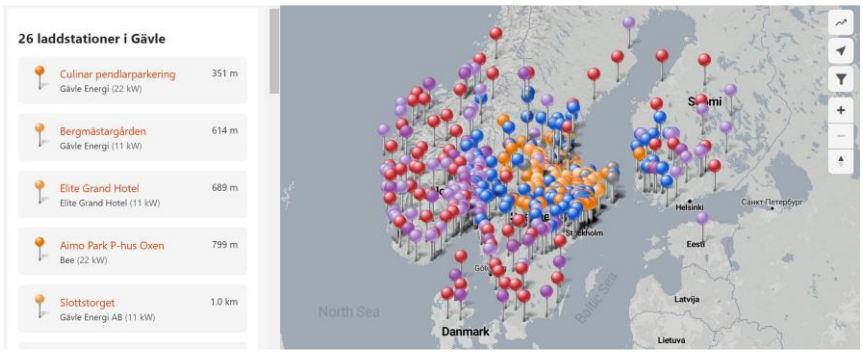
Good Practice #4 – Gävle municipality as a supplier of open data

Location of the organisation in charge:	*Country*	*Sweden*
	Region	*Gävleborg*
	City	*Gävle*
Main institution in charge:	*Municipality of Gävle*	

Good practice general information		
Geographical scope of the practice:	*Local*	
Location of the practice	Country	*Sweden*
	Region	*Gävleborg*
	City	*Gävle*

Practice image:	
Title of practice:	*[45/100 characters]* Gävle municipality as a supplier of open data

Good practice detailed information	
Short summary of the practice:	*[53/160 characters]* Continuous release of open data from the municipality
Detailed information on the practice:	*[1499/1000-1500 characters]* Open data is data that anyone can access, use and share – it becomes usable when made available in a common, machine-readable format (but complemented with other formats, too). The public sector produces large quantities of data from different kinds of sectors within its responsibility (e.g. demographic statistics, spatial data, economic information, maps, sensor measurements, income levels), but there is no joint register of all information a municipality handles. In the beginning of 2018, the Municipal Board of Gävle decided to set aside funds for financing the release of open data, with the first dataset launched at the end of the same year. This process is conducted in project form. Since June 2021, the project consists of two project managers and about 4-5 GIS developers. The project team works in stages and has reconciliations every three weeks where the group updates a Kanban board/planner in Microsoft Teams together. The project has previously mainly published geographic data but now seeks to identify potential datasets without a geographical connection. Publishing happens in several file formats: jason, shape and geopackage. The municipality collects its data sources in a directory service. The catalogue is also read and published in national directories and the EU catalogue for open data. The city uses Creative Commons CC0, which means that the data is free to use, disseminate and modify without restrictions – entrepreneurs and other actors are especially interested.

Resources needed:	*[227/200-300 characters]* HR: leader, coordinator, system architect, information architect, solutions architect, system developer (transforming data and creating formats/APIs), information/process specialists (i.e. people working with specific datasets)
Timescale (start/end date):	2018-ongoing
Evidence of success (results achieved):	*[495/300-500 characters]* Gävle is among the 5-6 first Swedish municipalities that have a continuous release of open data. Since 2018, they have released about 80 datasets. This was an eye-opener on how important handling information is and how they need to be more systematic with it. According to studies, growth in SMEs that are potential users of geographic information was 15% higher in countries with free open data. Research also shows a huge potential in savings for the public sector with impartial procurements.
Challenges encountered:	*[273/300 characters]* - It is prohibited by Swedish law to track who downloads the data (i.e. no control over how it spreads). - Lack of common standards, information models - Formats, specifications tend to be too complex or too ”simple”. - Lots of open data portals (with almost the same data)
Potential for learning or transfer:	*[627/500-1000 characters]* TIPS Start small: do not start with the most complex datasets. Pick your license (CC0 – creative common zero, No Rights Reserved). Set aside funds to identify, transform, publish and maintain data. Publishing open data must be a natural part of business and processes. STEPS 1. Pick a topic and identify datasets Identify data-owners, any legal and/or technical difficulties; create specifications on what parts of the dataset can be published as open data and classify them as such. 2. Transform the data through information and data modelling 3. Publish the data 4. Set up a process for maintenance (quality checks and updates)
Further information:	*Link to where further information on the good practice can be found* https://www.gavle.se/kommunens-service/kommun-och-politik/statistik-fakta-och-oppna-data/oppna-data/
Keywords:	*Select from existing keywords* (something similar to *big data, data analysis*)