

Developer Day – May 2013

Feedback Report

19 November 2013













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Developer Day Feedback Report

Developer Request	NRE Response	Decision Taken
Can NRE give developers access to the staff versions of NRE products?	This request been subject to extensive consideration and a number of concerns still remain, as follows:	We won't be licensing access to the staff versions of NRE products at this point. There is a possibility that we will licence the service in the future if we make the necessary technical changes to the service.
	The feeds contain information that NRE are required not to put out into the public domain. One example is platform numbers. Platform numbers are suppressed at certain stations due to operational requirements set out by the Train Operators. The staff versions of services include such information, as such NRE have concluded that it would be a too much of a risk to allow access in case the restricted information was to be published.	
	In the staff version of services the search capabilities are a lot wider and return a lot more data. In doing so they take up much more band-width per search. NRE have concluded in this instance that to have such broad search capabilities being exploited by developers would use too much band-width, could slow down the service and would drive up our usage figures.	
	NRE looked at the possibility of including a caveat in the licence schedule that restricts usage of the staff versions. This was considered a valid option, however NRE do not have the available resource to monitor and enforce such licence stipulations due to the scale of existing development roadmap. The development roadmap includes the migration of all NRE servers to the Amazon Cloud and the Darwin CIS program. In addition, there are currently over 150 3 rd party licence holders to monitor, and growing.	
	In final response, NRE are looking at scoping technical solutions which could limit the specific elements which NRE are required not to publish into the public domain. There will be associated costs with this option.	
Can NRE add a Push Notifications functionality to the Services?	Push notifications is not a currently a feature of the existing Live Departure Boards or Journey Planner services.	We are happy to deliver this but as it is not in the scope of our development roadmap there will be an associated cost of £20K
	To add the push notifications facility to 3 rd party apps we would have to pay our developers to add the functionality.	
	Whilst it's not currently in the scope of our development roadmap, we would be happy to do it if the funding came from the developers who wanted the service.	
	The cost to add the functionality would be £20K and it would take 9-12 months to complete given the amount of projects already taking place.	

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Can NRE create a consolidated disruption feed?	This was taken to the NRE Board and was approved. A Service Disruptions Webservice has been scoped and is being delivered. When it is available for licensing to 3 rd parties, it will come at no additional cost to the developer.	The Service will be launched in March 2014
Can NRE deliver feeds in Json and XML format?	We have not looked at scoping this. It would come at a cost. Whilst we have not ruled it out, we would have to understand the reasons in more detail for requiring the feed in this format. Would it offer specific functionality? Are there other benefits?	We won't be offering this at this point, but we have not ruled it out.
Could NRE promote 3 rd party apps on the NRE website?	We currently show details of all the apps using NRE data on the following page. http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/times fares/46483.aspx	We already show the information We have no plans at this stage to add to this.

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