

## Public Sector News

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*Directgov; legislation update; electoral registers; open data in local government*

### Directgov

Directgov is the latest of the Government's attempts to provide citizen information in a joined-up way. It has made good progress while based with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), and one of the changes the new Coalition Government has made is to move it back to the Cabinet Office.

### Legislation

[www.legislation.gov.uk](http://www.legislation.gov.uk) is now the home for the Statute Law Database and legislation previously carried by the Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI).

OPSI's website already gave access to legislation back to 1986, but this move joins it with the content of the Statute Law Database and means that most primary legislation is now available. No secondary legislation (e.g. Statutory Instruments) prior to 1988 is available.

There are some other limitations, so do check the FAQs or guidance to be sure you know what is included and what is consolidated legislation and what is as it was passed.

### Electoral Registers

The British Library holds the national collection of electoral registers and is in the process of arranging for the registers from 1832 to 1932 to be digitized, which will provide a useful resource for people tracing their family history.

## Open data

As mentioned before in this column the big push to make public sector data more freely available continues. Ways of using this data are being sort and my own County Council, Warwickshire has been encouraging the use of data to provide some wacky apps! See [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/opendata](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/opendata).

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