

“Scotland’s 8th City – The Smart City” ERDF Programme

Data Cluster – Outline and Offer to Data Delivery Group (DDG)

Background

Supported by the [Scottish Cities Alliance](#), a partnership of Scotland’s 7 city local authorities and the Scottish Government, £60 million, including £25 million of European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) support, is being invested in [“Scotland’s 8th City – the Smart City” ERDF Programme](#) to make Scotland’s cities smarter, using new technologies and data to accelerate and transform the delivery of city services (see page 2).

A key aim of this investment is to support the 7 Scottish cities to work collaboratively to publish the same data sets to the same standard and quality and opens up unique opportunities for industry to work with a range of small and medium sized cities to develop and test smart solutions using data published across 7 city data platforms.

The Data Cluster Working Group

At the heart of the 8th City Programme sits the Data Cluster Working Group, with representation from the seven Scottish city local authorities and the Scottish Government. with the goal of pushing forward the publication of open data in the cities to increase transparency and drive innovation, while also improving general data management within local authorities.

The Cluster was set up in 2015 to coordinate a number of open data-focused projects between cities involved in the Scottish Cities Alliance’s 8th City Programme. The cluster’s work is divided broadly into four distinct work packages, each with a lead city and collaborative outputs.

Work Package 1 - Data Standards: Publishing the same agreed data sets to common standards, making reuse of data much easier.

Work Package 2 - Open Data Platforms: Established open data platforms in Aberdeen, Dundee, Inverness, Perth and Stirling resulting in all 7 cities now having open data platforms, with circa. **450** different data sets published to date across the cities.

Work Package 3 - Advanced Data Analytics: Sharing knowledge on data analytics for use in addressing city challenges, improving the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery, and delivering better outcomes.

Work Package 4 - Community Engagement and Capacity Building: Establishing networks of data users, both by upskilling staff in the use and management of data, as well as building up “data communities” within the cities themselves.

How the Programme supports the delivery of National Outcomes

The Cluster’s goals broadly match the commitments outlined in the Scottish Government’s Programme for Government, especially the commitment to Open Public Data. The work of the cluster ties into the recently launched second Open Government Action Plan, matching the commitment to drive improvements in data usage, and supports the delivery of outcomes in the National Performance Framework. The cities are sharing their learning from the Data Cluster Working Group out to other local authorities via the Local Government Digital Office including their workstream around the “Better Use of Data.”

Opportunities

The 8th City Programme, and in particular the Data Cluster Working Group, sees considerable opportunities for alignment and sharing our learning and experience with the work of the Data Delivery Group moving forward, including:-

- The prioritisation of public sector data sets for publication;
- Influencing the publication of data sets held by other key stakeholders to unlock wider economic and social benefits;
- Aligning local and national government activity, knowledge and capacity on data publication.

All of the above can play a substantial role in supporting the delivery of the outcomes present in the High Level Delivery Plan.

ERDF 2014-20 Operational Programme: Scotland's 8th City - the Smart City



Phase 1 and Phase 2 projects

