

Local government open data incentive scheme

Schema compliance – planning applications

The schema for planning applications data is described in detail at <http://schemas.opendata.esd.org.uk/PlanningApplications>.

The schema is a tabular representation of a schema devised by Hampshire County Council in setting up a linked open data planning register.

It defines the columns expected for data delivered in comma separated values (CSV) format.

Some of the rules of the schema are specified as a [JSON Table Schema](#) which can be used in conjunction with your CSV data to perform your own validation using the Open Data Institute's CSV Lint tool at <http://csvlint.io>. Note that there are additional rules (such as ones applying to pairs of columns) that are not tested by CSV Lint.

1. File format

1.1 The CSV format

The [CSV Lint About page](#) describes the basic rules for good CSV.

- The first row is a header row that contains the names of some columns.
- The rest of the rows are data rows that contain a number of fields.
- Line endings use CRLF (Windows line endings) and the column names and fields are separated by commas.
- If a field contains a comma, a line ending or a double quote then the field is escaped by wrapping it in double quotes. Double quote marks will be doubled up in any field escaped in the manner described.

1.2 Multiple values within a field

Where a single row contains more than one value for a field, values should be separated by the pipe (|) character.

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2. Types of field

2.1 Boolean

True, Yes, False or No. These are not case sensitive.

2.2 Date

A date in the format dd/mm/yyyy. If time is included, this will be ignored.

2.3 Encoded list

Encoded lists are fixed sets of labels from which you select one or more values to populate a field.

For example, the 'Decision' field must be null or take one of the following values.

- Approve
- Refuse
- Split
- Withdrawn
- Prior not required
- Prior granted
- Prior refused
- Prior refused permission required

Capitalisation does not have to match, but any other variances from the encoded list specified will result in your data not being valid.

2.4 Number

A number, which may or may not have decimal places, except where stated otherwise. Note that zero is considered as a value that is distinguished from a null (or absent) value.

2.5 String

A single line of alphabetic and/or numeric characters.

2.6 Text

One or more lines of text. Multiple lines can be delimited by carriage return and line feed characters. If these characters are used, the entire field value must be enclosed in quotes.

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2.7 URI

Uniform resource identifier. URIs are always followed by a string field giving the label of the applicable URI.

URIs are machine readable codes that precisely identify things, like local authorities, wards, or types of service. URIs commonly used in UK local government can be looked up from this page: <http://uris.opendata.esd.org.uk>.

The schema for planning applications references URIs for the following values.

- Publisher – who publishes the data.
- Organisation – to whom the data belongs.
- ServiceType – the type of planning application.
- Classification – development type from the list of Q codes published by the Department of Communities and Local Government.
- GeoArea – ward or natural neighbourhood.

Councils are asked to provide relevant URIs or text labels from which URIs can be derived.

If you specify a URI, you can use any local label you choose. If you *only* provide a label, we need to be able to convert that to a URI.

For example, the URI for a 'Listed building consent' application is <http://id.esd.org.uk/service/514>.

To comply with the schema you need to define the ServiceTypeLabel as 'Listed building consent' and can optionally give the URI as <http://id.esd.org.uk/service/514>.

If you give no URI and use a different label locally (such as 'LIS') you can continue to use that label in your data if you register it as corresponding with the official URI. To do this, [sign in](#) and add a mapping for your council from the [URIs page](#). Note that you can only use your local label for one URI within the applicable URI set.

The ESD team will add common alternative labels for anyone to use instead of official URI labels. [Ask them](#) if you are unsure of how to apply your own labels.

People consuming data are given a web method ([see here](#)) to allow labels to be converted to URIs so data from all councils uses a single set of references.

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3. Cardinality

Cardinality gives the number of values that may be present in a field for one row. Cardinality will be one of the following.

- 0..1 – zero or one values.
- 0..∞ – any number of values.
- 0..8 – any number of values to a maximum of eight.
- 1 – one and only one value.
- 1..∞.- at least one value.

If the field allows zero values, a null value is accepted. Null is represented by an empty field and NOT by the string “null” or “N/A”. Any field with a cardinality of 0..1, 0..∞ or 0..8 is therefore optional and can be left blank.

4. Fields

The fields required by the ‘Planning’ schema are as given below. Many fields are optional, but included here so that they have the same name across all councils that want to use them.

