

Overview of Open Data NZ's Work in 2016

December 2016

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Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) hosts New Zealand’s cross-government [Open Government Information and Data Programme](#) (Open Data NZ). Open Data NZ takes a collaborative approach to making government-held data and information widely available for agencies, communities and businesses to re-use.

In promoting open government data and information, Open Data NZ is key to help New Zealand maintain its strong history of being an open and transparent government. This supports New Zealand’s commitment to increase public participation and transparency as a member of the [Open Government Partnership](#).

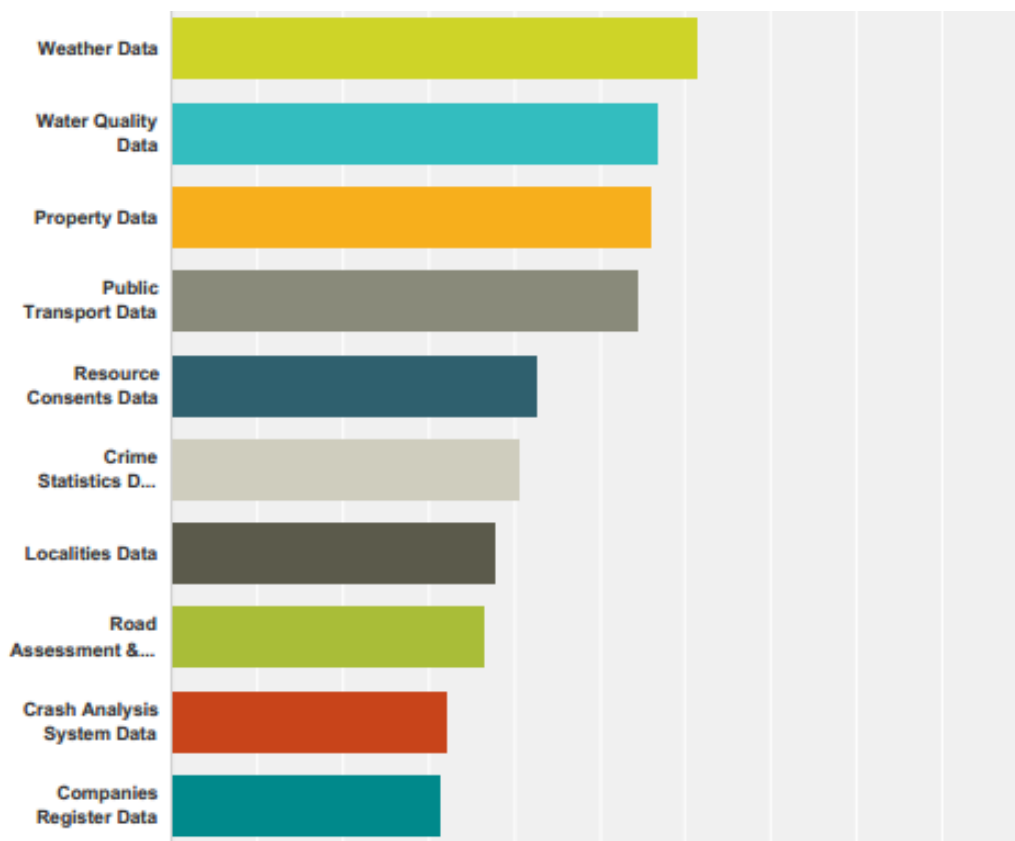
Public consultations

1. Top 10 Datasets Survey

In June 2016, Open Data NZ conducted a nationwide survey asking people what the top 10 datasets they would like to see released were. We received over 400 responses to our survey and [published the results as open data](#).

Going forward, Open Data NZ is focussing its resources on working with agencies to address the data that has been requested. The [beta.data.govt.nz](#) team are also using the survey findings to get as many quality datasets relating to the top 10 list on their new website.

