengthen users' involvement to co-create and increase Open Data use across sectors and in our communities.

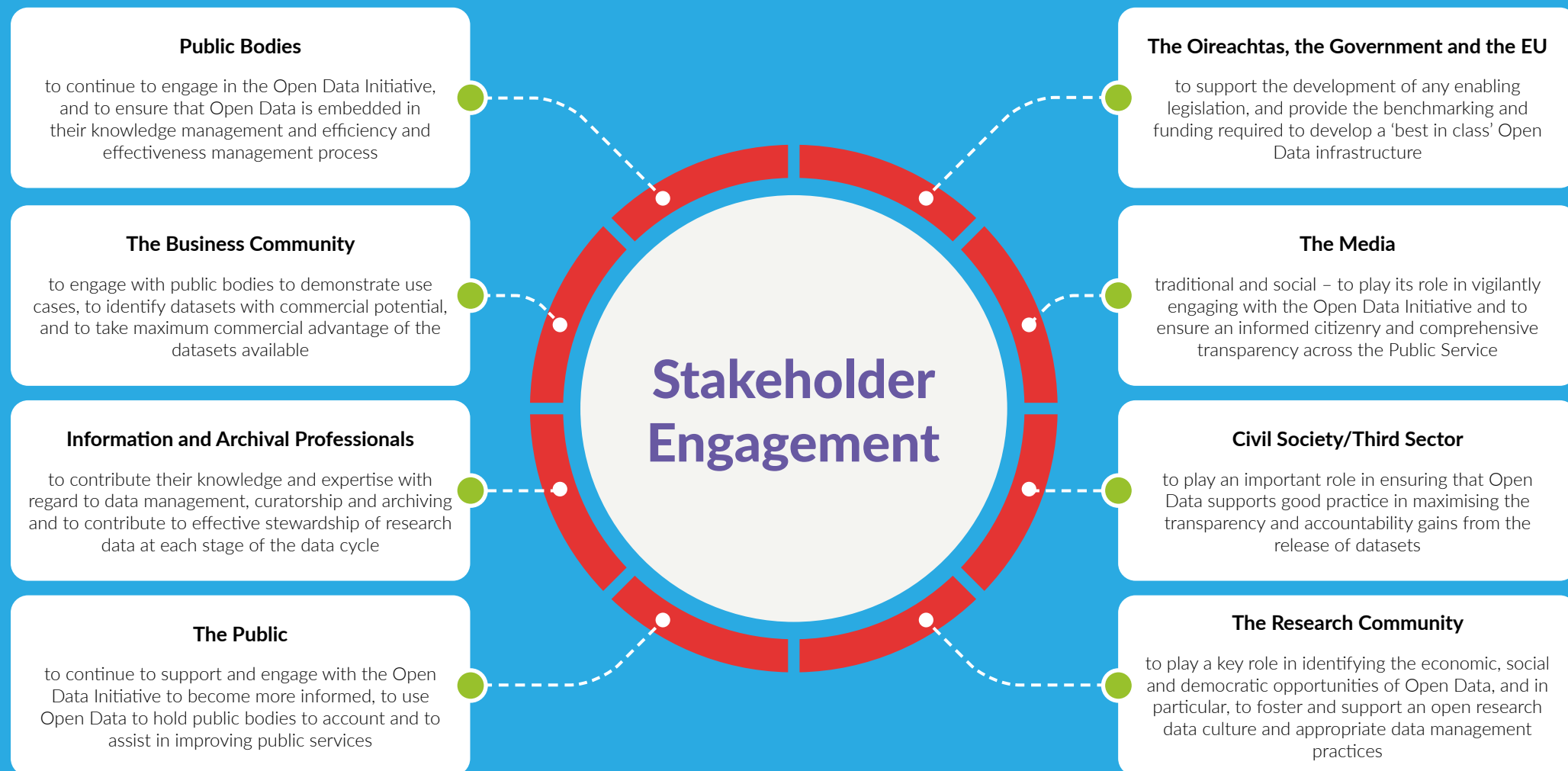"Fáilte Ireland receive a substantial number of queries from both business start-ups and existing businesses, researchers, consultants, students and others looking to plot accommodation, activities and attractions across the country. Having this data available on the Open Data portal where users can self-serve the specific data they require allows us to run the service much more efficiently."

