



The Royal Statistical Society and Social Research Association

Open data

The 2012 Cathie Marsh Memorial Lecture 13 November 2012

5:00pm, at the Royal Statistical Society
Tea/coffee available from 4.30

Increasing amounts of public sector information are being made available to the public as a result of the UK government's open data initiative. It is hoped that wide availability of such open data will promote transparency of government, improve policy-making, and boost business innovation. This meeting will focus on statistics and data, considering what is available and what could be made available. Progress requires an effort on the part of producers - data needs to be in easily accessible formats and free of restriction on use and redistribution. At the same time, delivery of open data also raises some concerns and challenges, such as potential threat to privacy and the need for sound advice on the content and analysis of the data, not to mention resourcing and technology issues.

The speakers will discuss the benefits and risks of open data, from the points of view of both providers and users of such data.

Speakers:

Iain Bell, Office for National Statistics

Simon Briscoe

Vanessa Cuthill, Economic and Social Research Council

Chair:

John Pullinger, the House of Commons Librarian and President elect of the RSS

There will be a drinks reception after the meeting.

The meeting is free but places are limited. To register for the meeting, please email events@rss.org.uk. For a map and directions, see www.rss.org.uk/findus. For further information, contact Jouni Kuha at j.kuha@lse.ac.uk.