



Belfast City Council

Climate Data Platform Prototype Engagement

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Agenda

- Introduction
- Engagement Overview
- Solution Overview
- Engagement Outcomes
- Q&A

Introduction to AWS

Investing in NI

- Since 2010 Amazon has invested over £95 million in Northern Ireland
- This investment led to the production of goods and services that contributed over an estimated £95 million to the region's GDP since 2010

Employment and skills support

- Created more than 100 full and part-time jobs

Supporting small businesses to grow and export

- Northern Ireland has over 1,000 SME selling partners
- Small business from NI selling on Amazon recorded over £40 million of export sales in 2022

In 2023, our teams in Northern Ireland have supported a wide range of organisations including Cancer Fund for Children and Foodstock Charity through donations and volunteering.



Working Backwards with BCC

- Supported the BCC team using the Amazon working backwards methodology
- Starting with the customer challenge and work backwards to understand how to solve the challenges
- Followed up with an engagement between BCC, AWS and the Arizona State University (CIC – Cloud Centre of Excellence)

BELFAST USING DATA TO MAKE EVERYONE A CLIMATE HERO
New climate data platform enables City to reach sustainability development goals

(Belfast, UK - October 15, 2023) Today, Belfast City Council launched BCD, the new Belfast Climate Data platform to monitor and drive progress towards the city's climate goals. BCD serves as the one source of truth for climate data, analytics and climate simulations. BCD supports community adoption through decision making and collaboration to catalyse climate efforts in the city. Belfast citizens are, for the first time, removing more carbon than they are emitting according to city metrics. BCD provides the insights needed to continue progress and reach zero emissions by 2030.]

Belfast has a range of climate goals including being committed to reaching net zero emissions. Measuring and understanding progress towards these goals has challenges around accuracy, completeness and timeliness of the data and analytics. The lack of one trusted source of data makes it hard for leaders and the public to make informed choices about their impacts on the climate. All of this leads to confusion and a lack of action.

BCD solves this challenge by combining a data hub with a suite of customised designed data analytics and visualisations that align to city climate priority initiatives. BCD makes it possible for users in and out of the city to share data through a collection tool. All climate data is included in a logged to a single source and includes additional metadata such as location and date-time. BCD also provides a simulation engine to allow users to model scenarios and see the impacts of changes over time. BCD is supported by auto-update functionality for data sets.

"I am delighted that Belfast is leading the way on the world stage by developing an innovative platform like BCD to measure the city's efforts to achieve net-zero," said Councillor Teresa Green, Chair of the Climate and City Resilience Committee at Belfast City Council. "With climate data at its heart, our residents and communities can get involved in delivering a sustainable and resilient Belfast."

BCD is an open-source, cloud based, software application users can access from any connected computer or smart device. The application is accessible without a login and includes a dashboard showing current progress towards city objectives and tabs to maps, data, research papers and training. Users can access raw data and build their own simulations or use a suite of stock reports and visualisations. Users can also register and get access to upload and share data and content. BCD has a facility to allow data producers to share data, but keep control.

"I never understood what climate change was or what it had to do with me. When the Council talked about the climate change action plan I thought it was another report that would just sit on a shelf and waste ratepayers money. When I saw the platform I was really surprised. I was able to see what the Council was doing in my postcode area." Joe Soap (50) a resident from East Belfast. "I knew solar panels and heat pumps were put in the leisure centre and this has reduced the energy costs which means I can get in cheaper. It's made me think about how I heat my own home and helped me understand climate change."

For more information, please visit Belfast Climate Data at bcd.gov.uk

Frequently Asked Question (FAQ)

Internal - Platform Operator/Manager

1. What is BCD and why is Belfast launching a climate data platform?
Belfast has set a goal to reach net zero by 2050. This is also the target for NI as set by the Climate Act 2022. Currently, there is no way to measure or monitor performance against this target. The platform enables this.
2. Who has overarching responsibility for the data platform?
 - a. Belfast City Council and partners through a MOU
3. How is data captured?
4. Is there a metric/standard/framework for data capture?

There are various reliable/adopted metrics for measuring carbon emissions depending on the sector/area that you are working in. For more guidance please contact X.

5. How do I integrate my systems/data into the platform?
 - a. Is the data platform API driven?
6. What if my data is has duplicates of other data products?

Does this mean how do I make sure I am not double counting my data? If so then answer would be - we will provide a section in the platform to tell us if your data has been reported elsewhere, and we will check this within the verification process.

