

From: Owen Boswarva <owen.boswarva@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, 16 Apr 2013 06:05:50 +0100
Subject: FOI request and RPSIR request: Green Belt data and related correspondence
To: foirequests@communities.gsi.gov.uk

Hello,

I appear not to have received a reply to my e-mail of 18 February 2013, appended below.

In this second e-mail I am submitting a further request for information, as well as a request for licences to re-use some of that information.

Please provide the following information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act and the Environmental Information Regulations:

1. A copy of any correspondence between DCLG, the Telegraph newspaper and/or Ordnance Survey in connection with the provision of the Green Belt dataset made available for download from the following online Telegraph article:

Interactive map: England's green belt (Telegraph, 28/11/2013)
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/greenpolitics/planning/9708387/Interactive-map-Englands-green-belt.html>

2. A copy of the GreenBelt_licence.doc file, referred to in the metadata of the Telegraph article dataset but not included in the download.

3. A copy of any licence provided to the Telegraph newspaper by either DCLG or Ordnance Survey in connection with the provision, distribution or re-use of the same dataset.

4. A copy of the latest updated version of the same dataset. Comparison with Green Belt statistics published by DCLG indicates that the Telegraph article version represents the Green Belt map as at 31 March 2011. I therefore anticipate that DCLG holds an equivalent version representing the Green Belt map as at 31 March 2012.

I am also requesting, in accordance with the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations, licences to re-use both the Telegraph article dataset and any updated version DCLG may provide to me. I would like to re-use the data for both personal and commercial purposes. Please confirm whether the data is available for re-use and if so on what terms.

Thank you for your attention to these requests.

Best regards,

Owen Boswarva

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----- previous e-mail of 18 February 2013 -----

From: Owen Boswarva <owen.boswarva@gmail.com>
Date: 18 February 2013 19:29
Subject: request for information on licensing and re-use of DCLG's Green Belt for England spatial dataset
To: foirequests@communities.gsi.gov.uk

Hello,

I would appreciate some information about licensing and re-use of the Green Belt for England spatial dataset that DCLG made available to the public in November via this article published on the Telegraph website:

Interactive map: England's green belt (Telegraph, 28/11/2013)
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/greenpolitics/planning/9708387/Interactive-map-Englands-green-belt.html>

The Telegraph article says that DCLG "released the data for the 2011 green belt to the Telegraph, and it is being made available here to view, explore, share and download", and includes a download link for the dataset in a 29 MB zip file.

The same data has subsequently been made available for download from other websites such as the London Datastore and ShareGeo Open, and has been implemented as a layer on the RTPI's Map for England. However I note the dataset does not seem to be available for download directly from either DCLG's Open Data Communities website or from Data.gov.uk.

My questions are as follows:

1. Is this Green Belt for England spatial dataset available for re-use under an open data licence, e.g. the Open Government Licence (OGL)? If not, what are the available licensing terms for re-use of this data?
2. If this dataset may be re-used under licence, what is the correct attribution statement? In other words, does the dataset contain any third-party intellectual property? I assume that at minimum the dataset will contain some Ordnance Survey derived data.
3. Does the dataset represent the extent of green belt coverage in England at any particular date? According to metadata included in the download the dataset title is "GreenBelt2011". However the metadata also includes this description: "Green Belt geographical extents provided by 197 English Local Authorities for the 2007 year end. Some Local Authorities were able to provide better quality data for their 2007 greenbelt boundaries. This dataset was therefore updated at the start of 2009, but represents greenbelt coverage in 2007." Of course, the metadata itself may be out of date. DCLG published 2010-11 green belt statistics for England on 15 April 2011 and 2011-12 green belt statistics for England on 30 November 2012. Does this spatial dataset reflect the position in either of those statistical releases?

Thank you for your attention to this request for information.

Best regards,

Owen Boswarva

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