Here are the Top 10 New Zealand requested datasets:



2. NZGOAL - Software Extension Consultation



The NZGOAL-Software Extension Consultation was a finalist in the NZ Open Source Awards 2016. Paul Stone and Cam Findlay display the award.

Open Data NZ consulted the open source community on the development of the Software Extension to the New Zealand Government Open Access Licensing (NZGOAL) framework in 2016. The consultation was run through the online and open source consensus building tool, Loomio.

The resulting policy provides valuable guidance on the licensing and release of publicly funded software as open source. It is an extension to the popular [New Zealand Government Open Access and Licensing](#) (NZGOAL) framework for Creative Commons licensing in government.

A series of Guidance Notes have been released which support users of the NZGOAL-Software Extension policy. [These guidance notes are available online.](#)

3. International Open Data Charter Consultation



The Open Data Charter consultation workshop in Wellington

The Open Data Charter Public Consultation included a two-stage approach that ran throughout August and September 2016. The process was designed to give interested and potentially affected parties with the opportunity to provide their thoughts about whether New Zealand should adopt the Open Data Charter and the impacts if it is was to be adopted.

During Stage One participants were invited to share their thoughts about whether the Open Data Charter should be adopted. During Stage Two participants were invited to comment on proposals put forward by LINZ and proposals put forward by other participants.

All input collected during the engagement [has been released as open data](#), including the [Engagement Summary Report](#).

Open Data NZ will use the input gathered through this engagement to inform the review of what principles will guide the release of, and access to, NZ open data and information as detailed in the [Open Government Partnership National Action Plan 2016-2018](#).

Events

4. Google Hangouts - Joel Gurin, Beth Noveck and Richard Stirling



The live-stream of Joel Gurin's hangout at BizDojo Wellington which was followed by a Q&A session with Rochelle Stewart-Allen and Paul Stone.

Open Data NZ ran [three online Google Hangouts](#) with international open data experts in February and March 2016:

1. **Joel Gurin (26 February)** - Joel is a Senior Consultant on Open Data to the World Bank. He is President and Founder of the Center for Open Data Enterprise, a Washington-based non-profit that works to maximize the value of open data as a public resource. Before launching the Center in January 2015, he wrote the book *Open Data Now*, written to help a general audience understand open data and the opportunities it presents.

2. **Beth Noveck (5 March)** - Beth Noveck is Co-Founder and Director of the GovLab at New York University. She served in the White House as the first United States Deputy Chief Technology Officer and founder of the White House Open Government Initiative (2009-2011). UK Prime Minister, David Cameron, appointed Beth as Senior Advisor for Open Government.

3. **Richard Stirling (11 March)** - Richard Stirling is the International Director of the Open Data Institute, based in London, which was founded by Sir Tim Berners-Lee and Sir Nigel Shadbolt in 2012 to connect, equip and inspire people around the world to promote innovation with open data.

The Hangouts ran as a partnership between [Open Data NZ](#), [Hack Miramar](#), [ColliderWgtn](#), and [BizDojo](#), and are available on [YouTube](#).

5. Open Data Parliamentary Showcase



Jessica Manins, Bianca Grizhar, Philippa Bowron & Rochelle Stewart-Allen at the Open Data Parliamentary Showcase

Nearly 200 people packed into the Open Data Showcase at Parliament, hosted by Land Information Minister, Louise Upston in May 2016.

The event was a chance to hear how innovative businesses, start-ups, media and non-government organisations are tapping into open data to improve and develop new products and services.

The focus of the evening was to celebrate the possibilities that open data creates, and to hear from businesses, individuals, and agencies about what they are delivering with data that is already open and available. They included [DOT Loves Data](#), [Dumpark](#), [Figure NZ](#), [Hack Miramar](#), [HERE Maps](#), [LINZ](#), [NZ Herald](#) and [Thundermaps](#).

Eight organisations had booths where they demonstrated real examples of reusing open data and how it is making a tangible impact in people's lives.

