

Digital Economy Act – List of data-sharing public bodies in Wales

Consultation response form

Your name: Andrew White

Organisation The Consumer Council for Water

Responses should be returned by **5 February 2018** to

Digital Economy Act Consultation
Office of the Chief Digital Officer
Welsh Government
Cathays Park
CF10 3NQ

or completed electronically and sent to: digitalanddatatblog@gov.wales

Category of respondent	Devolved public body	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Local government	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Health organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Educational organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>
	UK Government department	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Private/Commercial Organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Third Sector organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Individual	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other (please specify) Welsh Government Sponsored Body	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Questions

Debt and Fraud Powers

Question 1 - Are these the right individuals and devolved organisations to be given data sharing powers for fraud or debt?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Comments

We have no comments to make on this aspect of the consultation.

Question 2 - Are there additional individuals or devolved organisations that could be included? Please specify whether they would need to be included for the purposes of preventing fraud, or identifying and managing debt.

Comments

We have no comments to make on this aspect of the consultation.

The Multiple Disadvantages Objective

Question 3 – Are these the right individuals and devolved organisations to support the multiple disadvantages objective?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Comments

We have no comments to make on this aspect of the consultation.

Question 4 – Are there additional individuals or devolved organisations that could be included for the multiple disadvantages objective?

Comments

We have no comments to make on this aspect of the consultation.

The Television Retuning Objective

Question 5 – Are these the right individuals and devolved organisations to support the television retuning objective?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Comments

We have no comments to make on this aspect of the consultation.

Question 6 – Are there additional individuals or devolved organisations that could be included for the television retuning objective?

Comments

We have no comments to make on this aspect of the consultation.

The Fuel Poverty Objective

Question 7 – Are these the right individuals and devolved organisations to support the fuel poverty objective?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Comments

We have no comments to make on this aspect of the consultation.

Question 8 – Are there additional individuals or devolved organisations that could be included for the fuel poverty objective?

Comments

We have no comments to make on this aspect of the consultation.

The Water Poverty Objective

Question 9 – Are these the right individuals and devolved organisations to support the water poverty objective?

Agree	✓	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Comments

We agree that the individuals and organisation listed in the consultation, together with those outlined in schedule 9 of the Digital Economy Act, are appropriate to support the water poverty objective.

Question 10 – Are there additional individuals or devolved organisations that could be included for the water poverty objective?

Comments

We believe the list of individuals and organisations is comprehensive and do not wish to propose any additions.

Wales-only objectives

Question 11 – Are there other objectives that the Welsh Government could develop in future, and what are the current barriers for not sharing data for those purposes?

Comments

We have no comments to make on this aspect of the consultation.

Question 12 – Which individuals or organisations could be given powers to share data to support those objectives?

Comments

We have no comments to make on this aspect of the consultation.

Health bodies

Question 13 – Do you agree that allowing health related bodies in Wales to share data to support specific public service objectives would be of benefit? Please explain your answer.

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Comments

We have no comments to make on this aspect of the consultation.

Question 14 – What safeguards would need to be in place for data held by health bodies to be shared in Wales?

Comments

We have no comments to make on this aspect of the consultation.

Question 15 – What type of objectives could health bodies be able to support?

Comments

We have no comments to make on this aspect of the consultation.

Welsh Language

Question 16 – How else do you think this legislation could be used to promote or support the Welsh Language?

Comments

We have no comments to make on this aspect of the consultation.

Other comments

Question 17 – We have asked a number of questions, but are there any other issues you would like to raise about data-sharing between public bodies, or about any of the areas covered in the consultation paper?

Comments

The Consumer Council for Water (CCWater) is the statutory consumer organisation representing water and sewerage consumers in England and Wales. We have a committee for Wales and four regional committees in England. Our Response to the consultation focuses specifically on the water poverty objective.

Our research indicates that around 3 million households in England and Wales do not consider their water charges to be affordable. Since the introduction of water company social tariffs we have been able to help the Industry achieve significant progress in identifying and getting help to those customers who need it. We believe that the sharing of data can help companies better identify those customers who might need this support, enabling assistance to be delivered to an even wider group. As such, subject to appropriate privacy safeguards, we are supportive of the implementation of the data sharing powers provided by the Digital Economy Act.

Co-operation between all relevant stakeholders will be essential in delivering this objective and we would welcome the prompt establishment of a working group to drive this work forward.

Responses to consultations are likely to be made public, on the internet or in a report. If you would prefer your response to remain anonymous, please tick here: