

## AGI INSPIRE Action Working Group

### Minutes of 17<sup>th</sup> meeting held at Transport for London, 14 Pier Walk, London SE10 0ES

**Present:** Tim Ashelford (TA, UKLP, by phone), Peter Capell (PC), Robin Gatward (RG, transport), Dan Haigh (DH, secretary), Ian Painter (IP, software vendors), John Pepper (JP, hydrography), Graham Vowles (GV), Rob Walker (RWal, AGI), Robin Waters (RWat, chair)

<b>1</b>	<p><b>Apologies for absence</b></p> <p>Apologies from Clare Hadley (CH, Ordnance Survey), Gareth Jones (GJ, UKLP), Ian Masser (IM), Gesche Schmid (GS, local government)</p>	
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Minutes</b></p> <p>The minutes of the 16th meeting on 7 July were agreed.</p>	
<b>3</b>	<p><b>Actions Outstanding</b></p> <p>CH: Ask John Goodwin to provide a brief description of distinction between linkable data, linked data and INSPIRE.</p> <p>GJ: Provide response from UKLP what they want from AGI regarding identification of people / themes requiring people / users. Identifying problem areas. It is now too late to do this.</p> <p>GJ/TA: Provide information on UKLP's understanding of the definition of conformance. There is still confusion over what is meant by "compliance" and "conformance".</p> <p>RWat: Ask David Buck (UKLP) if any further synopses are required from key papers at INSPIRE conference.</p> <p>RG/JP: Produce synopsis for "data surgery" event.</p>	<p><b>16/02</b></p> <p><b>16/06</b></p> <p><b>16/08</b></p> <p><b>16/10</b></p>
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Latest INSPIRE activity</b></p> <p><b>a. Annex II and III data specifications</b></p> <p>IP asked whether any Annex II/III testing has taken place in the UK? TA explained that the UKLP has formed a data specifications working group. This is discussing critical issues, and generic issues for Annex II/III review. A summary is available. Organisations have been identified to provide thematic expertise on nearly all themes.</p> <p>RWal had participated in one of group's conference calls where changes to the Generic Conceptual Model were also covered. There is a question over how comments are to be submitted.</p> <p>RWat said that comments can be submitted via AGI and that he will collate these as long as they are received in time (by 22 Oct).</p> <p>Action All: Provide comments on Annex II and III specifications to RWat.</p>	<b>17/01</b>

<p>PC said that documents (particularly data specs) are lengthy and difficult to understand. A plain English, translated version is needed, which is explanatory and more normative. We should flag this up to UKLP.</p> <p>TA said that Theme groups for all Annex I and II themes have been set up, with representatives from data providers. Each group has produced a plain English summary statement looking at scope of each theme. These are published on Huddle workspace and could be moved to the website.</p> <p>They are planning on doing the same for Annex III, although some themes may be covered jointly.</p> <p>There are still queries over exactly what is meant by “conformance”.</p>	
<p>Action RWal/IP: Draft statement on information missing or unclear, identifying problems with lack of clarity on compliance, conformance, etc.</p>	17/02
<p><b>b. Survey of UK commercial involvement with INSPIRE</b></p> <p>RWat reported on his presentation on commercial involvement (joint paper with Ian Masser) at the AGI conference. Mick Cory and Ray Boguslawski had said that it was useful for UKLP, but they would like a broader range of respondents (e.g. all AGI corporate members) and the questions to include involvement with UKLP as well as INSPIRE. RWat and IM therefore need the support of the AWG, of AGI and also a source of funding – so far it has been purely voluntary.</p>	
<p>The AWG members supported an extended survey in principle and JP suggested that NERC or the University of Nottingham may be able to provide support via the research route. IP suggested using Survey Monkey, supported by AGI.</p>	
<p>Action RWat: Approach Chris Holcroft or Alan Wilks at AGI regarding Survey Monkey. Also contact NERC and University of Nottingham, and talk to Rob Deakin (Suppliers SIG).</p>	17/03
<p>PC offered to provide some help with analysis.</p>	
<p>Action RWat/IM: Reword survey questions and consult AWG committee (with GS/IM).</p>	17/04
<p>Some previously Corporate Members of AGI are now only supporting Individual Members. Such companies should be identified and included in the survey if possible.</p>	
<p><b>c. UKLP INSPIRE dataset report</b></p> <p>TA introduced the recently updated report. There are currently 236 datasets believed to be in scope (Annex I and II). 216 have metadata registered. 131 have view service registered.</p> <p>UKLP anticipate more by the November ‘deadline’ but do not believe all datasets will be have registered metadata or view services by that time. Northern Ireland has just procured a supplier to provide view services.</p>	
<p>The transport theme is causing the most concern and DfT are offering to host view services for organisations that are unable to do this for themselves.</p>	
<p>There are a total of 912 location-based datasets on data.gov.uk.</p>	
<p>A workshop on transformation is due to be held next year to help thematic groups.</p>	
<p>JP said that there is only one marine dataset on list, which may be due to a lack of</p>	

