

# Rail Delivery Group



September 2023

## 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](mailto:raildatamarketplace@raildeliverygroup.com).

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### Programme Summary

Having chatted to many of you over the last couple of years, I am aware that there existed some cynicism about Rail Data Marketplace and whether it would make it beyond the 'good idea' stage. I think that over time that sentiment has diminished, but I am hoping that today we can banish it completely. The Rail Data Marketplace is alive! ...and I am hoping in a more convincing way than my feeble Frankenstein reference.

It has been an incredible effort by the team and our development partners, TCS, but I would like to also thank our early adopter community and all of those who have provided feedback and taken part in our user research. It wasn't always easy hearing it, but your contributions have allowed us to refine the solution. RDM remains a work in progress and we have lots more plans to develop and enhance it, but it is now publicly available at [www.raildata.org.uk](http://www.raildata.org.uk). So why not click on the link, see what RDM is really like and register your organisation (don't forget to add your logo for maximum brand impact). We hope that you like it.

Not only is the RDM service available, but we have some great data products available (34, as of today's count) with many more to come. Some of these are existing RDG data sets, but a number are new and unique to RDM. These include the API versions of the Live Departure Board web service feeds, the Disruptions API, and we are just publishing the Origin Destination Matrix from the Office of Road and Rail.

Coming shortly is Network Rail's brand new 'track centre line' API, along with a number of other exciting data sets from Network Rail. Another first will be the publication by Data Wharf of some chargeable data product. While everyone generally prefers to get something for free, one of RDM's aims was always to provide organisations with the ability to commercialise their data. Data Wharf, an industry SME, will be offering data feeds which augment existing data around stations and trains, as well as new products around carbon calculation for journeys. All of these data products and many more will be available in the coming weeks and months, so do keep coming back to RDM.

If you browse the data catalogue, you will notice that while we started off just publishing APIs, over the last month, we have also added the ability to publish files in a number of commonly used formats. The interface is consistent for both APIs and files, so once you are familiar with RDM's layout and navigation, understanding a data product should be simple.

Looking to the future, we are working with the Department of Transport along with a number of TOCs to significantly increase the accessibility data which is available on RDM. More news on that next month.

So, RDM is up and running. Our official launch will be a little later in the year, but for those who have stuck with these newsletters, you heard it here first!

### Transport Data Standards

Enterprise architect and long-time friend of the project, Hayden Sutherland, has written an interesting short article on open data standards which is worth a read as we all strive to ensure data is more interoperable, not just across rail, but more broadly.

<https://medium.com/@hayden.sutherland/what-are-the-popular-open-data-standards-for-maas-b9f3f3171607>

### Transport Innovation Summit & Digital Rail 2023

We were delighted to be asked to present again at this year's Digital Rail conference which is organised by Global Railway Review. It is taking place in London on 20/21 September, and the RDM presentation will be in the evening on the 20<sup>th</sup>, just before the networking drinks. So, if you would like to hear a bit more about RDM and have the chance to ask awkward questions, this is an ideal opportunity.

### Have your say

We also have another opportunity to tell us what you think about RDM and where we go from here. Our user survey can be found [HERE](#) and should be quick to respond to. The insights that we get from these surveys are incredibly helpful in guiding our development and improvement activities, so if you have the time to complete it, it would be much appreciated.

### National Transport Awards 2023

We are thrilled to announce that our innovative service has been nominated for the prestigious National Transport Awards 2023 in the category of Digital and Technology Excellence in Transport. As with other awards, we are amongst a strong group of contenders, all of whom demonstrate the commitment to revolutionizing the rail industry through innovative technology and data-driven solutions. We will be keeping our fingers-crossed, but we are proud just to have made it onto the shortlist.

**About the National Transport Awards:** The National Transport Awards celebrate outstanding achievements and innovations in the transport sector, recognizing organizations that have demonstrated excellence and made significant contributions to improving transportation in the country. This year's focus on Digital and Technology Excellence in Transport highlights the critical role that technological advancements play in shaping the future of transportation.