

Better Data for Britain: Securing Data Partnerships to Deliver Better Statistics for Better Decisions.

Data Partnerships – Mobility Data

About the Office for National Statistics (ONS)

ONS is the UK's largest independent producer of official statistics and is the National Statistical Institute for the UK. Formally, it is the executive office of the UK Statistics Authority, a non-Ministerial Department established by the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007. It is responsible for collecting and publishing statistics related to the economy, population, and society at national, regional and local levels. ONS plays a leading role in national and international good practice in the production of official statistics.

Introduction

ONS is looking to identify and engage with industry partners to help bring third party data and/or expertise to access better and more relevant data sources. This will help improve the quality and usefulness of official statistics about our population, society, and economy that decision makers, businesses and citizens so urgently need.

ONS is seeking to develop partnerships with organisations that hold information about mobility data in the UK. We are looking to use the data for a) understanding population domestic travel by travel purposes (specifically commuting trips) and transport modes (highly desirable to distinguish at least car, bus/tram, rail/metro, walk, cycle) at fine geographical scale (MSOA and ideally LSOA) and high frequent temporal dimension (Weekly, monthly, etc.) and b) understanding international migration (foreign travelers travel) and travel and tourism (UK Population Travel).

We would be looking to use the data for validation and calibrating journey to work and Travel and Tourism models through fusing mobility data with other surveys and admin data sources and make the resulting anonymized and aggregated series publicly available on our website as part of a regular release. As well as publishing aggregate information, we are also interested to understand if organisations would support the sharing of microdata across government departments.

The data will need to include as a minimum:

- Journey counts by travel purpose and mode.
- Population counts at homeplace, workplace, visit and where available other purposes.
- trip duration and trip distance.
- Low-level geography classification (MSOA at a minimum, or preferably lower level such as LSOA or information to be able to derive this in-house).

- Travel purpose (should distinguish at least home to work, home from work, and ideally home to school, home from school, and any further individual travel purposes that could reliably be derived, while distinguishing each of to home; from home; or non-home-based, for such purposes). Mode of transport (highly desirable to distinguish at least car, bus/tram, rail/metro, walk, cycle) - some aggregation of mode can be acceptable if there are methodology limitations for inference.
- Delivery Frequency (Weekly, Monthly).
- Temporal resolution (Daily, Weekend Period, Weekday Period, Weekly, Monthly, Annual).
- Historic data (specifically over the Census 2021 month) to enable quality assurance.
- Meta Data and detailed methodology report with a mechanism for quality assurance.

Additional requirements may include:

- Demographic data such as age, gender, Standard occupation classifications, Standard industrial classifications, etc.
- Change of usual home location and workplace on monthly basis.
- Lower Temporal resolution: Hourly or Periods of the day: 00:00-07:00; 07:00-09:59; 10:00-15:59; 16:00-18:59; 19:00-23:59.
- Journey count for UK population international trips [destination (country and preferably lower level- city) and origin (Local Authority).
- Journey count for Foreign Travelers travel by departure and arrival zones, travel duration, and purpose.
- Demographic classification for international travel.

Types of support may include:

- Supply of bulk data extracts.
- Supply of relevant metadata and/or documentation on how data enters the system and how it is processed.
- Collaboration on quality assurance of data generation algorithms and inference from data.
- Provision of aggregated data as defined by ONS.

The types of organisations that should consider contacting us are:

- Telecoms companies and Mobility app companies.

Contract Information

It is expected the initial contract duration will be for a two-year period, with a total budget of up to circa. £3,000,000.00.

If the initial program of work proves successful there is the potential for ongoing funding and subsequent future contract(s);

with further potential for partnering, implementation and funding by other Government departments.

What Can a Partnership with ONS Offer?

An opportunity to work with a world-class statistics organisation, to create better and more timely statistics to be used by all for the benefit of the public good; with future potential to work with other Government departments.

Expression of Interest

If your organisation would like to express an initial interest and engage in preliminary discussions with the ONS please contact either Gareth.Niblett@ONS.gov.uk or Clare.Jones@ONS.gov.uk.

Please include details of your organisation name, contact details, a brief description of your organisations primary activity and information of the type of data and support available.

Your organization will then be invited to an engagement session where ONS would also like to discuss:

- The sharing of disaggregated data with a defined list of other government departments for research purposes.
- Requirements surrounding data storage. *For example, ONS owner servers, versus, cloud servers?*
- Additional variables/products which could be made available for research purposes.

Future Tenders Registration

Any future tenders will be conducted through ONS's 'DPS Data SaSiE'. If you would like to sign up for this in readiness, please register on ONS's e-tendering portal - <https://intendhost.co.uk/ons/aspx/Home> and search for the DPS title on the e-tendering portal and 'opt in'. This will take you through to the associated documentation for your organisation to apply.

Additional Information

This Exercise is NOT a pre-qualification or selection exercise and is NOT part of any pre-qualification or selection process that may apply to any future potential procurement. It is intended to act as an awareness and information gathering exercise offering an opportunity for suppliers to advise the extent to which they potentially can provide some or all the services that ONS may require, to help ONS with its future intentions.