

Civic Reporting MSc Project



Aims and Objectives



- ❖ Outline the brief I was given by the council.
- ❖ The Evaluation Process – looking at what they already had and looking at Open311.
- ❖ The solution decided upon.
- ❖ Issues
- ❖ Lessons Learned

The brief I was given by the council



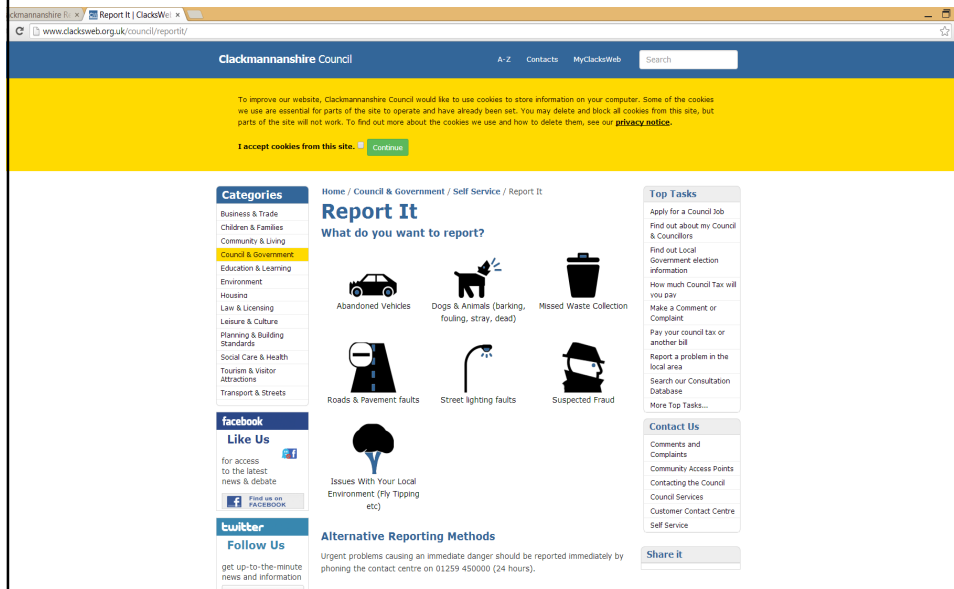
Clackmannanshire Council
www.clacksweb.org.uk

- ❖ To improve their “report it” functionality so that the users’ experience with the council was more transparent and open.
- ❖ They requested that I investigated the possibility of using a technology they had heard about regarding Open Data called Open311.

