

“Your Website is Your API”

1. Identify the data that you control

- By assigning URIs to resources, you enable other people to talk about them.
- URLs like this are really unhelpful

`http://wck2.companieshouse.gov.uk/b518b359b4abd4df0d6f7f129770b078/compdetails`

- We need URIs like this:

`http://www.companieshouse.gov.uk/id/company/{registeredNumber}`

2. Represent that data in a way that people can use

3. Expose the data to the wider world

Referencing legislation

- References to legislation usually use the short title:

*“NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the London Borough of Bexley, have made the above titled Traffic Orders on the 10th November 2008, under Sections 6, 45, 46, 49 and 51 and Part IV to Schedule 9 of the **Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**”*

*“The Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995 aims to end the discrimination that many disabled people face. This Act has been significantly extended, including by the **Disability Discrimination Act 2005**.”*

- They often refer to particular sections or subsections of a piece of legislation:

*“... The provision which the judge referred to in paragraph 81 of his judgement enables a cohabitee who has for at least two years immediately preceding death been living as the wife of the deceased to make a claim for provision under the Act. That is provided for in **section 1(1)(ba) and 1A(b) of the 1975 Act**...”*

URIs for legislation

- Complex:
 - Document, part, section, sub-section, paragraph
 - As enacted and revised (temporal variation)
 - Types (Acts, SIs, ASPs, SSIs, SRs)
 - Geographical extents
 - Status (prospective, in-force)
 - Languages (English, Welsh)
 - Formats (HTML, PDF)
 - Related documents (Explanatory Notes and Memoranda)
 - Correction slips

URIs for legislation

- A number based canonical URI to provide an explicit hierarchical scheme

`http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/{type}/{year}/{number}`

eg `http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/ukpga/2008/4`

`http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/{type}/{monarch}/{regnalYear}/{number}`

eg `http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/ukpga/Eliz2/3-4/19`

- When “resolution” is supported, a query based URI for identifying the canonical URI from its short title

eg `http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id?title=Criminal%20Justice%20and%20Immigration%20Act%202008`

URIs for legislation

- **Extent**

`/ {country}`

eg `http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/ukpga/2008/4/england`

- **Division**

`/ {divisionName} / {number}`

eg `http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/ukpga/1975/63/section/1/1/ba`

- **Version**

`/ {version}`

eg

`http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/ukpga/1975/63/section/1`

`http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/ukpga/1975/63/section/1/enacted`

`http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/ukpga/1975/63/prospective`

`http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/ukpga/1975/63/section/1/1991-02-01`