7. How do I cleanse my data?
 - a. Could this be something like process of PowerBI?
8. How do I secure access to the data?
9. Will my data be protected from inappropriate access / eg. system access controls / IAM / permissions (least privilege)?
 - a. Do we need to pay for security
10. What format does my data need to be in to be able to work with the system?
 - a. CSV is common but I'm not techy so have no idea.
11. Can you process my data real time or batch? Both
12. Can we open source our data? (and make it publicly accessible)

Council already does this

13. How is the data anonymised?

Data controllers will make sure all GDPR guidelines are being adhered to during the verification process.

14. Once the data is inside the platform, who owns this?
 - a. Belfast City Council (data sharing agreements)
15. Is the platform compliant with laws and regulations? (eg. GDPR)

yes work with IGU on this



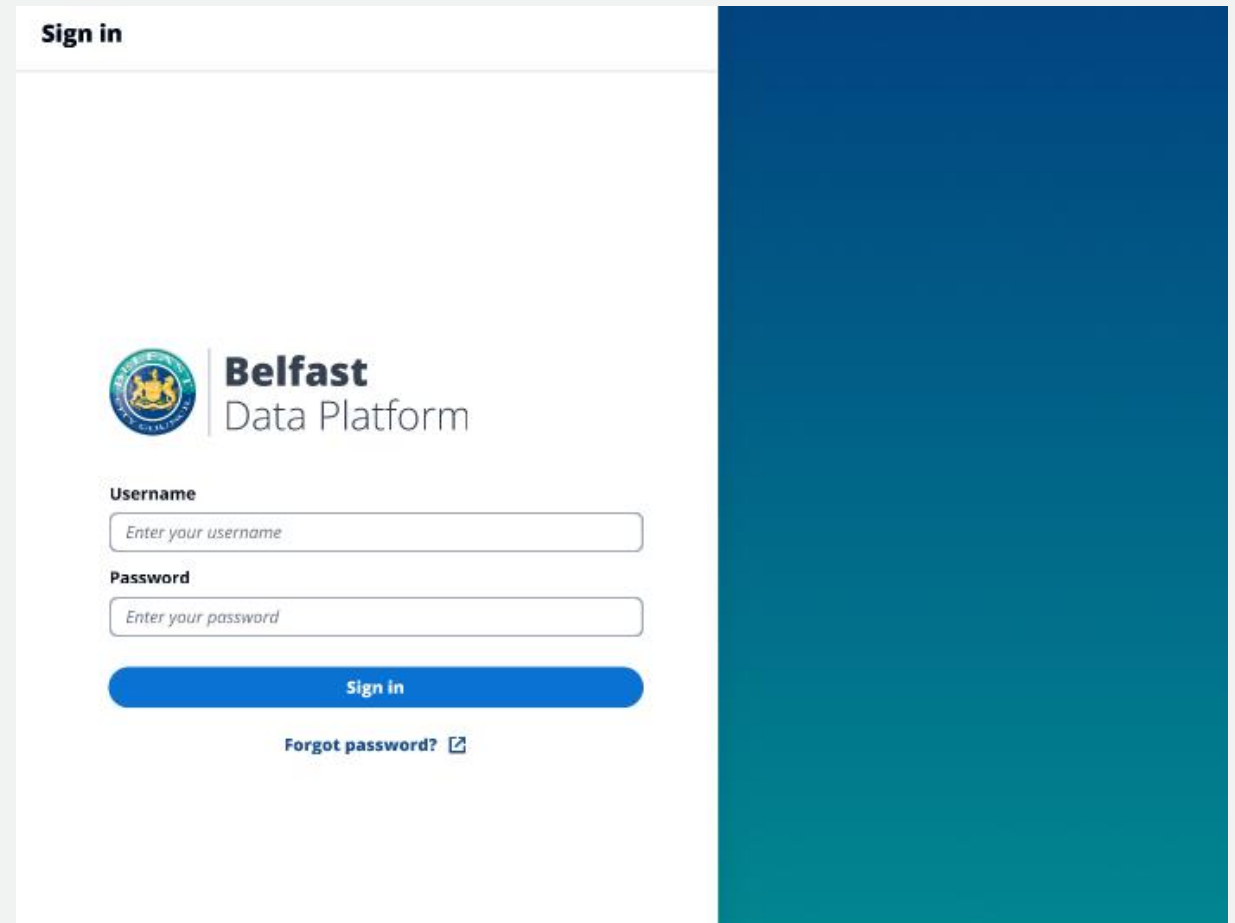
CIC Engagement




CIC Engagement

Overview

- 7 week engagement in collaboration with BCC, AWS and ASU.
- Agile Methodology to develop the prototype.
- Continuous feedback to improve the solution.
- Deliverable – Full working prototype




Sign in

 **Belfast**
Data Platform

Username

Password

Sign in

[Forgot password?](#) 

Prototype Demo



Q&A