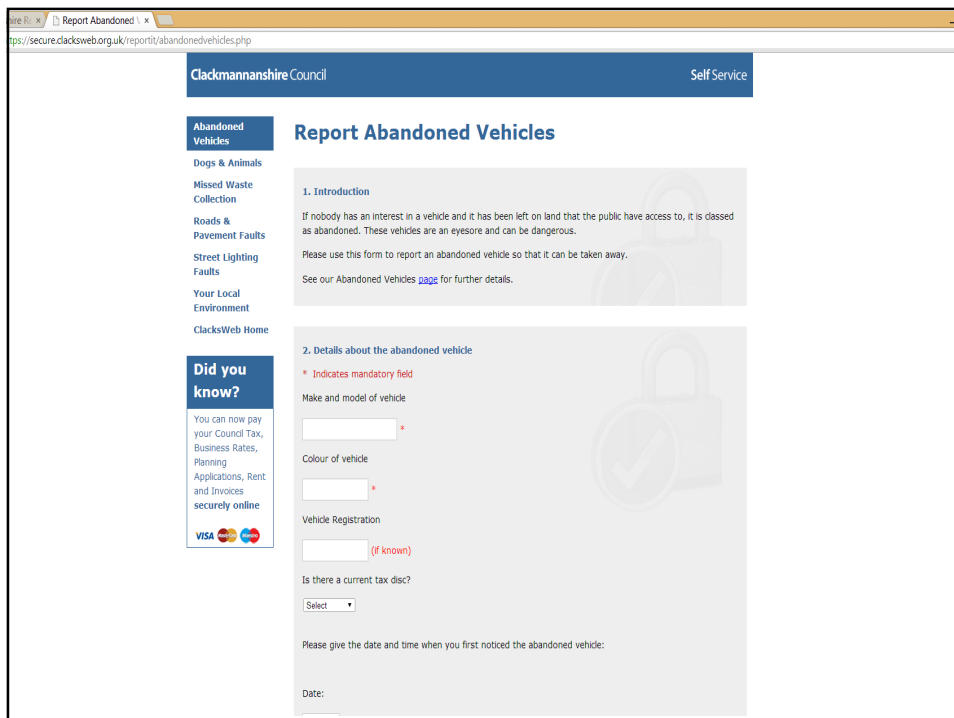
Evaluation Process



So what did they have already..?



The screenshot shows the Clackmannanshire Council website's 'Report It' page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Clackmannanshire Council', 'A-Z', 'Contacts', 'MyClacksWeb', and a search box. A yellow banner below the navigation bar contains a cookie consent message. The main content area is titled 'Report It' and asks 'What do you want to report?'. It features a grid of icons for various report categories: Abandoned Vehicles, Dogs & Animals (barking, fouling, stray, dead), Missed Waste Collection, Roads & Pavement faults, Street lighting faults, and Suspected Fraud. Below this grid is a section for 'Issues With Your Local Environment (Fly Tipping etc)'. To the left, there is a 'Categories' sidebar with a list of council services, a 'Facebook Like Us' section, and a 'Twitter Follow Us' section. To the right, there are 'Top Tasks' and 'Contact Us' sections. At the bottom, there is an 'Alternative Reporting Methods' section.



The screenshot shows the 'Report Abandoned Vehicles' form on the Clackmannanshire Council website. The page title is 'Report Abandoned Vehicles' and it is part of the 'Self Service' section. The form is divided into two main sections: '1. Introduction' and '2. Details about the abandoned vehicle'. The '1. Introduction' section contains a brief explanation of abandoned vehicles and a link to the 'Abandoned Vehicles' page for further details. The '2. Details about the abandoned vehicle' section contains a form with several fields: 'Make and model of vehicle', 'Colour of vehicle', 'Vehicle Registration' (with a note '(if known)'), 'Is there a current tax disc?' (with a 'Select' dropdown), and 'Please give the date and time when you first noticed the abandoned vehicle:'. A 'Date:' label is also present. The form is set against a background with a large padlock icon, indicating a secure form.

So what is Open311..?

- ❖ It's essentially a protocol.



I have a problem :-)

the "client"



I fix problems!

the "server"

Requesting a service needs a location



There's a faulty street light flickering on the Main Street of Stirling.



200: OK, got it... the unique ID for your request is now 981276

Tracking requests



Did anyone ask you for help yesterday?