Column number	Column name	Type	Cardinality	Notes on column
1	ExtractDate	Date	1	The date that the data was last extracted from its source database.
2	PublisherURI	URI	0..1	URI from http://opendatacommunities.org of the publishing organisation.
3	PublisherLabel	String	1	Label of the above URI.
4	OrganisationURI	URI	0..1	URI from http://opendatacommunities.org of the planning authority.
5	OrganisationLabel	String	0..1	Label of the above URI. Null denotes same as the publishing organisation.
6	CaseReference	String	1	Reference given to an application on submission. Must be unique within the planning authority.
7	CaseURL	URL	1	URL to Web Page giving information about the application. Should be present because of council duty to publish.
8	CaseDate	Date	0..1	Date on which a valid application was received (even if the validity check was later). This is the date from which the target decision date is set.
9	ServiceTypeURI	URI	0..1	One of the following. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://id.esd.org.uk/service/1082 – Advertisement control • http://id.esd.org.uk/service/487 – Full planning applications • http://id.esd.org.uk/service/512 – Conservation area planning • http://id.esd.org.uk/service/1736 – Conservation area tree works notification • http://id.esd.org.uk/service/1734 – Discharge of planning conditions

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://id.esd.org.uk/service/1738 – Environmental Impact Assessment screening • http://id.esd.org.uk/service/1712 – Lawful Development Certificate existing use • http://id.esd.org.uk/service/1732 – Lawful Development Certificate proposed use • http://id.esd.org.uk/service/514 – Listed building consent • http://id.esd.org.uk/service/1730 – Outline planning consent • http://id.esd.org.uk/service/1740 – Planning minor material amendments • http://id.esd.org.uk/service/1739 – Planning non-material amendments • http://id.esd.org.uk/service/1737 – Planning pre-application advice • http://id.esd.org.uk/service/1731 – Planning reserved matters • http://id.esd.org.uk/service/1733 – Prior notification of development • http://id.esd.org.uk/service/1735 – Removal/variation of planning conditions • http://id.esd.org.uk/service/485 – Residential planning applications • http://id.esd.org.uk/service/508 – Tree preservation orders <p>All planning application types that normally appear in the council's public register should be included.</p>
10	ServiceTypeLabel	String	1	Label of the above URI.
11	ClassificationURI	URI	0..∞	<p>Any number of the following.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6001 – Q1 Major dwellings • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6002 – Q2 Major offices – R and D – light industry • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6003 – Q3 Major general industry – storage – warehousing • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6004 – Q4 Major retail and service • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6005 – Q5 Major traveller caravan pitches • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6006 – Q6 Major all other major developments • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6007 – Q13 Minor dwellings • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6008 – Q14 Minor Offices – R and D – light industry • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6009 – Q15 Minor general industry – storage – warehousing • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6010 – Q16 Minor retail and service • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6011 – Q17 Minor traveller caravan pitches • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6012 – Q18 Minor all other minor developments • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6013 – Q20 Other change of use • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6014 – Q21 Other householder developments • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6015 – Q22 Other advertisements • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6016 – Q23 Other listed building consents (alter-extend) • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6017 – Q24 Other listed building consents (demolish)

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6018 – Q25 Other relevant demolition in conservation area • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6031 – Q26 Certificates of Lawful Development • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6032 – Q27 Notifications • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6019 – Q30 Trees • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6020 – Q31 Prior approvals (forestry, ag, telecoms) • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6021 – Q32 Prior approvals (householder, schools, office) • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6022 – Q33 High hedges • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6024 – Q41 Oil and gas (CPS 10–12) • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6025 – Q42 Waste (CPS 30–43) • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6026 – Q43 County other (CPS 50) • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6027 – Q44 Prior approvals (minerals) • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6028 – Q45 Prior approvals (sewage) • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6029 – Q50 EIA scoping • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6030 – Q51 EIA screening • http://opendatacommunities.org/def/concept/planning/application/6000/6023 – Q60 Minerals (CPS 1–9 and 13–22)
12	ClassificationLabel	String	0..∞	Label of the above URI. Might be null at start of an application's life or where an application is not classified.
13	CaseText	Text	1	Text from the applicant on the proposal.
14	LocationText	Text	1	The location of the application as described by the applicant. Will have new lines.
15	DecisionTargetDate	Date	0..1	The date the application should be determined by. Optional because not relevant once an application is complete.
16	Status	Encoded List	0..1	<p>Status can be one of the following.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live – in the process of being decided • Withdrawn • Decided • Appeal – in the process of being decided via a non-determination appeal • Called in – in the process of being considered by the Secretary of State • Referred to SoS – in the process of being considered by the Secretary of State • Invalid – requires something to happen to it before it can be decided • Not ours – belong to other planning authorities • Registered – received but not yet been processed and validated <p>This is the status at the extracted date.</p>
17	CoordinateReference System	Encoded List	0..1	<p>Values, if specified, can be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WGS84 (see http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/WGS84) – version of latitude and longitude. This is the default considered to apply if no value is given; or • OSGB36 (see http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ordnance_Survey_National_Grid) –

