

# Rail Delivery Group



November 2024

## Rail Data Marketplace

Welcome to your round up of news related to the Rail Data Marketplace (RDM). If at any time you wish to unsubscribe, email us at [raildatamarketplace@raildeliverygroup.com](mailto:raildatamarketplace@raildeliverygroup.com).

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### RDM highlights

It is hard to believe that RDM is celebrating its first birthday. Just one year ago, RDM was launch by the then Rail Minister, Huw Merriman at the RIA conference. One year later and RDM has close to 500 organisations and over 1,000 individuals who are registered on the platform. It makes available 150 data products, many of which are exclusively published on RDM. Perhaps the real number to celebrate is the 4,000 data sharing agreements that RDM has created, without any further legal involvement since the agreement was first written. While that might be bad news for the legal profession, it is allowing an ease and speed of access to data which is unique and paves the way for the industry to realise the potential of the data which we hold to support innovation and improve the passenger experience. The entire industry should be proud of the success of RDM as it was truly a collaborative effort; the Department for Transport, Rail Supply Group, Network Rail, RSSB, GBRTT, RIA as well as colleagues across RDG and the Train Operating Companies have all contributed. Our thanks to everyone.

In this newsletter, that whole-industry theme is reinforced with contributions from Network Rail who describe how they make decisions about data sharing as well as a couple of SMEs who have just published data products which demonstrate that innovation is truly alive in our industry.

RDM continues to evolve and this month has been no exception. Recognising the importance of understanding the provenance of data, RSSB commissioned a report titled 'Identifying metadata to support confident use of data in a data-driven railway' which was published in December of last year. RDM has now implemented the recommendations of that report in full, allowing publishers to use the metadata framework described in the report to input information into RDM and allowing consumers to benefit from a greater understanding of each data product.

This really puts our industry at the forefront of data sharing practice across the UK and globally. We now have widespread adoption by both public and private sector organisations of a single secure platform which uses a common taxonomy, a consistent metadata structure, and a quick and robust mechanism for access to both open and chargeable data. As we approach the 200th anniversary of the railway, RDM is another demonstration of our industry's continued commitment to using technology to connect people and places.

We hope that you enjoy this round up of news and for those attending the RIA conference, please come and say hello, you can find us on stand XX

### Data Thistle API: UK wide live events data

Data Thistle hosts the UK's most comprehensive set of live events information - think gigs, theatre, festivals, sport, days out and more. This data has two primary uses to the rail industry. The first key use is inspiring travel. Advertising live events drives increased leisure travel through a range of platforms, including websites, apps, RTI platforms, social media and automated CRM feeds. The second use is business intelligence: live events provide a window into future demand, which rail businesses use to predict high passenger volumes. This allows them to make better commercial decisions around yield management, to set better levels of staffing operationally, and to plan engineering works to avoid high demand periods up to two years in advance.

More details can be found here: [Data Thistle API: UK wide live events data \(paid\) - Rail Data Marketplace](#)

### Subscribe to community updates

Stay informed about community activity by enabling email notifications about your posts or data products. To subscribe, navigate to Community under the main Manage menu. In the Notifications tab, select Yes to start receiving email updates.

You'll receive both platform notifications and emails about new activity on your data products, data wants, or community topics. As a publisher, we recommend subscribing to make sure you're alerted to any questions or comments on your products that may need a response.

[Read our guide for more details about how the community works](#)

### Case Study

#### [How traintaxi is helping to facilitate the shift from car to train](#)

The industry wants and needs to get more people back onto trains. Part of that challenge is to facilitate modal switching from car to rail. The difficulty is in bridging those extra few miles to and back from destinations, but given reliable information about taxis, many travellers can be persuaded to travel by train rather than by road.

### NWR Stations Accessibility Assets

Network Rail have re-published the NWR Stations Accessibility Assets API which is now available to all registered users on the Rail Data Marketplace.

This data product provides data accessibility statements/information against station assets and facilities. It is worth noting that the data will be updated on a regular basis. Here is the link to the product for further information:

[NWR Stations Accessibility Assets - Rail Data Marketplace](#)

In addition, many TOCs have also published accessibility data products for their rolling stock and some have also provided more accessibility information for their specific stations.

### Industry challenges

In the 'Community' section of the RDM we have a section called 'Industry challenges'.

The current challenge is: 'Develop predictive analytics for train disruptions'.

Providing reliable travel information is critical to support customers on their railway journeys. This is especially difficult during disruption as it is hard to predict when normal service will resume following an incident.

Connected Leaders has an industry-wide challenge on how to process and extract insights from existing railway data to help customers to make the best choices about how to continue their journeys and answer the most tricky of passenger questions in the event of a disruption on the network: "how long is this likely to take?" .

More details can be found here: [Calculate fix time and service recovery time - Rail Data Marketplace](#)

If you are a TOC or other party who would like to post an industry challenge on the platform please contact: [raildatamarketplace@raildeliverygroup.com](mailto:raildatamarketplace@raildeliverygroup.com)

### Product engagement

If you've consumed data on RDM, you can leave feedback on the Reviews tab of your subscribed data products. Rate the product based on how well it met your expectations, and optionally leave a comment. Providing feedback only takes a minute and can help publishers to improve their products. It can give other users valuable insights to help them choose the right data products for their needs.

As a publisher, you can respond directly to comments and monitor user engagement with your products. Go to Product engagement under the main Manage menu to view or download a summary of user ratings, product reviews and posts about your products.

### New Data Products on the RDM

Organisations	Data Product
Greater Anglia	Energy and Environmental Data
GTR	GTR Passenger Loading Data
South eastern	Southeastern Train lengths and capacity
South eastern	Southeastern Onboard daily passenger count
Network Rail	NWR Real Time Public Performance Measure (RTPM)
Network Rail	NWR Train Movements
Network Rail	NWR Train Describer (TD)
Network Rail	NWR Very Short-Term Planning (VSTP)
Network Rail	NWR Temporary Speed Restrictions (TSR)
Rail Delivery Group	Darwin Timetable Files
Rail Delivery Group	Darwin Real Time Information
Network Rail	NWR Track Model
Network Rail	NWR Stations Accessibility Assets (now open to all RDM registered users)

Thank you for reading the latest edition of the Rail Data Marketplace newsletter. To read our previous newsletters please click [here](#). If at any time you wish to unsubscribe, email us at [raildatamarketplace@raildeliverygroup.com](mailto:raildatamarketplace@raildeliverygroup.com).