

Webinar: Open Government Data – lessons from the COVID pandemic

24th June 2020 4pm UK time (BST)

Join our webinar addressing the challenges and opportunities of open government and health data. The current global pandemic has highlighted the public's need for information to better understand the health emergency. For professionals to do that well through data visualisation, they need access to data on every aspect of the disease and governments' dealing with it. Our speakers will speak of their experience in engaging with the Scottish Government, seeing more data released, and subsequently working with that.

The webinar will consist of a series of short talks from experts in open data and its application in this context, with a chance to ask questions.

Talks

“The reason for open data, and the struggle to get it” - Ian Watt

“Data journalism - working with Open Data” - Lesley-Anne Kelly

“Challenges and rewards of using Open Data for epidemiology” - Stella Mazeri

Biographies

Ian Watt is a Data Scientist and CEO and co-founder of the charity Code The City which operates Scotland's only node of the Open Data Institute - ODI Aberdeen. He has been a prominent advocate for Open Data for almost ten years. Until his retirement from local government in 2017 he led the open data programme for Scotland's seven cities. He recently became the civic society lead for Commitment Three (covering open data and data literacy) for the Open Government Scotland plan. He is on the steering group of Stirling University's Data Commons research project, and is a non-executive director of Democracy Club, a UK CIC who use open data to improve democratic engagement.

Lesley-Anne is the Data editor at DCT Media, mainly working within the Politics team for The Courier and Press and Journal newspapers. She is based in Dundee after moving there from Glasgow to study Biology at university and never quite leaving. She is a very vocal advocate for open data and transparency within Government and this has never been more important than throughout this current crisis.

Stella Mazeri is a veterinary epidemiologist, working at the Roslin Institute, University of Edinburgh. Her research focuses on zoonotic disease epidemiology and has worked on a number of field projects in various settings especially in India, Sub-Saharan Africa and the UK. Stella has recently developed an interest in data visualisation and presentation of epidemic data for the general audience.

The webinar will be delivered on Microsoft Teams, and you can connect to this on any browser via this link [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#) [Learn more about Teams](#) | [Meeting options](#)

Please inform us if you do not wish to hear about future webinars. If you have a question about the webinar or that you would like to pose to the speakers please email IIMAWebinars@uclan.ac.uk. Please note that this will be a recorded event, and therefore by attending it is deemed that you have given permission for any contribution to be recorded.