Failte Ireland

Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder engagement is key to all areas of the Open Data Strategy. It:

- Means publishers know what is relevant and useful to users
- Allows the Open Data Unit to understand the challenges data holders face and find ways of addressing these challenges
- Supports active feedback and improvement in the data platform
- Allows data users to specify their priority data

Stakeholder Engagement

Public Bodies

to continue to engage in the Open Data Initiative, and to ensure that Open Data is embedded in their knowledge management and efficiency and effectiveness management process

The Business Community

to engage with public bodies to demonstrate use cases, to identify datasets with commercial potential, and to take maximum commercial advantage of the datasets available

Information and Archival Professionals

to contribute their knowledge and expertise with regard to data management, curatorship and archiving and to contribute to effective stewardship of research data at each stage of the data cycle

The Public

to continue to support and engage with the Open Data Initiative to become more informed, to use Open Data to hold public bodies to account and to assist in improving public services

The Oireachtas, the Government and the EU

to support the development of any enabling legislation, and provide the benchmarking and funding required to develop a 'best in class' Open Data infrastructure

The Media

traditional and social – to play its role in vigilantly engaging with the Open Data Initiative and to ensure an informed citizenry and comprehensive transparency across the Public Service

Civil Society/Third Sector

to play an important role in ensuring that Open Data supports good practice in maximising the transparency and accountability gains from the release of datasets

The Research Community

to play a key role in identifying the economic, social and democratic opportunities of Open Data, and in particular, to foster and support an open research data culture and appropriate data management practices

Evaluation and Governance

A number of mechanisms will underpin our approach to monitoring and evaluating the implementation of this Strategy.

The Open Data Unit within the Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform (ODU)

The ODU will guide the implementation of this five-year Strategy. Robust project and programme management tools and methodologies will be used to manage, track, and report on the progress of the Strategy. Our experience in implementing the 2016 Open Data Strategy will be drawn on to further guide our approach.

Measuring for Success

Progress on implementing the commitments within this Strategy will be continuously measured, evaluated, and reported on. We will incorporate a broader set of outcomes to measure the impacts of our interventions on societal well-being, as per the commitment set out in the Programme for Government. Risks and dependencies surrounding our priorities and goals will also be continuously monitored and managed. A key focus of our evaluation approach will be on identifying lessons learned that can be applied to future work.
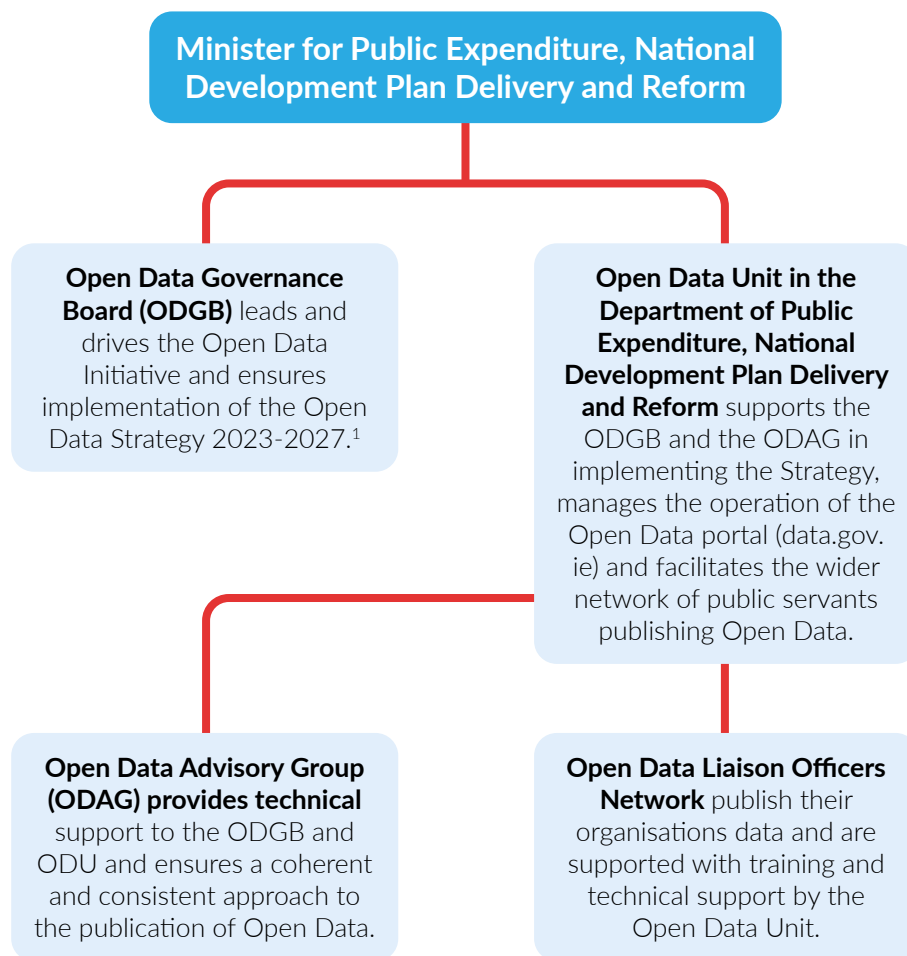
Progress reports

