Open Bibliographic Data

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http://discovery.ac.uk

Thursday, 6 October 2011

What is Discovery? – the one liner:
[Click to show]

discovery

an initiative to improve resource discovery by establishing a clear set of principles and practices for the publication and aggregation of **open, reusable, metadata**

http://discovery.ac.uk

What is Discovery? – the one liner:

"an initiative to improve resource discovery by establishing a clear set of principles and practices for the publication and aggregation of open, reusable, metadata"

RDTF – The 'Resource Discovery Task Force' – set up by JISC and RLUK (Research Libraries UK) to "discuss what needs to be provided to help people discover and access items from Higher Education Libraries, Museums and Archives throughout the UK." (http://rdtf.jiscinvolve.org/wp/2009/06/26/hello-world-2/)
Result was a 'Vision' document, which set out a strategy of useful data aggregations built on "open metadata about institutional collections"

What does 'open' mean?
Not a simple binary open/closed... but rather a continuum
Amount of friction...
Things that create friction:
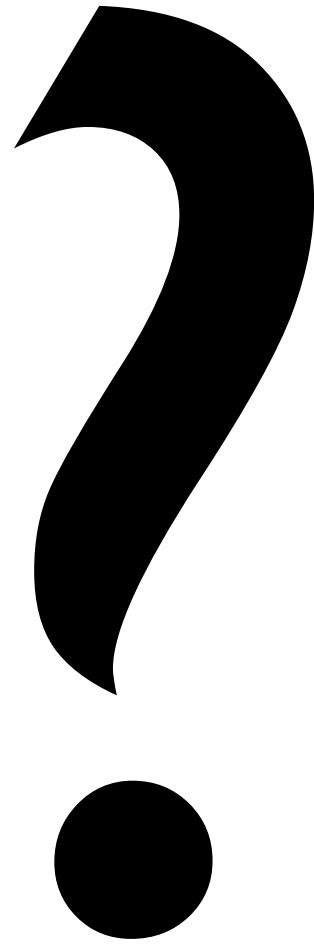Explicit restrictions
Uncertainty about possible restrictions
Unusual/Unfamiliar interfaces (Z39.50 anyone?)
Lack of information on data and where it is available

Formats – Paul Walk argues we need a 'richer understanding of openness' which encompasses not just permissive licensing but, more broadly, the ease with which data can be used, taking into consideration aspects such as format and access mechanisms
Access mechanisms

What is the outcome of 'open'?

Rufus Pollock said "The coolest thing to do with your data will be thought of by someone else" – but is this true?

Competitions and events to encourage exploitation suggest that skills and enthusiasm exist to innovate with open data:

    Discovery developer competition
    Europeana 'Hack day' – incredible outcomes

Might question if these would happen without 'priming' – manipulating the market

Cambridge iPhone app suggests even outside this there is appetite

Discovery will be doing more to demonstrate what can be built...

The Open Bibliographic Data Guide was commissioned by JISC – looks at the 'business case' for 'open' bibliographic data, focussing on library catalogue records. Approach taken was to describe things you might want to achieve, and then consider the implications of using open data in the process. Although a couple of the use cases are simply 'open for the sake of open' and in a sense these encompass all other cases.

Guide designed to be flexible & powerful online resource – can be viewed and used in multiple ways

Select Use Cases

- [ ] 1 – Publish data for unspecified use
- [ ] 2 – Publish open linked data for unspecified use
- [ ] 3 – Supply data for Physical Union
- [ ] 4 – Allow Physical Union Catalogue to publish data
- [ ] 5 – Expose data for federation into Virtual Union Catalogue
- [ ] 6 – Publish grey literature data
- [ ] 7 – Contribute data to Google Scholar
- [ ] 8 – Publish activity data
- [ ] 9 – Supply holdings data for Collection
- [ ] 10 – Expose holdings / availability data for Closest Copy location
- [ ] 11 – Share data for Collaborative Cataloguing
- [ ] 12 – Supply data for Crowd Sourced Cataloguing
- [ ] 13 – Supply data to be enhanced for own
- [ ] 14 – Publish data for LIS research
- [ ] 15 – Allow personal use of data for Reference Management
- [ ] 16 – Publish data for lightweight application development
- [ ] 17 – Allow commercial use of data in mobile application

17 'use cases'

Select Themes

- [ ] A – Use Case Description
- [ ] B – Motivation – The rationale
- [ ] C – Benefits – The business case
- [ ] D – Consequences
- [ ] E – Rights and Licensing
- [ ] F – Practicalities – Things to consider
- [ ] G – Costs

Each use case is split into sections or 'themes'

Each section of each use case has one or more focus

View Pathway One ⇒
Add value to core functions

START	04. Allow Physical Union Catalogue to Publish Data
PLUS	07. Contribute data to Google Scholar
PLUS	09. Supply holdings data for Collection Management
PLUS	11. Share data for Collaborative Cataloguing
ALSO	02. Publish open linked data for unspecified use

View Pathway Two ⇒
Embrace new user expectations

START	06. Publish grey literature data
PLUS	12. Supply data for Crowd Sourced Cataloguing
PLUS	13. Supply data to be enhanced for own use
PLUS	15. Allow personal use of data for Reference Management
PLUS	16. Publish data for lightweight application development
ALSO	02. Publish open linked data for unspecified use

View Pathway Three ⇒
Leverage patterns of user activity

START	08. Publish activity data
PLUS	09. Supply holdings data for Collection Management
PLUS	14. Publish data for LIS research
PLUS	16. Publish data for lightweight application development
ALSO	02. Publish open linked data for unspecified use

View Pathway Four ⇒
Optimise library services

START	09. Supply holdings data for Collection Management
PLUS	10. Expose holdings / availability data for Closest Copy location
ALSO	02. Publish open linked data for unspecified use

View Pathway Five ⇒
Empower users

START	15. Allow personal use of data for Reference Management
PLUS	08. Publish activity data
PLUS	12. Supply data for Crowd Sourced Cataloguing
PLUS	13. Supply data to be enhanced for own use
ALSO	02. Publish open linked data for unspecified use

View Pathway Six ⇒
Enable developers

START	17. Allow commercial use of data in mobile application
PLUS	10. Expose holdings / availability data for Closest Copy location
PLUS	16. Publish data for lightweight application development
ALSO	02. Publish open linked data for unspecified use

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... and some suggested pathways are available – which are groups of use cases

All views can be bookmarked – so you can build custom views of the guide to revisit...

e.g.

Guide also has examples listed – not exhaustive, but for each 'use case' try to demonstrate with at least one example

Open Metadata Principles

We recommend that institutions and agencies should proceed on the presumption that their metadata is by default made freely available for use and reuse, unless explicitly precluded by third party rights or licences.

http://discovery.ac.uk

Open Metadata Principles
a 'call to arms' – which advocates the use of CC0 or equivalent licenses
Also accompanied by more extensive advice on licensing intended to help institutions licence data appropriately
See also http://openbiblio.net/principles/
More to come – there will be technical guidelines which will start to address other aspects of 'open'

Thank you