

DATA PRESENTATION

Case Study on an issue resolved by the Connemara Programme

2016

Key Points

- The data sets have to be presented using three different presentation forms
- These serve a general web user, a subject specific map based demand and a raw data demand for external use.
- Market standard technologies are used across all presentation forms to ensure compatibility with existing and future user devices.
- Graphical elements (Photos etc) are presently being codified for online open data access.
- All the data and graphical elements of the Programme will eventually be vested in a neutral Connemara Open Data trust.

The Issue

Many and varied data and information sets have been collected by the Programme. In order to be accessible and useful a presentation methodology had to be arrived at which provided a comprehensive, flexible and easy to use front end and interfaces.

The Approach

The data sets had to be available for simple web display, subject specific map display and extract. To achieve this three mechanisms for presentation were adopted.

1) Web Interface: Using HTML 5 a multi device (web and mobile) front end was built. This provides the user with options to select a place, category and sub category. The data is then loaded to a map on the screen (a list view is also available). Each individual record and their detailed information plus graphics is presented in an information box. Users can use a Next and Previous navigation convention to access records.

2) Specific Maps: Subject specific maps are available. These are auto-generated when the map URL is accessed. The individual records are displayed in the same manner as on the web and site.

3) Extracts: Data sets related to specific places, sectors, categories, sub categories can be extracted and provided in multiple different formats for developers or researchers. An open data API is planned to be introduced.

The Result

The approach above provides the flexibility to deal with multiple presentation demands in a simple and cost effective manner. The underlying technologies are market standard and are therefore accessible to any online device that can support such standards.

The system has the potential to produce over 27,000 different maps, thousands of individual web sites and hundreds of specific data sets for researchers, developers or other area development groups / organisations