6. International Open Data Conference (Madrid), 2016



Mike Steere from Thundermaps talks about how NZ's open data policies have helped their business operate at the International Open Data Conference 2016 in Madrid. Open Data NZ's Rochelle Stewart-Allen is 3rd from the right.

The [International Open Data Conference 2016](#) was held in Madrid 6-7 October, 2016. The theme of the conference was "Global goals, local impact". There were 1,600 attendees from a broad multicultural cross-section of government, business and civil society. Open Data NZ was represented by Rochelle Stewart-Allen.

Rochelle presented at a [7-country presentation](#) (Belgium, Brazil, Korea, Mexico, NZ, Norway & US) on New Zealand's open data policies and the wider open data ecosystem. Rochelle also launched Open Data NZ's new animation, ['The Potential of Open Data'](#), at the conference. Mike Steere, [Thundermaps'](#) Managing Director - Sweden presented on how New Zealand's open data policies have allowed their business to grow both nationally and internationally.

7. Open Data Board-Game Meetups



Playing Datopolis at DOT Loves Data

The UK's Open Data Institute released the open data board-game, [Datopolis](#), in 2016 under an open source license. The board-game uses data to build tools and players work individually to complete their tools, but need to work collaboratively to win the game.

Open Data NZ held 3 board-game meetups in 2016 to teach people about how open data works. Meetups were held at [Wellington](#) (July), [DOT Loves Data](#) (September), and [Auckland](#) (November).

Partnerships

8. Launch of Code for Aotearoa & the Open Data Fellowships



Members of Code for Aotearoa & Open Data NZ at the launch of the Fellowships

The Code for Aotearoa Open Data Fellowships operated in Wellington, New Zealand between 12 September and 2 December 2016. Land Information New Zealand/Open Data NZ provided pilot funding to Code for Australia to set up Code for Aotearoa in New Zealand, and pilot 3-month fellowships to test if the model could be adapted for the New Zealand environment.

The Fellows were split into two teams - one team of two at Wellington City Council and one team at Land Information New Zealand. The Wellington City Council Fellows established [Civic Labs](#) to ask Wellingtonians what makes a successful city and then how Council can help make Wellington successful. The LINZ Fellows spent their 3-months designing and releasing an [Open Data Toolkit](#). The toolkit focusses on providing core information to individuals and organisations wanting to open up data, particularly those based in government.

[Code for Aotearoa](#) is part of the international civil society-led [Code for All](#) network of organisations who believe that digital technology opens new channels for citizens to more meaningfully engage in the public sphere and have a positive impact on their communities. The Code for All network currently operates across 10 countries including the US, Germany, Mexico and Pakistan.

[The full fellowships report is available online](#)

Telling the story of open data

9. Open Data Case Studies

Open Data NZ published the following case studies in 2016:

- [Thundermaps](#), January 2016

- [Nepal earthquake](#), June 2016
- [NZGOAL Software Extension](#), July 2016
- [Homes.co.nz](#), August 2016
- [HERE Maps](#), August 2016

10. 'The Potential of Open Data' Animation Tool

Open Data NZ released its animation tool, '[The potential of open data](#)', this year. The tool explains the value of open data to those new to the concept and Rochelle Stewart-Allen released the animation at the International Open Data Conference in Madrid in October 2016. The video is available under a Creative Commons 4.0 International License and has 1,200 views as at 20 December 2016.

The video is also a resource on the [Resource Centre](#) for the International Open Data Charter.

11. Working with Government Data Champions



Jamie Kruger from Homes.co.nz speaking with Government Data Champions about how open government data is helping fuel his business.

Open Data NZ works regularly with Data Champions at both the central and local government level, helping them establish best practice within their agencies and local authorities. This work is often held across the country through both established events and informal meetups while we're attending other events.

