

Rail Delivery Group



April 2024

Rail Data Marketplace

Welcome to your round up of news related to the Rail Data Marketplace (RDM). If at any time you wish to unsubscribe, email us at raildatamarketplace@raildeliverygroup.com.

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Programme summary

It is difficult to believe that we are already a quarter of the way through 2024 and the clocks have gone forward already (and perhaps more pertinently, we have entered a new financial year!). Time flies when you are having fun!

The adoption of Rail Data Marketplace continues to astound with the number of data sharing agreements continuing to rise way beyond our expectations, so thanks for all of the support, both from consumers and publishers. As of the end of March, it stood at 1949, that is an incredible 86% increase in 3 months. Our registered organisations have also reached new heights (744), and the variety is fantastic. At the smaller scale, we have a strong following of individuals and SMEs which make up the bulk of our users, and at the other end of the spectrum, the Department for Transport has 47 registered users consuming data. We might not be able to claim to have 'gone viral' just yet, but we remain optimistic!

Since the last newsletter, our publishers have been busy with the bulk of TOCs now publishing accessibility data on the platform, which will be of enormous benefit in serving our passengers better. We now have a total of 96 data products available, covering a wide range of topics. Network Rail continue to increase their catalogue, with Track Gradient and Bridge strike data both being added recently. The request for Track Gradient came from a 'data want' which we passed to our friends at NR who duly obliged.

That segways neatly into a reminder of the [Data Wants](#) element within RDM. You can find data wants by going to Community > Data Wants > View all wants. There are already 14 'wants' up there, and if you would also like that data, please give it an up-vote and write a comment. This all helps us to justify it when we try to persuade

the owner of the data. We make no promises, but we have managed to deliver a good number of the 'wants' already (events, disruptions, historic ODM, Operator details). So, keep them coming.

We are pretty pleased with what we have developed and we hope that you like it, but we know it isn't perfect. We are always open to suggestions and constructive criticism; it is how we will improve and get better at meeting our users needs. So, do feel free to get in touch, which you can do via <https://raildata.org.uk/feedback>

Finally, we had a couple of big achievements in the last month. Firstly, we passed our Government Digital Service Live Assessment and then an independent assessment organization confirmed that we had achieved AA compliance to the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines. Both were challenging to achieve, so we are happy to have them under our belt and able to focus on the future of the RDM.

Case Studies

Case study: [How Northern is improving passenger experience using WhatsApp, AI and the Rail Data Marketplace](#)

Northern was an early adopter of the Rail Data Marketplace, recognising that easy access to well-documented data about disruptions and train arrivals could drive innovation and deliver a better customer experience. This case study explores how Northern built a WhatsApp automated chat function that provides passengers with live train information, using a combination of their own data and data sources from RDM...[Read more](#)

Case study: [How DataWharf balances client needs and intellectual property protection - Rail Data Marketplace](#)

DataWharf was the first commercial partner for the Rail Data Marketplace, with monetised data sources now published on the platform. This case study looks at how DataWharf balanced client needs for quality and trustworthy data with intellectual property protection...[Read more](#)

Innovation Funding

Whilst this won't be applicable to many of our newsletter readers, just a quick reminder that there is innovation funding available from government to 'develop and exploit knowledge assets'. Whilst the grants are only available to public sector bodies, they can be spent on subcontractors (who maybe have good ideas or skills!). More details [here](#).

Community

[Simulation for Rail Data Applications](#)

Urban Hawk is interested in finding partners to consider how simulation might be used to analyse and model aspects of the rail network...[Read more](#)

Green Travel Pledge

Green Travel Pledge is the rail industry's commitment to provide detailed, accurate and reliable data on the carbon emissions of rail journeys so that:

- The sustainability benefits of travelling by train become clearer and even more compelling;
- Businesses and their travellers are empowered to make more informed choices;

- The business travel sector can make data on rail journey emissions easier to access and use at the point of sale;
- Businesses can accurately measure the emissions of their rail travel to track their progress against sustainability goals.

The Green Travel Pledge dataset is now available on RDM. More information on the Green Travel Pledge can be found [here](#).

Thank you for reading the latest edition of the Rail Data Marketplace newsletter. [To read our previous newsletters please click here](#). If at any time you wish to unsubscribe, email us at raildatamarketplace@raildeliverygroup.com.