

**Meeting of the Open Government Implementation Group  
29 September 2021 at 11am via WebEx**

**Attendees:**

Mark McLaughlin **MMcL** (DoF CAED) Chair  
 Iggy O’Doherty **IO’D** (DoF ESS) Chair  
 Paul McGurnaghan **PMcG** (DAERA)  
 Hugh Tohill **HT** (DoF ESS)  
 Cormac McConaghy **CMcC** (DoF ESS)  
 Roy Anderson **RA** (DfC)  
 Isaac Skillen **IS** (DfC)  
 Brendan O’Neill **BO’N** (DoH)  
 Paul McGrory **PMcG** (DfI) *joined at 11.55*  
 Iain Fleming **IF** (DoF ESS)  
 David Patterson **DP** (NISRA)  
 Kathryn Torney **KT** (DfE)  
 David McBurney **DMcB** (NIOGN)  
 Rebekah McCabe **RMcC** (NIOGN)  
 Hannah Henry **HH** (NIOGN)  
 Lucy Keown **LK** (NIOGN)  
 Nicola Johnston **NJ** (DoF Open Govt (OG) team)  
 Jodi Smith **JS** (DoF Open Govt (OG) team)  
 Pamela Bannon **PB** (DoF Open Govt (OG) team)  
 Martina McMurray **MMcM** (DoF Open Govt (OG) team)

**Apologies:**

Neill Jackson **NJ** (TEO)  
 Paul Braithwaite **PBR** (NIOGN)  
 Michael Curran **MC** (TEO)  
 Alan Macdonald **AM** (DE)  
 Karen McMullan **KMcM** (DfC)  
 Tom Clyde **TC** (DoJ)

Item	Discussion	Action
1-3	<b>Welcome and Introduction</b>	
	<p><b>MMcL</b> welcomed everyone and noted apologies.            No conflicts of interest were declared.            The minutes from the previous meeting were agreed.            Several action points from the previous meeting (19 May) remain outstanding – see ‘Ongoing Action Points’ below.</p>	<p><b>See ‘Ongoing Action Points’ below</b></p>
4.	<p><b>Local Action Plan – Open Government Strategy</b></p> <p><b>JS</b> provided an overview of the Local Action Plan (LAP) commitment to develop an Open Government strategy. This will provide a foundation for future LAPs and the co-creation process.</p>	

	<p>While all members previously received the LAP commitment templates, OG team committed to send a link to the OGP website, where they are now uploaded</p> <p><b>JS</b> advised of the need to create a strategy subgroup of 5-6 OGIG members, to drive the development of the strategy. <b>OG team</b> will provide further details and volunteers should submit their names to <b>PB</b> by close of play Friday 1 October</p>	<p><b>OG team</b></p> <p><b>OG Team and OGIG</b></p>
	<p><b>Local Action Plan – Independent monitoring</b></p> <p><b>NJ</b> advised that DoF is required to appoint an independent monitoring body (also known as Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM)) to carry out an inception assessment on the LAP in November 2021 and end of term exercise in January 2021. All agreed to this requirement.</p> <p>Options for date extensions are being discussed with OGP Local (Jose Marin), who is also helping to source an IRM in this instance, given the tight timeframes. <b>OG Team</b> will keep OGIG members updated with progress.</p> <p><b>OGIG</b> members were also asked to provide suggestions for a potential IRM by close of play Monday 4 October.</p>	<p><b>OG Team</b></p> <p><b>OGIG</b></p>
<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>UK 5<sup>th</sup> National Action Plan</b></p> <p><b>PB</b> thanked everyone who contributed commitments to NAP 5 - to date we have received 14 proposed commitments. She confirmed that commitments can still be added to the NAP for one year.</p> <p><b>MMcL</b> asked all OGIG members to review the NAP5 commitment paper (issued in advance of the meeting) and provide all comments/issues to <b>PB</b>, by 5pm Friday 1 October.</p> <p><b>PB</b> asked all members that responses to requests from the OG Team for information are provided within the deadlines set, including NIL returns</p>	<p><b>OGIG</b></p> <p><b>OGIG</b></p>

<p><b>6.</b></p>	<p><b>Presentation</b></p> <p>LK provided the group with a verbal report on the Open Local Government project</p>	
	<p><b>Update from NIOGN</b></p> <p><b>RMcC</b> advised she has joined the UK OGN Steering Committee replacing Paul Braithwaite. She provided an update on NAP5 - the UK Civil Service has made good progress over the summer. It is still working towards 18 October to receive feedback from civil society and sign off is expected by December, when the OGP conference is set to take place.</p> <p><b>DMcB</b> expressed his disappointment at the departmental responses to the OGN suggested commitments.</p> <p><b>MMcL</b> set out the progress made over the last two years, including the additional staffing resources allocated to the OG Team to drive this agenda forward. He welcomed OGN's honesty but stressed NICS' commitment to OG and the need for the partnership between government and NIOGN to be constructive.</p> <p>Departmental OGIG members provided DMcB with a rationale for several of the proposed OGN commitments that cannot be taken forward at this time. They asked that proposals are better refined to allow departments to focus resources and for OGN to help prioritise what the public want.</p> <p><b>PMcG</b> highlighted progress being made around research in DAERA with the launch of a 'Knowledge Hub' - a database of commissioned scientific research. It currently contains 225 pieces of research.</p>	
	<p><b>Update from departments</b></p> <p><b>DAERA</b> - is making good progress on releasing datasets to Open Data NI automatically on the first of each month</p> <p><b>DfC</b> – No updates</p> <p><b>NISRA</b> – No further updates</p> <p><b>DfE</b> – No further updates</p>	

	<p><b>DoF ESS</b> – The Innovation and Outreach Fund processed funding to applications. Interim reports are due by end of October. The Open Data portal is being redesigned and will be presented at the next OGIG meeting. ESS is seeking to have more mapping data published in NAP5.</p> <p><b>Dfi</b> – No further updates</p>	
<b>7.</b>	<p><b>Open Data update</b></p> <p><b>IF</b> advised the group ESS is running a pilot with DoF and Account NI. This will publish November’s departmental spends under £25k on the Open Data portal, in December. It hopes to roll this out across all departments in due course.</p>	
<b>8-9.</b>	<p><b>Forward look and date of next meeting</b> – Wednesday 8 December 2021 at 10.30am</p>	

### ONGOING – Action Points

<b>AP24</b>	IF to investigate if ‘Management information related to Universal Credit Claims’ and NISRA Covid datasets can be published on Open Data portal	IF	<b>Ongoing</b> – Meeting to be held with DfC 6 <sup>th</sup> October to arrange how best to publish the Steps 2 Success and high level UC datasets. UC datasets at a more granular level reliant on progress between DfC and DWP.
<b>AP25</b>	IF to follow-up with CMcC on position of 5* data and situation with SWIRRL platform guidance.	IF	<b>Ongoing</b> – Follow up meeting being held 11 <sup>th</sup> October. This one is likely to be ongoing for a while as it is reliant on NISRA completing the Table Builder project.
<b>AP34</b>	Terms of Reference to be kept under review	OGIG	Will be taken forward as part of the OG Strategy development
<b>AP39</b>	IO’D advised that a write-up or case study should be put on the portal	CMcC and PG	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>AP40</b>	KT to check if she can share template once finished	KT	<b>Ongoing</b>