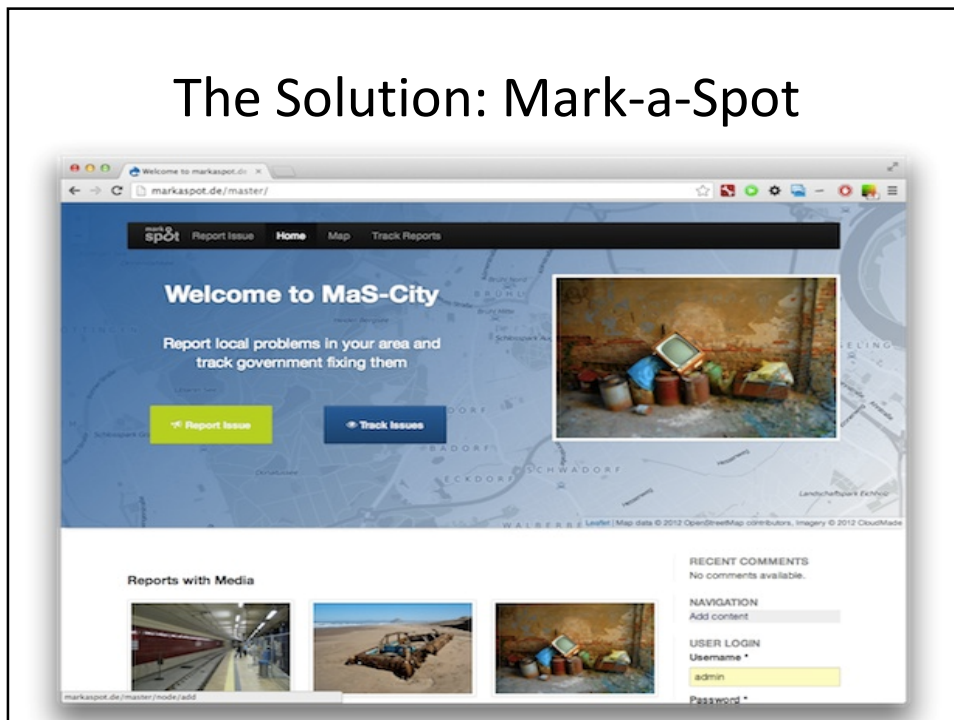
Yes, I got two requests:

request 981299: TELE dirty teleport at the cantina (I'm waiting for a new brush)

request 971723: POT pothole at the junction of Kirk and Solo (I filled it in)

```
updatedcore.local: x markappt/mark-a: x
← → C updatedcore.local:8083/georeport/v2/requests.xml
This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.
▼<service_requests is_array="true">
  ▼<request>
    <service_request_id>ad99-52</service_request_id>
    <status>closed</status>
    <status_notes>Emptied.</status_notes>
    <service_code>029</service_code>
    <service_name>Litter & Rubbish</service_name>
    <description>Overflowing bin</description>
    <agency_responsible/>
    <service_notice/>
    <address_id/>
    <requested_datetime>2014-08-05T06:18:26+01:00</requested_datetime>
    <updated_datetime>2014-08-05T06:24:03+01:00</updated_datetime>
    <address>Earn Court, FK10 1EB undefined</address>
    <zipcode/>
    <lat>56.113117259241</lat>
    <long>-3.7863028049469</long>
    ▼<media_url>
      http://updatedcore.local:8083/sites/updatedcore.local/files/styles/large/public/Overflowing%20Litter%20Bin.jpg?itok=Qmlkwjy2
    </media_url>
  </request>
  ▼<request>
    <service_request_id>32f4-51</service_request_id>
    <status>open</status>
    <service_code>029</service_code>
    <service_name>Litter & Rubbish</service_name>
    <description>testing</description>
    <agency_responsible/>
    <service_notice/>
    <address_id/>
    <requested_datetime>2014-07-30T20:37:43+01:00</requested_datetime>
    <updated_datetime>2014-07-30T20:37:43+01:00</updated_datetime>
    <address>Dunvegan Court, FK10 1EB undefined</address>
    <zipcode/>
```