The Open Data Unit will publish progress reports on a regular basis on the Open Data portal. The successes and accomplishments will also be communicated across the national and EU data ecosystem.

Governance

The Open Data Governance Board (ODGB) was established in 2015 and reports to the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan and Reform. The ODGB leads and drives the Open Data Initiative and ensures implementation of the Open Data Strategy.

Open Data Advisory Group (ODAG) provides technical support and advice to the Open Data Unit and ensures a coherent and consistent approach to the publication of Open Data across the public sector.

Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform

Open Data Governance Board (ODGB) leads and drives the Open Data Initiative and ensures implementation of the Open Data Strategy 2023-2027.[1]

Open Data Unit in the Department of Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform supports the ODGB and the ODAG in implementing the Strategy, manages the operation of the Open Data portal (data.gov.ie) and facilitates the wider network of public servants publishing Open Data.

Open Data Advisory Group (ODAG) provides technical support to the ODGB and ODU and ensures a coherent and consistent approach to the publication of Open Data.

Open Data Liaison Officers Network publish their organisations data and are supported with training and technical support by the Open Data Unit.

1. https://data.gov.ie/pages/open-data-governance-board-membership

Some Public Sector Achievements since the first Open Data Strategy

Met Éireann

Met Éireann's Open Data journey started in 2016 with a paper being presented to the management committee outlining the organisation's desire to pursue an Open Data policy. This coincided with the publication of the 2017 Open Data Strategy. This Strategy provided impetus and a framework to allow PSBs to publish their datasets in an open manner.

Since the 2017 Open Data Strategy was released, an Open Data officer was appointed within the organisation facilitating the publication of approx. 2,000 of Met Éireann's datasets. Now there is an Open Data manager with the remit to build a new ICT system with significant storage capacity of 1 Petabyte (1,000 terabytes) and a data portal to publish some of the most difficult datasets to process, namely numerical weather prediction (NWP) data. This new portal, when completed later this year, will provide the public with access to Climate model data, NWP data and Radar data in near real time. This has the potential to provide a significant resource for Climate action but also for the participation of Small and Medium Enterprises to develop data services and tools based on our data offerings.

Met Eireann sees Open Data going from strength to strength as open by default becomes the norm for government data.

Smart Dublin

Smart Dublin has combined the efforts of the 4 Dublin local authorities to carry out a number of key activities to drive Open Data publication and use:

- Knowledge transfer and active collaboration.

- Focused publication - to identify and publish relevant data and also ran a GAP analysis per unit to identify what is already published.

- Harmonisation of data published across all four Councils.

- KPI reporting –analytics to track overall progress.

- Data Quality reporting.

- Running innovation challenges– to highlight areas of interest and promote innovative ways of using Open Data and provide insight on those specific data topics. The challenge process also helps address any internal resistance within the Councils as to why a Data Owner should cleanse and publish their datasets.

- The combination of all these initiatives had led to approx. 600 datasets now currently published on *Dublinked*, which is a 100% (approx.) increase on the 2017 levels.

