Openness in Practice

Suneel Jethani • Dale Leorke

Openness in Practice

Understanding Attitudes to Open Government Data

> palgrave macmillan

Suneel Jethani University of Technology Sydney SYDNEY, NSW, Australia Dale Leorke Pinni B, COMS University of Tampere TAMPERE, Finland

ISBN 978-981-16-4250-0 ISBN 978-981-16-4251-7 (eBook) https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-4251-7

© The Author(s), under exclusive licence to Springer Nature Singapore Pte Ltd. 2021 This work is subject to copyright. All rights are solely and exclusively licensed by the Publisher, whether the whole or part of the material is concerned, specifically the rights of translation, reprinting, reuse of illustrations, recitation, broadcasting, reproduction on microfilms or in any other physical way, and transmission or information storage and retrieval, electronic adaptation, computer software, or by similar or dissimilar methodology now known or hereafter developed.

The use of general descriptive names, registered names, trademarks, service marks, etc. in this publication does not imply, even in the absence of a specific statement, that such names are exempt from the relevant protective laws and regulations and therefore free for general use. The publisher, the authors and the editors are safe to assume that the advice and information in this book are believed to be true and accurate at the date of publication. Neither the publisher nor the authors or the editors give a warranty, expressed or implied, with respect to the material contained herein or for any errors or omissions that may have been made. The publisher remains neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.

This Palgrave Macmillan imprint is published by the registered company Springer Nature Singapore Pte Ltd.

The registered company address is: 152 Beach Road, #21-01/04 Gateway East, Singapore 189721, Singapore

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The research for this book was supported by the State Government of Victoria, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Digital, Design and Innovation Branch, with contributions from the Networked Society Institute, University of Melbourne. It builds on research previously funded through a seed funding grant awarded by the Networked Society Institute and Research Unit for Public Cultures at the University of Melbourne.

The authors would like to thank the researchers, colleagues and anonymous reviewers whose advice and input helped shape this project—from the University of Melbourne: Adam Lodders, Gideon Aschwanden, Andrea Carson, Jake Goldenfein, Luke Heemsbergen, Alexia Maddox, Robbie Fordyce, Kate Macdonald and Scott McQuire; from the Department of Premier and Cabinet: Jithma Beneragama, Megan Vassarotti, Helen Andreou, Murali Maheswaran and Simon De Sousa. We would also like to thank the government workers and consultants who took the time to speak with us and offer their valuable and considered insights.

CONTENTS

Introduction	
Our Methods	5
Semi-structured Interviews	6
Survey	8
•	9
*	10
	11
References	13
What Is Open Data? Historical and Instrumental	
	15
•	17
	20
	20
* *	20
e	22
	22
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	23
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	24
	25
	29
	Our Methods Semi-structured Interviews Survey Workshop Our Findings Structure of the Book

3	Comparing Open Data Programmes in Victoria, Australia	33	
	Data Vic: Seeking a Leading Role in Open Data	34	
	City of Melbourne: Paving Its Own Way	38	
	City of Greater Geelong: An Emerging 'Smart City'	41	
	Conclusion	43	
	References	45	
4	Working in Open Data	47	
	Capacity Building in the Open Data Workforce	49	
	Measuring Performance and Demonstrating Value	52	
	User Engagement	55	
	Leadership, Advocacy and Stewardship	59	
	Conclusion	63	
	References	63	
5	Open Data Futures	65	
	Recommendations	69	
	References	75	
Aŗ	opendix: Open Data Survey Questions	77	
In	Index		

LIST OF FIGURES

Fig. 2.1	Principles of open data as imagined at the birth of the open data	
	movement. By the authors, adapted from opendata.gov	21
Fig. 3.1	Data Vic website in 2010. Used with permission	35
Fig. 3.2	Data Vic portal in 2020. Used with permission	36
Fig. 3.3	A map of inner Melbourne, showing the number of datasets by	
	each of the local councils as of early 2021. City of Melbourne is	
	highlighted green. Only a handful of the 31 councils are	
	represented in this detail. (Source: https://opencouncildata.org/)	37
Fig. 3.4	The City of Melbourne's open data portal front page, as of early	
	2021. Copyright City of Melbourne, used with permission	40
Fig. 3.5	The City of Greater Geelong's Data Exchange website front	
	page, as of early 2021. (Source: https://www.	
	geelongdataexchange.com.au/pages/home/)	42
Fig. 5.1	Usage patterns for OGD. By the authors, adapted and	
	developed from Lněnička, Machova, Volejníková, et al. (2021)	74