The Solution: Mark-a-Spot

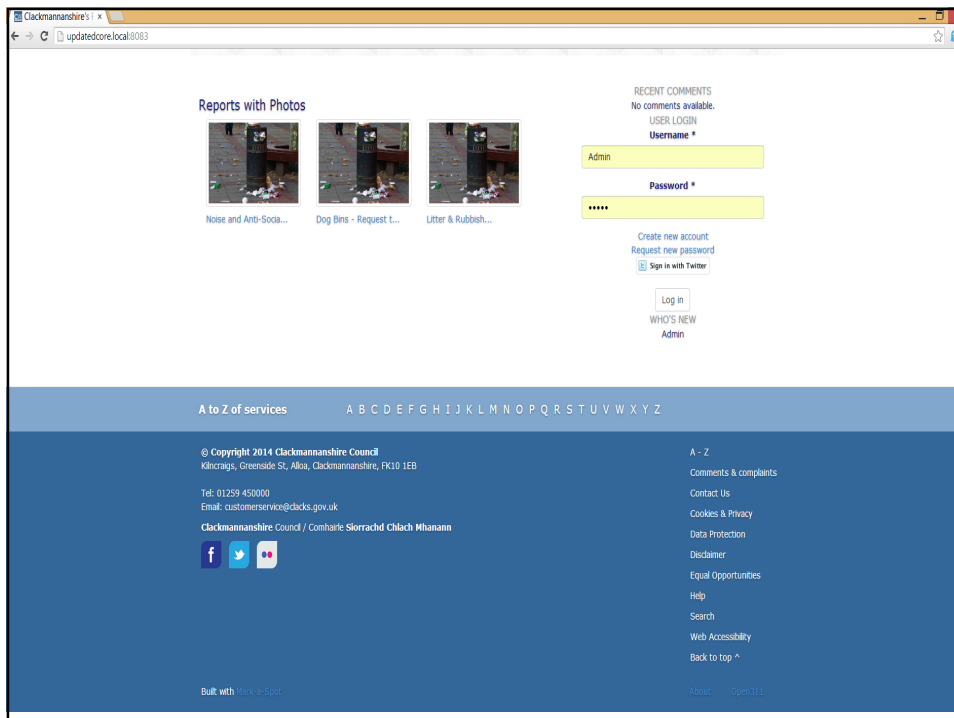
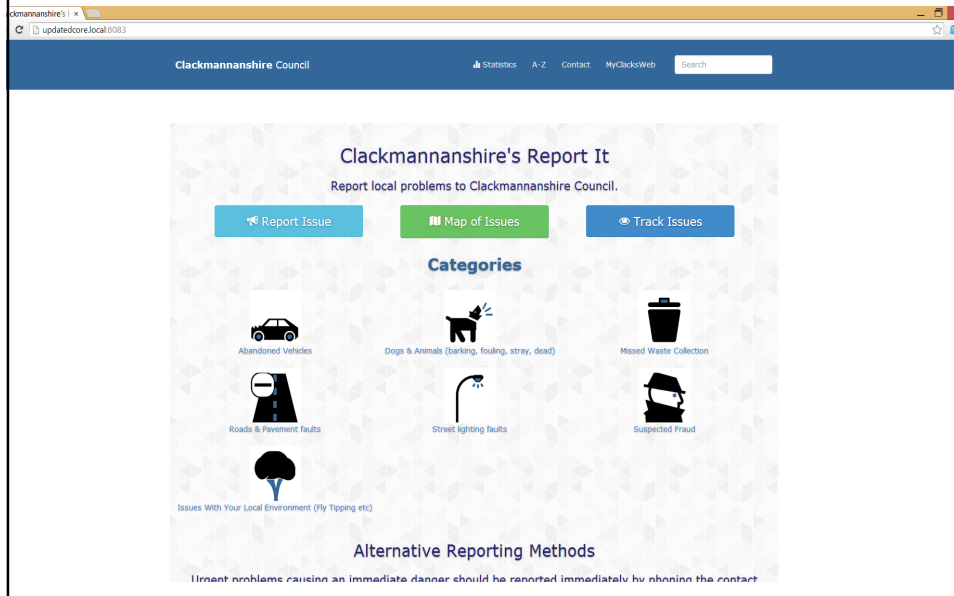


The Issues



- ❖ Updating the Council's systems – legacy.
- ❖ It's a Drupal distribution which is good and at times it's bad.
- ❖ The bootstrap used here was done with LESS which needed an online compiler for dynamic changes. Decided against adapting the LESS files because of this reason and instead adapted the compiled CSS files. It was also easier for the inspector function to find it in the CSS files.

What does my styling look like..?