"Access to freely available and Open Data has been essential in developing the Cork City Profile every four years. The data is used to gather a multi-sectoral perspective on the social determinants of health and allows us to action plan for health at local level in a collaborative way. Data based planning supports evidence-based interventions to improve the health of Cork's citizens and to sustain our WHO Healthy City status."
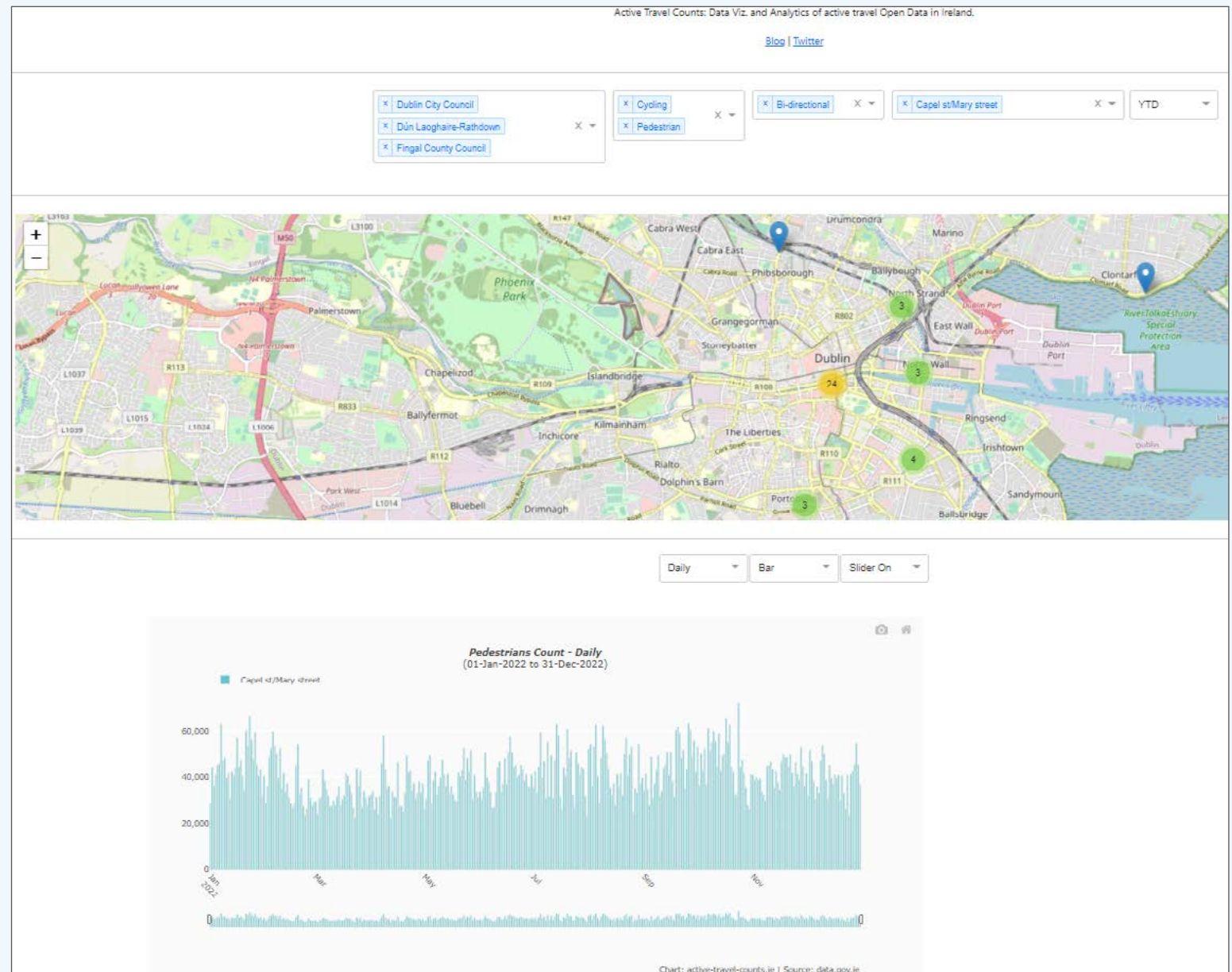
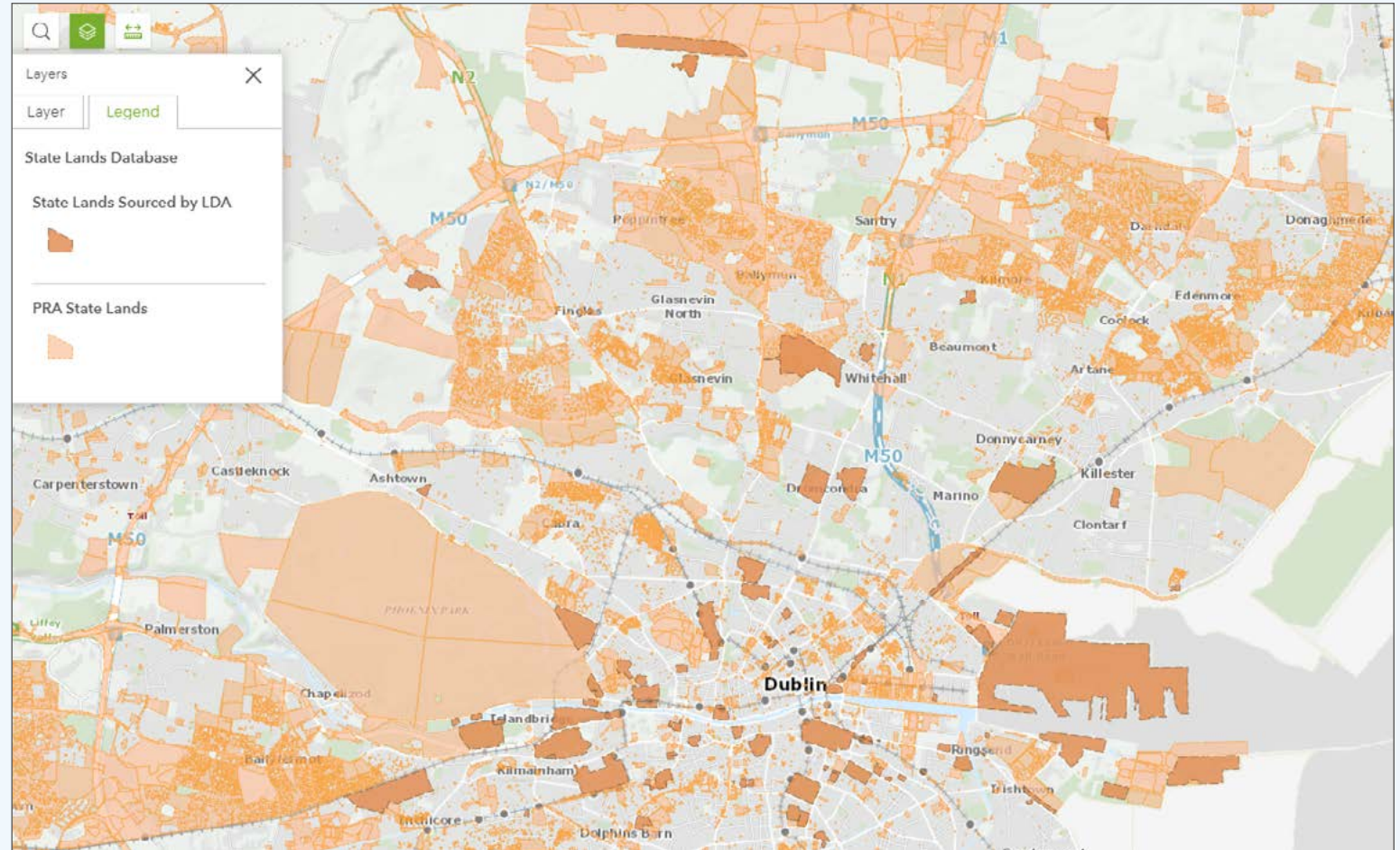**Cork Healthy Cities**

