



UK Information Policy: opening government up to citizens

Dr Barbara Buckley Owen
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How much do you 0%

trust your government

to give truthful and

accurate information?

100%





Daily News

**MPs'
expenses
scandal!**



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A Perfect Storm

Low trust

Technological
development

Social



tation
ess

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Photo: White House



Digital Agenda for Europe



Photo: World Economic Forum



“One way to create trust is to increase transparency in government.”

Neelie Kroes

Barbara
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Current players in information policy

CabinetOffice

(Rt Hon Francis Maude MP)

Public Sector Transparency Board
Chief Information Officer Council
Directgov
Government Digital Service
UK Statistics Authority

 **Ministry of JUSTICE**

(Lord McNally)

The National Archives
Office of Public Sector Information/Advisory
Panel on Public Sector Information
Information Commissioner



Department for **Education**

BIS

Department for Business
Innovation & Skills

DWP Department for
Work and Pensions



DH Department
of Health

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defra Department for Environment
Food and Rural Affairs

21st century framework
of
information policies

- * *Content*
- * *Skills*
- * *Accessibility*
- * *Regulation*
- * *Co-ordination*

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Heroes and Heroines

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Photo: Community Organisers

Hero Number #1

William Perrin

Civil servant >
community activist

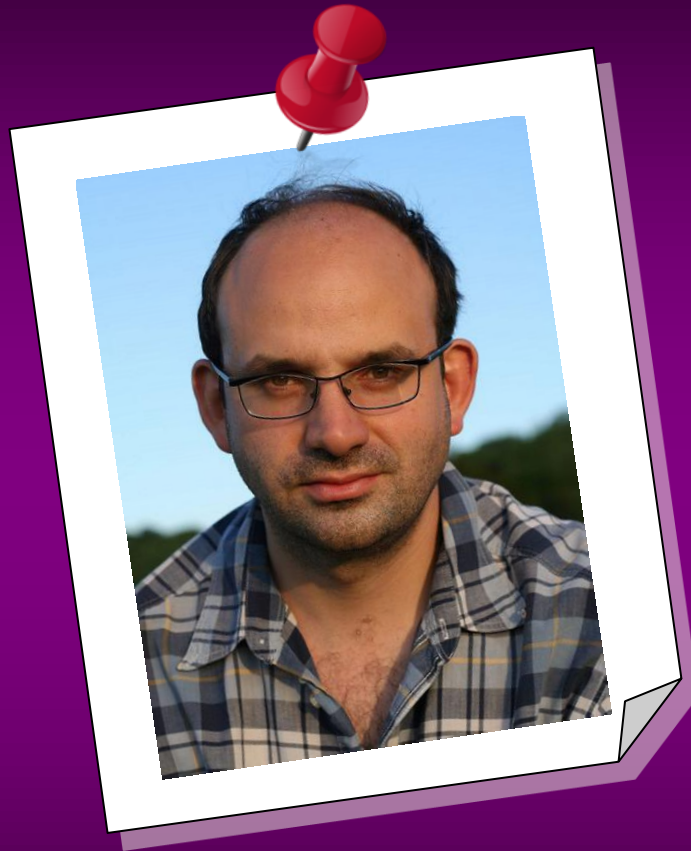


Photo: MySociety

Hero Number #2

Tom
Steinberg
MySociety

Civil servant >
masher & activist



Hero Number #3

Tom
Watson MP

Minister for
Digital Engagement

Photo: Oxford Internet Institute

Power of Information Task Force

Terms of Reference

“To advise and assist the government on delivering benefit to the public from new developments in digital media and the use of citizen- and state-generated information in the UK, including those identified in the Power of Information Review.”

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Photo: Government Digital Service

Hero Number #4

Richard
Allan

Chairman, Power of
Information Taskforce



Photo: Civil Service Live Network

Heroine Number #1

Carol Tullo

Director, Information
Policy & Services,
The National Archives –
public sector information
guru



Photo: ResearchSpace

Hero Number #5

John
Sheridan

Leading on linked data &
WWW Consortium



Hero Number #6



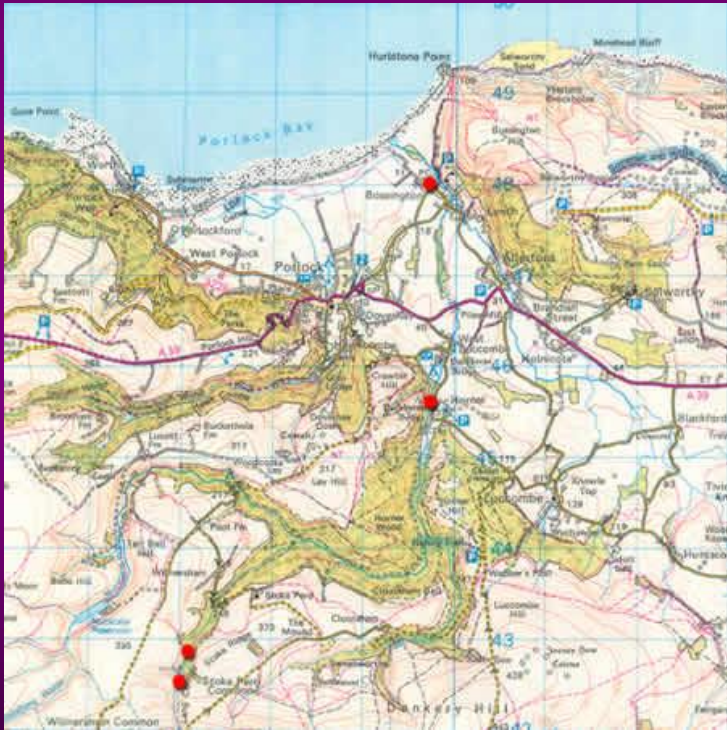
Photo: Wikipedia: Enrique Dans

Hero Number #6

Tim
Berners-Lee

Most influential
open data advocate

Making money for government: the Trading Funds



Map: Ordnance Survey

Geospatial information
underpins much public
sector information



Photo: Wikipedia: Enrique Dans

Hero Number #6

Tim Berners-Lee



Photo: Wikipedia: ΠΑΣΟΚ

Daily News

Election 2010

Main parties
pushing
transparency

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Photo: Emmanuel College, Cambridge

Hero Number #7

Rufus Pollock

Cambridge University &
Open Knowledge
Foundation



Photo: Cabinet Office

Heroine Number #2

Martha
Lane Fox

Digital champion



Photo: Wikimedia Foundation:
Jimmy Wales

Hero Number #8

Jimmy Wales

Founder of Wikipedia –
political engagement



Open Knowledge
Foundation

Open Government conference

Lawyers

Academics

Community
activists

Developers

Civil servants

Human rights
groups

Library & information professionals...?

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Influence of the information profession



Arts & Humanities
Research Council



RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE UK INFORMATION PROFESSION

1. Investigate and develop new skills needed in government
2. Develop wider skills relevant to government eg policy-making
3. Public libraries to engage more with information literacy
4. Co-ordinate campaigning/lobbying to government
5. Encourage leadership and policy champions
6. Articulate the value of the information profession

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start
small

think
big

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