Create Report

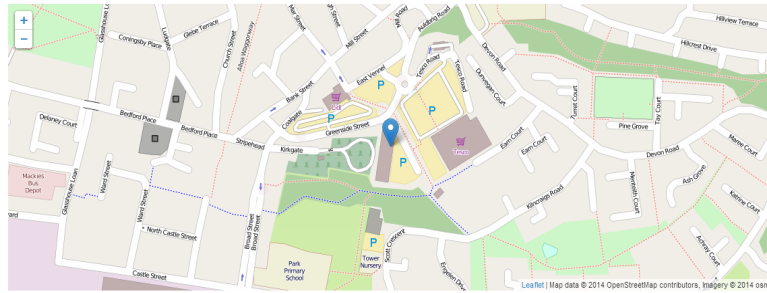
Describe the issue you found and give as much detail as possible.

For example:

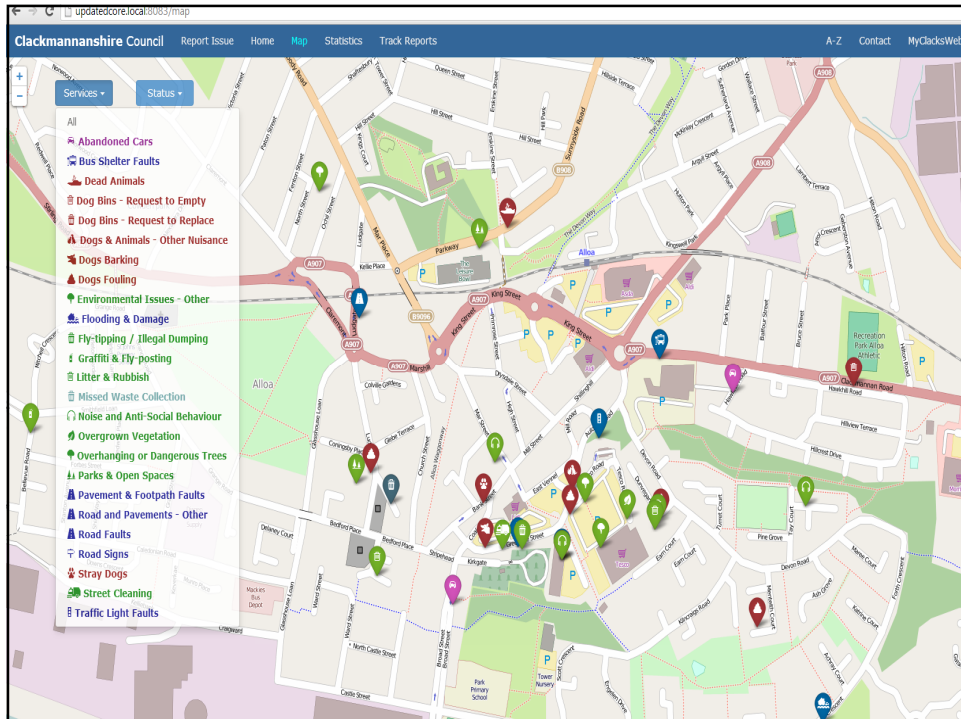
- The nature of the issue.
- The make, model, colour and current tax disc of vehicle abandoned.
- The type of waste collection, whether you have assisted back door bin collection, if the bin was tagged for being too full, normal collection day and the time bin was put out.
- The streetlight column number and nature of fault.

1. Location 2. Your report 3. Media

You can click on the map to set a marker or use your browser geolocation system by clicking this link: [My Location](#)



Next



local:8083/list

Clackmannanshire Council

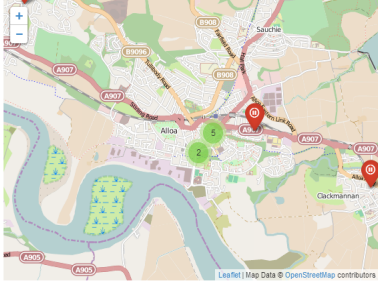
Report It A-Z Contact MyClacksWeb Search

Reports

Watch reports in your area.