Appendix 1

Use Cases

Active Travel Counts

[Active Travel Counts](#) enable everybody to use Open Data analytics for active travel datasets in Ireland via a single web app open to all. Local authorities, state bodies, community groups, members of the public can all use this web-based data visualisation to explore data on cycling and pedestrian counts from Dublin City Council and Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Council in Ireland. The project was supported by the Open Data Engagement Fund run by the Irish Open Data Unit. In addition, local authorities can use the data and its findings (for example, weekday cycle counts in 2022 are down 31% when compared to 2019) to identify societal and infrastructural problems and address them.

Public Lands

The Public Land ([Register of Relevant Lands - lda](#)) initiative is a public WebMap showing all relevant public lands as defined by the Land Development Agency Act 2021. This map uses the public data from the Land Development Agency to allow the public to identify suitable publicly owned lands that could be better utilised in the provision of new affordable and sustainable housing. The WebMap promotes better management of the State's Assets, supports transparency, optimises land usage and assists in greater strategic planning and urban regeneration. This is the first ever public database of State-Owned land. The Register will be constantly updated, as new State-Owned sites will be added to the WebMap on a quarterly basis to ensure all data is accurate and up to date. This data is also available on the national Open Data portal to allow improved access and visibility; https://data.gov.ie/organization/land-development-agency

Council Tracker

Council Tracker supports transparency and local government by publishing Dublin City Council's votes, motions, and amendments. This allows members of the public to select their electoral area to see what their local representatives are doing on the council. In addition, Council Tracker allows the public to select a political party to see how its councillors vote on council motions and also view votes on motions that relate to particular topics such as arts and culture, economic development, environment, waste management and transport etc. Candidates' details, election details and votes are among the datasets used to deliver this overview to the public.

PxStat

PxStat (Databases - CSO - Central Statistics Office) is a Data Dissemination Management System for publishing statistics in Open Data formats. It's designed for National Statistical Institutes and Statistical Organisations and was developed by the CSO (Central Statistics Office, Ireland). PxStat provides a modern, responsive and efficient Web Interface and Web Services (API) for managing and disseminating statistics. End-Users can run extensive meta-data searches, filter results, and visualise data over interactive geomaps. They can share their results and automate their processes by reading data via API queries. PxStat also empowers the data-owners and government organizations to actively manage the publication of their data, track and schedule data releases and monitor the consumption of data via analytical tools.

E-Car Connect

E-Car Connect (ecars (esb.ie)) is Ireland's extensive public charging network that displays all charge points on the public charging network across Ireland in real-time. It enables car owners to register and pay, to swipe to remotely start and stop charging, to monitor and track usage, and to manage your own personalised account. The e-car connect mobile application provides car owners with the charger locations, indicates if they are in use and if so, when the person started using it. Drivers can also connect and pay through the app and even connect to Google maps to bring them to the nearest charger. It is part of the ESB's urgent and focused action to achieve net zero emissions by 2040 by putting in place the infrastructure and services to enable Irish customers and broader society to live more sustainably.

eTownz

eTownz ([eTownz Home - eTownz Community Dashboard](#)) is a community dashboard providing a range of services for people in the community development sector. eTownz is a network of interlinked community websites to create an engaging and multi-user environment for citizens to contribute to their communities. The dashboard allows citizens and communities to contribute to solutions, activities, and manage their communities. It allows them to plan new developments based on the available resources and capacity. In addition, eTownz promotes participation and enables citizens, communities, and organisations to develop synergies and work together to meet the community objectives. eTownz uses Open Data to provide support in developing stakeholder register, it allows citizens to be part of their communities, allows community members to share ideas and suggestions and encourages participation and transparency. The Open Data Engagement Fund has supported the development of the eTownz initiative.

Appendix 2

Open Data Directive and the first Implementing Act on High Value Datasets

The Open Data Directive came into force in Ireland in July 2021. The overall aim of the Directive is to increase the availability of open government data across the EU. The concept is to make the non-personal data held by public bodies available and easily accessible online for reuse and redistribution.

The Directive introduces an obligation on public bodies to release government data in open formats and to open standards. It places an emphasis on providing data in real-time, via APIs and by bulk download for large datasets.

Definition of Open Data:

"A piece of data or content is considered open if anyone can access it freely, it is free to use, modify, or share for any purpose - subject only, at most, to the requirement to attribute the source and maintain openness."

The overall principle of this Directive is that data should be considered open by default, (unless it is personal or sensitive data) and that systems must build in Open Data by default at the design stage.

