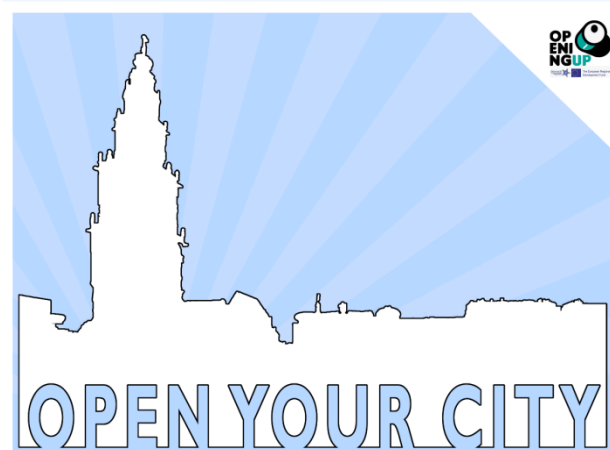


Open your city

By Daniël Bos, Ruchama Joël, Daniël Klaassen, Sybren Peereboom, Lene Blak Petersen

5 Students from Information Services investigated for the city of Groningen the possibilities for open data. What is the current situation, what information requests does the municipality receive, why could the municipality benefit from opening up their data and what would be the benefits for the other stakeholders?

They have looked at various best practices from Rotterdam and Amsterdam in the Netherlands and various ones from the United Kingdom. They interviewed eight different experts from these cities and governmental bodies.



The information that is most popular by citizens can to be categorized in 8 key words:

parking, marriage, waste, requests, work and benefits, money and taxes and public transport.

The ambition of the European Union to open up data is an important, external, driver for opening up data. Combining this with internal motives presents a true challenge to municipalities.

A whole series of obstacles was collected, ranging from technical issues with regards to the data formats, beliefs on open data from employees, citizens and SME's and training the proper people.