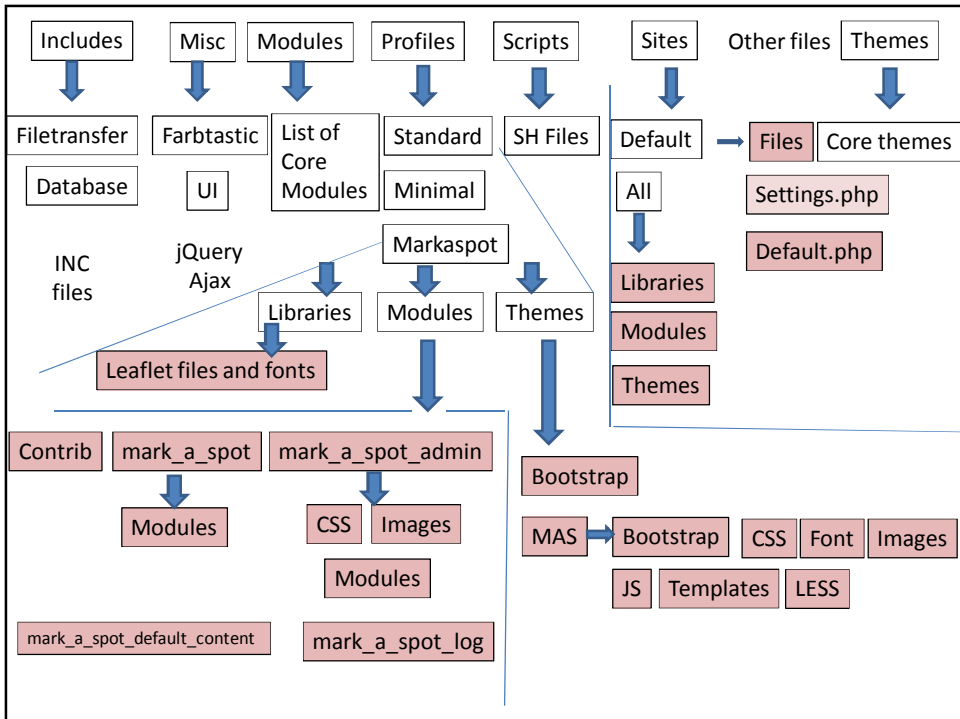
Report Issue Map of Issues Statistics

Category: - Any - Status: - Any -



Litter & Rubbish #ad99-52
Submitted by Anonymous (not verified) on Tue, 08/05/2014 - 06:18
Litter & Rubbish Solved
Overflowing bin
Log in or register to post comments

Litter & Rubbish #32f4-51
Submitted by Anonymous (not verified) on Wed, 07/30/2014 - 20:37
Litter & Rubbish Open
Testing
Log in or register to post comments



3/reports/ad99-52

Submitted by Anonymous (not verified) on Tue, 08/05/2014 - 06:18



Litter & Rubbish ✓ Solved

Overflowing bin

Address:
Earn Court, FK10 1EB undefined

Administration statement:
Emptied.

[Log in or register to post comments](#)

REPORT LOG

The report has been created by Citizen
Tue, 08/05/2014 - 06:18

The report has been edited by City Administration
Tue, 08/05/2014 - 06:24

Lessons learned



- ❖ You can have beautifully functioning systems that do the job but if they can't be incorporated into the legacy systems, then you need a workaround.
- ❖ Complex systems are great for extension but can be too complex sometimes.
- ❖ Open source is a good thing but not always free.

Summary



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- ❖ The Issues
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Any Questions...?



References

- ❖ <https://www.mysociety.org/2013/01/17/open-311-explained/>
- ❖ <http://nodeone.se/en/what-is-drupal-cms>
- ❖ <https://icomoon.io/>
- ❖ <http://thenounproject.com/>