

Professor Andrew Bradbury
New Forest District Council
Appletree Court
Beaulieu Road
Lyndhurst
SO43 7PA

30 June 2014

Dear Prof. Bradbury

I believe you met Graham Wilson a couple of weeks ago and thought I would write to you to confirm what he told you regarding the change in the Agency's position on licencing its data. On 4 June we issued a public statement:

"We recently announced the permanent access to live flood warnings, flood alerts and river levels as Open Data. We are now expanding that commitment to include publishing as much of our data as possible, including flood data, as Open Data. This means that over time more of our data will be made available for free to developers, technology companies and individuals.

In order to help our transition to Open Data we are setting up a user group to advise us on which data it is most important to concentrate on making Open. This group is to be made up of external parties with an interest in our data, our current data customers and those with an Open Data background, along with input from Defra and ourselves.

If you are interested in joining this group email data.info@environment-agency.gov.uk and we will be in touch to outline the selection process further.

When the user group has identified candidate Open datasets we will work with Defra and Cabinet Office on a case-by-case basis to identify resources to make them Open."

Apologies for the delay in writing to you, but I was on leave when the announcement was made. We will follow the mechanism outlined in the statement for all our data sets, including the LIDAR and other data in which you have an interest, however until such time as the mechanism for each dataset has been concluded, our current licensing policies and processes remain in place.

If you do wish to be considered for inclusion on the user group can I suggest that you express that interest soon as the intention is to set up that group in the next few weeks.

Yours sincerely

Dr Kate Marks
Deputy Director – Mapping, Modelling and Data
Flood and Coastal Risk Management