Our Data Bristol

BRISTOL

Bristol City Council is developing the Our Data Bristol Initiative to increasingly enable local people and organisations to use and benefit from data and technology.

We want to be curious and daring, unpacking the issues faced by our fellow Bristolians and focussing our hive mind, enabling potential solutions to the challenges we all face. We are looking to support the One City Approach, and draw from Bristol City Council's 4 Corporate Strategy themes around empowering and caring, fair and inclusive, well connected and wellbeing.

We want to work together to make data available, unlock insight and develop new prototypes that will help to deliver services for the people of Bristol in new and unexpected ways.

Executive summary

Bristol City Council is developing the Our Data Bristol initiative to increasingly enable local people and organisations to benefit from data.

This document provides an overview of the emerging programme plan for 2018/19.

The Our Data Bristol initiative is a data platform and programme of engagement opportunities co-ordinated by Bristol City Council, with contributing partner organisations and the data community.

The programme is aligned with the Council's aims and objectives and will support the One City Approach framework. The programme has been designed to create opportunity for people to share insights into specific challenges and opportunities, build our data asset base and develop knowledge, skills and products.

Bristol City Council is establishing a steering group to support the programme. This group oversees the platform and programme, and provide practical support for use of data across the council and city.

Input will also be sort from existing open data champions, project leads and equalities leads from across the city.

The Our Data Initiative works with open data and shared data.

Open data is data that's available to everyone to access, use and share. (**Open Data Institute*)
Bristol City Council seeks to optimise usage of data licenced as open. (*Open Government Licence, Creative Commons 0/1*) and shared data (*eg Open Government Licence – Noncommercial, Creative Commons 2/31415, Crown-copyright, Inspire*)

Building on our successes

Over the past 6 years, the city council has built up considerable resources, skills and experience in the use of Open Data. The council has been publishing data on the UK Government's Open Data Portal since 2010, which covers areas of the council's activities and service provision. In 2014 the council developed an exploratory partnership with Socrata, a leading International provider of Open Data platforms. Socrata provided the council with support and access to their Open Data Platform. This activity, and the vitality of the Bristol Open Data community, was recognised by the Open Data Institute in 2015 when the city was awarded Open Data Institute Global Node status. Learning from the trial platform experience with Socrata, the authority went out to the open market to procure a longer term solution to give Bristol's energetic developer community the confidence to invest time in developing services and apps using data hosted on the platform.

Open Data Soft was procured in 2017 and currently provides the web-platform infrastructure for **opendata.bristol.gov.uk**

The council has also invested in a dedicated transport data platform.
portal-bristol.api.urbanthings.io

Bristol has hosted a number of informatics events. Highlights include the Open Data Camp event (2015) ; Open Data Challenge series event (ODI NESTA – 2014) ; DataDive (Data Kind (2015) ; BCC Open Data Challenge events (2015-2017), Data4Develo.ement festival (2018). Learnings from these events will inform event design for the programme 2018/19.

The Data Place and This Equals companies have recently helped Bristol City Council analyse the current state of local community informatics and have made recommendations for platform optimisation and programme development.

Transparency

Publishing info that's useful to the public, paid for by the public, it's simply the right thing to do. Providing a platform for citizens to gain valuable insight and help them to make better informed decisions and support FOI requests.

Support Collaboration

Can help people within an organisation to understand each others perspectives and work better. We also collaborate beyond the council to create better solutions to our problems, engaging with developer communities to turn data into useful things.

Economic Growth

Bristol is an environment where there are so many young digital businesses that could benefit from use of this data to create improved services. visualisations. apps that will create jobs and push the economy of the city forward.

Be Exemplar

There's a belief that by leading the way we can bring other organisations along with us to publish their data openly and enable wider insight.

Why open data?

- Improve the city's democratic dialogue and deepening the relationship with citizens.
- Increased transparency and accountability.
- Identifying new datasets and having the ability to combine these to uncover new insights into the city and a renewed sense of understanding.
- Unlocking potential value which can empower the local digital economy and fuel new enterprise.
- Enabling innovative data-driven products towards more efficient models of service delivery.
- Helping citizens access the information needed to build evidence based cases for change.

One City Approach

The themes and challenge we collectively face as people of Bristol. Laying out a shared vision for data collection and projects focus

Our Data Bristol Initiative/ prgramme/project

The programme of events and activity where community groups, council services, developers and digital innovators work together to help find solutions

Open Data Platform

The data portal and developer resources enabling Open Data to be available, published and processed

Projects, businesses, communities and partners generating and using open data

Our Themes

We have based our activities around the 4 themes in the Bristol City Council's Corporate Strategy:

Empowering and Caring:	Work with partners to empower communities and individuals, increase independence and support those who need it. Give children the best possible start in life.
Fair and Inclusive:	Improve economic and social equality, pursuing economic growth which includes everyone and making sure people have access to good quality learning, decent jobs and homes they can afford.
Well Connected:	Take bold and innovative steps to make Bristol a joined up city, linking up people with jobs and with each other.
Wellbeing:	Create healthier and more resilient communities where life expectancy is not determined by wealth or background.

Programme process

Programme plan (new iteration every 4 months)

Set up

Event production

Project production

Community focus groups

BCC services

Consultation and workshops
Upfront consultation sessions with BCC services/service leads and community groups to uncover the specific challenges faced within this theme. Workshop ideas, Select speakers and set out the challenges for kick off event.

Engaging
An opportunity to explore the theme and set the scope for project proposals and also explain the process for submission. Anticipated audience of developers, digital innovators, theme specific orgs.

Find, process and publish data
Requests and suggestions for data coming from stakeholders processed by steering, technical and governance services.

BCC services

Community focus groups

Academia/community Interest orgs

Digital/data innovators/tech startups/creatives

Data play event
An ideas session and opportunity to develop ideas around the theme and scope. Team formation and collaborative groups form around ideas. The event can be supported by flash talks from innovators in the theme space.

Project presentations
Teams present and pitch project ideas and first iteration prototypes towards project commission prizes.

Project delivery
Commissioned projects develop digital prototypes let 8 –10 weeks then present back to our Data audience of developers. digital innovators, by flash talks from innovators in the theme initiative steering group and theme specific orgs space team for next steps.

ONE CITY APPROACH
The One City Plan, supported via Bristol City Council's Corporate Strategy themes,will feed a new thematic iteration approach every 4 months.

Get involved

We would be very grateful for your input into the programme. Please share any relevant thoughts you have and, if possible share your response to the questions listed below.

- Do you have any comments or suggestions about the programme structure or events?
- Are there are any themes that you would like to focus the programme activity on?
- Is there any data that you would like us to prioritise publishing?
- Is there any advice or guidance in relation to use of data that you would like support with?
- Would you you or your organisation be interested in having direct publishing permissions on the Open Data platform?
- Do you feel that events should be held in central venues or in satellite venues around the city?
- Is there any particular knowledge or skills that you would be able to contribute to the programme?

Please email the City Innovation Team – **opendata@bristol.gov.uk** with the subject 'Open Data'.