Across government, public sector bodies hold **vast amounts of data** e.g. geospatial data, traffic data, meteorological data, economic and financial data, statistics, educational, agricultural etc. This data can be made available for reuse for economic and social purposes. It can facilitate genuine improvements for society.
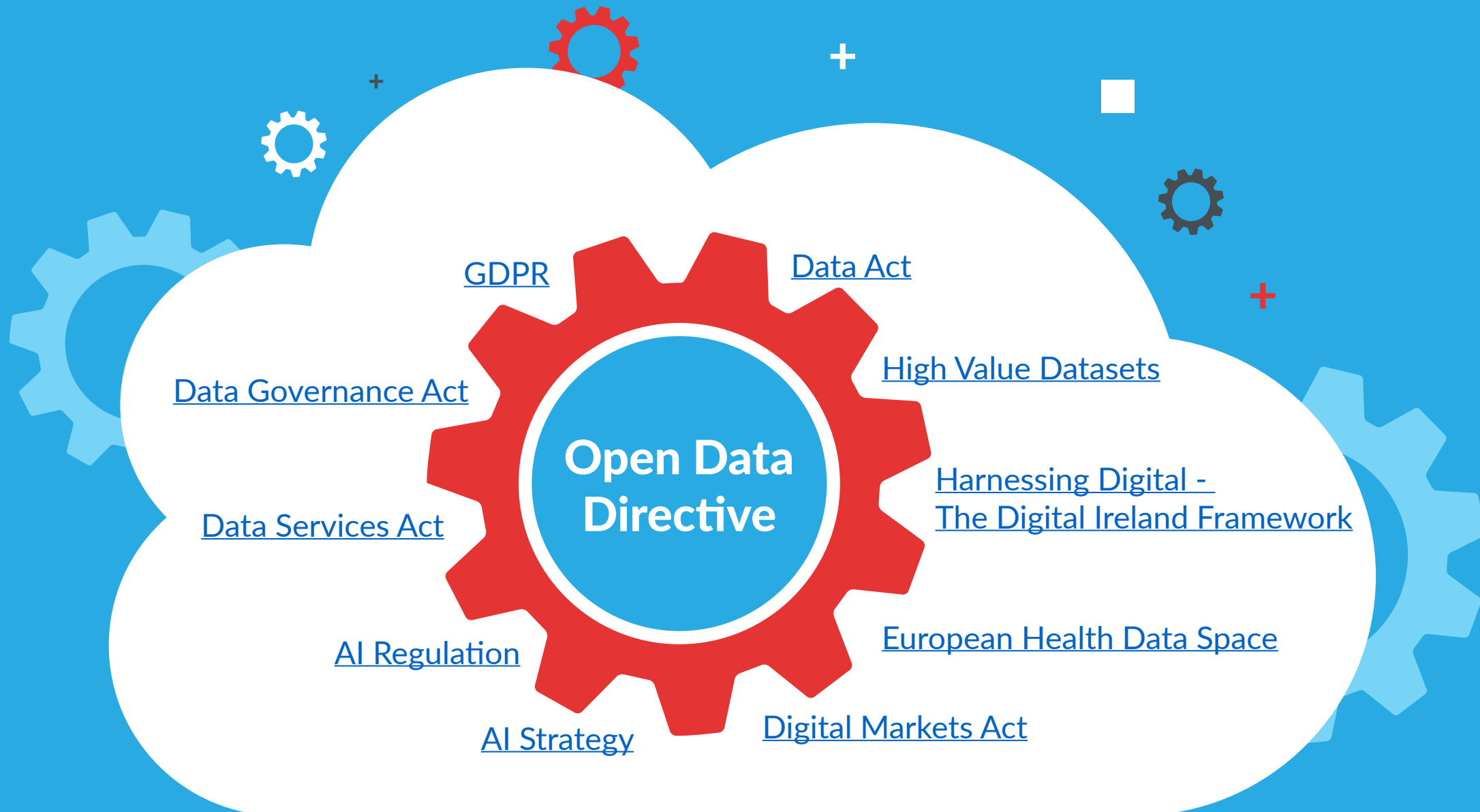
At a national and European level more Open Data can help inform better decision making and this has been one of the drivers behind the rewrite of the Open Data Directive. The pandemic shifted the public's understanding of the importance of reliable data as a driver of political action and it generated a good example of how data can be utilised to inform the citizen.

An EU impact assessment adjudged that allowing this data to be reused for other purposes, including commercial ones (e.g. for satellite navigation services, weather apps etc.) can stimulate economic growth, spur innovation and help to address various societal problems, e.g. in healthcare or public transport.

Opening up governmental data for re-use can have major benefits for citizens, businesses, and society and for the governments themselves:

- **New businesses** can be built on the back of this data: Data is an essential raw material for a wide range of new information products and services, which build on new possibilities to analyse and visualise data from different sources. Facilitating reuse of this raw data will create jobs and thus stimulate growth.

- **More Transparency**: Open Data is a powerful instrument to increase transparency in public administration, improving the visibility of previously inaccessible information, informing citizens and business about policies, public spending and outcomes.

