

Data working for the city

BRISTOL JOURNEY TIMES DATA COMPETITION

Competition launch – 27 April 2017, 10:30-13:30,
Carpenter room, Richmond Building (University of Bristol Students' Union),
105 Queens Road, Bristol, BS8 1LN
Entries Deadline – 16 June 2017

Join our data competition to better understand traffic congestion in the city of Bristol and compete for a cash prize of £1000.

Traffic congestion is a significant problem in Bristol, substantially affecting quality of life and economic activity. While the increasing popularity of Bristol as a [place to live](#) and work is of course brilliant news, it is likely to put even more pressure on the city's already stretched transport networks.

What better way of understanding congestion than to use open data? Bristol City Council's Innovation Team and the University of Bristol's Jean Golding Institute jointly challenge you to combine data available from [Open Data Bristol](#) and external resources to answer questions such as:

- How weather patterns influence traffic load?
- Is there seasonal variation in journey times?
- If car journey times are bad, how does this affect alternative modes of transport?
- Is traffic bad at specific locations at specific times of the day?
- Can congestion data link with sentiment mapping?
- How do large city events / festivals affect congestion?

These are just examples of questions - all valuable insights into traffic congestion using open data are welcome (see judging criteria below for further information).

Data

Central to this data challenge is the historic journey times dataset, which is available through open data bristol: <https://opendata.bristol.gov.uk/Mobility/Historic-journey-times/jdq4-bmr7>

This dataset contains car journey times between a number of locations in the City of Bristol, providing historical data back to 2014 and extending to the present updating every 10 minutes.

Suggested other sources of data are the [Bristol API](#) and [Google's distance matrix API](#), but contestants are free to use any other open data sources that will aid them in the challenge.

Competition rules

- ❖ The competition will open on the 27th April 2017 (see launch event).
- ❖ The competition is open to all individuals over the age of 18 at the time of entry.
- ❖ Teams will need to sign up to the competition either by emailing ask-jgi@bristol.ac.uk or by attending the launch event. Teams can sign up at any point during the competition.
- ❖ The Jean Golding Institute and Bristol City Council have the rights to publicly disseminate any entries (but contestants will be appropriately credited as the creators of any content).
- ❖ Teams can have up to five members and must include at least one member of staff and/or student from the University of Bristol.
- ❖ All entries must use the Bristol City Council 'Historic Journey Times' data in their entry in some way.
- ❖ The teams that wish to showcase their solutions in the future will need to refer to the competition as follows: '*This work was undertaken as part of a data challenge organised by*

the Jean Golding Institute for Data-Intensive Research at the University of Bristol and Bristol City Council's Innovation Team'.

- ❖ The winning teams will be invited to attend the prize ceremony at the Watershed First Friday on 7th July 2017 and are expected to attend.

Submission and Judging criteria

- ❖ Entries will need to be submitted by the 16th June 2017 to ask-jgi@bristol.ac.uk, either by sending all relevant materials or by providing a link to an online repository.
- ❖ Entries can take any shape or form, but contestants are expected to submit both a presentation of the results (e.g. a data visualisation, a dashboard, a brief report) as well as the code to generate the outcome (which should be available under an appropriate open source licence).

Entries will be judged on the following:

- ❖ Potential value of the insight gained towards the better understanding of congestion in Bristol.
- ❖ Innovativeness of the work.
- ❖ The extent to which the presentation of the entry is clear and engaging.

Launch event

The competition will be launched with a meeting on the **27th April 2017 10:30-13:30, Carpenter Room, Richmond Building** (105 Queens Road, Bristol, BS8 1LN). At this meeting the data will be introduced and members of the JGI and BCC will be available to answer any questions surrounding the competition. The meeting is also an opportunity to meet other contestants and form teams should you wish to do so and to explore the datasets. You are welcome to bring your laptop, but please ensure you have sufficient battery charge as we cannot guarantee access to a power outlet.

The meeting is not a requirement for participating in the competition nor need competitors be present for the whole 3 hours.

Lunch will be available but you will need to confirm your attendance and dietary requirements. [Book a place.](#)

Evaluation

The entries will be judged by a panel convened by the Jean Golding Institute and Bristol City Council.

Prizes

The winner of the competition will receive £1,000, with two runners up each receiving £250. The prizes will be sponsored by the University of Bristol. The Jean Golding Institute will discuss with the winning team how to potentially continue supporting the development of their solutions.

Conditions

The winning teams will need to be available to showcase their entries on the 7th July 2017 from 17:00 at the Watershed First Friday Event. Participants may be also asked to take part in other public engagement events if available.

Timelines

Competition opens:	27 April 2017
Entries deadline:	16 June 2017
Winning team announcement:	7 July 2017