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				version of northing and easting.
18	GeoX	Number	0..1	Longitude or east grid reference for centroid of application boundary. See notes against GeoPointLicencingURL
19	GeoY	Number	0..1	Latitude or north grid reference for centroid of application boundary. See notes against GeoPointLicencingURL
20	GeoPointLicencingURL	URL	0..1	URL of any page that describes any licencing restrictions on using the northing and easting and UPRN values. Where GeoX and GeoY fields are empty, this field should point to a page that gives access to a licenced dataset with GeoX and GeoY data.
21	DecisionDate	Date	0..1	The date on which the decision was made by the authority on the application. Different from target decision date.
22	Decision	Encoded List	0..1	The decision of the planning authority on the application. Decision can be one of the following. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve • Refuse • Split • Withdrawn • Prior not required – prior approval not required • Prior granted – prior approval required and granted • Prior refused – prior approval required and refused • Prior refused permission required – prior approval refused because planning permission required
23	DecisionType	Encoded List	0..1	To indicate how the decision will be (or was) made. Types are as follows. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee • Delegated • Development order • Secretary of State
24	DecisionNoticeDate	Date	0..1	Date from which the decision notice period is calculated.
25	AppealRef	Text	0..1	Comes from another body and so may not be known.
26	AppealDecisionDate	Date	0..1	The date of the decision from the appeal process. Should only be present if the status indicates an appeal.
27	AppealDecision	Encoded List	0..1	The decision of an appeal. Should only be present if the status indicates an appeal. AppealDecision can be one of the following. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dismissed • Enforcement notice modified • Upheld • Withdrawn Must not overwrite council's original decision.
28	GeoAreaURI	URI	0..∞	A predefined spatial area that the application is contained in. URIs for official geographies (e.g. wards) must come from http://statistics.data.gov.uk and for unofficial geographies from http://neighbourhoods.esd.org.uk
29	GeoAreaLabel	String	0..∞	Label of the above URI.
30	GroundArea	Number	0..1	The ground area of the boundary in square metres.
31	UPRN	String	0..1	Unique Property Reference Number. Reference to the land or property which is the subject of the application. The GeoPointLicencingURL should advise any conditions attached to use.
32	Agent	String	0..1	Name of the agent submitting the application.

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33	PublicConsultationStartDate	Date	0..1	The date from which the public can make representations about the application.
34	PublicConsultationEndDate	Date	0..1	The date up to which the public can make representations about the application.
35	ResponsesFor	Number	0..1	The number of representations received during the public consultation period which were supportive. Must be an integer.
36	ResponsesAgainst	Number	0..1	The number of representations received during the public consultation period which were unsupportive. Must be an integer.

5. Row uniqueness

Rows are uniquely identified by CaseReference, which must be unique within a planning authority (ie Organisation).

6. Validations performed

Validations are performed in the technical review of submissions under the local open data incentive scheme.

Checks applied by the CSV Lint utility with the [JSON CSV schema](#) are:

- required fields are populated;
- maximum and minimum field lengths enforced;
- patterns match defined regular expressions (including URLs and email addresses);
- values from encoded lists are valid;
- URLs are correctly defined; and
- correct data types apply (e.g. dates in date field, numbers in numeric field).

In addition, ESD will automatically check:

- labels for URIs map to URIs (in general or via local text added by councils);
- URIs exist within appropriate URI sets and match labels specified;
- in separated lists of URIs all are of valid format;
- dates are in the specific format and valid;

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- the GeoX field is populated where the GeoY field is populated and vice versa;
- AppealRef, AppealDecisionDate, AppealDecision must only be present if status is set as 'Appeal';
- PublicConsultationEndDate (if present) must be after PublicConsultationStartDate (if present);
and
- CaseReference is unique within the organisation.

ESD will perform brief manual checks on the data content to check that values appear sensible.

7. Sample data

A sample of compliant CSV data provided by Hampshire County Council is here: <http://schemas.opendata.esd.org.uk/PlanningApplications/example-planning-applications.csv>

8. Note for DataShare users

A DataShare definition file for planning application data is [provided here](#). DataShare users can create a new dataset definition by importing this definition file. The definition will automatically impose the following rules.

- Required fields are populated.
- Maximum and minimum values enforced.
- Correct stub used for URI fields.
- Correct data type (e.g. dates in date field, numbers in numeric field).

9. Data openness and licencing

UPRNs are subject to Public Sector Mapping Agreement licencing, as are Northings and Eastings if they are derived from Ordnance Survey maps. Please, follow the guidance for end user licences on: <http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/business-and-government/help-and-support/public-sector/guidance/licences.html>. UPRNs and Northings and Eastings derived from Ordnance Survey maps for public toilets fall under the INSPIRE regulation for administration and government

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services. This data can be published under the INSPIRE end user licence which permits the recipient use of the data for any personal or non-commercial use and places the responsibility for the appropriate use of the data on the End User under deemed acceptance. If you use such data, the GeoReferencingURL should reference licencing as described at <http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/business-and-government/public-sector/mapping-agreements/inspire-licence.html>.

In addition, please, provide any further evidence about restricted access control or exemption requests in the comments box.

10. Getting more help

Our [help page](#) gives answers to common questions. The Knowledge Hub's [Local Open Data Community](#) includes a [forum](#) where the scheme is discussed. You need to register separately to participate in discussion. If your email address does not belong to a public sector organisation, email knowledgehub@capacitygrid.com to request access.

If the above don't address your query, email us at support@esd.org.uk.

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