	<p>impetus and interest in complying with UKLP and INSPIRE. There is also a lack of clarity on who is the authoritative body. (E.g. shipping lanes are designated by IMO, but depicted by UKHO.) Action JP/TA: Discuss concerns regarding marine transport.</p> <p>RG reported that some organisations/representatives are concerned by expectations that INSPIRE will force their data, particularly data about their assets, to be made public. RWal said that a fundamental principle of INSPIRE is that ownership of assets is irrelevant. It is ownership of data that determines responsibility.</p> <p>UKLP are satisfied with the spirit of publication – which has gone beyond immediate requirements for INSPIRE – but are disappointed that not all metadata and view services are available.</p> <p><b>d. Access to Marine Planning data from MMO</b> JP elaborated on recent correspondence between Mike Osborne and Roger Longhorn on the availability of marine data which is also of wider interest. INSPIRE provides a standard, but does not provide a panacea. Some marine PSI providers are reluctant to cooperate or do not wish to get involved.</p> <p>The problem is that many marine authorities do not recognise themselves as such, the data is not always in a fit state to be used outside (sometimes even inside) the organisation and the provenance of the data is often unknown or dubious. To solve this problem, a programme of 'data strengthening' is proposed. There are content issues, (e.g. data is not fit for purpose) and also licensing issues, which prevent access to and sharing of data which is counter to the requirements of INSPIRE and UKLP.</p> <p>Management inertia is probably preventing wider use/sharing of marine data. MEDIN, on behalf of the marine community, is doing what it can with limited resources but there is no mandate to improve things, just persuasion! Greater commitment from providers is needed. How sharp are the government's Open Data policy teeth and how strong is Defra's approach to making data providers participate and comply?</p> <p>TA said that the Annex III deadlines and the transparency agenda may provide drivers for getting data published. Defra are keen to see as much data as possible published. Ray Boguslawski is meeting MEDIN soon, and data publication is likely to be discussed.</p> <p>JP suggested that more formal communications with some organisations may be beneficial. Perhaps a "management surgery" may be of use, to discuss common issues.</p> <p>JP said that AGI representing the broad church of GI professionals might be able to facilitate through its Marine &amp; Coastal SIG.</p> <p>Action JP/TA to communicate on how the UKLP might assist the marine sector engage more proactively, possibly working with MEDIN.</p>	<p>17/05</p> <p>17/06</p>
<p>5</p>	<p><b>INSPIRE Governance</b></p> <p><b>a. UK Location Council &amp; Programme</b> JP said that the UKLC has been considering revised terms of reference. TA thinks this is a routine review after the change of government – unlikely there will be fundamental change.</p>	

