

Gaia-X and the UK's National Data Strategy

The National Data Strategy framework



Mission One of our National Data Strategy

The National Data Strategy

We want to make the UK the world's number one data destination: an open, welcoming and secure beacon for companies from all over the world to share data, grow their businesses and innovate.

We will deliver this through 5 key missions

1

Unlocking the **value of data across the economy**

Access to data drives the products and services we use - whether that's an app that uses Open Banking data to help people manage their spending, or a business figuring out what kind of tourist spends the most money when they visit the UK. We want data to get to those organisations that can use it in the most productive way.

2

Securing a **pro-growth and trusted data regime**

EU exit has given the UK control of its data right laws. This is an opportunity to create a new, ambitious pro-growth, and innovation-friendly data protection regime that underpins the trustworthy use of data.

3

Transforming the **government's use of data** to drive efficiency and improve public services

We will transform how government manages, uses and shares data to deliver trusted public services and better policy-making, making life better for people across the UK.

4

Ensuring the **security and resilience** of the **infrastructure** on which data relies

Data infrastructure underpins our economy, delivery of public services and our daily lives. Its security is critical to the UK's security, our economic integrity and our citizen's safety. Government must understand the scale and nature of risks and ensure these are being fully managed, in the national interest, by the private sector operators of this infrastructure.

5

Championing the **international flow of data**

The flow of data across borders underpins global business operations, supports supply chains and enables trade. Outside Europe, the UK will lead international partners to promote the safe and secure exchange of data across borders and remove unjustified barriers to the flow of data.

Mission 1 Policy Framework was published in November 2021

The screenshot shows the GOV.UK website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'GOV.UK', 'Topics', and 'Government activity' menus. Below this is a breadcrumb trail: 'Home > Coronavirus (COVID-19) | Latest updates and guidance > National Data Strategy Mission 1 Policy Framework: Unlocking the value of data across the economy'. The main content area features a blue header with the text 'Policy paper National Data Strategy Mission 1 Policy Framework: Unlocking the value of data across the economy' and 'Published 24 November 2021'. To the left of the main content is a 'Contents' sidebar with links for 'Executive summary', 'Context', 'Our objectives', 'The evidence', 'How we will intervene', 'Principles for intervention', 'Priority areas for action', 'Our priorities', and 'How we will evaluate success'. The main text area begins with an 'Executive summary' section, followed by a 'Context' section.

Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport

Policy paper
National Data Strategy Mission 1 Policy Framework: Unlocking the value of data across the economy
Published 24 November 2021

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Executive summary

This document provides a framework for government action to set the correct conditions to make private and third sector data more usable, accessible and available across the UK's economy while protecting people's data rights and private enterprises' intellectual property, in line with Mission 1 of the [National Data Strategy](#).

The framework is divided into two main components:

- 1 Principles for intervention:** A set of principles that government will use to guide interventions seeking to unlock data across the economy. To ensure we employ the most effective approach to deliver public benefit.
- 2 Priority areas for action:** Building on the above, we have identified specific areas for action that, in combination, can address some of the key barriers to data sharing for public benefit.

These priorities will shape our ongoing work in this area, led and coordinated by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), working across government and with key organisations to support delivery.

We continue to collate information to refine and target these approaches, which are based on our current understanding of the data landscape. Specific interventions will therefore evolve as our evidence base increases.

Context

Data is the great opportunity of our time, offering the possibility of a more informed and better connected future. Data needs to be at the heart of our efforts to address key challenges and achieve government priorities, including: [meeting our net zero targets](#).

- 6 **barriers to data sharing** in the private and third sectors
- 6 potential **levers for government intervention** & principles for application
- 7 initial **priority areas for action** that correspond to the levers and address different barriers

Research to inform the Policy Framework identified six barriers to data sharing

The Frontier Economics access to data report identifies **interrelated high-level issues** which create unnecessary barriers to helpful data sharing. This research was conducted in Winter 2020-21, and published in March 2021.



Lack of incentive to share data

Data providers may not be sufficiently incentivised to share or provide access to their data, e.g. because they would incur costs/effort that they are not able to recoup from those that benefit



Regulatory and legal risks

Perceived or actual risks of breaching data protection, intellectual property rights, or regulatory requirements may also provide a deterrent to sharing.



Lack of knowledge

Data providers may lack sufficient knowledge of the potential uses of their data, while data users lack sufficient knowledge about what data could be made available.



Costs of data access/sharing

Costs may be prohibitive because of a lack of common foundations, infrastructure and technologies that are needed for data sharing to be cost effective.



Commercial, reputational, ethical risks

Perceived or actual risk of losing competitive advantage, or suffering reputation damage from data uses that may breach others' trust may deter data sharing.



Lack of public trust

There is a lack of public trust about how their personal data is used, be it by the public or private sector.

We identified seven initial priority areas for action in order to tackle these barriers

