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# Policy Statement

We publish discovery datasets using open data licences that both improve consumers’ understanding of London’s natural environment and raise the profile of our services. The open datasets are blurred spatially, restricted temporally, or are less detailed than the high quality shared datasets that underpin our services. We do not publish open data without express permission from the data owners, and notify all partners of open data publication as part of our ongoing services.

# Definitions

* Open data - the Open Data Institute (ODI) define open data as “data that anyone can access, use or share”.
* Shared data – the ODI data spectrum sets out 3 mechanisms for sharing data:
	+ named access - explicitly assigned by contract
	+ group-based access - enabled via authentication
	+ public access - published under a licence such as CC-BY-NC (Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial) that only allows consumption for non-commercial use.
* Open data licences – these place very few restrictions on consumers of open data, who are permitted to republish the data, including for a fee, and sell products based on them. The licences we use, commonly known by their acronym, are the OGL (open government licence) and CC-BY (Creative Commons Attribution licence). The only restriction placed on consumers by these licences is that they must give attribution to GiGL as the source of the data.
* Discovery dataset - a subset of a larger, more detailed dataset intended to raise awareness of the data subject and signpost open data consumers to related GiGL services

# GiGL Partnership Datasets

There is an overview of the current open datasets that we have published on our website, and more comprehensive information about each of the datasets is contained in the GiGL data guide. It includes information regarding how each open dataset relates to the shared dataset it was derived from, and details of the data update schedule.

We will continue to explore the benefits of publishing discovery datasets representing metadata and our core datasets with the data owners and our advisors.

# Data platforms

We will publish data via local and national open data platforms, and will provide links to these resources via our website and data guide

# Utilising open and shared data

Although we are a not-for-profit social enterprise we are considered a commercial user of data, so we are not permitted to consume shared data published under a CC-BY-NC licence. We will approach data owners whose data would be useful to our stakeholders to seek permission to use them in our services via a different licence or data exchange agreement.

We will ensure that we incorporate high quality open data published under the OGL and CC-BY licences into our services on behalf of our stakeholders. The suitability of datasets will be assessed on an ongoing basis based on the national standards that we work to.

# Our community and professional networks

We will meet annually with key data providers to update them on open data-related activity in our sector, to ensure we are representing their interests, and to feedback on key performance indicators around the provision and consumption of open data.

We will work with the Association of Local Environmental Records Centres (ALERC) and National Biodiversity Network Trust (NBNT) to embrace the opportunities open data presents to local environmental records centres, and to ensure consumers of open data are aware of the costs associated with their production.

We will continue to charge for our services per our charging policy to ensure the full costs of data stewardship are covered.