Highlights of Open Data NZ's work with Data Champions in 2016 includes:

1. A workshop with Data Champions seeking their feedback on how to accelerate the use and reuse of open data in New Zealand (3 February)
2. A workshop with Data Champions sharing best practice on open data in Taranaki (22 June) and Manawatu-Whanganui (19 July)
3. An end-of-year event with Data Champions where Minister Upston thanked the Champions for their efforts in driving the release of open data in their agencies and local authorities. Jamie Kruger from homes.co.nz also spoke about how they are using open government data to help fuel their business (29 November).

12. Contribution to external initiatives

- [Weather data review](#)
- [GovHack 2016](#)
- Member of the [Open Government Partnership Officials Group](#)
- Member of the [Open Data Institute Leaders Network](#)
- Member of the [Open Data Charter Stewards Group](#).

13. Presentations

The Open Data NZ team is regularly out and about talking about open data, helping audiences understand its value and benefits, and sharing best practice with both data and non-data users. Here is a selection of presentations we've delivered in 2016:

- Results 9 Teams at Creative HQ ([view slides](#))
- NZ Computer Science Research Student Conference
- School of Government, Victoria University of Wellington presentation ([view slides](#))
- ITx Conference - NZGOAL Software Extension - Open Sourcing the open source policy ([view slides](#))
- ALGIM GIS Symposium (April - [view slides](#)), ALGIM Records and Information Management Symposium (July - [view slides](#)) and the annual ALGIM Conference (November)
- Manawatu GIS Forum (April)
- Nerd Nite Wellington presentation ([view slides](#))
- International Open Data Conference presentation (Madrid - [view slides](#)).

14. Migrating open data content to data.govt.nz

Open Data NZ worked with the Department of Internal Affairs to migrate all our content to data.govt.nz in December 2016. This move makes it easier for users to access both data and resourcing in one place. The new content includes open data [resources](#), [e-learning modules](#), [case studies](#) and [community engagement](#).

Feedback

15. Feedback on engagements

- "This engagement makes me proud to have NZ in my list of countries!" - Sophie Lafayette

- "I really appreciated your openness and honesty about the state of the government. And wonderful to know there are great people like you already engaged in this stuff." - PJ
- "I thought it would be extremely tedious but was very pleasantly surprised by how interesting it was and how a sense of community started to emerge." - Open Data Charter Auckland Workshop participant
- "Sincere thanks from the world of statistical scientists who want to help bring new empirical evidence into public domain. Your willingness to survey us and consider making new datasets public is consummate public service in my view. Sincere thanks." - Top 10 Datasets Survey respondent
- "I welcome this chance to give feedback during the formative stages of the recommendations (open government at work!), and I'd like to acknowledge and thank those who made this possible." - Stripey

16. Feedback on individuals

- "Rochelle was amazing at inspiring some of the teams and illustrating the opportunities available with open data." - Sean O'Keefe, Results 9
- "I liked your post Paul. We have much to learn from your efforts." - GH
- "Rochelle, you and the Open Data team at LINZ have been doing a great job advocating for open data use and educating people about what it is." - Kay Jones
- "Great job Paul. You, Rochelle, Nadia, and all the other government folks gained huge respect from your willingness to front up and take ownership of the data frustration being experienced by participants." - Nick Williamson
- "Rochelle's focus on openness, community and collaborating shines through in her actions and it's a breath of fresh air. THANK YOU!" - Mike Riversdale

Appendix 1: Media highlights

17. Published media

- [Use of open data on the rise](#) (Minister Upston, January 2016)
- [International open data experts to hang out with NZ](#) (Minister Upston, February 2016)
- [New Zealand leading in open data](#) (LINZ website, February 2016)
- [Open data experts hang out with NZ](#) (LINZ website, February 2016)
- [Talking open data and innovation with US expert Beth Noveck](#) (LINZ website, March 2016)
- [World-leading expert to headline Open Data Day](#) (Minister Upston, March 2016)
- [Open Data Showcase – see innovation in action](#) (LINZ website, May 2016)
- [NZ Government open source software licensing consultation a success](#) (LINZ website, May 2016)
- ["Hugely useful" Loomio powers consultation on open source software](#) (Scoop, May 2016)
- [A Practical Guide to Open Data: A Public Asset](#) (ALGIM, May 2016)
- [LINZ Survey confirms appetite for Open Data](#) (Minister Upston, July 2016)
- [NZ govt agencies now have open source software on their side](#) (IT Brief, July 2016)
- [Guidelines unlock govt software for innovation](#) (Minister Upston, July 2016)
- [New open source guidelines for government software now available](#) (LINZ website, July 2016)