	<p><b>b. Other member states' programmes</b> Nothing to report in the absence of IM.</p>	
6	<p><b>Outreach</b></p> <p>CH and IP have developed a video explaining INSPIRE. It was agreed that this would be viewed by the AWG committee, and a consensus reached on whether there should be an AGI branded version.</p> <p>Action IP: Distribute video to AWG committee for comment.</p> <p>Action RWat: Discuss video with Chris Holcroft as to whether it should be branded, and how it should be published (YouTube?).</p> <p><i>Afternote: Video thought to be appropriate for publication/linking from AGI – now with Chris Holcroft.</i></p> <p>TA will give a presentation on INSPIRE to AGI North group (approx 50 people).</p> <p><i>Afternote: Very successful and clearly needed by many members who were still unclear about INSPIRE.</i></p>	<p><b>17/07</b></p> <p><b>17/08</b></p>
7	<p><b>Future events</b></p> <p>JP said that there is still the possibility of holding a data surgery in the first quarter of 2012. See Action 16/10.</p>	
8	<p><b>Any other business</b></p> <p><b>a. Future of the group</b> The AWG is coming to the end of its most recent 12 month mandate which needs to be renewed or changed.</p> <p>The AWG had two main aims: to inform AGI about INSPIRE and to respond to consultations. The latter are coming to an end and but we probably still need to do more informing. RWal therefore suggested that the AWG should become a normal SIG. The AWG agreed and thought such a change would also make for a more inclusive and interactive membership in line with normal SIG constitutional arrangements.</p> <p>IP suggested that there is now an overlap between the AWG and UKLP that didn't exist when the AWG was set up. AGI outreach on INSPIRE is definitely still needed, and it should be dovetailed with UKLP's own efforts which have matured over the last two years.</p> <p>TA agreed that, from a UKLP perspective the AGI is the best channel for engaging with wider industry and this triggered a discussion on the scope of AGI membership (much weaker in Annex III themes). RG argued that outreach to both producers and users of Annex III datasets was a golden opportunity for AGI with the backing of UKLP. There is a need to reach out to them and they might be persuaded to see AGI membership as part of the INSPIRE/UKLP. However, RG emphasised an ongoing problem with terminology – many communities don't think that 'GI' is relevant to them. RWal agreed that this is a fundamental issue for AGI. GV also suggested that AGI can articulate opinions and issues that UKLP cannot.</p>	

	<p>PC said that the AWG infolist can provide the starting point for SIG membership. Outreach to the Annex III community is key, and can be basis of an event.</p> <p>Action RWal: Draft SIG ToR to be taken to Chris Holcroft by middle of November.</p> <p>Action RWat/DH: Produce a report for Council on activities of the AWG by end November.</p>	<p><b>17/09</b></p> <p><b>17/10</b></p>
<b>10</b>	<p><b>Date and place of next meeting</b></p> <p>Provisional date: 17 January 2012. Action: DH to look at availability of Environment Agency offices, Millbank.</p> <p><i>Afternote: There are no rooms available on that date. A room has been booked for the 24 January instead (14.00 – 17.00)</i></p>	<b>17/11</b>

Action Number	Minutes Item	Action	Person	Progress
16/02	3	Ask John Goodwin to provide a brief description of distinction between linkable data, linked data and INSPIRE.	CH	
16/06	3	Provide information on UKLP's understanding of the definition of conformance.	GJ	
16/08	3	Ask David Buck (UKLP) if any further synopses are required from key papers at INSPIRE conference.	RWat	
16/10	3	Produce synopsis for "data surgery" event.	RG/JP	
17/01	4a	Provide comments on Annex II and III specifications to RWat.	All	
17/02	4a	Draft statement on information missing or unclear, identifying problems with lack of clarity on compliance, conformance, etc.	RWal/IP	
17/03	4b	Approach Chris Holcroft or Alan Wilks at AGI regarding Survey Monkey. Also contact NERC and University of Nottingham, and talk to Rob Deakin (Suppliers SIG).	RWat	
17/04	4b	Reword survey questions and consult AWG committee	RWat/IP/ GS/IM	
17/05	4c	Discuss concerns regarding marine transport.	JP/TA	
17/06	4d	Communicate on how the UKLP might assist the marine sector engage more proactively, possibly working with MEDIN.	JP/RG	
17/07	6	Distribute video to AWG committee for comment.	IP	Done
17/08	6	Discuss video with Chris Holcroft as to whether it should be branded, and how it should be published	RWat	Done
17/09	9	Draft SIG ToR to be taken to Chris Holcroft by middle of November.	RWal	
17/10	9	Produce a report for Council on activities of the AWG by end November.	RWat/DH	
17/11	10	Investigate availability of EA offices in Millbank for AWG/SIG meeting on 17 January.	DH	Done