- **Evidence-based policy making and administrative efficiency:** The availability of solid EU-wide public data will lead to better evidence-based policy making at all levels of government, resulting in better public services.

Our Digital Transformation

Open Data Directive

GDPR

Data Act

Data Governance Act

High Value Datasets

Data Services Act

Harnessing Digital - The Digital Ireland Framework

AI Regulation

European Health Data Space

AI Strategy

Digital Markets Act

Appendix 3

Open Data terminology

Reuse: The Open Data Directive defines reuse as the use by persons or legal entities of documents **held** by public sector bodies.

Open by Default: The principle that the government makes its data available to all by default, unless there are personal privacy, security or legal reasons not to release the data.

Metadata: A set of data that describes another dataset, for example, the date on which it was collected, by whom it was collected, the purposes of its collection, the spatial and temporal extents of the data.

HVDs - High Value Datasets: The Open Data Directive defines HVDs as documents the reuse of which is associated with important benefits for society, the environment and the economy, in particular because of their suitability for the creation of value-added services, applications and new, high-quality and decent jobs, and of the number of potential beneficiaries of the value-added services and applications based on those datasets.

Document: The Open Data Directive defines a document as any content, whatever its medium (paper or electronic form) or as a sound, visual or audio visual recording, or any part of such content.

Granularity: The scale or level of detail in a dataset.

API - Application Programming Interface: A set of functions, procedures, definitions and protocols for machine-to-machine communication and the seamless exchange of data.

Data Anonymisation: Processing data with the aim of irreversibly preventing the identification of the individual to whom it relates. Data can be considered effectively and sufficiently anonymised if it does not relate to an identified or identifiable natural person or where it has been rendered anonymous in such a manner that the data subject is not or no longer identifiable.

Dynamic data: Documents in a digital form, subject to frequent or real-time updates, in particular because of their volatility or rapid obsolescence. Data generated by sensors are typically considered to be dynamic data.

Open Data Liaison Officer: A member of a network of public servants who manage and publish Open Data held by their organisations.

Open Data Maturity: The measurement of how effectively an organisation's Open Data is used. A high level of maturity is indicated by the integration of Open Data management throughout the organisation and the resulting data-driven innovation.

Open Data Maturity Survey: Each year the EU Open Data Management team surveys EU and associated countries to gauge their level of Open Data maturity. They are assessed on 4 criteria; Open Data policy, Open Data portal, Open Data impact and Open Data quality, with illustrative examples. Each country is scored and ranked based on their response and the results are used as a means of assessing the development of Open Data in participating countries.

CKAN: Comprehensive Knowledge Archive Network is the open source code on which the Irish Open Data portal is built. Data.gov.ie is currently on the CKAN 2.9 build.

DCAT-AP: The semantic definition to describe data by the means of an RDF vocabulary. (Resource Description Framework), a model for encoding semantic relationships between items of data so that these relationships can be interpreted by computers.

Data Audit: A systematic assessment and report of an organisation's data holdings-what datasets are held, the business units responsible for particular datasets, the features of the dataset and where and how it is stored. Typically the output is an excel table listing datasets held by the organisation.

GDPR - General Data Protection Regulation: The EU Regulation adopted in 2018 to manage the processing and moving of personal data and to enhance individuals' control and rights over their personal data and to simplify the regulatory environment for business.

FOI - Freedom of Information: The provision to allow people to apply for access to information held by publicly funded bodies that either relates to them or was created since 1998.

CC BY 4.0: This is a Creative Commons licence used by the Open Data portal. This means data re-users are free to adapt and share this data and must credit the data authors and indicate any changes made.

Data Altruism: The voluntary sharing of personal and non-personal data, in the public interest, based on the consent of data subjects. The Data Governance Act promotes data altruism to optimise data sharing for the benefit of society.

Interoperability: The possibility of datasets of different origins and organisations to be combined/integrated and used together to give enhanced insight on a topic. A way of organising/creating/formatting a dataset that allows it to be aggregated with other datasets in a meaningful way.

Data Semantics: A set of rules that defines the meaning and structure of a dataset, to maintain data consistency and so it can be understood by everyone.

W3C: An international consortium that publishes standards and guidelines that are considered web standards. W3C has published a set of standards on Open Data to improve consistency and comparability of Open Data across different locations and over time.

Data Catalogue: An inventory of the data holdings of an organisation, typically in the format of an excel spreadsheet.