- [Minister calls for tech-savvy kiwis to apply for Open Data fellowships](#) (Minister Upston, August 2016)
- [A Policy Win For Open Source Software In New Zealand](#) (Scoop, August 2016)
- [Moves to adopt more Open Source Software](#) (Radio NZ interview - Nine to Noon, August 2016)
- [Have your say on New Zealand's open data commitments](#) (Minister Upston, September 2016)
- [Techies to bring fresh perspective on unlocking government data](#) (Minister Upston, September 2016)
- [Help shape government policy on open data](#) (LINZ website, September 2016)
- [Council launch new Code for Aotearoa fellowship](#) (Wellington City Council press release, September 2016)

18. Blog posts

- [How the Open Data Movement is Maturing](#) (LinkedIn, January 2016)
- [Using open data to stay safe from hazards around you](#) (LinkedIn, January 2016)
- [What can New Zealand learn from the Open Data Barometer?](#) (LinkedIn, May 2016)
- [NZ Government Carries Out Open and Transparent Policy Consultation about Open Source](#) (Loomio, May 2016)
- [Open Data's role in Nepal's earthquake](#) (LinkedIn, June 2016)
- [Mining Gold at GovHack 2016](#) (LinkedIn, August 2016)
- [The hunt for asbestos](#) (LinkedIn, September 2016)
- [Should New Zealand adopt the International Open Data Charter?](#) (NZ Government Web Toolkit, September 2016)
- [Help shape the way NZ opens up and manages open government data and information](#) (NZ Government Web Toolkit, September 2016)
- [What's on the international open data agenda?](#) (LinkedIn, November 2016)

19. Newsletters

Open Data NZ publishes bi-monthly newsletters, one for a general audience and one for a local government audience.

[You can view the Open Data NZ newsletters here](#)

20. Tweet highlights

1. [Hamish Campbell](#) @polemic Apr 11
Awesome to see our clients delivering awesome results, benefits to NZ!
[https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/use-open-data-rise ...](https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/use-open-data-rise...) @LINZLDS
#opendata #opendatanz
2. [Jo -mangee- Booth](#) @JoMangee May 4
Much awesome personally & professionally at the #OpenDataNZ showcase
Thanks for taking @GovhackNZ flyers & chatting!
3. [Toni Thompson](#) @tonimtd Dec 11
Just in case you haven't seen the simple but brilliant snippet #opendatanz
The Potential of Open Data <https://youtu.be/bwX5MAZ6zKI> via @YouTube
4. [Mika Honkanen](#) @mikahonkanenFI Oct 7
New cool video: The Potential of Open Data! <http://goo.gl/i5cx5j> #IODC16
@OKFFI @opendatanz.

5. [Derilinx](#) @derilinx Oct 7
Incredible video from @opendatanz #OpenData #OpenPotential
<https://youtu.be/bwX5MAZ6zKI> #IODC16
6. [Toby Bellwood](#) @tobybellwood Oct 7
Great #OpenData video from @opendatanz and @RStewartAllen as #IODC16 starts to wind down
7. [opendatacon](#) @opendatacon Oct 11
¿Has visto el nuevo vídeo de @opendatanz presentado en la #IODC16?
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bwX5MAZ6zKI> ... #opendata
Translated from Spanish
Have you seen the new video of @opendatanz presented in the #IODC16?
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bwX5MAZ6zKI> ... #opendata