



**An Roinn Caiteachais
Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe**
Department of Public
Expenditure and Reform

Appointment to the Open Data Governance Board (ODGB)

Closing Date: 17.00 on 5th October 2018

Entity: Open Data Governance Board (ODGB)

Board Meeting Location: Board meetings will be primarily held in Dublin

Number of Vacancies: Three members

Remuneration: Members of this Board will not be remunerated. Travel and subsistence allowances may be claimed in accordance with Government guidelines.

Time Requirements: A minimum of 4 meetings per annum

1. Background

The Department of Public Expenditure and Reform leads policy development and implementation activities in respect of Ireland's Open Data Initiative across the wider Public Service. The Open Data initiative is a key part of the Public Service's reform activities. It is closely aligned with the Public Service Reform Programme, the eGovernment Strategy, the Civil Service Renewal Plan and the proposed National Data Infrastructure. It is also a core element of Ireland's Open Government Partnership (OGP) national Action Plan.

A national [Open Data Strategy for 2017-2022](#) was published in July 2017. The vision is for Ireland to be a leader in Open Data and to create an environment where the economic, social and democratic benefits of Open Data are recognised and realised. Implementation of the Strategy aims to create an environment where by opening up government data, new opportunities for research, innovation, transparency, engagement and greater efficiency are delivered and realised by public bodies, businesses, researchers and citizens. Two core objectives of the Strategy are the publication of high value government data in open format, making it publicly available and freely reusable; and engaging with a broad community of stakeholders to promote its social and economic benefits.

A national Open Data portal, data.gov.ie, is in place since 2015 and provides access to official government data in open format. The portal currently links to over 8,600 datasets from some 100 publishers.

2. The Open Data Governance Board

To ensure that the Open Data Initiative is underpinned by strong governance structures, an Open Data Governance Board (ODGB) was established in 2015. The Board provides strategic leadership and governance in line with international best practice in the area of Open Data. It is tasked with considering how to improve the capacity and capability of public bodies in implementing Open Data, and considering opportunities to maximise the value of public sector data and information for long-term economic, social and democratic benefits. The Board is also overseeing implementation of the national Open Data Strategy 2017-2022 in conjunction with the Department of Public Expenditure & Reform.

The ODGB is supported by a Secretariat located in the Government Reform Unit in the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform.

Current membership of the Board is available [here](#). Minutes of previous Board meetings are available on the national [portal](#). The Minister for Public Expenditure & Reform is now re-constituting the Board and is seeking expressions of interest for three members of the Board who can make a substantive contribution to the delivery of the Board's objectives.

3. Person Specification

The Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform invites applications from suitably qualified candidates for membership of the ODGB.

Persons expressing an interest in these roles must be able to demonstrate that they meet the following **essential** criteria:

- Have extensive experience at senior leadership levels, particularly in the areas of change management and innovation, strategic planning and reporting.
- Extensive involvement with relevant networks across one or more of the following areas:
 - Business and enterprise,
 - Civil society organisations,
 - Academia and research,
- Have significant experience of working in a data intensive environment.
- Have a strong commitment to the development of Open Data in Ireland

The Minister, in considering people for appointment, may appoint more than one suitable candidate from any of the abovementioned areas of expertise.

4. Term of Appointment

5. Appointments to the Board will be for an initial period of 2 years with an option to extend the term of engagement at the Minister's discretion:

- The membership of any member of the Board may be terminated by the Minister at any time, on the basis of reasons to be stated by the Minister.
- A member of the Board may resign his or her membership of the Board by notice in writing sent or given to the Minister, and the resignation shall take effect on the day on which the Minister receives the notice.
- Members of the Board shall, subject to the provisions of this Schedule, hold office upon such terms and conditions as the Minister may, from time to time determine.
- The roles and responsibilities of Board Members of public bodies are described in the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (revised in 2016) which is available on the website of the Department of Public Expenditure & Reform ([Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies](#)).
- A board member shall cease to be a member of the board if he or she is nominated as a member of Seanad Éireann, is elected as a member of either House of the Oireachtas, elected to the European Parliament, or becomes a member of a local authority.

5. Submitting your expression of interest

Your submission should be made by email to opendata@per.gov.ie together with your **Curriculum Vitae** and a **cover letter** outlining, with reference to criteria at 3 above, the specific expertise you would bring to the role of a member.

IMPORTANT NOTE

Please take care when submitting your expression of interest. As the Assessment Panel will generally make its recommendation(s) based on consideration of the documentation which you submit, it is most important that you ensure your Cover Letter (and supporting CV) clearly specifies how your particular background and experience meets the requirements of the Board position(s) specified in this booklet.

This will help ensure that the Assessment Panel is as informed as possible as to the basis for your candidature and why you believe you are a person who could potentially be appointed to the ODGB.

6. Assessment Process

An Assessment Panel (the “Panel”) will be convened by the Department of Public Expenditure & Reform to consider and assess the expressions of interest. The Panel will:

- review and discuss the expressions of interest received against the specific appointment criteria for the role;
- assess potential appointees further, once they meet the specified appointment criteria, by undertaking any or all of the following steps:
 - Consideration of the written applications; and/or
 - Meeting/conference call; and/or
 - Referee checks;
 - Any other selection method deemed appropriate.
- compile a list of people deemed suitable for appointment which will then be sent forward for consideration by the Minister.

If you have any questions regarding the application process please email opendata@per.gov.ie.

7. Data Protection

Further information on the Department of Public Expenditure data protection policy is available [here](#)